

The 2012 Election and the Heart of America

November 08, 2012

I venture to say that many were perplexed about the election results this November. Is European socialism what drove the vote of this last election? I certainly believe there is an element in the voting block that subscribes to such. Is it simply because Obama is such a polished fellow that he is able to get elected again after proving failed policies for four years and then blaming these failures on his predecessor? Perhaps many are able to believe something like that and overlook these blunders. But I think there is something deeper as to why America voted the way she did. It is a mindset; it is a way of life that now flows through a large percentage, perhaps a slim majority of people in America. It is amplified by the abundance of misinformation and error that exists. Few news outlets break real news anymore but have become cheerleaders for secular progressivism. There is also a misplaced dependency and trust in man which will in time prove only to be a broken arm.

We as a nation are running away from God and to a new national idol, the "government." More and more people depend on and trust the government for their daily bread than the one true God. Praying and working for it seems to be a thing of the past for a large constituency of voters. The government, with their pursuit to redistribute, has become a golden calf among us. I was doubtful that this nation would rehire the president for four more years with the amassing of national debt to over 16 trillion, unemployment to 7.9%, lack of transparency, an overabundance of incompetence and deceit (such as what happened in the tragedy of Benghazi), and the rise of energy and food costs to unthinkable levels. With all of that and more, it seemed very improbable that America would give the administration a second chance. But I do not believe this second chance is simply because America is merciful to the administration. Where President Carter was once defeated, America reelects President Obama. How so?

America has changed socially, demographically and I suggest most significantly, spiritually. It is not visibly recognizable or comparable to her founding. Her prevailing mind seems to no longer be concerned with "What can I do for my country?" but rather, "What can my country do for me?" The original pursuits of the founders are floundering today.

America's current thinking is flawed and her goals misdirected. We no longer stand "In God We Trust," but rather, we are now given over to polytheistic praise. We honor the government as a savior and provider. Such a government has strayed from her basic function of punishment to evildoers and praise of those who do good (1 Pet. 2:14).

We worship the god of "pleasure" as the vote to legalize marijuana for recreational use proves. If alcohol, then why not marijuana? If marijuana, why not cocaine? Paul warned, "For men will be lovers of themselves... lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God..." (2 Tim. 2:2, 4)¹. One might respond, "It is only two states!" Yet what is brought in by two states can easily in time be brought in by all. Further, it is not only Washington and Colorado who have people that are lovers of pleasure! Bars, drugs, prostitution and places for pornography have become leprous spots on our national landscape.

We have built altars to other gods as well. The god of corruption is held up by our telling the true God what exactly constitutes a marriage. We have taken His family unit which is defined as a life covenant between a man and a woman and changed it to whatever the people want. But God's word still says,

"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh" (Eph. 5:31).

We honor the god of convenience by dealing with unwanted pregnancies with a violent and murderous fashion of first labeling the unborn as something less than human and then cutting them and discarding them as we would trash. Many have created the smoke screen of rape to cloud the issue and justify its end of taking human life. The overwhelming vast majority of unwanted pregnancies come from consensual sexual immorality.

Why women have abortions

1% of all abortions occur because of rape or incest; 6% of abortions occur because of potential health problems regarding either the mother or child, and 93% of all abortions occur for social reasons (i.e. the child is unwanted or inconvenient).ⁱⁱ

The one percent is used to prop up the ninety-three! Further, while my heart deeply weeps for those who were violated in such circumstances, one person's sin does not justify another person to sin. Because my house was robbed does not grant me the right to rob another's. Likewise, potential health problems are not "certain" health problems. However, cutting up and killing an unborn child is certain death to that child. God notes the death of the innocent in whatever form it may exist (2 Kin. 21:16; Prov. 6:17). Our land is polluted by the shedding of innocent blood to the god of convenience.

"They even sacrificed their sons And their daughters to demons, and shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and daughters, Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with blood" (Ps. 106:37, 38).

We have also erected the golden calf of gambling which is built by the love of self and the love of money. Greed is the antithesis of what made this nation great, yet we see more and more legalized greed throughout our country in various casinos and lotteries.

How can God, who desires to bless a nation that is righteous continue to bless America?

"For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, nor shall evil dwell with You" (Ps. 5:4).
"Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people" (Prov. 14:34).

