

The Elections - What is a Christian to Do?- Psalm 11:3

Introduction:

People have asked me for my political opinion – well, I have many opinions.

But I'm not a political commentator; I am a pastor, called to pastor people, whatever color, creed, background, orientation, status, or political affiliations.

However, I will always speak out against what the Bible calls sin.

For instance, the destruction of babies, the abuse of children, trafficking, drug smuggling, and the sexualization of our children.

A child (12 years old) can present themselves at a hospital in WA State and receive gender-affirming surgery, and their parents will not even be notified.

As we know, our nation is going through a very rancorous and divisive national election in which it is very difficult to see any wholesome choices or any candidate who truly speaks for the things we Christians care about the most.

Psalm 11, verse 3, "If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?"

Elections have consequences. Elections matter if we care about our nation.

We must understand what we will hand to our children and grandchildren.

You probably have heard the famous quote attributed to Edmund Burke, *"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing."*

We must be the modern Sons of Issachar, who understand the times and what Israel should do.

So, dear ones, we need to know what is happening and take a stand for righteousness.

Barring some unforeseen situation, one of two people will be the President at the end of this election.

With Trump comes J.D. Vance, and with Kamala Harris comes Tim Walz.

And so, that's what we're looking at. This is a binary choice.

Then, we also need to be aware and understand what the down-ballot candidates stand for and vote as God directs.

Some of those races are extremely important because they directly affect our State.

The only guide for you in this election must be the Holy Spirit – ***Jesus promised that when the Holy Spirit came, He would direct and lead you into all truth.***

I want to add that I am not here to sway you in one direction or another.

My viewpoint is unimportant – the only thing that must matter is what the bible says.

And so, we want to look at this question today as it relates to the election: Election 2024, what is a Christian to do?

We must use scripture – the bible - as our plumbline to examine the issues.

As you understand, the choices we make will have consequences beyond November 5th

Foundations destroyed:

Psalm 11: "If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?"

What could the captain do once the Titanic hit the iceberg and had a huge gash in the hull?

All he could do was get people off the ship because that thing was going down.

If the captain of the Titanic could go back in time as it set sail for its maiden voyage, he would know you don't go full speed ahead in the waters laden with icebergs.

He should have done things differently: it was over once it hit the iceberg.

So, our foundations, the foundations of our country, are in trouble right now.

Albert Barnes, the commentator from the 1800s, said this concerning the ***third verse of Psalm 11***: "*The word foundations here refers to those things on which society rests, or by which the social order is sustained. The reference is to the destruction of those things in a community when the truth is no longer respected, justice is no longer practiced, fraud and violence have taken the place of honesty and honor, and when error prevails when a character for integrity and virtue affords no longer any security.*"

We're there right now - the foundations have taken major hits, but maybe still are in place to some degree.

They haven't totally crumbled. And so, we need to make sure that we protect them.

So, the question before us is this - what can the righteous do to protect the foundations?

Actions of the Righteous:

There are three actions that the righteous can take.

1. Number one: The righteous can vote. That's very simple, but it's important.

As we know, in every election, you have flawed candidates.

The only perfect person who ever walked planet Earth was the Lord Jesus Christ.

He was love personified. He was holy, and evil men nailed Him to a tree.

So, in any election, the choice is between two flawed people.

And you may not like either of them, but one will be the President.

So, what are we to do - well, we're to vote.

And, you know, voting in America is both a privilege and a duty.

There are many countries where the citizens cannot vote – so let us not forgo that privilege.

Let me just add something - our Constitution is a Constitutional Republic.

It's not a democracy.

Many erroneously say - "*We have to protect democracy.*"

But they do not understand the Founding Statements.

So, what is the difference between a democracy and a Constitutional Republic?

Well, democracy can turn into mob rule; the majority wins, and that's how it will be.

But the Constitutional Republic has an Electoral College that says just because a candidate wins the popular vote, that doesn't mean that candidate would necessarily become the President because there are areas of the country that might not be heavily populated, but their vote should count.

We saw this in some previous elections where one person wins the popular vote but does not have enough electoral college votes

And so, that's the way it's set up in America.

But, for a Constitutional Republic to work, its citizens must vote.

