

Politics

Our work is to **watch, and wait, and pray**. Search the Scriptures. Christ has given you **warning not to mingle with the world**. We are to **come out from among them and be separate**, “and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty” (2 Cor. 6:17, 18). **Whatever the opinions you may entertain in regard to casting your vote in political questions, you are not to proclaim it by pen or voice. Our people need to be silent upon questions which have no relation to the third angel's message. If ever a people needed to draw nigh to God, it is Seventh-day Adventists.** There have been wonderful devices and plans made. A burning desire has taken hold of men or women to proclaim something, or bind up with something; they do not know what. But the silence of Christ upon many subjects was true eloquence. . . .” {2SM 336.1}

This ties in with Mark 13 in reference to watching for the sign of the close of probation, the third angel's message!!

God calls upon all who minister in word and doctrine to give the trumpet a certain sound. All who have received Christ, ministers and lay members, are to arise and shine; for great peril is right upon us. Satan is stirring up the powers of earth. Everything in this world is in confusion. God calls upon His people to hold aloft the banner bearing **the message of the third angel**.... {GW 395.2}

God's children are to separate themselves from politics, from any alliance with unbelievers. They are **not to link their interests** with the interests of the world. “Give proof of your allegiance to Me,” He says, “by standing as My chosen heritage, as a people zealous of good works.” **Do not take part in political strife. Separate from the world**, and refrain from bringing into the church or school ideas that will lead to contention and disorder. **Dissension is the moral poison taken into the system by human beings who are selfish.** God wants His servants to have clear perceptions, true and noble dignity, that their influence may demonstrate the power of truth. {GW 395.3}

The Christian life is not to be a haphazard, emotional life. True Christian influence, exerted for the accomplishment of the work God has appointed, is a precious agency, and it **must not be united with politics**, or bound up in a confederacy with unbelievers. God is to be the center of attraction. Every mind that is worked by the Holy Spirit will be satisfied with Him.—Letter 95, 1899. {GW 395.4}

I call upon my brethren who are appointed to educate, to change their course of action. **It is a mistake for you to link your interests with any political party, to cast your vote with them or for them. Those who stand as educators, as ministers, as laborers together with God in any line, have no battles to fight in the political world. Their citizenship is in heaven. The Lord calls upon them to stand as separate and peculiar people.** He would have no schisms in the body of believers. His people are to possess the elements of reconciliation. **Is it their work to make enemies in the political world?--No, no.** They are to stand as subjects of Christ's kingdom, bearing the banner on which is inscribed, “The commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” They are to carry the burden of a special work, a special message. We have a personal responsibility, and this is to be revealed before the heavenly universe, before angels, and before men. **God does not call upon us to enlarge our influence by mingling with society, by linking up with men on political questions, but by standing as individual parts of His great whole, with Christ as our head. Christ is our Prince, and as His subjects we are to do the work appointed us by God.** {FE 478.3}

The Lord desires all who bear the message for these last days to understand that there is a great difference between professors of religion who are not doers of the word, and the children of God, who are sanctified through the truth, who have that faith that works by love and purifies the soul. The Lord speaks of those who claim to believe the truth for this time, yet see nothing inconsistent in their taking part in politics, mingling with the contending elements of these last days, as the circumcised who mingle with the uncircumcised, and He declares that He will destroy both classes together without distinction. **They are doing a work that God has not set them to do. They dishonor God by their party spirit and contention, and He will condemn both alike.** {FE 482.1}

Those teachers in the church or in the school who distinguish themselves by their **zeal in politics**, should **be relieved of their work** and responsibilities **without delay**; for the Lord will not co-operate with them. The tithe should not be used to pay any one for speechifying on political questions. Every teacher, minister, or leader in our ranks who is stirred with a desire to ventilate his opinions on political questions, should be converted by a belief in the truth, or give up his work. His influence must tell as a laborer together with God in winning souls to Christ, or **his credentials must be taken from him**. If he does not change, he will do harm, and only harm. {FE 477.1}

Gospel ministers are to keep their office **free from all things secular or political**, **employing all their time and talents** in lines of Christian effort. {7T 252.1}

Those who claim to believe the truth, and yet **spend their time in making political speeches**, are **changing leaders**. They cannot claim the privilege of being subjects of the heavenly kingdom.-- Manuscript 177, 1899, p. 8. ("The Medical Missionary Work," May 10, 1899.) {9MR 129.4}

Strange Fire

When the speaker shall, in a haphazard way, strike in anywhere, as the fancy takes him, **when he talks politics to the people, he is mingling the common fire with the sacred. He dishonors God.** He has no real evidence from God that he is speaking the truth. He does his hearers a grievous wrong. He may plant seeds which may strike their fibrous roots deep, and they spring up and bear poisonous fruit. How dare men do this? **How dare they advance ideas when they do not know certainly whence they came, or that they are the truth?** {TM 337.1}

The **mingling of churchcraft and statecraft** is represented by the iron and the clay. This union is weakening all the power of the churches. **This investing the church with the power of the state will bring evil results.** Men have almost passed the point of God's forbearance. **They have invested their strength in politics, and have united with the papacy.** But the time will come when God will punish those who have made void His law, and their evil work will recoil upon themselves (MS 63, 1899). {4BC 1168.8}

