## Politics & The Kingdom of God

### Introduction: Seeking Wisdom, Not Affiliation

In today's polarized culture, Christians often wonder: "Do I align with a party or follow the King?" At Love Church, we affirm that Jesus—not a politician—is our ultimate Lord, and politics should never eclipse that allegiance.

#### 1. Our Ultimate Allegiance Is to Christ

**Christians are citizens of heaven**, not of any political party or earthly nation (Philippians 3:20). Political identities can easily become idols—leading us to trust parties ahead of God's wisdom.

#### 2. Politics Is Important—but Not Ultimate

We do not operate from fear or tribalism. Isaiah reminds us that **all nations are merely dust before God** (Isaiah 40:15). Faithful political engagement honors government as God-ordained (Romans 13), yet it still remembers that **salvation**, **justice**, **and true hope come only from Him**.

#### 3. We Choose Kingdom Values Over Party Lines

Our political decisions flow from Kingdom ethics—justice, love, humility—not from party platforms. We examine candidates and policies through a biblical lens, not a partisan one. And at **Love Church**, **we do not endorse political candidates or parties** to ensure unity and clarity of Christ's Lordship.

#### 4. We Engage with Grace and Integrity

Christ-followers are called to be **ambassadors for Christ** (2 Corinthians 5:20), carrying truth with kindness in every conversation. Even when we disagree politically, we stay gracious, humble, and hopeful—never drifting into hate or partisanship.

#### 5. Politics with Eternal Perspective

A Kingdom mindset means seeing political engagement within a bigger story. We engage locally, pray wisely for leaders, and act ethically—knowing that **Jesus' Kingdom is advancing through hearts, communities, and culture.** Our hope does not rest in elections, but in the eternal King.

#### Why This Matters to You

- You follow Jesus, not a political brand.
- You live out Kingdom values, not party propaganda.
- You engage for justice, not for victory.
- You pray for leaders, not for political gain.

# Section 1: Biblical Wisdom for Christian Political Engagement

At **Love Church**, we believe faithful political engagement flows from following Jesus first—not party affiliation. The Bible offers clear wisdom to help us navigate politics with integrity, compassion, and Kingdom perspective:

#### Seek Justice, Mercy & Humility

Micah 6:8 reminds us:

"What does the Lord require? To act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God." God calls us to evaluate issues and policy through these lenses—not through ideology or tribalism.

#### **Pray with Purpose**

Scripture urges us to "pray for kings and all those in authority" (1 Timothy 2:1-2) and for wisdom like Solomon, as James encourages. Political engagement must begin and continue with prayer.

#### **Engage with Truth & Grace**

Christians are called to be "salt and light," speaking truth while showing grace (Matt. 5:13–16). Our words and actions should shape the political conversation through **kingdom character**, not combative rhetoric.

#### **Prioritize Kingdom Values Over Political Parties**

We weigh every candidate and policy by how sincerely they reflect God's heart—on issues like justice, dignity, and community—rather than by their party ID.

#### **Respect Authority, Stand for Justice**

Romans 13 teaches us to respect government, yet even Paul and Peter knew there are limits when authorities conflict with God's laws (Acts 5:29). We choose honor with wisdom, not blind loyalty.

#### **Embrace Christian Realism**

As theologian Reinhold Niebuhr taught, politics involves imperfect people and fallen structures—so Christians must hold realistic expectations while pursuing justice bravely.

#### Love People, Don't Polarize

Jesus commanded us:

#### "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

We engage with kindness, even toward those who disagree—seeing each person as made in God's image.

#### **Guard Against Idolatry of Politics**

Any allegiance that replaces our devotion to Christ becomes an idol (Isaiah 40:15). We resist the temptation to treat politics as ultimate hope, affirming that only Jesus deserves our trust.

#### **Why This Matters**

- See politics as **Kingdom stewardship**, not ideological combat.
- Vote and serve consistently with biblical values, not party pressure.
- Pray for leaders and issue wisdom, not engage in political tribal assault.
- Reflect grace in disagreements—especially in our families, friendships, and social spaces.

#### Recommended Reading for Christian Political Engagement

- 1. "City of God" by Augustine
- 2. "Moral Man and Immoral Society" by Reinhold Niebuhr
- 3. "Politics" by Wayne Grudem