



WHERE DO YOU STAND? *Amended from Eagle Mountain International Church **The Political Platforms by Pastor George Pearsons**

Many have been overwhelmed and frustrated over our nation's upcoming election.

It is time to look at the two political platforms and see what each one says about particular issues. Politicians will make decisions on our behalf based upon the platform on which they stand. That platform will be politicians' driving agenda for all future legislation.

In this study guide, Pastor George will help you compare the two platforms to God's Word on key issues:

- Where do you stand on Israel?
- Where do you stand on abortion?
- Where do you stand on religious liberty?
- Where do you stand on same-sex marriage?
- Where do you stand on the Supreme Court and judges?

Your assignment is to determine which platform best aligns with God's Word.

Also available are Pastor George's messages on these issues, ministered at Eagle Mountain International Church. To view these, go to www.emic.org/platforms.

Remember, God's Word is the voice by which all human voices are judged. Your vote is your God-given responsibility and the seed that will produce your future environment.

WHERE DO YOU STAND?

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An Assignment From the Prophet

Why We Must Vote

A. An Assignment From the Prophet

1. I was visiting with Brother Copeland on September 22, 2012.
2. “George, you need to preach on the two political platforms.”
 - a. Look at what each one says about a particular issue.
 - b. Compare the two platforms to God’s Word.
 - c. Determine which platform best aligns with God’s Word.
3. Make it really clear that a platform and its planks are what we stand on. 4. To vote for that platform is to attach yourself to it and to the judgment it holds. 5. You could vote for a person for some other reason, but if they are an abortionist, you are an accomplice.

B. What Is an Accomplice?

1. Any person who votes for someone knowing they promote abortion is an accomplice to murder.
2. An accomplice is a person who is involved in the committing of a crime, no matter the degree of participation.
3. For example, a lookout sitting in a getaway car during a bank robbery.
4. The person in the car will face the same prosecution as the person he is assisting.
5. You will be an accomplice to whatever platform you align yourself to.

C. “Nobody Pays Attention to Those Platforms”

1. First of all, God knows what is on those platforms—He has read them. 2. Secondly, they were written by “We the People”—representatives from every state in the Union.
3. Thirdly, politicians will be making their decisions on our behalf based upon the platform they embrace and stand on.
 - a. That platform is the driving agenda for all future legislation.
 - b. It is what the party is going to push for the next four years.
 - c. It is what will directly impact our culture as a nation.

D. Why We Must Vote—Quotes from Kenneth Copeland

1. “Tell My people wherever you go...those who vote for politicians knowing their immoral policies and platforms and illegal acts had better repent. They are partners with those politicians and will be responsible for every baby’s death. You have taken the devil’s part by not voting at all.”
2. “I will,” saith The LORD, “hold you responsible for voting for whom I tell you to vote. And you can’t get out of it by not voting. I’ll hold you responsible for voting for the

- wrong one if you do that.”
3. “Some are saying they just won’t vote. Actually, they just did. They are still an accomplice because they knew about a crime and they did nothing to stop it.”
 4. “That vote is your God-given responsibility and the seed that will produce your future environment.”
 5. “Pray over these elections. Pray and seek Me and I’ll reveal to you how to vote. It is important that you vote. For you see, I gave you the privilege of living in a country where you have a say in your government. But if you will not obey Me, if you will not listen to Me, and you do not vote, then you have not activated the seed of obedience that will cause Me to be able to take care of you—whoever is elected.”
 6. “When the Church is silent and doesn’t vote, the wicked continue to elect the wicked and the people continue to suffer.”
 7. “Everything that is going wrong in our nation is not to be laid at the feet of the politicians, the Democrats, the Republicans, the Independents or the Libertarians. It is laid at the feet of the Body of Christ. We are the ones with the authority over the devil and we are the ones who are responsible.”

E. 1 Kings 18:21 (NIV)—How Long Will You Waver Between Two Opinions?

1. Where do you stand on Israel?
2. Where do you stand on abortion?
3. Where do you stand on religious liberty?
4. Where do you stand on same-sex marriage?
5. Where do you stand on judges and the Supreme Court?
6. God’s Word is the voice by which all human voices are judged.
7. Your assignment is to read the platforms and determine which one lines up with God’s Word.