"God has warned his people not to become absorbed in politics. We cannot bear the sign of God as his commandment-keeping people, if we mingle with the strife of the world. We are not to give our minds to political issues. God's people are walking contrary to his will when they mix up with politics, and those who commence this work in the Southern States reveal that they are **not taught and led by God**, but by that spirit which creates **contention and strife and every evil work.** **We are subjects of the Lord's kingdom, and we are to establish that kingdom in righteousness, 1 Peter 1:13-28.**" {GH, August 1, 1899 par. 6}

You speak of a way of helping the colored race in a way which does not excite the prejudice of the white Southern-born citizens; that is, the industrial school. As you have presented, the **greatest caution needs to be exercised in regard to politics.** Some persons are of such a temperament that they would make trouble by want of proper consideration. Words dropped unadvisedly would be like a spark, kindling a flame of intense jealousy and dangerous opposition. Whoever works in the South needs to be sanctified in body, soul, and spirit. Then there will be wise words, not words spoken at random or without duly weighing every expression. {SW 84.1}

The Lord has been greatly dishonored by his people catching up the issues that arise in this time of test and trial. **His people are to keep free from politics.** **They are to stand as a separate and peculiar people;** the name of God our Ruler is to be in their foreheads, **showing to all that he is their Sovereign.** {PH086 7.2} {RH, June 21, 1898 par. 30,31}

The Lord would have His people **bury political questions.** **On these themes silence is eloquence.** Christ calls upon His followers to **come into unity on the pure gospel principles** which are plainly revealed in the word of God. **We cannot with safety vote for political parties;** for we do not know whom we are voting for. **We cannot with safety take part in any political scheme.** **We cannot labor to please men who will use their influence to repress religious liberty, and to set in operation oppressive measures to lead or compel their fellow-men to keep Sunday as the Sabbath.** **The first day of the week is not a day to be revered.** It is a spurious sabbath, and the members of the Lord's family cannot participate with the men who exalt this day, and violate the law of God by trampling upon His Sabbath. **The people of God are not to vote to place such men in office: for when they do this, they are partakers with them of the sins which they commit while in office.** {GW 391.2}

Those who are Christians indeed will be branches of the true vine, and will bear the same fruit as the vine. They will act in harmony, in Christian fellowship. **They will not wear political badges, but the badge of Christ.** {CCh 316.3}

What are we to do, then?—**Let political questions alone.** {CCh 316.4}

There is a large vineyard to be cultivated; but while Christians are to work among unbelievers, they are not to appear like worldlings. **They are not to spend their time talking politics or acting politics;** for by so doing they give the enemy opportunity to come in and cause variance and discord. {CCh 316.5}

God's children are to separate themselves from politics, from any alliance with unbelievers. **Do not take part in political strife.** **Separate from the world,** and refrain from bringing into the church or school ideas that will lead to contention and disorder. Dissension is the moral poison taken into the system by human beings who are selfish. 570 {CCh 316.6}

“What are we to do, then? -- **Let political questions alone.** “**Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?”** **What can there be in common between these parties? There can be no fellowship, no communion.** **The word fellowship means participation, partnership.** God employs the strongest figures to show that there should be no union between worldly parties and those who are seeking the righteousness of Christ. What communion can there be between light and darkness, truth and unrighteousness? -- **None whatever.** Light represents righteousness; darkness, error, sin, unrighteousness. Christians have come out of darkness into the light. They have put on Christ, and **they wear the badge of truth and obedience.** They are governed by the elevated and holy principles which Christ expressed in His life. But the world is governed by principles of dishonesty and injustice.” {FE 476.1}

You are a mental dyspeptic. Your mind has been crammed with knowledge of all sorts.--politics, history, theology, and anecdote,--only a part of which can be retained by the abused memory. Much less information, with a mind well disciplined, would be of far greater value. You have neglected to train your mind to vigorous action; therefore your will and inclination have controlled you and been your masters instead of your servants. The result is a loss of physical and mental power. {4T 497.3}

'Christianity.' How many there are who do not know what it is! It is not something put on the outside. It is a life inwrought with the life of Jesus. It means that we are wearing the robe of Christ's righteousness. **In regard to the world, Christians will say, We will not dabble in politics.** They will say, decidedly. We are pilgrims and strangers; our citizenship is above. **They will not be seen choosing company for amusement. They will say, We have ceased to be infatuated by childish things.** We are strangers and pilgrims, looking for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. {TM 131.1}

In the name of the Lord I would say to the teachers in our schools, Attend to your appointed work. **You are not called upon by God to engage in politics.** "All ye are brethren," Christ declares, "and as one you are to stand under the banner of Prince Emmanuel." "What doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all His ways, and to love Him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, to keep the commandments of the Lord, and His statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good? . . . For the Lord your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward: He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment. Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God; Him shalt thou serve, and to Him shalt thou cleave, and swear by His name. He is thy praise, and He is thy God." {FE 477.2}

Your soul is in peril; **you will surely be subject to the strong delusions of Satan** unless you stop where you are and press **against the current of worldliness and ambition.** Your relations with the world must be changed, and a decided separation must take place. The positions which you occupy, which are continually opening to you doors of temptation, must be given up. **Avoid politics;** shun contention. Keep clear of every office which would encourage those traits in your character that need to be battled down and overcome. {5T 339.2}

