



Should Believers in God Be Involved in Politics?

Believers in God Are Supposed to Be Salt and Light - Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men” (Matthew 5:13-14). If believers in God, Christians and Jews, say nothing about politics and moral issues, we have lost our flavor. The world has “thrown us out” and are “trampling” us under their feet. They are rolling over us with their laws, regulations, and policies, taking away our god-given rights and freedoms, dragging down the morals of America, and indoctrinating our children with their world views. Jesus also said, “You are the light of the world. ... Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:14-16). If we say nothing about politics, we are not letting our light shine. If in private, we talk about our views, vote, then complain, we have not let our light shine. We are covering our light, which Jesus said we are not to do (Matthew 5:15). **Let’s pray, stand up, and speak up!**

Great Darkness Covers the Earth, So Rise and Shine - Isaiah prophesied, “For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people” (Isaiah 60:2). We are living in that day. Often we don’t witness to others because we don’t want to offend them. But if they die unsaved, they will be more than offended. Often we won’t talk about politics again because we don’t want to offend. But if we keep silent, the world will continue to get darker, and those we were afraid of offending will be suffering, just as we and our families are. Good news! Isaiah also prophesied, “Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you...But the Lord will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles (*unbelievers*) shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising” (Isaiah 60:1-3). The earth is waiting for us (Romans 8:19), **so now’s the time to pray, rise, and shine!**

Politics Can Sure Be Confusing, So Let’s Study Up - Even for believers in God, it can be hard to know what is right and wrong, what’s God’s will and what isn’t. Some of us don’t even know what the Bible says about issues and we may have been influenced by what we hear all around us. The news and politicians can lie, spin, or omit important information. False science can be used to sway us. We can get so influenced that we forget to ask, “What is God’s will in this situation?” No political party nor politician is perfect. Fortunately, the Bible does speak up about God’s perspective. It is also full of prophets, priests, and judges who did speak into the political decisions of the time. Daniel, Joseph, Deborah, Queen Esther, and various godly kings were political leaders. Ungodly leaders and unrighteous laws drag a nation down and can bring God’s judgment upon a people (Genesis 18:20-26). The Bible says, “we are ambassadors for Christ, it is our responsibility to stand up and speak up. But we are to be “speaking the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15) with a desire to persuade, not insult or argue. Below is a comparison of party platforms and what God’s Word says about various issues. **Let’s pray, study politicians’ records, then speak up, get involved, and vote! With God’s help, America will change!**



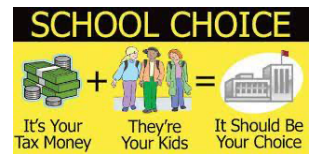
COMPARISON OF MAJOR PARTY PLATFORM 2020-2024 POSITIONS

Looking at Critical Issues Key to Faith-based Voters - compiled from <https://www.biblicalvoter.com/major-party-platform-comparisons>

Not all politicians support their party’s positions, especially those who are far right or far left atheistic socialists. Let’s pray, study, speak up, engage, and vote responsibly!

- 1. Religious Freedom and Repeal of the Johnson Amendment: God’s Word** - God gives us the freedom of choice in religion (Joshua 24:15). **Explanation** - Our constitution gives us freedom of religion, meaning we can choose to have a religion or not. America is not a theocracy, no religion is to rule our government. The Johnson Amendment **prevents churches and synagogues from political campaigning for or against any candidate** or they will





lose their tax exempt status. Many churches and synagogues, feel this is restricting religious expression, making them afraid to say anything about politics. But this amendment does not prevent us talking about politics and about issues that impact us. Also, the Constitution doesn't say, "separation of church and state." The First Amendment does say, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." It does not say that Congress can make laws restricting religious expression. **Rabbis, pastors, priests, and believers can speak up.**

Republican: Full religious freedom at all times everywhere; Full repeal of the Johnson Amendment. "We pledge to defend the religious beliefs and rights of conscience of all Americans and to safeguard religious institutions against government control." We endorse the First Amendment Defense Act, ... legislation ... which will bar discrimination against [those who] act on their beliefs... [regarding] marriage..." (pg. 11)

Democratic: "Religious freedom is a core American value and a core value of the Democratic Party...will protect the rights of each American for the free exercise of his or her own Religion...and will ... advocate for religious freedom throughout the world. Democrats...recognize the paramount importance of maintaining the separation between church and state enshrined in our Constitution." (pg. 48)

