

07.06.25: The Intersection of Faith and Politics

Title: Intersection of Faith and Politics

Scripture: Psalm 2

- Some would say cannot mix at all
- Practically no way around the mixing of the two
- Every culture/society makes and enforces laws based on a standard
 - Not a question of legislating morality
 - Is a question of what system of morals are we legislating
- I am perpetually astounded at how people who call themselves Christians seem unable to think through and sort out politics and legislation as they come into inevitable contact with our faith
- To want a nation that has laws based on Biblical truth is not Christian nationalism.

Defeat

10 years ago → Obergefell and redefinition of marriage

- Erosion of marriage and destructive effects on families
- Normalization of deviancy and perversion
- Erosion of religious liberty
- Erosion of parental rights
- We lament and pray for the overturning of this decision
- We stand against any idea of marriage and family that comes against God's design for them, not to harm but specifically for the opposite to help

Victory

- Supreme court rulings
 - States can prevent child abuse in the form of transgender surgeries - U.S. v. Skrmetti
 - Medina v. Planned Parenthood South Atlantic, the justices ruled, 6-3, that South Carolina can legally block Planned Parenthood facilities from receiving Medicaid funding.
 - Mahmoud v. Taylor [The Supreme Court](#) upheld the religious freedom of Maryland parents who challenged a school district policy that prevented them from opting their children out of lessons involving LGBTQ+ books. The court ruled, 6-3, that the Maryland parents were entitled to a preliminary injunction.
 - The Supreme Court ruled 6-3 Friday regarding a [Texas law](#) that makes it more difficult for children to access pornography. The ruling in the case of [Free Speech Coalition v. Paxton](#) could have a larger reach beyond the Lone Star State. Texas [joined 19 other states](#) to require pornographic websites to verify their users are age 18 or older.
- Defunding of Planned Parenthood – robbing you and me of our money and sending it to this despicable organization killing millions of innocent babies primarily in inner city
- These are not “political” victories. These are righteous victories.
- Our battle is not a political one -it is a spiritual one. But make no mistake about it, some of the most significant spiritual battles are being fought in the political arena
- And for us as Christians to not be involved in politics because the kingdom of God is a spiritual kingdom is to misunderstand and misapply so much of the Bible! When we fail to engage for what is true and right and good and just we allow those who have no fear of the

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lord and thus no wisdom and no knowledge of the truth to dictate for our culture what is acceptable and what is not.

The enemy is sneaky in his deception. He is an expert in diversionary tactics.

- History and battles where diversion is used as a tactic
- Movies where the thieves will create a diversion in one area in order to draw attention from another

What he does is get us fighting over one thing over here in order to miss what he is really trying to sneak in over there

- Feminism and real attack on men –
 - Feminism has pitted women against men in a sort of zero sum net gain/loss scenario and Arguments over who should be doing what
 - With the focus elsewhere, men's legs have been cut out from under them in fulfilling their roles as provider and protector of women and families and builders of cultures and nations
- Racism and real ignoring of culture discussions
 - The deception is that the argument is over pigment in skin
 - The reality is that groups of people live in communities with shared values, virtues, and vices; we have been denied the opportunities to have those most important discussions

As is always the need for us, especially when there seems to be confusion, let's turn to God's word for some help in navigating the intersection of faith and politics

Continuation of Ps 1 and intro to the Psalms as a whole

Ps 2 is to the collective what Ps 1 was to the individual. Whereas Psalm 1 was a spotlight shining on the individual heart and individual decisions that lead to an individual life that is either fruitful and thriving or useless, Ps 2 is more of a flood light shining into the culture at large.

1. the arrogance and delusion of the majority / people / nations / the sinful

- Vs 1-3
- We should not be surprised when peoples are led to rise up against God
- Biblically – nations consistently against Israel in the OT and the church in the NT
- Practically in history
- Example of Diocletian (d 311) 2x pillars in Spain "...for having everywhere abolished the superstition of Christ, for having extended the worship of the gods." And "for having extended the Roman Empire in the east and west, and having extinguished the name of Christian, who brought the Republic to ruin."
- The delusion v 3– that God's law is binding, preventing us from living our best lives – when in fact it is freeing, enabling us to live our best lives!

2. The reminder of Who is in charge

- Vs 4-6
- The Lord laughs and ridicules those who would presume to be able to stand against him

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- God's response to the arrogance and delusion of the nations is that He has installed his king on his holy mountain!"
- Gulliver and Lilliputians
- Ezek 29

¹⁷In the twenty-seventh year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: ¹⁸"Son of man, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon made his army labor strenuously against Tyre. Every head was made bald and every shoulder chafed, but he and his army received no compensation from Tyre for the labor he expended against it. ¹⁹Therefore, this is what the Lord GOD says: I am going to give the land of Egypt to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, and he will carry off its wealth, seizing its spoil and taking its plunder. This will be his army's compensation. ²⁰I have given him the land of Egypt as the pay he labored for, since they worked for me." This is the declaration of the Lord GOD. ²¹"In that day I will cause a horn to sprout for the house of Israel, and I will enable you to speak out among them. Then they will know that I am the LORD."

3. God's glorious and gracious victory

- Vs 7-9
- Coronation psalm and statement to king of Israel, if He will ask, God will give him/them the nations
- Has been God's intent all along – to reveal himself through his people to all the nations
- This is true in his care and provision for Israel
- This is true in his wrath against sinful nations in the prophets – the repeated refrain in the prophets "that they may know that I am the Lord!"
- The connection to THE king, Jesus
- The connection to the mission of the church in the Great Commission in Matt 28 – make disciples of all nations
- God has a glorious and gracious plan to overcome the scheming of men and to rescue us all from the chains of our sin

4. The warning we must heed

- vs 7-9
- Just as with individuals, this Psalm presents us with only Two options for nations – no "third way"
- There is the right way, God's way
- There is every other way – the wrong ways have many names
- There is only one right way

Conclusion:

- Connections between the individual and the collective
- Response is for us in both realms, but individually
- Acts 4:13-31 but esp 24-30 – Peter and John and the disciples' boldness

²⁴When they heard this, they raised their voices together to God and said, "Master, you are the one who made the heaven, the earth, and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵You said through the Holy Spirit, by the mouth of our father David your servant:

Why do the Gentiles rage

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and the peoples plot futile things?

**²⁶The kings of the earth take their stand
and the rulers assemble together
against the Lord and against his Messiah. '**

²⁷ “For, in fact, in this city both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, assembled together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, ²⁸to do whatever your hand and your will had predestined to take place. ²⁹And now, Lord, consider their threats, and grant that your servants may speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰while you stretch out your hand for healing, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

We are not free to proclaim the truth because a piece of paper in a case in Washington DC says we are. We are free to proclaim the truth because we have been set free to do so in his power as a part of his glorious plan. People and nations will come against but to no avail. He has promised victory and the nations in the end.