God's people have been called out of the world, that they may be separated from the world. It is not safe for them to take sides in politics, whatever preference they may have. They are ever to remember that they are one in Christ. **God calls upon them to enter their names as under His theocracy.** He cannot approve of those who **link up with worldlings. We are entirely out of our place when we identify ourselves with party interests.** Let us not forget that we are citizens of the kingdom of heaven. We are soldiers of the cross of Christ, and our work is to advance the interests of His kingdom.--Ms 67, 1900, p. 10. ("Words of Instruction to the Church," typed Nov. 19, 1900.) {3MR 40.3}

We have no more strength and grace given us than we can wisely appropriate. If God has a work for any of His commandment-keeping people to do **in regard to politics, reach the position and do the work with your arm linked in the arm of Christ.** The salvation of your souls should be your greatest study.--Letter 4, 1898, p. 13. (To "My Brethren," February 20, 1898.) *(This would be good advice like Daniel, Joseph, Esther etc who were taken as slaves AGAINST THEIR FREE WILL and forced into a "political" position, but made the best of the situation to glorify God.)*

The Lord has been greatly dishonored by His people's catching up the issues that arise in this time of test and trial. **His people are to keep free from politics.** They are to stand as a separate, peculiar people; the name of God our Ruler is to be in their foreheads, showing to all that He is their sovereign.--Ms 1, 1897, p. 7. ("Forgetfulness." No date.) {3MR 41.2}

Neither you nor any of your brethren had any work to **do in arguing or writing or taking any part whatever in politics.** God was dishonored by all who acted any part in politics. **God has chosen a people who are to proclaim the third angel's message to the world. They are to be a separate and peculiar people in this world of churches who are transgressing His commandments.** . . . {3MR 41.3}

Let Politics Alone

I was surprised as I saw men who claim to believe the truth for this time all excited in regard to matters - which relate to the Lord Jesus and eternal interests? No; **but they seemed to be wonderfully excited in regard to the currency.** Some ministers were distinguishing themselves by weaving these subjects into their discourses. They were excitably involving themselves, taking sides in regard to these questions that the Lord did not lay upon them the burden to engage in. These persons seemed to have a large share of self-sufficiency. But they themselves really did not know what they were advocating. They knew not whether they were defending principles that originated in the councils of heaven or in the councils of Satan. {TM 332.1}

The voice of one in authority spoke with great decision, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. Read the directions given by the only-begotten Son of God when enshrouded in the cloudy pillar. When that voice is obeyed, ye will not give your voice or influence to any policy to enrich a few, to bring oppression and suffering to the poorer class of humanity. There is in this excitement just what separates those of the same faith. **Is this bearing the divine credentials? Beware. See that your arm is not linked in the arm of a personal demon. He is in appearance as a man.** He is walking about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour, and **he finds them among Seventh-day Adventists.** He can terrify by his roaring; but, when it suits his purposes best, **he has the sweet voice of an angel of light and speaks of heavenly things.** Does he not know all about heavenly glory? {TM 332.2}

I inquired why those who could read their Bibles and see the perils of these last days were so **ready to snatch up matters they had best let alone. How can they connect with men who are advancing principles that originated in the councils of demons? Why do they not see that this is no work the Lord has set them to do? The answer came, Because their hearts are lifted up unto vanity. They are bequiled.** They do not know how weak they are. **There are many who will be deluded, and who, by pen and voice, will cast their whole influence to create an evil condition of things (a condition that will exist just the same whatever they may do); but they should not be bound up with the evil workers.** All who are longing for some engagement that will represent Jehu riding furiously will have opportunity enough to distinguish themselves. Their arm will be linked with his who was once an exalted angel, and who has not forgotten his manners in the heavenly courts. These manners he will assume; and in representing persons, he will lure many whose life is not hid with Christ in God. {TM 333.1}

They have weakened their hold on God by uniting in politics with unbelievers. **By parading their political belief before the world, just as worldlings do, they have created division, strife, and jealousy among themselves.** The influence of **this course of action is a great offense to God,** and **He cannot and will not prosper those who follow it.** . . . {9MR 130.2}

We are to work distinctly in God's lines, **refusing to follow worldly practices.** The exhibitions made in Battle Creek regarding political questions have not raised any soul who has acted a part in them in God's estimation. Thus God's people have given **evidence to the world that they had not the love of God in their hearts,** whatever might be their profession. **Those who have distinguished themselves in politics, who have paraded their political differences,** were looked upon, not only by human spectators but by the Lord Jesus, who gave His life to save a perishing world. The heavenly universe watched their course with disapproval, and Satan and his synagogue watched also. **They were a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men.** {9MR 130.3}

The enemy knows that if the church can be **controlled by political enactments**, if she can be led to **unite with the world**, she **virtually acknowledges him as her head**. Then the authority of **man-made commandments will work to oppose the rule of the government of heaven**. Under the leadership of Satan men will dispense with the righteous, holy enactments of God concerning the Sabbath, the observance of which is to be a sign between God and His people forever. {ST, November 22, 1899 par. 1}

Solomon mingled error with truth, and betrayed sacred trusts. **The insidious evils of paganism corrupted his religion. One wrong step taken, led to step after step of political alliance.** The polygamy so common in that time was directly opposed to the law of Jehovah. But this evil was introduced into Palestine, and the Israel of God mingled in marriage with Phoenicia, Egypt, Edom, Moab, and Ammon, nations which bowed at idolatrous shrines, practicing licentious and cruel rites, greatly dishonoring to God. These Solomon countenanced and sustained. . . . {7MR 74.1}

