

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Source Material

One of the last classes I took in college was “Senior Seminar.” It was just a huge writing assignment that epitomized my American Studies major. The part of my paper on John C. Calhoun’s political philosophy that got the most scrutiny was the source material—the bibliography. The paper was not considered legitimate unless my sources were legitimate. My portrait of Calhoun had to be confirmed by the work of noted historians.

Have you noticed that many people form a image of Jesus and His teachings based on poor source material? Here are a few bad sources:

(1). *WWJD?* The WWJD? (What would Jesus do?) wristbands were popular a few years ago, and were designed with good intentions—have people think about Christ when making decisions. But WWJD? is a philosophy built around pure speculation. Jesus lived in the Middle East 2,000 years ago. He didn’t vote in American elections, use the Internet, or visit Disney World. It is easy to visualize Jesus living as an American and doing all the things. WWJD? is usually answered with, “Everything I like to do!”

(2). *Emotions*. “This feels good...it must be right” is a common philosophy among modern evangeli-

als. This type of worship feels right. This relationship feels right. This church feels right. And so on. But Jesus rarely challenged anyone to do something easy and comfortable. The rich young ruler didn’t feel like giving away his money. Jesus’s disciples were commanded to carry their cross daily. Jesus wanted our obedience to change our emotions; He did not want our emotions to dictate our actions.

The Bible is our only source for faith-based living. Poor sources paint of poor picture of God’s will for our lives.

James Hayes

May 20, 2018

Issue 362

Items of Note:

- Continue to pray for Robert Williams, Darlene Baxter, Carol Saling, Dawn Crosman, Randy Gupton, and Canetha Walker.
- Happy Haven Children’s Home contribution today.
- Super Saturday VBS is June 30.
- Gospel Meeting July 1-4.
- Sign up on the back wall to take communion to Canetha Walker.

Morning Sermon: “Sermon on the Mount: Worry”

Evening Sermon: “Dealing With Disappointment”

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Gupton

Pray: J. Walker

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Brown

Serve: Smith, D. Demonbreum, Baker

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

“The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is an attribute of the strong.”

Mahatma Gandhi

II Corinthians 4:16
“Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.”

“Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow, it empties today of its strength.”

Corrie Ten Boom

Growing Old Gracefully

What is the one thing everybody has in common? We are all getting older. You can buy all the skin creams, exercise videos, and positive-thinking books you want, but you can't stop time. Solomon called our later years “the evil days” (Eccl. 12:1), not because we do evil but because of the negative aspects of aging. Let's consider a few things the Christian should remember when considering how aging affects his faith:

(1). *The Lord has blessed you with a long life.* Think of all the good things you have seen and experienced in life that you would have missed had your life been shorter. You may have heard the axiom “Each day is a gift,

that's why they call it the present.” Life is precious, and you should be thankful for every day.

(2). *Get better, not bitter.* Your many years of life have also allowed you to see and experience many bad things. Bitterness—old anger—can fester as you age. So, ask yourself: What have I done to improve a situation that has eaten at me? Have I done anything to make things better, or have I just wallowed in past negative experiences?

(3). *Consider your legacy.* What are you leaving behind? No, I am not just referring to your estate. I am talking about your reputation, your legacy. What will you be known for? Just your occupation? Just your pos-

sessions? I have preached many funerals of people who cared little for their legacy. It was hard to describe their life. Few friends and family attended the funeral. In your few days on this earth, what are you leaving behind?

(4). *God can still use you.* Moses was 80 years old when God spoke to him at the burning bush. Caleb vowed to keep fighting God's enemies at the age of 85. You can retire from work, but retirement is not something that should happen in faith. Your faithful younger years do not excuse unfaithful older years. We are commanded to be faithful until death.

James Hayes
