

How Should We Then Vote?

Series

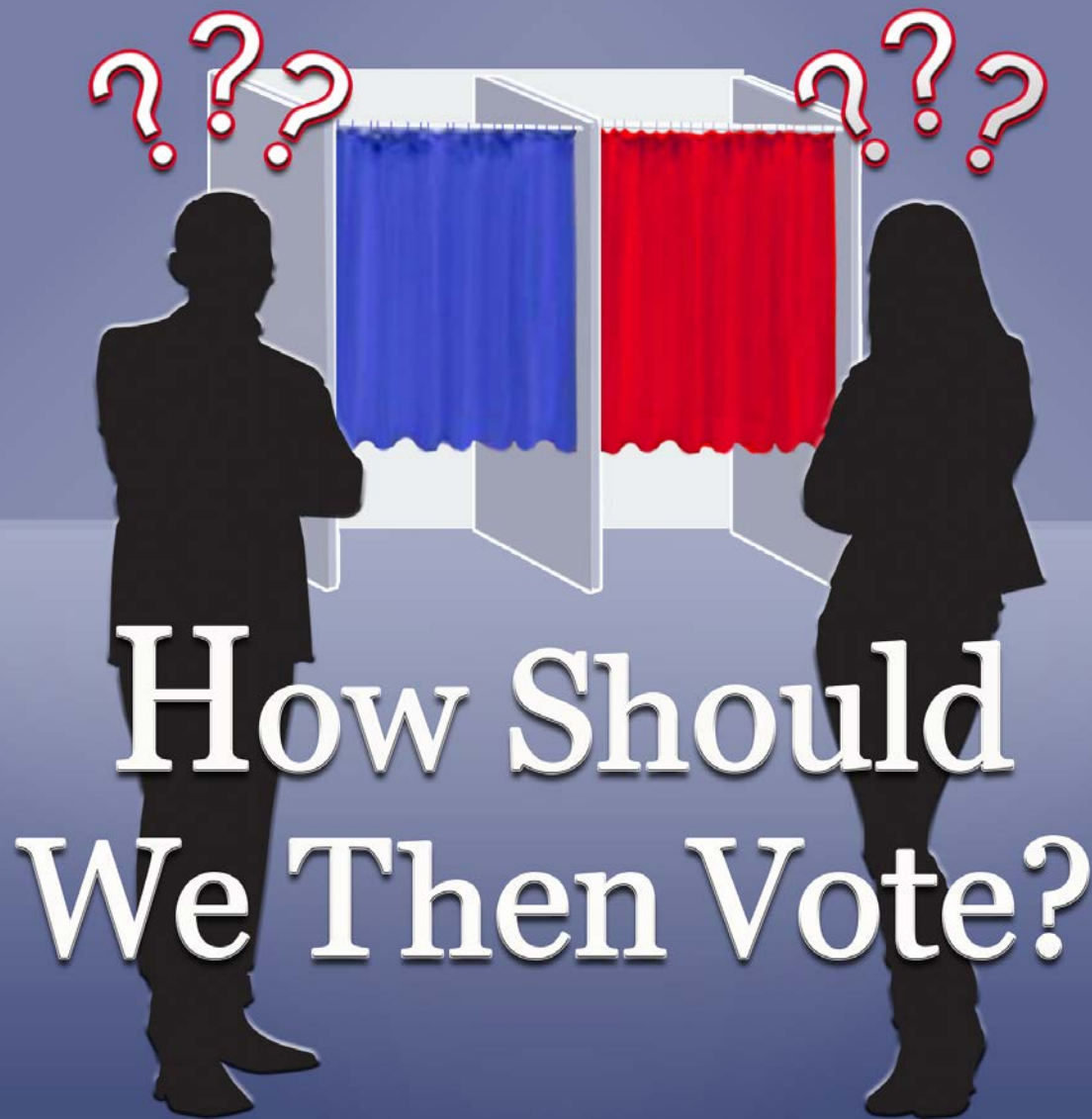
Lesson #02

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How Should We Then Vote?

Essentials of a Judeo-Christian Worldview

Prov. 14:34, “Righteousness exalts a nation,

But sin is a disgrace to *any* people.”

Prov 29:2, “When the righteous rule the people rejoice;”

הַדָּקָה (*ṣ^edāqâ*) justice, righteousness.

Conformity to an ethical or moral standard.

Psa. 11:3, “If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?”

**צְדָקָה (*ṣ^edāqâ*) justice, righteousness.
Conformity to an ethical or moral standard.**

What is a Worldview?

Application

Political/National or Individual Decisions

This is where we talk and argue.

Ethics: What is right? What is wrong? What is good or bad?

Epistemology (Knowledge): How do we know truth? Right from wrong? Just or unjust?

Metaphysics: Ultimate reality, i.e., God, matter, energy, "the universe," nothing

Pressures of life

Foundation of *all* thought

Logical Sequence

These are the real issues, usually ignored.

