The Fellowship Room

Words of Wisdom by John T Polk II For WECO FM 101.3 and The Fellowship Room

12-22-14 Be Merry Without Alcohol!

Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. (Romans 13:13)

These are terms that describe company parties, conventions, frat parties, bars and taverns, Christmas and New Year Eves, or proms. This verse teaches us to behave as if others can see us in the daytime; therefore NOT with rioting and dulled judgments in alcohol and drugs; NOT sexual excesses and perversions; NOT with quarrelling and jealousy!

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. (Romans 13:14)

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (Galatians 3:27)

Christians will, and should, choose not to!

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12-23-14 What "Peace" Did Jesus Bring?

Jesus spoke to His disciples and said:

"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27)

The "world" offers "peace" by: increasing government power; or giving up to one's enemies; or signing treaties with no teeth; or retreating into drugs and alcohol; or speeding through life while preoccupied by electronics, jobs, athletics, or shopping!

Jesus' "Peace" comes only to those who obey His Will. Paul wrote to Christians:

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The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. (Philippians 4:9)

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12-24-14 Apollo 8 Tribute to God

On Christmas Eve, 1968, the first piloted spacecraft of any kind to break free from the Earth's orbit, then circle around another celestial body, was the American manned space mission, Apollo 8. When it orbited the Moon, the astronauts, Bill Anders, Jim Lovell, and Frank Borman, sent out a special live Christmas Eve broadcast, along with live images of the Earth and the Moon, accompanied with their reading from the Book of Genesis, Chapter1, verses 1-10: which began:

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth... [and ends with] And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called the Seas; and God saw that it was good.

We on Earth were in awe at God's Creation, thrilled at American success, and deeply moved by their humility.

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12-25-14 Christmas Day Peace

General George Washington <u>crossed the Delaware River</u> on the evening of December 25th, 1776, in order to surprise the British-hired German army in the midst of their holiday celebrations. He did. It turned the tide of the Revolutionary War for the Colonists.

Five months into World War I, at dawn on Christmas Day, 1914, some German soldiers left their trenches and crossed No Man's Land, calling out, "Merry Christmas!" in English. When the Allied soldiers realized they were unarmed, they

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climbed out of their trenches and shook hands with the enemy soldiers. They exchanged presents of cigarettes and plum puddings, sang carols and even a good-natured game of soccer.

With Freedom, everyone should obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ, so making Peace: He who believes and is baptized will be saved. (Mark 16:16)

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12-26-14 Being "Religious" Without Jesus -- Cornelius

There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always. (Acts 10:1-2)

This was a deeply religious family man, whose prayers and contributions would have caused many churches to have voted him full membership. BUT, he was missing one important thing. God had chosen him to hear what he was missing in his religion – Jesus Christ. Peter was sent to tell him "words by which you and all your household will be saved" (Acts 11:14), and "commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord" (Acts 10:48).

It seems being "religious" is not enough for salvation without Jesus Christ.

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