

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Unworthy

In the mid-1900s I was working at the Madison church of Christ as a preaching intern for Steve Flatt. One morning Steve asked if I would like to attend a luncheon with him at the Rotary Club in downtown Nashville. I gladly accepted the invitation, and then he told me what time we would leave. About thirty minutes before we were scheduled to leave, Steve stepped into my office and said, "Do you have anything else to wear?" I was wearing my usual attire—khaki pants and a collared shirt—but I didn't have a change of clothes with me, so I said no. He went on to explain that I probably needed to go an-

other time because everyone at the luncheon would be wearing suits. "I don't want you to be embarrassed," he said. I agreed.

All of us have felt unworthy at times. Sometimes we're not wearing the right clothes, saying the right things, or going in the right direction. We just want to run away. That is how Isaiah felt when he saw a grand vision of the Lord sitting on His throne in Isaiah 6. Upon seeing this awesome sight and realizing his mortal state, Isaiah shouted: "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts" (v. 5). However, a seraphim (angel)

touched Isaiah's lips with a burning coal and said, "... your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven" (v. 7). When Isaiah understood he had been cleansed by God Almighty, he quickly volunteered for service: "Then I heard a voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?' Then I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" (v. 8).

God's power created the world and all things in it. That power can also expose the filthiness of man. But the dirtiest man can be cleansed by the blood of Jesus. The unworthy can become worthy again.

James Hayes

December 18, 2016

Issue 293

Items of Note:

- Austin Gee had a heart transplant Wednesday night and is recovering at Vanderbilt
- Tara Lee's brain infection has improved significantly.
- Addie Farmer is slowly improving at NHC in Springfield.
- Joyce Lewis, Janet Tabor's daughter, was released from the hospital this week.
- Haley Rector had her 9th chemotherapy treatment Thursday.

Next Sunday Night's Service (Dec. 25) Is Cancelled This Morning's Sermon: "Difficult Commands"

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Brown

Pray: Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Gupton

Serve: D. Demonbreum, Simpkins, Baker

Pray: Cartwright

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

John 1:14
“And the Word became
flesh and dwelt among us,
and we saw His glory, glory
as of the only begotten from
the Father, full of grace and
truth.”

*“When we recall Christmas past, we usually
find that the simplest things—not the great occa-
sions—give off the greatest glow of happiness.”*

Bob Hope

“The future ain’t what it used to be.”

Yogi Berra

Upon Further Examination

In March 2006, Michael Sparks, a Nashville music equipment technician, walked into the Music City Thrift Store in Madison, TN and bought a rolled up Declaration of Independence for \$2.48. The store owners rightfully assumed that this was a replica—something nice a person could frame and put on an office wall. But upon careful examination, Sparks thought he had discovered something more than a decoration. It was dated 1823. Sparks, like all Americans, knew the Declaration of Independence was issued in 1776, but he kept investigating. After consulting local historians and online resources, he learned that John Quincy Adams, the nation’s Secre-

tary of State in 1820, ordered 200 copies of the declaration made. William Stone made the copies in 1823, and Michael Sparks, the self-described “thrift store junkie,” was holding one of them. On March 22, 2007 the Raynors’ Historical Collectible Auctions in Burlington, NC auctioned off this rare American document for Mr. Sparks. His \$2.48 investment fetched \$477,650.

This story illuminated a spiritual truth. Once upon a time Samuel was looking for a new king. King Saul had disobeyed God’s command to annihilate the Amalekites, and Samuel was commissioned to find Saul’s replacement. God told Samuel to consider Jesse’s sons and to evaluate

them based on their spiritual fiber, not by their social or physical stature. God wanted Samuel to see substance instead of surface, character instead of credentials. Therefore Samuel anointed David, God’s chosen king.

The old adage is, “You can’t judge a book by its cover.” God, through His word, teaches us to look past skin color, family heritage, and socioeconomic background to see the true stature of a man. If we do that, we can be considered godly people.

James Hayes
