

# Choose Today: How We Interface with Politics

A (Re)Evaluation of Joshua 24

# Sin is Sin

- One thing we need to learn is to be unafraid to call sin out as sin, regardless of who does it.
- Let us take our inspiration from John the Baptist, Elijah, Micaiah, and all the prophets who spoke the Word of God.
- Let us also be inspired by Jeremiah, and the apostle Paul.
- Most of all, let us be inspired by Jesus.

# The Folly of Party Loyalty

- Let us be clear: I'm not saying it's sinful to join a party.
- What I'm saying is this: It's sinful for your loyalty to any party (political or not) to supplant your loyalty to Jesus.
- A word of advice, if I can give any: It's easier to accomplish this if our **only** loyalty is to Jesus.
- Party loyalty can drag us away from Jesus and drive us to ungodly behavior.

# The Folly of Party Loyalty

- On February 12<sup>th</sup>, reports were released of what happened at a rally on the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> held by President Trump in El Paso, TX.
- During the rally, as a response to the President claiming he receives unfair media coverage, a cameraman from BBC News was attacked by a member of the crowd. The crowd then began to chant vulgar things about news outlets.

# The Folly of Party Loyalty

- Yesterday, major news outlets reported that a conservative activist was attempting to recruit college students at UC Berkeley. He had a table set up, and was peacefully conversing with any who approached.
- Two men came up to him and began spewing profanity immediately. He began recording the encounter on his phone. One of the men slapped his phone out of his hand and the proceeded to physically beat him.

# The Folly of Party Loyalty

- Human beings are designed to worship. We **will** worship something.
- Our nation has long since ceased to worship God. Even many who call themselves Christians no longer truly do.
- As a result, politics has become our national religion. The fight between “sides” is no less important to the people involved than the crusades were to the Vatican in the middle ages.

# Labeling Others

- This self-superiority leads to a dehumanizing of others. This becomes reflected in our speech.
- We begin to use pejoratives and insults to describe those who disagree with us.
- What really happens when we do this is that we forget the most important thing about our fellow humans: they are **all** made in the image of God.

# Labeling Others

- When we denigrate that, we denigrate what God has made.
- When we become consumed by political tribalism, we lose sight of our mission: to seek and save the lost.
- What's even worse is that when this happens, we don't just lose sight of the mission, we become incapable of fulfilling it.



**We must free ourselves from the shackles that other men have told us to wear. Only then can we be truly on God's side.**