

HOW TO VOTE LIKE JESUS

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Well... buckle up

It's been said if you don't want to ruin a party, don't talk about 2 things: religion and politics.

I'm here to ruin your party: A very direct sermon on HOW TO VOTE LIKE JESUS

Why I'm doing this – somewhere along the way the idea developed that pastors should avoid politics. Completely unbiblical...

BIBLE: Moses, Daniel, Esther, Nathan, Nehemiah, John The Baptist

LOGIC: If the church won't disciple people, the world will. Godly / Godless,

- Why are you doing this?

Church isn't getting more POLITICAL; POLITICS are getting more THEOLOGICAL

- Politics: Teaching math, building roads, issuing driver's licenses
- Theology: Redefining marriage, erasing gender, reframing the murder of the unborn as "reproductive rights", and using government schools to indoctrinate kids...

I AM NOT ENDORSING A CANDIDATE

Not seeking approval – man, party, living God

If you want your 60 seconds of fame, this is not your moment



“But I thought it was 15 mins of fame! It usually is, but the security teams at all our campuses will make sure you only get 60 seconds before you’re arrested for disorderly conduct...”

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WOULD JESUS VOTE? We know the answer to this question...

3 institutions: family, church, state

- Family – Genesis 2
- Church – Acts
- State – Romans 13 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities... the authorities that exist have been **established by God**

CONTEXT: You live in a Constitutional Republic: Elected leaders are representatives of the PEOPLE

- So, in our form of government, who are the leaders? YOU ARE.

WHATEVER GOD CREATES, SATAN TRIES TO CAPTURE

FAMILY: Genesis 2: If you won’t lead your family, Satan will

CHURCH: Revelation 3: The church tolerated sin, became “a synagogue of Satan”. If pastors won’t lead your church, Satan will.

NATION: If **Godly** people won’t lead their nation, **Godless People Will**

“When the **righteous** are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the **wicked** rule, the people groan..”

- Proverbs 29:2

When Christians do not vote, they are abdicating the leadership position God has given you in our constitutional republic and rebelling against God



Would Jesus vote? YES.

What voting is NOT

1 A VOTE is not a VALENTINE

- MS: He's so cool and cute and funny, like... his aura is crazyyyyyy – give them your valentine
- 1960: JFK v Nixon, "He's so dreamy"

The Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his **appearance** or his **height**, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the **outward appearance**, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Mature Christians don't vote on superficial things: vibes, looks, he's got the same skin color as me, she'd be the first woman president, I've always wanted an orange leader, or whether they give us the warm fuzzies... because a VOTE is not a VALENTINE

"I don't like their personality"

- PERSONALITIES come and go
- POLICIES last for decades

Don't vote for who you LIKE MOST, vote for who will LEAD BEST. Because a VOTE is not a VALENTINE.

2 A BALLOT BOX is not a MAILBOX for you to "send a message"

- JOKE: Husband wanted a sportscar for birthday, send a message, "I'd like something that goes from 0 to 200 like that *snap*. WIFE: Got it. On his birthday, he got a bathroom scale.
- He thought he was sending a message, but nobody was reading it



Frustrated Christians who are little naïve: “Neither candidate perfectly meets my standards, so I’m going to send a message” by not voting or voting 3rd party

- I’m gonna write you in Pastor Josh “Please don’t, I’ve been on the news enough this year”

There’s no point in sending a message if nobody’s reading it

The only thing people “read” on election day is who won

The goal isn’t to make a POINT, it’s to make a DIFFERENCE. Don’t waste your chance to make a DIFFERENCE trying to make a POINT nobody is going to receive

3 A SELECTION is not a SACRAMENT

A SACRAMENT is a religious ritual like Communion / Baptism / Marriage that it’s important not to let any impurity into

CURRENT CANDIDATES: “I can’t vote because there’s no candidate I can FULLY support”

You don’t do that with any other choices in your life

- Church: I love the preaching, but the music...
- Movies, music, nothing is 100%... ARE YOU MARRIED!? You did not choose that spouse because they met 100% of your desires in EVERY area. You loved them and you were like... Best available.
- “Yeah, pastor she does – she’s perfect in every way.” You’re not!

JESUS IS NOT ON THE BALLOT...

