

John T. Polk II, Editor

All Scripture quotations from the Editor are from the New King James Version
(Bible Resources may be found on: www.johntpolkll.com)
Email responses may be sent to: TychicusTruths@johnpolkll.com

Free Article : "Why Only 10 Commandments?"

https://johnpolkll.com/files/documents/GG_WhyOnly10Commandments_2002Q4_1.pdf

Salted Speech Colossians 4:6

- ~ Teaching children to count is not as important as teaching them what counts.
- ~ Attending the services of the church does not depend on how far one lives from the building, but rather how close one lives to God.
- ~ An empty tomb proves Christianity . . . An empty church denies it
- ~ God wants spiritual fruit . . . not religious nuts.



What a different social media world
it would be...

Questions & Replies by John T. Polk II, www.johntpolkll.com
QUESTION: "After we've gone through a massive buying season, many cannot pay off their credit cards. What can we do?"
ANSWER: Solomon's God-given wisdom gave five economic rules in **Ecclesiastes 5** that can avoid this situation.

1. Commit Slowly: "Do not be rash with your mouth, And let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God is in heaven, and you on earth; Therefore let your words be few. For a dream comes through much activity, And a fool's voice is known by his many words."

(**Ecclesiastes 5:2-3**) Promising a "big" "Christmas," or "wedding," or such like without considering the cost first is very foolish. Some people act like Santa Claus can bring many gifts without understanding that they, not Santa, must pay for them!

2. Pay Quickly: "When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it; For He has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed- Better not to vow than to vow and not pay." (**Ecclesiastes 5:4-5**) Credit is best handled by paying it off entirely every month than allowing it to grow beyond one's ability to pay. Defaulting on credit purchases is akin to theft! This lesson may be learned late, but should be learned nonetheless!

3. Speak Honestly And Carefully: "Do not let your mouth cause your flesh to sin, nor say before the messenger of God that it was an error. Why should God be angry at your excuse and destroy the work of your hands? For in the multitude of dreams and many words there is also vanity. But fear God." (**Ecclesiastes 5:6-7**) We can verbally commit ourselves to more than we may, realistically, handle. We monetarily overreach with empty words. Solomon has already warned "a fool's voice is known by his many words" (**Ecclesiastes 5:3**), and also taught, "In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise." (**Proverbs 10:19**)

4. Remember The Farmers: "If you see the oppression of the poor, and the violent perversion of justice and righteousness in a province, do not marvel at the matter; for high official watches over high official, and higher officials are over them. Moreover the profit of the land is for all; even the king is served from the field." (**Ecclesiastes 5:8-9**) Punishing workers destroys the system!

5. Don't Live To Be Rich: "He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver; Nor he who loves abundance, with increase. This also is vanity. When goods increase, They increase who eat them; So what profit have the owners Except to see them with their eyes? The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, Whether he eats little or much; But the abundance of the rich will not permit him to sleep." (**Ecclesiastes 5:10-12**) Jesus said: "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God! (**Mark 10:24**) Wealth has its downside, too.

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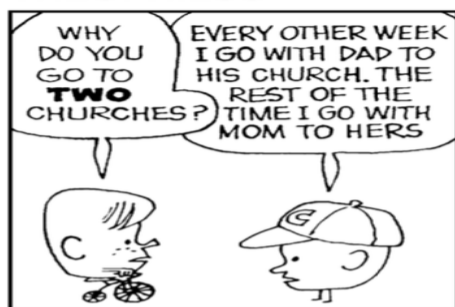


The Greatness of America

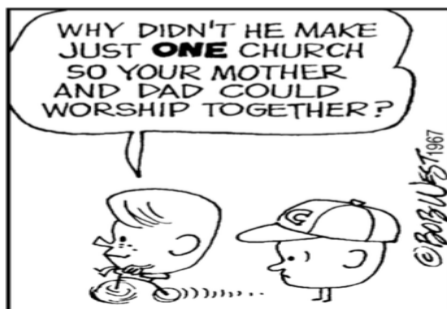
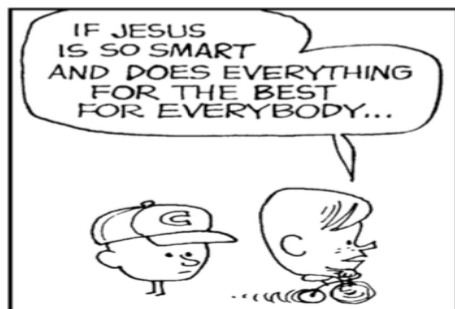
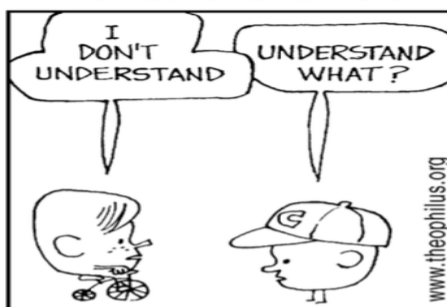
"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her fertile fields and boundless forests, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her rich mines and her vast world commerce, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her public school system and her institutions of learning, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution, and it was not there. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great."

--Alexis de Tocqueville" 1831

THEOPHILUS



The Author of Division?



The Cyrus cylinder: clay cylinder; a Babylonian account of the conquest of Babylon by Cyrus in 539 BC, of his restoration to various temples of statues removed by Nabonidus, the previous king of Babylon, and of his own work at Babylon. The cylindrical form is typical of royal inscriptions of the Late Babylonian period, and the text shows that **the cylinder was written to be buried in the foundations of the city wall of Babylon. It was deposited there after the capture of the city by Cyrus in 539 BC, and presumably written on his orders.**

The text is incomplete. **It is written in Babylonian script and language** and records that Nabonidus, the last King of Babylon (555-539 BC), had perverted the cults of the Babylonian gods, including Marduk, the city-god of Babylon, and had imposed labour-service on its free population, who complained to the gods. The gods responded by deserting Babylon, but Marduk looked around for a champion to restore the old ways. He chose Cyrus, King of Anshan (Persia), and declared him king of the world. First Cyrus expanded his kingship over the tribes of Iran (described as Gutians and Ummanmanda), ruling them justly. Then Marduk ordered Cyrus to march on Babylon, which he entered without a fight. Nabonidus was delivered into his hands and the people of Babylon joyfully accepted the kingship of Cyrus.

From this point on, the document is written as if Cyrus himself is speaking: 'I, Cyrus, king of the world ...'. He presents himself as a worshipper of Marduk who strove for peace in Babylon and abolished the labour-service of its population. The people of neighbouring countries brought tribute to Babylon, and Cyrus claims to have restored their temples and religious cults, and to have returned their previously deported gods and people.

The text ends with a note of additional food offerings in the temples of Babylon and an account of the rebuilding of Imgur-Enlil, the city wall of Babylon, during the course of which an earlier

building inscription of Ashurbanipal, King of Assyria (668-627 BC),
was found. ***The British Museum***