

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Possible Paths To Heaven

October 21, 2018

Issue 385

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and he life; no one comes to the Father but through Me" (John 14:6). It is both illogical and blasphemous for a Christian to promote, teach, or accommodate any concept of salvation that does not affirm that Jesus Christ is the only Savior of souls. Jesus did not forgo the joys of heaven and die on a cross so that His followers would consider false gods and self-proclaimed saviors as equal to Him for salvation. Let's consider a few possible ways of salvation that some people foolishly follow:

(1). *Good works.* Self-righteousness is a common sin. Man thinks that if he is

a good citizen, good neighbor, good student, good worker, etc. then God will have no choice but to save him. But Jesus did not die for our good deeds; He died for our sins—and every person has a sin problem (Rom. 3:23). We all deserve hell (Rom. 6:23). It is only by the grace of God that our sins can be washed away by the blood of Christ (Eph. 2:8). No one should rely on good works for salvation (Eph. 2:9-10).

(2). *Salvation by association.* Many people live this way, even though they would not admit it. They think that the faith of their spouse or parents will rub off on them. They think Jesus will judge people in

groups. If Dad was faithful, then all his kids get to go to heaven, too. If the wife was faithful, then the husband is saved, too. And so on. But the Bible teaches that each person will be held accountable for his or her own deeds (II Cor. 5:10).

(3). *Good intentions.* There will be no section of heaven reserved for the well-meaning. "I meant to," "I forgot to," and "I didn't have time" will not be acceptable excuses at judgment.

Reject false gods. Avoid false teachers. Obey the gospel. Live faithfully. Anxiously await your heavenly reward.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- We are thankful that Molly and Ellie Gupton were baptized yesterday by Freddie Brown!
- The church sent \$1500 to Mani Pagidipalli to help his work.
- Trunk or Treat will be next Sunday night after evening service.
- Our monthly singing nights have been moved to the 3rd Sunday nights of each month to accommodate area youth events.

Morning Sermon: "Why Pray?" Tonight's Sermon: "The One Way"

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Baker

Pray: M. Smith

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Billingsley

Serve: J. Demonbreum, Reed, J. Walker

Pray: Gupton

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

I John 3:16

“We know love by this, that
He laid down His life for us;
and we ought to lay down
our lives for the brethren.”

If you would like to contribute money to Mani

Pagidipalli, send funds to:

Broadway Church of Christ

ATTN: India Missions

2855 Broadway Street

Paducah, KY 42001

*Chet and Rachel Duke's address: 24331 Town
Walk Dr., Hamden, CT 06518.*

God's Requirements

If you know any verse from the Minor Prophet Micah, you probably know 6:8: “He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” Justice. Kindness. Humility. Those are timeless virtues that are in short supply in 2018 America. Let's examine each one:

(1). *Justice*. In every culture, there are people who are abused, neglected, and marginalized by those who are more powerful. Those victims deserve justice. They deserve to be set free from their abusers. The abusers need to be punished in accordance with applicable laws. Christians

should always be keenly aware of the less fortunate. We should not abide false victimhood, but we should always seek justice for those who are truly victimized.

(2). *Kindness*. When is the last time you did something nice for someone without it being expected or returned? In other words, when have you been kind for the sake of kindness? The Lord wants His people to love kindness. We live in an era where cruelty and condescension are loved by many. We need more people whose default reaction to anything is kindness.

(3). *Humility*. Humility is not weakness. Humility requires strength. It

requires one to reign himself in when unleashing his power would be easier. Unfortunately, pride gets more attention. Social media provides avenues for self-promotion. The humble are overwhelmed by the prideful. But it makes no difference: God did not call us to be attention-seeking self-promoters. He called us to walk humbly with Him.

We tend to make life difficult and confusing, but God's expectations are not burdensome or complicated. If you focus on simple virtues like justice, kindness, and humility, life will get easier.

James Hayes
