

Political or Biblical Correctness?

Dr. Jay Zinn • River's Edge • 10/3/10

God reveals himself to us as **King** (Ruler) — Our Creation Commission & Cultural Mandate

God reveals himself to us as **Redeemer** — Our Redemption Commission & Evangelistic Mandate

Matt 6:9-13 (NIV)

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, **your kingdom** come, **your will** be done **on earth as it is in heaven.**" —*Jesus*

Matt 28:18-20 (NIV)

"All **authority in heaven and on earth** has been given to me. Therefore go and **make disciples of all nations** ... baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to **obey everything** I have commanded them." —*Jesus*

Matthew Henry:

"The principal intention of this commission is clear; it is **to do your utmost to make the nations Christian nations.**"

The Great Commission Mandate is two-fold:

- 1) Cultural Mandate (*societal discipleship*)
- 2) Evangelistic Mandate (*redemption through Christ*)

Historian Alice M. Baldwin of the New England Clergy at the time of the American Revolution:

"To many of the clergy the spirit of the day seemed to be disorderly and lawless and they feared for the welfare of the government. They believed it **their particular business** to be '**watchmen on the tower,**' to scent out and warn against danger and **to set men right as to the principles upon which they were to act and the views they were to hold.**"

Matt 5:10-16

"**Blessed** are those who are **persecuted because of righteousness**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"**Blessed** are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you **because of me**. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

"You are the **salt of the earth**. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? **It is no longer good for anything**, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

"You are **the light of the world**. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, **let your light shine before men**, that they may **see your good deeds** and praise your Father in heaven. *NIV*

Matt 10:32-39

"Whoever **acknowledges me before men**, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. But whoever **disowns me before men**, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.

"Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. **I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.** For I have come to turn a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'

"Anyone who loves his father or mother **more than me** is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter **more than me** is not worthy of me; and anyone who **does not take his cross and follow me** is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and **whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.**" *NIV*

Matt 15:1-14

Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, "**Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders?** They don't wash their hands before they eat!"

Jesus replied, "And **why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?** For God said, 'Honor your father and mother' and 'Anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death.' But you say that if a man says to his father or mother, 'Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is a gift devoted to God,' he is not to 'honor his father' with it. Thus **you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition.** You **hypocrites!** Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:

"These people **honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.** They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men."

Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen and understand. What goes into a man's mouth does not make him 'unclean,' but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him 'unclean.'"

Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you know that **the Pharisees were offended** when they heard this?"

He replied, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. Leave them; they are blind guides. If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit." *NIV*

Luke 3:1-4

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch [co-emperor] of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, **the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert.** He **went into all the country** around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of **repentance for the forgiveness of sins.** *NIV*

2 Chron 7:13-15

"When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by my name, will **humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, THEN** will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." *NIV*

Mal 3:7-12

"**Return to me,** and I will return to you,' says the Lord Almighty...**then** all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,' says the Lord Almighty." *NIV*

Luke 3:7-14, 18-20

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "**You brood of vipers!** Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

"What should we do then?" the crowd asked.

John answered, "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same."

Tax collectors also came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?"

"Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them.

Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?"

He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely — be content with your pay."

.....

And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them. But **when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of Herodias,** his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison. *NIV*

Luke 13:31-33

At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. **Herod wants to kill you.**"

He replied, "**Go tell that fox,** 'I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' In any case, I must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!" *NIV*

STAND! Reuel McFarland—wrote in an email I received from him yesterday (10/2/10):

Stand! What keeps us from doing right; taking a stand?

I was in a pizza place in a college town in the USA a few months back, where really disrespectful sexual innuendos/gross language was part of a really fun contest in the place. Yuck.

My Christian friends saw me take notice; asked if we should leave.

“LEAVE?!” I said, “Why should WE leave? The only leaving that’ll be going on today is the enemy- he just needs reminding!” I was more concerned for The Lord’s reputation than pizza.

I spoke to the two guys emceeding the event; appealed to their consciences (we all have one); asked if they’d do this if their parents or grandparents were there.

They began to make excuses...

We all do this—misusing our powers of reason to rationalize sin.

Since I’m a former professional at this, I was able to—without condemnation—**share how to do the right thing**; that there were Christians—not to mention ladies—present, how to respect others, and that I had higher expectations; I believed in them to do the right thing, and that by no means were they going to continue disgusting us all, excuses notwithstanding.

