



# THE CHRISTIANS ENGAGED BIBLICAL ROADMAP TO THE PARTY PLATFORMS

A non-partisan reference guide  
for the 2024 General Elections

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*Biblical Roadmap to the Party Platforms*

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**CHRISTIANSENGAGED.ORG**

# 5 STEPS TO GET READY

Electing godly leaders is a duty we have as citizens; it is a sacred responsibility, and it is one of the most practical ways we can love our neighbors. So follow these 5 Steps before each election, and you will be prepared to make an impact in your community for good!

The purpose of the General Election is to select the candidate(s) that will be governing at the federal, state, county, and city levels.

- Whomever we elect for President will be hiring approximately 85,000 people in the Executive Branch, nominating all of our federal judges, and filling any vacancies on the Supreme Court.
- Members of Congress and state legislators work primarily with their Party leadership – so it is CRITICAL to research what positions the political parties hold and what changes they are pursuing.

## STEP 1: PRAY & ASK GOD FOR WISDOM TO PICK THE BEST CANDIDATE IN EACH RACE

We encourage you before, during, and after your research to ask the Lord for direction, guidance, and wisdom. He is faithful to lead you. You will have to choose between imperfect candidates during this election, so you must vote for those who most closely align with Biblical principles.

*“Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established.” (Proverbs 16:3)*

## STEP 2: CHOOSE AND VOTE FOR THE POLITICAL PARTY THAT MOST CLOSELY ALIGNS WITH BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

Read through the Political Party Platforms — the platforms have been written by the delegates of that national party. They state what the party believes, what they stand for, and what changes they want their leaders to pursue.

- Use this document (*The Biblical Roadmap to the Party Platforms*), and read the Republican Party Platform and the Democratic Party Platform

## STEP 3: PULL YOUR SAMPLE BALLOT FROM YOUR COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT. (IN SOME STATES YOUR BALLOT WILL BE MAILED DIRECTLY TO YOU.)

You can find your County Elections Department website by using an internet search engine such as Google or Bing. (For example, you can type in a search for "Dallas County Elections Department".)

Find the Elections Department website, then find the place that references sample ballots (this might require pulling up your precinct information as well), and then print off your sample ballot or save it on your phone or computer.

## STEP 4: SPEND SOME TIME RESEARCHING THE CANDIDATES IN EACH RACE ON YOUR BALLOT

If you spend 5-10 minutes looking at each race, you will be more prepared than most people across the country.

Look at the candidates' websites and social media feeds to see where they stand on the issues. At a minimum, read candidates' ABOUT and ISSUES pages. (If they don't directly say what they believe, that should be a red flag for you!)

Look at who supports them — organizations, groups, key endorsements, etc.

Look to outside sources for information on the candidates' voting record and fundraising information.

- First look at any information provided by the Family Policy Council of your state. They are part of our ministry family and are the ones on the ground who know the elected officials and candidates. The Family Policy Councils are working each day to make our nation one in which God is honored, religious freedom flourishes, families thrive, and life is cherished.
- You can also check out the candidates' voting record, endorsements, answers to survey questions, and other important information over at ivoterguide. This is non-partisan information for Christians around the nation. Some states are covered more completely than others.
- For information on candidates' finances, refer to Transparency USA.

## STEP 5: PRAY AND ASK GOD FOR WISDOM TO MAKE YOUR CHOICE

*“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.” (James 1:5)*

# ABOUT PARTY PLATFORMS

## WHAT ARE PARTY PLATFORMS?

Political parties are defined by their people. Regular people, just like you, decide what their party will stand for, and write it down in a formal document called the Party Platform. The platform is the basic belief structure that unites the people and the candidates.

In most cases, platforms are created at the local level by individuals submitting resolutions to their precinct chair. The resolutions are then submitted and refined at District Conventions, State Conventions, and National Conventions. YOU can propose planks for your party's platform! If you become a delegate to a state or national convention, you will be able to vote for the platform positions, the party leadership, the party rules, and other important issues for your political party.

## WHY ARE PLATFORMS IMPORTANT?

A platform does not necessarily represent the views of every candidate, but since most members of Congress and state legislators work and vote consistently with their party leadership, it is critical to research the positions the political parties hold.

*"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death." (Proverbs 14:12)*

Good policy helps people, bad policy hurts people. Without God's wisdom, leaders tend to adopt policies that are harmful to the people and dangerous for the country. Sadly, many of the positions held by our major political parties are antagonistic to the principles in God's Word. That's why we need YOU to examine the platform and to bring God's loving biblical principles to your party!

Platforms are also a helpful tool in holding the leaders accountable: YOU can remind your leaders to follow the beliefs of the party and seek to remove leaders when they don't.

## HOW SHOULD CHRISTIANS APPROACH THE PLATFORMS?

As Christians, our identity is not wrapped up in our political party affiliation. Our allegiance is



to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, not to a political party. We don't derive our values from our party; they come from what God says in His Word. But still, we need to READ the platforms. They are available on the party websites ([dnc.org](https://dnc.org), [rnc.org](https://rnc.org)).

## "TAKE EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE"

*"We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ..." (2 Corinthians 10:5)*

For Christians, the next step is to COMPARE the positions of the platform to the Bible. Ask God for wisdom, then compare the platforms to God's Word. Try this exercise: circle positions that align with God's Word, and put an X through policies that do not align with God's Word. If you need help understanding how to apply the Bible to these issues, check out our classes at:

[www.christiansengaged.org/classes](https://www.christiansengaged.org/classes).

Then prayerfully decide which platform most closely aligns with the Biblical Worldview. This is a personal decision between you and God.

## TEACH OTHERS!

*"When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan." (Proverbs 29:2)*

Individuals and churches ARE legally allowed to teach on "political" and cultural issues. The Johnson Amendment does NOT preclude churches or other non-profits from educating the public on candidates' positions, party platforms, or political issues.

Many of these are biblical issues. Teach the whole council of God!

