

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

A Moderate Frenzy

September 4, 2016

Issue 278

In any area of life there are extremes. Some people are sports fans; others paint their faces, but thousands of dollars of souvenirs, and know every statistic of their team. All people eat; but some people eat everything in sight to the point they harm their own bodies.

There are also extremes in church settings. On one end of the spectrum there are those who most of us would consider "legalistic." They believe that salvation is granted to those who are obedient to a checklist of rules that have nothing to do with the cross and everything to do with clothing styles, length of worship periods, Bible versions, and creeds. Knowledge of doc-

trine supercedes practice of doctrine. Appearing to be saved matters more than actually being saved.

At the opposite end of the religious spectrum are the "progressives," if you will. These people believe their heart is the Bible. Whatever they believe to be true automatically becomes God-approved and acceptable to Him. The Bible is seen as just a storybook that is void of commands. Anything perceived as traditional is immediately dismissed as cold, and backward.

But then there is the middle. There are those who are not shackled to human traditions, nor do they instantly accept any new

Christian fad simply because its proponents seem sincere. Neil Anderson once said, "It's hard to whip people into a moderate frenzy." It's easy to push people toward extremes by using fear and/or peer pressure. But the Bible doesn't teach us to live on the extremes. Faithfulness is described as simply living within the plain teaching of Scripture.

"Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son" (II John 9).

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Sympathy is extended to the family of Lora Stone, one of Heather Gupton's friends.
- Bobby Sayles, Janet Tabor's grandson, is recovering from E.Coli.
- Hayley Rector will begin chemotherapy treatments soon for breast cancer.
- Continue to remember Mildred Walker, Addie Farmer, Rick Reed, Randy Gupton, and Dale Garrett.

A.M. Sermon: "How To Present A Never-Changing Gospel To An Ever-Changing World"

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: E. Walker

Pray: Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Baker

Serve: J. Demonbreum, E. Simpkins, Gupton

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

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

*“I have never in my life envied a man who lived
an easy life. I have envied a great many people
who led difficult lives and led them well.”*

Theodore Roosevelt

Psalm 46:10

“Cease striving and know
that I am God; I will be
exalted among the nations, I
will be exalted in the earth.”

A Public Lie

In 1958 Charles Van Doren, one of the premier intellectuals in America who held a master’s degree in astrophysics and a doctorate in English, lost a game. But it was not just any game—it was *21*, one of the most popular television game shows in America. Van Doren had a winning streak that extended over two months, during which time he won \$138,000. His picture was on the cover of *Time* magazine. Parents all over the country wanted their children to grow up to be the polite, brilliant Charles Van Doren.

On March 11, 1958, Van Doren lost to Vivienne Nearing. An astonished viewing audience thought they had seen the last of him, but he quickly

signed a three-year contract with NBC to do features on radio and TV.

But events surrounding Van Doren’s ascent into the stratosphere of celebrity did not seem to be on the up and up to Joseph Stone, a New York prosecutor. He began investigating the quiz shows. The producers of *21* claimed the answers were sealed in a vault. Where is the sealed vault? Who was writing the questions? Stone began interviewing past contestants to see if they had prior knowledge of the questions that would be asked. Some did; others didn’t. But did squeaky clean Charles Van Doren get the answers ahead of time?

The answer was yes. An overwhelming amount of evidence was presented to the House Subcommittee on Legislative Oversight. Van Doren was forced to testify. Under oath, he said, “I was involved, deeply involved, in a deception. I have deceived my friends—and I had millions of them.”

Fortunately, our deceptions are not committed on national television, but they are no less harmful and no less humiliating. Lies destroy families, futures, and—ultimately—souls.

“And the city has not need of the sun...and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it” (Rev. 21:23,27).
