# HONORING GOD WITH YOUR VOTE



### **GOVERNMENT WAS INSTITUTED BY GOD**

Romans 13 and 1 Peter 2 highlights purpose and responsibility of government. Government was instituted by God in order "to punish evil and reward those who do good." Government is God's means of establishing and administering justice.



## **GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE MINISTERS OF GOD**

Romans 13 refers to government officials as "ministers of God." God placed them in their positions to be instruments of good to us, on God's behalf. This should be the lens through which we view government officials. Rather than dwell on imperfections and concerns, we should be committed to pray for, build relationships with, submit to, and honor those in authority over us (1 Timothy 2:1–2; Romans 13:1–7; 1 Peter 2:17; Daniel 2:20–21).



#### THE PRESENCE OF RIGHTEOUS LAW MATTERS IN SOCIETY

Moral law ultimately comes from the character and nature of God; it both teaches and shapes culture. Godly leaders are those who pass laws that make it easier to guide and protect society. With righteous rule, the people are able to rejoice and live profitably (Proverbs 29:2; Hebrews 13:17).



# GOVERNMENT CANNOT PROPERLY DO ITS JOB WITHOUT THE CHURCH

Throughout history, we have seen how power corrupts and how government officials dismiss or reject God's law. From Joseph, Elijah, Esther, and Daniel to the New Testament apostles, God has continuously raised up and sent individuals to speak to even the most unrighteous of rulers and influence them for the sake of His people. Still today, the government needs informed Christian citizens to provide a standard for what is true and what God calls good evil.



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We live in a nation that gives us the opportunity to directly influence and choose who is able to serve in government. We should steward this opportunity welland select the most qualified people available to serve as ministers in government. It is important that we understand God's design for human flourishing, and His standard for morality in society. We then must be informed of each candidates' worldview, influences, and proven record, determine which candidates best align with a biblical worldview, and then use the information available to us to steward our vote well. We should always strive to honor the Lord in our choices of whether and for whom to vote. (Matthew 25:14-30).

