"THE CHRISTIAN AND VOTING"
MATTHEW 6:13-16

INTRO: We who are the citizens of the UNITED STATES ought to rejoice over the OPPORTUNITY and RESPONSIBILITY we have to be involved in our government. It is an OPPORTUNITY to be involved because we can have input into what takes place in government from voting to speaking out on issues to encouraging government officials to personally run for office. It is a RESPONSIBILITY because civil government is one of the THREE INSTITUTIONS OF GOD, along with the HOME and the CHURCH. ***AS CHRISTIAN BELIEVERS ARE MANDATED BY GOD TO BE INVOLVED IN THE HOME AND THE CHURCH, SO SHOULD WE BE INVOLVED IN CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO MAKE AN INFLUENCE FOR TRUTH AND RIGHTEOUSNESS IN THE NATION.*** One of the easiest ways and yet one of the most significant ways we can be involved in government is by VOTING EACH AND EVERY TIME WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. In just two days from now, we as citizens of THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have the opportunity and responsibility to promote TRUTH AND RIGHTEOUSNESS by going to the polls and voting biblically. ***ARE YOU PLANNING ON VOTING TUESDAY?*** Today I want to speak on the topic ***THE CHRISTIAN AND VOTING.*** I am going to do so because after much prayer, I am convinced that the Lord is leading me to do so. But I am also doing so because statistics show that many Christians do not vote these days. Just this week I learned that in the last election, AT LEAST 35 MILLION CHRISTIANS DID NOT VOTE and it is estimated that up to 40 MILLION CHRISTIANS ***WILL NOT VOTE THIS TIME!*** Personally, from the practical perspective, I cannot understand that, but from the spiritual perspective, I am convinced that not voting is a SIN AGAINST GOD AND OUR SOCIETY BY NOT TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY AND THE RESPONSIBILITY TO BE AN OBEDIENT WITNESS OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IN CASTING A BALLOT FOR BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES THROUGH THE INDIVIDUALS AND THE ISSUES FOR WHICH WE VOTE. Let me give you three personal illustrations related to voting:

1) My personal fascination with voting as a child.
2) My personal excitement when I was old enough to vote.
3) My uncle's attitude toward voting.

TODAY I AM BEING LED OF THE LORD TO SPEAK TO YOU REGARDING THE CHRISTIAN AND VOTING FROM THE BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE. I TRUST THAT GOD WILL SPEAK TO EACH OF US PERSONALLY ABOUT THIS SUBJECT.

JUST THIS WEEK (THURSDAY), DR, RALPH REED OF THE FAITH AND FREEDOM COALITION SAID, *"THIS ELECTION IS THE MOST CONSEQUENTIAL ELECTION IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICA."* PERSONALLY, I AGREE AND BELIEVE IT TO BE SO AS WELL! *WHY IS THIS SO? BECAUSE OF SOME OF THE UNDERLYING ISSUES THAT ARE AT HAND INCLUDING:*

- Should males identifying as transgender be permitted to compete in girls sports**?**
- Should recreational use of marijuana be legalized?
- Should school choice be legalized?
- Should abortion be allowed for certain reasons?
- Should taxpayer money be used to fund organizations that perform abortions?
- Should laws be made to support sex changes on minors?
- Should the law support sexual orientation/gender identity?
- Should communism and socialism be promoted in America?
- Should the Nation of Israel be supported by the government and citizens of The United States of America?
- Should the Bible be allowed to be used in public schools?

I. THE PURPOSE FOR THE CHRISTIAN TO VOTE

A. To Represent Jesus Christ
   1. As Salt and Light – Matthew 5:13-16
   2. As Ambassadors for Christ – 2 Corinthians 5:20
   3. As Stewards of the Mysteries of God – 1 Corinthians 4:1,2

B. To Promote Biblical Values
   1. The Biblical Value of Righteousness – Proverbs 14:34
   2. The Biblical Value of Truth – John 17:17
   3. The Biblical Value of Character – Philippians 4:8

C. To Advance a Godly Witness
   1. As a True Servant of God – Isaiah 43:10
   2. As a Sure Supporter of Scripture – Psalm 119:105

II. THE PREPARATION FOR THE CHRISTIAN'S VOTE

A. Seek to Know God's Word on Every Issue – 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16

B. Seek God's Direction through Prayer
   1. Call on the Lord for Insight – Jeremmiah 33:3
   2. Call on the Lord for Wisdom – James 1:5

C. Seek to know the Candidates and their Positions.
   1. On their View of God – Isaiah 45:5,6
   2. On their View of Scripture – 2 Timothy 3:16,17
   3. On their View of Life – Psalm 139:13-18
   4. On their View of Religious Freedom – Acts 5:29
   5. On their View of the Purpose of Government – Romans 13:1-7
   6. On their View of the Church – Ephesians 1:22,23
   7. On their View of Israel – Deuteronomy 7:6-8
   8. On their View of the Family – Genesis 1:26-28; 3:23,24

LESSON AND APPLICATION

As Christians we have the opportunity and obligation to make an impact for God and His Truth through voting biblically. LET'S DO IT REGULARLY!