These elections that come and go, in my mind, serve as somewhat of a barometer of our national identity and soul. It is not the candidates that determine the mindset and pulse of our nation, but the folks display the national interests who vote in the candidates. Until the heart of the people turn to God and embrace the gospel where His righteousness is revealed, we will never begin to identify the real eroding forces in America and we will never tap into the actual and lasting solutions to what makes a nation exalted. Laws and votes do not elevate a nation, but righteousness does.

--Steven J. Wallace

Addendum #1 (11/04/2016)

As we approach the election, one might ask? "Has the last four years rendered the decision to rehire Obama as a sound decision?" "Has the heart of the American people changed in the course of four years?" "Have we continued down the path of being more dependent upon the government and less on

God?" This election will continue to tell the tale of the heart of America. The deep issues upon the American landscape are often skewed by side issues.

It is ironic how people are agitated in thought about Trump based on *accusations*. I have no doubt that he has evil in his past but neither he is nor his supporters are beyond redemption. It is further ironic that those who condemn Trump on the treatment and judgment of women hold up Hilary as someone who is supposed to be in stark contrast? But why not ask, "Who has hired more women to good paying jobs?" Trump and Clinton? Further, what about the treatment of children? Why only stop with women? Who is the one in favor of murdering children (in the womb)! This election is not based on who was for abortion, but rather who is presently for it. I think the decision of this election is not based on who has sinned, but who wants to further sin along, promote criminal activity, and spread corruption. "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people" (Prov. 14:34)

This election is not based on who is rich or who became rich. They both are *really rich*. Rather, it is based on who has become personally enriched at the expense of others, of our selling out our resources, of doing inside trading, of selling out our country, through abuse and corruption of the use of power versus one who profited from legal industry. This decision is not about who wants immigration. They both do. It is about who wants to bring in illegal immigrants who can radically change and harm this nation. This year's election is not about who talks tougher against violence, but rather who accurately identifies terrorists and who wants to empower criminals by making it harder for peaceful abiding citizens to own weapons for protection. For these reasons and more, the choice could not be clearer.

Addendum #2 (11/09/2016)

With a large voter turnout, this country has politically rejected four more years of bigger government, political corruption, and the continued loss of personal and religious liberties. Yet at the same time, it is surprising, that at least on the date of this writing, a slim majority of votes were cast for Hilary Clinton. Knowing that her character is generally viewed with disdain or deeply "flawed" at best, how could such a number vote for her? Even more confusing is this number when coupled with the fact that she appears to be someone who generally thirsts for power, lies to cover up corruption with which she had personally become enriched, and shows little remorse and concern while dismissing epic failures such as Benghazi. Furthermore, she ran a political platform that is morally bankrupt regarding infanticide, what constitutes marriage, and defense of homosexuality and the transgender movement. How could one get so much of the popular vote? It is disturbing.

Is it because voters are uninformed? Perhaps since most of the media only hailed praises for her. Likely many are content to only get information from one source or two biased sources. Is it because they are tolerant of corruption? Imaging such is hard. Is it because they agree with her positions against the helpless unborn and gender perversions to which she espouses? This may likely be the case seeing that now more and more states are also legalizing dope as something to be used for recreational purposes. If Americans are okay with one can confidently lie, justify sexual immorality, and murder, then why not also accept modern sorcery (recreational drug use, see Rev. 21:8).

It is nothing new that abominable persons and corrupt systems can grow enormously powerful and threatening. Such tyranny faced Christianity in her first three centuries and confused the apostle John:

"I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement" (Rev. 17:6).

God knows what is in the heart of man and He is the one who raises up powers and takes them down. While everyone is perplexed at how this election could have gone the way it did, I am not so much. No man should forget the *God factor*.

God's power and will has largely been dismissed in the modern political analyses offered. Yet, there is no reason to believe that God's providence is not at work in His marvelous ways during this (or any other election for that matter) to effect and wake up the heart of man to bring about a bigger and better end.

“And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding” (Dan. 2:21).

He can use days of darkness to bring about seasons of light. He can use the righteous and the wicked to change a course which people are on. In fact, He can use a “Josiah” or even a “Jehu” to “drain the swamp” of corruption if He chooses. Let us never forget that Jesus is “King of kings and Lord of lords” (Rev. 17:14; 1 Tim. 6:15). Let us kiss the Son in worship, pray and trust in God's deliverance, teach people the gospel, and pray for and obey those who rule over us (Ps. 2:12; Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Tim. 2:1-7).

ⁱ All verses are from the New King James Translation

ⁱⁱ The Center For Bio-Ethical Reform, <http://www.abortionno.org/abortion-facts/>