

Who to vote for?

Recently I was asked to write a Weekly Thought on whom to vote for because there is so much controversy, even amongst Christians, regarding the Presidency. I respectfully said I will think about, knowing I had no intention of bringing up controversy in the Weekly Thought. God had different plans. I should have learned years ago to never say never to God. As a matter of fact, I not only feel I need to write about the candidacy this week, but in the following two weeks I plan to write about the two most controversial topics in the debates and how it applies scripturally to politics. So here it goes.

I had my ideas about who I would vote for months back since I am a Registered Republican, but hadn't fully made up my mind until the very first meeting I watched on TV between Barak Obama and John McCain at the Civil Forum at Saddleback. In a minute I will describe my dividing lines for voting and why, but first I must say that if you missed that event you should look for it on the web. Both candidates were asked the same questions at separate times and gave candid answers because the questions were not aimed at trapping them. Several of the questions even had to do directly with spirituality.

“Before you vote for any leader, you must first look at their heart and where they stand on issues of sin.”

For us as Christians we have a different standard by which we must judge and make decisions – it is God's standard. If you read in the bible what God desired in a leader, it was someone who would do His will, keep His commands and know then follow His Word. There are absolute things in the bible that God calls sin and no matter how we justify it. None of us are exempt. We all sin, but in our lives and in our country we should set standards that follow God's standards. Think about it – in your own life, if you didn't at least strive to do what was right as a Christian, you would have no moral compass at all.

In the biblical model of a Godly leader, there are two modern day political issues that are at their core sin – homosexual marriage and abortion. I will write about both of these in coming weeks but the short summary is this. Sexuality was designed by God to be between one man and one woman – ANYTHING outside this is sin (including promiscuous sex, pornography, adultery, etc.). To condone the very acts of sin as a nation would be reminiscent of Sodom and Gomorrah. The second has to do with killing the unborn. Jesus rebuked His disciples when they tried to get the children away from Him and he rebuked them for doing it. Imagine if He had aborted you before you had the chance to accept Him as Savior.

There are some MAJOR political issues being debated right now, such as war, recession, terrorism, etc. but the core issue is following God's truth. If a leader gives into areas God clearly marks as sin, downfall will follow. Imagine if our country decided to legalize murder, abusing parents and robbery – all of which are 10 commandments. There should be a balance in non-sin areas for liberal and conservative balances, but in areas of sin, only compliance works. For these reasons, I must stay my ticket! Please read scriptures below.

Here are three simple questions for to answer and keep in front of you this week:

- 1) Would Jesus say to you today “what great faith you have” or “do you still have no faith”?
- 2) Do you believe God can handle anything that is going on in your life?
- 3) Are you pleasing God by trusting or sinning by worrying?

Prayer: "Lord Jesus, lead me in all my ways. Help me to know your heart, your plan and your will even in my ability to vote. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen."

Scripture: 2 Kings 13:11, 2 Kings 16:2, 2 Kings 17:7-23

God Bless, Pastor and Coach Brian Williams © Brian Williams, 2008

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