

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

I Don't Know

April 24, 2016

Issue 260

In 16 years of preaching, I have been asked many questions. Once I was asked if it was ever right to do the wrong thing (by a man who wanted to rob a drug dealer so he could pay his rent). Some questions have been trivial (“Where did Cain’s wife come from?”), some have been confrontational (“What gave you the right to preach that sermon?”), and others have been gut-wrenching (“Why is my marriage falling apart?”). Whenever I am asked a question, I reserve the right to be ignorant. “I don’t know” is a common answer I give when—you guessed it!—I really don’t know.

But we’re living in an age of

know-it-alls. Some parents do a little bit of Internet research and all of the sudden become smarter than the pediatrician. The casual football fan knows more than the veteran coach. The next door neighbor knows the ins and outs of his neighbor’s finances, even though he’s never seen a pay stub or mortgage payment.

Thankfully, Jesus never commanded us to be God—all-knowing, divine creatures who can deconstruct life’s great mysteries in an instant. Actually, the Bible states over and over again that we have limited knowledge. “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, declares

the Lord” (Isaiah 55:8).

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding” (Prov. 3:5). “Know that the Lord Himself is God. It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves...” (Psalm 100:3).

We should not be ignorant of God’s word (II Tim. 2:15), but we shouldn’t assume to know things that God hasn’t revealed. And we shouldn’t claim to know the whole story in any situation unless we’ve read the whole book.

“The mind of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge” (Prov. 18:15).

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Rick Reed, Mike’s dad, will have a pacemaker installed on April 28.
- Randy Baker had a biopsy on Thursday.
- Linda Demonbreum has pneumonia.
- Pray for Mildred Walker, Addie Farmer, Paula Lee, Maxine Hearn, the Newells, and all those affected by terrorism.

VBS Will Be June 19-23

Gospel Meeting July 24 (Evening)—July 27

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Buchanan

Pray: E. Walker

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Terry Walker

Serve: D. Demonbreum, L. Newell, Cartwright

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

I Peter 1:3
“Blessed be the God and
Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who according to His
great mercy has caused us
to be born again to a living
hope through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ
from the dead.”

*Bible Bowl This Year Will Cover The Following
Chapters From Leviticus: 6-11, 17, 19, 23-27.*

*“It is not a lack of love, but a lack friendship
that makes unhappy marriages.”*

Friedrich Nietzsche

The Good Ol' Days

A researcher once asked vacationers a series of questions while they were on the trip—“How was the food?”; “Was the weather nice?”; etc. The majority of the answers were not positive. Most said the weather wasn't what they hoped for. They expressed some disappointment about the accommodations not meeting their expectations. The vacationers were generally having a good time, but things could've been better. Six months later, the researcher asked the same people about their vacations, and the answers were quite different. The respondents noted all the fun they had and how great it was to spend time with people they loved. Why the different answers?

Because people have a tendency to long for the “good ol' days.” They see the past through rose colored glasses. They long for the simpler times, when things were less hectic, less stressful, and less expensive. But when they were living those days, they often complained about how things needed to be so much better.

The past isn't always preferable. In the past there was more racism (segregation), more diseases with unknown remedies, and limited means of communication (land lines and “snail mail”). Most churches couldn't afford to have their own preacher, their meetinghouses had no air conditioning, and their members had limited Bible education

opportunities outside of the church building.

The past was great in many ways, but God has given each generation opportunities to do more for Him than previous generations. We should always take advantage of advances in technology, education, and economics in order to expand the kingdom. Sometimes, “the way we have always done it” is not the best method to use today.

God's word never changes, but the best way to reach the world around us is always evolving.

James Hayes
