



DEMOCRATS

- Philosophy: Liberal / Socialist
- Economics: Favour minimum wages and higher tax rates for higher income bracket
- Stand on military issues: Decreased spending
- Gay marriage: Support (some Democrats disagree)
- Pro-abortion (some Democrats disagree)
- Traditionally strong in states: California, Massachusetts
- Famous Presidents: Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton.



"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth."

1 Tim 2:1-4

A Christian response to the AMERICAN ELECTIONS

—by Peter Hammond

Later this month, Barack Hussein Obama will be inaugurated as the 57th President of the United States. His second term in office will last another four years and carries world-wide implications in the spheres of international politics, economics, social justice, religious freedom and so much more.

Noting this, Christians in America and around the world are asking themselves: "Now what?". How should they respond to the consecutive loss of the Republicans and the blatant culture shift in values

is no time for depression; rather it is the ideal time to re-organise for a counter attack. We need to pray and rally the troops. There is always the danger of victory putting conservatives to sleep.

Inevitable consequences...

The Bible teaches us that we tend to get the governments we deserve. Throughout the Old Testament, wicked governments are seen as a judgement of God on a wicked population. If we get the governments we deserve, then what does

When we look at society, we see that the effects of degenerate entertainment and secular humanist education have been devastating.



that has taken place in the USA?

This is no time for despondency!

Napoleon declared: "A good general must neither be elated by victory, nor depressed by defeat." He pointed out that immediately after a victory you are very vulnerable. Your troops are celebrating, drinking and looting, dispersed and disorganised, elated by victory, and therefore very vulnerable to counter attack.

For those confronted by defeat, there

that tell us about our society?

What we sow is what we reap. Everything has consequences...

In education, the effects of generations of secular-humanist, evolutionary, situation-ethics brainwashing have obviously taken their toll. In entertainment, the degenerate content generally spewed out from Hollywood has been a great distraction, and in many ways, also a degrading influence. In the news media, deception has abounded and most people's perception about reality and

world news is distorted.

Where did it all go wrong?

So where have we failed? And more importantly, what does the state of our government and these elections tell us about our churches? All too many of our churches have been inward looking, neutralised, side-lined into passivity and inactivity (both in America and globally).

A post-mortem of events

The Republican Party should be doing

been defeated by a moderate Republican candidate. Only a strongly conservative candidate, such as Ronald Reagan, has succeeded in defeating a sitting Democratic president.

Inconsistency within the party alienates many voters

While the Republican Party has many fine pro-life, pro-family planks in their platform, it does not seem to be consistently applied to their candidates, or policies, once in office.

Surely this US election was a wake up call for Christians everywhere - where the choice for president was between a militant pro-abortionist and a mormon.

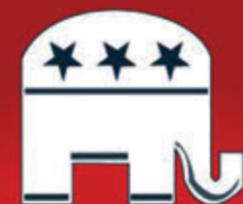
some serious heart-searching during their post-mortem of this past election. It is a fact that the Republican Party has alienated millions of Protestants and Evangelicals. Over 30 million Evangelists did not vote at all! The Republican Party should ask themselves: "Why?"

Matters of faith are important

Many Protestants told me that they could not, in good conscience, vote for a Mormon president. Others pointed out that no sitting Democratic president has ever

The Republican Party should ask themselves how have they alienated millions of Evangelical voters? And they should plan their future campaigns to re-inspire the confidence of those who have been alienated by their track record of broken promises and compromise.

They also need to learn to connect with voters from varying backgrounds and demographic groups (Latinos, black voters and the youth), as these are the very groups Obama harnessed so well with the majority of the vote. »



REPUBLICANS

- Philosophy: Conservative
- Economics: Believe taxes shouldn't be increased for anyone and that wages should be set by the free market
- Stand on military issues: strong militants
- Gay marriage: Oppose (some Republicans disagree)
- Against legalisation and promotion of abortion (some Republicans disagree)
- Traditionally strong in states: Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas
- Famous Presidents: Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan, George Bush.



