



# THE CHRISTIANS ENGAGED BIBLICAL ROADMAP TO THE PARTY PLATFORMS

A non-partisan reference guide  
for the 2024 Primary Elections



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## **WE ARE CALLED TO BE SALT AND LIGHT IN OUR CULTURE**

You are uniquely positioned to make a difference! A great first step is to take the free Christians Engaged pledge – we’ll help you PRAY for America, VOTE in every election, and ENGAGE in your community.

SIGN UP TODAY AT: [CHRISTIANSENGAGED.ORG/PLEDGE](https://CHRISTIANSENGAGED.ORG/PLEDGE)

# 5 STEPS TO GET READY

The purpose of the Primary Election is to select the candidate(s) that will appear on the ballot for the November 5, 2024 General Election.

## **STEP 1: CHOOSE AND VOTE FOR THE POLITICAL PARTY THAT MOST CLOSELY ALIGNS WITH YOUR BIBLICAL VALUES**

Study this document to compare the Biblical Worldview with the positions adopted by each party. Then you can dig deeper by reading the full platforms, which are available on the party websites ([dnc.org](https://dnc.org), [rnc.org](https://rnc.org)), and by taking Christians Engaged's on-demand civics and Biblical Worldview classes ([christiansengaged.org/classes](https://christiansengaged.org/classes)).

Only Republican and Democratic Primaries are held in most states - the other parties select candidates by convention.

## **STEP 2: PULL YOUR SAMPLE BALLOT FROM YOUR COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT - THE BALLOT WILL BE BASED UPON YOUR POLITICAL PARTY OF CHOICE**

You can find your County Elections Department website by using a search engine such as Google or Bing - i.e., "Dallas County Elections Department".

## **STEP 3: SPEND SOME TIME RESEARCHING THE CANDIDATES IN EACH RACE ON YOUR BALLOT & MAKE YOUR CHOICE**

- Look at the candidate websites and their social media feeds to see where they stand on the issues
- Look at who supports them: organizations, groups, key endorsements, etc.
- If you spend 5-10 minutes looking at each race, you will be more prepared than most people across the country.

## **STEP 4: LOOK TO OUTSIDE SOURCES FOR INFORMATION ON CANDIDATES' VOTING RECORDS & FUNDRAISING INFORMATION**

Check out [iVoter Guide](#) for non-partisan information for Christians.

For information on candidates' finances, refer to [Transparency USA](#).

## **STEP 5: PRAY & ASK GOD FOR WISDOM TO PICK THE BEST CANDIDATE IN EACH RACE**

*"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."* James 1:5

To help you pray for the elections - [click here for prayer points](#) from our friends at [Intercessors for America](#).



# ABOUT PARTY PLATFORMS

## WHAT ARE PARTY PLATFORMS?

Every political party is defined by its people. Regular people, just like you, decide what their party will stand for, and write it down in a formal document. That document is called the *Party Platform*. It is the base or belief structure that attempts to unite the people and the candidates.

Platforms are created at the local level by individuals submitting resolutions to their precinct chairmen. The resolutions are then submitted and refined at District Conventions, State Conventions, and National Conventions. YOU can propose planks for your party's platform! If you become a delegate to a state or national convention, you will be able to vote for the platform positions, the party leadership, the party rules, and other important issues for your political party.

## WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

A platform states what the party believes about the important issues of the day. The platform defines the positions the people want their leaders to support, and directs the policies they will implement.

*"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death." (Proverbs 14:12)*

Good policy helps people, bad policy hurts people. Without God's wisdom, people tend to adopt policies that are harmful, and some of the positions by our major political parties are antagonistic to the principles in God's Word. They are harmful to the people and dangerous for the country. That's why we need YOU to examine the party platform documents and to bring God's loving biblical principles to your political party!

Platforms are also a helpful tool in holding the leaders accountable – YOU can remind your leaders to follow the beliefs of the party and seek to remove leaders when they don't.

## HOW SHOULD CHRISTIANS APPROACH PARTY PLATFORMS?

As Christians, our identity is not wrapped up in being Democrats or Republicans: we are redeemed children of God. Our allegiance is not to a party, it is to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We don't derive our values from a political party – they come from what God says in His Word.

