Why Christians Need to Vote!

Yosemite Lakes Community Church
by John Pero Salt & Light Affiliate

Jesus commands us to be salt and light in the world and not hide our light under a bushel (Mat 5:13-17). Salt and light involve spiritual, moral, economic and political action. True Christianity involves both Word and Deed: (James 1:26-27). It involves a vertical relationship to God and a horizontal relationship to your neighbor “And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength, and your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:26-28) How are we loving our neighbor if we have the means to legislate justice by voting, and then fail to do so?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer states:

- Silence in the face of evil is itself evil. God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to Act.
- The task of the church is not to simply help the victims beneath the wheel, but to drive a spoke into the wheel itself.

In our day and age, there are many who want to drive the name and message of Christ completely out of the public arena. Voting is an opportunity to promote, protect, and preserve godly government. Passing up that opportunity means letting those who would denigrate the name of Christ have their way in our lives. The leaders we elect—or do nothing to remove—have great influence on our freedoms and a destructive influence on our culture. They can choose to protect our right to worship and spread the gospel, or they can restrict those rights. They can lead our nation toward righteousness or toward moral disaster. As Christians, we should stand up and follow our command to fulfill our civic duties and vote the most Godly candidates into office. (Matthew 22:21).

Are our candidates perfect? Absolutely not, but we bear the responsibility of electing the most Biblically based candidates and then holding them responsible. Often this means the lessor of two evils.

Have Christians made a difference in the world?

Since the first century, Christians have put into practice the Word of God through their actions to influence and change civil government such as:

- Stopping infanticide under Roman rule during the 2nd Century by Dionysius bishop of Corinth
- Social Reformation during the Reformation Period by John Calvin who was involved with political and civil affairs and endorsed capitalism and set up education centers.
- Establishing a Christian Foundation of Government in the Massachusetts Bay colony by the Pilgrims and Puritans
- Creating a Representative form of government in America, through the Founding Fathers who integrated Christian principles into the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution
- Ending Slavery through the Christian abolitionist’s movement in America and England
- Granting suffrage to women
- Granting civil rights to blacks in America
- Restoring the sanctity of life for the unborn
- Standing against oppressive unbiblical economic and social policies that threaten our individual God given rights of Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness
As John Adams wrote, “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

Today 50% of Christians in America are not even registered to vote and of those who are registered only about half vote. This represents millions of Christians who are not voting. If all Christians vote, we can turn our nation around to more Biblical principles.

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

*(Proverbs 29:2-KJB)*