

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

God's Planters

January 14, 2018

Issue 344

Sometimes writers have what is known as "writer's block," which is a shorter way of saying that the writer has no idea what to write about. I was having a touch of that this week, so I did something I've never done in order to find inspiration: I closed my eyes, opened the Bible in the New Testament, and pointed at the page. My finger landed on I Corinthians 3:6-7: "I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth" (3:7).

Those are sobering verses for preachers, but also for

anyone who thinks that their faith is what changes the world. It is interesting that Paul, a man who was beaten and jailed for his faith and who planted churches and trained preachers, would think of himself only as a farmer. He was just a planter of God's word. He went around the world on three missionary journeys with fellow disciples planting God's word in the hearts of skeptics, atheists, and idolaters. Men like Apollos came after Paul, continuing what he started. They watered what Paul planted. They worked with those new Christians. They appointed elders, corrected false teaching, and encouraged the

persecuted. But all the while they kept one thing in the front of their minds: It's not about us. Everything we do is for the cause of Jesus Christ. The Lord blesses the work of faithful people.

It reminds me of the Israelites who marched around Jericho. They followed God's command to march around the city once for six days and seven times on the seventh day. And the walls fell. Their feet did not cause the walls to collapse. It was God who gave them victory because they were determined to please Him.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Sympathy is extended to Faye Head on the loss of her sister, Cathy Lawson. Service was held Wednesday.
- Mark Hayes is recovering from his second kidney procedure.
- Carol Saling is being treated at home.
- Darlene Baxter, Maime Hamilton's daughter, will have surgery in the next few weeks for cancer.

Morning Sermon: "Are We Saved By Water?" Singing Tonight At 6:00

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Garrett

Pray: Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Brown

Serve: Doug, J. Buchanan, E. Walker

Pray: Gupton

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

Jeremiah 17:10
“I, the Lord, search the heart,
I test the mind, even to give
to each man according to his
ways, according to the
results of his deeds.”

*“There is nothing noble in being superior to
your fellow man; true nobility is being superior
to your former self.”*

Ernest Hemingway

*“True humility is not thinking less of yourself;
it is thinking of yourself less.”*

Rick Warren

Be Prepared

The Scout Motto is: “Be prepared, which means you are always in a state of readiness in mind and body to do your duty.” Wouldn’t your life be easier if that was your personal motto? Wouldn’t your life be even easier if you used God’s word to establish your “state of readiness”? Are you ready for life’s emergencies?

(1). *Are you prepared spiritually?* The year 2017 was not guaranteed to any of us. But God blessed us with it. You might not see December 31, 2018. If your life ends this year, will you be ready for judgment day? “He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof by

raising Him from the dead” (Acts 17:31).

(2). *Are you prepared financially?* If you lost your job tomorrow or became disabled, how long could you live without a paycheck? How much longer could you live in that scenario if you didn’t have credit card debt? Paying yourself by putting money into a savings account isn’t fun, but it might help you sleep better at night. Tell your money what to do, and it will always obey you...for good or bad. Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions” (Luke 12:15).

(3). *Are you prepared physically?* There is no way to prevent all illness. We are subject to disease and death. But there are things you can do to make your body as healthy as possible. When is the last time you got a physical? When is the last time you exercised? When is the last time you said no to junk food? Making small changes in your health in a positive direction will greatly affect how you feel each day. Life is much more enjoyable when you are healthy. “Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” (I Cor. 10:31).

James Hayes