WHERE DO YOU STAND?

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Israel

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM¹

“...and ensure that Israel always has the ability to defend itself” (page 43).

“A strong and secure Israel is vital to the United States because we share overarching strategic interests and the common values of democracy, equality, tolerance, and pluralism. That is why we will always support Israel’s right to defend itself, including by retaining its qualitative military edge, and oppose any effort to delegitimize Israel, including at the United Nations or through the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement.

“We will continue to work toward a two-state solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict negotiated directly by the parties that guarantees Israel’s future as a secure and democratic Jewish state with recognized borders and provides the Palestinians with independence, sovereignty, and dignity. While Jerusalem is a matter for final status negotiations, it should remain the capital of Israel, an undivided city accessible to people of all faiths. Israelis deserve security, recognition, and a normal life free from terror and incitement. Palestinians should be free to govern themselves in their own viable state, in peace and dignity” (pages 49–50).

¹Quotes from the Democratic Platform, as posted online by demconvention.com, <https://www.demconvention.com/platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 43, 49, 50.

WHERE DO YOU STAND?

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Israel

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM²

“We condemn the campus-based BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) campaign against Israel. It is anti-Semitism and should be denounced by advocates of academic freedom” (page 35).

“Our Unequivocal Support for Israel

Like the United States of America, the modern state of Israel is a country born from the aspiration for freedom and stands out among the nations as a beacon of democracy and humanity. Beyond our mutual strategic interests, Israel is likewise an exceptional country that shares our most essential values. It is the only country in the Middle East where freedom of speech and freedom of religion are found. Therefore, support for Israel is an expression of Americanism, and it is the responsibility of our government to advance policies that reflect Americans’ strong desire for a relationship with no daylight between America and Israel. We recognize Jerusalem as the eternal and indivisible capital of the Jewish state and call for the American embassy to be moved there in fulfillment of U.S. law.

“We reaffirm America’s commitment to Israel’s security and will ensure that Israel maintains a qualitative military edge over any and all adversaries. We support Israel’s right and obligation to defend itself against terror attacks upon its people and against alternative forms of warfare being waged upon it legally, economically, culturally, and otherwise. We reject the false notion that Israel is an occupier and specifically recognize that the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement (BDS) is anti-Semitic in nature and seeks to destroy Israel. Therefore, we call for effective legislation to thwart actions that are intended to limit commercial relations with Israel, or persons or entities doing business in Israel or in Israeli-controlled territories, in a discriminatory manner.

“The United States seeks to assist in the establishment of comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, to be negotiated among those living in the region. We oppose any measures intended to impose an agreement or to dictate borders or other terms, and we call for the immediate termination of all U.S. funding of any entity that attempts to do so. Our party is proud to stand with Israel now and always” (page 47).

²Quotes from the Republican Platform, as posted online by gop.com, <https://www.gop.com/the-2016-republican-party-platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 35, 47.

Israel

Where Does the Bible Stand?

A. Where Does the Bible Stand on Israel?

1. Genesis 17:7-8 (NIV-84): “I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”
2. Zechariah 2:8 (AMPC): “For thus said the Lord of hosts, after [His] glory had sent me [His messenger] to the nations who plundered you—for he who touches you touches the apple or pupil of His eye.”
3. Genesis 12:3 (NIV): “I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”
4. Exodus 23:22 (NIV): “If you listen carefully to what he says and do all that I say, I will be an enemy to your enemies and will oppose those who oppose you.”
 - a. Hebrew = I will afflict them that afflict you.
5. Isaiah 41:11-12 (NIV): “All who rage against you will surely be ashamed and disgraced; those who oppose you will be as nothing and perish. Though you search for your enemies, you will not find them. Those who wage war against you will be as nothing at all.”
6. Zechariah 12:1-5 (NIV-84): “This is the word of the Lord concerning Israel. The Lord, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the spirit of man within him, declares: ‘I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves. On that day I will strike every horse with panic and its rider with madness,’ declares the Lord. ‘I will keep a watchful eye over the house of Judah, but I will blind all the horses of the nations. Then the leaders of Judah will say in their hearts, “The people of Jerusalem are strong, because the Lord Almighty is their God.”’”

