

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.*

7-10-2017 Man Made Tradition: Jesus' Resurrection

[Jesus Christ was] declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. (**Romans 1:4**).

Since Jesus "rose early on the first day of the week" (**Mark 16:9**), Christians meet together on the "first day of the week" in remembrance of His resurrection, and "break bread" to remember Jesus' death for their sins (**Acts 20:7**). Because each week has a "first day," the churches of Christ remember Jesus' Gospel every week. Sinners may put this Gospel into their hearts, by being "buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (**Romans 6:4**). This is not seasonal, but serious.

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7-11-2017 Man Made Tradition: Corporate Church

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**).

So, Paul wrote to "the church" (assembly) "of God" (who originated it) "at Corinth" (this particular place). Since Jesus promised,

"On this rock I will build My church" (**Matthew 16:18**),

then in Scripture, Jesus built but one "church." To the Corinthian church, Paul wrote,

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body (**1 Corinthians 12:13**).

[Then he said] Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually (**1 Corinthians 12:27**).

Gospel preached and obeyed makes the "body of Christ." It is not a "corporate church," man-made, but sinners converted to Christ.

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7-12-2017 Man Made Tradition: Corrupt Church

For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ (**Jude 4**).

Churches of Christ are made up of members who have willingly obeyed Jesus Christ who said,

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

Members may be corrupted by "ungodly men" (acting without God's approval); who have "crept in unnoticed" (like they were sneaking in a side door); abusing the liberties of God's grace, by perverting it into lawlessness; and denying the Godhead. To avoid this,

Contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints (**Jude 3**).

That is, do not leave the plain, clear New Testament doctrine!

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7-13-2017 The Bible Is From God

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel (**Isaiah 7:14**).

This prophecy, given some 700 years before it happened, was not "dually fulfilled;" did not apply to Isaiah's own son or the serious situation at the time; but was only one-time fulfilled in the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, so said God's Holy-Spirit-inspired writer, Matthew, in **Matthew 1:20-23**. Only God could have prophesied such a unique, specific event, controlled its writing, preserved the prophecy for 700 years, and identified the event that completely fulfilled the original statement. The Bible does this hundreds of times, proving that it comes only from God, but no other religion's book does: the Hindu Rig Veda; the Muslim Koran; or the Buddhist Tripitaka!

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7-14-2017 Only One Death Stands Out

'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**).

In our world, our attention seems to stay focused on the human abuses: crimes, violence, riots, mobs, murders, drugs, wars, threats, bombs, destruction, and genocides. The cross of Jesus Christ stands above all our sordid history. In our world, we see headlines and reports of: boyfriend/girlfriend violent abuse, neglected & abused children, abortion murders, and merciless behavior toward each other. Above one Person in history had absolutely pure motives, words, deeds. Jesus died with love for you, so:

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water (**Hebrews 10:22**).

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