## **The Fellowship Room**

# 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.

#### 2-08-2016

No Programme

This is Johnny Polk, with "Words of Wisdom" brought to you by the Oneida church of Christ.

### 2-09-2016 Organised Religion

It is impossible to be a Christian and stay out of "organized religion." After Jesus' resurrection, people asked the Apostles "what shall we do?"

Then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit' (Acts 2:38).

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers (Acts 2:41-42).

And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved (Acts 2:47).

Those who obeyed the Gospel immediately were added to the church of Christ and assembled to worship God. Those saved were "organized" by God's Word.

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#### 2-10-2016 "Mardi Gras" & the Bible

Though Mardi Gras is not officially approved by the Roman Catholic Church, it is officially ignored! It is the Tuesday of sinful excesses before their official "Ash Wednesday" beginning their 40 penitential days of "Lent."

- (1) None of this is taught in the New Testament of God's Word;
- (2) Everyone who practices these things does so by the authority of the apostate Roman Catholic Church, not God;
- (3) Before conversion, Christians "once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others" (**Ephesians 2:3**), but not afterward;
- (4) Paul preached to Jews and Gentiles "that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance" (Acts 26:20), but there was never a "season of repentance."

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#### 2-11-2016 Worship Matters to God

When Abraham said to his young men,

'Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you' (Genesis 22:5)

Abraham showed how "worship" is a part of our lives, but not our whole life. When they were to enter the Promised Land, God warned Israelites not to adopt the worship practices of other people, and then said,

"Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it" (**Deuteronomy 12:32**).

While on Earth, Jesus taught:

"The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him" (John 4:23).

"Worship" that pleases God must be as He commands, not that just pleases us!

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### 2-12-2016 Religion Doesn't Matter; We're All Going to the Same Place

In a city "given over to idols" (Acts 17:16), The Apostle Paul said:

"Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious" (Acts 17:22).

They were religiously wrong, not believing in Jesus Christ, Who said,

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

Paul preached in Ephesus to men who had been baptized in John the Baptist's baptism:

John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 19:4-5).

They had believed in Jesus, but been baptized for the wrong reason. Everyone is not going to the same place, regardless of their religion!

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