3 kinds of leaders in the OT... (TEACH YOU, MOST IMPORTANT)

Josiah (2 Kings 22/23) – righteous leaders who celebrate and promote righteousness

Celebrate

- Rediscovered the law of God



- Repents, reads it to nation, renewed covenant, revival
- **We all want that... but you don't always have that on ballot**

Ahab/Jezebel – unrighteous leaders who celebrate and promote wickedness

Oppose

- Led Israel into idolatry and Baal worship
- Persecuted the Bible teachers
- Murdered innocent people
- Stole from citizens
- Ahab was a passive and weak man, Jezebel was a sexually promiscuous, manipulative woman
- What happens: lawlessness, theft, and chaos in cities, entire months in the nation's calendar that celebrate perversion, that same perversion gets taught to the children of that nation in sex ed classes, 9 month old babies are murdered in the womb, parents have their children taken away from them if they refuse to affirm their kids' "gender identity", and Bible-believing Christians are stigmatized and marginalized

Jehu – flawed leaders used for good things

Tolerate

- 2 Kings 9/10
- Used by God to execute his judgment on godless leaders (Ahab / Jezebel)
- (Anointed, but not saved), destroyed altars to Baal – toilets
- Tolerated idol worship, let golden calves be worshiped in Israel

1 - Don't treat a Jehu like a Josiah, Don't IDOLIZE IMPERFECTION

2 - We all want a king Josiah, but sometimes God uses a flawed leader for good purposes, and when you don't have the option of voting for a Josiah, and your choice is between Ahab/Jezebel and Jehu, the choice is very obvious because a flawed leader used for good is far better than suffering under a wicked leader.



WHAT IS VOTING?

- Your power to pick the best AVAILABLE path forward -

Let me put it in Biblical terms for you: “You are the **salt** of the **earth**” (Matt 5:13)

- Not salt of the church

Salt is a PRESERVATIVE, it’s purpose is to SLOW DECAY: When voting, you are not asking, “Who perfectly embodies my values?”, you’re asking, “Which set of policies best slows societal decay?”

BRACE YOURSELF...

SPECIFICS: Border security, Religious Liberty, Biological Sex, Family, Life

1) Border security (emphasis: LOVE immigrants, uphold law)

Acts 17:26 – From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the **boundaries** of their lands.

We are commanded to love the immigrant

Zech 7:10 – do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the **sojourner**, and the poor

If you are an immigrant, local partners, food pantry... LPE full of people from many different nations, WELCOME LEGAL (worked hard, LOVE this country), NOT ALL ILLEGAL ARE EVIL

CURRENTLY: 10-20M illegal immigrants

DEPT HOMELAND SECURITY LAST WEEK (not Infowars):

- 425k with criminal record
- 13k murderers
- 16k rapists



Where is the Border Czar???

Ask yourself, “Which candidate will best protect our national security?”

2) Religious Liberty

Caesar is a king, but Jesus is the King of Kings, so when a government commands us to do something God forbids or forbids us to do something God commands, our job as Christians is to **humbly and respectfully** have a backbone and tell them to pound sand.

Christians founded our nation, so they established RELIGIOUS LIBERTY to keep people from being forced to violate their genuinely religious consciences

- It means doctors who object to performing abortions won't be forced to
- It means Christian bakers, graphic designers, photographers who object to providing their services in celebration of same-sex marriages should not be prosecuted to have their businesses closed like Jack Phillips in Colorado
- It means Christian teachers like Byron Cross should not be fired for objecting on the basis of his convictions to using minor's preferred pronouns

Ask yourself, which candidate is more likely to protect religious liberty, because Jesus is Lord, and Caesar is not.

3) Biological sex

Genesis 1:27 – So God created man in His own image; in the image of God he created them; **male** and **female** he created them.

GRACE & TRUTH

1. **GRACE:** TRANSGENDER PPL: God loves you. You don't know what I've done / how I feel.

Injected hormones/scars on body. Those are not the scars that define you



You are created in the image of God

You are fearfully and wonderfully made

You are valuable and you should be treated as valuable

“I was cut, crushed, pieced” – he was pierced for your transgressions, he was crushed for your sins, the punishment that brought us peace fell upon him

Your scars do not define you, HIS do

2. **TRUTH:** We don't get to decide if we're a different gender, and to support that idea is to call God a liar, to rebel against the created order, and to contribute to mental illness instead of helping ppl with truth that can set them free.