But still we need to READ the platforms. They are readily available on the party websites ([dnc.org](http://dnc.org), [rnc.org](http://rnc.org)). It is a time investment, but it is EXTREMELY important! Everyone should read them!

## "TAKE EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE"

*"We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ..." (2 Corinthians 10:5)*

For Christians, the next step is to COMPARE the positions of the platform to the Biblical Worldview. Try this exercise: print out the platform, then circle positions that align with God's Word, and put an X through policies that do not align with God's Word.

After comparing the platforms to God's Word, ask God for wisdom, then prayerfully decide which platform most closely aligns with the Biblical Worldview. This is a personal decision between you and God.

If you need help understanding how to apply the Bible to these issues, check out our classes at: [www.christiansengaged.org/classes](http://www.christiansengaged.org/classes).

## TEACH OTHERS!

Electing godly leaders is one of the most practical ways we can love our neighbors, so find out what the Bible says, and then teach others!

*"When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan." (Proverbs 29:2)*

Individuals and churches are legally allowed to teach on political and cultural issues in our country — *The Johnson Amendment* does NOT preclude churches and other non-profits from educating the public on candidates' positions, party platforms, or political issues.

# THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

## THE HOLY BIBLE

### God created government and gave it a limited role:

- *“Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.” (1 Peter 2:13-14)*

### Christians are to be law-abiding citizens:

- *“Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.” (Romans 13:1)*

### Our highest allegiance is obedience to God:

- *“But Peter and John answered them, ‘Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.’” (Acts 4:19-20)*

### We should elect those with godly leadership qualities:

- *“Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens.” (Exodus 18:21)*
- *“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.” (Proverbs 14:34)*
- *“You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another.” (Leviticus 19:11)*

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- “[Our] new social and economic contract with the American people... creates millions of new jobs and promotes shared prosperity, closes racial gaps in income and wealth, guarantees the right to join or form a union, raises wages and ensures equal pay for women and paid family leave for all, and safeguards a secure and dignified retirement.”
- “[We will] redress the systemic injustices that have long plagued our society, throw open the doors of opportunity for all Americans... [and] guarantee health care not as a privilege for some, but as a right for every single American.”

**Our take: Proposes government solutions via increased spending and intervention for each social issue, including: infrastructure, jobs and wages, pollution, education, housing, safety, healthcare, welfare, race relations, technology, arts and culture, energy, childcare, international aid, and more.**

## MARX & LENIN

- “The [workers] will use their political supremacy to wrest, by degrees, all capital from the [middle class], to centralise all instruments of production in the hands of the State...”
- “Abolition of private land ownership... A heavy progressive or graduated income tax... Abolition of all rights of inheritance... A national bank with State capital and an exclusive monopoly... Centralisation of the means of communication and transport in the hands of the State... Factories and instruments of production owned by the State... Require all to labour. ... Free education of all children through public schools.”

**Our take: Marxism seeks a strong, centralized government (State), which owns and controls every aspect of human society through ever-increasing government control.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- “We believe our constitutional system must be preserved uncompromised for future generations... We reaffirm the Constitution’s fundamental principles: limited government, separation of powers, individual liberty, and the rule of law.”
- “We pledge to restore the proper balance and vertical separation of powers between the federal government and state governments — the governments closest to, and most reflective of, the American people.”

**Our take: Proposes reducing the size and scope of government, and specifically promotes adherence to our founding documents**



# RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

## THE HOLY BIBLE

### **Jesus insisted on personal choice and non-coercion of religious beliefs:**

- *“And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town.” (Matthew 10:14)*
- *“The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” (1 Timothy 1:4)*

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- “[We] will protect the rights of each American for the free exercise of his or her own religion [and] advocate for religious freedom throughout the world”
- “[We believe in] the paramount importance of maintaining the separation between church and state”
- “[We reject] broad religious exemptions.”
- “We reject the politicization of religious freedom in American foreign policy”

**Our take: Pledges to support religious freedom while maintaining the idea of "separation of church and state" (keeping religious expression outside public life). Rejects "broad" religious exemptions.**

## MARX & LENIN

- “My object in life is to dethrone God and destroy Capitalism... The first requisite for the happiness of the people is the abolition of religion.”
- “‘Religion is the opium of the people’—this dictum by Marx is the cornerstone of the whole Marxist outlook on religion. Marxism has always regarded all modern religions and churches, and each and every religious organisation, as instruments of [middle class] reaction that serve to defend exploitation and to befuddle the working class.”
- “The Communist revolution is the most radical rupture with traditional property relations; no wonder that its development involves the most radical rupture with traditional ideas.”