Scenes that were a shame to Christians, have been presented to me, as taking place in the council meetings held after the Minneapolis meeting. The loud voice of dispute, the hot spirit, the harsh words, **resembled a political meeting more than a place where Christians were met for prayer and counsel**. These meetings should have been dismissed as an insult to heaven. The Lord was not revered as an honored guest by those assembled in council, and how could they expect divine light to shine upon them; how could they feel that the presence of Jesus was molding and fashioning their plans? The place of meeting was not held as sacred, but was looked upon as a common business place. Then how could those assembled receive an inspiration which would lead them to enthrone truth in their hearts, to speak words in the tender, loving spirit of the Master? {SpM 33.1}

The religion of Jesus is endangered. It is being mingled with worldliness. Worldly policy is taking the place of the true piety and wisdom that comes from above, and God will remove His prospering hand from the conference. Shall the Ark of the Covenant be removed from this people? Shall idols be smuggled in? Shall false principles and false precepts be brought into the sanctuary? Shall antichrist be respected? Shall the true doctrines and principles given us by God, which have made us what we are, be ignored? Shall God's instrumentality, the publishing house, become **a mere political, worldly institution**? This is directly where the enemy, through blinded, unconsecrated men, is leading us. {21MR 448.3}

I have a message for your daughters: You are not feeding upon the bread which came down from heaven, but upon husks. All the praise and glory you receive from human beings is of no value. Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Christ, the Sent of God, gave His life a sacrifice that the world might have a second probation in which to return to their loyalty to God. When Christ was threatened by His foes, He said, "My kingdom is not of this world (John 18:36). **It is not My mission to recognize caste and human theories, or to establish political interests**. My kingdom is not to be set up by the power of human armies or the sword. If My kingdom were of this world, then would My soldiers fight. No human power can weaken or overthrow My kingdom through the enemies of God." {11MR 341.1}

Who are the subjects of the kingdom of heaven? Daniel tells the world the name by which they shall be called. "The saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever" (Daniel 7:18). And Paul writes to the Philippians: [Philippians 1:1, 9-11; Ephesians 2:18-22 quoted]. {11MR 341.2}

The dignitaries of Church and State will unite to bribe, persuade, or compel all classes to honor the Sunday. The lack of divine authority will be supplied by oppressive enactments. **Political corruption is destroying**

love of justice and regard for truth, and in order to secure public favor, legislators will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost this nation so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected. In the soon-coming conflict we shall see exemplified the prophet's words: "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." [Revelation 12:17.] {4SP 410.1}

Type in "policy" on the CD rom to read over 700 hits in reference to the dangers of engaging in "worldly policy". Always go by the "weight of evidence" to arrive at any conclusions.

God wants His institutions to stand in fellowship with one another, just as brethren in the church should stand in fellowship. **But they are never to be bound by written contracts to any one man or any group of men.** They are to stand in their own individuality, accountable to God. **The Lord of heaven is to be the Leader and guide and Counselor of His people. His institutions are to be managed under His theocracy.** His people are to act as a chosen people, a people who are to do a sacred and an unselfish work. {GCB, April 6, 1903 par. 18}

The people of **Israel**, in their gratitude at deliverance from the Midianites, proposed to Gideon that he should become **their king**, and that the throne should be confirmed to his descendants. **This proposition was in direct violation of the principles of the theocracy.** . . . Gideon recognized this fact; his answer shows how true and noble were his motives. "I will not rule over you," he declared; "neither shall my son rule over you: **the Lord shall rule over you.**" {CC 129.2}

My brethren, will you not remember that **none of you have any burden laid upon you by the Lord to publish your political preferences in our papers, or to speak of them in the congregation,** when the people assemble to hear the Word of the Lord. . . ." {2SM 336.2}

We are not as a people to become mixed up with political questions. All would do well to take heed to the Word of God, Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers in political strife, nor bind with them in their attachments. There is no safe ground in which they can stand and work together. The loyal and the disloyal have no equal ground on which to meet." {2SM 336.3}

He who breaks one precept of the commandments of God is a transgressor of the whole law. **Keep your voting to yourself.** Do not feel it your duty to urge everyone to do as you do.--Letter 4, 1898. {2SM 337.1}

The Lord did not want you to employ your God-given time, and set your talents to work, in wrong channels. Your work was not set you in that line at all. **Neither you nor any of your brethren had any work to do in arguing or writing or talking any part whatever in politics.** **God was dishonored by all who acted any part in politics.** {RH, June 21, 1898 par. 37}

What kind of spirit takes hold upon our people, when those who believe we are now under the third angels message, the last message of mercy to the world, brothers in the same faith, appear wearing the badges of opposing political parties, proclaiming opposite sentiments and declaring their divided opinions . . . **There is danger, decided danger, for all who shall link themselves up with the political parties of the**

world. There is fraud on both sides. God has not laid upon any of our people the burden of linking up with either party. (GCDB, February 17, 1897)

Those who teach the Bible in our churches and our schools **are not at liberty to unite in making apparent their prejudices for or against political men or measures**, because by so doing they stir up the minds of others, leading each to advocate his favorite theory. **There are among those professing to believe present truth, some who will thus be stirred up to express their sentiments and political preferences, so that division will be brought into the church.** {CCh 316.1}

What are we to do, then? **LET POLITICAL QUESTIONS ALONE.** {CCh 316.4}

Quote directing people to vote for temperance.

