

CHRISTIANITY AND VOTING (Proverbs 14:34)

I. What does the Bible say about elections, government and politics?

- A. The Bible plainly teaches us to submit to civil government.
 - 1. Our Lord set the example (Matthew 22:21).
 - 2. God ordained government (Romans 13:1-7).
 - 3. We are to submit to every ordinance that is not contradictory to the Bible (1 Peter 2:13-17).
- B. We are to pray for our leaders, even the ones with whom we disagree politically (1 Timothy 2:1-2).
- C. However, it says nothing about voting and participating in elections.
- D. Because of that, we need to look for basic principles that come into play on this subject.

II. Righteousness exalts a nation (Proverbs 14:34).

- A. No matter what world power in history is studied, one sees that it fell when morality was at its lowest point and there was no bringing it back.
- B. This is true with Egypt, Israel, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Rome, Russia, France, whomever.
- C. One might ask if America has gone too far and I don't know the answer, but God does.
- D. For a nation to be righteous, it must have righteous leadership:
 - 1. Proverbs 25:6;
 - 2. Proverbs 29:2.
- E. Sadly, many times we are forced to choose people for leadership positions that fall short of most standards of righteousness.
- F. We do realize that for whomever we vote there are shortcomings and sins because they are human and not Christians.
- G. We do need to understand that God will oppose rulers who support sin and evil.
 - 1. Psalm 2:2-3, 10-12.
 - 2. Nebuchadnezzar learned this in the form of a harsh personal lesson (Daniel 4:24-32).

III. A steward must be found faithful (1 Corinthians 4:2).

- A. A steward is one who manages goods that belong to another.
 - 1. Joseph is an example (Genesis 39:4-6).
 - 2. The servants in Jesus' parable (Matthew 25:14-15).
 - 3. Since these things belong to another, the steward is to use them in a way that pleases the owner.
- B. We are stewards of all that God has given us.
 - 1. This includes all our spiritual and physical blessings, as well as the rights and opportunities afforded us as citizens of the United States.
 - 2. Do you not think that God would want us to use our right to vote to promote righteousness in our government to the greatest extent that we can?

IV. Have no fellowship with evil (Ephesians 5:11).

- A. The Christian life must be lived separately from evil.
 - 1. We are to follow God and walk in love (Ephesians 5:1-2).
 - 2. God's wrath comes on the disobedient (vs. 3-6).
 - 3. Because of that we are not to be partakers with sinners (vs 7).
 - 4. Our relationship with God forbids us from fellowshiping evil (vs 8-11).
- B. Did you know at one of the national conventions of one of the two major political parties that members of this particular party were told that abortion is a "core moral value" of that party, according to an AP newspaper article dated August 26, 2008?
 - 1. This was stated by a woman who addressed the convention named Nancy Keenan.
 - 2. Murder is sin (Galatians 5:19-21).
 - 3. That cannot be a core moral value for a Christian.
 - 4. It is incompatible with Christianity.
- C. By voting for those who support or promote sin, we help them and partake in the sin with them.
 - 1. One does not have to do something personally to be a partaker of a sin (2 John 9-11).
 - 2. We cannot help those who hate the Lord (2 Chronicles 19:2; Psalm 139:21-22).
- V. We are to glorify God in all that we do.**
 - A. We are to seek God and His kingdom first (Matthew 6:33).
 - B. We are to do all to the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31).
 - C. We are to live for the One who died for us (2 Corinthians 5:14-15).
 - D. We are to do all in the name of the Lord (Colossians 3:17).
 - E. We are to show forth the praises of Him who called us (1 Peter 2:9).

From a sermon by Kevin Beard