

VOTE WHOSE VALUES ?

How do you know how to vote in an election? Everyone gets their values and information from somewhere. Christians unapologetically declare that our views come from God's Word, the Bible, the written-down revelation of the Creator, Redeemer, and Judge of all mankind. We pray that God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven, as we trust and live out His truth for all.

Voters must consider the positions, policies and platforms of candidates and parties through the lens of holy Scripture, in order to judge man's opinions against God's unchanging character. Let's look at some crucial issues in this election, with related Scriptures (thanks to Tony Perkins of Family Research Council, and Jim Garlow of WellVersedWorld.org, and other resources).

1- LIFE - your opinions about human life precede all your thinking about laws related to how government and society provides for the inalienable rights endowed by our Creator for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. God is the author of life, which begins at conception. Every child is known personally by God, before being formed in the womb (Psa 139:13-16, Jer 1:4-5).

Life is sacred. God's character and commandments are the objective guides for all human laws, foremost for the sanctity of human life, including the pre-born and the infirm (Deut 32:39, 1Sam 2:6, Job 1:21, Exo 20:13, 21:22-25, Prov 24:11-12, Isaiah 5:18-24, Rom 13:1-7,10).

2- RELIGIOUS LIBERTY - your freedom to worship as you see fit is an essential human value. It is enshrined in the Constitution of the United States as a God-given right which cannot be taken away. (John 8:36, Acts 4:19-20, Rom 13:3-4, 14:4; 1 Tim 1:8-10, 1Cor 10:31, Matt 18:6, Luke 17:1-2). Government must not force people to do what they believe is evil.

Religious expression is not confined to a holy huddle, but must be lived out in the public square. Government cannot judge the human conscience seeking to obey God's unchanging character and commands. Laws must punish the unjust, not the just. (2Cor 5:20, Acts 5:29).

3- HUMAN IDENTITY - God created mankind in His own image, as male and female, so that people would represent Him on the earth, as they multiply and steward His creation. Jesus affirmed Genesis 1-2 in Matthew 19:4-6. There is only one human race. We don't have a skin problem, we have a sin problem. Jesus died to save people from every ethnicity. We find our true identity when we are re-born in Christ (John 1:12-13,3:3,16; 1Cor 5:17, Rev 5:9-10).

Sexual aberrations face biological safeguards. Human reproduction produces individuals with either male or female DNA. Physical and mental disease inflicts those who disregard God's plan. And all can be set free by regeneration in Jesus Christ, as He gives new spiritual life enabling you to follow His unchanging instructions for life. (Exo 20:1-20, Rom 1:16-32, 1Cor 5:17).

4- FREE SPEECH - Today, intolerance hypocritically censors and bullies opposing views, to deny Constitutional rights to those who disagree. Major media spin and silence what they don't want you to hear, see or read. The Bible is kryptonite to them. Thought police will pounce.

They try to muzzle you to control your thinking. Speak God's truth in love. (Matt 5:13-16, Prov 8:14-16, 1Tim 2:1-8, 2Tim 4:2, Matt 14:3-4, 2Sam 12:1-13, 1Pet 3:14-17, Eph 4:15).

5- ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY - The Bible values hard work and personal generosity. It warns against idleness, debt, and greed. Personal prosperity helps build strong families, communities, and societies. Government should extend God's principles without erasing individual incentive or responsibility. (Deut 28:1-68, 1Tim 5:8, 6:6-10,17-19; Gal 6:2, Prov 14:21, Luke 10:25-37).

Economics should reward fair free trade between citizens and nations, encouraging all to follow God's principles which lead to worldly success. Citizens do not owe their privileges and rights to whatever non-citizen wants them. A nation is only as secure as its borders. Regulations for immigration must consider the value each person brings to our nation, as well as their needs. (Acts 17:24-27, Zec 7:9-10, Luke 6:31, 1Thess 5:21, Deut 25:13-16, 1Pet 2:13-22).

6- YOUR VALUES - Two major political parties vie for your support in this general election. Get equipped to make wise, godly choices. Compare their stated principles against the objective standard of the Bible. The decision has never been more clear: light vs darkness. Pray. Get informed. Pray. Take a stand for God. Vote accordingly. Pray. May God bless America! □