

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

## React, But Don't Overreact

July 31, 2016

Issue 274

Items of Note:

I'm sure that ever since 9-11 you have grown increasingly afraid of terrorism. After all, who wouldn't be? The image of those 747s crashing into the Twin Towers will forever be branded into our psyches. But let me ask you a question: How many people have died in America from terrorism since 9-11? 1,000? 2,000? Would you be surprised if I told you that less than 100 people have died in America due to terrorism since 9-11? That's right—less than 100. According to the Centre for Research on Globalization, you are 35,079 times more likely to die from heart disease than terrorism. You are 33,842 times more

likely to die from cancer. In 2010, eight Americans were killed *worldwide* by terrorism, while 29 Americans died from lightning strikes.

For every horrible racial event you see in newscasts, remember that there are millions of black people who have never been harassed, shot, or illegally questioned by police. An overwhelming majority of foreign nations live peaceably every day, without the slightest threat from ISIS or other terrorist groups. But if we just hear about the tragedy, if we only hear about death and destruction, we start thinking that it's around every corner, but it's not.

That same paranoia can creep into the church as well. Congregations have become increasingly more isolated from the larger body of Christ because they think that the slightest variation in any church practice is false teaching, or it can *lead* to false teaching. Therefore, the only way to stay "safe" is only to associate with his/her local church. Let's be clear: False teaching does exist, and there are many churches who have digressed from God's word in many areas. But let's not act as if the majority of churches cannot be trusted.

James Hayes

- Thank you to all those who attended our Gospel Meeting this week. We averaged over 140 each night, with 158 at Pleasant View Tuesday night, which some believe is the most people who have ever been in this building. Tim's lessons were excellent and the singing was soul-stirring.
- Haley Hagan Rector has Stage 3A breast cancer.

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## Building Fund Contribution Today The More We Collect, The Sooner We Can Build!

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Buchanan

Pray: M. Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Cartwright

Serve: L. Newell, Trent, Shelton

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

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

*“Christ gave Himself as a sin-offering for us. Let  
us give ourselves as a thank-offering for Him.”*

*Thomas Watson*

Psalm 119:1-2

“How blessed are those  
whose way is blameless, who  
walk in the law of the Lord.  
How blessed are those who  
observe His testimonies, who  
seek Him with all their  
heart.”

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## Singing With The Understanding

In her book *Say and Seal*, Susan Warner wrote about a little boy who was terrible health. His mother read him a poem that would become one of the most recognizable lyrics in Christian history. The poem began: “Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but He is strong.”

We don’t need to know the story behind the composition of every hymn we sing in worship, but we do need to understand the meaning of the hymns we sing. It only makes sense that if we are to express praise to God that we would know what we were saying.

Paul wrote extensively about how important it was to have a complete understanding of all worship activities. In Corinth, the church’s assemblies were an unorganized mess. They didn’t use the Lord’s Supper correctly (I Cor. 11:20-22), their unique gift of speaking in tongues was misused (14:1-5), and women were not submitting to male leadership in worship (11:3). Within this context, Paul wrote, “I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also” (14:15). If we are not engaged mentally and spiritually with every aspect of worship, our worship will not be pleasing to God. That is why

Paul concluded his lengthy discussion of worship practices by stating, “But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner” (14:40).

The next time you worship, in order to help you “sing with the mind also,” why not try...

(1). ...*singing every word*. Singing in worship is not about the quality of the singing; it is about expressing praise to God. Take advantage of every word of praise.

(2). ...*paying attention to the lyrics*. Mumbling your way through a song is no way to praise God.

James Hayes

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