



**The Church & Culture Series: Church, Culture & Politics**  
**Jeremiah 29:7 and I Corinthians 7:29-32**  
Kent Vincent October 4, 2020

**Review and Intro-**

**Concern:** There is disagreement in the church over certain cultural issues, largely between generations. This division inhibits the message of the church in being a light to the world.

**Goal:** To encourage all within the church to listen to one another and then look to God's Word for guidance and clarity in forming answers to these problems.

**Biblical Concepts that Influence Government and Politics**

- **The State is Not God.**

Mt 22:21; Mk 12; Lk 20- *Render to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what it God's.*

We are to respect government, but there is a higher law. Romans 13; Acts 5:29

When tyrants were god or when government and church were one, things did not go well.

- **The State is Not the Final Judge of Truth and Justice**

Government and mankind are both subject to God's moral law.

"No one has the right to do what is wrong." Viktor Frankl, Holocaust survivor

God's justice is impartial and provides "due process". Leviticus 19:15

- **The Common Good**

Definition: Government is to provide the security and personal liberty that enables God's image bearers, families and communities to function and flourish.

Example: A society that allows stability and economic conditions that enable people to provide for their own by their own capable hands. II Thes 3:10

- **The Importance of Marriage and Family**

The stabilizing institution of our culture- Eph 5:22-6:4

Existed prior to the state- Genesis 2

Primary responsibility to train up generations- Prov 22:6; Deut 6:4-9

## Where is the Church Today in the Political Landscape?

- The term “evangelical voter” = a socially conservative Republican, in the view of some. “Non-church attending evangelicals” is a category pollsters have determined they must now use. We are not a political party.
- When people see apparent injustice by or supported by authority, they tend to distrust that authority.
- Objective truth requires objectivity, fact finding and due process by all sides before judgment for justice to occur. Proverbs 18:13

## My Personal Thoughts on the Presidential Race

### Have a Biblical Sense of Proportion on Politics and Eternity- ‘Vote as though you were not voting’-

- **Jeremiah 29:7-** God commanded Israel *to seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.*
- **I Corinthians 7:29-32-** Paul tells early church Christians, likewise in difficult times, to do the things of life and do them for God’s glory, but always keep in mind that this world is passing away. Therefore, we go about our business to bring God’s best, but we do not worry; rather, we accept God’s sovereign will and purpose, no matter the outcome. We do life as though we are not living here, and *we vote as though we were not voting*, because we know that our eternity with Him is our ultimate and real home.

### Resources:

<https://lawliberty.org/five-insights-christianity-brings-to-politics/>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/what-happened-to-evangelicals>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/thoughts-on-voting-and-politics>

<https://townhall.com/columnists/waynegrudem/2020/08/08/letter-to-an-antitrump-christian-friend-n2573909>