2. Life and Abortion: God's Word - God calls a fetus a child at the moment of conception (Job 3:3). God cares for the life and health of a pregnant mother and of her unborn baby (Exodus 21:22-25), so should we. God blesses midwives and others who protect the life of the unborn and newborns (Exodus 1:1-21). God forms us and knows us in the womb (Jeremiah 1:5). We're to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves (Proverbs 31:8-9). Abortion is equivalent to child sacrifice, the killing of babies for the convenience or beliefs of the parents (Deuteronomy. 12:31; Leviticus 18:21; Jeremiah 32:35). God hates "hands that shed innocent blood" (Proverbs 6:17) and brought severe judgment on nations allowing this abomination (Ezekiel 20:25-26; 31-34; Leviticus 18:24). **Explanation** - Abortion decisions are returned to the states for the people to decide about exceptions such as: incest, rape, mother's health or life; and when to terminate the baby's life: not at all; before heartbeats, 15 weeks, or viability; during late term; or even during or after birth.

Republican: "... the unborn child has a fundamental right to life." Will Appoint Judges who'll support Sanctity of Life at all stages. Opposes use of public funds for abortions." (pgs. 13-14)

Democratic: "...committed to protecting ... high-quality reproductive health care services, ...safe and legal abortion. We will ... restore federal funding for Planned Parenthood." (pg. 32)

3. Marriage, Family, and Society: God's Word - God instituted fundamental families:a married man and woman with children (Genesis 2:24; Ephesians 6:1-4). **Explanation** - Previously, America recognized gay unions as civil unions or domestic partnerships, but not as marriages.

Republican: "Foremost among those institutions is the American family. It is the foundation of civil society, and the cornerstone of the family is natural marriage, the union of one man and one woman." "The data and facts lead to... : Every child deserves a married mom and dad." (pg. 31)

Democratic: "... will restore [US] leadership on LGBTQ+ issues by passing the GLOBE Act (U.S. diplomacy to protect LGBTQ+ human rights worldwide) and appointing senior leaders" (pg. 83)

4. Education and Parental Rights: God's Word - Parents are responsible for their children's education, not the government (Deuteronomy 6:7; Proverbs 22:6). Children are a gift of God to their parents (Psalm 127:3-5). God only made two genders, male and female (Genesis 1:27), which are in the genes and chromosomes of every cell in our bodies and cannot be changed. **Explanation** - Totalitarian governments often assume more power, taking away control of children from their parents. Parents have rights to be informed about gender issues, age-appropriate sex education, and to make decisions for their children until they're adults and old enough to make them on their own.



Trying to change a child's gender through irreversible hormone therapy or sterilizing surgical mutilation, isn't the government's right. Instead, our government needs to enforce the law, prosecute criminals, (1 Peter 2:13-14; Romans 13:4) prevent crime, and control our borders. This would prevent most fentanyl, terrorists, many criminals, and human trafficking (including 85,000 missing migrant children) from entering our country illegally.

Republican: "School choice until all parents can find good, safe schools for their children." (pg. 32) Parents have a right to direct their children's education, care, and upbringing." (pg. 33)

Democratic: "believe that education is a critical public good not a commodity, and that it is the government's responsibility to ensure that every child, everywhere, is able to receive a world-class education that enables them to lead meaningful lives" (pg. 64)

5. 2nd Amendment - Owning Guns: God's Word - We can use weapons to defend ourselves, others, and property (Exodus 22:2; Nehemiah 4:7-9; Luke 11:21; 22:35-38). If we are disarmed then we can easily be stolen from, beaten, raped, or killed (Mark 12:29). Turning the other cheek refers only to slaps or insults, not to self-defense situations (Matthew 5:39).

Explanation - If law-abiding individuals are disarmed, then only the criminals will have weapons, leaving the population defenseless. Police usually arrive after the crime not before it. Studies show that tough gun laws embolden criminals, so crime rates increase.

Republican: "We uphold the right of individuals to keep and bear arms, a natural inalienable right that predates the Constitution and is secured by the 2nd Amendment. Lawful gun ownership enables Americans to exercise their God-given right of self-defense." Supports the repeal of bad legislation restricting gun rights. (pgs. 12-13)

Democratic: "... will enact universal background checks, end online sales of guns and ammunition, ban the manufacture and sale of assault weapons..." "Democrats believe that gun companies should be held responsible for their products" (pgs. 47-48)

