

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.

7-18-2016 The Sin Of Lawlessness

Do not be envious of evil men, Nor desire to be with them; For their heart devises violence, And their lips talk of troublemaking (**Proverbs 24:1-2**).

In a strife-filled, racially-divided, hate-mongering society, they are "evil men" who drive it to the brink. The race-baiters who get hysteric about past history, fan the flames of racial hatred, with the assistance of a propaganda press. It is their "troublemaking" talk carried out, that makes headlines. Their evil hearts are devising violence, with no plan for peace, but power.

Whoever digs a pit will fall into it, And he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him (**Proverbs 26:27**).

Remember, if law-enforcers are removed, there will be no enforced law! One day, Jesus

... Will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness (Matthew 13:41).

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7-19-2016 Tragic Events And Innocent People

Do bad things happen to only to sinners? Jesus dealt with this issue in **Luke 13:1-5**. Were the Galileans, whom Pilate killed with their sacrifices, sinners? Were the eighteen accidently killed when the tower in Siloam fell, sinners? For each case, Jesus said, "I tell you, no." Persecutions, ambushes and murders happen, whether by guns, trucks, or explosives, because there are hate-filled, ungodly people "out there." Tragic accidents happen caused by human errors in judgment, faulty construction, or inadequate protection. To those who blame all who die as sinners,

[Jesus said], "Unless you repent you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3,5).

We live in a world where such things occur, and must repent of the judgmental attitude that condemns others only. Truly, Solomon said,

"Do not boast about tomorrow, For you do not know what a day may bring forth" (**Proverbs 27:1**).

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7-20-2016

#### **Each Death**

And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment (Hebrews 9:27).

We all have an appointment with death. David seems to list the ways a man can die:

The LORD shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish (1 Samuel 26:10).

Death can come by God's stroke, natural causes, or war. Jesus Christ was subjected to the same:

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil **(Hebrews 2:14)**.

The Devil makes God's appointment as tragic, painful, or agonizingly slow as possible, to destroy the faith of the victim or family. Jesus came to help with hope: let Him!

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### 7-21-2016 Paul's Unchangeable Gospel

But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man **(Galatians 1:11)**.

Paul did not preach a "gospel" that was subject to changes. He had warned the Galatians against

... Turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ (Galatians 1:6-7).

They were being convinced that changes in Paul's gospel message was just the same, though changes made it entirely "different." Paul had preached they were

... Sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ (Galatians 3:26-27).

Offering salvation before baptism "into Christ" means "Christ died in vain" (Galatians 2:21).

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### 7-22-2016 Paul's Gospel Is Not Moses' Law

Paul reminded Christians that

Even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified **(Galatians 2:16)**.

Nothing in God's Word separates the Law of Moses into "moral" and "ceremonial" laws. Jesus Christ, Himself, referred to the Old Testament as being "the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms" **(Luke 24:44)**. "The Law of Moses" included the five books written by Moses: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy included all the rituals, rules, and righteousness Israelites kept under Moses. From the 10 Commandments throughout, none of Moses' Law saves today, only the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jesus has said,

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

Jesus saves, not Moses.

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