# HOW TO USE THIS ROADMAP

## Compare the Bible's teaching with the ideas presented by these three groups: Marxism, the Democrat Party Platform, and the Republican Party Platform

### The Bible is Our Foundation

"Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him." (Proverbs 30:5)  
 "Take every thought captive to obey Christ..." (2 Corinthians 10:5)

God's Word is the foundation for our beliefs, and Christians are commanded to take every thought captive to Christ. Jesus is Lord of every area in our life, so for every issue you should first ask: **"What does God's Word say about this issue?"**

### THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

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#### THE BIBLE

**God created government and gave it a limited role:**

- "Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good." (1 Peter 2:13-14)

**Christians are to be law-abiding citizens, but our highest allegiance is obedience to God:**

- "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God." (Romans 13:1)
- "But Peter and John answered them, 'Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.'" (Acts 4:19-20)

**We should elect those with godly leadership qualities:**

- "Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens." (Exodus 18:21)

**Human hearts are sinful, and laws don't have the power to change hearts:**

- "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?" (Jeremiah 17:9)
- "...if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law." (Galatians 3:21)
- "for the law made nothing perfect" (Hebrews 7:19)

COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

<p><b>MARX &amp; LENIN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "The [workers] will use their political supremacy to wrest, by degrees, all capital from the [middle class], to centralise all of production in the hands of the State..."</li> <li>• "Abolition of private land ownership... A heavy progressive or graduated income tax... Abolition of all rights of inheritance... A national bank with State capital and an exclusive monopoly... Centralisation of the means of communication and transport in the hands of the State... Factories and instruments of production owned by the State... Require all to labour... Free education of all children through public schools..."</li> </ul> <p><b>Our take:</b> Marxism seeks a strong, centralized government (State), which owns and controls every aspect of human society through ever-increasing government control.</p>	<p><b>DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "We're fighting climate change... rebuilding our nation's roads, bridges, highways, ports, airports, water systems, and more... [We'll] grow our economy, [we'll] lower costs..."</li> <li>• "We'll work to finally raise the federal minimum wage to at least \$15-an-hour. We'll fight for paid leave, better health care, and more investment in public schools and affordable housing..."</li> <li>• "We'll keep investing in American workers, American jobs, and American families!"</li> <li>• "[We have signed executive orders] tackling persistent poverty and building economic prosperity in rural communities; promoting equity and fairness in the justice system; combating bias, discrimination and hate-based violence..."</li> </ul> <p><b>Our take:</b> Proposes government solutions via increased spending and intervention for each social issue, including: infrastructure, jobs and wages, pollution, education, housing, safety, healthcare, welfare, race relations, technology, arts and culture, energy, childcare, international aid, and more.</p>	<p><b>REPUBLICAN PLATFORM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "[We will defend our Constitution, our Bill of Rights, and our fundamental freedoms, including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the right to keep and bear arms]"</li> <li>• "We commit to unleashing American Energy, reining in wasteful spending, cutting excessive Regulations, securing our Borders, and restoring Peace through Strength..."</li> <li>• "[We will promote love of country... We will support schools that teach America's founding principles and Western Civilization..."</li> </ul> <p><b>Our take:</b> Proposes reducing the size and scope of government, and specifically promotes patriotism and adherence to America's founding documents.</p>
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**Did You Know** Our Constitution is only 4,379 words long, but the Code of Federal Regulations (which lists the rules created by our Federal Government) is over 103 million words, 174,000 pages long, and would take over 5,700 hours to read!

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### Compare Every Position to God's Word

Christians Engaged does not endorse political parties or candidates. We are not telling you what to believe or which party to select; instead we are giving you a tool that you can use to compare these three positions to the Bible. So for each issue, ask these questions:

- ★ "How does this group's position align with what the Bible teaches?"
- ★ "Which group's position is closest to the Bible's?"
- ★ "How can I help my party's platform become more closely aligned with Scripture?"

*"Now more than ever the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption. If it be intelligent, brave, and pure, it is because the people demand these high qualities to represent them in the national legislature."*  
 James A. Garfield

*"Without God, there is no virtue, because there's no prompting of the conscience... Without God, there is a coarsening of the society. And without God, democracy will not and cannot long endure. If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under."*  
 Ronald Reagan

# THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

## THE BIBLE

### God created government and gave it a limited role:

★ "Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good." (1 Peter 2:13-14)

### Christians are to be law-abiding citizens, but our highest allegiance is obedience to God:

★ "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God." (Romans 13:1)

★ "But Peter and John answered them, 'Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.'" (Acts 4:19-20)

### We should elect those with godly leadership qualities:

★ "Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens." (Exodus 18:21)

### Human hearts are sinful, and laws don't have the power to change hearts:

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★ "...if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law." (Galatians 3:21)

★ "for the law made nothing perfect" (Hebrews 7:19)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ "The [workers] will use their political supremacy to wrest, by degrees, all capital from the [middle class], to centralise all of production in the hands of the State..."<sup>1</sup>

★ "Abolition of private land ownership... A heavy progressive or graduated income tax... Abolition of all rights of inheritance... A national bank with State capital and an exclusive monopoly... Centralisation of the means of communication and transport in the hands of the State... Factories and instruments of production owned by the State... Require all to labour. ... Free education of all children through public schools."<sup>2</sup>

**Our take: Marxism seeks a strong, centralized government (State), which owns and controls every aspect of human society through ever-increasing government control.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ "We're fighting climate change... rebuilding our nation's roads, bridges, highways, ports, airports, water systems, and more... [We'll] grow our economy, [we'll] lower costs..."<sup>3</sup>

★ "We'll work to finally raise the federal minimum wage to at least \$15-an-hour. We'll fight for paid leave, better health care, and more investment in public schools and affordable housing."<sup>4</sup>

★ "We'll keep investing in American workers, American jobs, and American families"<sup>5</sup>

★ "[We have signed executive orders] tackling persistent poverty and building economic prosperity in rural communities; promoting equity and fairness in the justice system; combating bias, discrimination and hate-based violence..."<sup>6</sup>

**Our take: Proposes government solutions via increased spending and intervention for each social issue, including: infrastructure, jobs and wages, pollution, education, housing, safety, healthcare, welfare, race relations, technology, arts and culture, energy, childcare, international aid, and more.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ "[We will] defend our Constitution, our Bill of Rights, and our fundamental freedoms, including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the right to keep and bear arms"<sup>7</sup>

★ "We commit to unleashing American Energy, reining in wasteful spending, cutting excessive Regulations, securing our Borders, and restoring Peace through Strength."<sup>8</sup>

★ "[We will] promote love of country... We will support schools that teach America's founding principles and Western Civilization."<sup>9</sup>

**Our take: Proposes reducing the size and scope of government, and specifically promotes patriotism and adherence to America's founding documents.**



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# RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

## THE BIBLE

### Jesus insisted on personal choice and non-coercion of religious beliefs:

- ★ "And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town." (Matthew 10:14)
- ★ "The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith." (1 Timothy 1:4)

### Christians must worship the Lord alone:

- ★ "You shall have no other gods before me... You shall not bow down to them or serve them" (Exodus 20:3-5)
- ★ "When Daniel knew that the document had been signed... He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed [to the LORD]... as he had done previously." (Daniel 6:10)

### Christians are urged to pray that those in authority would grant us freedom to worship God so that we can live "peaceful and quiet [lives]":

- ★ "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ "My object in life is to dethrone God and destroy Capitalism... The first requisite for the happiness of the people is the abolition of religion."<sup>11</sup>

★ "'Religion is the opium of the people — this dictum by Marx is the cornerstone of the whole Marxist outlook on religion. Marxism has always regarded all modern religions and churches, and each and every religious organization, as instruments of [middle class] reaction that serve to defend exploitation and to befuddle the working class."<sup>12</sup>

★ "The Communist revolution is the most radical rupture with traditional property relations; no wonder that its development involves the most radical rupture with traditional ideas."<sup>13</sup>

