

Title: Bible and Politics

Text: "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people." (Proverbs 14:34)

Target: Our hope is not in a political party, but in Jesus Christ alone.

I. Separation of Church and State, but NOT God and Government

- A. Separation of Church & State:** Important to Christians because this protects and provides religious liberty without government interference privately and publicly. (Ex. Prevents a State Religion, Protects from Religious Persecution, Allows Freedom of Speech)
- B. God and Government:** "God is Sovereign over all rulers, leaders, and nations, and all authorities must reflect morality, justice, mercy, and righteousness, but when not upheld those who are spiritual must speak out." (Romans 13:1-7)
 - 1. Biblical examples:** Moses, Esther, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, John the Baptist, Peter, John, Nehemiah, Amos, Jeremiah, Isaiah.
 - 2. Modern examples:** John Bunyan, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, William Wilberforce, Sojourner Truth, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King, Jr.

II. Biblical Considerations in Casting a Vote: Voting is about Civic & Spiritual Stewardship.

- A. Seek righteous leadership:** Proverbs 29:2
- B. Seek the sovereignty of a nation:** Acts 17:26
- C. Seek advocacy for justice, law, order, protection of citizens:** Micah 6:8
- D. Seek the welfare of ALL people:** Jeremiah 29:7
- E. Seek Kingdom values:** Matthew 6:33

III. Live as Kingdom Citizens: If you are a Christian, you cannot leave God out of your decision to vote. (Philippians 3:20)

- A. Identity is in Christ, not a political party or candidate:** 2 Cor. 5:17
- B. We are to be ambassadors of Christ and His values:** 2 Cor. 5:20
- C. Transformed by the Holy Spirit:** Galatians 5:22-23
- D. Be salt and light:** Matthew 5:13-16
- E. The Kingdom of God reigns forever:** Daniel 2:34

IV. What are Biblical Conviction Voting Considerations

- A. Sanctity of life:** Psalm 139:13-16; Jeremiah 1:5
- B. Marriage, family, gender:** Genesis 2:24; Ephesians 5:3
- C. Religious freedom:** 1 Peter 2:13-17
- D. Justice, equality for all people:** Micah 6:8; Isaiah 1:17; Proverbs 19:17; Matthew 25:35-40
- E. Immigration, refugees and Borders:** Leviticus 19:34; Matthew 2:13
- F. Integrity and character of candidate:** Proverbs 11:3; 1 Timothy 3:1-7
- G. Stewardship of creation for resources and conservation:** Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 24
- H. Support of law & order, public safety:** Romans 13:1-2
- I. Education, curriculum, parental involvement:** Proverbs 22:6
- J. Economic policies, taxation:** 2 Thessalonians 3:10; Proverbs 14:23
- K. National security & foreign policy:** Romans 13:4; 1 Timothy 2:2

Takeaway: Your vote should seek to expand God's Kingdom values on earth through civic government.