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B. Joel 3:2—A Stern Warning to Both Parties Concerning Israel

1. There are two criteria by which any nation is judged:
 - a. By the way they treat Israel
 - b. What they do about the land
2. Joel 3:2 (AMPC): “I will gather all nations and will bring them down into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, and there will I deal with and execute judgment upon them for [their treatment of] My people and of My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations and [because] they have divided My land.”
3. There is a direct connection between U.S./Middle East policy decisions and catastrophic events.
4. *Eye to Eye—Facing the Consequences of Dividing Israel* book by William Koenig³
 - a. The parallels are astounding.
 - b. We met him in New York.
5. August 23-30, 2005: Hurricane Katrina information from the Koenig World Watch Daily website.
 - a. On August 22, 2005, President George W. Bush honors Veterans of Foreign Wars at the National Convention in Salt Lake City.
 - b. “In the heart of the Middle East, a hopeful story is unfolding. After decades of shattered promises and stolen lives, peace is within reach in the Holy Land. The Palestinian people have expressed their desire for sovereignty and peace in free and fair elections.... This past week, Prime Minister Sharon and the Israeli people took a courageous and painful step by beginning to remove settlements in Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank. The Israeli disengagement is an historic step that reflects the bold leadership of Prime Minister Sharon.... We are providing \$50 million in direct assistance to the Palestinians for new housing and infrastructure projects in Gaza.”—President Bush⁴
 - c. Israel’s disengagement evacuation and eviction began on Wednesday, August 17, and ended on Tuesday, August 23.
 - d. On Tuesday afternoon, August 23, Tropical Depression 12 formed.
 - e. By 11 a.m. on Wednesday, August 24, the newly formed tropical depression was upgraded to Tropical Storm Katrina.
 - f. By 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 25, Katrina became a hurricane.
 - g. On Friday, August 26, Hurricane Katrina hit Southeast Florida.
 - h. By Monday, August 29, Katrina had become a fierce and enormous Category 4 hurricane that hit Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama—devastating the city of New Orleans. It is now being called the largest natural disaster in U.S. history. i. On Wednesday, August 17, 2005, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon authorized the mandatory evacuation of residents refusing to evacuate Gaza. j. On Wednesday, September 7, 2005, New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin ordered the mandatory evacuation of the crippled Crescent City. Soldiers had to force out some of the holdouts.

³Information on Hurricane Katrina, as posted online by watch.org,
<http://www.watch.org/eye-to-eye/incredible-parallels-between-israel-and-us-evacuations-bill-koenig> (accessed July 25, 2016).

⁴Quote by President George W. Bush, as posted online by watch.org,
<http://www.watch.org/eye-to-eye/incredible-parallels-between-israel-and-us-evacuations-bill-koenig> (accessed July 25, 2016).

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k. Israeli settlers stated that the Gaza and Samaria evictions will go down as the worst abandonment of Jews in history and the largest forced evacuation in Israel's history.

l. Katrina has produced the largest mass migration and evacuation in U.S. history as hundreds of thousands of people were forced from their homes. m. Nine thousand Israelis were evicted by their government.

n. Shortly thereafter, one million Americans were evicted by Hurricane Katrina.

o. At the same time people were going homeless in Gaza, people were going homeless in New Orleans.

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WHERE DO YOU STAND?

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Abortion

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM⁵

“We will appoint judges who defend the constitutional principles of liberty and equality for all, and will protect a woman’s right to safe and legal abortion...” (page 25).

“We will fight Republican efforts to roll back the clock on women’s health and reproductive rights, and stand up for Planned Parenthood” (page 34).