Their last defense followed: “Well, you don’t understand—this is a college town—this is how we do things!”

“Well, things are changing, starting now!” I said. I reminded them of a higher standard in academic environments, and again, let them know they could be courageous and do the right thing, too.

Stunned, they immediately cleaned up their language, and we could proceed with the games at hand.

It was simply a matter of authority that I’m finally beginning to understand.

Interestingly, we’d prayed earlier that God would use us to be a witness to our server [waitress], who by her own admission was “confused by all the religions.”

She and the manager were both impacted by what I considered a very simple thing—taking a stand—not in self-righteousness, but again, out of a love for God’s reputation.

It led to an opportunity for conversations about God.

Since I’ve wasted years NOT aware or concerned with same, it’s a joy to get to do the right thing from here forward.

It was much easier to do right when we’re surrounded by other like-hearted believers. Yet there are times when we’ll be alone. What about then? I’ve not always done so well historically. Not even recently.

And then there are times when we’re around lukewarm believers in compromise—some in leadership. Are we willing to go it alone; to even suffering the consequences for what’s right?

In every case where I’ve done right and suffered for it, God has so abundantly blessed. That has been a new discovery of intimacy with Him.

If we let our love for God supplant any fear and/or concern with what others think (with this comes compassion for others) we may not be popular, but we will have peace. Also others will be inspired by The Holy Spirit to take courage themselves.

It only takes one who is willing.

As I’ve said, everyone has a conscience—yet it’s the Holy Spirit alone who can convict and change hearts. When we appeal to HIM in others, He always shows up and out!

A Time To Stand—Restoring God to His Rightful Place in America, A. Citizen, Ch. 5—Political Correctness, @2007, pgs. 49-50

THE STORY GOES SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

Four adults enter a public school classroom and discover a group of fifth grader students sitting in front of a television watching a pornographic movie...

The first adult, a liberally-minded school teacher declares, “That’s interesting. Perhaps the students are learning something in this experience. Let them continue.”

The second adult is religious theologian, fresh from a seminary known for its liberal interpretations of Scripture. He declares, “What the children are doing is probably a sin, and I will begin an in-depth study of the Old and New Testaments to prove it. In the meantime, let them continue until I can confer with my associates and be absolutely certain.”

The third adult is a Judge on the US Supreme Court. He is quite adamant about his declaration: “It would be unconstitutional to stop these children from viewing what may, in some people’s opinion, be morally objectionable and

degrading. Therefore, the children must be allowed to continue watching the movie, for they are exercising their First Amendment rights.”

The fourth adult is an agnostic and secular humanist. She declares, “Whether this is harmful to the children has not been proven utilizing any of the sophisticated scientific means at our disposal. Anyway, what one person considers “bad” another person may consider “good.”ⁱ Let the children watch the movie, then we’ll interview them and study them for an extended period of time to determine the effects, if any, that pornography has on their behavior.”

About this time, a fifth adult entered the classroom, saw what was happening and went over and pulled the plug on the TV. The others immediately demanded to know by what authority such action was taken. His answer was simple, yet profound. He replied, “I may not know much, but I’m an American who understands the meaning of *The American Way*,ⁱⁱ —and children watching pornography is absolutely wrong in the eyes of God.”ⁱⁱⁱ

An emotional debate began amongst the four adults that first entered the classroom. How dare this intruder take such bold action at the risk of offending someone? Perhaps even the children. Someone asked, “Were any civil rights violated? Another asked, “Were any feelings hurt or any psychological damage done?” Still others inquired, “Was what he did biblically correct? And does that even matter?”

Could this intruder prove beyond a doubt what he did was right? The four adult’s fury and anger were directed mostly on the intruder, whom we’ll call *Mr. A. Citizen*. But he didn’t seem to mind very much as he looked over at the children who were no longer viewing pornography. Mr. A. Citizen understood at this moment that it was **A Time To Stand** for the values he believed.

“It has now become ‘politically correct’ to object to almost nothing. If you do object to something, you must be quiet about it lest you offend someone. If you have not yet been programmed to accept everything, then at least be quiet and tolerate it! The politically correct person is, however, allowed one exception. You may object to God and those who believe in Him. You must remain hopeful that as soon as God is eliminated from our society, you will no longer have to tolerate Him. This social mandate is in direct conflict with what the Bible teaches and what most Americans believe. Some things are so wrong, so against God’s commandments that they cannot be tolerated. They cannot be ignored. They must never be encouraged. They must not be promoted as socially acceptable or taught in our schools as normal behavior. And they certainly should not be supported and paid for with tax dollars collected by our government.”^{iv} —**A. Citizen**

King Solomon on Politics:

Prov 1:8-19 — Solomon’s wisdom and warning against wrong-doers can be just as applicable in this hour when it comes to *corrupt officials* in all branches of government. His words are not politically correct. I’ve added the brackets below to replace or expand on the application of words regarding our political and economic challenges today.

