

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

## Assumptions

Why do people seem to be so unhappy? Bad luck? Bad love? Bad timing? Why so many restless nights?

There are volumes of books devoted to answering these probing questions. Some scholars believe that unhappiness stems from one's genetic code. Others suggest that governmental activities—taxation, poor schools, and poor health care—are to blame. Let me offer a simpler answer: Unhappiness is often the result of poor assumptions.

When someone wakes up he or she assumes that the shower will be hot, the keys will be where they left them, the car will start, the kids will be polite, the boss

will be friendly, the traffic will move briskly, and so on and so forth. When any of these daily routines do not go as planned, panic follows—"Where are my keys!"; "My boss is a jerk!"; and "Why don't they stay in their lane."

I am not suggesting that pessimism is the answer. We shouldn't assume the worst; but we should realize that the worst happens all the time. A boxer knows he will get hit. When he trains for a match he assumes that he will get hit over and over again. His goal is not to avoid contact; his goal is to avoid getting knocked out.

Paul and Silas were hit very badly in Philippi. The chief

magistrates subdued them, beat them with rods, and threw them into a dungeon, the "inner prison" (Acts 16:22-23). Many of us would pout, sue, or cry uncontrollably. Paul and Silas began praying and singing (vs. 25). They were hit, but they refused to be knocked out.

In life, we have to assume we'll get hit. The money will dry up, the goldfish will die, and people will disappoint us. Will you get knocked out, or will you count your blessings?

"For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory..." (II Cor. 4:17).

James Hayes

September 11, 2016

Issue 279

Items of Note:

- Congratulations to all of our young people who participated in Bible Bowl yesterday. They learned most of Leviticus in the process—lessons which they'll retain throughout their lives.
- Hayley Rector will begin chemotherapy treatments soon for breast cancer.
- Continue to remember Mildred Walker, Addie Farmer, Rick Reed, Randy Baker, and Dale Garrett.

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**A.M. Sermon: "9-11, 15 Years Later: What Have We Learned?"  
Tonight Is Our Monthly Singing At 6:00 P.M.**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Hovis

Pray:

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Terry Walker

Serve: D. Demonbreum, Trent, L. Newell

Pray: Cartwright

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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

Romans 12:9-10  
“Let love be without  
hypocrisy. Abhor what is  
evil; cling to what is good.  
Be devoted to one another  
in brotherly love; give  
preference to one another in  
honor.”

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

*“Assumptions are dangerous things to make,  
and like all dangerous things to make, if you  
make even the tiniest mistake you can find  
yourself in terrible trouble.”*

*Lemony Snicket*

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## Do It With All Your Might

The late Charles Kuralt, a CBS correspondent, had a knack for discovering some of America’s most unforgettable people. Years ago he tracked down the Chandlers of Prairie, Mississippi. Alex and Princess Chandler reared nine children on one of the poorest farms in Mississippi. They had nothing, and in the minds of some of their neighbors they *were* nothing because they were black. How did they make it? “We worked,” Princess said. One time Alex bought a horse, a cow, and a mule, but he couldn’t make the payments, so he lost all three.

One day their oldest son, Cleveland, wanted to go to college. Fantasy, at best—crazy, at least. Alex took Cleve-

land to the bus station, borrowed \$2.50 from Princess’ niece, and sent him to college. When Cleveland arrived at college, all he had was what was left of that \$2.50. He is now Dr. Cleveland Chandler, former chairman of the economics department at Howard University. What about the other children? Poverty? Drugs? Criminal life? Well, not quite. Here’s how they turned out:

Gloria: M.A. University of Missouri

Bessie: B.A. Tuskegee, M.A. Central Michigan

Princess: M.A. Indiana University

Luther: B.A. Omaha University

James: B.A. Omaha University,

graduate work at Yale

Herman: B.A. Morgan St.

Fortson: B.A. Morehouse College

Donald: B.A. (undisclosed college)

What is the lesson here? There are many. a world where expectations are low and poor people are viewed as failures by default, the Chandlers provide inspiration. But maybe the biggest is this: Forget the stereotypes. Forget what others think about you. “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl. 9:10).

James Hayes

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