**Our take: Marxism sets itself against God and limits religious expression.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- “We pledge to defend the religious beliefs and rights of conscience of all Americans and to safeguard religious institutions against government control... We strongly support the freedom of Americans to act in accordance with their religious beliefs, not only in their houses of worship, but also in their everyday lives.”
- “[We affirm] that religious individuals and institutions can educate young people, receive government benefits, and participate in public debates without having to check their religious beliefs at the door.”
- “[We will] designate the systematic killing of religious and ethnic minorities a genocide, and will work with the leaders of other nations to condemn and combat genocidal acts.”

**Our take: Pledges to support religious freedom, freedom of religious institutions from government control, and freedom of religion abroad.**

# FREEDOM OF SPEECH

## THE HOLY BIBLE

### **We are commanded to speak the truth, in love:**

- *“Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...”* (Ephesians 4:15)
- *“To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.”* (Ephesians 6:18-20)

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- “We will prevent enforcement officials from retaliating against individuals for their political speech or activity, or because of their efforts to advocate for [immigrants’] rights.”
- “We will push back against erosion of press freedom wherever it occurs and in whatever form—whether through direct intimidation of, and violence against, journalists or legal, regulatory, and financial pressures that smother free speech.”
- “We oppose any effort to unfairly single out and delegitimize Israel, including at the United Nations or through the [BDS] Movement, while protecting the Constitutional right of our citizens to free speech.”
- “We will take steps to prevent the use of new technologies to facilitate repression, spread hate, or incite violence.”

**Our take: Promises free speech to certain protected classes, but offers no blanket guarantee of freedom of speech. Promises to suppress unsanctioned speech online.**

## MARX & LENIN

- “Why should freedom of speech and freedom of press be allowed? Why should a government which is doing what it believes to be right allow itself to be criticized? It would not allow opposition by lethal weapons. Ideas are much more fatal things than guns. Why should any man be allowed to buy a printing press and disseminate pernicious opinions calculated to embarrass the government?”

**Our take: Rejects all criticism of the State.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- “We oppose any restrictions or conditions that would discourage citizens from participating in the public square or limit their ability to promote their ideas, such as requiring private organizations to publicly disclose their donors to the government.”
- “We support repeal of federal restrictions on political parties in McCain-Feingold, raising or repealing contribution limits, protecting the political speech of advocacy groups, corporations, and labor unions, and protecting political speech on the internet. We likewise call for an end to the so-called Fairness Doctrine, and support free-market approaches to free speech unregulated by government.”

**Our take: Promises to oppose restrictions on speech for individuals, businesses, and groups, also supports ending or limiting restrictions on “political speech” (including financial contributions).**



# THE NATIONAL DEBT

## THE HOLY BIBLE

### God urges against being in financial debt:

- *"The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender."* (Proverbs 22:7)
- *"And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today... The LORD will open to you his good treasury, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hands. And you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow."* (Deuteronomy 28:1,12)

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- "We will take steps to ease the burden of high monthly student loan payments through legislative and administration relief processes."
- "[We] will provide relief for Puerto Rico's remaining debt burden..."
- "[We] will lead international efforts to help developing countries withstand and recover from debt crises caused by the COVID-19 pandemic."
- "We urgently need to support state and local governments, which are suffering severe budget shortfalls due to declines in tax revenues while being asked to shoulder the burden of COVID-related services and rising unemployment."

**Our take: Does not mention the US national debt or the debt burden created by the proposed programs.**

## MARX & LENIN

- "The best way to destroy the Capitalist system is to debauch the currency."
- "The way to crush the [middle class] is to grind them between the millstones of taxation and inflation."

