



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.*

6-6-2016

Slandering Saints

Jews brought Jesus to Pilate,

And said to him, 'If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you' (**John 18:30**).

Jesus Christ...an "evildoer?" As Pilate said,

"Why, what evil has He done?" (**Matthew 27:23**), and then confessed, "I find no fault in Him at all" (**John 18:38**).

Christians are trying to reshape their lives to be like Jesus.

Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation (**1 Peter 2:11-12**).

Sinful people called Jesus "an evildoer," and "speak against" Christians doing "good works." Don't believe everything sinners claim about Christ or Christians.

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6-7-2016

Are We Listening?

Jesus explanation of the parable of the seed in **Mark 4:2-20** shows four responses to God's Word:

- 1) "Satan comes immediately and takes away the word."** Satan is working in children preoccupied with electronics, adults planning the rest of the day, and those "hung over" from Saturday night;
- 2) "have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time."** These with "fading faith" are often branded "hypocrites," but they are only weak;
- 3) "the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful."**

These have no room for faith in their present busy lives to prepare for the next life!

- 4) **"those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit."** All of these attended church and heard a sermon, but "the faithful few" left to live it!

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6-8-2016

Who Has Failed?

Jesus Christ said,

'And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.' This He said, signifying by what death He would die (**John 12:32-33**).

He, "by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone" (**Hebrews 2:9**).

His cross provides the way of salvation, but does not automatically save each individual. The message of the cross may be:

- 1) **Perverted.** But there are "ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ" (**Jude 4**).
- 2) **Ridiculed.** Paul wrote: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (**1 Corinthians 1:18**). Jesus said: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (**Mark 16:16**).

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6-9-2016

Causes Of Depression

Jesus warned:

"But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly" (**Luke 21:34**).

According to this verse, Jesus mentioned three things that cause "clinical depression," or a "weighing down" of ourselves:

- (1) "carousing" is the lightheadedness or dizziness caused by alcohol or other drugs;
- (2) "drunkenness" is the softening up of one's moral judgment caused by alcohol or other drugs;
- (3) "cares of this life" is the anxiety, or constant worry, about "this life." Notice that all three keep us from using our good moral, or spiritual, judgment in making decisions. Don't let anyone convince you that life is happier by using any of these things. They only depress what "could have been!"

Jesus came that "they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly" (**John 10:10**).

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6-10-2016

Can You Spell "O-r-g-y?"

Before becoming a Christian, Peter said that a sinful life included

Lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries (**1 Peter 4:3**).

"Lewdness" (a.k.a. "lasciviousness") is "unbridled excesses;" "lusts" are "fleshly desires;" "drunkenness" is the "overflowing of alcohol and other drugs;" "revelries" are "lying down dead drunk;" "drinking parties" that consume kegs, cases, flats of alcohol, and handfuls of packets and tablets of other drugs; "abominable idolatries" are those elevated above the crowd who approve! Whether from the Woodstocks to the Bonnaros; from Spring Breaks to Frat Houses; from Graduation Parties to Brimstone, if the entertainment involves these activities, it "wars against the soul" (**1 Peter 2:11**).

The Bible doesn't try to take the "fun out of life," but to guide us into the real "fun" in life: **f**ellowship, **u**nity, **n**eighborliness! And, you can remember what you've done!

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