The advocates of temperance fail to do their whole duty unless they exert their influence By precept and example--by voice and pen and vote--in favor of prohibition and total abstinence.-- Gospel Workers, pages 387, 388.

THIS ISSUE WAS NOT POLITICAL!

There is a large vineyard to be cultivated; but while Christians are to work among unbelievers, they are not to appear like worldlings. They are not to spend their time talking politics or acting as politicians; for by so doing, they give the enemy opportunity to come in and cause variance and discord. **Those in the ministry who desire to stand as politicians should have their credentials taken from them; for this work God has not given to high or low among His people.** God calls upon all who minister in doctrine to **give the trumpet a certain sound.** All who have received Christ, ministers and lay members, are to arise and shine; for great peril is right upon us. Satan is stirring the powers of earth. Everything in the world is in confusion. **God calls upon His people to hold aloft the banner bearing the message of the third angel.** We are not to go to Christ through any human being, but through Christ we are to understand the work He has given us to do for others. {FE 483.1}

MORE INTERESTING QUOTES:

My brethren, shall we spend our time in **political campaigns** . . . when we so soon expect Christ in all the glory of His Father, and all the holy angels with Him, when He shall sit upon the throne of His glory? Review and Herald, Sept. 11, 1856.

Under these circumstances, if I cast my vote at all," he said, "it will . . . tell for, or against the making of the image. If I vote in favor of the formation of the image, I shall aid in creating an abomination which will persecute the saints of God. . . . On the other hand, if I vote against this work, I shall vote against the fulfillment of the prophecy. . . . Therefore, I cannot vote at all. Ibid, Oct. 30, 1856.

I cannot vote for a bad man, for that is against my principles; and, under the present corrupt and corrupting state of politics, I could not wish to elevate a good man to office, for it would ruin him. Ibid.

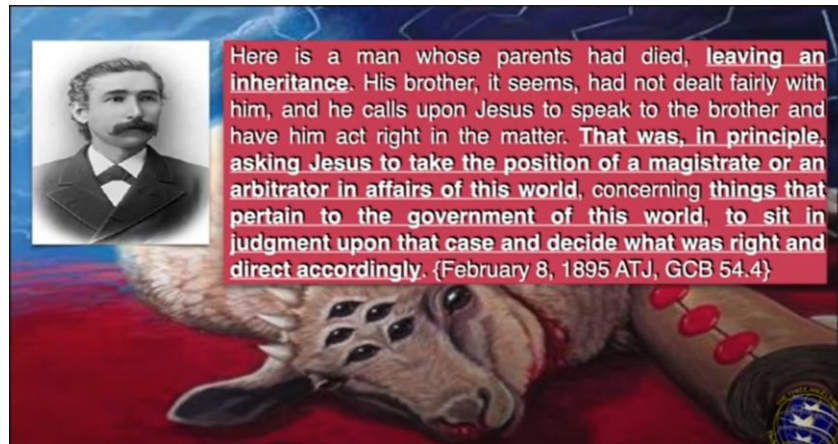
If I enter the lists as a voter, I do in fact endorse this government as worthy of fellowship. If my name is entered upon the poll-book I then become a part of the body-politic, and must suffer with the body-politic in all its penalties. Ibid. April 23, 1857.

But we do believe that he who enters into the spirit of the coming contest, loses the spirit of the present truth and endangers his own soul. Review and Herald, Aug. 21, 1860

Shall we meddle with politics? No, if we must mingle in the noisy crowd, and shout the praises of the poor, puny man who is to be raised to the pinnacle of power. No, if we must give currency to the many-

voiced, slanderous reports, which fill the political atmosphere with clouds and mists. But we may deposit a ballot quietly in the box in behalf of freedom, and as quietly give a reason therefore. Ibid, Dec. 14, 1876.

It should be our duty to adapt ourselves, as far as possible without compromising truth, to all who come within the reach of our influence, and at the same time stand free from the strife and corruptions of the parties that are striving for the mastery. Ibid, March 11, 1880.



We are commanded to pray for our leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-4). 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). 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). Scripture gives Christians instructions to obey legitimate authority unless it contradicts the Lord's commands (Acts 5:27-29; Romans 13:1-7). As born-again believers, we ought to strive to choose leaders who will be themselves led by our Creator (1 Samuel 12:13-25). AND THEY ARE NOT.....Candidates or proposals that violate the Bible's commands for life, family, marriage, or faith should never be supported. (Proverbs 14:34).

In the end, however, none of man's governments work either very well or for very long.

SHOULD CHRISTIANS VOTE AND PARTICIPATE IN THE POLITICS OF HIS COUNTRY?

A Christian is one who follows—who copies—Jesus Christ (I Peter 2:21; Phil. 2:5). Again, what would Christ do if He were on Earth today? Would HE participate in the governments or politics of men? What does the Bible teach about voting to select leaders—either in national governments or in the selection of church leaders in various denominations? And what about the Church that Jesus built?

CHRIST WOULD NOT VOTE, BECAUSE HE UNDERSTANDS THE ORIGIN OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THIS WORLD AND WHO IS BEHIND THEM.

