

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

## Heavenly Perspective

March 6, 2016

Issue 252

About 20 years ago I was standing in line for the concession stand at a Cincinnati Reds baseball game. All of the sudden I felt a pull on my blue jeans. I looked down and saw a two-year-old boy hugging my leg. I didn't move, because I didn't want to scare him. A few seconds later, the boy looked up and realized I wasn't his dad. He slowly let go of my leg, took two steps forward and hugged his dad's leg. From his perspective, all he could see were blue jeans that looked like his dad's. He forgot to look up first.

We often make the same mistake. When we only have a horizontal view of the world, everything looks

the same—it's hard to distinguish good from bad. Our only standard is whatever the culture deems appropriate. If the masses approve, anything can be made to look appealing. It is like the often-repeated phrase in Judges: "...everyone did what was right in his own eyes."

But we need to remember to look up. The apostle Paul was writing to Christians when he stated, "Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on the things that are on the earth" (Col. 3:1-2). When we maintain a verti-

cal perspective, we can compare the standards of the world to the righteousness of God and live according to God's will. If we put on the full armor of God, we will be able to withstand the schemes of the devil (Eph. 6:11).

Which way are you looking? Are you focusing on the heartache, crime, insecurity, and selfishness of this world, or are you "fixing your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith"? (Heb. 12:2).

Don't forget to look up.

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- 3-year-old Anna Kate Wentz died last week of cancer. Send cards to her parents at Mike Wentz, c/o Martin Police Dept., 101 University St., Martin, TN 38237.
- Maurice Moore, brother of Terry Moore, fell last week.
- Pray for Paula Lee, JW Head, Addie Farmer, Mildred Walker, Rick Reed, our elections, and those affected by civil war and terrorism.

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**Easter Egg Hunt, March 19th, 2:00 P.M.**  
**Give Kim Walker Candy For Egg Hunt By March 16th**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School  
Read: JL Shelton  
Pray: J. Walker

Morning Worship  
Wait on the Table: Garrett  
Serve: Demonbreum, L. Newell, E. Simpkins  
Pray: Billingsley

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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

*“Thankfulness creates gratitude which generates contentment that causes peace.”*

*Todd Stocker*

*“Thanksgiving is not only being aware of the abundance of good in the world but embracing it.”*

*Richelle Goodrich*

I Peter 4:16  
“Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.”

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## Words Matter

A euphemism is a good word for a bad word. Instead of “used car,” now we say “pre-owned car.” “Used” sounds worn out; “pre-owned” makes the car sound like it has some life left in it. The “dump” is now the “land fill.” An “illegal immigrant” has become an “undocumented worker.” We’re good at changing the description of things so that the ugly thing sounds prettier. Unfortunately, we’ve done this with spiritual matters as well. “Adultery” has been called an “affair” for decades. “Homosexuality”—while still a common term today—was called “gay” many years ago in order to equate homosexuality with happiness. Do any of these grammatical changes

change the acts themselves? Of course not. But it makes the act sound less offensive.

We do ourselves no favors when we try to lessen the impact of sin in our lives by reconstructing our vocabulary. When man calls it an accident, God calls it an abomination. When man calls it a blunder, God calls it blindness. When man calls it a chance, God calls it a choice. When man calls it liberty, God calls it lawlessness. When man calls it weakness, God calls it willfulness. Most psychologists and counselors refuse to use the term “evil” when describing the most violent acts committed in society, stating that “evil” is a

theological term that bears no real meaning in social science.

It is always a good thing when men accept God’s word and reject the philosophies, euphemisms, and compromises of men. Paul wrote, “For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe” (1 Thess. 2:13).

Sin is sin. Jesus is Jesus. And grace is grace. So we are not ashamed of the gospel.

James Hayes

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