**Our take: Marxism sees debt as a means to bring about Socialism and greater government control.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- "We must impose firm caps on future debt, accelerate the repayment of the trillions we now owe in order to reaffirm our principles of responsible and limited government, and remove the burdens we are placing on future generations."
- "A strong economy is one key to debt reduction, but spending restraint is a necessary component that must be vigorously pursued."
- "We will fight for Congress to adopt, and for the states to ratify, a Balanced Budget Amendment which imposes a cap limiting spending to the appropriate historical average percentage of our nation's gross domestic product while requiring a super-majority for any tax increase, with exceptions only for war or legitimate emergencies."

**Our take: Holds that the national debt is an unacceptable burden on the economy, families, and future generations.**



# BIBLICAL JUSTICE

## THE HOLY BIBLE

### Pillars of Biblical Justice:

- **Equality:** *"You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor."* (Deuteronomy 19:15)
- **Equal Restitution:** *"But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe."* (Exodus 21:23-25)
- **Individual Responsibility:** *"The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."* (Ezekiel 18:20)
- **Not concerned with equality of outcomes:** *"And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to the one who has the ten minas.' And they said to him, 'Lord, he has ten minas!' I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away."* (Luke 19:24)

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- "[We] are committed to standing up to racism and bigotry in our laws, in our culture, in our politics, and in our society, and recognize that race-neutral policies are not sufficient to rectify race-based disparities. We will take a comprehensive approach to embed racial justice in every element of our governing agenda"
- "We believe Black lives matter, and will establish a national commission to examine the lasting economic effects of slavery, Jim Crow segregation, and racially discriminatory federal policies on income, wealth, educational, health, and employment outcomes"
- "[We will] employ guidance counselors, social workers, nurses, or school psychologists to help guarantee age-appropriate and racially equitable student disciplinary practices, rather than turning to police to resolve these issues"
- "[We] support abolishing the death penalty"

**Our take: Supports ending race-neutral policies and instead seeks equality of outcomes based on race and gender. Pledges to study reparations, promote racial group responsibilities, and use innovative strategies to redistribute wealth in order to close racial wealth gaps.**

## MARX & LENIN

- "The history of all hitherto existing societies is the history of class struggles. Freeman and slave, patrician and plebeian, lord and serf, guild-master and journeyman, in a word, oppressor and oppressed, stood in constant opposition to one another, carried on an uninterrupted, now hidden, now open fight, a fight that each time ended, either in a revolutionary re-constitution of society at large, or in the common ruin of the contending classes."

**Our take: Marxism rejects individual responsibility in favor of group classifications and responsibilities. It champions social upheaval and restitution through revolution, pitting groups against each other in order to achieve "redemption" for past injustices.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- "God bestows certain inalienable rights on every individual, thus producing human equality"
- "[We will ensure] that all Americans stand equal before the law"
- "We continue to encourage equality for all citizens and access to the American Dream. Merit and hard work should determine advancement in our society, so we reject unfair preferences, quotas, and set-asides as forms of discrimination."
- "We condemn the Supreme Court's erosion of the right of the people to enact capital punishment in their states"

**Our take: Promotes equality under the law for every individual. Does not mention equity, reparations, group responsibility, or the pursuit of equal outcomes.**

# BIBLICAL ECONOMICS

## THE HOLY BIBLE

### Pillars of Biblical Economics:

- **Private Property:** *"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."* (Exodus 20:17)
- *"For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat."* (2 Thessalonians 3:10)
- **Economic Freedom:** *"She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard."* (Proverbs 31:16)
- **Economic Justice:** *"Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates."* (Proverbs 31:31)

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- "[We] will forge a new social and economic contract with the American people—a contract that creates millions of new jobs and promotes shared prosperity, closes racial gaps in income and wealth, guarantees the right to join or form a union, raises wages and ensures equal pay for women and paid family leave for all, and safeguards a secure and dignified retirement."
- "[We] will fight to raise wages for working people and improve job quality and security, including by raising the federal minimum wage so it reaches \$15 an hour by 2026... [and we will require all jobs to] come with family-sustaining wages, good benefits, access to paid leave, fair and predictable schedules, access to training and professional development, and the ability to join a union and collectively bargain."
- "[We] support the creation of an infrastructure bank, a public bank that will leverage public and private resources to build infrastructure projects of national or regional significance..."

