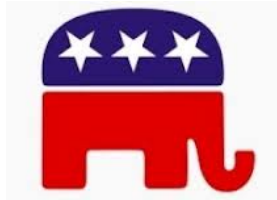


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“How Would Jesus Vote?”



.... I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. Jude 1:3 NIV

“How Would Jesus Vote?”

Ephesians 5:8-10 (NIV) “⁸ *For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light* ⁹*(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)* ¹⁰ ***and find out what pleases God.***”

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV) “⁵ *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;* ⁶ ***in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.***”

Romans 11:5 (NIV) “*So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace.*”

Shortly after the 2000 election, a conservative black minister wanted to help his congregation see the inconsistency in how they voted as opposed to their Christian values and beliefs. So after the election he asked his congregation, “How many of you are opposed to abortion, the killing of the innocent?” Virtually all hands went up. “How many of you oppose the militant homosexual agenda?” Virtually all hands went up. “How many of you support religious freedom and oppose things like removing God from our schools?” Virtually all hands went up. “How many of you voted for Al Gore?” Virtually all hands went up. Needless to say, Al Gore and/or the Democratic Party were, at the time, largely in favor of all things his congregation said they opposed, yet they voted for him.

Sadly, since the 2000 election, not much has changed as it relates to black Christians and their votes. The black church for the most part is usually unaware of their candidates’ position on things like abortion, homosexuality, and religious freedom. Typically, most blacks will vote democratic without bothering to look into the voting record of the person they vote for prior to casting their vote. As a result, many black well-meaning Christians have supported leaders that have views that are contrary to the will and word of God.

The white church is no better; for them, the candidate that promises to keep their money in their pockets and/or keep their 401ks growing is the one they usually vote for. For most Christians, black and white, party loyalty, money in their pockets, their 401k, etc., is more important than being obedient to the will and word of God.

As a result, today America is left with a universal church that is made up of blacks, whites, Hispanics and others that do not vote for the candidate(s) that stand on biblical principles and teachings. Consequently, this once great Christian nation is currently so far away from the will of God that we, as a nation, stand ripe and ready for the judgment hand of God to fall upon us for our blatant disregard of the teachings and principles found in his word.

In my mind, it will take nothing short of a miracle for America as a whole to turn into a nation that pleases God through its obedience to his will and word. Frankly, I believe America has reached the point of no return. This once great nation is now saturated with all kinds of sin that the world has accepted as the new normal.

That said, as Christians, we each have a responsibility to God to uphold each time we cast our votes. Prior to casting our vote, the most important question we must ask ourselves as Christians is, **“How would Jesus Vote?”** That is to say, who would Jesus put his stamp of approval on? Would Jesus vote for the candidate in favor of abortion when the Bible says, **“Thou shalt not murder?”** Would he vote for the candidate in favor of homosexuality and same sex marriage when the Bible clearly teaches that man should not lie with another man as with a woman and that marriage is to be between one man and one woman? Would Jesus vote for a candidate that wishes to take away our religious freedom? Absolutely not, to do so Jesus would contradict his own belief, example and practice of doing his Father’s will.

That said, no true, God-fearing Christian should be able to vote for any “pro-choice,” “pro-gay” candidate that wants to take away our religious freedom. For true imitators of Jesus, there is only one option at each election, they must vote for the candidate that has values consistent with God’s word. However, to find Christians today that love God enough to cast their vote based on biblical principles and teachings has become extremely difficult to say the least. For the most part, professing Christians from every denomination will turn their backs on the things of God to cast their votes for someone they like or that says what they want to hear. While it is true that no candidate, democrat or republican, is perfect and each will have shortcomings, it is still the Christian’s duty to choose the candidate they believe to be the most pleasing to God. That is to say, their views should be the closest to biblical principles and teachings, not completely contradictory.

As a pastor, I believe it is unethical for any pastor to tell their members who they should vote for. Therefore, I purposely do not mention the name of any candidate. However, I believe it is every pastor’s duty to, from a biblical standpoint, discuss the issues that surface during elections with his/her congregation. It is every pastor’s responsibility during these discussions to cling to biblical principles and teachings on all issues that surface during elections and to honestly and accurately convey them to their congregation.

