

Words of Wisdom Radio Transcripts by John T Polk II

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

12-20-2021

The Name "Christian"

Is "Christian" a label for anyone who believes anything about Jesus Christ?

So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. (Acts 11:26)

The resurrected Lord (and not the baby Jesus!) said:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20)

To be a "Christian" one must:

- 1) Observe all that Jesus commanded. But He nowhere "commanded" that we observe His birth;
- 2) Assemble with the church. What church? The church of Christ is the only one in the New Testament;
- 3) Remember, "Christian" is not hyphenated nor applied to everyone who claims to be one!

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12-21-2021

Kinds of Christians

In a parable, Jesus said:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way." (Matthew 13:24-25)

The owner's solution was to let it all grow until harvest, and then make the separation. Jesus explained:

"He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels." (Matthew 13:37-39)

"Tares" (or "weeds") among Christians doesn't mean God approves of them, or that they are produced by the Word of God. God knows the difference, now and on Judgment Day!

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12-22-2021

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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12-23-2021

Getting Jesus Right: Kingship

The New Testament writers, "did not follow cunningly devised fables" (2 Peter 1:16) when they wrote about Jesus Christ. A "fable" is a "myth, fairy tale, falsehood." At birth, Jesus was not a "king." He was called "king of the Jews" by wise men (Matthew 2:2). After miraculously feeding thousands, the people wanted to force Him to be their king, but Jesus withdrew from them (John 6:15). He entered Jerusalem, and the Jews wrongly said,

"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the LORD!" (Luke 19:38)

Pilate wrongly titled Jesus' cross, "THE KING OF THE JEWS" (Mark 15:26). Only after His resurrection did Jesus claim,

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth." (Matthew 28:18)

Now He is "the King of kings and Lord of lords" (1 Timothy 6:15).

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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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