

Election Day Sermon 2024 by Gary Hamrick

What can we do to advance the Kingdom of God for the glory of God and to stem the tide of evil in our land until Jesus comes?

1. **Remember that God uses flawed sinful people.** Everyone wants perfection in an elected candidate, but we all fall short of God's glory. Christians say they want to do the right thing because the candidate does not have the "total package"... not perfect, but I can't vote for the other candidate because they are too far from my biblical values. **What other decisions in your life do you make that must meet 100% of the criteria?** There is no perfect spouse, no perfect church, no perfect child, no perfect job, no perfect neighborhood. Jesus is not on the ballot, so there is no perfect candidate. Get over looking for the perfect person, but you must vote for the better choice, not the perfect choice.

Proverbs 13:34 says, *"Righteousness exalts a nation and sin is a reproach to any people."*

Policies are always more important than personalities because personalities come and go but policies will live on long after them. A nation will not thrive because of the righteousness of the leader but will thrive because of the leader promotes righteous policies. If you read your bible you will see that there were some righteous leaders who did unrighteous things and some unrighteous leaders who did righteous things, and God used them both. God used unrighteous people who promoted righteous policies for their nation and God still uses flawed, sinful people. Don't look at the person, look at the policies. I rather have an orange angry man who is a bully and sends out mean tweets. Who appointed three Supreme Court Justices that overturned Roe vs. Wade than a joyful hen who kills babies even in the 9th month. Jesus said there is no one good but God.

Vote policies over personalities. I am listing these 7 biblical policies that are worth considering in this year's election:

- Isaiah 1:25- *“I will restore your judges as at the first and your counselors as at the beginning. Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city.”* NKJV God is saying that when you choose right judges, they will bring righteousness to the land by virtue of their decisions. It is important that we have good judges and don’t underestimate the importance of the president of the United States to appoint judges. Donald Trump in his single term as president, appointed 226 federal judges. That is an amazing number proportionately compared to his predecessors that had two terms. And when it comes to the 13 Federal Appeals Courts who have the final word on most legal appeals around the country, Trump appointed 54 appellate judges in his single term. You know how many Obama appointed in his two terms? 55. So when you are electing someone, think about the ramifications on judges who will get appointed, including Supreme Court Justices. They play a huge role in our nation in judging and ruling in righteousness. So, when voting, ask yourself which candidate will appoint the best justices.
- 2. Border Security. Acts 17:26 *“And God has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell upon all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and **the boundaries of their dwellings.**”* When God divided up the promised land for Israel, he divided it up according to boundaries and borders. If He is in favor of boundaries and borders, than He is in favor of defending those defined borders. So, national defense is important and at the same time if you know the heart of God, he is also favorable toward the alien. Zechariah 7:10 says, “Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor. We should take care of the widow and the fatherless and the alien, but when it comes to the alien, we have legal ways for them to come into the country. There are millions who have come into this country the legal way and it’s taken them years to get their citizenship, but now there are 20 million who have been streaming across the southern border getting free hotels, free phones, free college education and why? Because some people think it will develop into a voting block at the expense of our national security. (I have a friend who was at the border and saw several coach busses bringing in aliens and, on every

bus, exited a young, military age male from China.) Where is the Border Czar? So ask yourself, which candidate will best protect our national security?

3. **Israel:** Genesis 12:3 says: *“I will bless those who bless thee (Israel) and curse those who curse thee (Israel); and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”* NKJV I am not saying that everything that Israel is right, but I know that we need to be an ally of Israel because He will bless those who bless them and curse those who curse them. We can’t have our politicians cozying up to the enemies of Israel. There must not be daylight between Israel in terms of our support. We need to stop criticizing the Prime Minister of Israel. He is in the most difficult position we can imagine and under tremendous pressure and scrutiny. When Benjamin Netanyahu came to address congress in July of 2024, it was a disgrace that Vice President Harris was not sitting behind him on the dias and in all fairness, J.D. Vance was out campaigning and was not present either. The USA must show its unwavering support for the nation of Israel because the threat against Israel is great from Hamas, Hezbollah, the proxies of Iran, and we must put pressure on Iran and stop unfreezing their assets and do all we can to show our unwavering support for Israel because he who blesses Israel will be blessed and he who curses Israel will be cursed. Ask yourself, which candidate will best support Israel?
4. **Religious Liberty:** Exodus 20:3- *“You shall have no other gods before Me.”* There are 613 laws in the Old Testament that are summarized in the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20. The first of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:3 written above) is called the Conscience Clause because it means that if my allegiance is supremely to God, there are to be no other gods, no one else, no other thing that I worship above God. That means that I need not bow down to or submit to anything or anyone that conflicts or competes with my loyalty or allegiance to the Supreme God of Heaven. We need to ask ourselves in this election, who will best support the conscience clause, especially on the level of religious freedom? It means that doctors who refuse to do abortions on religious grounds won’t be forced to. It means that cake bakers and graphic designers and photographers who object to

providing their services on the grounds of religious liberty, won't be forced to. It means that companies that object to providing abortifacient drugs as part of their health care program won't be forced to. It means that Christian who object to taking a vaccination on religious grounds will not lose their jobs. So, ask yourself, who will best support the religious liberties and America's conscience because we have only one God that we should bow down to.