**Our take: Marxism sets itself against God and limits religious expression.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ "[We] will protect the First Amendment right to free exercise of religion for everyone, and we will maintain the separation of church and state."<sup>14</sup>

★ "[We are] developing the first-ever U.S. National Strategy to Counter Islamophobia and Related Forms of Bias and Discrimination, including hate against Arab, Sikh and South Asian Americans."<sup>15</sup>

★ "[We] condemn the decades-long campaign to demonize the Muslim community and will end policies that target American Muslims as security threats."<sup>16</sup>

★ "We will combat hate crimes and white nationalist terrorism. We will prioritize the investigation of hate crimes against trans and non-binary people. And we will continue to increase security at houses of worship."<sup>17</sup>

**Our take: Pledges to support religious freedom while maintaining the idea of "separation of church and state" (excluding religious expression from public life). Does not mention Christians or Christianity.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ "[We] will champion the First Amendment right to pray and read the Bible in school, and stand up to those who violate the religious freedoms of American students."<sup>18</sup>

★ "We are the defenders of the First Amendment right to religious liberty. It protects the right not only to worship according to the dictates of conscience, but also to act in accordance with those beliefs, not just in places of worship, but in everyday life. Our ranks include men and women from every faith and tradition, and we respect the right of every American to follow his or her deeply held beliefs. To protect religious liberty, [we] support a new federal task force on fighting anti-Christian bias that will investigate all forms of illegal discrimination, harassment, and persecution against Christians in America."<sup>19</sup>

**Our take: Pledges to support the first amendment and religious freedom for institutions and individuals. Emphasizes the right to religious expression in schools and everyday life, and pledges to oppose religious discrimination.**



"[Out of the] 196 countries of the world, in 61 countries there are violations of religious freedom (31.1%). 62.5% of the world's population — almost 4.9 billion [people] — live in countries with serious or very serious violations of religious freedom."<sup>10</sup>

# FREEDOM OF SPEECH

## THE BIBLE

### **We are commanded to speak the truth, in love:**

★ "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ..." (Ephesians 4:15)

★ "To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak." (Ephesians 6:18-20)

★ "For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God." (1 Peter 2:15-16)

### **The opponents of the Gospel frequently sought to restrict the speech of believers:**

★ "So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus." (Acts 4:18)

### **The Bible is filled with examples of believers speaking the truth to those in authority:**

★ "For Herod had seized John and bound him and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because John had been saying to him, 'It is not lawful for you to have her.'" (Matthew 14:3)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### **MARX & LENIN**

★ "Why should freedom of speech and freedom of press be allowed? Why should a government which is doing what it believes to be right allow itself to be criticized? It would not allow opposition by lethal weapons. Ideas are much more fatal things than guns. Why should any man be allowed to buy a printing press and disseminate pernicious opinions calculated to embarrass the government?"<sup>21</sup>

**Our take: Rejects all criticism of the State.**

### **DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM**

★ "Freedom of the press is foundational to our nation, and [we are] committed to safeguarding it."<sup>22</sup>

★ "[We oppose] any effort to unfairly single out and delegitimize Israel, including at the United Nations or through the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement, while protecting the Constitutional right of our citizens to free speech."<sup>23</sup>

★ "[We have and we will] fight online hate that disproportionately targets LGBTQI+ people, including youth."<sup>24</sup>

★ "[We have] sought increased funding to improve the prevention, reporting and prosecution of hate crimes."<sup>25</sup>

**Our take: Offers no blanket guarantee of freedom of speech, but promises free speech to the press and those who oppose Israel. Supports restrictions of "hate" speech.**

### **REPUBLICAN PLATFORM**

★ "[We] will dismantle censorship and protect free speech. We will ban the federal government from colluding with anyone to censor lawful speech, defund institutions engaged in censorship, and hold accountable all bureaucrats involved with illegal censoring. We will protect free speech online."<sup>26</sup>

**Our take: Promises to protect free speech and end censorship of "lawful speech" by the government, by institutions, and by bureaucrats.**



United Kingdom Crown Prosecution Service: "You can be PROSECUTED for posting material online which incites VIOLENCE or HATRED... You can also be PROSECUTED for sharing this material... Your online actions can have consequences... Think before you post"<sup>20</sup>

# JUSTICE

## THE BIBLE

### Pillars of Biblical Justice:

★ **Equality:** "You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor." (Deuteronomy 19:15)

★ **Equal Restitution:** "But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe." (Exodus 21:23-25)

★ **Individual Responsibility:** "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself." (Ezekiel 18:20)

### Biblical Justice is not concerned with equality of outcomes:

★ "And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to the one who has the ten minas.' And they said to him, 'Lord, he has ten minas!' I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away." (Luke 19:24)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ "The history of all hitherto existing societies is the history of class struggles. Freeman and slave, patrician and plebeian, lord and serf, guild-master and journeyman, in a word, oppressor and oppressed, stood in constant opposition to one another, carried on an uninterrupted, now hidden, now open fight, a fight that each time ended, either in a revolutionary re-constitution of society at large, or in the common ruin of the contending classes."<sup>28</sup>

**Our take: Marxism rejects individual responsibility in favor of group classifications and responsibilities. It champions social upheaval and restitution through revolution, pitting groups against each other in order to achieve "redemption" for past injustices.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ "No one should be in jail just for using or possessing marijuana."<sup>29</sup>

★ "[We will] will keep investing in housing, mentorship, job training, and apprenticeship programs as well."<sup>30</sup>

★ "[We will] reduce inequity [in the justice system]"<sup>31</sup>

★ "We will expand access to public defenders and step up civil rights enforcement"<sup>32</sup>

★ "To keep children and teens... out of the justice system, we will invest in after-school programs, community centers, and summer jobs. And... we will automatically seal and expunge juvenile records."<sup>33</sup>

★ "We will boost access to transitional housing, affordable housing, mental health and substance use treatment. We will limit reincarcerating people federally to only serious violations of supervised release."<sup>34</sup>

**Our take: Significant attention is given to marijuana legality and sentencing. Proposes increased spending on social programs to reduce inequity in the judicial system.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ "[We] must stand for equal treatment for all. Likewise, [we] must ensure the equal application of law to all regardless of political affiliation or personal beliefs."<sup>35</sup>

★ "[We commit to] replenishing police departments, restoring common sense policing, and protecting officers from frivolous lawsuits. We will stand up to marxist prosecutors, vigorously defend the right of every American to live in peace, and we will compassionately address homelessness"<sup>36</sup>

★ "[We will] pursue civil rights cases against schools that discriminate [based on race]."<sup>37</sup>

★ "[We] will stop woke and weaponized government... We will hold accountable those who have misused the power of government to unjustly prosecute their political opponents. We will declassify government records, root out wrongdoers, and fire corrupt employees."<sup>38</sup>

**Our take: Promotes equality under the law for individuals and pledges to oppose government abuse of power. Does not support equality of outcomes or mention equity.**



