## HOW WILL I AS A CHRISTIAN VOTE

Judges 11:1, 3 – "JEPHTHAH...was the son of a harlot... (He) dwelt in the land of Tob; and worthless men banded together with Jephthah and went out raiding with him."

Judges 16:1, 4 – "Now SAMSON went to Gaza and saw a harlot there, and went in to her... Afterwards it happened that he loved a woman...whose name was Delilah."

II Kings 9:6; 10:28, 29 – "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'I have anointed you king over the people of the Lord, over Israel" ... Thus, JEHU destroyed Baal from Israel. However, Jehu did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam..."

These leaders of Israel all had three things in common: (1) They all had serious deficiencies in their character. Jephthah was a worthless leader of worthless men who loved to assault and pillage for fun. Samson was an impulsive, undisciplined show-off and philanderer. Jehu was a heartless executioner. (2) They were all street-fighters, and they were chosen by God to fight battles that no one else had the courage or desire for. (3) They all won their battles and secured peace for God's people.

Next Tuesday we will finalize a vote for the President of the United States, a nation founded on Christian principles (although not a Christian nation), that guarantees the rights of free speech, freedom of religion to everyone whether they go to church, synagogue, or mosque, or stay home; whether they believe in God or not; whether they agree or not. This includes the rights of a free press and freedom of assembly.

Today, we are fighting for those rights. There is a strong, active movement to destroy those rights, driven by political and social activists with Marxist doctrines. This may be the most important election in our history. These destructive forces are ravaging our big cities, rioting in the streets, campaigning to defund law enforcement, and are on the way to replacing our constitution. In other words, there are people running for office who desire to see the United States radically changed into a socialist/communist country. If a president, senators, and representatives are elected with these beliefs, we will lose the rights our founding fathers fought for. The ones who will suffer most will be Christians who disagree with and are willing to fight against the "wiles of the devil." I will not vote for any person or party that favors lawlessness over law and order and subjects our country to anarchy. "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God" (Rom. 13:1).

Unborn babies have rights. More than 61 million have been aborted since Roe v. Wade passed in 1973. The Bible says, "You shall not murder" (Ex. 20:13). If I vote for any candidate who supports abortion (even up until the time of birth), I am not faithful to the Word of God. I have to vote for candidates and parties that are pro-life. I have to approve of a Supreme Court justice who believes an unborn child has a right to live. The left wing of one of our political parties is at war with the judiciary. They have openly admitted their intent to stack the court with justices to counteract those who don't believe in abortion.

The same party is at war with the Bill of Rights. The rights to speak, believe, and assemble are challenged in the courts as we vote. I cannot forget it is God who gives rights, not the government. God created governments. When any candidate thinks to remove God-given rights, I am on the other side. The god of this world has blinded the eyes of social planners and politicians who are trying to remove the very liberties that have allowed the United States of America to preach the gospel, build churches, and send more missionaries around the world than any other country. I will vote against any person who tries to

remove these "inalienable rights." The right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are given by God, and man has no right to rescind them. "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

I believe that every person regardless of sexual preference has a right to live freely in this country without judgment. That is up to God. I am not in agreement with progressive policies on sexual expression, but I believe everyone has a right to make his or her own choice. I have serious disagreements with politicians whose agenda is to promote moral compromise at the expense of Biblical morality. I will not vote for any party or any person who opposes the Biblical definition of marriage. I will oppose legislation that breaks down traditional family values. I will continue to oppose transgender bathrooms and sex training in public schools that eliminates gender distinctions and encourages aberrant sexual conduct as normal. I am for a person's right to choose how he wants to live. I am against, and will vote against, any person or party that promotes same-sex choices as normal. The Bible says such practices "are against nature" (Romans 1:26, 27).

I am for Israel. I commend our current President for recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, for acknowledging their right to the Golan Heights, and for the peace agreements he has brokered between Israel and their Arab neighbors. I am always for Israel. When our government throws Israel under the bus, we can expect greater judgment than we are experiencing right now. I will not vote for a party or a person who opposes our current policies toward Israel. "I will bless those who bless you (Israel), and I will curse him who curses you (Israel)" (Gen. 12:3).

I am against globalism as a Biblical principle. And this principle is at the top of the list. I will vote for the president who has been faithful and forceful in opposing internationalism. God originally created borders and approves of them. "He has made of one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings" (Acts 17:26). Anti-Christ, Like Nimrod (Gen. 10:8-10), will crusade for international government, a common economy, and one world-wide religion. He will break down national, economic, and religious barriers to secure his inauguration. The world is moving at break-neck speed toward global union. I could not vote for a person or a party that would surrender the sovereignty of the United States to a global movement that is moving toward a single, one-world government.

There are other compelling reasons to intelligently consider how to vote next Tuesday, but the ones I mentioned here are spiritual, and are related to Biblical truths. Knowing what I know about the Bible, the end times, and the political trends of these times (II Thes. 2:3-10; I Tim. 4:1; II Tim. 3:1-5; 4:1-4), I must follow my conscience and the mandate of Scripture to vote against any person or party who opposes God's Word. And I must vote for those who are in agreement with Biblical directives.

For me, this election is not about personalities but policies. When policies are in line with the Bible, I will vote for them every time, separate from personality. When they don't line up, I will vote against them every time, irrespective of personality. It's nice when you don't have to choose between the two, but sometimes we do. And this is the time. Jephthah, Samson, and Jehu, if judged by their personal character, were not leadership material. If judged by their agreement with and their willingness to carry out God's kingdom policies, they served the purposes of God. So, God chose them.

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