

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

The Meaning Of Life

December 16, 2018

Issue 393

There are approximately 25,550 days in the average life. Jacob said his days were “few and unpleasant” (Gen. 47:9). When fleeing from Jezebel, Elijah said, “O Lord, take my life, for I am not better than my fathers” (I Kings 19:4). Even after God showed compassion toward a tired Jonah, Jonah said, “I have good reason to be angry, even to death” (Jonah 4:9). The apostle Paul, although challenged on many fronts like Jacob, Elijah, and Jonah, saw things differently. He said, “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain” (Phil. 1:21). Life’s 25,550 days are filled with glorious triumphs and depressing setbacks. Remem-

ber these biblical truths each day:

(1). *Life is purposeful.* On Mar’s Hill, Paul preached, “And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation” (Acts 17:26). You are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:15-18). You have a reason for living. God gave you a purpose.

(2). *Your purpose is to please God.* Anything you create—a job, a house, a chair—is designed to please you. Our Creator designed us to please him. After evaluating and experimenting with all

that life had to offer, Solomon declared: “The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person” (Eccl. 12:13).

(3). *Life is precious when it is purposeful.* Those who have lost the will to live have lost sight of the preciousness of life. They can only see their faults, failures, and fears. They forget that Jesus came so that not only would they have a life, but that it would be rich and fulfilling (John 10:10).

Love life. Love living. Live with purpose.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas dinner last night! It was a great time.
- Deliver and pick up your Christmas cards in the back.
- Tim Agee will preach both services on December 23.
- Happy Haven contribution today.
- Continue to pray for Randy Gup-ton, Kristine Garrett, Rick Reed, and Paula Lee.

Morning Sermon: “The Five Stages Of Life” Singing Tonight 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, Gup-ton, E. Walker

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

1 John 4:20

“If someone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.”

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.*

Fatherhood

Each year, Americans will spend \$5 billion more on their mothers than their fathers. Why? Maybe it is because many—if not most—mothers have been tasked to raise their children with little to no assistance from their children’s father. More and more often, fathers have fallen into one of two broad categories: villain or doormat. He is either despised by his family because he is mean, selfish, and/or neglectful, or he is inactive in his family—a pushover for his wife and children.

The Bible does not teach fathers to be villains or doormats. Fathers have the awesome responsibility to “not provoke [their] children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline

and instruction of the Lord” (Eph. 6:4). Fathers should be...

(1). **F**aithful. Church is not just for women and children, although in most congregations the majority of the regular attendees are women and children. Fathers must be the spiritual leaders in their homes.

(2). **A**lert. Fathers, do you know the names of your children’s friends? If not, why not? Do you know your wife’s favorite meal? If not, why not? Be present in the lives of your family.

(3). **T**ender. Carl Sandberg described Abraham Lincoln as a man of “steel and velvet.” Lincoln was strong when he needed to be, and

compassionate when he needed to be. Being a “real man” is more than just being a tough disciplinarian for your children. You need to be a shoulder to cry on as well.

(4). **H**opeful. If Dad is always “gloom and doom” about the future, the family will feel defeated.

(5). **E**ncouraging. Highlight the good characteristics of your wife and children. Children will never forget their father’s compliments.

(6). **R**espected. The noble woman’s husband “is known in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land” (Prov. 31:23).

James Hayes