**Our take: Proposes government interventions to control the economy, create jobs, raise wages, and improve the quality of life. Limits freedom of entrepreneurs and businesses, especially on wages, prices, leave, and benefits.**

## MARX & LENIN

- "We want to achieve a new and better order of society: in this new and better society there must be neither rich nor poor; all will have to work. Not a handful of rich people, but all the working people must enjoy the fruits of their common labour... This new and better society is called socialist society."
- "Our task here is... to make [central banks] even bigger, even more democratic, even more comprehensive... A single State Bank, the biggest of the big... will constitute as much as nine-tenths of the socialist apparatus."

**Our take: Marxism promotes revolution to redistribute wealth among society, followed by State-controlled economic governance. It promotes equality of outcomes through unequal treatment.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- "Competitiveness equals jobs. That equation governs our policies regarding U.S. corporations in the global economy. Private investment is a key driver of economic growth and job creation."
- "We believe political freedom and economic freedom are indivisible. When political freedom and economic freedom are separated — both are in peril; when united, they are invincible."
- "All workers, including union members, must be free to accept raises and rewards without veto power from union officials."
- "We support the right of states to enact Right-to-Work laws and call for a national law to protect the economic liberty of the modern workforce."

**Our take: Emphasizes freedom of individuals and businesses, securing private property, promoting private investment, and low taxes as the keys to creating jobs. Does not propose that government regulate or intervene in job creation.**



# TAXATION

## THE HOLY BIBLE

### Low and unchanging tax rates:

- *“At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe (a tenth) of your produce...”* (Deuteronomy 14:28)
- *“Each one who is numbered in the census shall give this: half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary...”* (Exodus 30:13)
- **Equal Rates for All:** *“The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less.”* (Exodus 30:15)

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- “We will make sure the wealthy pay their fair share in taxes.”
- “Corporate tax rates, which were cut sharply by the 2017 Republican tax cut, must be raised, and (trickle-down) tax cuts must be rejected. Estate taxes should also be raised back to the historical norm.”
- “[We] will reform the tax code to be more progressive and equitable, and reduce barriers for working families to benefit from targeted tax breaks, including the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit.”

**Our take: Strongly supports graduated tax brackets, and promises increases in taxes for higher-earning brackets.**

## MARX & LENIN

- [Marx’s 10 steps to Communism includes] “A heavy progressive or graduated income tax.”
- “Taxes are the source of life for the bureaucracy, the army and the court, in short, for the whole apparatus of the executive power. Strong government and heavy taxes are identical.”

**Our take: Marx believed heavy and progressive taxation was a key factor in bringing Communism to a country.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- “Wherever tax rates penalize thrift or discourage investment, they must be lowered.”
- “We will be mindful of the burdens on families with children and the impact on an aging population. We will seek simplicity and clarity so that every taxpayer can understand how much of their income is consumed by the federal government.”
- “We oppose retroactive taxation... We oppose tax policies that deliberately divide Americans or promote class warfare... We propose to level the international playing field by lowering the corporate tax rate to be on a par with, or below, the rates of other industrial nations.”

**Our take: Supports simplifying the current tax code “to have a common sense approach,” to promote economic growth.**

# SANCTITY OF LIFE

## THE HOLY BIBLE

**The value of human life comes from God's creation of each individual person in His image:**

- *"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."* (Genesis 1:26-27)

**God declares the unborn to be babies, not merely tissue:**

- *"And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb." (Luke 1:41)*
- *"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made... My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them." (Psalm 139:13-16)*

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- "We will appoint U.S. Supreme Court justices and federal judges who... will respect and enforce foundational precedents, including Brown v. Board of Education and Roe v. Wade."
- "[We] oppose and will fight to overturn federal and state laws that create barriers to [abortion]."
- "[We] will repeal the Title X domestic gag rule and restore federal funding for Planned Parenthood"
- "We will support the repeal of the global gag rule (also known as the Mexico City Policy) and measures like the Helms Amendment, which limit safe access to abortion."

**Our take: Supports abortion and the federal funding of abortions both in the United States and abroad. Opposes and promises to fight all limits on abortion.**

## MARX & LENIN

- "There are no morals in politics; there is only expedience. A scoundrel may be of use to us just because he is a scoundrel."
- "Darwin's book is very important and serves me as a basis in natural science for the class struggle in history."

