

Words of Wisdom by John T Polk II

For WECO FM 101.3

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

9-12-2016 Remember the Terrorists

In remembering the First Responders of 9/11/2001, don't forget the hate filled terrorists who caused the destruction in the first place! Muslim terrorists seem to be religious fanatics, just like Jewish "terrorists" who tried to destroy the church of Christ shortly after it started! Before he became a Christian, Paul remembered:

For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it (Galatians 1:13).

To what extent?

I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women (Acts 22:4).

Terrorists can be converted, however. After he was convinced that Jesus is the Christ, "he arose and was baptized" (Acts 9:18), and preached that Jesus "is the Son of God" (Acts 9:20). Some well placed Scriptural truth can destroy fanaticism better than bullets and bombs!

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9-13-2016 A Jesus Candidate

Sinners told to "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38), become Christians who have been "conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love" (Colossians 1:13). A Christian never has to worry about what Jesus will say, for He has said it exactly right:

"As My Father taught Me, I speak these things" (John 8:28).

With Jesus, there is no e-mail scandal or lying cover-ups, for He said:

"No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you" (John 15:15).

Wouldn't it be so much better if those running for public office were more like Jesus?

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9-14-2016 The Immigration Problem

When "illegal immigration" has become an overwhelming invasion of non-citizens who assume their right to government giveaways and constitutional protection, it raises doubt and confusion in our minds as to whether citizenship means anything anymore. For an earthly country, constitutions and people must decide. For Christians:

Our citizenship is in heaven (**Philippians 3:20**)

[And] the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: 'The Lord knows those who are His,' and, 'Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity' (**2 Timothy 2:19**).

Only those are "added to the church daily" who were willing to:

Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38, 47).

God does not offer spiritual "amnesty" to anyone who refuses to obey His rules for citizenship!

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9-15-2016 Correcting Disciples

After Jesus' resurrection, He predicted that Peter would die an old man. Peter asked how would John die? Jesus answered, but was misrepresented.

Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, 'If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you?' (John 21:23).

People can jump to a wrong conclusion and never look back at the facts. But that is why we have Scriptures, that we may go back and correct our false faith: Peter is *not* "the rock" upon which the church of Christ was built.

All denominations are *not* included in the New Testament church. *No saved person* in the New Testament "claimed salvation" *before* obeying God's command. There was *no* "once-saved, always-saved" doctrine taught to Christians.

9-16-2016 A Capella Music

Why, for hundreds of years after the Apostles, no Christians used mechanical instruments of music in their worship? Their song worship found them:

... 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 "melody" was to come from their heart, through their singing, not an external instrument! Before the Catholic Church justified external instruments, the music of Christians in worship was known as "*a capella*," a phrase meaning "according to the church," and referring to singing without any additional instrumental accompaniment! Worship in the churches of Christ involves heartfelt music that teaches "one another," not heavy, overwhelming instrumentation that entertains! Corruption of worship caused God to say:

"Take away from Me the noise of your songs, For I will not hear the melody of your stringed instruments" (Amos 5:23).

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