That's why we have those famous words, "*We, the people...*"

We, the people, must vote. It's a privilege to vote, and it's a duty.

Citizens didn't have an opportunity to vote when Paul and Peter lived.

Caesar was the dictator, and if they had the privilege to vote, they wouldn't have voted for Nero because Nero was the Caesar who killed them.

Paul got his head cut off.

Peter was crucified upside down.

They would have said, '*Yes, let's vote Nero out of power.*'

But they didn't have that privilege. We have the privilege to vote.

Some say, "*Well, I don't like the candidates. I think I'm going to sit this one out.*"

Some would say, "*I'm a-political.*"

You know, there are a lot of people that have that idea.

Jeremiah 29:11 is that famous verse, " ***For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.'"***

We know **29:11**, but before the LORD talks to the exiles taken from Jerusalem to Babylon.

He talked to those people and said, "***This is what you must do. You need to build houses, plant vineyards, get wives for your sons and daughters, and seek for the city's welfare here in Babylon.***"

In other words - plant your roots. Get involved in the community. Make a difference.

So my question is simply this - how do we make a difference if we're not involved in choosing our leaders?

Failing to vote is giving your consent through silence.

We need to speak now or forever lose our freedoms.

The Greek philosopher Plato said, *"The price good men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men."*

Well, does God care about government? Yes, He does. (see the letter this week)

Does God want us to be ruled by evil men? No!

Does He allow that to happen? Yes! But He doesn't want that to happen.

It happens when we're not involved when good people are not going to the polls when good people are not engaged in what goes on in society.

Remember, Satan is the god of this world because of the transgression of Adam and Eve.

So, failing to vote is giving your consent through silence.

Let me give you an example - ***Numbers 30:3-5: "Also if a woman makes a vow to the LORD and binds herself by an obligation in her father's house in her youth, and her father hears her vow and her obligation by which she has bound herself, and her father says nothing to her, then all her vows shall stand and every obligation by which she has bound herself shall stand. But if her father should forbid her on the day he hears of it, none of her vows or her, or her obligations by which she has bound herself shall stand, and the LORD will forgive her because her father had forbidden her."***

You say, *"What does that mean?"*

That means if her father hears what she says and doesn't say anything, his silence equals consent. If he does say something, it changes everything.

This used to be in weddings some time ago.

Before the pronouncement at a wedding, *"If anyone here knows why these two shouldn't be joined together in holy matrimony, let him speak now or forever hold his peace."*

We don't do that anymore.

Now is the time to speak up because if you don't speak up, silence equals consent.

Failing to vote is giving your consent through silence.

And voting for the wrong person is voting for things that are not right, and that God wouldn't have you do.

So what can the righteous do to protect the foundations? The righteous can vote, and the virtuous must vote.

2. Secondly, The righteous can vote and must vote prayerfully.

Someone recently told me, *"Isn't it sad in America that these are the two people we can choose from."*

And I know where she's coming from.

And some of you are here, and you say, *"The guy on the right, I can't stand him. He is horrible. He's the worst guy on the planet."*

And some of you are saying, *"The person on the left, she is horrible. She's terrible."*

Then some of you say, "I don't like either."

Barring something unforeseen, one of those two will be the President.

So, you pray and ask, **"God, what do You want me to do?"**

Jesus said in **Luke chapter 18:1, "Men ought always to pray and not to faint,"**

We can share our hearts and say, *"Lord, I don't like either candidate. What do I do?"*

David knew when Saul the king died in battle that the LORD had him tapped to be the next king and yet he asked the LORD what to do.

2 Samuel 2:1: "Then it came about afterward (after Saul had died) that David inquired of the LORD, saying, 'Shall I go up to one of the cities of Judah?' And the LORD said to him, 'Go up.' So David said, 'Where shall I go up?' And He said, 'To Hebron.'"

And David was king in Hebron over the tribe of Judah, just one tribe, for 7 ½ years.

Jeremiah 33:3: The LORD says, "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things that you do not know."

So, we have the promise from God that when we pray, He will answer.

James 4:2: "You have not because you ask not." So, we need to pray.

Let me tell you about an important event related to the Constitution that the founding fathers were putting together.