“Securing Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice

“Democrats are committed to protecting and advancing reproductive health, rights, and justice. We believe unequivocally, like the majority of Americans, that every woman should have access to quality reproductive health care services, including safe and legal abortion—regardless of where she lives, how much money she makes, or how she is insured. We believe that reproductive health is core to women’s, men’s, and young people’s health and well-being. We will continue to stand up to Republican efforts to defund Planned Parenthood health centers, which provide critical health services to millions of people. We will continue to oppose—and seek to overturn—federal and state laws and policies that impede a woman’s access to abortion, including by repealing the Hyde Amendment” (page 37).

“We will support sexual and reproductive health and rights around the globe. In addition to expanding the availability of affordable family planning information and contraceptive supplies, we believe that safe abortion must be part of comprehensive maternal and women’s health care and included as part of America’s global health programming. Therefore, we support the repeal of harmful restrictions that obstruct women’s access to health care information and services, including the “global gag rule” and the Helms Amendment that bars American assistance to provide safe, legal abortion throughout the developing world” (page 46).

⁵Quotes from the Democratic Platform, as posted online by demconvention.com, <https://www.demconvention.com/platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 25, 34, 37, 46.

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Abortion

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM⁶

“The Fifth Amendment: Protecting Human Life

“The Constitution’s guarantee that no one can “be deprived of life, liberty or property” deliberately echoes the Declaration of Independence’s proclamation that “all” are “endowed by their Creator” with the inalienable right to life. Accordingly, we assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to children before birth.

“We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood, so long as they provide or refer for elective abortions or sell fetal body parts rather than provide healthcare. We urge all states and Congress to make it a crime to acquire, transfer, or sell fetal tissues from elective abortions for research, and we call on Congress to enact a ban on any sale of fetal body parts. In the meantime, we call on Congress to ban the practice of misleading women on so-called fetal harvesting consent forms, a fact revealed by a 2015 investigation. We will not fund or subsidize healthcare that includes abortion coverage.

“We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity of innocent human life. We oppose the non-consensual withholding or withdrawal of care or treatment, including food and water, from individuals with disabilities, newborns, the elderly, or the infirm, just as we oppose euthanasia and assisted suicide.

“We affirm our moral obligation to assist, rather than penalize, women who face an unplanned pregnancy. In order to encourage women who face an unplanned pregnancy to choose life, we support legislation that requires financial responsibility for the child be equally borne by both the mother and father upon conception until the child reaches adulthood. Failure to require a father to be equally responsible for a child places an inequitable burden on the mother, creating a financial and social hardship on both mother and child. We celebrate the millions of Americans who open their hearts, homes, and churches to mothers in need and women fleeing abuse. We thank and encourage

⁶ Quotes from the Republican Platform, as posted online by gop.com, <https://www.gop.com/the-2016-republican-party-platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 13, 14, 37.

commonsense Texas laws providing for basic health and safety standards in abortion clinics.

“We applaud the U.S. House of Representatives for leading the effort to add enforcement to the Born-Alive Infant Protection Act by passing the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which imposes appropriate civil and criminal penalties on healthcare providers who fail to provide treatment and care to an infant who survives an abortion, including early induction delivery whether the death of the infant is intended. We strongly oppose infanticide. Over a dozen states have passed Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Acts prohibiting abortion after twenty weeks, the point at which current medical research shows that unborn babies can feel excruciating pain during abortions, and we call on Congress to enact the federal version. Not only is it good legislation, but it enjoys the support of a majority of the American people. We support state and federal efforts against the cruelest forms of abortion, especially dismemberment abortion procedures, in which unborn babies are literally torn apart limb from limb.

“We call on Congress to ban sex-selection abortions and abortions based on disabilities—discrimination in its most lethal form. We oppose embryonic stem cell research. We oppose federal funding of embryonic stem cell research. We support adult stem cell research and urge the restoration of the national placental stem cell bank created by President George H.W. Bush but abolished by his Democrat successor, President Bill Clinton. We oppose federal funding for harvesting embryos and call for a ban on human cloning.