5. **Biological Sex (Gender):** Genesis 1:27- *“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God, He created him; male and female He created them.”* NKJV God makes it clear in Gen. 1:27 that in the image of God He created them, male and female He created them. God assigns biological sex in the womb. We don't decide if we want to be a different gender. To support that, legitimize it or celebrate it is contributing to mental illness instead of helping people to realize the beautiful design that God created them to be. That's what we should be about. Booker T. Washington said that “A lie doesn't become truth and wrong doesn't become right and evil doesn't become good just because it's accepted by a majority.” 14 states presently have Transgender Shield Health Care laws, among them, Minnesota. Governor Tim Walz signed legislation last year making Minnesota a Trans Refuge state. If a minor child is unable to obtain gender affirming care because one or both parents object, the Minnesota law allows courts to have “temporary emergency jurisdiction over the child.” Governor Walz signed that into law. They are coming after your children. These laws of gender confusion led to biological boys competing in girls' sports, using girls bathrooms, denying girls their fundamental protection of their Title Nine rights that they deserve. So, which candidate will best protect God's biological design for gender?
6. **Family:** Ps. 127:3- *“Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord; the fruit of the womb is a reward.”* We have seen that parental rights have been incrementally stripped. We've had to fight for parental rights. Children are being targeted by Progressive evil agendas. That's not an overstatement. That is happening. We have to fight for our children. God has designed the family and entrusted children to our care. They don't belong to the state. They belong to God and God has entrusted

them to us so we better manage what he's given us and realize that if government tries to intrude into the family, it's a violation of God's design is intended. Children are a heritage from the Lord and the fruit of the womb is a reward.

7. **Life:** Acts 3:15- God is called the "*Author of Life.*"

Proverbs 6:17- God hates "*hands that shed innocent blood.*"

So, the question is, which candidate will best protect life? We do not have a prolife candidate in this race for President. Donald Trump has moved much more to the center than he did in 2016 and 2020. He is now advocating for a 15-week ban on abortion. It really means a 15-week allowance for abortion. CDC's number is 95% of all abortions in America happen in the first 15 weeks. When you go around saying that you are for abortion in the first 15 weeks, it's like saying, "I'm killing fewer babies than the other person." By his influence, Trump has stripped the Republican National Platform of its strong language that used to support life in 2016 and 2020. The number of words in the Republican Platform protecting life in 2016 and 2020 were 1300 words. It's been paired down in 2024 to 90 words. The protection of life is not there like it once was. This is of great concern. What is tragic in our nation right now is that all truthfulness is that the Republican Party today, on the area of abortion, is what the Democrat Party was 30 years ago. Thirty years ago, Bill Clinton was the one who said that abortion should be safe, legal and rare. That's basically what many in the Republican Party are saying today. We've become the Democrat Party of 30 years ago on this topic. The other side is far worse and believes that it should be legal in all cases up until the moment of delivery. This is Kamala Harris' policy advocating no restrictions on abortion, celebrating murder and using as a campaign slogan, "Reproductive Rights." No, it's murdering babies. And in case you don't think she's serious about it, why was it allowed outside the doors of the Democrat National Convention for there to be a mobile abortion clinic aborting babies as they were having their convention? If that does not speak to evil, I don't know what does. How can someone vote for that? Those who murder the unborn cannot be trusted to murder the born.

Voting is not just a right, it's a duty. In Luke 12, Jesus teaches a parable about two servants who work for the same master. The master goes away and entrusts his work and his possessions to his servants. And when he returns, what does he find? One He calls an evil servant because he did not take care of what was given him. He was a bad steward. The other was called a wise and faithful servant because he took care of what the master entrusted to him. It's a picture of Christ, He is the master gone away for a time. We are just serving Him. He has given us much, and one of the things He was entrusted to us is to live in America, one of the greatest and freest countries in the world. He's entrusted this freedom to us and we know the saying, Freedom isn't free. Are we just going to let the vote be up to others? We have to face it. Every election has been about the lesser of two evils. We have to decide what we can do to advance the Kingdom of God. We need to stem the tide of evil in our land until Jesus comes. If we check out, if we remain silent, evil will rush into the vacuum. That's why it is incumbent to be engaged in all of this. You might have to hold your nose when you go to vote, but the alternative is far worse. What will happen if we don't stay engaged? There are 90 million evangelicals eligible to vote. Of that 90 million, 40 million do not vote. And of that 90 million, 15 million are not registered to vote. That's 55 million Christians who say, "I'll let evil take over because I'm going to do nothing." We have no one to blame but ourselves when evil policies rule the nation. *Righteousness exalts a nation. Sin is a reproach to the people. When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; when the wicked are in authority, the people groan.*

God used William Wilberforce in the British Parliament to outlaw slavery in the British colonies. It was his Christian faith that moved him to take the lead on this. Wilberforce said, "Let it not be said that I was silent when I was needed."

Fredrick Douglas once said, "I will unite with anyone to do right and with no one to do wrong." In WW11, the United States joined forces with a bad guy, Stalin, to defeat a worse guy named Hitler. Sometimes that what we need to do.

In closing, in the 1940's, Adolf Hitler gathered all the prominent clergy in Germany at his place in Berlin, and he wanted to assure them that he had their backs. Churches in Germany were state subsidized and he said that with him in charge he would take care of their subsidies and their churches would not be harmed. One of the men in that room, Dietrich Bonhoeffer stepped up to confront Hitler and when he did, the other clergy took a step back. Bonhoeffer said, "Hehr Hitler, we are not concerned for the church, for Jesus Christ will take care of his church. We are concerned for the soul of Germany. Hitler said, "Hehr Bonhoeffer, you need not worry about the soul of Germany, I will take care of the soul of Germany." Friends, government is not the answer for the soul of a nation. Jesus is, and may God bring revival again to the United States of America. He is our only hope!