They were meeting in Philadelphia in June 1787.

These were learned and courageous men who put their lives on the line as they signed the Declaration of Independence.

Great Britain was defeated, and America was now an independent nation.

So, they're trying to create a constitution and getting nowhere.

Benjamin Franklin stood up and addressed his comments to the President, George Washington, and all the delegates.

He said, "I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proof I see of this truth- that God governs 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 the sacred writings that "Except the Lord build 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 by our little partial local interests; our projects will be confounded, and we shall become a reproach and a bye word down to future age. And worse, mankind may hereafter, from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing Governments by Human Wisdom and leave it to chance, war, and conquest." Here's his request: "I, therefore, beg leave to move -- that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the Clergy of this City be requested to officiate in that service."

Most historians have said that *"Franklin was a deist. He wasn't even a Christian."*

I say, give us more people like that in public office because he understood that God governs men's affairs and that we need to pray.

"Why are we not getting anywhere?" he said. "It's because we're not praying."

You have not because you ask not.

So, we need to vote, and we need to vote prayerfully, and we need to ask the Lord, *"Lord, what do You want me to do?"*

God will be faithful in showing us, just like He showed ***David when he said, "LORD, what do You want me to do? Where do You want me to go?"*** And God showed him.

3. Action number three: Not only can the righteous vote, and not only can the righteous pray, but the righteous can and must vote biblically.

It's so important to vote biblically.

In other words, as we pray, we reference the bible – they go together.

If you want to find the will of God, it is found in the Word of God.

What is important to God?

So, what is important to God?

This election has been called the most important election in our lifetime.

You notice that every four years, *"It's the most important election in our lifetime."*

Elon Musk recently said on the X platform, *"If we vote wrongly in this election, I don't believe we're going to have another opportunity to vote again in America."*

Please don't get mad at me – what I will say is directly from scripture.

We could say many things, but I will limit it to five:

1. Number one: God is for life.

There is a group of people who never say they're anti-life.

They call themselves pro-abortion - they're for women's reproductive rights.

Let me tell you something. No person has the right to murder another person. You hear some say - *"My body, my choice."*

But let me say something about pregnancy.

Yes, it is your body, but a living human is inside it that will come out in nine months.

So, the big question is, when does life begin?

Well, does life begin at six weeks? Does life begin at three months? Does it begin at six months? Does it start when the baby is born?

What is the difference between 6 weeks, three months, and 9 months just after birth?

Nothing – there is nothing besides the added nutrients from the mother.

Any honest doctor and scientist will tell you that life begins at conception when everything starts happening.

Now, Bill Mayer, liberal Bill Mayer, the comedian, said that he believes abortion is murder.

He said the quiet part out loud, *"Is that not your position if you're pro-choice?" You're okay with murdering an unborn baby."*

I am going to be somewhat graphic now as I briefly describe how they murder an unborn baby in an abortion.

They rip the baby apart piece by piece.

Then they put the parts of the baby in a petri dish, put it back together like a jigsaw puzzle, and say, *"We have all the pieces."*

Yes, what I have just said is gruesome, and I am not trying to shock you.

I want us to understand the severity of our choices at the ballot box.

But it makes a huge statement.

In the movie trailer for "The 1916 Project." Seth Gruber said, "Listen! Abortion is the lynchpin for the left. It's the hub of the wheel. Everything revolves around abortion."

And they have said that on the left, *"Hey, the most important issue in this election is the right for reproductive rights."*

Remember, they don't ever tell you exactly what it is, but to put it in plain English, *"The most important issue in this election is for us to be able to murder the unborn through dismemberment brutally."* That's so gruesome.

You know, many might be okay with brutally murdering the unborn, but I tell you who's not OK with it, and that's God!

God's commandment number six is written by His finger in stone, ***"You shall not murder."***

Did you know that at the Democratic National Convention, Planned Parenthood brought out a mobile abortion trailer and offered free abortions for anybody who wanted to come?

They celebrated at the Democratic National Convention that they were able to murder twenty-five unborn babies.

Abortion could not be more demonic.

This is what God says, and I believe that the sin of abortion is bringing the judgment of God on our nation.

