

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Your Feelings

June 21, 2015

Issue 218

After Jesus preached a series of parables concerning the kingdom of heaven in Matthew 13, He visited His hometown of Nazareth. While there, He preached in their synagogue and performed miracles. The people were astonished and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?" Then it states that those people did what most people do when they hear the gospel: "...[T]hey took offense at Him" (Matt. 13:57).

Jesus offended people quite often. He called the Pharisees "hypocrites," "blind guides of the blind," and "a brood of vipers" (Matt. 12:34; 15:7,14). Some became so enraged by His

teaching that they plotted to kill Him. Jesus' very life was offensive to many, and His teaching disturbed both His followers and detractors alike.

Why were they offended? Was He intentionally mean to them? Did He mistreat them? Of course not. They were offended because Jesus preached the truth. Jesus did not deal in deception or flattery. His objective was not to protect feelings. His objective was to seek and save that which is lost.

His work was similar to that of a modern physician. (He was, after all, the Great Physician.) Your doctor is not there to protect your

feelings. He is legally and morally obligated to do whatever is necessary to treat your illness. If he or she makes you cry, so be it. If you don't like the course of treatment, so what? Your tears do not alter the diagnosis.

Jesus taught what the Father wanted Him to teach, and He never apologized for it. The truth does in fact hurt at times, but the truth of the gospel brings healing to dying souls.

"And blessed is he who does not take offense at Me" (Matt. 11:6).

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- John Hayes has an advanced case of shingles on his face and head.
- The Men's Meeting will be scheduled for every other month from now on. We will meet in between if necessary.
- Pray for the families affected by the shooting in Charleston, SCouth Carolina.
- Remember JW Head, Mildred Walker, Addie Farmer, the Newells, Judy York, Leon Salings, and Rick Reed.

VBS Begins Tonight At 6:00!

Joe Rushing's Adult Class Topic Tonight Is "Who Is To Blame?"

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Walker

Pray: F. Brown

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Reed

Serve: Demonbreum, Trent, E. Simpkins

Pray: Baker

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

II Chronicles 7:14
“And My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will hear their land.”

There are a couple of changes to our adult class for Vacation Bible School. The Tuesday night class will be taught by Andy Connelly, and I will teach the Wednesday night class. Scheduling conflicts caused the changes.

James

The Real Solution

Dylann Roof entered a church building in Charleston, South Carolina Wednesday night and participated in a Bible study for almost an hour. He stated later that he was treated well by the handful of congregants in attendance. But after an hour of Bible readings and prayers, Roof, a 21-year-old white man, took out a .45 caliber handgun and shot nine black church members to death.

The bodies were still lying on the floor of the church building when the speculation started: Why did he do it? What was his motivation? What did he wish to accomplish? It is clear from Roof's writings (a 2,500-word manifesto), allegiances (he was pictured wearing “white pride” para-

phernalia), and friends (who confirmed his beliefs) that Roof was a racist. He hated black people. He chose an unarmed Bible study group on which to take out his hatred.

But we need to see this event for what it really is: the result of sin. Since sin entered the world, man has been stealing, murdering, lying, coveting, and rebelling against God. And Satan loves it. He smiles when the Dylann Roofs of the world think that murder will somehow resolve some social problem. Satan is thrilled when events like this spark more murders and more hatred. He wants us to think that if we just pass one more law or finance one more social program that these problems

will instantly disappear.

The Bible tells us that he is wrong. The only thing that solves social ills is the gospel. Governments are needed, and laws are necessary so that evil-doers are punished. But the gospel is the only thing that changes hearts and minds. It's the only thing that brings peace to families and communities. It's the only thing that provides contentment to restless souls.

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes...” (Rom. 1:16).

James Hayes