“My son, if [*corrupt* government officials] entice you [to vote for them], do not give in to them. If they say, ‘Come along with us; let’s lie in wait for someone’s [life’s savings, estate inheritance, or unborn children], let’s waylay some harmless [ignorant, naïve taxpayer]; let’s swallow them alive, like the grave, and whole, like those who go down to the pit; we will get all sorts of valuable things [from unions, corporations, and the rich] and fill our [private and legislative] houses with plunder; throw in your [vote] with us, and we will share a common purse [that will take care of all your needs with federal money.]’

“—My son, do not [vote for] them, do not set foot on their [ideological] paths; for their feet rush into sin, they are swift to [drain the life out of their constituents and fellow-citizens]. How useless [for these *corrupt* government officials] to spread a net in full view of all the [common-sense, grassroots people]! These [*corrupt* politicians] lie in wait for their own [political demise]; they waylay only themselves! Such is the end of all [*corrupt* government officials] who go after ill-gotten gain [through taxation without representation]; it takes away the [political careers] of those who [rob from the rich to enable the sluggard].” *NIV*

To echo this sentiment, Thomas Jefferson once stated...

“...we must prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of **caring for them.**”

A. Citizen clarifies Jefferson’s statement with... “In other words, the federal government may ‘care for us’ so much that, before too long, we’ll have no individual rights left.”^v

Now to the Critical Biblical Issues that [American] Citizens Are Voting On this Mid-Term Election—Nov 2, 2010^{vi}

www.voteeasy.com —Issue Questions Asked with some tweaking brackets to flush out the “meaning” behind the questions:

1. **Abortion:** Do you consider yourself pro-choice [abort babies] or pro-life [ban all abortions]?
2. **Afghanistan:** Do you support United States military action [against Al-Qaeda operatives] in Afghanistan?
3. **Crime:** Do you support capital punishment for certain crimes [like murder]?
4. **Economy:** Do you support using government funds [from taxpayers] in an effort to [cross your fingers—and hopefully—with no guarantees] stimulate and improve the economy [for carefully selected recipients chosen by whom]?
5. **Education:** Do you support federal education standards and testing requirements [to hold teachers accountable for their work and the fruit of their labors] for K-12 students [just like any business would require of their employees]?
6. **Environment:** Do you support enacting environmental regulations aimed at [eliminating jobs and access to our own natural resources, forcing us to be subjugated to the energy sources of other nations so that we can feel good about ourselves at] reducing the [global warming] effects of climate change?
7. **Guns:** Do you support [progressive] restrictions on the purchase and possession of guns [by criminals and the under-aged so that we’ll not only be protected from criminals and children, we’ll be left without the ability to defend our own rights and freedoms, making ourselves vulnerable to an ever-increasing, oppressive government and eventually wipe out the 2nd Amendment]?
8. **Healthcare:** Do you support a publicly-administered health care option [which is another way of saying *single-payer* health care which finances the costs of delivering *universal health care* for the entire US population (including illegals) through a “single insurance pool” that will create another government agency through which (hopefully) some, but not all of those costs, will be met]?
9. **Immigration:** Do you support a pathway to citizenship for illegal immigrants [as long as they’re not criminals, just workers and potential voters who want to cut in front of the line of those who are waiting to come in to live and work through the—already in place—legal pathway to citizenship]?
10. **Social Issues:** Should marriage only be between one man and one woman [since same-sex partners want to claim the same legal rights afforded heterosexual married couples and do away with the discrimination of entitlements]?
11. **Social Security:** Do you support privatizing elements of Social Security [which means: Do you support shifting to a privatized system of individual mandatory accounts that can be invested in a mix of stocks and bonds that would permit individuals to obtain the full real pretax rate of return on capital. This would mean a larger capital stock and a higher national income.]?
12. **Taxes:** Do you support the elimination of a federal estate tax [i.e.—do you favor eliminating a death tax on any inheritances from your family or to your children which has been in effect since 1916? Only this year the 2001 law Bush signed, repealed the tax entirely for 2010 (under 2 million), but that legislation expires in 2011, sending the estate taxes back to their 2001 levels which could go upwards with the government taking 55% of inherited estates over \$1 million].

