

## Politics and Religion

### # Don't talk about Politics and Religion in public

Why? Because both tell us how to live our lives. (people get angry)

(Ps 2:1-3) <sup>1</sup> Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? <sup>2</sup>The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, <sup>3</sup>“Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us.”

Primary Goal of *human* government is to break the Constraint of God's Law.

“Don't tell me how to live my life!”

Satan the Lawless one (2 Thes 2:7-9)

False Christians who Practice Lawlessness (Mt 7:21-23)

Last Days Cold Love because of Lawlessness (Mt 24:12)

Indicator: Degree of Rage/Plotting, disregard for the Rule of Law (end justifies means)

### # Separation of Church and State

“Separation Clause” – 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Congress is restrained, the Church is unrestrained, separation is non-existent.

Reality: Separation by Intimidation (remove the Church's Political Voice – Psa 2)

History: Black Robe Regiment vs. 1954 Johnson Amendment

### # you can't Legislate Morality

Faith can't be legislated (1<sup>st</sup> Amendment), but most legislation is Moral

(thus Lawlessness, the Removal of Moral Constraint)

Video: **PragerU.com** – Was America Founded to be Secular?

Only the Church can Preserve National Morality so it Must be Vocal.

(Mt 5:13-16) Salt, Unhidden Light

(Pr 14:34) Righteousness has National Consequences

**Don't be Intimidated into Tolerance and Silence!**

Wisdom, Tact, Kindness, Gentleness, Love – be Informed

Speak the Truth in Love. Truth is Intolerant.

Tolerance isn't Love. (don't Force, but don't Lie)

### # Jesus wasn't Political. The Church shouldn't get involved in Politics.

Jesus wasn't Apolitical either, He was above Politics. (Psa 24:1, Josh 5:13-14)

(Pr 21:1) The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.

(OT full of examples – Nebuchadnezzar)

(Ac 17:26) And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,

(Ro 13:1-7) <sup>1</sup>Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. <sup>4</sup>For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. <sup>5</sup>Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. <sup>6</sup>For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

America is God's, in Blessing or Discipline, we submit to authority.

But we never stop being an Influence.

We are their reminder that they also must answer to the King of kings. (Ps 110:5-6)

Our greatest influence is Ruling through Intercession (Kings Priests)

(1Ti 2:1-2) <sup>1</sup>Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

(not just the ones we voted for!)

Why would we neglect the more direct influence of Voting to propagate righteousness?

(Dt 1:13) 'Choose wise, understanding, and knowledgeable men from among your tribes, and I will make them heads over you.'

60% of eligible voters vote, only 40% in midterm elections

25% of all eligible voters are Evangelicals