

**Words of Wisdom** by John T Polk II For WECO FM 101.3 and The Fellowship Room

## 1-12-2015 Ignorant Bible Critics

For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion. (Romans 11:25)

Have you noticed that the people who criticize the Bible know practically nothing of its contents? Bible critics, most of the time, are ignorant of its theme, continuity, or preservation, and are only wise in their own opinion! Many atheists and skeptics, on the other hand, have become Bible-believers when they study what it actually says.

Remember this, that the enemy has reproached, O LORD, and that a foolish people has blasphemed Your name. (Psalm 74:18)

Let Your mercies come also to me, O LORD- Your salvation according to Your word. So shall I have an answer for him who reproaches me, for I trust in Your word. (Psalm 119:41-42)

This is Johnny Polk, with "Words of Wisdom" brought to you by the Oneida church of Christ.

### **1-13-2015** Bible Writers Were Eyewitnesses

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. (2 Peter 1:16)

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-- the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us. (1 John 1:1-2)

It takes someone truly ignorant of Scripture to criticize it by saying: "About 400 years passed between the writing of the first Christian manuscripts and their



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compilation into the New Testament." [KURT EICHENWALD /Newsweek, December 23, 2014]

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# 1-14-2015 "Je Suis Charlie"

After the <u>7 January 2015 massacre</u> in which 12 people were killed at the offices of the satirical newspaper <u>Charlie Hebdo</u> in <u>Paris</u>, France, "Je suis Charlie" has gone viral. A Constitutional Freedom of Speech should protect all speech, not just a privileged few. Jewish censorship of Christ's Apostles was tried:

Let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name. And they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said to them, 'Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.' (Acts 4:17-20)

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# 1-15-2015 Free Speech Is Not A License

Not all speech has a moral right to be offered. Just because we can, doesn't mean we should.

LORD, how long will the wicked, how long will the wicked triumph? They utter speech, and speak insolent things; all the workers of iniquity boast in themselves. (Psalm 94:3-4)

Censorship is forced upon people; Christians are considerate.

Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one. (Colossians 4:6)



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Christians will "speak freely" about Jesus Christ, as Paul did (Acts 26:24-28), because Christians know "since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech—" (2 Corinthians 3:12). Christians are to:

Put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. (Colossians 3:8)

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# 1-16-2015 "Sorcery"

When King Manasseh completely abandoned God, he:

Caused his sons to pass through the fire in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom; he practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft and sorcery, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger. (2 Chronicles 33:6)

All societies that abandon God resort to these same kinds of practices: heartless sacrifice of their children; vain and completely false sources of spiritual information; and immoral behavior before God. "Sorcery" today would be called "drug abuse." Problems then and Jesus' answer now is to:

Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:15-16)

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