

# 5 Good Reasons Why Christians Should Vote

Read the news on any given day and you'll find that our leaders are making decisions that directly affect you, your family, your business, your church, and your neighbors.

Too often, Christians don't realize the effects of bad laws until they hit home. Proverbs 29:2 tells us "When the righteous rule, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan." As we face a critical election year, consider how you can stand for good government.

**Here are five good reasons why Christians should vote**, according to college professor Jeffrey L. Myers, Ph.D., author of the book *Vital Truth: Christian Citizenship* (Copyright 2002).

## 1. God has granted us authority.

All authority belongs to God, but He has put human beings on the earth as caretakers. What is our task? According to Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20, we are to go out and make disciples of all nations, teaching them to obey God in every area of life. This includes politics. We must disciple people to make godly decisions about government, and promote the efforts of those who are already doing so.

## 2. We need to stand against evil.

St. Augustine said those who are citizens of God's kingdom are best equipped to be citizens of the kingdom of man. The alternative is unthinkable. In the 20th Century, atheistic and secular humanistic leaders gained control of nations all across Europe, Asia, and Africa. What was the result? According to historian R. J. Rummel, almost 170 million men, women and children have been brutally murdered by these governments, all in the name of human progress. These facts led historian John Hallowell to note, "Only through a return to faith in God, as God revealed Himself to man in Jesus Christ, can modern man and his society find redemption from the tyranny of evil." Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. had these words to say, "He who accepts evil without protesting against it is really cooperating with it."

## 3. Christian values contribute positively to society.

The Bible's solutions make sense. It is Christian involvement in government through the ages that gave us hospitals, civil liberties, abolition of slavery, modern science, the elevation of women, regard for

human life, great works of art and literature, a workable system of justice, education for common people, the free-enterprise system, and much, much more. When we see the good that results from applying God's principles, and the horror that results from rejecting them, doesn't it seem cruel and irresponsible to keep Jesus' teachings about truth, love, and compassion to ourselves? At very least, we should vote to keep OUT of office those who attempt to oppose God's authority.

## 4. Obedience to authority demands good citizenship.

The Apostle Paul in Romans chapter 13 clearly states that we must obey governmental leaders because all authority comes from God. Here's the catch: in America, the people are the leaders! Here, at least, we express our obedience to God by exercising our rights and privileges as citizens. That means voting.

## 5. Good citizenship sets an example for generations to come.

Those who apply God's principles to government paved the way for generations of blessing. In 1768 a Christian minister named John Witherspoon became president of the College of New Jersey, now Princeton. While there he taught biblical principles of government to his students. Of the 478 young men who were graduated during his tenure, writes author John Eidsmoe, "114 became ministers; 13 were state governors; 3 were U.S. Supreme Court judges; 20 were U.S. Senators; 33 were U.S. Congressmen; Aaron Burr, Jr. became Vice-President; and James Madison became President." As a Christian, Witherspoon exerted an enormous influence on the direction of American government. We may not be college professors or have the skills of Witherspoon, but nevertheless we have opportunities to teach and model good citizenship for our children, fellow church members, and others in our sphere of influence. Pass this article on to friends and family, and encourage them to vote in the every election!

Nonpartisan registration information, voting records, and voter's guides are available from Cornerstone Policy Research:

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