

CHRISTIAN AND VOTING

To vote or not to vote?

Would Jesus vote?

Should Christians vote?

Who do we vote for and why?

Paul's exhortation to "Pray"

- 1 Timothy 2:1-5 I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. 2 Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. 3 This is good and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. NLT
 - Who - Those in authority
 - Why - "so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity."
 - "This is good and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants everyone to be saved and to **understand the truth.**"

Our Government

- We live in a Republic...that is governed by the consent of the people!
- We have a constitution which is the law of the land!

- The Preamble of the Constitution says... **We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.**
- We are a Democracy...we have a voice & a vote to choose!

Paul's teaching on the purpose of government:

- **Romans 13:1-5** Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. 2 So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished. 3 For the authorities do not strike fear in people who are doing right, but in those who are doing wrong. Would you like to live without fear of the authorities? Do what is right, and they will honor you. 4 The authorities are God's servants, sent for your good. But if you are doing wrong, of course you should be afraid, for they have the power to punish you. They are God's servants, sent for the very purpose of punishing those who do what is wrong. 5 So you must submit to them, not only to avoid punishment, but also to keep a clear conscience.

- Government is ordained by God to promote good and to restrain evil. God authorizes the government to “wield the sword” for the administration of justice.
- As one theologian recently explained, “the sword is God’s authorized **gift to humanity for protecting life.**”
- Voting is an exercise in delegating God ordained authority.
- When Christians vote, they are delegating their ruling authority to others.
- In other words, by voting Christians are entrusting their “sword bearing” responsibility to officials who will govern on their behalf.

Government (the civil magistrate) is one of the only three divinely ordained institutions in the Bible. The others are the family and church.

- The government we the people choose has a direct impact on both the family and the church!

Salt and Light

- Matthew 5:13-16 "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15 No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. NLT
- As "salt" in the world, Christ calls us to influence our culture rather than isolate ourselves from it.
- Remember, salt was a preservative In Jesus' day. It couldn't prevent the decay of meat, but it could delay the decay. Christians should preserve the spiritual and moral fabric of society, wherever God has placed us.
- John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, said: God has "given us the privilege of choosing our leaders in this Christian nation."

Loving God, Loving People


- Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus replied, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." NLT
- Leaders shape the values of a nation through the policies they enact. That means that Christians should work to select leaders who will govern according to God's principles and seek to advance the cause of righteousness and common good of the people.
- Voting will always involve choosing between the better of imperfect options, the best we can do is make comparisons.
 - We should compare their *worldview*
 - We should compare their *company*
 - We should compare candidates' stated *policies*
- Choosing on ballot initiatives is also every bit as important as choosing between candidates.

iVoterGUIDE

General Tuesday, November 8, 2022

For your personalized ballot, go to www.iVoterGuide.com.

U.S. Senator

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|------------|---|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tim Ryan | Democrat |  | Verified Liberal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | JD Vance | Republican |  | Conservative |

U.S. Rep., Dist. 4

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------|---|-----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jim Jordan | Republican |  | Verified Conservative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tamie Wilson | Democrat |  | Liberal |

Governor

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------|---|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mike DeWine | Republican |  | Leans Conservative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nan Whaley | Democrat |  | Liberal |

Sec. of State

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chelsea Clark | Democrat |  | Liberal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Frank LaRose Jr. | Republican |  | Leans Conservative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Terpeshore P. Maras | Independent |  | Conservative (Conditional) |

Attorney General

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|---|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jeffrey A. Crossman | Democrat |  | Liberal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Dave Yost | Republican |  | Conservative |

Treasurer

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------|---|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Scott Schertzer | Democrat |  | Liberal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Robert Sprague | Republican |  | Conservative |

Auditor

- Keith Faber
- Taylor Sappington

Republican  Leans Conservative
Democrat  Verified Liberal

Supreme Court, Chief Justice

- Jennifer Brunner
- Sharon L. Kennedy

Democrat  Liberal
Republican  Verified Conservative



Supreme Court, term beginning January 1

- Pat Fischer
- Terri Jamison

Republican  Leans Conservative
Democrat  Verified Liberal

Supreme Court, term beginning January 2

- Pat DeWine
- Marilyn Zayas

Republican  Verified Conservative
Democrat  Liberal

State Representative, Dist. 78

- Susan Manchester

Republican Uncontested

Issue 2 To prohibit local government from allowing non-electors to vote

- Yes
- No