

## Stay United in Divided Times

Contrasting How God & Politics Have Very Different Values

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“Do not conform yourselves to be like the people of this world. Instead be transformed within by a new way of thinking. Then you will be ABLE TO DECIDE what God wants for you, and you’ll know what is good and pleasing to him, and what is his perfect will.”  
- Romans 12:2

### GOAL: For you to be able to say . . .

“We have conducted ourselves in the world . . . with holiness and sincerity from God. And we’ve been guided by God’s grace, not by the human wisdom of this world.”  
- 2 Corinthians 1:12

God: “I don’t think the way you think! And the way I work is very different from the way you work! For just as the heavens soar high above the earth, so the way that I work far surpasses the way you work, and the things I value are way beyond what you value.”  
- Isaiah 55:8–9

“God has shown us that the world’s wisdom is foolishness!” - 1 Corinthians 1:20

### 1. The World: Politics is the driving force in everything.

#### Jesus: My \_\_\_\_\_ matters more than anything else

“God’s intent was that THROUGH THE CHURCH his manifold wisdom will be made known . . .”  
- Ephesians 3:10

“God has put everything under the authority of Christ, and he gave Christ this authority FOR THE BENEFIT OF HIS CHURCH!”  
- Ephesians 1:22

Jesus promised: “I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH, and the gates of hell will not overcome it!”  
- Matthew 16:18b

“Christ LOVES THE CHURCH and GAVE HIMSELF FOR THE CHURCH to make it belong to God. . . . HE DIED FOR THE CHURCH so that he could GIVE THE CHURCH TO HIMSELF as a beautiful bride.”  
- Ephesians 5:25b, 27

“The church is not peripheral to the world; THE WORLD IS PERIPHERAL TO THE CHURCH! The church is Christ’s Body, in which he speaks and acts, and by which he fills everything with his presence.” - Ephesians 1:23 (The Message)

### 2. Politicians: We’ll solve all your problems & save the world.

#### Jesus: Only I can \_\_\_\_\_ you and solve your worst problems

“Do not put your trust in princes, who are mortal men. They cannot save you.”  
- Psalm 146:3 (NCV)

God: “Anyone who turns away from trusting me to put their trust in a human being will be cursed. They’ll dry up like a bush in the desert with no hope for their future.”  
- Jeremiah 17:5

### 3. Politics: Votes & money come by creating division & fear.

#### Jesus: In my church, \_\_\_\_\_ gets priority over politics

“Make every effort to preserve the unity (in the church) which the Spirit gives us. Bind yourselves together with peace. We are all one Body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future.”  
- Ephesians 4:3–4 (NLT)

“I beg you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ to not argue among yourselves. Let there be real harmony so there won’t be divisions in the church. I plead with you to be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.”  
- 1 Corinthians 1:10 (NLT)

“Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don’t see things the way you do. And don’t jump all over them every time they do or say something you don’t agree with . . .”  
- Romans 14:1 (The Message)

“Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. . . . By persisting in divisiveness, he cuts himself off from fellowship.”  
- Titus 3:10–11 (NIV & The Message)

### 4. Politics: Results matter more than character in a leader.

#### Jesus: The \_\_\_\_\_ of a leader matters most

“A wise person’s HEART will lead in the right way. But the HEART of a fool will always lead in the wrong way.”  
- Ecclesiastes 10:2

“Some day there will be a king who rules with integrity, and national leaders who govern with justice. Each of them will be like a shelter from the wind and provide safe covering in storms. They will refresh others like streams flowing in a desert, and the cool shadow of a giant rock in a hot, barren land. Their eyes and ears will be open to the needs of the people. They will NOT be rash and reckless hotheads. Instead they will act with understanding and they will say what they mean. In that day, ungodly fools will no longer be called great and scoundrels won’t be given positions of honor. A foolish leader speaks foolishly and thinks up new ways to do mischief. What he does AND what he says are BOTH an insult to the Lord! He never feeds the hungry or gives thirsty people anything to drink. The scoundrel’s methods are wicked. He constantly lies, is cruel and unmoved by the pleas of the poor and hurting, and he denies them justice and their rights. But a good leader plans good things to do good, and those good things make him a good leader.”  
- Isaiah 32:1–8 (TEV, NCV, NLT)

1. church 2. save 3. unity 4. character

## 在對立的時代保持團結

對比一下上帝與政治的非常不同的價值觀

華理克牧師

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“不要模仿這個世代，倒要藉著心意的更新而改變過來，使你們可以察驗出甚麼是神的旨意，就是察驗出甚麼是美好的、蒙他悅納的和完全的事。”

