

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

All Blessings In Christ

January 4, 2015

Issue 195

*(From "The Gospel Advocate,"
July 31, 1958)*

Rain and sunshine and abundant physical blessings God gives to both saints and sinners (Matt. 5:45). But that is not true of spiritual blessings. It is the good pleasure of the Father that his only begotten Son dispense all spiritual blessings (John 10:9, 14; 14:6; Acts 4:12). Out of Jesus there are no spiritual blessings and in Him they are all found (Eph. 1:3).

People outside of Christ have all their sins and iniquities still marked against them, but from the moment a man comes into Christ he has the promise of Him who cannot lie that

every sin has been forgiven and forgotten (Heb. 8:12).

People outside of Christ do not enjoy the indwelling guest from heaven, the Spirit of God, but He comes to live with everyone who has obeyed Jesus (John 14:17; Acts 2:38; Gal. 4:6).

People outside of Christ have no right to pray, saying, "Our Father." But those in Christ have been adopted into the Father's family, and He is pleased for them to call him, "Abba, Father" (Gal. 4:5-7).

People outside of Christ are standing in their own light and are working against their own best interests, but everyone in Jesus has put himself into agreement

with the laws of the universe and all things work together for His good (Rom. 8:28).

People outside of Christ have no advocate speaking for them at God's side (1 John 2:1)

Just two verses of Scripture (Rom. 6:3; Gal. 3:27) tell how people go into Christ: baptism. Preceded by genuine faith and true repentance, baptism is the last commandment performed when people come into Christ. Many other commandments come later, but baptism is the dividing line between being in Christ and out of Christ.

Hugo McCord

Items of Note:

- Frieda Perry has spent this week in St. Thomas hospital due to a pacemaker malfunction.
- Thanks to those who prepared food and games for the New Year's night get together.
- Mildred Walker has had a few health issues of late.
- Please pray for Addie Farmer, Judy York, Rick Reed, Maxine Hearn, and the Newells.

A Few Outside Donations Have Been Made To The Building Fund It Is Good When Non-Members Take An Interest In Our Efforts

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Terry Walker

Pray: Brown

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Gupton

Serve: Demonbruem, L. Newell, E. Walker

Pray: Billingsley

Pleasant View church of Christ
2500 Highway 49 East
P.O. Box 189
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30
A.M. Worship: 10:30
P.M. Worship: 6:00
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Phone: 924-9714

Colossians 2:6-7
"Therefore as you have
received Christ Jesus the
Lord, so walk in Him, having
been firmly rooted and now
being built up in Him and
established in your faith..."

*"A true soldier fights not because he hates what
is in front of him, but because he loves what is
behind him."*

G.K. Chesterton

*"There are causes worth dying for, but none
worth killing for."*

Albert Camus

I Am Resolved

Consider Ecclesiastes 5:4-7: "When you make a vow to God, do not be late in paying it; for He takes no delight in fools. Pay what you vow! It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay. Do not let your speech cause you to sin and do not say in the presence of the messenger of God that it was a mistake. Why should God be angry on account of your voice and destroy the work of your hands? For in many dreams and in many words there is emptiness. Rather, fear God."

Have you ever made a vow to God? If you have, you've probably made it around New Year's Day, and you've called it a "resolution." Resolutions

typically involve ways to improve health, finances, or relationships, but sometimes resolutions focus on spiritual matters. The above passage from Ecclesiastes should give you pause as you consider vows you make this time of year.

(1). *Do what you say you're going to do.* "I promise" should be a phrase you use with caution. There is an old axiom that goes, "Under promise and over deliver." That is good advice. In a world of broken promises and unfulfilled expectations, those who do what they say they'll do will be prized.

(2). *Your words matter.* The writer of Ecclesiastes claims that God could "destroy the work of your hands"

based on what you say. That's a sobering declaration. God works in the lives of men today through His divine providence. Our words are connected to our blessings.

(3). *Fear God.* We should live with a profound respect for God's power and presence. The God who made us knows and cares about every day of our lives. Fear Him.

Resolutions are great when they are guided by biblical commands and principles. Be healthier. Save money. Love more. And make God the center of all things.

James Hayes
