

# Pleasant View Proclaimer

**Pleasant View church of Christ**

## Gross Because It Is Sinful

**April 29, 2018**

**Issue 359**

I was leaving a Bible class during my sophomore year of high school when my teacher asked this question: "Is it wrong because it is gross, or is it gross because it is wrong?" We were supposed to discuss that question the next day. At first, I didn't know what he meant. But then I got it: Something does not have to be gross to be wrong. Or, more specifically, sin often looks pretty, but that does not make it any less vile.

It is easy for you to oppose things that make you sick to your stomach. For instance, you might cringe at the slightest suggestion of homosexuality because it is gross. You might passionately support the pro-life

candidate because the act of abortion is so heinous. When your mind and your "gut feelings" are aligned, your convictions are much more convicted.

But the mature Christian will have an equal reaction to all sins. Every sin violates the will of God. Every sin damages man's relationship with the Creator of the universe. The mature Christian knows that even if it feels good, looks good, and no one else will know about it, sin is still sin.

That path to maturity is called sanctification—the exporting of fleshly, selfish desires and the importing of God's will. Jesus said that God's tool for sanctifi-

cation is the truth of God's word (John 17:17). When one immerses himself/herself in what we call the Bible, a change takes place. King David said, "Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You" (Psalm 119:11). Through sanctification, the grossness of all sins will be apparent.

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me." (Gal. 2:20).

James Hayes

### Items of Note:

- Jearmie Gupton's father, Randy, has liver cancer. Treatment procedures were discussed this week.
- Darlene Baxter and Beverly Nicholson have both received good news lately regarding their cancers.
- Super Saturday VBS will be June 30. Our Gospel Meeting With Keith Parker will be July 1-4.
- Building fund contribution today. Meal after church tonight.

**Morning Sermon: "Sermon on the Mount: Showing Off"**

**Evening Sermon: "The Lost Virtues: Modesty"**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Buchanan

Pray: Garrett

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: E. Walker

Serve: Smith, J. Demonbreum, Hovis

Pray: Brown

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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

Deuteronomy 31:6  
"Be strong and courageous,  
do not be afraid or tremble  
at them, for the Lord your  
God is the one who goes  
with you. He will not fail you  
nor forsake you."

*Jill Reed, softball, (Mericourt Park, Clarksville)*

*Monday afternoon (30th), 5:45 p.m.*

*Tuesday afternoon (May 1), 5:45 p.m.*

*Charlie Baker, baseball*

*Monday at Ashland City, 7:30 p.m.*

*Friday at Pleasant View (behind PV Elementary), 7:00 p.m.*

*Kyle Reed, soccer*

*Saturday, 11:00 a.m. (Pleasant View soccer fields)*

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## God's Money

You have probably noticed that your name is not on any American currency. The only names on American money are the signatures of the Treasurer of the United States and the Secretary of the Treasury. Technically, you do not "own" your money. The government writes laws that dictate how you can possess money, how much you have to give back to the government in the form of taxation, and where your money can go when you die. Money is not really spent, it is circulated from the government to you to businesses to charities, and so on.

Christians take the concept of money a step farther. We understand that God owns "the cattle on a

thousand hills" (Psalm 50:10). We are just stewards (entrusted supervisors) of God's creation, which includes money. When you use money responsibly, based on God's biblical principles, you have financial peace. You will not feel the suffocating weight of debt. You will not wonder if you will have enough money to live on after you retire. You will not stress about having enough money for Christmas.

Which brings us to our weekly contribution. Is giving on Sunday a financial priority or an afterthought? Has your giving increased in proportion to your income? Do you give the smallest amount you can give because you are afraid, or do you

give generously because you trust that God will provide? I cannot answer those questions for you. Your giving is a private spiritual exercise that demonstrates your love for God and trust in Him.

No matter how you might answer those questions, let me challenge you to do this: Give ten percent more than you are giving right now. Just move the decimal point one place to the left and add that amount to your giving. It's a simple exercise that will prove that an extra ten percent will not bankrupt you, and it will be a great benefit to yourself and the church.

James Hayes

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