

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

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

2-22–2016 Pay in the Kingdom of Heaven

In Matthew 20:11-15, Jesus likened "the kingdom of heaven" to "a landowner" who hired workers "early in the day," for "a denarius a day." Workers hired the third, sixth, ninth, and eleventh hours, were promised "whatever is right." He paid them all the same amount, but those who worked throughout the day complained that the eleventh hour workers had been made "equal to us." The landowner reminded them they had contracted for their wages, but:

I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?

Jesus showed that it was lawful for an employer to make individual contracts and the employer owned the jobs and his money. In God's Kingdom, "the last will be first, and the first last."

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2-23–2016 All Discrimination Is Not Condemned

According to the dictionary, discrimination involves our "power to distinguish and select what is true or appropriate or excellent." In other words, discrimination is our ability to make good judgments. Because it has been tied to the word "racial," many people are afraid to have it. Discrimination is a non-racial, non-sexual word, and those who make it that way are bullying people from making good moral decisions. God's Wisdom says: The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate (**Proverbs 8:13**).

Solomon said:

A wise man's heart discerns both time and judgment, Because for every matter there is a time and judgment (**Ecclesiastes 8:5-6**).

Jesus said:

"Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment" (John 7:24).

We must discriminate!

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2-24–2016 Moral Discrimination Required

In trying to prevent discrimination over skin color, moral discrimination is overturned. Skin and sin are not the same discrimination. The problem is:

In the place of judgment, Wickedness was there; And in the place of righteousness, Iniquity was there (**Ecclesiastes 3:16**).

Moral discrimination about behavior is absolutely essential.

The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray (**Proverbs 12:26**).

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! (**Isaiah 5:20**).

A nation can suffer because its leaders are morally wrong.

For the LORD brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Israel, for he had encouraged moral decline in Judah and had been continually unfaithful to the LORD (**2 Chronicles 28:19**).

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2-25–2016 Sin Within Is Not Equal to Skin Without

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

None of these are judgments of skin, but sin! Judgments about homosexual behavior are not in the same category as judgments based upon skin color! Skin color is not a choice, homosexuality is! In this list of sins, no one is born an idolater, thief, adulterer, or covetous person, and no one is born a homosexual.

[God turned] the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly, [for the] ... filthy conduct of the wicked [was] ... lawless (2 Peter 2:6,7,8).

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2-26–2016 Homosexuals Are Not Righteous

These things also belong to the wise: It is not good to show partiality in judgment. He who says to the wicked, 'You are righteous,' Him the people will curse; Nations will abhor him. But those who rebuke the wicked will

have delight, And a good blessing will come upon them (**Proverbs** 24:23-25).

It is ungodly to lump racial discrimination with homosexual discrimination. "Partiality" is how we treat someone before we know them, but it is a shameful disgrace to tell homosexuals they are "righteous." Because condemning skin is wrong doesn't justify commending sin! God blesses those who "rebuke" sinful conduct, for God has said,

He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD (**Proverbs 17:15**).

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