The thing I find most disturbing is the pastor or leader who turns his/her back on God when casting their votes only to later try and justify their actions rather than to acknowledge their error and repent. However, to me, this does not come as a surprise since we are now in the **“last of the last days”** Paul mentioned in 2 Timothy, Chapter 3. There are three (3) things that Paul mentions in this chapter that are clearly seen in the world today and even in the church. Paul said in the **“last days people would be”** 1) **“lovers of themselves,”** 2) **“not lovers of good,”** 3) **“lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.”**

After each presidential election, if we were to ask anyone, including most Christians how he/she voted, these three (3) things Paul mentions will become very obvious when we consider who they voted for. Typically, the world and the Christian's votes are based on one or more of the following factors: party loyalty, the provision of social programs that either save them money, or appear to give them money, tax breaks, the promise of jobs, better healthcare, etc. At the end of the day, they will have voted for the candidate that promises the things that best suit them ("**lover of self**") even if their views go against the will of God ("**not lovers of good**"), but will bring them some form of pleasure ("**lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God**"). The sad thing is that if a true man or woman of God got up on a Sunday morning to preach on the issues and did nothing but use God's word and show their congregation what it says about each issue that surfaces during presidential elections, they would be forced to deal with one or more of the following:

- Complaints – being called old fashioned or just out of touch with the world
- The threat of being voted out of his/her position as leader
- The loss of members or threats to leave if he/she repeats anything they said in their sermon
- Some members getting up and walking out during the sermon
- Being called homophobic – he/she does not like gays

All of this for simply preaching exactly what the Bible says regarding the issues that surface during the presidential election. As I've already stated, it will take nothing short of a miracle for America as a whole to turn into a nation that pleases God. Unfortunately, the unwillingness to cling to biblical principles and teachings has become the norm for the world and the church. Nowadays, the world avoids biblical principles and teachings largely out of ignorance coupled with their spiritual blindness. However, the church is without excuse; it saddens me to hear so-called Bible believing Christians, that I had a great deal of respect for, making poor disgraceful excuses to go against God's will and vote for the candidate whose views are the furthest away from the will and word of God. Even worse, they refuse to listen to any sound biblical instruction to correct their unbiblical position.

To add insult to injury, many pastors and/or leaders who have been entrusted with the care and protection of the flock purchased with the blood of Jesus, have been intimidated into silence on issues like homosexuality, same sex marriage, embryonic stem cell research and abortion. The fear of losing members, which means loss of revenue, causes them to remain silent since their primary source of income comes from the church.

In closing, I would like to remind every Christian of their responsibility to ask the question, "**How would Jesus vote?**" prior to casting their vote. Personally, based on my understanding of God's word, I believe Jesus would vote for the candidate that:

- a) was in favor of protecting our religious freedoms and acknowledges God's word, the Bible, to be a divine source of direction for our nation;
- b) was in favor of upholding God's design for marriage which consists of one man and one woman;
- c) was in favor of protecting the rights of the innocent unborn who have done nothing to deserve the death penalty; and
- d) was in favor of the words from our first president, George Washington who said, **"It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor."** (So much for the separation of Church and state argument)

In my mind, no man or woman should hold the office of President of the United States that has different views or opinions that contradict any of the above. Needless to say, no matter how much you try to point the saints towards the will and principles of God, many Bible believing, tongue speaking, scripture quoting, holier than thou acting, Holy Ghost filled Christians will still turn their back on God during the upcoming election. The excuses they will give for their disobedience are shameful and a clear indicator of where they are spiritually. To hear the saints claim they love God and that they're filled with the Spirit of God, yet they are able to ignore the will and word of God because they have a different opinion is extremely troubling to say the least. The truth is, God never even asked if we had an opinion - he gave us his will expressed in sixty six books and that settles it. Besides, opinions are like belly buttons, everybody has one. However, for the child of God, what pleases their Lord and Master supersedes their opinions, feelings or ideas. So, for this coming election and every future presidential election, remember to ask yourself the million dollar question before casting your vote, **"How would Jesus vote?"** Remember, Christians are to be imitators of their Lord and Master, Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 1:6 and Ephesians 5:1).

God Bless,
Pastor D. M. Duncan

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