

## The Importance of Voting – by Wayne Grudem to share with Christians and pastors

**Wayne Grudem**, respected theologian, and author, wrote the book *Politics According to the Bible*, a wealth of knowledge and wonderful resource. Here is an excerpt on our need to be a significant influence on culture and government.

“Consider how many political issues that now face the United States (and that face other nations) have significant moral components to them. For example, ...war, same-sex marriage..., abortion..., pornography..., poverty..., care for the environment..., capital punishment..., education..., moral standards...

“I am convinced that there is a great need for Christians to study and discuss and then speak publicly about these issues. But if pastors and church members say, “I’ll let somebody else speak about that,” where will a nation’s moral standards come from?

“To put it another way, if Christians do not speak publicly about moral and ethical issues facing a nation, who will? Where will people learn about ethics? Where will a nation learn how to tell right from wrong? Perhaps from Hollywood movies? From their friends at work or at the local bar? From their professional counselors? ...The simple fact is that if Christians do not speak publicly about what the Bible teaches regarding issues of right and wrong, there aren’t many other good sources for finding any transcendent source of ethics, any source outside of ourselves and our own subjective feelings and consciences.

“This is a matter of utmost importance for any nation: If Christians are silent about such moral and ethical issues, then where will moral standards come from?” ...

“...For several reasons, then, I am convinced that it is right for Christians to seek to bring “significant Christian influence” to bear on civil governments.... One good way to become better informed is to discuss some key political issues in a church small group. A helpful new resource for this, including quotations of key Bible passages, statement from well-known political leaders of the past and present, and questions for discussion, is a book by Hugh Hewitt, *The Good and Faithful Servant: A Small Group Study on Politics and Government for Christians*.

“...The great freedoms that citizens have in the U.S. came only as a result of great sacrifice on the part of millions of others...If so many have given their very lives to protect and preserve our nation, then do the rest of us who receive such great benefits from these sacrifices not have an obligation to do something more than merely voting? Should we not participate at least at some level in giving money or giving time to support specific candidates and issues? Or

writing letters or helping to distribute literature? Or even running for office...Is it not right that all of us at least do *something* more than merely voting to preserve and protect this nation?"