“The Democratic Party is extreme on abortion. Democrats’ almost limitless support for abortion, and their strident opposition to even the most basic restrictions on abortion, put them dramatically out of step with the American people. Because of their opposition to simple abortion clinic safety procedures, support for taxpayer-funded abortion, and rejection of pregnancy resource centers that provide abortion alternatives, the old Clinton mantra of “safe, legal, and rare” has been reduced to just “legal.” We are proud to be the party that protects human life and offers real solutions for women” (pages 13-14).

“We support the right of parents to consent to medical treatment for their minor children and urge enactment of legislation that would require parental consent for their daughter to be transported across state lines for abortion” (page 37).

“We call for a permanent ban on federal funding and subsidies for abortion and healthcare plans that include abortion coverage” (page 37).

WHERE DO YOU STAND?

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Abortion

Where Does the Bible Stand?

A. Where Does the Bible Stand on Abortion?

1. Deuteronomy 30:19 (NKJV): “I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.”
2. Proverbs 6:16-19 (NIV-84): “There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.”
3. Psalm 139:13-16 (NLT): “You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.”
4. Isaiah 44:2 (NIV): “This is what the Lord says—he who made you, who formed you in the womb, and who will help you...”
5. Isaiah 46:3 (NIV-84): “Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all you who remain of the house of Israel, you who I have upheld since you were conceived, and have carried since your birth.”
6. Jeremiah 1:5 (NIV): “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”
7. Psalm 22:31 (NIV): “They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!”
8. Psalm 78:5-6 (NIV): “He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.”
9. Ecclesiastes 11:5 (AMPC): “As you know not what is the way of the wind, or how the spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a pregnant woman, even so you know not the work of God, Who does all.”

10. Luke 1:15 (NASB): “For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother’s womb.”
11. Luke 1:41-42, 44 (NASB): “When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. And she cried out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ...For behold,

when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy.”

12. 1 Corinthians 3:17 (NLT): “God will destroy anyone who destroys this temple.

For God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple.”

Religious Liberty
DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM⁷

“We support a progressive vision of religious freedom that respects pluralism and rejects the misuse of religion to discriminate” (page 19).

“We reject Donald Trump’s vilification of Muslims. It violates the religious freedom that is the bedrock of our country and feeds into ISIS’ nefarious narrative. It also alienates people and countries who are crucial to defeating terrorism; the vast majority of Muslims believe in a future of peace and tolerance” (page 42).

“Religious Minorities

We are horrified by ISIS’ genocide and sexual enslavement of Christians and Yezidis and crimes against humanity against Muslims and others in the Middle East. We will do everything we can to protect religious minorities and the fundamental right of freedom of religion” (page 47).

⁷ Quotes from the Democratic Platform, as posted online by demconvention.com, <https://www.demconvention.com/platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 19, 42, 47.

Religious Liberty

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM⁸

“The First Amendment: Religious Liberty

The Bill of Rights lists religious liberty, with its rights of conscience, as the first freedom to be protected. Religious freedom in the Bill of Rights protects the right of the people to practice their faith in their everyday lives. As George Washington taught, “religion and morality are indispensable supports” to a free society. Similarly, Thomas Jefferson declared that “No provision in our Constitution ought to be dearer to man than that which protects the rights of conscience against the enterprises of the civil authority.”

“Ongoing attempts to compel individuals, businesses, and institutions of faith to transgress their beliefs are part of a misguided effort to undermine religion and drive it from the public square. As a result, many charitable religious institutions that have demonstrated great success in helping the needy have been barred from receiving government grants and contracts. Government officials threaten religious colleges and universities with massive fines and seek to control their personnel decisions. Places of worship for the first time in our history have reason to fear the loss of tax exempt status merely for espousing and practicing traditional religious beliefs that have been held across the world for thousands of years, and for almost four centuries in America. We value the right of America’s religious leaders to preach, and Americans to speak freely, according to their faith. Republicans believe the federal government, specifically the IRS, is constitutionally prohibited from policing or censoring speech based on religious convictions or beliefs, and therefore we urge the repeal of the Johnson Amendment.

