



QA: Why Aren't Church of Christ Preachers Humble? by [John T Polk II](#)

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

Question: Why aren't Church of Christ preachers humble like denominational pastors are?

ANSWER: The most dangerous false teachers are those who profess their humility and seeming desire for more truth.

Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind. (**Colossians 2:18**)

Those who take "delight in false humility" are "vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind" seem to appeal to the "ignorant and unstable" as they ...

... As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures. (**2 Peter 3:16**)

These who claim to "love" brethren who criticize their ways, and profess their "forgiveness" for all who oppose their false teaching are some of the most insidious, hypocritical, arrogant people who ever have claimed to be Christians!

Albert Barnes (1798-1870), a controversial American Presbyterian, wrote in his **New Testament Commentary on Colossians 2:18**:

In a voluntary humility. Marg. 'being a voluntary in humility.' Tindal renders this, 'Let no man make you shoot at a wrong mark, which, after his own imagination, walketh in the humbleness of angels.' The word used here (*tapeinofrosunh*) means 'lowliness of mind, modesty, humbleness of deportment'; and the apostle refers, doubtless, to the spirit assumed by those against whom he would guard the Colossians — the spirit of modesty or of humble inquirers. **The meaning is, that they would not announce their opinions with dogmatic certainty, but they would put on the appearance of great modesty. In this way, they would become really more dangerous — for no false teachers are so dangerous as those who assume the aspect of great humility, and who manifest great reverence for Divine things.** The word rendered 'voluntary' here *yeIwn* — does not, properly, belong to the word rendered 'humility.' It rather appertains to the subsequent part of the sentence, and means that the persons referred to were willing, or had

pleasure in attempting, to search into the hidden and abstruse things of religion. They were desirous of appearing to do this with an humble spirit — even with the modesty of an angel — but still they had pleasure in that profound and dangerous kind of inquiry.

Their hypocrisy is great, for they hide their real motive and twisted teaching behind the façade of humility.

If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. (**1 Timothy 6:3-5**)

Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. (**Romans 12:9**)

— *John T. Polk II, October 13, 2019*