

YOUR VOTE COUNTS (2)

2019-05-12

- Recap: We're called to be salt and light **Matthew 5:13-16**
- We have a responsibility to vote because every vote counts:
GALATIANS 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap

POST ELECTION ENCOURAGEMENT

- Even if every born again Christian voted according to Christian values and principles, there wouldn't be enough votes to win the election because we're the minority.
- This means that only God can bring about a change in South Africa
- However, every Christian will be held accountable for who and what we voted for.
- Our cross on a ballot paper, is a silent way of saying: "this is who I vote for and the values I hold"
MATTHEW 12:36 But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment
- When praying about South Africa, I perceived that God said two things to me:

Firstly: The majority of the population needs to discern the difference between curds and honey:
ISAIAH 7:14-15 "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. Curds and honey He shall eat, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good."

- The challenge is that evil is being called good:
ISAIAH 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

- The Holy Spirit needs to change peoples hearts, not our clever arguments.

- Jesus said these things would happen:

MATTHEW 18:6-7 "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes"

2 TIMOTHY 3:1-5 "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!"

Secondly: I asked the Lord what do we do in the interim and I felt the Lord said the following:

MATTHEW 22:37-39 "Jesus said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. 'This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself."

- God showed me this image of an object, completely surrounded by a sphere, the sphere being the world, closely watching, waiting for this love to be unfolded.

ROMANS 8:18-19 “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.”

- God is watching the world watching the church

CARE GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Why do you think it's important for citizens to be given an opportunity to vote?
2. What do you understand by the statement: “religion and politics shouldn't mix”? And do you think this is true? Justify your answer.
3. What role should the church play in politics, if any?
4. What is your personal responsibility towards your country, if only God can change the nation anyway?