"The number of businesses announcing the full or partial closures of their stores in California due to crime continues to rise, with companies citing regular theft, property damage, robberies and car break-ins... In-N-Out Burger [is closing its] only store in Oakland... 'Our Customers and Associates are regularly victimized by car break-ins, property damage, theft, and armed robberies.'"<sup>27</sup>

# ECONOMICS

## THE BIBLE

### Pillars of Biblical Economics:

★ **Private Property (each person has a basic right to their own possessions):** "You shall not steal [your neighbor's property]... You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's." (Exodus 20:15, 17)

★ **Economic Freedom (each person should have the right to choose what to do with their private property or what to charge for their products):** "She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard... She perceives that her merchandise is profitable... She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers sashes to the merchant." (Proverbs 31:16, 18, 24)

★ **Economic Justice (each person deserves the property they have earned or inherited):** "Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates." (Proverbs 31:31)

★ "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous." (Proverbs 13:22)

★ "For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat." (2 Thessalonians 3:10)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ "We want to achieve a new and better order of society: in this new and better society there must be neither rich nor poor; all will have to work. Not a handful of rich people, but all the working people must enjoy the fruits of their common labour... This new and better society is called socialist society."<sup>40</sup>

★ "Our task here is... to make [central banks] even bigger, even more democratic, even more comprehensive... A single State Bank, the biggest of the big... will constitute as much as nine-tenths of the socialist apparatus."<sup>41</sup>

**Our take: Marxism promotes redistribution of wealth throughout society, followed by State-controlled economic governance. It promotes equality of outcomes through unequal treatment.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ "[We] acknowledge that we gather together to state our values on lands that have been stewarded through many centuries by the ancestors and descendants of Tribal Nations"<sup>42</sup>

★ "[We] will expand the number of drugs subject to price caps and negotiation"<sup>43</sup>

★ "[We have] capped child care costs for 100,000 low-income families"<sup>44</sup>

★ "We will crack down on corporate landlords who are gouging tenants, for example by capping the amount they can raise the rent each year"<sup>45</sup>

★ "[We] will keep pushing Congress to increase [the minimum wage] to at least \$15 for all Americans"<sup>46</sup>

★ "[We support creating] America's first, full, national paid family and medical leave program"<sup>47</sup>

**Our take: Proposes government interventions to control the economy, create jobs, raise wages, and improve the quality of life. Limits freedom of entrepreneurs and businesses, especially on wages, prices, leave, and benefits. The opening "Land Acknowledgement" calls private property into question by opening the possibility that the land belongs to ancestral Tribal Nations.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ "[Our] economic agenda rests on five pillars: slashing regulations, cutting taxes, securing fair trade deals, ensuring reliable and abundant low cost energy, and championing innovation."<sup>48</sup>

★ "[We] will slash Regulations"<sup>49</sup>

★ "[We] will make permanent the provisions of the Trump Tax Cuts and Jobs Act"<sup>50</sup>

**Our take: Emphasizes removing restrictions on individuals and businesses, reducing government intervention, and lowering taxes as the keys to economic growth.**



"According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, prices for food and beverages are 22.33% higher in 2024 versus 2020... gasoline [is] 56.98% higher in 2024 versus 2020."<sup>39</sup>

# TAXATION

## THE BIBLE

### Low and unchanging tax rates:

- ★ "At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe [a tenth] of your produce..." (Deuteronomy 14:28)
- ★ "Each one who is numbered in the census shall give this [census/poll tax]: half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary" (Exodus 30:13)

### Equal Rates for All:

- ★ "The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less" (Exodus 30:15)

### Government has the legitimate right to impose taxes, but it does not have a right to own everything:

- ★ "'Show me the coin for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, 'Whose likeness and inscription is this?' They said, 'Caesar's.' Then he said to them, 'Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.'" (Matthew 22:19-21)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ [Marx's 10 Steps to Communism includes] "A heavy progressive or graduated income tax."<sup>51</sup>

★ "Taxes are the source of life for the bureaucracy, the army and the court, in short, for the whole apparatus of the executive power. Strong government and heavy taxes are identical."<sup>52</sup>

**Our take: Marx believed heavy and progressive taxation was a key factor in bringing Communism to a country.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ "We'll keep pushing to restore the expanded Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit"<sup>53</sup>

★ "[We] will cut taxes for middle-class and low-income Americans — and we'll finance those cuts by making the ultra-wealthy and big corporations finally start paying their fair share."<sup>54</sup>

★ "[We] will make billionaires pay a minimum income tax rate of 25 percent"<sup>55</sup>

★ "[We] will raise [the corporate tax] rate back to 28 percent... [and] will double the tax rate that American multinationals pay on foreign earnings to 21 percent"<sup>56</sup>

**Our take: Strongly supports graduated tax brackets, and promises large increases in taxes for higher-earning brackets and businesses.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ "[Our] economic agenda rests on five pillars: slashing regulations, cutting taxes, securing fair trade deals, ensuring reliable and abundant low cost energy, and championing innovation."<sup>57</sup>

★ "[We support] large tax cuts for workers, and no tax on tips"<sup>58</sup>

★ "[We] will make permanent the provisions of the Trump Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that... expanded the Child Tax Credit... We will eliminate Taxes on Tips for millions of Restaurant and Hospitality Workers, and pursue additional Tax Cuts."<sup>59</sup>

**Our take: Calls for large tax cuts for workers, no taxes on tips, and making permanent tax credits for families.**



In 2024, US income tax rates are divided into seven brackets with rates ranging from 10% to 37%, based on taxable income.

# THE NATIONAL DEBT

## THE BIBLE

### God urges against being in financial debt:

- ★ "The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender." (Proverbs 22:7)
- ★ "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today... The LORD will open to you his good treasury, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hands. And you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow." (Deuteronomy 28:1,12)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

- ★ "The best way to destroy the Capitalist system is to debauch the currency."<sup>61</sup>
- ★ "The way to crush the [middle class] is to grind them between the millstones of taxation and inflation."<sup>62</sup>

**Our take: Marxism sees debt as a means to bring about Socialism and greater government control.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- ★ "We don't believe we should add \$5 trillion to the national debt... [we will make] the wealthy and big corporations finally pay their fair share... [cutting the national debt] over the next decade"<sup>63</sup>
- ★ "[We will invest a] record \$21 billion in tackling legacy pollution"<sup>64</sup>
- ★ "We're making the biggest investment in public transit in history... [and we're] making the world's biggest investment ever in building renewable energy, electric vehicles, and other green technologies... We'll keep making historic investments in [apprenticeships]... [We have] invested a record \$12 billion in Community Development Finance Institutions"<sup>65</sup>
- ★ "[We have] laid out one of America's most ambitious housing plans in over 50 years... We've made historic investments in education in the last four years"<sup>66</sup>
- ★ "[We] provided funding to forgive \$7 billion in medical debt... [and we] approved the cancellation of \$167 billion in [student] loans"<sup>67</sup>

