



Things Said "In Haste" by [John T Polk II](#)

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

When things are said "in haste" they seldom have been thought through, and need examination. "Firing from the lip" has caused much confusion and hurt in many souls. Jesus Christ proclaimed God's Word "is truth" in prayer (**John 17:17**), in purpose (**John 1:17**), and in His power (**1 John 3:8**). Thoughts either stated or accepted "in haste," need a close comparison to the well-thought out Word of God.

1. **Psalm 31:22** says,

For I said in my haste, 'I am cut off from before Your eyes;' Nevertheless You heard the voice of my supplications When I cried out to You.

Someone may draw a wrong conclusion about God. David had concluded that his plight was more than God would consider, but the truth was that God had not finished with David, but heard David's "supplications" and delivered him. David's hasty words were not true, God's actions showed him otherwise.

2. **Psalm 116:11** says,

I said in my haste, 'All men are liars.'

In the previous verse it was stated:

I believed, therefore I spoke, 'I am greatly afflicted.' (**Psalm 116:10**)

To speak what one believes is not a lie but an honesty, which is why the Apostle Paul quoted **Psalm 116:10** in **2 Corinthians 4:13** as applying to Christians about the Gospel of Christ: we must know the Gospel and speak straight from our heart. But if the Psalmist is right in verse 11, that "All men are liars," then he would have spoken the truth! He would be calling himself a "liar" in verse 10 for speaking his honest belief! Hence, compared with himself, he must have spoken "in haste."

However, since God is always right in everything He has said, a person who says anything that contradicts what God has said "is a liar" (**1 John 1:10; 2:4, 22; 1 John 4:20; 5:10**). Compared to God, therefore, "every man [is] a liar" (**Romans 3:4**) who teaches otherwise (**1 Timothy 6:3-5**). Jesus' birth, life, teaching, and sacrifice were to "bear witness to the truth" (**John 18:37**) which reflects badly on all commentators who question His story.

3. Some hastily say: "Everyone in the church of Christ is a hypocrite." Oh, really? The Apostles Peter and Paul were hypocrites? John, "the Apostle of love," was a hypocrite? The Thessalonians were hypocrites (**1 Thessalonians 1:6-10**)? Since Jesus Christ died for the church of Christ (**Acts 20:28**), is identified with the members (**Acts 8:1-3; 9:4-5**), is represented each Lord's Day in the assembly (**1 Corinthians 11:23-26**), and is the head of it (**Colossians 1:18**) – does that make Jesus Christ a "hypocrite?" Or, are you speaking only of present-day members of the churches of Christ who are trying to:

Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus (**1 Timothy 1:13**)?

If Jesus, His Apostles, and His church members in the 1st Century were not "hypocrites," then why are people who keep His Word today "hypocrites?" Everyone who "holds fast the pattern of sound words" recorded in the Scriptures is practicing the same thing that Jesus and His Apostles taught. If not, why not? All who make such a "hasty" condemnation must examine their dirty glasses through which they are looking at the churches of Christ, for:

To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled (**Titus 1:15**).

Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous (**1 John 3:7**).

4. Some have hastily concluded: "Einstein's 'Theory of Relativity' shows that everything is relative, and there are no moral absolutes." Is that really so? If the "Theory of Relativity" is true – compared to what? You see, if it is the truth (that everything must be defined "in relation to something else"), then it is absolutely true. But if it is absolutely true, then it is NOT "relative truth!" Science is supposed to be about facts that don't change because they may be demonstrated to be true. "Einstein's Theory" is always called a "theory" because it never has been, nor can be, demonstrated as "fact!"

"Truth" is to be defined as "fact," that is, it either is or isn't "true." If something is a "fact," then it can be demonstrated each time. An example from the Bible is:

For as the churning of milk produces butter, and wringing the nose produces blood, so the forcing of wrath produces strife (**Proverbs 30:33**).

1. Milk, churned, is the source of butter;
2. A nose, wrenched, bleeds;
3. Therefore (parallel to these), wrath, agitated, escalates to strife.

Surely no one can dispute these "facts," of:

1. Scientific observation ("milk"),
2. Physical response ("nose"), and
3. Human behavior ("wrath").

God's Word states these facts accurately, so whatever guidelines God can give about behavior should be the best way to live. Let's illustrate this with [3]:

The beginning of strife is like releasing water; therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts (**Proverbs 17:14**);

A wrathful man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger allays contention" (**Proverbs 15:18**);

The conclusion is, one must do whatever can be done to avoid heating up a wrathful situation.

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

God's Word is "truth" (**1 Thessalonians 2:13**; **1 Timothy 2:3-4**), so by following it, one will be straightforward (**Proverbs 4:20-27**; **Matthew 7:13-27**), thus

Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (**John 8:31-32**).

What God condemns or commands are absolute statutes that never change, regardless of how many or how few people abide by them (**Colossians 3:1-25**). Each individual is not his/ her "own truth," but to the extent that God's Word is made the standard for thinking and conduct, His Way shows through a person's obedience.

Beware of believing, echoing, or following "hasty words." One should re-think the old adage, "haste makes waste," except when bringing Jesus into your heart (**Luke 19:5**).

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