“We pledge to defend the religious beliefs and rights of conscience of all Americans and to safeguard religious institutions against government control. We endorse the First Amendment Defense Act, Republican legislation in the House and Senate which will bar government discrimination against individuals and businesses for acting on the belief that marriage is the union of one man and one woman. This Act would protect the nonprofit tax status of faith-based adoption agencies, the accreditation of religious educational institutions, the grants and contracts of faith based charities and small businesses, and the licensing of religious professions—all of which are under assault by elements of the Democratic Party. We encourage every state to pass similar

⁸ Quotes from the Republican Platform, as posted online by [gop.com](https://www.gop.com), <https://www.gop.com/the-2016-republican-party-platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 11, 12.

legislation. We likewise endorse the efforts of Republican state legislators and governors who have defied intimidation from corporations and the media in defending religious liberty. We support laws to confirm the long-standing American tradition that religious individuals and institutions can educate young people, receive government benefits, and participate in public debates without having to check their religious beliefs at the door.

“Our First Amendment rights are not given to us by the government but are rights we inherently possess. The government cannot use subsequent amendments to limit First Amendment rights. The Free Exercise Clause is both an individual and a collective liberty protecting a right to worship God

according to the dictates of conscience. Therefore, we strongly support the freedom of Americans to act in accordance with their religious beliefs, not only in their houses of worship, but also in their everyday lives.

“We support the right of the people to conduct their businesses in accordance with their religious beliefs and condemn public officials who have proposed boycotts against businesses that support traditional marriage. We pledge to protect those business owners who have been subjected to hate campaigns, threats of violence, and other attempts to deny their civil rights.

“We support the public display of the Ten Commandments as a reflection of our history and our country’s Judeo-Christian heritage and further affirm the rights of religious students to engage in voluntary prayer at public school events and to have equal access to school facilities. We assert the First Amendment right of freedom of association for religious, private, service, and youth organizations to set their own membership standards” (pages 11–12).

Religious Liberty

Where Does the Bible Stand?

A. Where Does the Bible Stand on Religious Liberty?

1. Matthew 24:14 (NKJV): “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”
2. There is no question concerning God’s attitude about religious freedom.
 - a. The gospel will be preached in spite of what anyone thinks.
 - b. No legislation will stop it or hold it back.
3. God will have His way and the Word will be preached to the nations.
4. Malachi 1:11 (AMPC): “For from the rising of the sun to its setting My name shall be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered to My name, and indeed a pure offering; for My name shall be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.”
 - a. Psalm 22:28 (NKJV): “For the kingdom is the Lord’s, and He rules over the nations.”
 - b. Psalm 67:4 (NKJV): “Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy! For You shall judge the people righteously, and govern the nations on earth. Selah.”
 - c. Psalm 72:11 (AMPC): “Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him, all nations shall serve Him.”
 - d. Psalm 82:8 (AMPC): “Arise, O God, judge the earth! For to You belong all the nations.”
 - e. Psalm 113:4 (NKJV): “The Lord is high above all nations, His glory above the heavens.”
5. Philippians 2:9-11 (NIV-84): “Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Same-Sex Marriage

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM⁹

“Guaranteeing Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights

Democrats applaud last year’s decision by the Supreme Court that recognized that LGBT people—like other Americans—have the right to marry the person they love” (page 19).

⁹Quotes from the Democratic Platform, as posted online by demconvention.com, <https://www.demconvention.com/platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 19, 46.

Same-Sex Marriage

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM¹⁰

“Defending Marriage Against an Activist Judiciary

Traditional marriage and family, based on marriage between one man and one woman, is the foundation for a free society and has for millennia been entrusted with rearing children and instilling cultural values. We condemn the Supreme Court’s ruling in *United States v. Windsor*, which wrongly removed the ability of Congress to define marriage policy in federal law. We also condemn the Supreme Court’s lawless ruling in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, which in the words of the late Justice Antonin Scalia, was a “judicial Putsch”—full of “silly extravagances”—that reduced “the disciplined legal reasoning of John Marshall and Joseph Storey to the mystical aphorisms of a fortune cookie.” In *Obergefell*, five unelected lawyers robbed 320 million Americans of their legitimate constitutional authority to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman. The Court twisted the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment beyond recognition. To echo Scalia, we dissent. We, therefore, support the appointment of justices and judges who respect the constitutional limits on their power and respect the authority of the states to decide such fundamental social questions” (page 11).

