



Does God expect Christians to

VOTE

In the 2024 Election?



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Introduction

If there is anything that will spark a spontaneous debate, if not an outright argument, it is a discussion involving politics—even among believers. As followers of Christ, what should be our attitude and our involvement with politics? It has been said that “religion and politics don’t mix.” But is that really true? Can we have political views outside the considerations of our Christian faith? The answer is no, we cannot. The Bible gives us two truths regarding our stance towards politics and government.

1. How many of you vote ?

- It is our duty and responsibility of every Christian to vote.

2. Does the Bible tell us who to vote for?

- Vote for leaders who promote Christian principles.
- God is certainly in control, but that does not mean we should do nothing to further His will.

3. Do you pray for leaders before you vote?

- We are commanded to pray for our leaders.

(1 Timothy 2:1–2) I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people—²for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

4. Do you think God has been pleased with your voting in the past?

In terms of politics and leadership, there is evidence in Scripture that God has been displeased with our choices of leadership at times.

(Hosea 8:4) They set up kings without my consent; they choose princes without my approval. With their silver and gold, they make idols for themselves to their own destruction.

5. What causes most of the suffering in the USA?

- The evidence of sin's grip on this world is everywhere.
- Much of the suffering on earth is because of godless leadership.

(Proverbs 28:12) When the righteous triumph, there is great elation; but when the wicked rise to power, people go into hiding.

6. Are we to obey all authority?

- Scripture gives Christian's instructions to obey legitimate authority unless it contradicts the Lord's commands.

(Acts 5:27–29) The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. ²⁸“We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,” he said. “Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood.” ²⁹Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings!

(Romans 13:1–7) Submission to Governing Authorities

13 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

²Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. ³For rulers hold no terror

for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. ⁴ For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

⁵ Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

⁶ This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷ Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

7. What kind of leader should we choose to represent us?

- As born-again believers, we ought to strive to choose leaders who will be themselves led by our Creator.

(1 Samuel 12:13–25) Now here is the king you have chosen, the one you asked for; see, the Lord has set a king over you. ¹⁴ If you fear the Lord and serve and obey him and do not rebel against his commands, and if both you and the king who reigns over you follow the Lord your God—good! ¹⁵ But if you do not obey the Lord, and if you rebel against his commands, his hand will be against you, as it was against your ancestors.

¹⁶ “Now then, stand still and see this great thing the Lord is about to do before your eyes! ¹⁷ Is it not wheat harvest now? I will call on the Lord to send thunder and rain. And you will realize what an evil thing you did in the eyes of the Lord when you asked for a king.”

¹⁸ Then Samuel called on the Lord, and that same day the Lord sent thunder and rain. So, all the people stood in awe of the Lord and of Samuel.

¹⁹ The people all said to Samuel, “Pray to the Lord your God for your servants so that we will not die, for we have added to all our other sins the evil of asking for a king.”

²⁰ “Do not be afraid,” Samuel replied. “You have done all this evil; yet do not turn away from the Lord but serve the Lord with all your heart. ²¹ Do not turn away from useless idols. They can do you no good, nor can they rescue you, because they are useless. ²² For the sake of his great name the Lord will not reject his people, because the Lord was pleased to make you his own.

²³ As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right. ²⁴ But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you. ²⁵ Yet if you persist in doing evil, both you and your king will perish.”

8. What if a candidate or proposal violate the Bible?

- Candidates or proposals that violate the Bible's commands for life, family, marriage, or faith should never be supported.

(Proverbs 14:34) Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.

- Christians should vote as led through prayer and study of both God's Word and the realities of the choices on the ballot.

9. How does the enemy use fear during the election season?

- Christians in many countries in this world are oppressed and persecuted.
- They suffer under governments that are powerless to change and governments that hate their faith and silence their voices.
- These believers preach the gospel of Jesus Christ at the risk of their own lives.

10. What do we have that many other countries don't have?

- In the U.S.A., Christians have been blessed with the right to speak about and choose their leaders without fearing for themselves or their families.
- In the U.S.A., in recent elections, about 2 of every 5 of self-professed Christians took that right for granted and did not vote. About 1 in 5 self-professed, eligible Christians are not even registered to vote.

11. Do you know voting is a wonderful opportunity for believers?

- 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.
- They can choose to protect our first amendment right to religious freedom and the right to 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.

(Matthew 22:21) “Caesar’s,” they replied. Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

Conclusion:

Believers throughout the ages have lived, and even flourished, under antagonistic, repressive, pagan governments. This was especially true of the first-century believers who, under merciless political regimes, sustained their faith under immense cultural stress. They understood that it was they, not their governments, who were the light of the world and the salt of the earth. They adhered to Paul’s teaching to obey their governing authorities, even to honor, respect, and pray for them **(Romans 13:1-8)**. More importantly, they understood that, as believers, their hope resided in the protection that only God supplies. The same holds true for us today. When we follow the teachings of the Scriptures, we become the light of the world as God has intended for us to be **(Matthew 5:16)**.

Political entities are not the savior of the world. The salvation for all mankind has been manifested in Jesus Christ. God knew that our world needed saving long before any national government was ever founded. He demonstrated to the world that redemption could not be accomplished through the power of man, economic strength, military might, or politics. Peace of mind, contentment, hope, and joy—and the salvation of mankind—are provided only through Jesus’ death and resurrection.