- 羅馬書 12:2 (新譯本)

### 目標：是讓你能夠說出...

“我們本著上帝所賜的聖潔和誠實為人處世，倚靠祂的恩典，不倚靠人的聰明才智。”

- 哥林多後書 1:12 (當代譯本)

上主說：「我的意念不同於你們的意念，我的作為非同你們的作為。天怎樣高過地，照樣，我的作為高過你們的作為，我的意念也高過你們的意念。」

- 以賽亞書 55:8-9 (新普及譯本/意譯)

“上帝已經使這世界的智慧成為愚拙了！”

- 哥林多前書 1:20 下 (現中修訂版)

### 1. 這個世界：政治是一切的推動力。

#### 耶穌：我的\_\_\_\_\_比一切都重要

“上帝的用意是要通過教會...展示他那豐富萬千的智慧。”

- 以弗所書 3:10 (新普及譯本)

“上帝已經把一切都置於基督的權柄之下，並且為了教會的益處。”

- 以弗所書 1:22 (新普及譯本)

耶穌應許：“我要把我的教會建立...陰間的門不能勝過它。”

- 馬太福音 16:18 下 (意譯 / 中文標準譯本)

“基督愛教會，為教會捨己，使它歸給上帝...他為教會捨命，以致他能為教會如美麗的新娘般捨己。”

- 以弗所書 5:25 下, 27 (新譯本 / 意譯)

“教會並不在世界之外，是世界才是在教會之外！教會是基督的身體，他在其中說話和行事，並藉此以他的同在充滿萬有。”

- 以弗所書 1:23 (信息本意譯)

### 2. 政客：我們會解決你們所有問題，拯救世界。

耶穌：只有我能\_\_\_\_\_你，並解決你最大的難題

“你們不要倚靠權貴，不要倚靠世人，他們一點都不能救助你們。”

- 詩篇 146:3 (新譯本)

上帝：“那些信靠區區世人，仗賴人的力量，心中背棄上主的，這樣的人當受詛咒。”

- 耶利米書 17:5 (新普及譯本)

### 3. 政治：分裂和恐懼是用來製造選票和金錢。

#### 耶穌：在我的教會裏，「\_\_\_\_\_」優先於政治

“你們要竭力保守在聖靈裏的合一，彼此以和平相聯。因為只有一個身體，一位聖靈，正如你們蒙了召喚，對未來就有同一個榮耀的盼望。”

- 以弗所書 4:3-4 (新普及譯本)

“我懇求你們，親愛的弟兄姊妹，憑着我們主耶穌基督的權柄，你們之間不要爭論。要有真正的和諧，以致教會裏沒有任何分歧。我勸你們要同心合意，在思想和目的上合一。”

- 哥林多前書 1:10 (NLT 意譯)

“信徒們，要張開雙臂接納那些與你們觀點不同的人。每當他們做出或說出一些你不認同的事情，不要指責他們。”

- 羅馬書 14:1 (信息本意譯)

“要警告那製造分裂的人一次，再警告第二次，往後就別再跟他來往。當他堅持紛爭，就是將自己隔絕於團契相交。”

- 提多書 3:10-11 (信息本意譯)

### 4. 政治：領袖的政績比品格更重要。

#### 耶穌：領袖的\_\_\_\_\_最重要

“智者的心引導他走正路，愚人的心帶領他入歧途。”

- 傳道書 10:2 (當代譯本)

“有一天，將有以正義掌權的國王和公平治國的領袖出現，他們每一位都會像風暴中的避難所。他們會煥發人心，有如沙漠中的溪流，亦如炎熱荒野裏巨石下清涼的庇蔭。他們會張開耳目，傾聽人民的需要；他們不會輕率，不會魯莽衝動，卻會行事明智，也會坦誠待人。在那天，不再有人以愚拙為高尚，也沒有人稱小人為君子。愚昧的領袖說話愚蠢，行惡的方法層出不窮。他的言行舉止都褻瀆上主！他從不為飢餓的人提供食物，也從不給口渴的人東西喝，無賴之人的手段是邪惡的，他會不斷說謊、殘酷不仁，對窮苦人的請求無動於衷，對窮苦人的哀求不聞不問。他無視這些人的公正和權利，但賢德的領袖會精心策劃去行善，也因這些善行而成為好領袖。”

- 以賽亞書 32:1-8 (現中修訂版/意譯)