**Our take: Calls to eventually reduce the national debt through historic spending increases and large tax increases.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- ★ "We commit to unleashing American energy, reining in wasteful spending, cutting excessive regulations... slashing wasteful government spending and promoting economic growth."<sup>68</sup>

**Our take: Does not mention the national debt specifically, but proposes large reductions in government spending.**



In mid 2024 the US National debt was over \$35.17 Trillion. That's 122.96% of our GDP, over \$104,000 per US citizen, and over \$268,000 per US taxpayer.<sup>60</sup>

# SANCTITY OF LIFE

## THE BIBLE

### **The value of human life comes from God's creation of each individual person in His image:**

★ "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." (Genesis 1:26-27)

### **Scripture declares the unborn to be babies with personality, specially designed by God:**

★ "And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb." (Luke 1:41)

★ "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and

wonderfully made... My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them." (Psalm 139:13-16)

### **God hates the shedding of innocent blood:**

★ "Thus says the LORD: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place." (Jeremiah 22:3)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### **MARX & LENIN**

★ "There are no morals in politics; there is only expedience. A scoundrel may be of use to us just because he is a scoundrel."<sup>70</sup>

★ "Darwin's book is very important and serves me as a basis in natural science for the class struggle in history."<sup>71</sup>

**Our take: According to Marxism, humans are the result of chance and have no inherent value. The worth of human life is based on its usefulness — that is, how each life can benefit the State as a whole.**

### **DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM**

★ "[We will fight] to restore [abortion] for every woman in every state."<sup>72</sup>

★ "[We support] access to abortion, including by creating a new path for pharmacies to dispense... abortion [medication]... [we support] expanding [abortion access]... for service members, veterans, and their family members."<sup>73</sup>

★ "[We will defend] access to emergency [department abortions], including clarifying that federal law on emergency medical care preempts state abortion bans... making it easier for patients who have been denied emergency [room abortions] to file a complaint, and ensuring hospitals meet their legal obligations to offer [abortions]."<sup>74</sup>

★ "We will pass national legislation to make Roe the law of the land again... and appoint judges who uphold [abortion]"<sup>75</sup>

**Our take: Supports abortion as a "fundamental constitutional right." Opposes and promises to fight all limits on abortion; promotes unrestricted use of abortion pills, government-paid abortions for service members, and mandating that all emergency rooms perform abortions.**

### **REPUBLICAN PLATFORM**

★ "We commit to upholding the Constitution of the United States, appointing judges who respect the rule of law, and defending the rights of all Americans to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."<sup>76</sup>

★ "We proudly stand for families and life. We believe that the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution of the United States guarantees that no person can be denied life or liberty without due process, and that the states are, therefore, free to pass laws protecting those rights. After 51 years, because of us, that power has been given to the states and to a vote of the people. We will oppose late term abortion, while supporting mothers and policies that advance prenatal care, access to birth control, and IVF (fertility treatments)."<sup>77</sup>

**Our take: Commits to defending the right to life for all Americans, and appointing judges who will also defend life. Cites the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment's guarantee to life and calls on states (not Congress) to pass laws to protect that right.**



"Based on data from the CDC and the Guttmacher Institute, National Right to Life now estimates that 65,464,760 abortions have been performed in the United States since 1973."<sup>69</sup>

# MARRIAGE, GENDER, & SEXUALITY

## THE BIBLE

**God created marriage to be a lifetime covenant between one man and one woman:**

★ “[Jesus] answered, ‘Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’ So they are no longer two but one flesh.” (Matthew 19:4-6)

★ “Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.” (Hebrews 13:4)

★ “You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.” (Leviticus 18:22)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ “Abolition of the family! Even the most radical flare up at this infamous proposal of the Communists. On what foundation is the present family, the [middle class] family, based? On capital, on private gain.”<sup>80</sup>

★ “The [middle class] clap-trap about the family and education, about the hallowed co-relation of parent and child, becomes all the more disgusting, the more, by the action of Modern Industry, all family ties among the [workers] are torn asunder, and their children transformed into simple articles of commerce and instruments of labour.”<sup>81</sup>

**Our take: Marx regarded family units and family education as “disgusting” nonsense. Calls for the total abolition of the family unit, to be replaced by governmental control.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ “[We signed] the historic Respect for Marriage Act, enshrining [same-sex marriage]... in federal law.”<sup>82</sup>

★ “The LGBTQI+ community continues to face attacks and bigotry... across the country. [We] are committed to defending LGBTQI+ rights.”<sup>83</sup>

★ “[We] will vigorously oppose state and federal bans on gender-affirming health care.”<sup>84</sup>

★ “[We] will pass the Equality Act... make federally-funded seniors programs LGBTQI+ inclusive... [we will include] LGBTQI+ children and prospective parents in the adoption and foster care systems...[and continue] fighting book bans that censor LGBTQI+ content”<sup>85</sup>

★ “[We will] ban so-called ‘conversion therapy’; protecting LGBTQI+ children from bullying and discrimination; guaranteeing that transgender students are treated fairly and with respect at school; and ending the homeless crisis among LGBTQI+ youth.”<sup>86</sup>

**Our take: Strong support for same-sex marriage. Emphasizes LGBTQI+ assistance and opposes protecting children from gender-altering surgery.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ “[We will] cut federal funding for any school pushing... radical gender ideology, and other inappropriate racial, sexual, or political content on our children...[we will] keep men out of women’s sports”<sup>87</sup>

★ “[We will] empower American families [and] promote a culture that values the Sanctity of Marriage, the blessings of childhood, the foundational role of families, and supports working parents. We will end policies that punish families.”<sup>88</sup>

★ “[We] will end left-wing gender insanity... We will keep men out of women’s sports, ban taxpayer funding for sex change surgeries, and stop taxpayer-funded schools from promoting gender transition, reverse Biden’s radical rewrite of Title IX Education Regulations, and restore protections for women and girls.”<sup>89</sup>

**Our take: Promotes families and the “sanctity of marriage” (but doesn’t define marriage). Promises to cut funding for any school that teaches “radical gender ideology” or “inappropriate sexual content”.**



“17% of adults younger than 30 identify as lesbian, gay or bisexual, compared with 8% of those ages 30-49, 5% of those 50-64 and 2% of those 65 and older.”<sup>78</sup> Additionally, “Some 5.1% of adults younger than 30 are trans or nonbinary... This compares with 1.6% of 30-49 year-olds and 0.3% of those 50 and older.”<sup>79</sup>

# EDUCATION

## THE BIBLE

### God's Word gives the responsibility of education to families:

★ "And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

★ "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4)

### God's Word stresses the importance of gaining wisdom and resisting the false philosophies of the world:

★ "Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance" (Proverbs 1:5)

★ "Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning." (Proverbs 9:9)

★ "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

★ "See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ." (Colossians 2:8)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ "Give me your four year olds, and in a generation I will build a Socialist State."<sup>91</sup>

★ "Give us the child for eight years, and it will be a Bolshevik forever."

