



## What Do You Fear? What Should You Fear? Week 2 ~ Fear of Election Results

### Intro – Reflection on the Timeline of 2020 Presidential Election

1. **14,622** days since 1980 Presidential Election (11/4/1980) - Reagan/Carter
2. **1,469** days since 2016 Presidential Election (11/8/2016)
3. **1,368** days since Donald Trump announced his bid for re-election (2/17/2017)
4. **1,207** days since first Democratic candidate enters race (7/28/20)
5. **658** days since 10<sup>th</sup> Democratic candidate enters race (1/28/2019)
6. **571** days since Joe Biden enters the race (4/25/2019). He was the 20<sup>th</sup> Democratic candidate.
7. **1,452** days **until** the next presidential election (11/8/2024)

*The election for many has been hundreds of days of chaos, frustration, anxiety, and hope, among other things. When you step back and look at the existence of our nation, which has been wound so tight with anxiety, for such a long time, I see a world that is anxious not because of an election, but because of a condition of the heart **and** a “drinking of the kool-aid”. Consider the time. Consider the hours man has spent obsessing over this election during the past 500-1000 days. Minute after minute. Hour after hour. For hundreds of days. Now, consider the worship of God that has not happen because the election has taken its place in the mind of men.*

*Now consider the coming election. Do you think the heart of man has had his fill with the marathon that was just ran? Do you think the heart of man is panting for air, pleading for a refreshment after what it just went through? Do you think the next 1,450 days will be any different than the last 1,450 days? Do you think the rhetoric on the news is going to change? Or the rhetoric among your friends and family that may have a different point of view than you? Will the heart of man be much different 4 years from now? 8 years from now? 12 years from now? 20 years from now?*

*Here’s the deal. What we say, what we do, how we spend our time, resources, etc reveals the hopes, fears, and adorations of our heart. Here’s the big question. Have you made the last 500, 100, 1500 days an idol? What will the next 500, 1000, 1500 days hold for you? Will the praise of God’s name be at the tip of your tongue? Will your knees be hurting as you admonish the God of all creation and human institutions, seeking His will, His ways? Or will you find yourself sucking on the straw of the media, or social media? Munching on the chaos, and drama, and rhetoric of this wicked and perverse generation? Binging on the fear and anxiety, like a drug addiction, sucking the life out of yourself and leaving you wanting.*

### 2 Corinthians 4:1-18

1. How would you rate yourself (1-10) on how you handled the election the last 500-1000 days? What is driving your rating?

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2. Looking forward to the next election, what could you do to improve that rating?

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## **Stories - Ignorance is not bliss, but don't drink the Kool-Aid**

Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Stories from Jeremiah, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Haggai...

1. Jeremiah
2. Isaiah
3. Ezekiel
4. Haggai. 1:1-11. Challenging the people to consider the temple before their own houses.

Stories from Modern Day

1. Hitler
2. Mao Zedong
3. Winston Churchill

## **Why do we have fear about election Results?**

1. We Trust Ourselves
2. We know(we think)
3. We are shortsighted

↑ Hope/Fear of Men      ↓ Hope/Fear of God

↓ Hope/Fear of Men      ↑ Hope/Fear of God

## **How Should we Respond When the Election Does Not Go Our Way?**

What do I do when authority is put in my life without my permission?

**Isaiah 8:11-22** - Fear God, Wait for the LORD

Actions

1. Prayer
2. Build Up the Church
3. Be a Light in the World