



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.*

9-5 & 6-2016 Gospel Saints

The Apostle Paul wrote:

To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours (**1 Corinthians 1:2**).

There were "saints" in the church of God in Corinth. Paul had:

... Testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ... And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed, and were baptized (**Acts 18:5,8**).

"Saint" is short for "sanctified," or set aside for spiritual purpose. A "saint" calls on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. When Saul of Tarsus was told to

"Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (**Acts 22:16**), ... He arose and was baptized (**Acts 9:18**).

There were "saints" before any Roman Catholic Church.

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**9-7-2016      Saints Serving the Poor**

There was no Roman Catholic Church in existence when Paul wrote:

To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints (**Romans 1:7**).

They were "distributing to the needs of the saints" (**Romans 12:13**). Paul was:

... Going to Jerusalem to minister to the saints. For it pleased those from Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor among the saints who are in Jerusalem (**Romans 15:25-26**).

There is more than just serving the poor, however, for:

Though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing (**1 Corinthians 13:3**).

Serving without love "profits nothing." Corinthians "hearing, believed, and were baptized" (**Acts 18:8**) and were "sanctified in Christ Jesus" (**1 Corinthians 1:2**).

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### **9-8-2016 Your Own Opinion**

Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion (**Romans 12:16**).

"Everyone is entitled to their own opinion," except, that is, when truth is involved! Personal preference is not the same as truth. Favorite colors, hair styles, school majors, football teams, or cars may vary, because there is not the same one for everybody! But no one is entitled to the "opinion" that stealing can be right! "Stealing" something that belongs to someone else without their permission is wrong.

Thieves break in and steal (**Matthew 6:19**).

Our opinion about it does not change the fact of the theft or the wrongness of it. Our opinion must never be confused with "truth." The words "what I think" must not override "what God says!"

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### **9-9-2016 Opinion About Salvation**

A wise man fears and departs from evil, but a fool rages and is self-confident (**Proverbs 14:16**).

"A fool" is anyone arguing against this moral distinction between good and evil, and "is self-confident" without God's approval. People may say, "I know I'm saved, regardless of what you show me in the Bible!" Solomon said:

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" (**Proverbs 14:12**).

When Jesus says to "every creature,"

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

How can anyone "know they are saved" if they claimed "salvation" before being baptized? Salvation is not man's to claim, but God's to give, and on His terms!

For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends (**2 Corinthians 10:18**).

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