Psalm 106:35: "But they mingled with the nations and learned their practices, and served their idols, which became a snare to them. They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons and shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and their daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with the blood."

It is demonic what takes place at Planned Parenthood - Auschwitz has nothing on the butchers at Planned Parenthood.

Let me add – ***"There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus; For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death."*** (Rom 8:1-2)

I want to be sensitive here – some who are listening to me may have had an abortion in a prior life.

Know today that there is freedom, healing, and forgiveness at the cross; you don't have to live in that place of guilt or condemnation because you are a child of God.

"There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus."

2. Secondly, God is for freedom.

Galatians 5:1: "It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore, keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery."

When the Founding Fathers put together the Constitution, there's a reason why the very First Amendment speaks of our freedom: freedom to speak, freedom of the press, and freedom to worship in spirit and truth.

Freedom to assemble peacefully.

Freedom to redress the government in an unjust situation.

The Founding Fathers wrote that and gave us that freedom.

Some politicians want to restrict the First Amendment.

John Kerry, who is the big climate change hoax artist, said in 2009 that, *"In five years, the polar ice caps will all be melted."* That was in 2014, but they're still there.

Al Gore said, *"Everybody's going to be underwater on such and such a date."*

Why does it not happen?

Because God controls the climate, that's why it doesn't happen!

John Kerry said, *"Hey, it's a big roadblock, this First Amendment, to do what we want to do."*

Elon Musk spent 44 billion (with a b) dollars buying Twitter.

Why did he do that?

He did it because he said, *"I want to ensure free speech."*

He did that because Jack Dorsey, who owned Twitter, would censor everybody.

Zuckerberg censors people on Facebook. (Gaby)

Hillary Clinton said, *"Unless he starts controlling what is on the X platform, we lose control."*

Folks, it's all about control for certain people.

But God is for freedom: freedom to speak, freedom to preach the gospel, freedom to call out sinners, freedom to say homosexuality is a sin, and it's wrong, and you must repent and turn from that sin to be saved.

We all agree that the most important thing in preaching the gospel is to tell people about Jesus. If the foundations are destroyed, and we can't openly preach Jesus and the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation, and we could have done something about it, but we didn't, and then, suddenly, we're curtailed; well, we would need to ask ourselves why were we not more engaged?

Why did we not show up and vote accordingly? God is for freedom.

Elon Musk recently said, *"The First Amendment is freedom of speech. The Second Amendment is the right to bear arms."*

And why do you have that one number two?

Because you have arms to make sure you have the freedom of speech

3. Thirdly, God is for truth and justice.

Psalm 89:14, "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; lovingkindness and truth go before You."

God is just and truthful and right. God is for law and order.

God set up governments.

It says in **Romans 13**: ***"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, for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid, for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil."***

That's the purpose of government because you can't have a society in which criminals are rewarded and law-abiding citizens are criminalized.

That's an upside-down world; we are close to that if we're not already there.

Isaiah 5:20: "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!"

How can you live in an upside-down world where we call evil good and good evil?

Psalm 11:3 - Passion translation: "What can the righteous accomplish when truth's pillars are destroyed, and law and order collapse?"

You know, we heard the phrase, *"Defund the police!"* Good night!

Who wants to do that? Well, how did that work out?

We need the police. We need law and order. God is for truth and justice.

What is happening in our country is so unjust, as are the things happening in our country.

Just a side note – After the hurricanes that devastated so much of Florida and North Carolina, the Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas, said, *"We are meeting the immediate needs with the money that we have. We are expecting another hurricane hitting,"* Mayorkas said. *"FEMA does not have the funds to make it through the season."*

Lebanon received \$385 million this year - \$157 million when those states desperately needed aid this week.

I am all for helping people, but you don't help people in the Middle East who Islamic terrorists control.

That aid money goes to them; what do they do with it?

They don't help their people.

They buy bombs and weapons with it.

Let the other Muslim countries give to those people.

We care about the people; my heart breaks for those caught in the middle.

Unfortunately, they are living with the consequences of their voting.

Listen - we should be able to get supplies to our suffering people.

Think about it –I read about New York City's plight a while ago.

