

A Biblical Perspective on Some of Today's Issues

The first question we, as Christians, must ask and answer is, “Should I be involved in politics or politically charged issues?” “After all,” so the thinking goes, “as a Christian I need to remain above politics and focus on the spiritual’. This brings to mind a statement I heard many years ago, that so-and-so “was too heavenly minded to be of any earthly good.”

Yes, as Christians we are citizens of heaven, but the truth is that God has placed each one of us in our country as a citizen of that nation. With that privilege comes certain rights, but also definite responsibilities as a citizen. We may think we can remain unstained by politics, but the reality is that virtually everything today has been, is, and will be affected by politics – as long as man is in charge of governments, and that charge is by God's design. Politics has infiltrated not just government, but entertainment, finance, sports, business, education, leisure, even taking a walk in a park.

What if our Founding Fathers believed they should not have involved themselves with politics? Where then would be the United States? In the summer of 1787 when there was much debate concerning the Constitution of our newly won independent Nation, Benjamin Franklin rose in Congress and spoke these memorable words:

“The longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, in our Sacred writings that ‘except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.’ I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel; We shall be divided...our projects will be confounded. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter...despair of establishing Government by human wisdom and leave it to chance, war or conquest.” (In God We Still Trust by Dr. Richard G. Lee, page 206)

As a result, Congress instituted prayer before every session.

One more thought to ponder from Benjamin Rush:

“Without [religion] there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty, and liberty is the object and life of all republican governments.” (In God We Still Trust by Dr. Richard G. Lee, page 189)

The truth and reality of this world is that those who vote and make their voices heard shape the culture and values of that nation. If Christians do not use our voice, our influence and our vote to stand for truth, virtue and what is right, we forfeit the task of government (politics) to those who hold God in ill-regard, or worse yet, despise God and work tirelessly to impose their unbiblical view and their ungodly belief of the man-defined rights they will bestow on us, not the rights and liberties bestowed by God.

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Are we really willing to give away without cost or struggle what so many before us sacrificed their blood and lives to protect and pass on?

A second question to be asked and answered is of greater import: “Who’s opinion matters more, my opinion or God’s?” If we are, in fact, surrendered to Jesus, our opinion matters not. What matters is what God tells us is true (Scriptural). Either God is wholly true and His Word wholly perfect, or we can believe none of it. How can any part of it be considered untrue or no longer relevant (in our opinion) and not question if other parts can be trusted (in our opinion)?

As a true believer in Christ, we must search the Scriptures to find out God’s opinion, His truth; it is wrong and dangerous to distort truth of Scripture to fit our beliefs. Isaiah 55:8 is worth remembering, “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,” declares the Lord. Further, 2 Timothy 4:3-4 cautions us, “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance with their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.” Then ask God what should I be doing in light of this scripture? Surely God would say you are to be salt and light.

Rationalizing is the first sign of compromising with the truth and rationalizing our vote to be contrary to God’s perspective is treading on dangerous ground. Jesus Himself said “He who is not with Me, is against Me” (Matt 12:30a).

If we hold ourselves to be people of the Truth, we can no longer “go along to get along” if it compromises with the Truth. We Christians, are the Called for such a time as this!

Do not take what we say as the truth; research scripture and decide for yourself, only after asking the Lord, “What are Your thoughts? What are Your ways?” There is no changing or shifting shadow with God; He could not be a Holy God were His Word to change and adapt “with the times”.

Neither can we take the word of any man, be they pastor or politician, good friend or media personality, influencer or celebrity, scholar or neighbor. We must test everything we hear and think against Scripture and align our thoughts and ways to God, not the other way round. Sadly, there are altogether too many so-called Pastors, Teachers, and even plain old Christians who do not know the truth, nor seem to be inclined to be willing to understand the truth of God’s heart and His beliefs.

Below are various political and social issues argued and discussed around water coolers (do they still exist), on busses, throughout social media (is it really social) and over meals and drinks world-wide. There is no attempt here to tell you what to think, nor for whom to vote, but it is a rather meant to be a start for your own journey into God’s Word and, more importantly into His heart, regarding matters of great consequence in our country today.

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As a caution, remember that Scripture is not a single verse in a vacuum; Scripture always corroborates Scripture, and context matters. Very rarely, if at all, will there be a Lone Ranger scripture with no Tonto to back it up. Search for them. You may just find it to be fun and enlightening.

The goal is NOT to make this process too easy for you – for each topic some Scriptures are provided in full for your quick reading and understanding; other scriptures are provided as additional references for your reading and studying. All of these are presented to try to help you see God's heart on these topics. There are undoubtedly others – find them, discuss them and pass them on to others trying to search out the truth. Our convictions must be based on what we learn and know of God's heart, not what we are told.

