



## GOVERNMENT AND A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

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America is unique among all the countries in the world. People will literally give up everything they have to come here and call this nation home. Why is that? Why do people from all over the world sacrifice so much for the chance to become an American? What is it about this country that's so special?

It's because the founding ideals of this nation rest on the truth of God's Word. It's been this way since the very beginning, and as a result, America has remained the land of the free.

Freedom is a principle deeply woven into the fabric of our nation, ensconced in our founding documents. It's part of who we are as a nation. At least it has been – but now more than ever we're facing a threat to these freedoms, these truths that our Founding Fathers knew to be *self-evident*.

As I think about where we are as a nation, I'm reminded of Isaiah 59:14...

*So justice is driven back,  
and righteousness stands at a distance;  
truth has stumbled in the streets,  
honesty cannot enter.*

Sadly, these words hit far too close to home these days. Truth stumbling in the streets seems like a mild description of what's going on in America today.

Truth is being rejected on every front, from the biological foundation for gender, to the scientific support for the life of the unborn, to even the most basic understandings of reality taught to our children in school. Our society is facing a crisis over the simple question: who decides the truth?

And there are really only two possible answers.

Either man determines for himself what's true, or God determines for all people what's true. If we believe it's man, then man is the standard. He sits in the place of the creator. But if God created man, then God decides. He sets the standard.

That's really what it's all about. And because we as Christians believe that God created man, and that He sets the standard, then we must follow His standard and uphold the truth that comes from God. That is our God-given calling... and we must embrace it now.

What does that look like?



It means living out our Christian faith in today's culture and affirming biblical truth.

I've been working throughout my career to help provide Christians with the freedom to embrace this calling – to make sure Christian voices are heard across all levels of American society. But today, that freedom is in greater jeopardy than ever. We're losing our Christian voice at every level of politics and society.

## We need Christian voices on school boards, city councils, in the mayor's office.

Christians need to get out and vote for policies and principles that most closely reflect a biblical worldview. This is a time when we as Christians must stand together to be salt and light. We know the Scripture, but here's my question, how can we be salt and light if we're not salty and bright? Matthew 5:13–16 says...

*"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.*

*"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

If we're not salty, we're of no use. If we're not bright, the darkness wins. It may seem harsh, but it's the truth.

We're supposed to influence the culture, not have the culture influence us. But too often we hide behind excuses, or even the good things we're doing. We're busy. We're raising our kids, focusing on our jobs, our church activities. None of those are bad things. But when we stay away from politics and think that it's going to take care of itself, that's when trouble comes.

George Barna's research says there's about 82 million evangelicals sitting in church on a typical Sunday. But of those 82 million, only about 30 to 32 million vote. That means 40 to 50 million people who profess to hold a biblical worldview don't bother to even exercise their right to vote.

We're putting our light under a bowl and rendering it ineffective to shine into the world.

I had a pastor one time tell me, "We just don't do politics at my church." I didn't know what to say. So I asked him what he meant by that. He responded, "Well, we just don't do controversial things."

To those who say that, I ask, "Where does politics begin and your spiritual life end?" The answer is that it doesn't. Our spiritual life is everywhere. God is big enough to be in all areas of our life. It's what He desires.



Life is not foundationally political. It's spiritual. Defense of marriage isn't political; it's spiritual. God established it, not the government. The defense of Israel is not political; it's spiritual. Religious liberty is not political; it's spiritual.

And yet there are 40 to 50 million non-voting Christians in this country. We're abdicating our power.

Politicians understand two things: money and votes. Christians don't give a lot of money to political parties. So we don't influence with money. But we have a lot of voting power, if we will only use it.

**You know why politicians don't pay attention to Christian principles? Because 40 to 50 million of us aren't voting, that's why.**

We don't understand our leverage or our power. But it's clear from the founding of our country that Christian principles have and can continue to wield tremendous influence in our nation, if we'll just act on them.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident."

This comes from the Declaration of Independence, our nation's birth certificate.

For all their imperfections, the founders were pretty sharp. You know why?

They were reading the Bible. They were reading the Word of God. And therein lies our first problem today. Our culture – and many politicians – have no regard for God's Word. In fact, they fiercely oppose it.

Why is it you can go anywhere you want and pray in the name of Mother Earth or eagles' feathers and nobody says a thing, but if you pray in the name of Jesus, the sky is falling?

I'll tell you why. Because truth reveals error. And people committed to evil don't want the light of truth to reveal their error.

Let's continue. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator..."

Stop there. The line does not read, "endowed by their evolutionary progress," or by "the king," or a "five-to-four decision of the Supreme Court." People are endowed by the Creator, God.

America is the greatest place on the planet because we hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights.



What is the first right the Creator gives us? Life.