**Our take: According to Marxism, humans are the result of chance and have no inherent value — the worth of human life is based on its usefulness — that is how each life can benefit the State as a whole.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- "We assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment's protections apply to children before birth."
- "We will not fund or subsidize healthcare that includes abortion coverage."
- "We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood, so long as they provide or refer for elective abortions or sell fetal body parts rather than provide healthcare."
- "We urge all states and Congress to make it a crime to acquire, transfer, or sell fetal tissues from elective abortions for research"

**Our take: Supports adding an amendment to the Constitution guaranteeing life protections to the unborn. Opposes the federal funding of abortions, and will pursue making the sale of aborted fetal tissue a crime.**



# MARRIAGE, GENDER, & SEXUALITY

## THE HOLY BIBLE

**God created marriage to be a lifetime covenant between one man and one woman:**

- “[Jesus] answered, ‘Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’ So they are no longer two but one flesh.” (Matthew 19:4-6)
- “Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.” (Hebrews 13:4)
- “You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.” (Leviticus 18:22)

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- “We will fight to enact the Equality Act and at last outlaw discrimination against LGBTQ+ people in housing, public accommodations, access to credit, education, jury service, and federal programs... when seeking to adopt or foster children, protect LGBTQ+ children from bullying and assault, and guarantee transgender students’ access to facilities based on their gender identity”
- “We will ensure that all transgender and non-binary people can procure official government identification documents that accurately reflect their gender identity”
- “We will amplify the voices of LGBTQ+ persons around the world and counter violence and discrimination against LGBTQ+ persons wherever it appears.”

**Our take: Strong emphasis on LGBTQ+ assistance. Does not address the issue of marriage or define marriage.**

## MARX & LENIN

- “Abolition of the family! Even the most radical flare up at this infamous proposal of the Communists. On what foundation is the present family, the [middle class] family, based? On capital, on private gain.”
- “The [middle class] clap-trap about the family and education, about the hallowed co-relation of parent and child, becomes all the more disgusting, the more, by the action of Modern Industry, all family ties among the [workers] are torn asunder, and their children transformed into simple articles of commerce and instruments of labour.”

**Our take: Marx regarded family units and family education as absurd, calling for the total abolition of the family unit, which is to be replaced by governmental control.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- “Traditional marriage and family, based on marriage between one man and one woman, is the foundation for a free society and has for millennia been entrusted with rearing children and instilling cultural values”
- “Our laws and our government’s regulations should recognize marriage as the union of one man and one woman and actively promote married family life as the basis of a stable and prosperous society.”
- “Strong families, depending upon God and one another, advance the cause of liberty by lessening the need for government in their daily lives. Conversely, as we have learned over the last five decades, the loss of faith and family life leads to greater dependence upon government.”
- “We do not accept the Supreme Court’s redefinition of marriage and we urge its reversal”
- “We oppose government discrimination against businesses or entities which decline to sell items or services to individuals for activities that go against their religious views about such activities.”

**Our take: Holds that marriage is the union of one man and one woman, and promotes the family unit as the basis of society.**

# EDUCATION

## THE HOLY BIBLE

**God's Word gives the responsibility of education to families:**

- *"And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)*
- *"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4)*

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- "Our public schools are bedrock community institutions... We will work with states to offer pre-K for all three- and four-year-olds and expand Head Start and Early Head Start."
- "We will ban for-profit private charter businesses from receiving federal funding... [we need] more stringent guardrails to ensure charter schools are good stewards of federal education funds. We support measures to increase accountability for charter schools"
- "[We] oppose private school vouchers and other policies that divert taxpayer-funded resources away from the public school system"
- "We will drive increased resources to the communities with the highest need"
- "We will protect the rights of transgender students"

**Our take: Promotes public schools as the primary option for education. Opposes vouchers for private schools, calls for limits on charter schools, and does not mention homeschools.**

## MARX & LENIN

- "Give me your four year olds, and in a generation I will build a Socialist State."
- "The education of all children, from the moment that they can get along without a mother's care, shall be in State institutions."

