



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.*

8-1-2016 Christian, Offensive 1

The Knoxville News Sentinel refused to print a bookstore ad because it contained a word it deemed "offensive." That word was "Christian." In fumbling around for an excuse, the paper passed the buck around the plant. The point remained, however, that someone hired at that paper branded "Christian" as an offensive word. Why is it offensive?

- 1) God gave the disciples of Jesus Christ the name "Christian" (**Acts 11:26**).**

To be offended at "Christian" is to be offended with God. Jesus said,

"He who hates Me hates My Father also" (**John 15:23**).

- 2) Why is "Christian" offensive, but the lurid, ungodly, indecent, immoral words used to advertise movies in that same paper are not also offensive?**
- 3) "Christian" is offensive, but not the religious name of be-headers, mass murderers, wife-beaters, child "honor killers?" It is the name "Christian" that glorifies God (1 Peter 4:16)!**

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**8-2-2016 Christian Offensive 2**

*The Knoxville News Sentinel* refused to print a bookstore ad because it contained a word it deemed "offensive." That word was "Christian." Is that paper trying to:

- 1) Keep people from "Christianity?"** Unbelieving Jews in Jerusalem said:

So that it spreads no further among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name (**Acts 4:17**).

Apostles answered,

We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard (**Acts 4:20**)?

**2) Refuse that name because it is not "politically correct?"** Unbelieving Jewish leaders:

Commanded [*Apostles*] that they should not speak in the name of Jesus (**Acts 5:40**).

Their response was

Daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ (**Acts 5:42**)?

Is *The Knoxville News Sentinel* fighting against God?

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### 8-3-2016 Christian Offensive 3

*The Knoxville News Sentinel* refused to print a bookstore ad because it contained a word it deemed "offensive." That word was "Christian."

**1) Jesus said:**

Blessed is he who is not offended because of Me (**Luke 7:23**).

God's blessing is for those who are not offended like *The Knoxville News Sentinel* was.

**2) Paul's Gospel preaching almost persuaded Agrippa "to become a Christian" (**Acts 26:28**).**

Those "offended" by the name "Christian" would refuse to become one, rejecting Jesus Who said,

He who believes and is baptized will be saved (**Mark 16:16**).

**3) Peter proposed something that rejected Jesus' death and Jesus said,**

"Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men" (**Matthew 16:23**).

Rejecting "Christian" offends God!

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## 8-4-2016 Cultural Worship 1

According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, you shall not do; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do; nor shall you walk in their ordinances. You shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them: I am the LORD your God (**Leviticus 18:3-4**).

The religious "cultures" of Egypt and Canaan pretty much cover a complete picture of idolatry and its corruption of morals and worship. Before Israel entered the Promised Land of Canaan, God repeated,

"You shall not worship the LORD your God with such things" (**Deuteronomy 12:4**).

God did not want His people bringing "cultural" practices into His worship. People must give God what He wants, not what they were raised with!

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## 8-5-2016 Cultural Worship 2

And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized (**Acts 18:8**).

Because of their "cultural" background of false religions, Paul wrote by Holy Spirit inspiration, details of how different Christian worship is from their "cultural" practices:

### 1) Human philosophy –

That your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God (**1 Corinthians 2:5**);

### 2) Divisiveness –

For you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? (**1 Corinthians 3:3**);

### 3) Sexual immorality -

Flee sexual immorality (**1 Corinthians 6:18**);

### 4) False worship –

You cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons (**1 Corinthians 10:21**).

Worldly cultural practices must be left outside the church of Christ.

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