★ "The education of all children, from the moment that they can get along without a mother's care, shall be in State institutions."<sup>92</sup>

★ "We must hate – hatred is the basis of Communism. Children must be taught to hate their parents if they are not Communists."

**Our take: Marxism seeks to replace home education by government-controlled public education.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ "We'll fight for... more investment in public schools"<sup>93</sup>

★ "[We] will provide free, universal preschool for four-year olds"<sup>94</sup>

★ "[We will reduce] chronic absenteeism by building social and emotional supports at schools, offering literacy programs, and setting high expectations for student attendance; providing intensive tutoring; extending the school day and school year; expanding community schools; and helping schools to lift student achievement, rather than punishing them based on state standardized tests."<sup>95</sup>

★ "[We've worked for] improvements in school...indoor air quality... more counselors and social workers..."<sup>96</sup>

★ "We oppose the use of private-school vouchers, tuition tax credits, opportunity scholarships, and other [similar systems]"<sup>97</sup>

**Our take: Promotes public schools as the primary option for education. Focuses on the learning environment and attendance, and downplays academic testing. Opposes school choice vouchers and education credits.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ "[We] believe families should be empowered to choose the best education for their children. We support Universal School Choice in every state in America. We will expand 529 Education Savings Accounts and support homeschooling families equally."<sup>98</sup>

★ "[We] support overhauling standards on school discipline, advocate for immediate suspension of violent students, and support hardening schools to help keep violence away from our places of learning."<sup>99</sup>

★ "[We support] ending teacher tenure, adopting merit pay, and allowing various publicly supported educational models."<sup>100</sup>

★ "[We] will ensure children are taught fundamentals like Reading, History, Science, and Math, not left-wing propaganda."<sup>101</sup>

**Our take: Affirms the role of parents in education and choice-based options like homeschooling. Calls for increased standards in academics, security for schools, and merit-based employment for teachers.**



In US public schools in 2022, only 36% of 4th graders and 26% of 8th graders were proficient in math, and only 33% of 4th graders and 30% of 8th graders were proficient in reading.

During the 2019-2020 school year, we spent \$15,810 per student for K-12 public education in the US.<sup>90</sup>

# CHARITY & WELFARE

## THE BIBLE

**Charity should be given by individuals and MUST be voluntary:**

★ "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

★ "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world." (James 1:27)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ "We want to achieve a new and better order of society: in this new and better society there must be neither rich nor poor; all will have to work. Not a handful of rich people, but all the working people must enjoy the fruits of their common labour... This new and better society is called socialist society."<sup>104</sup>

★ "In place of the old [middle class] society, with its classes and class antagonisms, we shall have an association, in which the free development of each is the condition for the free development of all."<sup>105</sup>

**Our take: Marxism rejects individual charity, and instead empowers the State to redistribute wealth via whole-society welfare.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ "We believe in an America where people look out for one another and leave no one behind... [but] some 40 million Americans still live in poverty"<sup>106</sup>

★ "Health care should be a right in America, not a privilege... We support Medicaid expansion, encouraging states to provide health coverage to low-income Americans on the federal government's tab"<sup>107</sup>

★ "[We] increased Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, [extending the program to additional] tens of millions of Americans"<sup>108</sup>

★ "[We are] leading one of America's most ambitious efforts to prevent homelessness... [we] will work with Congress and local jurisdictions to increase supportive and interim housing options, and the services necessary to help unhoused individuals stay permanently housed."<sup>109</sup>

**Our take: Holds that government plays the primary role in ending poverty through federal funding of housing, education, health care, transportation, energy, and other necessities.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ "[We will] fight for and protect Social Security and Medicare with no cuts, including no changes to the retirement age"<sup>110</sup>

★ "[We will] not cut one penny from Medicare or Social Security... These programs are promises to our Seniors"<sup>111</sup>

★ "[We will] restore Economic Stability to ensure the long-term sustainability of Social Security... [and] strengthen Medicare for future generations."<sup>112</sup>

**Our take: Promises to preserve Medicare and Social Security.**



"In his January 1964 State of the Union address, President Lyndon Johnson proclaimed, 'This administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America.' [In 2014], 50 years [after] that time, U.S. taxpayers [had] spent over \$22 trillion on anti-poverty programs."<sup>102</sup> Yet today, "some 40 million Americans still live in poverty"<sup>103</sup>

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING

## THE BIBLE

### **God's Word establishes the death penalty for human trafficking enslavement:**

- ★ "Whoever steals a man and sells him, and anyone found in possession of him, shall be put to death." (Exodus 21:16)
- ★ "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea." (Matthew 18:6)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### **MARX & LENIN**

★ "We are not waging war against individuals. We are exterminating the [middle class] as a class... Do not look for evidence that the accused acted in word or deed against Soviet power. The first question should be, 'to what class does he belong?'... It is this that should determine his fate."<sup>114</sup>

★ "In total, no fewer than 20 million Soviet citizens were put to death by the regime or died as a direct result of its repressive policies. This does not include the millions who died in the wars, epidemics and famines that were predictable consequences of Bolshevik policies... If we add to this list the deaths caused by communist regimes that the Soviet Union created and supported — including those in Eastern Europe, China, Cuba, North Korea, Vietnam and Cambodia — the total number of victims is closer to 100 million. That makes Communism the greatest catastrophe in human history."<sup>115</sup>

**Our take: Under Marxism all members of society become wards of the State, and the State may dispose of them as it sees fit — for the "greater good" of society.**

### **DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM**

★ "We need more resources and Congressional authorization to increase penalties to prosecute and punish human smugglers and traffickers who prey upon families and migrants."<sup>116</sup>

**Our take: Calls for Congressional action to increase penalties and prosecutions for human trafficking.**

### **REPUBLICAN PLATFORM**

★ "[We] will mobilize military personnel and assets as necessary to crack down hard on the cartels that traffic drugs and people into our country."<sup>117</sup>

★ "We will bring back the Travel Ban, and use Title 42 to end the child trafficking crisis by returning all trafficked children to their families in their home countries immediately."<sup>118</sup>

**Our take: Calls for the military to intervene to stop human trafficking.**



"Every year millions of people are exploited within and across borders. They are forced to work in factories for little or no pay; harvest crops; toil in terrible conditions in mines, construction sites, and fishing boats; or work in private homes. Many victims are exploited for commercial sex, adults and children alike."<sup>113</sup>

# RACISM

## THE BIBLE

### **We are all part of one family, the human race:**

★ "And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God..." (Acts 17:26-27)

### **God hates favoritism and partiality:**

★ "My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory... If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself,' you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors." (James 2:1, 8-9)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### **MARX & LENIN**

★ "The classes and the races, too weak to master the new conditions of life, must give way."<sup>120</sup>

★ "[Critical Race Theory, the practical outgrowth of Marxism, calls for] aggressive, color-conscious efforts to change the way things are."<sup>121</sup>

