

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

## Redefining

Just a few years ago every science textbook in the world stated that there were nine planets in our solar system. But a group of scientists got together and decided that there should be only eight. I thought a planet was always a planet, but I guess I was wrong.

Members of the International Astronomical Union voted to remove Pluto from the list of planets. Pluto was the newest planet—named and recognized in 1930—and the farthest planet from the sun. It is now considered a dwarf planet because it “has not cleared the neighborhood around its orbit, and it is not a satellite. So if Pluto is now a dwarf, are there now

eight dwarfs? Will Disney make a sequel titled “Snow White and the Eight Dwarfs”? All of this is very confusing.

When words or titles are redefined the confusion sets in. Remember when you used to take trash to the dump, but now you take it to the landfill? The jungle is now a rainforest. A homosexual is gay. A security guard is now a corrections officer. Secretaries are now called administrative assistants.

Why do words and titles get so much attention? What’s wrong with calling something what it has always been called? The answer is simple: We want

everything to *sound* good or nice. “Dump” sounds bad; “landfill” sounds like a big sandbox. When we think of a jungle we think of wild beasts and snakes; but a rainforest sounds like your back yard in the springtime. Since secretaries were regarded as subservient, a more professional name like “administrative assistant” began to be used.

No matter what you name something, it is what it is. And when it comes to Bible things, we need to call them by their Bible names. Renaming sin in order for it to sound less offensive does nothing for the sinner or the one renaming it.

James Hayes

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Items of Note:

- Wednesday night we will all meet in the auditorium for a Thanksgiving devotional, with Scriptures, songs, and prayers that are focused on thanks to our loving God.
- Tara Lee had a biopsy Thursday on her brain tumor.
- Haley Rector had her 5th chemo treatment Thursday.
- Continue to pray for Dale Garrett, Randy Baker, Addie Farmer, and Mildred Walker.

No Classes Wednesday Night—Everyone Meets in Auditorium  
Morning Sermon: Encounters With Jesus—

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Gupton

Pray: Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Brown

Serve: D. Demonbreum, Walker, Baker

Pray: John Hayes

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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

*“Every man has his secret sorrows which the world knows not; and often times we call a man cold when he is only sad.”*

*Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

*“No one ever told me that grief felt so like fear.”*

*C.S. Lewis*

Psalms 9:1

“I will give thanks to the Lord  
with all my heart; I will tell  
of all Your wonders.”

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## That’s Your Opinion

I do not like raisins, oatmeal, or coconut. That’s my opinion, my preference. It’s not a right or wrong issue. The Bible gives no command regarding those foods, and it does not give me a specific diet I should eat—so I can eat whatever I want as long as I am not gluttonous or use food to abuse the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Opinions, however, should never be confused with facts. I am stating a fact when I say, “George Washington was the first President of the United States.” It is also true when I say, “The sky is blue.” To the Christian, the Bible is the inspired word of God (II Tim. 3:16). Since God is holy, all-knowing, and perfect, His

word is therefore perfect. It is not a collection of opinions, so when someone teaches the word of God as fact, he/she should not be considered strange.

But we also have to be aware that just because someone is sincere or intelligent, that doesn’t automatically mean that whatever they say about the Bible is true. Paul warned the young preacher Timothy about this: “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance with their own desires, and will turn their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths” (II Tim. 4:3-4). For

the sake of being popular, some preachers will just say things to attract a large audience. They will be revered by the crowd. They will receive adoration for the way they made the crowd feel better. But their teaching false doctrines...and they can’t hide behind the excuse “Well, what I am teaching is just my opinion. You have your opinions about the Bible.”

Are there difficult passages of Scripture? Of course. But before we debate the difficult passages, let’s do everything we can do to follow the clear passages, and not just say, “Well, that’s your opinion.”

James Hayes

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