6. Support for Israel: God's Word - God says He will bless Abraham's great nation, Israel, and the Jews, and He'd bless those who bless them and curse those who curse them (Genesis 12:1-3). God's blessings include prosperity and protection from enemies. We must support Israel! He gave Israel the land from "the river to the sea," the Euphrates River to the Mediterranean Sea and to the Red Sea (Exodus 23:28-31; Numbers 34:1-13). This land included Gaza/(Philistia) (Joel 3:1-4). God will judge those nations that divide the land of Israel which He considers is His land (Joel 3:2). Judgment includes defeat in war and invasion of national borders. **Explanation** - With the rising tensions in the Middle East, Iran, China, North Korea, and Russia, and with the invasion of illegal immigrants from these regions, we are vulnerable to domestic and foreign terrorism and are very close to World War III. The Department of Homeland Security says we are at a high level of threat for terrorism in 2024. America needs God's protection now more than ever. **We need to wake up, pray, speak up, and vote, but not to fear** (Isaiah 41:13).

Republican: "Unequivocal Support" Considered only country in the Middle East sharing essential US values of freedom of religion and speech. Committed to Israel's security; will ensure they have strong military edge over adversaries; Against BDS (Boycott, Divest, Sanction) movement. (pg. 47)

Democratic: "Believes a strong Israel is vital to US interests; Will always support Israel's right to defend itself. Supports a negotiated 2-state solution for Israel and Palestine. (pg. 91) *(Not all Dems agree.)*

7. Climate Change & Environmental Policy: God's Word - All the earth belongs to God (Exodus 19:5). He expects mankind to responsibly take care of our environment (Matthew 21:33-46). The Bible also warns of persecution of Jews and Christians (Revelation 12:13-17) and that in the end times a government will arise that wants to rule the whole world (Daniel 7; Revelation 13) and wage war against God's people, Christians (Revelation 13:7) and Jews (Zechariah 14:1-2).

Explanation - Globalists are trying to use the fear of "human-induced" climate change



as a way to increasingly gain power, regulate, and control us. We can reduce that threat by producing our own energy, which is cleaner than depending on China's or Venezuela's. It will also lower our inflation and cost of living, and increase productivity.

Republican: Will analyze hard data on climate change; Sees UN efforts as political, will reject agendas of Kyoto Protocol and Paris agreement. Supports the enactment of policies to increase domestic energy production in order to reduce vulnerability to foreign influence. "The environment is too important to be left to radical environmentalists... their approach is based on shoddy science, scare tactics, and centralized command-and-control regulation." (pgs. 20-22)

Democratic: "Climate change is a global emergency." Wants to reverse all Trump Admin. rollbacks on environmental protections... believe we must embed environmental justice, economic justice, and climate justice at the heart of our policy and governing agenda. Dem's agree ... that the US and world must achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions ... no later than 2050. (pgs. 49-51)

"I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, ... to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11). Let's rise and shine as God's glory draws America back to Him!

Dr. Alveda King: "Vote with Your God Hat On"

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As we enter another election season, amidst tremendous strife and chatter, many of my friends and colleagues are discussing who has their support at the ballot box. I have heard concerns that the Republican Party's recent platform has moved in the "wrong direction," as well as the regular complaints about the candidates we have before us.

As a mother, a grandmother, and a faith leader in America, I hear these concerns and understand the perspectives they come from.

However, while I do not make formal political endorsements, I can unequivocally say this: I will be voting for Christian values in November, and I believe it is the duty of every faithful American to do the same.

Never Remove This Hat - In the journey of Christian life, we wear many hats along the road. ... As Christians, we might want to consider that there is one hat that we should never remove. That hat is the "helmet of salvation." Removing our helmet can leave us vulnerable and open to compromise, idolatry, and man-pleasing circumstances.

God Uses Imperfection - With this in mind, while the Republican platform may not be perfect, right now it far surpasses the Democrat Party's platform of radical late-term abortion, gender ideology in our schools, and vicious racial division.

Also, President Trump isn't perfect; nobody is. But just a few weeks ago, we saw God's divine hand in action when He sent His angels to protect my friend from an assassin's bullet, sparing his life by mere millimeters.

I believe that although President Trump is an imperfect man, the Bible is full of stories of God using imperfect people to achieve His greater ends. When I saw the hand of divine providence spare President Trump's life in Butler, Pennsylvania, in that very moment it became clear to me that God has use for him now more than ever.

We have already seen the progress that the faith community can make with the right leadership in Washington. President Trump delivered the greatest wins in a generation for American Believers: he appointed the justices who overturned Roe v. Wade, he protected religious liberty at home and abroad, he cut funding for Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers, and he protected our schoolchildren from the monstrous gender ideology that has infiltrated our public schools.

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