★ "The only remedy to racist discrimination is antiracist discrimination. The only remedy to past discrimination is present discrimination. The only remedy for present discrimination is future discrimination."<sup>122</sup>

**Our take: Marxism holds that society is made up of oppressors and oppressed people groups. The oppressed group must revolt against the oppressor group and utilize counter-discrimination, in order to achieve equity.**

### **DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM**

★ "[We commit to] standing together against the hate, racism, bigotry, and violence that have long haunted our nation."<sup>123</sup>

**Our take: Condemns hate, racism, bigotry, and violence.**

### **REPUBLICAN PLATFORM**

★ "[We] stand for equal treatment for all... [and we will] ensure the equal application of law to all regardless of political affiliation or personal beliefs."<sup>124</sup>

★ "[We will] enforce our Civil Rights Laws to stop schools from discriminating on the basis of race."<sup>125</sup>

**Our take: Commits to standing for equal treatment for all.**



Bloomberg obtained data for 88 S&P 100 companies and calculated overall US job growth at those firms. In total, they increased their US workforces by 323,094 people in 2021. The overall job growth included 20,524 White workers. The other 302,570 jobs — or 94% of the headcount increase — went to people of color.<sup>119</sup>

# STEWARDSHIP & CLIMATE

## THE BIBLE

### God created everything in the universe out of nothing:

★ "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

### God gave humanity the task of stewarding His creation:

★ "And God blessed them. And God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'" (Genesis 1:28)

★ "The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it." (Genesis 2:15)

### God has promised continued seasons on the earth:

★ "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease." (Genesis 8:22)

### Humanity's sinful rebellion against God brought a curse on the earth. He will eventually destroy the earth by fire:

★ "...cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field." (Genesis 3:17-18)

★ "But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly... But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!" (2 Peter 3:7, 10-12)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ "Moreover, all progress in capitalistic agriculture is a progress in the art, not only of robbing the laborer, but of robbing the soil.... Capitalist production, therefore, develops technology, and the combining together of various processes into a social whole, only by sapping the original sources of all wealth — the soil and the laborer."<sup>126</sup>

★ "For capitalism all natural resources are nothing but gold. The more quickly it exploits them, the more the flow of gold accelerates... Society under capitalism can be compared to a gigantic unintelligent body; while capitalism develops its power without limit, it is at the same time senselessly devastating more and more the environment from which it lives. Only socialism, which can give this body consciousness and reasoned action, will at the same time replace the devastation of nature by a rational economy."<sup>127</sup>

**Our take: Marxism holds that owners always exploit both workers and the land, and that only a strong central government is capable of restraining the forces of ecological destruction and mayhem.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ "The climate crisis is decades in the making, an existential threat to future generations"<sup>128</sup>

★ "[We support the development] and manufacture [of] solar, wind, battery, and other... technologies"<sup>129</sup>

★ "[We have] toughened efficiency standards on new appliances and cars as well"<sup>130</sup>

★ "We support local and state efforts to adopt energy-efficient building codes."<sup>131</sup>

★ "[We have] greatly increased civil and criminal enforcement of our nation's environmental laws..."<sup>132</sup>

★ "We've increased the royalties that oil and gas companies have to pay to drill or mine on public lands"<sup>133</sup>

★ "[We] will increase protections for America's Arctic... [protect] rivers and wetlands.... protect our oceans...protect coastal communities"<sup>134</sup>

**Our Take: The Democratic Platform considers the climate to be in an existential crisis, and aims to fight the emergency through government programs, regulations, and increased spending.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ "[We will] make America the dominant energy producer in the world"<sup>135</sup>

★ "[We will lift] restrictions on American energy production... will unleash energy production from all sources, including nuclear, to... power American homes, cars, and factories with reliable, abundant, and affordable energy."<sup>136</sup>

★ "[We] will increase energy production across the board, streamline the permitting process, and end market-distorting restrictions on oil, natural gas, and coal."<sup>137</sup>

**Our Take: Seeks to benefit and lift up the economy through greater access to energy and lower prices. Calls for reduction of restrictions on energy production, and greater utilization of diverse energy sources.**



"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon..." "Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." (Isaiah 55:7, Matthew 24:44)

# NATIONAL DEFENSE, BORDERS, & IMMIGRATION

## THE BIBLE

### Promotes self-defense and national defense:

- ★ "If a thief is found breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there shall be no bloodguilt for him, but if the sun has risen on him, there shall be bloodguilt for him." (Exodus 22:2-3)
- ★ "And they said to me, 'The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire.' As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven." (Nehemiah 1:3-4)

### Supports the cultural and legal integration of immigrants and requires everyone follow the same laws:

- ★ "When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself..." (Leviticus 19:33-34)
- ★ "For the assembly, there shall be one statute for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you, a statute forever throughout your generations. You and the sojourner shall be alike before the LORD. One law and one rule shall be for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you." (Numbers 15:15-16)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

- ★ "As an ultimate objective, 'peace' simply means communist world control."<sup>139</sup>
- ★ "National differences and antagonisms between peoples are daily more and more vanishing... The supremacy of the [workers] will cause them to vanish still faster... [The Communists] openly declare that their ends can be attained only by the forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions."<sup>140</sup>

**Our take: Marxism seeks to dissolve national borders and transform society in order to expand global socialist control.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

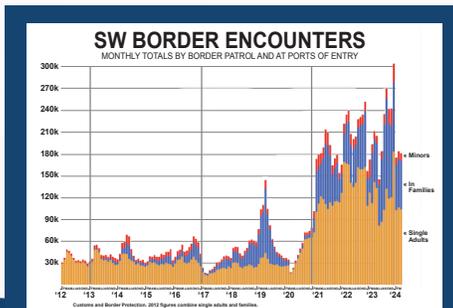
- ★ "[We will] secure the border, reform the asylum system, expand legal immigration... [and support] a pathway for long-term undocumented individuals..."<sup>141</sup>
- ★ "[We] will push Congress to provide... additional border patrol agents, immigration judges, asylum officers, [technology], and funding for cities and states that are sheltering migrants."<sup>142</sup>
- ★ "[We] requested funds to hire 1,300 Border Patrol agents and 1,600 asylum officers... [We also requested] an additional 1,500 Customs and Border Protection personnel and 4,300 asylum officers."<sup>143</sup>
- ★ "[We want to] permanently increase... immigration...[and to] increase the number of immigrant visas..."<sup>144</sup>
- ★ "[We] will establish universal background checks... ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines... end the gun industry's immunity... [and] pass a national red flag law"<sup>145</sup>

**Our take: Promotes border security via thousands of new border agents. Pledges increased immigration and a pathway to citizenship for those already here. Promises increased gun control measures.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- ★ "[We will] secure our southern border by completing the border wall... [and] ensure that no one can enter our country who does not have the legal right to do so, and we must deport the millions of illegal migrants who [are already here]."<sup>146</sup>
- ★ "[We will] remove all known or suspected gang members, drug dealers, or cartel members"<sup>147</sup>
- ★ "[We must] ensure that America's military is the strongest and best-equipped in the world — and that our government uses that great strength sparingly"<sup>148</sup>
- ★ "[We] will cut federal funding to sanctuary jurisdictions that release [illegal aliens] onto our streets"<sup>149</sup>
- ★ "[We] will prioritize merit-based immigration, ensuring those admitted to our country contribute positively to our society and economy"<sup>150</sup>