14 states have transgender healthcare shield laws: among them, Minnesota. Governor Tim Walz signed legislation making Minn a trans refuge state. “If a minor child has been unable to obtain gender-affirming care because 1 or both parents object, the Minnesota law allows courts to have ‘temporary emergency jurisdiction’ over the child.”

Translation: They can take your kid from you.

Evil never stops itself, it must be stopped. If that ideology is not stopped, it won't be 14 states, it will someday be 50.

So, ask yourself which candidate will oppose the erasure of gender through transgender ideology

4) Family

A nation is only as healthy as it's FAMILIES, and when it attacks or erodes the family through things like abortion, incentivization of divorce, the redefinition of marriage, and the erasure of gender it's sawing off the very branch it's sitting on, and IT WILL FALL



We're breaking down FAMILIES and then trying to get the government to do what FAMILIES are supposed to do.

Government...

- Provide for you
- Protect you
- Educate and indoctrinate you
- In some cases, the state is LITERALLY saying, "We're the parent now"

"Fix the system." How about we fix the family?

We don't need MORE GOVERNMENT, we need BETTER FAMILIES

Ask yourself: Which candidate is more likely to stop or slow the corrosion of the definition of and functions of the family?

5 Life

"The thief comes to steal, **kill**, and destroy. I have come that you might have **LIFE**."

- John 10:10

"The Lord hates... hands that shed innocent blood."

- Proverbs 6:17

GRACE FOR ABORTION: The death that most defines you is not the death of your unborn child, but the sin-cleansing death of the Son of God for you, his daughter

Which candidate will **BEST** protect life?

This is where some of you may not like what I have to say, but my job is to tell you the truth – PROPHET, NOT POLITICIAN

We do not have a truly pro-life candidate in this race.

Strangely, while Donald Trump is responsible for the greatest victory for the protection of the unborn in two generations (Roe v Wade), he has moved to left toward the center



Immediately, after the VP debate he tweeted (all caps) that he would veto a nationwide abortion ban if it came to him bc he wants states' decide, opposes 7-9th month

CDC: 95% of all abortions happen in first 15 weeks

The Republican party today – on abortion – has become what the Democrat party was 30 years ago – safe, legal, and **rare**

OTHER SIDE FAR WORSE

Safe/Legal/Rare > something to be celebrated, paraded, and promoted

12 states allow for abortion up to 9 months... **Minnesota**

Kamala Harris' position – no restrictions at ANY POINT, celebrating murder as “reproductive rights”

Democratic party pulled up mobile abortion clinics like TACO TRUCKS outside of their convention, mockingly celebrating murdering infants with #ShoutYourAbortion

“All who hate me love death.” - Proverbs 8:36

Ask yourself, which candidate will best limit taking lives of the unborn?

CLOSE WITH TWO THINGS:

1) “Even if _____ politician gets elected, that won't SAVE America”

From what? You're right politics can't save anyone from hell, but the book of James says that our everyday decisions either pull heaven down into our lives or pull hell up into our lives.

So, politics can't save anybody from hell, but they can save us from pulling hell up into our cities, states, and nation

— Hell (guest: “where am I?”): darkness, lawlessness, unforgiveness, hatred, chaos —



When you look at cities ruled by godless leaders and see lawlessness, rioters burning buildings, looters shoplifting in broad daylight, drugs sold in open air markets, people and businesses fleeing – what happened? Decisions were made that pulled hell UP

30M Bible-believing Christians **did not** vote in the last presidential election
That election was decided by 42k votes

2) You are a citizen of heaven, and a resident of a nation

- Capital-R republicans, lowercase-c Christians. Capital D-democrats, lowercase-c Christians
- YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN
- Your Judeo-Christian values can keep you out of jail, but it will take the blood of Jesus Christ to keep you out of hell
- What you did with your vote – 50yrs / what you did with JESUS – 50M
- Your CONVICTIONS will pull your vote left or right, but I do not want to pull your HEART left or right, but UP, so the Holy Spirit of God can come DOWN on your life

That is our GREATEST hope in life and death

There ARE things politics can fix, but politics CANNOT fix what politics did not break
You cannot solve a SPIRITUAL problem with a POLITICAL solution

World's greatest problem = Sin problem, Savior solution

May God pour out reformation and revival on our nation.

