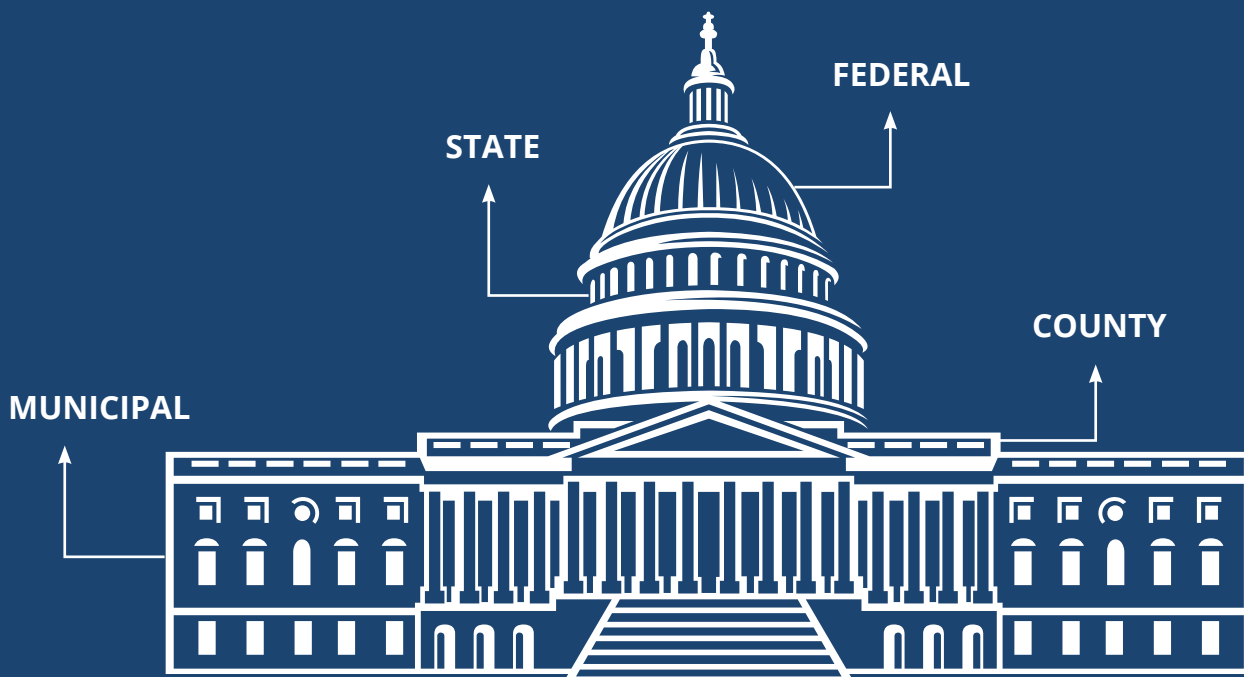


# A FOUNDATION TO CHRISTIAN VOTING

What Christians need to know about  
government, the battlefield of America,  
and what the church can do.

## LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT



# THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT

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God created four government systems, each with a limited sphere of responsibility in His creation: self-government, family government, church government, and civil government. God alone has ultimate authority, and each of these forms of government work together to create a flourishing society. Yet, the secular world has a different aim and seeks to establish civil government as the ultimate authority over all things. As Christians, we need to understand the rightful role of civil government in God's plan.

## CIVIL GOVERNMENT

Whether federal, state, county, or municipal, all levels of civil government in America have one thing in common: they were established by God to maintain order in society and carry out His justice on the earth.

*Romans 13:1 "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God."*

Levels of civil government in America differ in size, jurisdiction, and the way they create and institute policy. Another way of thinking about policy is simply a set of principles that guide the decisions and actions of government leaders. As Christians, it is imperative that we strive to elect leaders who will govern from a set of principles – policies – that best align with biblical values.

**Exodus 18:21 tells us that leaders must be:**

- **Able bodied**
- **Fear God (Have reverent awe for His holiness)**
- **Truth tellers, and**
- **Hate covetousness and dishonest gain**

Government leaders have a purpose for God. They are to lead over the people in the way God intends. (Romans 13: 3-4) They are not to be a terror to those who do good works. They are to be God's minister to the people for good - God's good - not what man thinks is good. They are God's servants - avengers who carry out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

When we see government leaders hindering righteous action and displaying intimidation, manipulation, pride, and ungodly power, they are not fulfilling their God-given purpose. This is a warning sign to Christians to stand up and vote these leaders out of office - and vote in new ones.

You will not find the perfect candidate for office on your ballot, but you will likely find one who will be less offensive to the ways of God than the others. This is your first step in the right direction to restoring the government to what God intended it to be.



# THE BATTLEFIELD OF AMERICA

## AMERICA'S BUILDING BLOCKS

The sovereignty of God, the sacredness of human life, the value of natural marriage and family, care and compassion for those in need, and the right to freely and publicly exercise our faith are foundational building blocks of America.

