The Fellowship Room

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.

12-19-2016 Jesus Saves the Lost

Jesus defined His mission when He said:

"For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost" (Matthew 18:11).

Define "lost." It is from a Greek word meaning "wasted, ruined, lost," and Satan is called "Apollyon," meaning "him who lays waste" (**Revelation 9:11**). Is your life being wasted through alcohol and drugs, sex and babies outside of marriage, hatred and racism, violence and murder, or cheating and stealing? Then Satan rules your life!

To break Satan's power, Jesus became:

... Flesh and blood ... that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage (**Hebrews 2:14-15**).

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace (**Ephesians 1:7**).

Baptism is into His death (Romans 6:3).

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12-20-2016 "Fake News" In the News

"Fake news" is in the news, or is it "fake news" about "fake news?" If "news" is "new information about specific and timely events," then it may, or may not be "true." Some refuse to face facts: an election is over; there are illegitimate babies and illegal aliens; education is not, actually; profit is not evil and Christians are not hypocrites! "Truth" is "conformity to fact or reality."

Jesus said He came into the world,

... That I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice" (**John 18:37**).

Pilate replied, "What is truth?" (John 18:38).

Pilate represents people who cannot accept reality, so they question "truth" as if it were "fake news." Since "no lie is of the truth" (1 John 2:21), then there is no "fake news" about Jesus Christ in the Bible. Believe it!

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12-21-2016 Fake Divisions of Faith

Now it happened in Iconium that they went together to the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke that a great multitude both of the Jews and of the Greeks believed. But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brethren (Acts 14:1-2).

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ is effective, but not everyone will be converted. "Unbelieving Jews," who are Jews who refuse to believe that Jesus is the Christ, and therefore reject the New Testament, caused most of the city to be:

... Divided: part sided with the Jews, and part with the apostles (Acts 14:4).

It's easy to create confusion in peoples' minds though the Gospel is clear and understandable. "The brethren" are now called "Christians" (Acts 11:26). The Christians were not divided, but the public opinion about them was. Only accept the Apostles' New Testament!

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12-22-2016 Living a Christian Life

The Holy Spirit wants Christians:

- ... To lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you (1 Thessalonians 4:11).
- 1) To "lead a quiet life," is to be a "peacemaker" (Matthew 5:9), as Jesus said. Paul explained:

If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men (Romans 12:18).

- 2) "To mind your own business" (m.y.o.b.) means you deal with yourself. This does not cancel preaching the Gospel "to every creature" (Mark 16:15), but making their life's decisions for them.
- **3)** "**To work with your own hands**" means self-supporting, not living off your parents. This sounds like spiritual "rugged individualism," and that's exactly what God requires! No statistical "millennials" here!

Living like Christians ought doesn't leave time for laziness, whining, or being supported by parents or government handouts!

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12-23-2016 The First Day of the Week

[Jesus] rose early on the first day of the week (Mark 16:9).

To remember how special that day is, it was:

... On the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them (Acts 20:7).

Jesus had said,

"As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26).

Every week has a "first day" to remember His resurrection and gather to remember His death with the Lord's Supper. Sad, isn't it, when this practice of faith is cast aside for ball games, car races, family reunions, traveling, housework, entertainment, "sleeping in," shopping, or the host of other human "reasons" that are used. God made "the first day of the week" special, but people ignore what makes it so special!

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