

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

**Pleasant View church of Christ**

## The Opinions Of Others

**March 18, 2018**

**Issue 353**

We have all heard the story about the man who went to the doctor for a physical. The doctor looked at the results and said, "Well, you're about a cupcake away from diabetes." The man replied, "Really? Can I get a second opinion?"

"Sure.," the doctor said. "You are ugly, too."

Opinions do not just come from doctors—they come from social media, next door neighbors, relatives, coaches, and classmates. Everybody has an opinion of everything. And everybody has an opinion of you, too. Don't worry: The crowds had a variety of opinions of Jesus, too.

Some called Jesus glutton-

ous and a drunk (Matt. 11:19). Others said he was like Elijah, Jeremiah, and John the Baptist (Matt. 16:14). Nathaneal wondered how someone from Nazareth could be that important (John 1:46). Thankfully, there were those who saw Jesus for who He really was—the Son of God (John 20:30-31).

Did the negative opinions of Jesus stop Him from fulfilling His mission? No. Did He say, "What's the point of doing all of this if people aren't going to love me for it"? No. He came to this earth to do the will of His Father, not to win a popularity contest.

How much of your day is

spent trying to please others? How often do you hesitate to do the right thing because someone might mock you? How many of your doctrinal beliefs are based on popular cultural opinions of Scripture? Would your beliefs change at all if you had to move 1,000 miles away from your home church, family, and closest friends?

Remember, the most important relationship you have is with Jesus. Listen to Him. Obey Him. Push away worldly opinions. "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." (Rom. 12:2).

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- Maime Hamilton spent time in the hospital last week.
- Canetha Walker has been having mobility issues.
- Bring small wrapped candy and leave it on the front row for the Easter Egg Hunt, which will be on Saturday, March 31.
- Happy Haven Children's Home contribution today.
- Steve Buchanan had a kidney stone procedure Friday.

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## Morning Sermon: "Sinful Thoughts Lead To Sinful Actions" Tonight's Sermon: "The Future"

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: E. Walker

Pray: Hovis

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Reed

Serve: J. Demonbruem, Billingsley, J. Walker

Pray: Garrett

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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

Proverbs 23:9  
“Do not speak in the hearing  
of a fool, for he will despise  
the wisdom of your words.”

*“When spring came, even the false spring, there  
were no problems except where to be happiest.”*

*Ernest Hemingway*

*“If people did not love one another, I really  
don’t see what use there would be in having any  
spring.”*

*Victor Hugo*

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## The Traditions Of Men

In Matthew 15, Jesus posed a question to some scribes and Pharisees that cut to the heart of their misguided beliefs: “Why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?” (v. 3). Are all Christian traditions bad? Are they all good? Is it possible for Christians today to be pharisaical about how they practice their faith? Let’s consider the two types of church traditions:

(1). *Biblical traditions.* Every Christian should follow the traditions of Jesus and His Holy Spirit-inspired apostles. In the Great Commission, Jesus commanded His apostles to pass down His teachings to future generations (Matt. 28:19-20).

(2). *Congregational traditions.* Autonomous congregations are free to design their worship services, Bible studies, evangelistic efforts, etc. as each sees fit, within the confines of Scripture. In themselves, there is nothing wrong with congregational traditions.

Unfortunately, in some churches, biblical traditions are ignored and congregational traditions are worshiped. Slowly veering away from biblical traditions in order to ride the wave of cultural change is no virtue. Likewise, if congregations believe that congregational traditions are just a matter of judgment and are subject to change, then those traditions should not be re-

garded as sacred. When we confuse biblical traditions with congregational traditions, our evangelistic efforts are muted because the world can see through our hypocrisy.

Man is prone to get set in his ways. All new things will eventually be repeated so many times they will become the traditional things. But we must ask the question: Are we doing the faithful thing by repeating biblical traditions, or are we doing the pharisaical thing by treating congregational traditions as if they are biblical commands?

Good elders and faithful Christians recognize the difference.

James Hayes

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