

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

## It Could Be Worse

November 8, 2015

Issue 237

“That guy is a loser. There is nothing worse than that.”

You’ve probably said that or something like it when you thought of a 30-year-old who was still living at home on his parents’ futon. Or maybe you thought it when you saw a 40-year-old man working at McDonald’s. Did you say something like that when the “weird kid” at school didn’t know how to play basketball or wore strange clothes? Maybe. We’ve all thought (or said) those types of things from time to time. But guess what: it *could* be worse. A lot worse.

What’s worse than a 30-year-old living with mom and dad? How about a 30-

year-old living on the street when it’s 25 degrees outside? That’s worse. It would also be worse if that 30-year-old had no relationship with his parents. And it would be 1,000 times worse if that man were married and sleeping in a kind-size bed every night next to a wife he doesn’t love, providing for children who resent him, with money from a job he despises.

What about the guy at McDonald’s? Sure, we’d expect a man to be working at a higher-paying, more sustainable job at that age, but you know what’s worse? No job, that’s what. It would be worse if he thought that it was beneath him to work at a fast food

restaurant. Why should we turn our noses up at a man who does whatever he can do to provide for himself?

The weird kid? He doesn’t like what you like. He doesn’t wear what you wear. So what? He’s embracing his personality while the rest of the world is telling him to reject it.

While we’re judging someone’s social standing, do we take the time to wonder about their eternal standing? Because there’s *nothing* worse than a condemned soul. I’d rather be a saved man in a ditch than a lost man in a castle, and we should want the same for everyone.

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- Randy Baker did not receive a good report this week regarding his bladder cancer. His address: 6430 Co. Rd. 26, Rogersville, AL 35652.
- Addie Farmer had a place removed from her neck this week.
- Paula Lee is still receiving treatment but is able to sleep at home.
- Continue to remember Rick Reed, JW Head, Mildred Walker, and the Newells.

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**November Is A 5-Sunday Month; Building Fund Contribution—29th  
You Contributed 61 Coats To The Warm Coats Campaign!**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Baker

Pray: Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Cartwright

Serve: Demonbreum, L. Newell, Hovis

Pray: M. Newell

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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

Proverbs 15:31

“He who listens to life-giving reproof will dwell among the wise. He who neglects discipline despises himself...”

*“And when the president [the one who presides on the table] has given thanks, and all the people have expressed their assent, those who are called by us deacons give to each of those present to partake of the bread and wine mixed with water over which the thanksgiving was pronounced, and to those who are absent they carry away a portion.”*

*Justin Martyr, written in the year 150, describing the Lord’s Supper in a first century worship service.*

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## Curiosity

The servant of an Indian rajah was ordered to stay away from a cave near the residence and keep others away. That instruction was easy to follow at first, but then his curiosity was piqued. He figured that there must be great treasure in that cave. “Surely that’s it,” he thought. “I wonder how much money is in there.” So the boy shared his theory with his friends and they agreed: The cave must be full of fortune. “Let’s roll away the stone, take just a little money, and put the stone back. The rajah will never know the difference,” they said.

The boys gathered after midnight to execute the plan. It took every ounce of strength they had to move the

stone, but they finally dislodged it. As soon as the stone was moved, all of the boys stood motionless as they peered into the cave. Then, out of nowhere, a tiger leaped at them from inside the cave and killed them.

Satan tempts us the same way. God has put a warning sign on some things. On other things, He has put a “STOP” sign. He doesn’t always give detailed reasons as to why we shouldn’t do certain things, but the command is clear. But our fleshly desires often get the best of us when Satan says, “Try it anyway. Experiment. God is just trying to take the fun out of life. It won’t hurt you. I

promise.” It all sounds pleasing, but in the end, sin destroys us.

When sin enters your life, the Bible tells you what to do about it. First, repent and pray (Acts 8:22). Second, confess your sin (I John 1:9). Every person sins. Every person is in need of God’s mercy. Thanks be to God that when we sin there is an opportunity for us to return to a right relationship with God again.

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me” (Psalm 51:10-11).

James Hayes

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