Once you understand God's heart and truth, that is not the end. James 2:17 says "...faith, if it has no works, is dead..." At a minimum, we each need to vote based on His standard of right and wrong, not our opinion. To not vote is unbiblical and we will all be held to account for what we did with what God put before us. We need to see the fruit of the politician and not just what they say. Know them by their fruit.

No candidate or party is perfect, but we can and must vote for the candidate which is most closely aligned with God's heart and truth. To be sure, not every issue has a specific verse or verses which address it. Where those situations exist, we should use our understanding of God's heart and standard of righteousness, gained through prayer and reading of His word, to make the best godly decision we can. James 1:5 says, "but if any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him".

One last question: If the position we take or support has no Scriptural basis, should we be supporting it? The question is not whether God is on our side, but rather, whether we are on God's side of each issue. Know what you believe, and why you believe it - based on Scripture, not man's opinion.

Happy learning, but...

One last consideration: now that you have your possibly new-found Biblical understanding of God's heart, how do you share that with others? As Ephesians 4:14-15 says, "as a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ"

Critical Thinking

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- **Proverbs 14:15-16** The naive believe everything, but a sensible man considers his steps. A wise man is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is arrogant and careless.
- **1 John 4:1** Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
- **Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Additional References:

- **Psalms 119:130** The unfolding of Your Word gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.
- **Romans 1:21-22** For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools.
- **1 Corinthians 1:20** Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

Voting / Politics / Politicians

- **1 Timothy 2:1-2** First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgiving, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity
- **Exodus 18:21** But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens.
- **2 Corinthians 3:17** Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.
- **James 2:17-18** Even so faith, if it has no works is dead, being by itself, but someone may well say, “you have faith and I have works; show me your faith without your works and I will show you my faith by my works.”

Additional References:

- **Esther 4:14b** ...and who knows whether you have not attained (royalty) for such a time as this?
- **Deuteronomy 1:13** Choose some wise, understanding and respected men from each of your tribes, and I will set them over you.
- **Proverbs 25:5** Take away the wicked from before the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness.
- **Proverbs 11:10a** When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices.
- **Proverbs 11:11a** By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted.
- **Proverbs 28:4** Those who forsake the law praise the wicked, but those who keep the law strive with them.

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- **Proverbs 29:2** When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked man rules, people groan.
- **Proverbs 29:12** If a ruler pays attention to falsehood, all his ministers become wicked.
- **Psalms 12:1-2** Help, Lord for the faithful man ceases to be, for the faithful disappear from among the sons of men. They speak falsehood to one another, with flattering lips and with a double heart they speak.
- **Proverbs 17:15** He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous, both are an abomination to the Lord.
- **Proverbs 25:26** Like a trampled spring and a polluted well is a righteous man who gives way before the wicked.
- **Romans 13:1, 3** Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. ... For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same.
- **1 Peter 2:13-15** Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority, or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right. For such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men.
- **Proverbs 14:34** Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.
- **Proverbs 31:8-9** Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

Sanctity of Life / Abortion

- **Psalms 139:13, 15, 16** For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; and in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them.
- **Psalms 22: 9-10** Yet, You are He who brought me forth from the womb; You made me trust when upon my mother's breasts. Upon You I was cast from birth; You have been my God from my mother's womb.
- **Luke 1:41a** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb...

Additional References:

- **Psalms 102:18** This will be written for the generation to come, that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord.

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- **Psalm 119:73** Your hands made me and fashioned me. Give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.
- **Psalm 127:3-5a** Behold, children are a gift of the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of an warrior, so are the children of one's youth. How blessed is the an whose quiver is full of them...
- **Psalm 106:38** ...and shed innocent blood, even blood of their sons and of their daughters...and the land was polluted with the blood.
- **Proverbs 6:16, 17**... These six things doeth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: a proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood...

LGBTQ

- **Genesis 1:27** God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
- **Deuteronomy 22:5** A woman shall not wear man's clothing, nor shall a man put on a woman's clothing; for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord your God
- **Romans 1:26-27** For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.
- **I Timothy 1:8-11** For we know the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully, realizing the fact that the law is not made for righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and immoral men and homosexuals, and kidnappers, and liars, and perjurers and whatever is contrary to sound teaching.

Climate Change

- **Job 38: 8-11** "Or who enclosed the sea with doors when, bursting forth, it went out of the womb. When I made the cloud its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, and I placed boundaries on it and set a bolt and doors, and I said 'thus far you shall come but no farther, and here shall your proud waves stop?'"
- **Genesis 9:9-17** Now behold, I Myself do establish My covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you; of all that comes out of the ark, even every beast of the earth. "I establish My covenant with you; and

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all flesh shall never again be cut off by the water of the flood, neither shall there again be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all successive generations; I set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth. "It shall come about, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow will be seen in the cloud, and I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh. "When the bow is in the cloud, then I will look upon it, to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." And God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth.

