

## How Now Shall We Vote Romans 13:1-7 & others

### INTRODUCTION

This morning's message is unique in that it's a first for me. **It's a message that will deal with the Biblical issues that need to be carefully considered in making wise choices in the upcoming elections.:** The title for today's message is **How Now Shall We Vote.**

**Sermon summary:** Those who \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ and His kingdom have a \_\_\_\_\_ to do all that they can to live out the reality of being \_\_\_\_\_ for our King by being both \_\_\_\_\_ to the commands, precepts and principles of His word including when \_\_\_\_\_. A pastor has the \_\_\_\_\_ to teach the people the Lord has entrusted to him God's word and apply it to every aspect of life including \_\_\_\_\_ decisions and even more so when such great \_\_\_\_\_ issues are at the forefront of those \_\_\_\_\_ decisions.

I. How now shall we vote: \_\_\_\_\_ considerations

There is \_\_\_\_\_ any "separation of church and state" clause anywhere in the U.S. Constitution, its amendments, or any of our founding documents.

No church has yet \_\_\_\_\_ its tax status for political involvement

\_\_\_\_\_ is simply the art and science of public affairs and the government of a state, and a \_\_\_\_\_ is simply a person who is involved in politics.

II. How now shall we vote: the \_\_\_\_\_ &

\_\_\_\_\_

A. Types of \_\_\_\_\_ found in the Bible

B. Government's \_\_\_\_\_

The ramifications of this include: 1) Those in positions of power need to be humble because God put them there and He can take them out in a variety of ways. 2) Those in positions of authority need to be more concerned about pleasing God than pleasing people since ultimately, they will give an account to God. 3) Christians can be at peace regardless of who is in charge of government because we know that God is ultimately in control and will accomplish His will though them whether it is for a blessing or a curse on the nation.

C. The \_\_\_\_\_ of government

*The first purpose of government is to \_\_\_\_\_ what is good.*

*The second purpose of government stated here is to be an \_\_\_\_\_ who brings wrath upon those who do evil, which is why government bears the sword.*

D. The Christian's \_\_\_\_\_ to government

In short, **we willingly subject ourselves to government out of both the desire to avoid the negative consequences of breaking the law, and more important for Christians, a quest to have a blameless conscience before God and man.** That is the example Paul set for us in Acts 24:16, and Peter said this would silence and put to shame those that would slander us (1 Pet 2:13-17).

**Christian citizen must apply Biblical principles when choosing a candidate and addressing the issues of the day.**

**The Christian citizen must be serious about voting and then vote for the candidate that would best fulfill the purposes of government in promoting good and repressing evil as God defines them.**

**The Christian citizen must also stand in opposition to governmental representatives, officials and policies when they are contrary to the clear teachings of God's word.**

III. How now shall we vote: evaluating the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_: The first moral priority is human life.

***Questions to consider concerning life:*** What value does the candidate put on human life? What protections does the candidate advocate to protect human life? Is the candidate pro-life, indifferent or pro-abortion? What is the candidate's position on euthanasia? Do they uphold capital punishment for those convicted of murder?

B. \_\_\_\_\_: Protection encompasses both internal and external threats.

***Questions to consider about protection:*** Does the candidate understand the protective role of government both locally and nationally and advocate law and order? Does the candidate understand the necessity and proper use of armed forces as well as diplomacy in averting war?

C. \_\_\_\_\_: Government has the responsibility to establish and execute justice, and to the degree a government deviates from God's standards of justice is the degree to which it is failing.

*Questions to consider concerning justice:* Does the candidate uphold the rule of law? Does the candidate advocate interpretation of law according to what is written and original intent? Is the candidate's advocacy or opposition to a law based on Biblical standards or something else? Is the candidate fair in his/her dealings with both supporters and opponents? Is the candidate subject to political corruption by influences either in or outside of government?

D. \_\_\_\_\_

*Questions to consider concerning sexual morality:* Does the candidate seek to uphold and protect the sacredness of the family and marriage between a man and a woman, or does he or she uphold the current unbiblical re-definitions and support new laws attacking the Biblical model. Does the candidate seek to protect children and the family from the agenda of the sexual revolution?

## **CONCLUSION**

What can we take with us this **morning**? This sermon is meant to prod you to start thinking according to Biblical values and priorities instead of political ones when voting, running for public office or serving in one. Policy positions are very important, but so is moral character and personal integrity to carry out those policies and promises.

**You will not find a candidate that agrees with you on every issue, but you are to evaluate carefully and make the best vote you can among very imperfect candidates.**

*Let me close with three things to remember on Election Day.*

- The \_\_\_\_\_ is bigger than \_\_\_\_\_
  
- The \_\_\_\_\_ is bigger than \_\_\_\_\_ parties
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ is bigger than \_\_\_\_\_

If the early church was able to worship God and spread the gospel under Emperor Nero and others, if contemporary Christians are able to worship God and spread the gospel in Communist China, we will still be able to worship God and spread the gospel under either Donald Trump or Kamala Harris. And whoever is elected president, you need to respect that person as your newly elected leader and pray for him or her accordingly.