

Berean Baptist Church

Berean Banner

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Pastor's Perspective: "Respect Your Elected Officials"



"We the People of the State of California grateful to the Almighty God for our freedom..." California Preamble 1879.

As we come to a national election, it seems appropriate to consider the relationship Christians have to our government. While no man-made government can possibly be perfect, our system as a republic is one of the best. Psalm 75:6-7 states, "For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge, He putteth down one, and

setteth up another." Since God is the One who ultimately places our rulers into leadership, what is our responsibility toward them?

To begin with, all those in authority are to be prayed for and should be shown honor for the position which they hold. In I Timothy 2:1-2 the Apostle Paul said, "Exhort, therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority, that we

may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." We also read in Romans 13:7, "Render therefore to all their dues; tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom, fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour."

Whenever we show disrespect for those in authority, we disobey God's command. While we may have a preference for whom we want as a ruler, e.g. president, we are required by Scripture to pray for whoever wins the

continued on page 2.

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Perspective	1
From The Pastor's Desk	1
Memory Verse	3
Poetry Corner	3
Events	3
Service Times	4
Upcoming Events	4

From The Pastor's Desk...

"Thou Art The Man," II Samuel 12:7.

When Nathan the prophet comforted David about his sin with Bathsheba, he acknowledged his sin and re-

pent. God forgave David and restored him to fellowship. The lesson is obvious. Repentance brings us back into a blessed relationship with God. Failure to repent brings

additional grief and God's discipline.

Some, however, choose to dismiss their sin and fall back on former times when they

Continued on page 2.

“Respect Your Elected Officials” ...continued from page one.

election. Whether they were our choice or not is immaterial. Unlike some who would bash President Trump or former President Obama while he was in office, the Biblical response to pray for them and honor the position they hold. This also holds true for our Senators, our House of Representatives, our Governor and Mayor. This does not mean you have to agree with all their policies or approve of their appointees or lifestyle choices. Remember, when Paul wrote about respecting government leaders, Nero was on the throne. History tells us that the Apostle Paul was eventually executed by Nero.

Second, being a Christian does not mean that you forego your rights as a citizen. Some who are atheistic in their world view attempt to misstate our countries history to suggest that faith has no place in determining public policy. Anyone who truly wants to know what part religion played in the formation of our country can

do so by reading the Federalist papers which reflect our founding fathers thoughts on the formation of our nation’s laws. You will find many references to God and His word. A trip to Washington, D.C. with open eyes will reveal abundant Scripture sprinkled throughout government buildings, monuments and recorded speeches. Do not let some who would intimidate you from speaking out and using the Bible as a guide to determine right from wrong.

When being prepared for a scourging with a whip, the Apostle Paul responded, “Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman and un-condemned?” Acts 22:25. When later faced with being sent to Jerusalem to be judged by a hostile audience, he declared his right as a citizen to be judged by Caesar in Rome—Acts 25:10-12. Christian do not allow others to discourage you from exercising your right and

privilege to vote. As a responsible citizen, it is your duty to perform this civic task.

Finally, morality should be the deciding factor in choosing our leaders. Abortion, same sex marriage, terrorism and illegal immigrants are just a few of the issues which must be considered. Christians must stand for what the Bible declares regardless of popular opinion. Christians that put personal gain ahead of morality strengthen evil.

To quote Robert F. Kennedy; “Every time we turn our heads the other way when we see the law flouted, when we tolerate what we know to be wrong, when we close our eyes and ears to the corrupt because we are too busy or too frightened to speak up and speak out, we strike a blow against freedom and decency and justice.”

What will it be Christian? Will you ignore your responsibility to vote in the coming election? After the election, will you pray for your leaders?

The Pastor’s Desk Continued...

accomplished great things for God. This seems especially true for religious leaders who declare, “How many of you did I lead to the Lord?” or “I’ve knocked on every dwelling in our town.” While such efforts are remarkable, the issue isn’t

David and Goliath. It’s David and Bathsheba.

Never lose sight that we all are sinners before God. The failure to honestly deal with our sin and attempt to dismiss it by recalling former good deeds is a reproach to God. It is like

Cain who offered the best fruits from the ground when a blood sacrifice was require. Such efforts insult God and make a mockery of His holiness.



Poetry Corner

August Finances

General Fund	\$5,159.51
Designated	\$ 633.15
Total	\$5,792.66

Designated Accounts

Miscellaneous	\$ 1,062.06
D.C. Trip	\$ 714.44

Right Is Right and Wrong Is Wrong Dr. Shelton Smith

The principles of right and wrong are basic to the tenets of the Christian. They are also the foundations of a safe, prosperous and well ordered society. Consequently, Right Is Always Right, Even If

1. It does not appear reasonable;
2. It seems unfair;
3. It is a minority opinion;
4. It goes down in defeat;
5. It brings pressure and stress;

6. It costs a friendship;
7. It is twisted until it appears to be wrong.

Wrong Is Still Wrong, Even If

1. It is the majority opinion'
2. It is the easy way;
3. It is popular;
4. It will help you succeed;
5. It will put money in your pocket;
6. It will give you advantages that you want.
7. It seems fair and reasonable.

Since right is always right and wrong is always wrong, it is never right to do a wrong thing. Even if the wrong thing enhances your opportunity to do right things, it is still wrong. If you will read and study the book of Proverbs every day, you will find the tools you need to figure out what is right and what is wrong. For yourself, for your family, for your church

And for the nation, we will be well served when we are determined to dedicate ourselves to the proposition that "Right Is Always Right and Wrong Is Always Wrong."

Autumn's Bounty

When Summer packs her bag and goes south to other lands; Autumn moves in swiftly; Bearing gifts in both her hands;

Baskets full of pumpkins, Crisp red apples, too— Everything that's needed for a fresh-baked pie or two.

To warm you after dinner on a crisp clear autumn night— Or set a festive table for a holiday delight.

I always welcome Autumn, Decked out in leaves of gold— She brings the season's treasure, Her bounty to behold!

—Micki Dolan

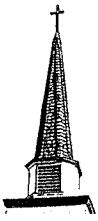
Happy Fall!

Memory Verse

I John 5:14, "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us."



Be alert for an announcement as to when we might be able to begin having additional services. Solano county has moved into the red tier for the State of California and that means we should be able to begin regular meetings in our building.



Berean Baptist Church

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*Searching the Scriptures for
Life's Answers - Acts 17:11*

Address Label Here

We're on the Web!
www.BereanBaptistFairfieldca.com

Welcome To Our Church

Sunday Worship Services

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.
Children's Church.....11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Services

Bible Study & Prayer.....7:00 p.m.
King's Kids.....7:00 p.m.

Saturday

Daytime Visitation Program10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

The state has once again stopped indoor church services. So at this time we will be having a Sunday morning service at 9:00 a.m. to try and beat the heat. Take this opportunity to be in God's house. Don't let Satan have the victory and keep you out of church. We are doing our best to abide by what the state wants from us, but we need to be faithful to God's house when it is available to us.