

Pk's Perspectives... After the Election

It's Election Day 2016. I'm sitting in my office thinking about the precious freedom we celebrate and engage on this day...the freedom to elect individuals to positions of public service within our local, state, and national governments. This newsletter will be printed long before we know today's election results; you, however, are reading this newsletter article against the backdrop of what transpired on this momentous day. The following thoughts are applicable to your life regardless of whether or not your candidate(s) prevailed today.

First: you should be praying for our newly elected President. It doesn't matter who won the election, our next President stands in desperate need of our Fathers' wisdom, guidance, and intervention. The divisions in this country are deep; the social and economic tensions in our nation are significant; our new President has a very steep mountain to climb. God instructs us in 1 Timothy 2:1-2, "First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all those who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity."

Second: our nation will not be noticeably different when you read this article than it is today as I'm writing this article. Pundits will be spewing words about what the election of our new President means for America going forward. Pundits are generally ignorant. Our Father is the only One who truly knows what is waiting around the next corner. Disaster? Renewal? Collapse? Revival? God knows this country better than the pundits and we need to trust Him. If your candidate lost, don't surrender to fear. If your candidate won, don't be ruled by uninformed zeal. All we know for sure is the name of our next President; beyond that, we walk by faith. The Bible tells us in Proverbs 21:1 "The Lord controls the mind of a king as easily as He directs the course of a stream."

Third: let it go, bury the hatchet, move forward. Some of you voted for Donald Trump. Some of you voted for Hillary Clinton. Some of you voted for Gary Johnson or Jill Stein. Please do not make candidate preference a test of fellowship in your relationships. Resist the urge to "rub-it-in" if your candidate of choice won the Presidential election. If your candidate of choice lost the Presidential race, abstain from placing blame and condemnation for the "collapse of America's future" on the shoulders of those who voted differently than you. Fellow Christ follower – if you judge your brother's or sister's devotion to Christ according to your suspicions about their candidate preference in this election, you place yourself in a very dangerous position. The Bible says in Matthew 7:1-2 "Do not judge, so that you won't be judged. For with the judgment you use, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Fourth: a person choosing to absent their voice from this election cycle by refusing to vote does not position that individual on moral or spiritual high ground. Quite the opposite: non-participants in the election process are cousins to the disobliging friends in [The Little Red Hen](#) children's tale. In the words of President Abraham Lincoln, "Elections belong to the people. It's 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." Cya in Sunday School & Worship, Pk.