Nowhere did Jesus say, "Go you into all the world and strive to make it a better place by becoming part of it." Instead, He said, "Go you into all the world, and preach the gospel" (Mark 16:15).

Christ did not come to fix or make this world better. He announced the COMING of a better world, made possible because of His government!

And the Bible also commands, "Come out from among them [the world], and be you separate" (II Cor. 6:17), and further, speaking of society's Babylonish ways, "COME OUT OF HER, MY PEOPLE, THAT YOU BE NOT PARTAKERS OF HER SINS, AND RECEIVE NOT OF HER PLAGUES" (Rev. 18:4).

This world's nations and governments, with "all the glory of them," are still under the control of the "god of this world"—the "prince of this world"!

Revelation 12:9 --refers to Satan and "his" demons. This clearly means that they are his—they belong to him—he controls them.

Here is the point. Not only does Satan govern the kingdoms of this world, through his power and influence, but he also does it in an undivided, unified fashion with the aid of hundreds of millions (Rev. 5:11; 12:4) of demons.

Further, Ephesians 6:12 explains how Christians wrestle "against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against wicked spirits [the proper translation] in high places." It becomes obvious that THESE "HIGH PLACES" ARE WITHIN THE GOVERNMENTS OR PRINCIPALITIES OF THIS WORLD!

Should A Christian Vote? <https://www.openbible.info/topics/voting>

Bible Texts

[Deuteronomy 1:13](#) ESV

Choose for your tribes wise, understanding, and experienced men, and I will appoint them as your heads.'

[Romans 13:1-14](#) ESV

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ...

[Proverbs 29:2](#) ESV

When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan.

[1 Timothy 2:1-2](#) ESV

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

[Ecclesiastes 10:2](#) ESV

A wise man's heart inclines him to the right, but a fool's heart to the left.

[Titus 3:1-11](#) ESV

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ...

[Deuteronomy 17:14-20](#) ESV

"When you come to the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, 'I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,' you may indeed set a king over you whom the LORD your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the LORD has said to you, 'You shall never return that way again.' And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold. "And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests. ...

[Psalm 22:28](#) ESV

For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

[Proverbs 21:1](#) ESV

The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD; he turns it wherever he will.

[Exodus 18:17-26](#) ESV

Moses' father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone. Now obey my voice; I will give you advice, and God be with you! You shall represent the people before God and bring their cases to God, and you shall warn them about the statutes and the laws,

and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do. Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. ...

[Acts 13:48](#) ESV

And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.

[Psalm 146:3-10](#) ESV

Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; ...

[Acts 5:29](#) ESV

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men.

[2 Thessalonians 2:13](#) ESV

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.

[Proverbs 14:34](#) ESV

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

[1 Peter 1:2](#) ESV

According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

[John 15:16](#) ESV

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

[2 Chronicles 7:14](#) ESV

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

[Judges 8:23](#) ESV

Gideon said to them, "I will not rule over you, and my son will not rule over you; the LORD will rule over you."

[2 Timothy 1:9](#) ESV

Who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,

[Daniel 2:20-21](#) ESV

Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding;

[Proverbs 16:33](#) ESV

The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.

[Mark 13:20](#) ESV

And if the Lord had not cut short the days, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect, whom he chose, he shortened the days.

[2 Peter 1:10](#) ESV

Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall.

[Daniel 5:1-6:28](#) ESV

King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords and drank wine in front of the thousand. Belshazzar, when he tasted the wine, commanded that the vessels of gold and of silver that Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem be brought, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. Then they brought in the golden vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. They drank wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone. Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, opposite the lampstand. And the king saw the hand as it wrote. ...

[1 Peter 1:20](#) ESV

He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you

[2 Peter 3:9](#) ESV

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

[1 Timothy 5:21](#) ESV

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality.

[Revelation 1:1-20](#) ESV

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near. John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ...

[1 Timothy 1:20-3:16](#) ESV

Among whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme. First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ...

[John 19:11](#) ESV

Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin."

[Titus 1:6-9](#) ESV

If anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

[Galatians 1:10](#) ESV

For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

[1 Samuel 8:1-22](#) ESV

When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. Yet his sons did not walk in his ways but turned aside after gain. They took bribes and perverted justice. Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations." ...

[John 14:27](#) ESV

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

[Psalm 111:10](#) ESV

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

[1 Peter 3:8-18](#) ESV

Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." ...

[Hosea 8:1-14](#) ESV

Set the trumpet to your lips! One like a vulture is over the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed my covenant and rebelled against my law. To me they cry, "My God, we—Israel—know you." Israel has spurned the good; the enemy shall pursue him. They made kings, but not through me. They set up princes, but I knew it not. With their silver and gold they made idols for their own destruction. I have spurned your calf, O Samaria. My anger burns against them. How long will they be incapable of innocence? ...

[Judges 21:25](#) ESV

In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

[2 Timothy 2:10](#) ESV

Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

[2 Corinthians 13:11](#) ESV / 44 helpful votes

Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

[2 Thessalonians 3:1-18](#) ESV

Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ. ...

[Proverbs 8:16](#) ESV

By me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly.

[Revelation 13:8](#) ESV

And all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.

[Ephesians 1:3-19](#) ESV

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ...

