



**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.*

**8/14/2023 The Savior's Start**

"An angel of the Lord" told shepherds,

"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger" (**Luke 2:11-12**).

[The shepherds said:] 'Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us. And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger' (**Luke 2:15-16**).

- 1) This is about the birth of Jesus, and has nothing to do with a "Christmas;"
- 2) The shepherds saw "a Babe," "born" that very day. The "wise men" were nowhere around;
- 3) God's "Savior" was born in Bethlehem, not Mecca!

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**8/15/2023 The Savior's Exception**

It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. Then a voice came from heaven, 'You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased' (**Mark 1:9-11**).

- 1) Since John was "baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins" (**Mark 1:4**), Jesus had made Himself the exception, since He had no sins (**Matthew 3:15**). No one else can be saved before being baptized!
- 2) After His baptism God declared pleasure in Jesus' obedience. Today, God blesses after baptism, not before:

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ (**Galatians 3:27**).

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### **8/16/2023 The Savior's Proof**

A paralytic was brought to Jesus by four men.

When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven you' (**Mark 2:5**) [and then said,] "... That you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins -- He said to the paralytic, 'I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.' Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!" (**Mark 2:10-12**).

- 1) "Fake healers" today fail, but blame their patient with unbelief! *The Bible says nothing about the paralytic's faith.*
- 2) Priests that claim to forgive sins must prove their claim with genuine miracles, which they cannot do!

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### **8/17/2023 The Savior's Salvation**

"But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (**Galatians 6:14**).

The shape of the cross does not have power to save, cast out demons, or scare off the Devil. It is not the cross, but "our Lord Jesus Christ" who saves. A poor deluded, misguided woman who thought her daughter was demon-possessed, shoved a cross down her throat and killed her. It's not the crucifix, but conversion to the Christ on His cross that saves.

[Jesus] became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross (**Philippians 2:8**).

[Sinners are] buried with Him through baptism into death (**Romans 6:4**).

It's not a cross shape, nor belief in that cross only, but baptism into His death that saves.

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## 8/18/2023 The Savior's Saved

A disciple asked Jesus,

"Lord, are there few who are saved?" (**Luke 13:23**).

The answer was "Yes," because only:

Whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved" (**Acts 2:21**).

But Jesus had taught that

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven" (**Matthew 7:21**).

It takes more than words to "call on the name of the LORD" to be saved. Saul of Tarsus believed in Jesus Christ and was told to,

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

Calling on the name of the LORD is not done by claiming your salvation, professing salvation before baptism, or prayer. It is completed when sins are washed away in baptism.

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