Highly Recommended books:

1. W. Cleon Skouson, *The 5000 Year Leap—A Miracle That Changed The World*, National Center for Constitutional Studies, © 2006.
2. A. Citizen, *A Time To Stand*, © 2007.
3. W.P. Breed, *Presbyterians and The Revolution*, AV Press, © 2008.

ⁱ **Isa 5:20**—Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness. NIV

ⁱⁱ **The American Way**—“Doing what is right in the eyes of God as explained in His Word called the Bible. That which is morally wrong, therefore, cannot be tolerated and must be stopped. To ignore it or to be indifferent to it—is to condone it. And that too is a sin in the eyes of God. *The American Way* runs in direct conflict with practicing political correctness.” (A. Citizen, **A Time To Stand**, ©2007, p. 56)

ⁱⁱⁱ **Ps 101:3**—I will set before my eyes no vile thing. —**David** NIV

^{iv} **A Time To Stand**, A. Citizen, ©2007, p. 59

^v **Ibid.**—p. 52

^{vi} www.voteeasy.org

Quotes on Voting:

*"The power under the Constitution will always be in the people. It is entrusted for certain defined purposes, and for a limited period, to representatives of **their own choosing**; and whenever it is executed contrary to their wishes, their [public] servants can, and undoubtedly will, **be recalled**."* —*George Washington*

*"Elections belong to the people. **It is their decision**. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters."* —*Abraham Lincoln*

*"Bad officials are elected by good citizens **who do not vote**."* —*George Jean Nathan*

*"Democracy is the only system that persists in asking the powers that be whether they are the powers that **ought to be**."*
—*Sydney J. Harris*

*"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being **governed by your inferiors**."* —*Plato*

*"Those who are too smart to engage in politics are punished by being **governed by those who are dumber**."* —*Plato*

*"A **patriot** must always be ready to defend his country **against his government**."* —*Author Unknown*

28 Principles of Liberty *our Founding Fathers said must be understood and perpetuated by every people who desire peace, prosperity, and freedom.* (The 5000 Year Leap—A Miracle That Changed the World, National Center for Constitutional Studies):

1. The only reliable basis for sound government and just human relations is **Natural Law**.
2. A free people cannot survive under a republican constitution unless they remain **virtuous** and **morally** strong.
3. The most promising method of securing a virtuous and morally stable people is to elect **virtuous** leaders.
4. Without **religion** the government of a free people **cannot** be maintained.
5. All things were created by God, therefore upon Him all mankind are equally dependent, and to Him they are equally responsible.
6. All men are created equal.
7. The proper role of government is to protect equal rights, **not provide equal things**.
8. Men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights.
9. To protect man's rights, God has revealed certain principles of divine law.
10. The God-given right to govern is vested in the sovereign **authority** of the **whole people**.
11. The majority of the people may alter or abolish **a government which has become tyrannical**.
12. The United States of America shall be **a republic**.
13. A constitution should be structured to permanently protect the people **from the human frailties of their rulers**.
14. Life and liberty are secure only so long as **the right of property** is secure.
15. The highest level of prosperity occurs when there is **a free market economy** and **a minimum of government regulations**.
16. The government should be separated into three branches: **legislative, executive, and judicial**.
17. A system of checks and balances should be adopted to **prevent the abuse of power**.
18. The unalienable rights of the people are most likely to be preserved if the principles of government are set forth **in a written constitution**.
19. Only limited and carefully defined powers should be delegated to government, **all others being retained in the people**.
20. Efficiency and dispatch require government to operate according to the will of the majority, but constitutional provisions must be made to **protect the rights of the minority**.
21. **Strong local self-government** is the keystone to preserving human freedom.
22. A free people should be governed by law and **not by the whims of men**.
23. A free society cannot survive as a republic without **a broad program of general education**.
24. A free people will not survive unless they stay strong.
25. "Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations: **entangling alliances with none**."
26. The **core unit which determines** the strength of any society is **the family**; therefore, the government should foster and protect its integrity.
27. The burden of **debt** is as **destructive to freedom** as subjugation by conquest.
28. The United States has a manifest destiny to be **an example and a blessing** to the entire human race.