[Deuteronomy 1:13-36](#) ESV

Choose for your tribes wise, understanding, and experienced men, and I will appoint them as your heads.' And you answered me, 'The thing that you have spoken is good for us to do.' So I took the heads of your tribes, wise and experienced men, and set them as heads over you, commanders of thousands, commanders of hundreds, commanders of fifties, commanders of tens, and officers, throughout your tribes. And I charged your judges at that time, 'Hear the cases between your brothers, and judge righteously between a man and his brother or the alien who is with him. You shall not be partial in judgment. You shall hear the small and the great alike. You shall not be intimidated by anyone, for the judgment is God's. And the case that is too hard for you, you shall bring to me, and I will hear it.' ...

[Proverbs 11:14](#) ESV

Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

[Nehemiah 11:1](#) ESV

Now the leaders of the people lived in Jerusalem. And the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to live in Jerusalem the holy city, while nine out of ten remained in the other towns.

[Acts 1:24-26](#) ESV

And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

[Acts 23:5-11](#) ESV

And Paul said, "I did not know, brothers, that he was the high priest, for it is written, 'You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people.'" Now when Paul perceived that one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, "Brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. It is with respect to the hope and the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial." And when he had said this, a dissension arose between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, nor angel, nor spirit, but the Pharisees acknowledge them all. Then a great clamor arose, and some of the scribes of the Pharisees' party stood up and contended sharply, "We find nothing wrong in this man. What if a spirit or an angel spoke to him?" ...

[Isaiah 65:9](#) ESV

I will bring forth offspring from Jacob, and from Judah possessors of my mountains; my chosen shall possess it, and my servants shall dwell there.

[Isaiah 42:1](#) ESV

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

[Psalm 99:1-9](#) ESV / 38 helpful votes

The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he! The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he! ...

[Psalm 47:1-9](#) ESV

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth. He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. Selah God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

[Ezra 8:21-23](#) ESV

Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek from him a safe journey for ourselves, our children, and all our goods. For I was ashamed to ask the king for a band of soldiers and horsemen to protect us against the enemy on our way, since we had told the king, "The hand of our God is for good on all who seek him, and the power of his wrath is against all who forsake him." So we fasted and implored our God for this, and he listened to our entreaty.

[2 Kings 6:16](#) ESV

He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

[Luke 16:10](#) ESV

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.

[Psalm 32:9-33:17](#) ESV

Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you. Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart! Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! ...

[Job 32:9-33:12](#) ESV

It is not the old who are wise, nor the aged who understand what is right. Therefore I say, 'Listen to me; let me also declare my opinion.' "Behold, I waited for your words, I listened for your wise sayings, while you searched out what to say. I gave you my attention, and, behold, there was none among you who refuted Job or who answered his words. Beware lest you say, 'We have found wisdom; God may vanquish him, not a man.' ...

[Job 31:3-23](#) ESV

Is not calamity for the unrighteous, and disaster for the workers of iniquity? Does not he see my ways and number all my steps? "If I have walked with falsehood and my foot has hastened to deceit; (Let me be weighed in a just balance, and let God know my integrity!) if my step has turned aside from the way and my heart has gone after my eyes, and if any spot has stuck to my hands,...

[Job 11:12-12:24](#) ESV

But a stupid man will get understanding when a wild donkey's colt is born a man! "If you prepare your heart, you will stretch out your hands toward him. If iniquity is in your hand, put it far away, and let not injustice dwell in your tents. Surely then you will lift up your face without blemish; you will be secure and will not fear. You will forget your misery; you will remember it as waters that have passed away. ...

[2 Chronicles 36:1-23](#) ESV

The people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah and made him king in his father's place in Jerusalem. Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. Then the king of Egypt deposed him in Jerusalem and laid on the land a tribute of a hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold. And the king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. But Neco took Jehoahaz his brother and carried him to Egypt. Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD his God. ...

[1 Kings 9:1-10:29](#) ESV

As soon as Solomon had finished building the house of the LORD and the king's house and all that Solomon desired to build, the LORD appeared to Solomon a second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon. And the LORD said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your plea, which you have made before me. I have consecrated this house that you have built, by putting my name there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there for all time. And as for you, if you will walk before me, as David your father walked, with integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you, and keeping my statutes and

my rules, then I will establish your royal throne over Israel forever, as I promised David your father, saying, 'You shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.' ...

[2 Samuel 23:1-39](#) ESV

Now these are the last words of David: The oracle of David, the son of Jesse, the oracle of the man who was raised on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the sweet psalmist of Israel: "The Spirit of the LORD speaks by me; his word is on my tongue. The God of Israel has spoken; the Rock of Israel has said to me: When one rules justly over men, ruling in the fear of God, he dawns on them like the morning light, like the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning, like rain that makes grass to sprout from the earth. "For does not my house stand so with God? For he has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and secure. For will he not cause to prosper all my help and my desire? ...

[1 Samuel 9:16-10:18](#) ESV

"Tomorrow about this time I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be prince over my people Israel. He shall save my people from the hand of the Philistines. For I have seen my people, because their cry has come to me." When Samuel saw Saul, the LORD told him, "Here is the man of whom I spoke to you! He it is who shall restrain my people." Then Saul approached Samuel in the gate and said, "Tell me where is the house of the seer?" Samuel answered Saul, "I am the seer. Go up before me to the high place, for today you shall eat with me, and in the morning I will let you go and will tell you all that is on your mind. As for your donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not set your mind on them, for they have been found. And for whom is all that is desirable in Israel? Is it not for you and for all your father's house?" ...

