

Politicians, Prayer & the Power of God

www.victory.net.nz 22.10.2023
www.youtube.com/c/VictoryChristianCentre

The General Election of 2023 is now behind us:

- The people have spoken (voted)
- We have prayed, and we have seen the power of God in operation
- We now have a new set of politicians poised to govern our nation for the next three years
- **Let's not under-estimate what God has done as we analyze the election results**
- We now have a more conservative-leaning government being formed
- The liberal left has been reduced to 1/3 of all elected MP's, from more than half after the 2020 Election
- Some political parties (& politicians) have been punished by the people

A FEW REFLECTIONS AFTER THE ELECTIONS:

- In Politics, nothing is perfect
 - neither politicians
 - nor political parties
 - nor their policies
- Perfect government will not eventuate until Jesus Christ sets up His literal government on earth after His Return (Millennial Reign of Christ)
- Our MMP electoral system is more complex than what meets the eye – most people don't understand its finer intricacies
- Many Christians don't know how to cast a righteous strategic vote
- They are not sufficiently informed - nor do they sufficiently understand the MMP electoral system
- People who cast their vote only with principle in mind are likely to waste their vote, over and over again

Quote from Rev. Dr. Michael Reid – Family First StraightTalk panel member:
“In politics, you have to marry principle with pragmatism”

- We should vote with strong principles, but we also have to be practical
- We should get used to the idea of incremental advances of Kingdom principles & values in politics and in our nation
- In the US, Roe & Wade wasn't overturned overnight
- There were many little incremental victories, until critical mass was reached, before this 50 year old abortion court ruling was overturned

- What some Christians might consider to be compromise, could actually mean: “Being wise as serpents and harmless as doves” (Matt. 10:16)

A few Positives:

- We now have a PM that is actually married
- He, his wife & children live within the context of a legal marriage
- He has Christian background, and is likely to operate from a Judeo-Christian worldview

FUTURE PRAYER VICTORIES

We have had some past prayer victories. Let’s continue to pray towards future prayer victories, for God to move powerfully in the political arena & in our nation:

- Pray towards the final makeup of our government
- The final configuration of government will not be known until after all special votes are counted (after Friday 3 November 2023)
- A by-election will be held in Port Waikato on 25 November due the death of a local candidate
- This could increase the size of Parliament to 122 seats (overhang)
- Pray for NZ First to get a seat at the table (Cabinet)
- Pray for God to influence & direct the decisions of our new government, and parliament as a whole
- Pray for the culling out of the liberal left elements from government departments (i.e. education department, etc.)

1 Timothy 2:1–2 (NIV) *I urge, then, first of all, that **petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made** for all people—**2** for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.*

- God commands us to pray for all people, & also for governmental leaders
- Their decisions as law-makers affects our lives, for positive or for negative
- We must continue to engage, both:
 - In prayer
 - And also in our democratic process of voting
- Non-engagement of Christians is not an option

CAN GOD USE NON-CHRISTIAN POLITICIANS?

Isaiah 44:24–45:1 (NKJV) Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, and He who formed you from the womb: “I am the Lord, who makes all things, who stretches out the heavens all alone, who spreads abroad the earth by Myself; **25** Who frustrates the signs of the babblers, and drives diviners mad; who turns wise men backward, and makes their knowledge foolishness; **26** Who confirms the word of His servant, and performs the counsel of His messengers; **Who says to Jerusalem, ‘You shall be inhabited,’ To the cities of Judah, ‘You shall be built,’** and I will raise up her waste places; **27** Who says to the deep, ‘Be dry! And I will dry up your rivers’; **28 Who says of Cyrus, ‘He is My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure, saying to Jerusalem, “You shall be built,”** And to the temple, “Your foundation shall be laid.”’ **45:1 “Thus says the Lord to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held**— To subdue nations before him and loose the armor of kings, to open before him the double doors, so that the gates will not be shut:

Isaiah 45:4 (NKJV) For Jacob My servant’s sake, and Israel My elect, **I have even called you (Cyrus) by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.**

- Cyrus King of Persia was a pagan who did not know God (Is. 45:4)
- He was a heathen king whom God used mightily to:
 - Release the Jews from Captivity
 - To rebuild Jerusalem and the cities of Judah
 - To rebuild the temple
 - To
- God called him by name (Is. 45:4)
- God said of Cyrus
 - He is my Shepherd who shall perform all My pleasure” (vs.28), and
 - My anointed, who’s right hand I have held (45:1)

Under the kingship of Cyrus, & subsequent kings, the Jews were allowed to return from the Babylonian captivity and rebuild Jerusalem, its walls and its temple.

God can & does anoint unsaved politicians to bring about His will in a nation, if God’s people pray.

Daniel 9:1–5 (NLT) *It was the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede, the son of Ahasuerus, who became king of the Babylonians. 2 During the first*

*year of his reign, I, Daniel, learned from reading the word of the Lord, as revealed to Jeremiah the prophet, that Jerusalem must lie desolate for seventy years. 3 **So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and fasting.** I also wore rough burlap and sprinkled myself with ashes. 4 I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed: “O Lord, you are a great and awesome God! You always fulfill your covenant and keep your promises of unfailing love to those who love you and obey your commands. 5 But we have sinned and done wrong. We have rebelled against you and scorned your commands and regulations.*