

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

**Pleasant View church of Christ**

## Serve Man Or Serve God

**June 12, 2016**

**Issue 267**

“I’m not going back to church because the preacher hurt my feelings.”

“I’m not going to sing that song because it’s new, and I’m not going to try to learn it.”

“I think the elders waste the church money, so I’m not going to give as much as I used to.”

“The Sunday School classes are too small, so I’m not going to take my children to class.”

“Since grace exists, I don’t need to think about avoiding sin.”

“My dad was never baptized, so why should I be baptized?”

“I’m not going to worship

in a room full of hypocrites.”

“I’ll start going to church more often when my kids are grown, but right now our schedule is too busy.”

“I’m going to be baptized because I know that’s what my best friend really wants me to do.”

“I don’t understand all of the Bible, so I’m not going to read any of it.”

“I changed my position on marriage and divorce when my son got divorced.”

Many Christians base their faith on the will of people instead of the will of God. Social acceptance matters more than obedience. But is that how we want to ap-

proach God at judgment? When God asks why you didn’t worship Him, will you say, “Well, if it weren’t for that preacher, I would have. And if they sang the songs I liked, I would’ve been there every week. And my hours were so long at work, I just didn’t have the time. So, all of those people mattered more than You. Sorry.” I doubt anyone truly wants to stand before the Lord defending their excuses.

Let’s not put people ahead of faithfulness. Live for the Lord in spite of the weaknesses, pettiness, and unfaithfulness of those around us.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Men’s Meeting tonight at 5:00.
- Thank you for all of your prayers while I was in Israel. It was an informative, inspiring—and tiring—experience. Today I will base the sermon around 4 people who I met there who taught accidental lessons.
- Please keep the following people in your prayers: JW Head, Mildred Walker, Addie Farmer, and Dana Newell.

**Singing Tonight At 6:00**

**VBS Is June 19-23**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Buchanan

Pray: E. Walker

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Billingsley

Serve: J. Demonbruem, Cartwright, J. Walker

Pray: JL Shelton

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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

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

*“Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful  
tomorrows.”*

*Martin Luther King Jr.*

Colossians 4:5-6  
“Conduct yourselves with  
wisdom toward outsiders,  
making the most of the  
opportunity. Let your speech  
always be with grace, as  
though seasoned with  
salt...”

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## How Could You Forget That?

*I have a vivid memory of a news story that occurred over 20 years ago. It was a story about a man who was a skydiver that wore a helmet cam. It was his job to video tape the formations of competitive parachute teams. The newscast shared video of this man's fifth and final jump of the day. The formations were all completed, and as each skydiver pulled their rip-cord and rose out of site, it came time for the photographer to pull his rip-cord. Suddenly, you could see the helmet cam quickly jerking back and forth... something was obviously wrong. Believe it or not, the problem was that in all the hustle and bustle, after four previous jumps that day, this camera man jumped out of the plane, forgetting to put on his parachute! Imagine what a sickening,*

*hopeless feeling it must have been for that man when he came to the realization he had exited the plane without his parachute. If you think that is bad, think of how sickening and hopeless it will be for countless people when realize they exited life without Jesus. Friends, if you wouldn't sit idly by, saying or doing nothing as a person jumped out of an airplane without a parachute, then would you sit idly by as someone exited this world without Jesus? Speak up! Let your voice be heard! The news you possess is urgent and souls hang in the balance. —Steve Higginbotham*

When it comes to evangelism, what do you tell your friends and family? In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the lost were told one thing: you're

lost, and here's what to do to be saved. In many churches today, the message has shifted. They tell the dying world, “We are here to serve you, and through that service you will come to know God and obey His commands.” Why the shift? There could be many reasons, but one seems obvious: the first message might be offensive; the second message will always be received.

But why does it have to be one or the other? Why can't we do both? Why can't we teach the fundamentals of the gospel while loving our fellow man as we would love ourselves?

James Hayes

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