

Eagle Mountain International Church

Ministers Cannot Remain Silent

Pastor George Pearsons – Sunday, September 6, 2020

A. Proverbs 29:2: When the Righteous Are In Authority, the People Rejoice: but When the Wicked Rule, the People Mourn

1. There is so much at stake in this upcoming election.
2. The moral foundation of our country is being attacked.
3. The envelope of sin is being pushed to its limits.
4. To be anti-Bible is to open the door of the curse.
5. What can we, as ministers, do to impact our election?

B. Ephesians 4:11-12: And He Gave Some, Apostles; and Some, Prophets and Some, Evangelists; and Some, Pastors and Teachers; for the Perfecting of the Saints, for the Work of the Ministry, for the Edifying of the Body of Christ

1. This is the job description of the five-fold ministry.
2. As ministers, we are responsible for educating our congregations in their biblical rights, privileges, responsibilities and authority.
3. Does this include educating our congregations in the political realm?
4. The political realm touches every aspect of the Christian life.
5. The role of the minister in this election season:
 - a. We make sure our congregations are praying over the elections.
 - b. We make sure our congregations are registered to vote.
 - c. We make sure our congregations are aware of the two party's platforms and where they stand in the light of God's Word.
 - d. And finally, we make sure our congregations vote.

C. Ministers' Political Involvement—Quotes from David Barton

1. "During the Revolutionary War, pastors and ministers played a pivotal role in the founding of our nation."
2. "Pastors were a major influence for America in achieving its independence. Twenty-four of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence held Bible school or seminary degrees. Almost half were trained for the ministry."
3. "They were just as influential in helping America establish its constitutional form of government and in responding from the pulpit to such issues as slavery, civil rights, the military and war."
4. "Pastors were involved across the board in every aspect of culture and society. They didn't face the separation we do today that says, 'Pastors can't talk about politics.'"

5. “In the founding days of our nation, citizens were eligible to offer their opinion in every aspect in life and culture. Pastors were considered citizens and they were very involved.”
6. “Today, we have made them less than citizens. Everyone else is afforded the privilege of free speech except for ministers. They have not been allowed to talk about political issues.”
7. “Is there still a role for ministers to play in today’s political arena?”

D. Ministers and Public Issues in the Bible by David Barton

1. Clergy directly addressing public policy, public officials and candidates for office was a traditional practice of the early American pulpit. It was also a biblical practice. Consider how often God sent His ministers either to publicly confront civil leaders or expose their wicked policies.
 - a. In 1 Kings 21:1-24, Elijah confronted King Ahab and Queen Jezebel over their unjust use of eminent domain and religious persecution.
 - b. In 2 Chronicles 32:27-31 and 2 Kings 20:12-19, Isaiah confronted King Hezekiah over his national security failures and issues related to the treasury.
 - c. In 2 Chronicles 19:1, 2, Eliezer and Jehu confronted King Jehoshaphat over his blunders in foreign relations and foreign alliances.
 - d. In Jeremiah 34, Jeremiah confronted King Zedekiah over his wicked public policies.
 - e. In Daniel 4:1-27, Daniel confronted Nebuchadnezzar over his arrogance.
 - f. In 1 Samuel 13:1-14, Samuel confronted King Saul over not fulfilling his assigned responsibilities.
 - g. In 2 Samuel 12:7-14, Nathan confronted King David regarding his immorality.
 - h. In 2 Chronicles 26:16-21, Azariah (along with eighty other priests) confronted King Uzziah for usurping religious practices through the improper expansion of government powers.
 - i. In Matthew 3:7, John the Baptist confronted civil leaders for their hypocrisy.
 - j. In Luke 13:31,32, Jesus called Herod a “fox” (AMPC = sly and crafty, skulking and cowardly).
2. There is no biblical model where God has His ministers remain silent with civil leaders or about civil issues. His ministers called out bad leaders and pointed out un-biblical public policies.

E. On the Other Hand, Ministers also Partnered with Civil Leaders. They Constructed Good Public Policies, Provided Sound Guidance, and Recommended Actions on Many Issues.

1. In 2 Kings 6, Elisha provided the King of Israel counsel regarding military intelligence and military policy.
2. In 2 Samuel 7:1-13, Nathan told David to build a house for God.
3. In Jeremiah 21:1-10, Jeremiah provided military guidance to the King.
4. In 2 Chronicles 24:1,2,15-19, King Joash pursued good policies as long as the priest Jehoiada provided him with wise counsel. When Joash lost his Godly counselor, the King's policies turned wicked.
5. In Isaiah 37, Isaiah revealed secret information to King Hezekiah regarding national security and foreign policy issues.
6. In Luke 3:10-14, John the Baptist advised the people, the government and the military.
7. In Luke 19:1-10, Jesus counseled a tax collector named Zacchaeus.
8. In Acts 27:9-12, Paul warned civil leaders concerning impending disaster and natural calamity.

F. A Conversation with Kenneth Copeland, Sept. 22, 2012

“George, take the party platforms and preach on those points. Compare those points to what the Bible says about them. Make it really clear that a platform is something you stand on. To vote for that platform is to attach yourself to it. You will partake of the judgement of that platform.”

G. October 2016 Kenneth Copeland Partner Letter

“In just a few weeks, our nation will be voting not only for a new President and Vice President, but also for other leaders, including senators and congressmen, both federal and state, and for governors and judges on different levels, all of whom have a direct and indirect effect on our lives.

Elections are a very serious business, especially to God and to the kingdom of God. Voting is not optional in His eyes. ‘Well, Brother Copeland, I don’t like either one of the candidates.’ Whether you or I like them or not has nothing to do with anything. In the first place, there are more people running for office in this election than just those seeking the offices of President and Vice President.

There are also the platforms that form the agendas of each party—the platforms that these candidates are supporting—that we must consider. Those platforms are the big issue, especially to you and me as believers. The planks to those platforms came out of peoples’ hearts. God pays very close attention to them, and to those who choose to stand on them.

No one can stand on one plank and not the other. You are not standing a plank. You are on the whole stage, which is made up of every plank.”

H. Word from the Lord through Kenneth Copeland, Nov. 4, 2014

1. “I have a new birth for this nation. I have planned a nation that, right at this moment, you really don’t have any concept of what it’s like. Hear My words, America. I have a new nation in My heart and in My mind and you don’t know what it looks like.
2. The door is open. Step through it and together we will bring a new nation on the earth, one nation under God that trusts in God.
3. How could that possibly come to pass? It can come to pass because I am God and I change not. And My plan has already been planned before the foundation of the world. You listen to Me and you walk with Me and together we will see it come to pass.
4. I have raised up people throughout this nation and I have a people all over this earth who are praying for the United States in this very hour. They are holding this country up before Me because they realize they need his nation also.
5. These are the days of your deliverance. Rejoice, and be glad, because I have given you your nation back. And the manifestation of its new birth is at hand.”