**Politics and a Biblical Worldview**

Psalm 2 – Lawlessness

Barna Survey: 4% Americans, 9% Born Again Believers hold a Biblical Worldview

 almost all of our Nation’s Founders held a Biblical Worldview

**Absolutes vs Relativism – Truth**

 Declaration of Independence: “We hold these Truths..”

(Ro 1:18-22) 18For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22Professing to be wise, they became fools,

 **Absolutes are essential to Stability** (Mt 7:24-27), **Freedom** (Jn 8:32), **Prosperity**

(Isa 59:14-15) 14Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. 15So truth fails, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey.

 Relativism feeds Lawlessness, Instability, Bondage (Lies – Jn 8:34)

Vote: **Moral Absolutes**

 Righteousness has National Consequences – Pr 14:34

**Natural Law vs Precedent Law** (mid 1800s shift)

 Declaration of Independence: “Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God”

 God’s Law never changes (Heb 13:8)

 Progressivism (Evolution) – Human Potential (God is Hindrance – Psa 2)

 Ex: Strict Constitutionalist vs Living Document (Fluid)

 **Rule of Law preserves a Free Society**

 its breakdown leads to Corruption, Oppression, loss of Prosperity

 (ex: contracts, entrepreneurial risk)

Vote: **Rule of Law**

**Human Potential: Good or Bad?**

 Foundational Premise of Progressivism: Man is Basically Good

 Bible (Truth) says the opposite (Mt 19:17, Rom 3:12)

 History proves Social Entropy (apart from God’s influence)

 American vs French Revolution (under God vs under the State – human potential)

 Limited Government (Isa 33:22) – mistrust of human potential

(1Sa 8:5-7) 5and said to him, “Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.” 6But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” So Samuel prayed to the LORD. 7And the LORD said to Samuel, “Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.

 easier to Trust Men than God - \*Fear and Change

(1Sa 8:9-17) 9“Now therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them.” 10So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who asked him for a king. 11And he said, “This will be the behavior of the king who will reign over you: He will take your sons and appoint them for his own chariots and to be his horsemen, and some will run before his chariots. 12“He will appoint captains over his thousands and captains over his fifties, will set some to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and some to make his weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. 13“He will take your daughters to be perfumers, cooks, and bakers. 14“And he will take the best of your fields, your vineyards, and your olive groves, and give them to his servants. 15“He will take a tenth of your grain and your vintage, and give it to his officers and servants. 16“And he will take your male servants, your female servants, your finest young men, and your donkeys, and put them to his work. 17“He will take a tenth of your sheep. And you will be his servants.

 God gives, Governments Take

 Governments don’t produce, they take from what the Free Market produces

 Economic Engine is Free Market, not Government

 good government sets it free (ex: job creation)

 bigger government takes more – inversely proportional to Freedom

 limit/destroy economic engine (ex: Greece, Venezuela)

Vote: **Limited Government**

**Rights and Responsibilities: Individualism vs Collectivism**

 Globalism: Nations (Armageddon, millennium), His design

 Rights and Responsibilities are inseparable

 Ravi Zacharias: Choice, Outcome (Consequences bound to Choice)

 Do we Empower Individuals or the State?

 Who gets to Choose/determine Outcomes? Who Serves Whom?

 Founders: Men have Rights, Government must be Restrained (opposite?)

 “God’s minister to you for good” (Rom 13:4-6) – Governments Serve Men

 **Social Justice: Freedom vs Regulation** (Control, Condescension)

 Justice: Equal Opportunity – Individual Freedom and Responsibility

 Fairness: Equal Outcome – requires External Regulation

 God is not Fair (Mt 20:1-16), but He is Generous

 Taxes (Rom 13:6-7 pay for government) vs Wealth Redistribution

 ex: early American colonies (2 Thes 3:10)

 remove Responsibility = lost Incentive, Initiative, Dignity

 God desires Voluntary Generosity (Col David Crockett – “not yours to give”)

 Regulation provides Justice (guarantee individual freedom/opportunity),

 but goes too far when it tries to regulate outcome

 **We Empower Individuals by Freeing them, not by Restricting other Individuals Freedoms.**

 Bill of Rights

 1st Amendment: Freedom of Speech (Belief)

 9th & 10th Amendments: Powers not specifically given to US Government

 belong to the States or the People.

 Federal vs Local Government: The Bigger and Farther Away government is,

 the Less Influence People have.

 Gettysburg Address: Abraham Lincoln

“that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth”

 Prologue to the 1384 John Wycliffe Bible

“The Bible is for the Government of the People, by the people, and for the People.”

 Electoral College (graphic) and the “tyranny of the majority”

 Democracy (Athens) vs Democratic Representative Republic

 Will the Bible continue to influence American Government?

Vote: **Individual Rights and Responsibilities**

 minimal regulation – Empower Individuals over State

**Authority: God or Men** (Psalm 2)

 Garden: one rule, Satan offered self government

 Flood: result of human self government (entropy)

(Ge 6:11-12) 11The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

 Tower of Babel: self reliance, opposite of God’s plan

(Ge 11:4) 4And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”

 not against Unity, against leaving Him out (ex: Nebuchadnezzar)

 How do you think it would have ended? (mercy?)

 Abraham: Chosen People in whom All Nations would be Blessed

 introduced Law (Absolutes), God’s Government

 rejected God’s Government (1 Sam 8:5)

 Saul – looked impressive, did what the people wanted

 David - did what God wanted

 Reformation: from authority of men to authority of Word (absolute)

Vote: **Honor God**

**Power and Human Nature**

 Uzziah King of Judah

 did what was right, sought God, Judah prospered (2 Chr 26:4-5)

 when he became strong, he became proud (2 Chr 26:16)

 Whoever wins, they need our prayer.

(Isa 6:1) In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

 We can’t only look to God a backup to politics

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

Political Parties

 1. Platform

 2. History – PragerU.com