“Our laws and our government’s regulations should recognize marriage as the union of one man and one woman and actively promote married family life as the basis of a stable and prosperous society. For that reason, as explained elsewhere in this platform, we do not accept the Supreme Court’s redefinition of marriage and we urge its reversal, whether through judicial reconsideration or a constitutional amendment returning control over marriage to the states” (pages 31-32).

¹⁰Quotes from the Republican Platform, as posted online by gop.com, <https://www.gop.com/the-2016-republican-party-platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 11, 31, 32.

Same-Sex Marriage

Where Does the Bible Stand?

A. Genesis 1-2—What Does God’s Word Say About Same-Sex Marriage and Homosexuality in the Old Testament?

1. Genesis 1:27-28; 2:18, 21-25—God’s original plan for marriage.
2. Genesis 19:4-7 (NLT): “But before they retired for the night, all the men of Sodom, young and old, came from all over the city and surrounded the house. They shouted to Lot, ‘Where are the men who came to spend the night with you? Bring them out to us so we can have sex with them!’ So Lot stepped outside to talk to them, shutting the door behind him. ‘Please, my brothers,’ he begged, ‘don’t do such a wicked thing.’”
3. Leviticus 18:22-30 (NLT): “Do not practice homosexuality, having sex with another man as with a woman. It is a detestable sin. A man must not defile himself by having sex with an animal. And a woman must not offer herself to a male animal to have intercourse with it. This is a perverse act. Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, for the people I am driving out before you have defiled themselves in all these ways. Because the entire land has become defiled, I am punishing the people who live there. I will cause the land to vomit them out. You must obey all my decrees and regulations. You must not commit any of these detestable sins. This applies both to native-born Israelites and to the foreigners living among you. All these detestable activities are practiced by the people of the land where I am taking you, and this is how the land has become defiled. So do not defile the land and give it a reason to vomit you out, as it will vomit out the people who live there now. Whoever commits any of these detestable sins will be cut off from the community of Israel. So obey my instructions, and do not defile yourselves by committing any of these detestable practices that were committed by the people who lived in the land before you. I am the Lord your God.”
 - a. *Detestable* (NLT) is *Abomination* (KJV) (HEB) = Disgusting
 - b. *Defiled* (HEB) = Polluted, unclean, impure
4. Leviticus 20:13 (AMPC): “If a man lies with a male as if he were a woman, both men have committed an offense (something perverse, unnatural, abhorrent, and detestable).”
5. Malachi 2:15 (NLT) “[Speaking to the priests] Didn’t the Lord make you one with your wife? In body and spirit you are his. And what does he want? Godly children from your union. So guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth.”

B. Romans 1—What Does God’s Word Say About Same-Sex Marriage and Homosexuality in the New Testament?

1. Verses 26-29 (AMPC): “For this reason God gave them over and abandoned them to vile affections and degrading passions. For their women exchanged their natural function for an unnatural and abnormal one, and the men also turned from natural relations with women and were set ablaze (burning out, consumed) with lust for one another—men committing SHAMEFUL ACTS with men and suffering in their own bodies and personalities the inevitable consequences and penalty of their wrong-doing and going astray, which was

- [their] fitting retribution. And so, since they did not see fit to acknowledge God or approve of Him or consider Him worth the knowing, God gave them over to a base and condemned mind to do things not proper or decent but loathsome, until they were filled (permeated and saturated) with every kind of unrighteousness, iniquity, grasping and covetous greed, and malice.”
2. Hebrews 13:4: “Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled.”
 3. 1 Corinthians 7:1-4 (NLT): “Now regarding the questions you asked in your letter. Yes, it is good to abstain from sexual relations. But because there is so much sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband. The husband should fulfill his wife’s sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband’s needs. The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife.”
 4. Ephesians 5:25, 31: “Husbands [GK = men] love your wives [GK = women], even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it.... For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and shall be joined unto his wife, and the two shall be one flesh.”
 5. Galatians 6:7-8 (NKJV): “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.”