[Romans 12:1-21](#) ESV

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ...

[Malachi 3:5-4:6](#) ESV

"Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts. "For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?' Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. ...

[Jeremiah 28:1-17](#) ESV

In that same year, at the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fifth month of the fourth year, Hananiah the son of Azzur, the prophet from Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the LORD, in the presence of the priests and all the people, saying, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon. Within two years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the LORD's house, which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place and carried to Babylon. I will also bring back to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, and all the exiles from Judah who went to Babylon, declares the LORD, for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon." Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ...

[2 John 1:1-13](#) ESV

The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever: Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father. And now I ask you, dear lady—not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another. ...

[1 Peter 2:6-23](#) ESV

For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ...

[Hebrews 2:8-3:8](#) ESV

Putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise." ...

[Colossians 1:16-3:12](#) ESV

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. ...

[Philippians 3:20-21](#) ESV

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

[Ephesians 2:2-3:14](#) ESV

In which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ...

[Galatians 5:10](#) ESV

I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view than mine, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is.

[1 Corinthians 15:24-30](#) ESV

Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all. ...

[1 Corinthians 1:1-31](#) ESV

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— ...

[Romans 14:1](#) ESV

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.

[Romans 9:11-10:19](#) ESV

Though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.” What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” ...

[Romans 8:18-39](#) ESV

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ...

[John 17:2-15](#) ESV

Since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. “I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ...

[John 13:18](#) ESV

I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, ‘He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.’

[John 6:37-65](#) ESV

All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.” So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ...

[Matthew 28:18-20](#) ESV

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

[Matthew 27:13-21](#) ESV

Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” ...

[Matthew 22:14-21](#) ESV

For many are called, but few are chosen.” Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ...

[Matthew 12:25-30](#) ESV

Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? And if I cast out

demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house. ...

[Habakkuk 1:4-3:14](#) ESV

So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted. "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, who march through the breadth of the earth, to seize dwellings not their own. They are dreaded and fearsome; their justice and dignity go forth from themselves. Their horses are swifter than leopards, more fierce than the evening wolves; their horsemen press proudly on. Their horsemen come from afar; they fly like an eagle swift to devour. ...

[Jeremiah 17:1-27](#) ESV

"The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron; with a point of diamond it is engraved on the tablet of their heart, and on the horns of their altars, while their children remember their altars and their Asherim, beside every green tree and on the high hills, on the mountains in the open country. Your wealth and all your treasures I will give for spoil as the price of your high places for sin throughout all your territory. You shall loosen your hand from your heritage that I gave to you, and I will make you serve your enemies in a land that you do not know, for in my anger a fire is kindled that shall burn forever." Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. ...

[Jeremiah 1:5](#) ESV

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

[Isaiah 31:1-32:20](#) ESV

Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult the LORD! And yet he is wise and brings disaster; he does not call back his words, but will arise against the house of the evildoers and against the helpers of those who work iniquity. The Egyptians are man, and not God, and their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD stretches out his hand, the helper will stumble, and he who is helped will fall, and they will all perish together. For thus the LORD said to me, "As a lion or a young lion growls over his prey, and when a band of shepherds is called out against him he is not terrified by their shouting or daunted at their noise, so the LORD of hosts will come down to fight on Mount Zion and on its hill. Like birds hovering, so the LORD of hosts will protect Jerusalem; he will protect and deliver it; he will spare and rescue it." ...

[Isaiah 30:21](#) ESV

And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

[Isaiah 2:22](#) ESV

Stop regarding man in whose nostrils is breath, for of what account is he?

[Ecclesiastes 10:5-20](#) ESV

There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as it were an error proceeding from the ruler: folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place. I have seen slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves. He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall. He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them. ...

[Ecclesiastes 4:12-5:20](#) ESV

And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken. Better was a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king who no longer knew how to take advice. For he went from prison to the throne, though in his own kingdom he had been born poor. I saw all the living who move about under the sun, along with that youth who was to stand in the king's place. There was no end of all the people, all of whom he led. Yet those who come later will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and a striving after wind. ...

[Proverbs 29:12-26](#) ESV

If a ruler listens to falsehood, all his officials will be wicked. The poor man and the oppressor meet together; the LORD gives light to the eyes of both. If a king faithfully judges the poor, his throne will be established forever. The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother. When the wicked increase, transgression increases, but the righteous will look upon their downfall. ...

[Proverbs 15:22-16:7](#) ESV

Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed. To make an apt answer is a joy to a man, and a word in season, how good it is! The path of life leads upward for the prudent, that he may turn away from Sheol beneath. The LORD tears down the house of the proud but maintains the widow's boundaries. The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD, but gracious words are pure. ...

[Proverbs 14:25-15:6](#) ESV

A truthful witness saves lives, but one who breathes out lies is deceitful. In the fear of the LORD one has strong confidence, and his children will have a refuge. The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, that one may turn away from the snares of death. In a multitude of people is the glory of a king, but without people a prince is ruined. Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly. ...

[Psalm 109:6-110:2](#) ESV

Appoint a wicked man against him; let an accuser stand at his right hand. When he is tried, let him come forth guilty; let his prayer be counted as sin! May his days be few; may another take his office! May his children be fatherless and his wife a widow! May his children wander about and beg, seeking food far from the ruins they inhabit! ...

[Psalm 105:1-108:13](#) ESV

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually! Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered, ...