

## **The Vote You Cast**

This is a call to moral and spiritual responsibility in view of the fact that God rules in the kingdoms of men (Dan 4:17). God ordained human governments, and He grants men, and sometimes women, the power to rule (Rom 13:1; Jn 19:10-11; Jud 4-5). He oversees every seat of power, even down to the lowest level (Matt 6:10). But governments, like individuals, don't always make honorable decisions. God is not honored when that happens, and when God is not honored severe and tragic consequences follow (Rom 2:8-9).

In God's providence, we are given a solemn privilege and duty; we may vote for or select the officers in our government. What should guide us in those decisions? Here are three suggestions.

1. **Will he use his authority to honor God and to do what is best for those who elected him to office (1 Tim. 2:1-2)?**
2. **Will he work to protect the innocent and punish the guilty (Rom 13:1-6)?**
3. **Has he conducted his life with wisdom or foolishness (Eccl 10:5-7)?**

Every person in a position of authority in government presides over matters that affect the health and wellbeing of others. Therefore, he must not use his authority to serve selfish interests. His ambition cannot be to please an influential few. He must discharge his duty with a strong sense of justice or what is right. To do that he must first consider the law, and then he must make lawful decisions that will improve the physical welfare and moral climate of a community. Let us pray (and vote) for a candidate of moral integrity, one who values the principles of righteousness and truth established by God in His word (Psa 119:40, 142, 144, 172; 2 Tim 3:16-17). – *By Boyd Jennings*

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Sunday: 9:30; 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.