The Supreme Court and Judges

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM¹¹

“Guaranteeing Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights

Democrats applaud last year’s decision by the Supreme Court that recognized that LGBT people—like other Americans—have the right to marry the person they love” (page 19).

“Appointing Judges

We will appoint judges who defend the constitutional principles of liberty and equality for all, and will protect a woman’s right to safe and legal abortion...” (page 25).

¹¹ Quotes from the Democratic Platform, as posted online by demconvention.com, <https://www.demconvention.com/platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 19, 25.

The Supreme Court and Judges REPUBLICAN PLATFORM¹²

“We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity of innocent human life” (page 13).

“We condemn the Supreme Court’s activist decision in *Whole Woman’s Health v. Hellerstedt* striking down commonsense Texas laws providing for basic health and safety standards in abortion clinics” (page 14).

“Defending Marriage Against an Activist Judiciary

In *Obergefell*, five unelected lawyers robbed 320 million Americans of their legitimate constitutional authority to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman. The Court twisted the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment beyond recognition. To echo Scalia, we dissent. We, therefore, support the appointment of justices and judges who respect the constitutional limits on their power and respect the authority of the states to decide such fundamental social questions” (page 11).

¹² Quotes from the Republican Platform, as posted online by gop.com, <https://www.gop.com/the-2016-republican-party-platform/> (accessed July 28, 2016), pages 11, 13, 14.

The Supreme Court and Judges

Where Does the Bible Stand?

A. Where Does the Bible Stand on the Supreme Court and Judges?

1. 2 Chronicles 19:5-7 (AMPC): “He appointed judges throughout all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city, and said to the judges, Be careful what you do, for you judge not for man but for the Lord, and He is with you in the matter of judgment. So now let the reverence and fear of the Lord be upon you; take heed what you do, for there is no injustice with the Lord our God, or partiality or taking of bribes.”
2. Deuteronomy 16:18-20 (NLT): “Appoint judges and officials for yourselves from each of your tribes in all the towns the Lord your God is giving you. They must judge the people fairly. You must never twist justice or show partiality. Never accept a bribe, for bribes blind the eyes of the wise and corrupt the decisions of the godly. Let true justice prevail, so you may live and occupy the land that the Lord your God is giving you.”
3. Ezra 7:25 (NLT): “And you, Ezra, are to use the wisdom your God has given you to appoint magistrates and judges who know your God’s laws to govern all the people in the province west of the Euphrates River. Teach the law to anyone who does not know it.”
4. Isaiah 1:25-26 (AMPC): “And I will bring My hand again upon you and thoroughly purge away your dross [as with lye] and take away all your tin or alloy. And I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning; afterward you shall be called the City of Righteousness, the Faithful City.”
5. The original Supreme Court
 - a. They would pray for God’s wisdom before ruling.
 - b. They often quoted the Bible for their decisions.
 - c. “Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.” —*John Jay, First Supreme Court Justice*¹³

¹³Quote by John Jay, *The Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay*, Henry P. Johnston, ed. (New York: G.P. Putnam’s Sons, 1890), Vol. IV, page 365.

B. Remember These Three Things as We Pray Over the Supreme Court

1. Remember who God is.
 - a. Isaiah 33:22 (NIV): “For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; it is he who will save us.”
 - b. Psalm 50:6—God is the judge of the earth.
 - i. We must know what the Judge has to say and get on His side.
2. Remember who we are.
 - a. We are the righteousness of God in Christ.

- b. We occupy till He comes.
3. Remember it is an awakening unto God that will save this nation.

Don't Forget the Awakening!

One thing will save America, and it is not the election. It is an awakening to God.

The best person in the world could be elected president of the United States and it would do no good if the people do not awaken to God.

The future of this nation is not in the hands of the politicians. There isn't a politician anywhere who is wise enough to guide this country safely through the challenges and threats it is facing these days. Only God can do it.

And, it is prayer, not politics, that brings God's power and wisdom on the scene.²⁶