Don't miss the significance of this right. If a politician will not protect life, then they're definitely not going to take care of your liberties. They're not going to mind a bit taking your liberties away. We saw this over and over again during the pandemic.

The Declaration lists life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as unalienable rights. That means you can't revoke those rights. And life is top priority, because if you don't have life, there's very little value to liberty.

It continues, "That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men."

This tell us that the purpose of government is to protect life. And do you know where that came from? The Bible.

Romans 13:4 says...

*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.*

According to Scripture, government is intended to protect the innocent and punish evil doers.

Did you know that even before Moses was given the law in Exodus 20, God gave him a framework for government?

In Exodus 18, we find Moses feeling overwhelmed. He couldn't handle all the people alone. So his father-in-law, Jethro, gave him some amazing advice. He advised Moses in Exodus 18:21...

*"But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens."*

This is what inspired America's representative republic where the people vote for the people who represent them in Congress. It came from Exodus 18:21... and nobody today knows it!

Here's another biblical influence most Americans don't know about. Where did we come up with three branches of government?

Check out Isaiah 33:22: "*The Lord is our King*" (executive); "*The Lord is our Judge*" (judicial); "*The Lord is our law giver*" (legislative).

The three branches of government were inspired by the Bible.



Your right to exercise your religious convictions and to gather in worship were laid down by the very first amendment to the constitution, in the Bill of Rights.

“Congress shall make no law respecting and establishing religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

Notice that it doesn't say you are free to exercise your religion only when you're in church or at home. “Congress shall make no law,” means your faith isn't restricted from informing your political involvement. We as Christians need to remember this and put our faith to work in the voting booth.

The Founding Fathers understood that not only does God exist, but He also establishes the moral order of the universe. He gives power to the people who then give power to the government. Our political leaders have lost sight of this truth, or else rejected it altogether.

**Rights do not come from the state. Rights come from God .**

There is a new Left in America that does not acknowledge God. In place of a God of moral authority, they believe there's an all-powerful government that bestows rights and privileges as they see fit.

This is a problem we cannot ignore.

We are stewards, and we ought to be good stewards of what God has given us. That includes the right to choose those who govern. Christians need to be good stewards of their vote.

Since we've largely failed to do this, we're seeing Isaiah 59:14 play out in our culture. *“Justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter.”*

We need to heed the warning found in Isaiah 5:20...

*Woe to those who call evil good and good evil; who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.*

We cannot allow evil to be called good and dark to be called light.

**If we don't personally involve ourselves in politics, America's done for.**

For the first time in my life, I feel like our nation is teetering.



Saul Alinsky, a radical progressive, wrote a book about how to fight conservatism and Christians. Just to give you an idea of Alinsky's mindset, he dedicated his book to what he called "the first radical" who "received his own kingdom." Who was that? Satan.

In his book, Alinsky gives Rules for Radicals, and rule number is this: Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it. This is what's been happening to Christians. We as Christians are accused of being narrow-minded, full of hate, and bigots.

They are trying – successfully – to isolate and freeze us. Nobody wants to be a hater. We're called names, so we back away. We put on our "turn-the-other-cheek Jesus" face and disengage from the issue.

I believe the time has come for us to find our "turn-the-tables-over Jesus."

We need to have a righteous indignation over what's going on and stand up and say, "Enough is enough."

It is time we rise up and give our voices to speaking the truth. The truth that man does not decide. We do not set the standard. God sets the standard. He IS the standard.

This truth is not only at the core of who we are as a nation – recognizing it as truth is the key to remaining the great nation we are.

George Washington said in his presidential farewell address that used to be taught in every history book, but can't be found anywhere today,

*"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens."*

Religion and morality are indispensable supports. I think the lines are drawn more clearly than ever before. You and I ought to vote for those who uphold God's principles.

And if somebody's against God's principles and against America, don't vote for them.

As Christians, we are to find out what the issues are and exert our influence. We have to vote the person that most closely aligns with our biblical values and worldview.

We need leaders – fathers, mothers, Sunday school teachers, deacons, school workers, business leaders, community leaders, who tell the truth. Go speak the truth and teach it to others.



President James Garfield said,

*“Now more than ever before, 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 our next centennial does not find this 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.”*

I will close with a quote from Charles Grandison Finney, who more than 135 years ago said,

*“The time has come that Christians must vote for honest men and take consistent ground in politics or the Lord will curse them... Christians have been exceedingly guilty in this matter. But the time has come when they must act differently... **Christians seem to act as if they thought God did not see what they do in politics. But I tell you He does see it – and He will bless or curse this nation according to the course Christians take in politics.**”*

That’s a message for us today. The time is now.

Go vote, get involved, make your voice heard. Make truth be heard in the streets.

### **Further your study**

*Get informed before you vote. Visit [FaithWins.us](https://faithwins.us) and find voter guides listing where politicians for every state in America line up on key issues.*

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