

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

## The Devil

December 10, 2017

Issue 340

Peter wrote that the “devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour” (I Peter 5:8). He does not take a day off; he prowls every day. Unfortunately, he never looks evil. He does not have the cartoonish pitch fork, pointy ears, and fiery red skin. He “disguises himself as an angel of light” (II Cor. 11:14). He tempts us with pleasurable things—more money, more attention, more fame, more... everything. He wants you to think that God has mistreated you. God did not make your body correctly. He did not give you the right job, the right spouse, or the right life. “Just follow me,” the devil says. “I

will make your life complete.”

But what you might forget is that you have the power to resist the devil. You are strong enough. James stated it plainly: “Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7). Peter wrote: “Resist him, firm in your faith...” (I Peter 5:9). But it is easy to drop your guard and give the devil a foothold into your life (Eph. 4:27). That is why the Bible teaches you to “[P]ut on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil” (Eph. 6:11).

If you find yourself overcome with temptation, re-

member these things from I Corinthians 10:13: First, your temptation is not unique. “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man...” (v. 13a). Second, God will not abandon you during temptation. “...but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able...” (v. 13b). Third, there will always be an option to do the right thing and follow God. “...but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it” (v. 13c).

Pray that God gives you the courage to reject Satan.

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- Thanks to those who attended our Christmas dinner last night.
- “His Word” is the new devotional book for 2018. You can order them on the [jenskinsinstitute.com](http://jenskinsinstitute.com). Search under “TJI Store.” They are \$6.99.
- Mildred Walker has been moved back to Hillcrest Nursing Home.
- Continue to pray for Paula Lee, Beverly Nicholson, Jennifer Watts, and our missionaries.

## Morning Sermon: “Sovereign”

Men’s Meeting Tonight At 5:00; Singing Tonight At 6:00

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Brown

Pray: E. Walker

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: J. Walker

Serve: J. Demonbreum, Smith, Hovis

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11  
“He has made everything appropriate in its time. He has also set eternity in their heart, so that man will not find out the work which God has done from the beginning even to the end.”

*“You must pay for everything in this world one way or another. There is nothing free except the grace of God. You cannot earn that or deserve it.”*

*Charles Portis*

*“Legalism says God will love us if we change. The gospel says God will change us because He loves us.”*

*Tullian Tchividjian*

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## Pride

“God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” That is not an adage from Benjamin Franklin. That is not “bumper sticker theology.” That phrase (and translations of it) appears three times in the Bible (Proverbs 3:34; James 4:6; I Peter 5:5). Every person who is reading this needs grace. Without it, you are dead in sin. Without it, you are separated from God. Without it, you are condemned to a fiery hell for eternity. It is only by the grace of God that you can be saved (Eph. 2:8).

Therefore, it is necessary to remove pride from your life. It has been said that in life you will either be humble or get humbled. If you have lived longer than five minutes, you know

that is true. Proud people fail to realize that they meet the same people going down that they met going up. They forgot (or never knew) that Jesus rebuked pride whenever He saw it demonstrated. When James’s and John’s mother requested that her sons be honored in the kingdom, Jesus questioned her understanding of the life of a disciple. When his disciples were arguing about that, Jesus said, “[T]he Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many” (Matt. 20:20-28). He also noticed pride among the Pharisees, the religious leaders of Jesus’s day. He said, “They love the place of honor at banquets and the chief

seats in the synagogues, and respectful greetings in the market place, and being called Rabbi by men” (Matt. 23:6-7).

Proverbs 29:23: “A man’s pride will bring him low, but a humble spirit will obtain honor.” When you understand the magnitude of God’s blessings and the fact that He did not have to give you anything, you will be much closer to humility than pride. Knowing that there is a God and you are not Him will give you a healthy appreciation of your place in this world He made.

James Hayes

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