



## **Words of Wisdom Radio, July 15 - 19, 2024 by [John T Polk II](#)**

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.*

**July 15, 2024**

**Judge Not At All?**

[Jesus said,] "Judge not, that you be not judged." (**Matthew 7:2**)

Was Jesus condemning any and all criticism of behavior? If so, He contradicted His later statement:

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits."  
(**Matthew 7:15-16**)

But Jesus Christ did not contradict Himself. Judgment is a double-edged blade, it cuts both ways. Jesus continued:

"For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you." (**Matthew 7:2**)

Christians know that God's Word is the standard of Judgment, and they try to obey it. Hypocrites are those who use Scripture to condemn Christians but make no effort to repent and be baptized for the remission of their own sins!

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**July 16, 2024**

**Use the Right Instrument**

Why do people listen to what God says at first, but not last?

Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.  
(**Psalms 100:2**)

We may approach God through the voice music of "singing." But David added to this:

Then *David and all Israel* played music before God with all their might, with singing, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on cymbals, and with trumpets. (**1 Chronicles 13:8**)

God said:

"Woe [to those] who sing idly to the sound of stringed instruments, And invent for yourselves musical instruments like David." (**Amos 6:5**)

Today, Christians should be:

Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. (**Ephesians 5:19**)

The churches of Christ don't use David's instruments, but our God-given hearts for singing.

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**July 17, 2024**

**What Unity In Diversity?**

Foreign languages were invented by God. After the flood in Noah's day:

The whole earth had one language and one speech. [... and] God said, "Let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." (**Genesis 11:1, 4**)

[The tower] is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth. (**Genesis 11:9**)

The Devil has used division to divide and conquer people ever since! Keeping different languages splinters the American culture, and denominations have splintered the church of Christ.

Can two walk together, unless they are agreed? (**Amos 3:3**)

There is no unity in diversity in culture or religion! The Gospel of Jesus Christ unites.

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**July 18, 2024**

**Hades Or Heaven?**

Jesus said the rich man "died and was buried,"

And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom (**Luke 16:23**)

Though dead, his soul was in "Hades," not Heaven, and stayed there. "Hades" means "unseen," and holds departed souls until the Day of Judgment. Jesus taught that Lazarus was in Abraham's bosom (**Luke 16:23**). "Hades," then has a place where the good "are comforted" and the bad are "tormented" (**Luke 16:25**) separated by "a great gulf fixed" (**Luke 16:26**).

When Jesus died, Peter preached that God did not leave His "soul in Hades" (**Acts 2:27**), but "raised Him from the dead" (**Acts 13:30**). After death, we will await the Day of Judgment in "Hades." **All souls do not go to Heaven.**

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**July 19, 2024**

**Doctrine By the People**

That this is a rebellious people, Lying children, Children who will not hear the law of the LORD; Who say to the seers, "Do not see," And to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us right things; Speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits." (**Isaiah 30:9-10**)

Once prophets said what people wanted them to say, they no longer preached the Word of God, and people were not obedient to God. The same applies today. Preachers who preach what people want, do not represent the Word of God. Generally:

[People] will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. (**2 Timothy 4:3-4**)

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