

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

It's Not God's Fault

January 10, 2016

Issue 245

Charles Grandemange was born in France in 1835, weighing only 1.5 pounds. His body never grew to full size, and he was often carried from one place to another in a wooden box. Grandemange's body was underdeveloped, but his mind was extraordinary. Even as a young person, he could multiply two 100-digit numbers by one another in less than 30 seconds. He could divide two 23-digit numbers by one another and state the remainder instantly.

More recently, Scott Flansberg of San Diego entered the Guinness Book of World Records in 2001 for his ability to do speed calculations. At nine years old,

Flansberg finished math problems in his head before the teacher could write them on the board, and he could add the price of his parents' grocery list and factor in the tax without paper or a calculator.

But I wonder: How much of the Bible did Grandemange and Flansberg know? Were they skilled in memorizing passages of Scripture? That's all that matters. Did they know they were sinners? Did they know Jesus died for their sins? Did they ever respond to that good news with faith, confession, repentance, and baptism?

Knowledge of God's word is essential to both becoming

a Christian and maintaining one's faith. King David understood that. He wrote, "Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You" (Psalm 119:11).

When is the last time you memorized a Bible verse? Sunday School when you were a child? Last week? When is the last time you took notes during a class or sermon or did something else to be sure God's word penetrated your heart and mind? The world is spreading lies. God has given us the truth in His word. "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth" (John 17:17).

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- This month has five Sundays, so our building fund contribution will be on the 31st. Make plans!
- We are studying the life of Christ on Wednesday night. Make Wednesday night Bible study a priority.
- Remember in your prayers...Rick Reed, Mildred Walker, Addie Farmer, the Newells, Paula Lee, David Johnson, and all of our missionaries.

A.M. Sermon: The Gospel In A Word Is Love

P.M. Sermon: "You Shall Not Steal"

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: E. Walker

Pray: M. Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Cartwright

Serve: E. Simpkins, Demonbreum, Trent

Pray: Brown

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

Ephesians 6:12

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

“Men marry women in the hope they will never change. Women marry men in the hope they will change. Invariably they are both disappointed.”

Albert Einstein

“I hold myself supremely blessed—blessed beyond what language can express; because I am my husband’s life as fully as he is mine.”

Charlotte Bronte

The Source of Trouble

At the turn of the 20th century, many families around New York City were contracting typhoid fever. From 1900-1907, seven families had relatives who were either gravely ill or dying, and no one knew why. First, it was a family in Manhattan; then it was seven out of eight members of a lawyer’s family. In 1906, 10 out of 11 members of a family from ritzy Oyster Bay Long Island were hospitalized. Finally, a woman hired George Soper to investigate why typhoid hit those families. In the June 15, 1907 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association, Soper published his findings: A woman who worked for all those families as a cook was a typhoid car-

rier. If they could find her, they could stop the spreading.

The cook’s name was Mary Mallon—“Typhoid Mary”. When she was located, she denied being the problem; after all, how could she spread a disease if she wasn’t sick herself? They asked her about her hygiene. She said she rarely washed her hands while preparing food. State and medical officials asked her for a blood sample. She refused. Against her will, she was arrested and quarantined for three years because she was a public health risk. While hospitalized, she refused to have her gall bladder removed (which would essentially removed the typhoid from her body). She was granted release

after three years. But only a few years later, she changed her name and once again gained employment as a cook. More people became infected. Mallon was arrested again, and she spent the rest of her life in isolation. Upon her death, state officials conducted an autopsy and found active typhoid bacteria in her gall bladder.

Spiritually, there are a lot of “Typhoid Marys” in the world—those who weaken the faith of others while refusing to accept any responsibility. The Bible teaches us to be fruit inspectors, to judge the result of someone’s work. We need to identify and avoid those who will push us away from God and lead us down the broad, destructive way.