**Our take: Marxism seeks to replace home education by government-controlled public education.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- "Parents are a child's first and foremost educators, and have primary responsibility for the education of their children. Parents have a right to direct their children's education, care, and upbringing. We support a constitutional amendment to protect that right from interference by states, the federal government, or international bodies such as the United Nations."
- "We support options for learning, including home-schooling, career and technical education, private or parochial schools, magnet schools, charter schools, online learning, and early-college high schools."
- "A good understanding of the Bible being indispensable for the development of an educated citizenry, we encourage state legislatures to offer the Bible in a literature curriculum as an elective in America's high schools."

**Our take: Affirms the role of parents in education. Supports choice-based, parent-driven options at every stage of schooling children.**



# CHARITY & WELFARE

## THE HOLY BIBLE

**Charity should be individual and must be voluntary:**

- *“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)*
- *“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.” (James 1:27)*

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- “[We] believe the government should take aggressive steps to increase the supply of housing, especially affordable housing... [we] are committed to ending homelessness in America... We will act swiftly to end homelessness among veterans and will enact strong protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer youth, especially Black, Latino, and Native American LGBTQ+ youth.”
- “[We] believe health care is a human right. We will incentivize states to expand Medicaid and enroll low-income people who do not otherwise have health insurance in a new, high-quality public option without premiums... [and we] will increase funding for food assistance programs.”
- “We will support the 10-20-30 funding approach, to direct at least 10 percent of federal funding to communities where 20 percent or more of the population has been living below the poverty line for 30 years or longer”

**Our take: Holds that government plays the primary role in ending poverty through federal funding of housing, education, health care, transportation, energy, and other necessities.**

## MARX & LENIN

- “We want to achieve a new and better order of society: in this new and better society there must be neither rich nor poor; all will have to work. Not a handful of rich people, but all the working people must enjoy the fruits of their common labour... This new and better society is called socialist society.”
- “In place of the old [middle class] society, with its classes and class antagonisms, we shall have an association, in which the free development of each is the condition for the free development of all.”

**Our take: Marxism rejects individual charity, and instead empowers the State to redistribute wealth via whole-society welfare.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- “[We] propose to evaluate a poverty program by whether it actually reduces poverty and increases the personal independence of its participants... [We] propose instead the dynamic compassion of work requirements in a growing economy, where opportunity takes the place of a hand-out, where true self-esteem can grow from the satisfaction of a job well done.”
- “Marriage remains the greatest antidote to child poverty.”
- “We call for removal of structural impediments which [hinder] poor people: Over-regulation of start-up enterprises, excessive licensing requirements, needless restrictions on formation of schools and day-care centers serving neighborhood families, and restrictions on providing public services in fields like transport and sanitation that close the opportunity door to all but a favored few.”

**Our take: Links an increase in the number of Americans living in poverty to lack of economic growth. Holds that government welfare rarely lifts people out of poverty.**

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING

## THE HOLY BIBLE

### Death penalty for human trafficking enslavement:

- *“Whoever steals a man and sells him, and anyone found in possession of him, shall be put to death.”* (Exodus 21:16)
- *“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.”* (Matthew 18:6)

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- *“We will fight human trafficking and strive to end the practice of modern-day slavery around the world. We will aggressively leverage U.S. law enforcement and strengthen diplomatic efforts to combat forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation.”*
- *“We believe we should expand, not reduce, the annual visa cap for victims of human trafficking, including victims of sex trafficking, violence against women and children, and other heinous crimes.”*

### **Our take: Calls for increased visa cap in light of human trafficking.**

## MARX & LENIN

- *“We are not waging war against individuals. We are exterminating the [middle class] as a class... Do not look for evidence that the accused acted in word or deed against Soviet power. The first question should be, ‘to what class does he belong?’... It is this that should determine his fate.”* (Martyn Latsis, deputy chief of Lenin’s secret police)
- *“In total, no fewer than 20 million Soviet citizens were put to death by the regime or died as a direct result of its repressive policies. This does not include the millions who died in the wars, epidemics and famines that were predictable consequences of Bolshevik policies... If we add to this list the deaths caused by communist regimes that the Soviet Union created and supported—including those in Eastern Europe, China, Cuba, North Korea, Vietnam and Cambodia—the total number of victims is closer to 100 million. That makes Communism the greatest catastrophe in human history.”* (David Satter, *100 Years of Communism—and 100 Million Dead*)

