

**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.*

**12-26-2016      The Name "Christian"**

Is "Christian" a label for anyone who believes anything about Jesus Christ?

So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch (**Acts 11:26**).

The resurrected Lord (and not the baby Jesus!) said:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you" (**Matthew 28:19-20**).

**To be a "Christian" one must:**

- 1) Observe all that Jesus commanded.** But He nowhere "commanded" that we observe His birth;
- 2) Assemble with the church.** What church? The church of Christ is the only one in the New Testament;
- 3) Remember, "Christian" is not hyphenated nor applied to everyone who claims to be one!**

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

---

**12-27-2016      Christ Or Christmas?**

Jesus said of the Pharisees:

'And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men--the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do. He said to them, 'All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition' (**Mark 7:7-9**).

Do you notice the "doctrines" and "commandments of men" are practices without any authority from God? The Pharisees wanted to appear even more religious than those who simply obeyed God's Word, so they made up practices to observe, and set aside "the commandment of God." The observance of a "Christ's Mass" is just such a

Pharisaical practice. Christians remember Jesus' death in the Lord's Supper, and resurrection every 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week. For a "Christ's Mass," many set these aside.

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

---

**12-28-2016      Kinds of Christmas**

In a parable, Jesus said:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way" (**Matthew 13:24-25**).

The owner's solution was to let it all grow until harvest, and then make the separation. Jesus explained:

"He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels" (**Matthew 13:37-39**).

"Tares" (or "weeds") among Christians doesn't mean God approves of them, or that they are produced by the Word of God. God knows the difference, now and on Judgment Day!

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

---

**12-29-2016      Another Year of Darkness**

Then God said, 'Let there be light;' and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day (**Genesis 1:3-5**).

From the first day of the Creation, God wants us to know the difference between Day and Night, darkness and light. The prophet Daniel said,

[God] knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him" (**Daniel 2:22**).

[Solomon said] The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble (**Proverbs 4:19**).

There are some people who stumbled into 2016, through 2016, and are planning to stumble into 2017. They haven't figured out yet, "what makes them stumble." Don't waste another year in darkness!

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

**church of Christ.**

---

**12-30-2016**

**New Year Party, Or Old Year Vomit?**

"But they also have erred through wine, And through intoxicating drink are out of the way; The priest and the prophet have erred through intoxicating drink, They are swallowed up by wine, They are out of the way through intoxicating drink; They err in vision, they stumble in judgment. For all tables are full of vomit and filth; so that no place is clean" (**Isaiah 28:7-8**).

Does this sound like a good new year's party, or is it the sickening vomit of old year's drunkenness? Have you notice the beer commercials don't show anyone throwing up their beer? The liquor ads don't show the blurred, distorted vision of the drivers who kill, maim, and destroy innocent people? The bad effects of "intoxicating drink" are used to "ring out the old, and ring in the new year." It still looks sickeningly the same, doesn't it? What's "new?"

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

---