



Let's Talk - Politics

Part One

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1 John 4:4-6 (NLT)

4 But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world. 5 Those people belong to this world, so they speak from the world's viewpoint, and the world listens to them. 6 But we belong to God, and those who know God listen to us. If they do not belong to God, they do not listen to us. That is how we know if someone has the Spirit of truth or the spirit of deception.

1. Politics Is Every Christian's _____

1 Corinthians 10:31 (TEV)

31 Well, whatever you do, whether you eat or drink, do it all for God's glory.

For, above all other spheres of human life, the Devil claims politics for his own, as almost the citadel of his power.

– C.S. Lewis to Don Giovanni Calabria (August 10, 1953)

POLITICS, n. A strife of interests masquerading as a contest of principles. The conduct of public affairs for private advantage.

—Ambrose Bierce, *The Devil's Dictionary*

2. Do Our Politics _____ Our Faith, Or Does Our Faith Influence Our Politics?

1 Corinthians 12:3 (NKJV)

3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

3. Political _____ On Divine Assignment

It is possible for you to work for an ungodly political party, not espousing their agenda, not voting for their candidate, and still be faithful in your service to God.

Naaman's Conflict of Interest

2 Kings 5:18-19 (NLT)

18 However, may the LORD pardon me in this one thing: When my master the king goes into the temple of the god Rimmon to worship there and leans on my arm, may the LORD pardon me when I bow, too."

19 "Go in peace," Elisha said. So Naaman started home again.

The Prophet & Pagan King

1 Kings 18:3-6 (NLT)

3 So Ahab summoned Obadiah, who was in charge of the palace. (Obadiah was a devoted follower of the LORD. 4 Once when Jezebel had tried to kill all the LORD's prophets, Obadiah had hidden 100 of them in two caves. He put fifty prophets in each cave and supplied them with food and water.) 5 Ahab said to Obadiah, "We must check every spring and valley in the land to see if we can find enough grass to save at least some of my horses and mules." 6 So they divided the land between them. Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

1 Kings 18:7-16 (NLT)

7 As Obadiah was walking along, he suddenly saw Elijah coming toward him. Obadiah recognized him at once and bowed low to the ground before him. "Is it really you, my lord Elijah?" he asked. 8 "Yes, it is," Elijah replied. "Now go and tell your master, 'Elijah is here.'" 9 "Oh, sir," Obadiah protested, "what harm have I done to you that you are sending me to my death at the hands of Ahab? 10 For I swear by the LORD your God that the king has searched every nation and kingdom on earth from end to end to find you. And each time he was told, 'Elijah isn't here,' King Ahab forced the king of that nation to swear to the truth of his claim. 11 And now you say, 'Go and tell your master, "Elijah is here."' 12 But as soon as I leave you, the Spirit of the LORD will carry you away to who knows where. When Ahab comes and cannot find you, he will kill me. Yet I have been a true servant of the LORD all my life. 13 Has no one told you, my lord, about the time when Jezebel was trying to kill the LORD's prophets? I hid 100 of them in two caves and supplied them with food and water. 14 And now you say, 'Go and tell your master, "Elijah is here."' Sir, if I do that, Ahab will certainly kill me." 15 But Elijah said, "I swear by the LORD Almighty, in whose presence I stand, that I will present myself to Ahab this very day." 16 So Obadiah went to tell Ahab that Elijah had come, and Ahab went out to meet Elijah.

ANSWERS:

1. CONCERN
2. INFLUENCE
3. MISSIONARIES