

# Words of Wisdom by John T Polk II For WFCO FM 101.3

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

# 8-9-2021 Blaspheming God's Word

To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. (Titus 1:15)

People who are depraved by their own sins, want to believe Jesus had a fleshly relationship with Mary Magdalene: He didn't. She was not the "woman in the city who was a sinner" that anointed Jesus feet before He died (Luke 7:36-50). She was in the group of women who came to anoint His dead body and found Him raised from the dead (Mark 16:1). That Pharisee Simon thought Jesus hypocritically let her display her faith while detesting her: He didn't. Those who think all Christians are hypocrites are showing their own defilement. They assume Christians are like they are, but they're not!

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### 8-10-2021 Hate Filled Strife

There can be no question that in the world, "hatred" is preached and practiced! Christians should leave this behind, for Paul wrote in Titus 3:3:

For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

There is a third word for "hatred" listed as a "work of the flesh" that disqualifies anyone from inheriting "the kingdom of God." (Galatians 5:19-21) Only the hateful stir up strife:

Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; and where there is no talebearer, strife ceases. As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife. (Proverbs 26:20-21)

For the "love of God," we should "keep His commandments" (1 John 5:3).

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# 8-11-2021 The Valley of Opinion

Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones. (Proverbs 3:7-8)

In this country, we value opinion over facts and truth. There are far more "opinion polls" than there are "fact-checkers." Make this proverb plainer, "Do not be wise in your own opinion" (Romans 12:16). The only way to live a good, strong life is to "fear the LORD and depart from evil." "Fear" is "respect," and "depart" is to leave it off. "But, I think" is no substitute for:

I thought about my ways, and turned my feet to Your testimonies. I made haste, and did not delay to keep Your commandments. (Psalm 119:59-60)

The Valley of Opinion is in the Land of the Lost.

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#### 8-12-2021 Are All Saved?

We trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. (1 Timothy 4:10)

God is the "Savior of all men" but not all are saved,

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)

God has made His offering for any who will accept it.

But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God. (Hebrews 10:12)

Scripture is given "for obedience to the faith" (Romans 16:26). Jesus said:

"If you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." (John 8:24)

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

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## 8-13-2021 Did Jesus Make Baptism Essential to Salvation?

[Jesus said,] "He who believes and is baptized will be saved." (Mark 16:16)

Jesus placed baptism after believing but before salvation. Why is this so? *If*Jesus had felt baptism had nothing whatever to do with salvation, He would have:

- 1) **Left it out altogether**, but He included it;
- Mentioned it after salvation, but not one passage of Scripture where baptism and salvation/remission of sins are mentioned together that places salvation before baptism;
- 3) **Specifically said that it had nothing whatever to do with salvation**, but no New Testament writer ever taught this ;
- 4) Warned His disciples that it contradicted God's other commandments but Peter did not think it contradicted any passage dealing with "works," "grace," "love," or "faith" when he said "baptism doth also now save us " (1 Peter 3:21 KJV).

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