They are the framework that sets America apart from every other nation in the world. They decree truth from public opinion, right from wrong, and good from evil. Our "Constitution's genius begins with recognizing both the virtues and limitations of human nature. It establishes a system of government that channels human nature toward the good of all. <sup>1</sup>

Yet, void of biblical truth, the good of all is at the mercy of the loudest and most forceful public opinion.

John Adams declared, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious People. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." <sup>2</sup>

## THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT VOTING

In America, the definition and value of our foundation and constitution have been up for grabs in recent elections. There are those who seek to deny and rewrite our godly heritage.

With one in three Christians not regularly voting, and hesitant to carry their values outside the walls of their church, America is left on unsettled ground with the backbone of society hanging in the balance. Christian silence and lack of participation in electing good leaders has resulted in biblical values being categorized by elected officials and redefined through public policy and regulatory action.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.heritage.org/the-essential-constitution/the-genius-the-constitution>

<sup>2</sup> <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Adams/99-02-02-3102>

## BIBLICAL VALUES ARE PLACED IN CATEGORIES LIKE:

Political issues | Church issues | Public issues | Social issues | School issues

From large metropolitan areas to remote, rural communities, Americans are suffering the consequences. **Tolerance, diversity, equity, and inclusion** have been the driving words to open doors for radical new ways of thinking to creep in from progressive, leftist public officials, amoral media personalities, and the government run public education system.

*Whatever the cause, elections have consequences for the moral compass of society... for individuals, marriages, families, communities, the church, and for the government.*



## CHRISTIAN VALUES ARE BEING REDEFINED:

- Conception of life is disqualified as real life
- Marriage has been made irrelevant
- Religious freedom is being stifled
- Morality is increasingly regulated out of public view
- The role and authority of parents is being diminished
- Human sexuality is portrayed as an ideology-bending playground
- People of faith are often disregarded as out of touch with society, and
- Religious practices are marginalized and regulated in public

## BIBLICAL CIVIC ACTION

As Christians, we know that God rules in the affairs of men (Daniel 4:17). He set down rules for marriage and families, for morality and public discourse, for His church and His people, and for the government.

The Bible is full of examples of God's people getting involved in social engagement and public activity to make known to society the value of His rules:

**Exodus 5:1-3:** Moses and Aaron civically engaged when they went before King Pharaoh, the government ruler who had no respect for God or His law, to confront King Pharaoh about the way he was treating God's people.

**Nehemiah 2: 6-7:** After hearing about the destruction in Jerusalem, Nehemiah, servant to King Artaxerxes, prayed and sought the Lord, then approached the king and spoke with him about his desire to rebuild the walls and the provisions he would need to get it done.

**Daniel 3: 13-18:** When required to appear before King Nebuchadnezzar to bow down and worship the image he had made or be cast into a burning fiery furnace, the king asked Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, "who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?" They boldly answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand O king, but if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

**Mark 6: 14-29:** John the Baptist civically engaged with King Herod, a lustful, prideful, arrogant leader, and called him out on his sinful behavior.

**Philippians 2: 10-11:** While Paul was in prison, under guard and at the risk of being found out and reported to Cesar, he boldly claimed Jesus as his leader and wrote in his letter to the church that "at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."



# THE POTENTIAL OF THE CHURCH

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The church in America has the power and authority to become the most influential institution of change in every city across the nation if Christians take the time to be involved in shaping government.

*Titus 3:1 "Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work"*

When elected officials in America are following God's requirements for leaders, our laws, ordinances, and regulations will set the stage for citizens to be ready for every good work. As Christians we often take for granted the gift God has given us to live in a country that allows us to select our leaders. We have the power with our one vote to position godly-minded individuals on the course to leadership. Yet, many Christians don't vote, which often results in devastating consequences.

**Your vote matters.** Elected leaders step into their role of authority only through the voting process. It is permission from the voters - including Christian voters - that places them in their role. Your vote may not immediately improve your personal life, but like an investment, it is the start of building for a godly future.

**Not voting is a vote.** It is just a vote that says, "someone else can decide for me who will step into the role of authority over me." Abdicating the right to vote doesn't change your responsibility to the great commission, (Matthew 28: 19-20) to carry your influence into all areas of society - including the government area.

**You may not ever run for office yourself, but you have a responsibility to see to it that we have elected leaders over us who are able bodied, fear God, and hate covetousness and dishonest gain. (Exodus 18:21)**

**It is time for every Christian to stand up and vote and continue to VOTE IN EVERY ELECTION.**

Whatever the cause, the truth is...elections have consequences for the moral compass of society...for individuals, marriages, families, communities, the church, and for the government.

**IT IS CRITICAL THAT CHRISTIANS TODAY NOT LET OUR GOVERNMENT TAKE ON THE ROLE OF GOD IN AMERICA.**

**My Faith Votes created 'My Voter Hub' so that every Christian can be registered and ready to vote in every election.**

<https://www.myfaithvotes.org/myvoterhub>



*“Now more than ever the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption. If it be intelligent, brave, and pure, it is because the people demand these high qualities to represent them in the national legislature. . . If the next centennial does not find us a great nation. . . it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture, and the morality of the nation do not aid in controlling the political forces.”*

*~ James A. Garfield (Pastor and President)*

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