"Blessed be the Name of God forever ...to whom belongs wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; He removes kings and sets up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; He reveals deep and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him."

Dan 2:20-23

"The legacy we leave behind for our children, grandchildren and this great nation is crucial. As I approach my 94th birthday, I realise this election could be my last. I believe it is vitally important that we cast our ballots for candidates who base their decisions on Biblical principles and support the nation of Israel. I urge you to vote for those who protect the sanctity of life and support the Biblical definition of marriage between a man and a woman. Vote for Biblical values and pray with me that America will remain one nation under God."

- Billy Graham

What other Christian leaders had to say:



"The election returns and voting data indicate that President Obama's 'evolution' on the issue of same-sex marriage cost him nothing. Given the trajectory of his first term in office, we are urgently concerned about a second term, knowing that the President will never again face the electorate."

- Albert Mohler



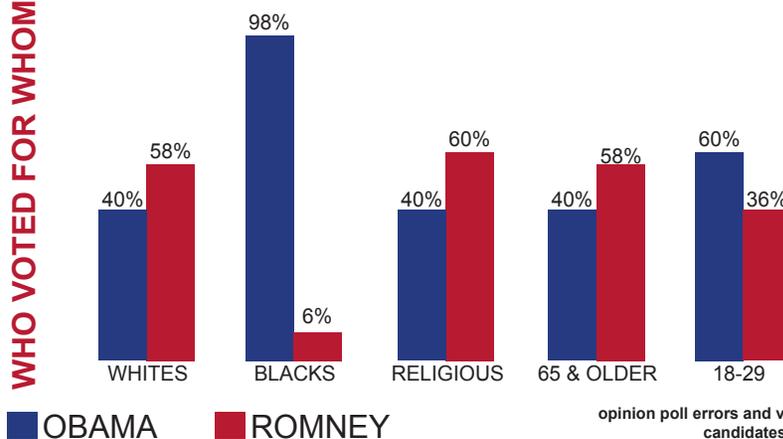
"How many kings has He seen come and go? How many nations has He seen stand and fall? He is above them all. And He oversees them all.

So, while others get anxious, we don't. We pray."

- Max Lucado

A Christian response to the AMERICAN ELECTIONS

WHO VOTED FOR WHOM



opinion poll errors and votes for independent candidates distort the statistics

Apathy is our biggest enemy

Pro-life and pro-family ministries have pointed out that whenever there has been a Republican/Conservative in the White House, interest in, and support for, conservative causes plummeted.

However, their best times for recruiting, mobilising and campaigning has been during the Clinton and Obama eras. Practically speaking, some of the best years for serious spiritual work and education at grassroots level have been when leftists have dominated the White House, such as during the Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton

knowing and everywhere present. They fail to recognise the power in the Word of God, the power of prayer, the power of obedient action, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Recapture the culture

Of course there are serious problems, and of course there is always hope. "You see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lays waste, and its gates are burned with fire. Come and let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer be a reproach." Neh 2:17.

It should also be pointed out that bad times are good for spiritual work.

Bad times are good for spiritual work; we need to galvanise our people and churches to urgent action so as to recapture the culture!



and Barack Obama years. It was the Moral Majority movement that brought about the double landslide victory for Ronald Reagan in 1980 and 1984.

Avoiding the extremes

There are two extremes. On the one extreme are those who say there is no problem. They ignore the reality of the total depravity of man in rebellion to God and in violation of all of His Laws.

On the other extreme there are those who see no hope. They ignore the reality that God is Sovereign, All-powerful, All-

We need to galvanise our people to urgent action to reclaim and reform the culture shaping institutions of education, entertainment, and the news media. Our churches need Biblical reformation and spiritual revival.

"Those from among you shall build the old waste places; you shall rise up the foundations of many generations, and you shall be called the Repairer of the breach. The Restorer of streets to dwell in." Isa 58:12. ■

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