- **Psalm 104:8-9** The mountains rose; the valleys sank down to the place where which You established for them. You set a boundary that they may not pass over, that they may not return to cover the earth.

Additional References:

- **Psalm 147:16-18** He gives snow like wool; He scatters the frost like ashes. He casts forth His ice as fragments; who can stand before His cold? He sends forth His word and melts them; He causes His wind to blow and waters to flow.
- **Psalm 148:8** Fire and hail. Snow and clouds; stormy wind, fulfilling His word.
- **Genesis 1:28** God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.
- **Colossians 3:17, 23** Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father...whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men."

Speaking the Truth vs. Political Correctness / Wokeness / Virtue Signaling

- **Proverbs 12:22** Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who deal faithfully are His delight.
- **Ephesians 4:14-15** ...as a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ.
- **2 Timothy 4:3-4** For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance with their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

Additional References:

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- **Psalm 101:7** He who practices deceit shall not dwell within my house; he who speaks falsehood shall not maintain his position before me.
- **James 3:17** But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

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Dignity, Importance of Work

- **Proverbs 12:11** He who tills the land will have plenty of bread, but he who pursues worthless things lacks sense.
- **Proverbs 14:23** In all labor there is profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty
- **Proverbs 22:29** Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will stand before kings, he will not stand before obscure men.

Additional References:

- **Proverbs 18:9** He also who is slack in his work is a brother to him who destroys
- **Proverbs 19:15** Laziness casts into a deep sleep, and an idle man will suffer hunger
- **Proverbs 13:11** Wealth obtained by fraud dwindles, but the one who gathers by labor increases it.
- **Proverbs 10:4-5** Poor is he who works with a negligent hand, but the hand of the diligent makes rich. He who gathers in the summer is a son who acts wisely, but he who sleeps in the harvest is a son who acts shamefully.
- **Proverbs 20:4** The sluggard does not plow after the autumn, so he begs during the harvest and has nothing.

Government / Personal Debt

- **Proverbs 22:7** The rich rules over the poor and the borrower becomes the lender's slave.
- **Romans 13:8** Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.
- **Deuteronomy 28:12** The LORD will open for you the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hand; and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.

Racism / Critical Race Theory

- **Galatians 3:28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
- **Acts 10:34-35** Peter said: "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him."

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Creation vs. Evolution

- **Genesis 1:1** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth...
- **Gen 1:21, 24-26** God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good. ... Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind"; and it was so. God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.
- **Romans 1:20** For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.
- **John 1:1-3** In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing has come into being that has come into being.

Drunkenness / Intoxication (Not merely having a drink or two)

- **Ephesians 5:18** And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.
- **Proverbs 20:1** Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise.
- **Proverbs 23:20-21** Do not be with heavy drinkers of wine, or with gluttonous eaters of meat, for the heavy drinker and the glutton will come to poverty, and drowsiness will clothe one with rags.
- **Proverbs 23:29-35** Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who linger long over wine, those who go to taste mixed wine. Do not look on the wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly; at last it bites like a serpent and stings like a viper. Your eyes will see strange things and your mind will utter perverse things. And you will be like the one who lays down in the middle of the sea, or like the one who lies down on the top of a mast. They struck me and I did not become ill; they beat me but I did not know it. When shall I awake? I will seek another drink.

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Right to Self-Protection

- **Numbers 32:17** But we will arm ourselves for battle and go ahead of the Israelites until we have brought them to their place. Meanwhile our women and children will live in fortified cities, for protection from the inhabitants of the land. But your servants, every man who is armed for battle, will cross over to fight before the LORD, just as our lord says.”
- **2 Chronicles 32:5** Then he worked hard repairing all the broken sections of the wall and building towers on it. He built another wall outside that one and reinforced the terraces of the City of David. He also made large numbers of weapons and shields.

Pornography / Pre-Marital Sex / Adultery

- **1 Peter 2:11-12** Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.
- **Hebrews 13:4** Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.
- **1 Corinthians 7:2-5** Each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband...

Additional References:

- **Deuteronomy 5:18** You shall not commit adultery.
- **Proverbs 6:32** The one who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense, he who would destroy himself does it.
- **Matthew 5:32** ...but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her as already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Support for Israel

- **Psalms 105:8-11** He has remembered His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations, the covenant which He made with Abraham and His oath to Isaac. Then He confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying, 'To you I will give the land of Canaan, as the portion of your inheritance.
- **Romans 11:11b-12** But by their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles, to make them jealous. Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be!

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- **Romans 11:28b-29** ... from the standpoint of God's choice, they are beloved for the sake of the fathers; for the gift and calling of God are irrevocable.
- **Jeremiah 31:35-36** Thus says the Lord, Who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and stars by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar, the Lord of Hosts is His name. "If this fixed order departs from before Me", declares the Lord, "then the offspring of Israel will also cease from being a nation before Me forever."