A Judeo-Christian Worldview

- 1. God is the Creator of all things and created human beings in His image and likeness, giving them value and purpose.**
- 2. The Bible is God's revelation to man and is completely accurate in all that it reveals to man, teaching them how to live wisely in God's creation marred by sin.**
- 3. God created the human race in His image, both male and female.**

A Judeo-Christian Worldview

- 4. Sin has corrupted the human race and God's creation.**
- 5. God has given principles and laws for the right conduct of the human race in this corrupted universe, because, as their Creator only He can do this.**
- 6. God continues to oversee and direct His creation toward His perfect end.**

2 Cor. 10:5, “casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,”

2 Cor. 10:4, “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

2 Cor. 10:5, “casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,”

Basic Areas of a Worldview

- 1. Ultimate reality: Personal? Impersonal?
Includes the nature of humanity.**
- 2. Knowledge: Is there absolute Truth? Can we know absolute Truth?**
- 3. Ethics: The standards by which we live.**
- 4. Beauty: What is it, how does it relate to knowledge, ultimate reality, and ideas of good and bad or right or wrong?**

“of all governments, those are the best, which, by the natural effect of their constitutions, are frequently renewed or drawn back to their first principles.”

**~James Wilson,
Signer of the Declaration,
Drafter of the Constitution,
Supreme Court Justice**



God

Personal-Infinite God

Personal

- **He is a person.**
- **He is capable of personal relationships.**
- **He also has intellect and will.**
- **He communicates to His creatures.**
- **He receives their communications in prayer. He loves, is loved.**
- **His sentient creatures can enjoy a personal relationship with Him.**

Infinite

Job 11:7, “Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty?”

Job 11:8, “They are higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know?”

Job 11:9, “Their measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea.”

Infinite

Isa. 57:15, “For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: ‘I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.’ ”

Infinite

1 Kings 8:27, “But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!”

Infinite

Psa. 147:5, “Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.”

Creator

Ex. 20:11, “For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.”

Creator

Psa. 33:6, “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.”

Creator

Neh. 9:6, “You alone are the LORD; You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, and You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.”

Creator

Isa. 40:12, “Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, measured heaven with a span and calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?”

Creator

Isa. 66:1, “Thus says the LORD: ‘Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest?’ ”

Isa. 66:2, “ ‘For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist,’ says the LORD. ‘But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word.’ ”

Col. 1:16, “For everything was created by Him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Col. 1:17, “He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together.

Col. 1:18, “He is also the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He might come to have first place in everything.”

God the Redeemer

Job 19:25, “For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth;

Job 19:26, “And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God,”

God the Redeemer

Isa. 54:5, “For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is His name; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth.”

God the Redeemer

Isa. 44:24, “Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, and He who formed you from the womb: ‘I am the LORD, who makes all things, Who stretches out the heavens all alone, Who spreads abroad the earth by Myself;’ ”

God the Redeemer

Isa. 41:14, “ ‘Fear not, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel! I will help you,’ says the LORD and your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.”

God the Redeemer

Isa. 44:6, “Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: ‘I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God.’ ”



Jefferson's suggestion for a national seal

The Lawgiver

Isa. 33:22, “(For the LORD is our Judge, the LORD is our Lawgiver, the LORD is our King; He will save us);”

The Lawgiver

James 4:12, “There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?”

Mankind, the Human Race

Gen. 1:26, “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’”

Gen. 1:27, “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Rom. 3:23, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

The Founding Fathers on God

“In 1776, every colonist, with the exception of about two thousand Jews, identified himself or herself as a Christian. Approximately 98 percent of them were Protestants, and the remaining 2 percent were Roman Catholics.”

~Mark David Hall, *Did America Have a Christian Founding?*

“75% of American colonists were brought up in the Calvinist tradition.”

~Sidney Ahlstrom

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

~Declaration of Independence

“Mr. President,

The small progress we have made after 4 or five weeks close attendance & continual reasonings with each other—our different sentiments on almost every question, several of the last producing as many noes and ays, is methinks a melancholy proof of the imperfection of the Human Understanding. We indeed seem to feel our own want of political wisdom, some we have been running about in search of it. We have gone back to ancient history for models of Government, and examined the different forms of those Republics which having been formed with the seeds of their own dissolution now no longer exist. And we have viewed Modern States all round Europe, but find none of their Constitutions suitable to our circumstances.

“In this situation of this Assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, Sir, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of lights to illuminate our understandings? In the beginning of the Contest with G. Britain, when we were sensible of danger we had daily prayer in this room for the divine protection.—Our prayers, Sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered. All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a Superintending providence in our favor.

“To that kind providence we owe this happy opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity. And have we now forgotten that powerful friend?

“I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—that *God governs in the affairs of men.* And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings, that ‘except the Lord build the House they labour in vain that build it.’

“I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without his concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the Builders of Babel: We shall be divided by our little partial local interests; our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and bye word down to future ages. And what is worse, mankind may hereafter from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing Governments by Human Wisdom, and leave it to chance, war, and conquest.”

**~Benjamin Franklin,
Constitutional Convention of 1787**

“I have heard since my arrival at this place, a circumstantial account of my death and dying speech. I take this early opportunity of contradicting the first, and of assuring you that I have not, as yet, composed the latter. But by the all-powerful dispensation of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability, I had 4 bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me yet escaped unhurt although death was levelling my companions on every side of me.”

~G. Washington, Letter to his brother, 1755

“I must submit all my hopes and fears, to an overruling Providence, in which, unfashionable as the Faith may be, I firmly believe.”

~John Adams’ letter to his wife, Abigail

