

“How Should Christians Approach the Election?”

Today’s BIG IDEA:

God’s Word and God’s Spirit will guide us as we seek God’s will in this election.

- **James 1:5** – *“⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.”*

1. Before Christians are AMERICAN citizens, we are KINGDOM citizens

- **Philippians 3:20** - *“²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.”*
- **Hebrews 11:13-16** - *“¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴ For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had an opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.”*

2. But we are still AMERICAN citizens, and we have CIVIC responsibilities

- **Jeremiah 29:7** - *“⁷ But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare”*

3. As we VOTE, we can speak up for the GOOD of our nation

- **Proverbs 31:8-9** - *“⁸ Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. ⁹ Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.”*

4. We should vote for candidates who will do the BEST job of LEADING our country

- **1 Timothy 2:1-2** - *“¹ First of all then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.”*
- **Romans 13:4** - *“⁴ for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer.”*

5. EVERY political candidate is FLAWED

- **Romans 3:23** - *“²³ For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God”*

6. SOME candidates are MORE flawed than others

- **1 Kings 16:30-31** - ³⁰ And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. ³¹ And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took for his wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him.”

7. We aren't just voting for PEOPLE. We are voting for POLICIES and PLATFORMS, too.

- **1 Samuel 8:10-11** – ¹⁰ So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking for a king from him. ¹¹ He said, 'These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you...’”

8. Christians must not SACRIFICE moral INTEGRITY in defense of a political candidate

- **Isaiah 5:20** – ²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!”
- **Psalms 146:3** - ³ Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.”

9. Christians should be careful to only SPEAK the TRUTH

- **Proverbs 12:22** – ²² Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight.”
- **Ephesians 4:25** – ²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor...”

10. Christians can AGREE to DISAGREE regarding how to vote

- **Philippians 4:1** – ¹ I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord.”

11. Remember that GOD is SOVEREIGN over the appointment of rulers

- **Daniel 2:21** – ²¹ He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.”
- **Romans 13:1** – ¹ Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.”

12. We should ACT like CHRISTIANS no matter what happens in this election

- **Titus 2:7-8** – ⁷ Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.”