

"For the essence of prophecy is to give a clear witness for Jesus." *Revelation 19:10* (NLT)

# Who Should I Vote For?

By Britt Gillette

With the 2016 presidential election less than a month away, the question I hear more often than any other is this – who should I vote for? I can't recall an election in my lifetime where people have been so disturbed and conflicted in regard to their vote. The reason why is clear.

The choices for president are terrible. The two major party candidates have shown themselves to be immoral, unprincipled, godless liars. Meanwhile, no serious third party candidate has emerged.

For many people, our election choices constitute a serious crisis. But do they? I would argue otherwise. America is definitely in crisis, but it's not because of our presidential candidates. The United States can survive a bad president. What it can't survive is its continued rejection of God. This is the real crisis. The root cause of the poor choices before us is the direct result of our continued rebellion against God.

## How We Got Here

Does this surprise you? It shouldn't. The Bible is clear when it says, "You reap what you sow" (*Galatians 6:7*). And for far too long America has sown evil. These candidates weren't imposed on America, they're a reflection of it. Here are just a few of our terrible deeds:

**Denial of God** – Over the past several decades, more and more people have not only rejected God – they've been openly hostile toward Him. Denial of His existence is widespread. As a nation, we put our faith in almost everything *but* God - money, power, science, ourselves, and more. While most Americans say they believe in God, their actions say otherwise.

**Denial of Creation** – Hand in hand with America's denial of God is its denial of His creation. Over the past several decades, more and more people have rejected the idea of creation. The majority of Americans believe the earth is hundreds of millions of years old and humans evolved from monkeys over the course of many millions of years. This is a clear rejection of the Word of God which says God created both the earth and humans during a six day period a few thousand years ago (*Genesis 1*). Through creation, God's existence is obvious. So America has no excuse for not knowing Him (*Romans 1:20*).

**God Kicked Out of Schools** – America has kicked God out of its schools. Prayer is banned. The Bible is not allowed. Creation is mocked as superstitious fantasy, while evolution is taught as "fact." All traces of God and His moral standards have been kicked out of school.

**The Ten Commandments** – We've fought to remove the Ten Commandments from the public square. God's law has been hunted down and systematically removed from our schools, courthouses, and public buildings.

**Sexual Immorality** – In a single lifetime, we've gone from a society where sex outside of marriage was universally condemned to a society that has lost all ability to blush (*Jeremiah 6:15*). Sexual immorality of every kind runs rampant in America. Pornography is a \$12 billion industry. There is no shame. There is no repentance – only a race to see who can engage in ever more depraved acts.

**Abortion** – Since *Roe vs. Wade* in 1973, the United States has slaughtered more than 58 million babies. Can a society where mothers and fathers kill their own children ever be a society of love and compassion?

**Celebration of Violence and Sexual Immorality** - Our movies, TV shows, music, and art celebrate violence and sexual immorality. I challenge you to name any type of deviant behavior or evil that hasn't been showcased by our pop culture. This year, the Super Bowl halftime show featured half-naked women cracking leather whips while fountains of fire exploded around them. Sodom and Gomorrah would be proud. My wife and I can't even

watch re-runs of *The Andy Griffith Show* with our children because the commercials are filled with violent images, sexual innuendo, and filthy language.

Only those who are utterly lost will deny America's descent into the gutter. Yet, for some reason, people believe they can mock God, demand society applaud their sinful desires, and still demand Godly, Spirit-filled candidates for president. It doesn't work that way. The Bible says, "Godliness makes a nation great, but sin is a disgrace to any people" **Proverbs 14:34** (NLT). Our nation has disgraced itself and now we must bear the consequences.

Is there any hope? I believe there is. The only hope for this nation is Jesus Christ (**John 3:16**). Unfortunately, America has rejected Him. If we continue to reject God, we will ultimately be destroyed. But if we turn to God and experience a transformation through Jesus Christ, then our nation can experience blessings beyond our wildest dreams. So how do we do that?

### **What Should We Do?**

First, forget the idea this (or any) election will solve our nation's problems. Our problems aren't political, they're spiritual. Because of this, Washington politicians can't solve them. But Jesus can. Don't forget that. Once you accept that, you can take a deep breath and relax, knowing God has it all under control (**Psalms 55:22**).

Then, commit this to memory and bury it in your heart: "Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land." **2 Chronicles 7:13-14** (NLT)

Next, live out those verses by doing each of these things:

**1) Humble Yourself** – National revival starts with one person – *you*. Humble yourself before God. Don't be like the Pharisee who was confident in his own righteousness (**Luke 18:9-12**). Instead, be like the tax collector – humble yourself, acknowledge your sins, and pray for mercy (**Luke 18:13-14**).

**2) Pray** – Pray for our nation (**Psalms 33:12**). Pray for our leaders (**1 Timothy 2:2**). Pray for revival (**1 Timothy 2:1**). Pray for mercy (**Hebrews 4:16**). Most of all, pray that America is not at a point where even the prayers of righteous men like Noah, Daniel, and Job could do nothing to spare God's judgment (**Ezekiel 14:12-23**).

**3) Seek God** – God is constantly on the lookout for anyone who seeks after Him (**Psalms 14:2**). And He promises those who diligently seek Him will find Him (**Proverbs 8:17**). So dedicate yourself to God. Seek Him continually (**1 Chronicles 16:11**). And rest assured, He will reward you for doing so (**Hebrews 11:6**). Continually seek Him, and He will rain righteousness on you (**Hosea 10:12**).

**4) Turn from Your Wicked Ways** – Focus your thoughts on what is true and honorable and pure. Make it a habit to think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise (**Philippians 4:8**). Know that if you turn from your evil ways and do what is right, the Lord will bless you (**Jeremiah 18:11**).

While some people will say **2 Chronicles 7:13-14** applies only to Israel and not the United States, remember that Ninevah followed this same process in response to Jonah's preaching, and God changed His mind about destroying them (**Jonah 3**). Also God says in regard to *all* nations - "If I announce that a certain nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down, and destroyed, but then that nation renounces its evil ways, I will not destroy it as I had planned" **Jeremiah 18:7-8** (NLT).

### **Conclusion**

Recently, my four year-old son overheard some people talking about the election. In only a way a child could, he said, "Daddy, do you know who we're going to vote for? God!" I couldn't agree more. If you humble yourself, pray, seek God, and turn from your wickedness, you're casting a vote for God.

Nearly two thousand years ago, Paul sent this message to Timothy:

"In the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider

nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!” **2 Timothy 3:1-5** (NLT)

I believe this passage is a perfect description of the 2016 Democrat and Republican presidential candidates - Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. I also believe it's a perfect description of the United States of America. We reap what we sow. These presidential candidates are just a reflection of the society we've created.

You should definitely vote, but don't agonize over your decision. It's not what you should focus on. Instead, humble yourself. Pray. Seek God. Love your neighbor. Live a life of holiness. Spread the Gospel far and wide. Pray for our leaders. Pray for a national revival. Pray for God's mercy and the soon return of Jesus. These acts, far more than how you cast your vote, will be what really matters in the end.

#### **About The Author**

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