

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Cultural Lies

Jesus's teaching was radical. It was challenging. It was divine. It was counter-cultural, anti-cultural, and pre-cultural. It was unlike anything the world had ever known. At the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus's disciples noticed that "He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes" (Matt. 7:29). Unfortunately, many Christians are more interested in molding Jesus's teaching into something that is culturally acceptable instead of the other way around. Consider a few of the common cultural lies that Christians have slowly adopted:

(1). "There are more than two genders." So, how many gen-

ders are there? One online lecturer/blogger believes there are 63, because gender is a combination of physical traits, preferences, and personality. In other words, if I am born a man, but I prefer to be a woman, I can be a woman. Jesus said, "He who created them from the beginning made them male and female" (Matt. 19:4). God made only two genders.

(2). "Christians believe women are inferior to men." The only places on earth where women are treated as inferior to men are places where the gospel has had the smallest impact. Think about it. How are women treated where Islam is the state religion? How are

women treated in primitive areas where mission work is essentially outlawed? No verse of Scripture states that women are inferior to men.

(3). "Faith is anti-intellectual." Jesus wants His disciples to have a child's heart and an adult's head. He instructed His apostles to be "shrewd as serpents" (Matt. 10:16). There is nothing about faith that needs to reject science, since God made science. Christians should embrace learning, because God made all things. A wise person believes in God. It is the fool who says, "There is no God" (Psalm 14:1).

James Hayes

April 8, 2018

Issue 356

Items of Note:

- Robert Williams, former Pleasant View member and elder at Coopertown, has stage 4 cancer in one lung and a few lymph nodes. He will begin chemotherapy soon.
- Marlies McKnight's friend, Dawn Crosman, will have a biopsy soon for potential cancer.
- Our young men will lead songs beginning at 5:40.
- Continue to pray for Canetha Walker, Maime Hamilton,

Morning Sermon: "Your Actions And Your Words"

Men's Meeting at 5:00; Singing At 6:00

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Baker

Pray: Gupton

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Billingsley

Serve: Smith, Doug, J. Buchanan

Pray: John Hayes

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 2:6-7
“For the Lord gives wisdom;
from His mouth come
knowledge and
understanding. He stores up
sound wisdom for the
upright; He is a shield to
those who walk in integrity.”

“Nobody can hurt me without my permission.”

Mahatma Gandhi

“Learning to distance yourself from all the negativity is one of the greatest lessons to achieve inner peace.”

Roy T. Bennett

Being Objective About Race

Matt Chandler, a community church pastor, recently said: “If I preach the sermon out of the book of Isaiah on justice, my inbox would fill with their glee that I would broach the subject. But if I applied it to the subject of race, then all of the sudden I’ve been watching too much of the liberal media. If I spoke on abortion, I was applauded as courageous, as a ferocious man of God, and yet when I would tackle race I was being too political.” What is true in his church is true in many churches of Christ. Racial issues are the hottest hot buttons because many Christians live on the extremes of the issue and refuse to be objective.

For instance, some believe that there has never been racism in the church. “Sure, there have been a few racists here and there,” they say. “But overall, racism has been non-existent.” But the fact is that every college associated with churches of Christ refused to allow black people to attend their schools until the federal government made them. Instead of integrating, many churches would build church buildings in black neighborhoods for black Christians. Then there are some on the other end of the issue who believe that every member of churches of Christ in the 20th century was racist by default. The preachers who hold that view take advantage of any opportu-

nity to malign the church of the past. They ignore the evangelistic efforts of white men—particularly rich white men—who spent their careers lifting up fellow Christians in the black community by opening their homes to them and publically calling for integration.

Trying to reframe an issue in order to advance an agenda is not profitable for the church. Christians should denounce racism wherever it is displayed. As James wrote, “With [our mouths] we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God...these things ought not to be this way” (James 3:9, 10b).

James Hayes
