

**Words of Wisdom** by **John T Polk II**  
For [WECO FM 101.3](#) and [The Fellowship Room](#)

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

**12-05-2016      In Times of Trouble**

[Israel's government and religious leaders said] to a tree, 'You are my father,' And to a stone, 'You gave birth to me.' For they have turned their back to Me, and not their face. But in the time of their trouble They will say, 'Arise and save us.' But where are your gods that you have made for yourselves? Let them arise, If they can save you in the time of your trouble; For according to the number of your cities Are your gods, O Judah" (**Jeremiah 2:27-28**).

Today, the notion that we came from trees and rocks is called "Evolution." Children are taught that Earth, and not God, is responsible for their lives. But when trouble comes, no one cries out to dinosaurs or "Evolution" for help! The furious Smoky Mountains wildfires caused death and destruction, and thousands called out for God, not "Evolution!"

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**12-06-2016      Where Is God When Trouble Arises?**

My tears have been my food day and night, While they continually say to me, 'Where is your God?' (**Psalms 42:3**).

Unbelievers taunt believers whose faith is being tested by asking: "Where was God?" It is an ignorant question asked by cruel and heartless people that assumes:

**1) God is limited.** Unbelieving Syrians challenged Israelites with:

The LORD is God of the hills, but He is not God of the valleys (**1 Kings 20:28**).

God met that challenge by defeating the Syrians.

**2) That this test is "ungetoverable."** Believers simply say:

We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair (**2 Corinthians 4:8**).

### 3) God is too removed to know our problem:

'Am I a God near at hand,' says the LORD, 'And not a God afar off?'"  
(**Jeremiah 23:23**).

Prayers to God are answered by mountains of help!

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#### 12-07-2016      How Does God Help?

When the time came to build the tabernacle at Mount Sinai,

Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whom the LORD has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, shall do according to all that the LORD has commanded (**Exodus 36:1**).

When needs arise, it seems there are always plenty of people who have the talent, and know God's Will, and are ready to step up and do what needs to be done. Ask "how will God help," then look at those who do.

But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good  
(**2 Thessalonians 3:13**).

Since Jesus said our giving should not only be: "before men, to be seen by them" (**Matthew 6:1**), it's easy to overlook the generous response among churches of Christ who help in time of need.

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#### 12-08-2016      God Hears "Help!"

Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope is in the LORD his God, Who made heaven and earth, The sea, and all that is in them; Who keeps truth forever, Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry. The LORD gives freedom to the prisoners (**Psalms 146:5-7**).

God gives "help," a word meaning "to run at a cry." The Creator God is the source of life, truth, justice, food, and freedom. In the Apostle Paul's vision

A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them" (**Acts 16:9-10**).

God hears cries of "Help!" for either physical or spiritual needs.

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**12-09-2016      Profane Pleas**

"Profanity" literally means "making it as common as a doorsill." Few give a passing thought to a doorsill when crossing it. That is exactly the attitude toward God's Name that is forbidden. When Israel used to be God's chosen people, He said:

"And you shall not swear by My name falsely, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I am the LORD" (**Leviticus 19:12**).

Jesus' New Law teaches Christians to pray:

"Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name" (**Luke 11:2**).

It is only when Bible history is ignored that people profane God's Name. Constant "OMG's" profanes God. When disaster comes, how can a profane person mean it when he says: "God, help me"? If we wish to call on God to help, don't profane His Name.

The LORD is for me among those who help me (**Psalms 118:7**).

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