Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Manhood

I Kings 2:1-2 "As David's time to die drew near, he charged Solomon his son saying, 'I am going the way of all the earth. Be strong, therefore, and show yourself a man."

If that same charge were given to an American son from his father today, how would the son react? How would the son show himself to be a man? My guess is that he would define manhood in at least three ways:

(1). *Physical strength.* "Real men" are usually defined by their physical capabilities. Biology teaches us that men are stronger than women, and the Bible states that men should not present feminine characteristics (I Cor. 6:9). But was that

what David had in mind when he gave that charge to Solomon? Was he suggesting that Solomon needed to exercise more?

(2.) Stable employment. "Real men" in today's culture are also known for their good work ethic, particularly if they are involved in blue collar, physically demanding jobs. Again, the Bible affirms that men should work for a living (Eph. 4:28; II Thess. 3:10). But was that what David had in mind when he gave that charge to Solomon? Was he suggesting that Solomon always have a good job?

(3). Willing to compromise morals. Some "real men" today are known for their

willingness to fight, drink, and dabble in other vices. They are described as "edgy" and "tough." This is a characteristic that the Bible does not support. So, we can be sure that David did not want Solomon to be known as a "bad boy."

We don't have to wonder what David meant by his statement, because he goes on to explain what a real man is the next verse. "Keep the charge of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to what is written in the law of Moses..." (I Kings 2:3).

James Hayes

May 7, 2017

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Items of Note:

- Cody Krantz had his second surgery Friday.
- Heart transplant recipient Austin Gee continues to slowly recover.
- Maime Hamilton has been been sick lately.
- Bill Carson, Mike Reed's cousin, had a stroke last week.
- Callie Meadows, teacher at West Cheatham Elementary, had complications from a tonsillectomy.

This Morning's Sermon: "Hope" Tonight's Sermon: "Going Back To Sunday School–Abraham"

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School Read: Hovis Pray: Gupton

Morning Worship Wait on the Table: Reed Serve: Doug , J. Walker, J Buchanan Pray: E. Walker 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

Proverbs 13:20 "He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm." In 18th century England, they started running out of places to bury people, so they'd dig up old graves, store the bones elsewhere, and reuse the grave. They soon noticed that 1 out of 25 coffins had scratch marks on the inside, meaning that some had been buried alive. To remedy this problem, a string was tied to the toe of the deceased and run up to the ground where it was attached to a bell. The graveyards were monitored all night (the origin of "graveyard shift"), and if the bell rang, the body was dug up and that person was "saved by the bell" and also referred to as a "dead ringer."

Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines "lady" as, "a woman or girl who behaves in a polite way." So every woman should want to be called a lady, right? The word "classy" is defined as, "stylish and sophisticated." Again, I can't imagine a woman who wouldn't want to be called classy. Yet, when we read those definitions and look at the culture around us, we see very few classy ladies. Instead we see a brand of feminism that believes that modesty and politeness are out-dated virtues from a by-gone era. It's a feminism that uses terms like "empowerment" and "equality" as weapons against traditional ideas. Rachel Green wrote a blog titled "Feminism Doesn't Justify Your

A Real Lady

Behavior" on a website called "Odyssey." In it, she wrote: "Feminism is not an excuse for the girl at my school who bullies people into getting her way and then calls it 'being passionate.' It wasn't an excuse for the girl next to me at a restaurant who cursed at her waiter and when called out said, 'Well men do it all the time, but nobody ever tells them off."

That type of attitude is foreign to Scripture and should be foreign to any self-proclaimed Christian. Both men and women should have the same attitude as Christ—their character should be defined by humility (Phil. 2:5-7). A woman cannot be classy until she is first humble. A woman cannot be modest until she is first humble. That humility will affect every area of her life. She will be humble in her speech, appearance, and relationships. She will not try to impose her will on those around her under the guise of "empowerment" or "passion"—she will see others as more important than herself (Phil. 2:3). When that happens, it will be easy for those around her to call her a classy lady; first, because it will be obvious; second, because women like her are so rare today.

"Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she smiles at the future" (Prov. 31:25).

James Hayes