New York City has brought in 175,000 immigrants, costing them 1.45 billion dollars in 2023 for food, shelter, and the services needed.

So effectively, "*An illegal immigrant gets more from the government than a disabled veteran in New York.*"

That is awful.

Why are we not protecting and supporting our people?

It doesn't make any sense. "***Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who substitute darkness for light, light for darkness, bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter.***"

We're in that upside-down world.

That pillar of the foundation is tottering.

God is for truth and justice.

And the government is supposed to act.

You know, Lady Justice has a sword, scales, and a blindfold, and that's how justice is supposed to be: fair and impartial.

Sadly, it's anything but right now.

4. And fourthly, God is for the family.

God established the family before He established the church - before He established the government - before He established anything.

One man, one woman, for life. And God made them male and female.

Said, "***Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it.***" God is pro-family.

What do we have going on today?

We have tremendous attacks on the family.

Think about it - we have the sexualization of children.

We have books that are put into the library if people come to the school board meetings and read the books from the library.

It's so X-rated that they get muted on their mic. "*You can't read that.*"

But that's the book you're letting our kids read!

The destruction of a child's future.

When you destroy the children, you destroy the family.

Now, I'm very black-and-white on issues like our families and our children.

It's either right or it's wrong.

You don't sexualize children.

You don't have drag queen story hour. That is ridiculous and sickening.

At a recent LGBTQIA+ event, they said, "*We're coming after your kids.*"

The idea that is being perpetrated in our culture is that a boy can become a girl, and a girl can become a boy. You can be anything you want. Be all that you can be.

But listen – the LGBTQ+ ideology is against God, and it's against the family that is coming at us and destroying families and schools.

If they start telling us that we need to let biological male boys use the female restroom

If they tell us we need to let biological male boys play on the female sports teams, that's where you stand up and say, "*We're not doing that at this school! I don't care if I lose my job; we won't do that.*"

You know, we get all worried that we'll lose our job.

Just think of the Hebrew young men in Babylon - "*Daniel was going to lose his life - the stakes were high for him and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and yet they would not bow down before the statue Nebuchadnezzar erected.*"

Well, I'm not going to do what you ask me to do because it is wrong, and I will stand up for the truth because God is for the family.

5. Last but not least, God is for Israel.

Psalm 122:6: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem..."

Israel is getting attacked on all sides. They're surrounded by countries that hate them and want to destroy them.

Israel is to be defended by God because God has made promises to Israel, ***Genesis chapter 12:3: "I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse those who curse you, and in you, all the families of the earth will be blessed."***

Conclusion:

So, because the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?

We can't do much once the foundations are destroyed, but we can shore up the crumbling foundations.

And that's why this election is so important.

It's so important because what is the future going to look like for our children and for our grandchildren?

If you say, "*Hey, this one candidate, I can't stand this person,*" I understand, but you're not choosing a prom date for the election.

You're not choosing who's coming over for Thanksgiving dinner.

What is a Christian to do? A Christian is to protect the foundations.

Let me tell you - good leadership is not going to save America. Only Jesus can do that.

However, bad leadership can destroy America.

And so, we have the privilege and the duty to stand up for what is right because if the foundations are destroyed, that affects your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren - the preaching of the gospel - that affects everything.

Our hope is not in the political party.

Who is in the White House is far less important than who is on the throne in heaven and who is on the throne of your life.

The reason our world is crumbling, the reason we're under the judgment of God, is because we've turned our back on God.

And if you want to see political reform, you need to see a spiritual revival.

It's not the other way around.

You don't pursue political reform so that there can be a spiritual revival.

We should be bold and speak out against the evil of our day.

But you should never turn the mission field into your enemy.

You can call out the policies and the issues.

I can speak against the horrors of abortion, the trans agenda - or whatever, and still have compassion for those who promote or buy into those anti-God agendas.

I can pray that those caught up in those webs of lies come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

If you are more likely to promote your political views than you are to proclaim Jesus Christ.

If people know you more for being whatever party affiliation than they do for being a Christ follower, your priorities are wrong.

Remember, we are not on defense. The gates of hell will not let prevail.

So, let's pray that God would have His way in this election.

Prayer

Communion