**Our take: Promotes border security via a border wall. Pledges a "merit-based" legal immigration approach. Supports a strong military for national defense.**



Did You Know

By mid 2024, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) had over 7.4 million cases on its non-detained docket, and estimates that 1.9 million got-aways have occurred in the last few years.<sup>138</sup>

# SUPPORT OF ISRAEL

## THE BIBLE

**Israel is to be a blessing to the world, and the families and nations of the world will be blessed when they bless Israel:**

★ "Now the LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed...' (Genesis 12:1-3)

★ "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! 'May they be secure who love you! Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!' For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, 'Peace be within you!' For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good." (Psalm 122:6-9)

★ "So that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith." (Galatians 3:14)

**God gave the land of Caanan to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and their decendants as an everlasting posession:**

★ "'And I will give to you [Abraham] and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.'" (Genesis 17:8)

★ "'...for to you [Isaac] and to your offspring I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath that I swore to Abraham your father. I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed'" (Genesis 26:3-4)

★ "And God said to him, 'Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name.' So he called his name Israel. And God said to him, 'I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body. The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you.'" (Genesis 35:10-12)

## COMPARE THE FOLLOWING THREE POSITIONS TO THE BIBLE:

### MARX & LENIN

★ "Thus do these loans, which are a curse to the people, a ruin to the holders, and a danger to the governments, become a blessing to the houses of the children of Judah. This Jew organization of loan-mongers is as dangerous to the people as the aristocratic organization of landowners... The fortunes amassed by these loan-mongers are immense, but the wrongs and sufferings thus entailed on the people and the encouragement thus afforded to their oppressors still remain to be told..."<sup>152</sup>

**Our take: Marx was openly antisemitic and classified Jews as a global oppressor group.**

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

★ "[We] strongly support Israel in the fight against Hamas."<sup>153</sup>

★ "[We support] a negotiated two-state solution that ensures Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state with recognized borders and upholds the right of Palestinians to live in freedom and security in a viable state of their own."<sup>154</sup>

★ "[We] oppose any unilateral steps by either side, including annexation, that undermine prospects for two states."<sup>155</sup>

★ "[We oppose] any effort to unfairly single out and delegitimize Israel, including at the United Nations or through the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement, while protecting the Constitutional right of our citizens to free speech."<sup>156</sup>

**Our take: Promises to support Israel and strengthen US diplomatic ties with Palestine. Supports a two-state solution on the land.**

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

★ "[We will] Combat Antisemitism..."<sup>157</sup>

★ "[We] condemn antisemitism, and support revoking visas of foreign nationals who support terrorism and jihadism. We will hold accountable those who perpetrate violence against Jewish people."<sup>158</sup>

★ "We will stand with Israel, and seek peace in the Middle East."<sup>159</sup>

**Our take: Promises to support Israel, oppose antisemitism, and revoke visas for those who support terrorism.**



"The Israel/Palestine conflict is not just geographical battles over competing land claims. It is about everything, everywhere, a pitched battle between worldviews involving issues of God, justice, force, genocide, oppression, corruption, religion, and the nature of truth itself."<sup>151</sup>

# CHRISTIANS ENGAGED VIDEO CLASSES

If you'd like to dig deeper into the Bible's teaching on these topics, check out the Christians Engaged on-demand video course library. Each class features pdf study notes, powerful teaching videos, and group discussion questions. Perfect for group or individual study, these courses will give you a solid foundation on civics and the Biblical Worldview!

**Sign up today!**

## **On-Ramp to Civic Engagement**

Our signature course! Do you have a desire to **become civically involved**, but don't know how or where to begin? Start your journey with this in-depth course taught by leading Christian and government leaders in front of a live audience. (6.5 hours, 12 videos)

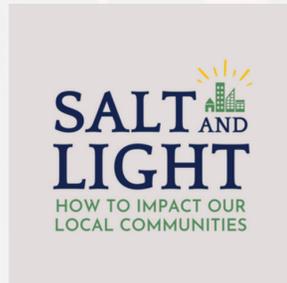


## **Biblical Worldview**

Today we are facing a constant **battle of ideas**. Only with a solid Biblical understanding can we stand firm amid the destructive cultural and philosophical squalls that surround us. This powerful course answers the *7 Vital Worldview Questions* that form the basis for any worldview. (7.5 hours, 8 videos)

## **Salt & Light: How to Impact Your Local Communities**

Did you know that the most powerful civic impact you can have is right in your local community? Discover how to engage with your **city and local government** with this groundbreaking course! (8 hours, 8 videos)

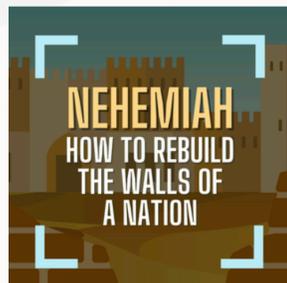


## **Biblical Justice**

We are all called to do Justice! Learn how much God cares about justice, how Biblical Justice is the **foundation for a healthy society**, and how it is radically different from Modern Social Justice. (7.5 hours, 8 videos)

## **Nehemiah: How to Rebuild the Walls of a Nation**

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we have all been called to leadership! Whether you serve in government, ministry, business, or family, God is calling you to be a disciple-maker, and this 16-part course through the book of Nehemiah will give you a deeper understanding of **biblical leadership** and an example to follow. (8 hours, 16 videos)



## **Biblical Economics**

Economics is one of the most practical and powerful ways we can love our neighbors! Journey through the whole of Scripture to discover God's **timeless economic principles**, how He set up an economy for His people, and how we can bring life and prosperity to our nation today. (7.5 hours, 8 videos)



We also have a full **Campaign School!** Featuring over 20 hours of teaching, whether you're running for school board, city council, county commissioner, state representative, governor, or the United States Congress, our Campaign School is designed to help launch you on your path toward victory!

# TAKE THE PLEDGE PRAY, VOTE, & ENGAGE

Christians Engaged exists to awaken, educate, and empower believers in Jesus Christ to:

- **PRAY** for our nation and elected officials regularly
- **VOTE** in every local, state, and national election to impact our culture
- **ENGAGE** our hearts in civic education or involvement for the well-being of our local communities and our nation

Take the Pledge to begin your journey.

**TAKE THE PLEDGE**

By committing to take these three steps, you will be on the fast track to make a difference.

You can also make a difference by partnering with Christians Engaged. Consider signing up for a monthly or annual gift. Everything counts!  
[christiansengaged.org/donate](https://christiansengaged.org/donate)

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# ENDNOTES

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