

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Thirty-Eight Minutes To Live

August 12, 2018

Issue 374

On Saturday, January 13, 2018, an emergency alert notification was sent to cell phones throughout Hawaii that read: "BALLISTIC MISSILE THREAT IN-BOUND TO HAWAII. SEEK IMMEDIATE SHELTER. THIS IS NOT A DRILL." Panic ensued. For 38 minutes, the citizens of Hawaii called loved ones, sought shelter, and assumed they were minutes away from certain death. But on the 39th minute, another message came from Hawaii's Emergency Management Agency: "NO missile threat to Hawaii." Why was the initial, terrifying message sent? During a shift change at the Agency, an employee hit the wrong

button.

If you thought you only had 38 minutes to live, what would you do? That was not a far-fetched, hypothetical scenario for the people of Hawaii on January 13—it was real life. They had 38 minutes to say goodbye, to say, "I love you," to pray. Did they think about Judgment? Were they overwhelmed with regret for past failings? Or were some of them ready to meet their Lord?

A similar end-of-the-world scene was portrayed in a movie a few years ago. The citizens of a small town were sure that a cosmic force was going to kill them all. The only bar and

church in town were side-by-side. The bar patrons ran outside, the church members ran outside, both groups looked up into the ominous sky...then the church members ran into the bar, and the bar patrons ran into the church. Are you living an authentic life? If you only had 38 minutes to live, would you want to spend those few minutes living in an opposite way from the way you are currently living? Or would you simply be content with your way of life? The Bible teaches us to be ready at all times for the coming of the Lord. We need to be "alert and sober," ready to meet our Maker (I Thess. 5:6).

Items of Note:

- Kristine Garrett was diagnosed with breast cancer on Friday. She will meet with an oncologist on Tuesday.
- Baby shower for Shelby Hovis today at the building from 2:00-4:00. Shelby is registered at Wal-Mart and Target.
- Leah Rose, daughter of Becky and Clint Rose, was baptized last week at Hillcrest.
- David Billingsley will be treated for arterial blockages soon.

Morning Sermon: "Passing The Test" Men's Meeting at 5:00; Singing at 6:00

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Baker

Pray: John Hayes

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Smith

Serve: J. Demonbreum, Hovis, Buchanan

Pray: Brown

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

*“Too many people spend money they earned, to
buy things they don’t want, to impress people
they don’t like.”*

Will Rogers

Psalms 42:1
“As the deer pants for the
water brooks, so my soul
pants for You, O God.”

*“Wealth exists in not having great possessions,
but in having few wants.”*

Epictetus

Your Name Is In The Bible

Steve Higginbotham, a fellow preacher, once asked these Bible trivia questions:

1. *Who was rebuked by Jesus for caring more about temporal things than eternal things?*
2. *To whom did Jesus offer “living water” that would cause one to never thirst again?*
3. *Which disciple was given a second chance to follow Jesus after denying Him?*
4. *Who postponed obedience to Christ by procrastinating for “a more convenient season”?*
5. *Who was the captive who gained his freedom in exchange for Jesus’s death?*

How well did you do on that quiz?

The answers, in order, are: Martha, the Samaritan woman, Peter, Felix, and Barabbas. But here’s the trick: The real answer to every question is you. Reread the questions.

That is one reason why the Bible is so special—you will find yourself in the text. When God said, “Let us make man in Our image,” that means He made *you* in His image. When Jesus said, “For God so loved the world...” you could insert *your* name for “the world.”

The story of redemption is about you. You sinned. God sent His only begotten Son to die for your sins. And Jesus’s blood washes your sins away when you obey the gospel.

If you were the only person on earth, Jesus would have still come to earth and died for you. That is how much God loves you. As His word states, He wants all people to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth (I Tim. 2:4). The Bible is not just a record of ancient events. It is your story. It shows you how God saved His people, and how He will save you as well, because He is not one to show partiality (Acts 10:34).

So, the next time you read the Bible, put yourself in the text. Ask yourself, “What is this passage teaching me? What would I do if I were there?” When you ask those questions, your life will change.

James Hayes