### **Our take: Under Marxism all members of society become wards of the State, and the State may dispose of them as it sees fit— for the “greater good” of society.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- *“We will use the full force of the law against those who engage in commercial sexual exploitation and forced or bonded labor of men, women, or children; involuntary domestic servitude; trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal; and the illegal recruitment and use of child soldiers.”*
- *“We call for increased diplomatic efforts and accountability for foreign governments to prosecute traffickers.”*
- *“We will work... to ensure that trafficking victims are identified among migrants, refugees, and our own citizens so they receive the rehabilitative care needed to heal and thrive.”*
- *“The goal of our domestic anti-trafficking programs should be the rescue and safe return of victims to their homes, not creating a long-term dependency upon public support.”*
- *“The horrific deaths of smuggled workers on our southwestern border at the hands of drug cartels and other gangs highlight the need for total security in that region.”*

### **Our take: Calls for increased border security in light of human trafficking.**



# RACISM

## THE HOLY BIBLE

### **We are all part of one family, the human race:**

- *“And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God...” (Acts 17:26-27)*

### **God hates favoritism and partiality:**

- *“If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself,’ you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.” (James 2:8-9)*

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- “[We] are committed to standing up to racism and bigotry... and recognize that race-neutral policies are not sufficient to rectify race-based disparities. We will take a comprehensive approach to embed racial justice in every element of our governing agenda”
- “We believe Black lives matter, and will establish a national commission to examine the lasting economic effects of slavery, Jim Crow segregation, and racially discriminatory federal policies on income, wealth, educational, health, and employment outcomes”
- “[We] will prioritize support for Black entrepreneurs and other entrepreneurs of color... ensure USDA takes a more proactive approach to supporting training and resources for farmers of color... [and] increase funding for programs supporting businesses owned by women and people of color”
- “[We] will fight to create a federal funding program for higher education... [that funds schools] based on the proportion of low-income students those schools enroll and graduate.”

**Our take: Supports ending race-neutral policies. Pledges to study reparations, promote racial group responsibilities, implement quotas, and redistribute wealth in order to close wealth gaps.**

## MARX & LENIN

- “The classes and the races, too weak to master the new conditions of life, must give way.”
- “[Critical Race Theory, the practical outgrowth of Marxism, calls for aggressive, color-conscious efforts to change the way things are.” (Jean Stefancic, *Critical Race Theory: An Introduction* Richard Delgado)
- “The only remedy to racist discrimination is antiracist discrimination. The only remedy to past discrimination is present discrimination. The only remedy for present discrimination is future discrimination.” (Ibram X. Kendi, *How to be an Antiracist*)

**Our take: Marxism holds that society is made up of oppressors and oppressed people groups. The oppressed group must revolt against the oppressor group and utilize counter-discrimination, in order to achieve equity.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- “We denounce bigotry, racism, anti-Semitism, ethnic prejudice, and religious intolerance. Therefore, we oppose discrimination based on race, sex, religion, creed, disability, or national origin and support statutes to end such discrimination. As the Party of Abraham Lincoln, we must continue to foster solutions to America’s difficult challenges when it comes to race relations today.”
- “We continue to encourage equality for all citizens and access to the American Dream. Merit and hard work should determine advancement in our society, so we reject unfair preferences, quotas, and set-asides as forms of discrimination”
- “We will end the government mandates that required Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and federally-insured banks to satisfy lending quotas to specific [social] groups. Discrimination should have no place in the mortgage industry.”

**Our take: Opposes discrimination and quotas. Seeks to promote merit-based impartiality and access to the American Dream.**

# NATIONAL DEFENSE, BORDERS, & IMMIGRATION

## THE HOLY BIBLE

**Promotes self defense and national defense. Also supports the cultural and legal integration of immigrants:**

- *"And they said to me, 'The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire.' As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven."* (Nehemiah 1:3-4)
- *"When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself..."* (Leviticus 19:33-34)
- *"For the assembly, there shall be one statute for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you, a statute forever throughout your generations. You and the sojourner shall be alike before the LORD. One law and one rule shall be for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you."* (Numbers 15:15-16)

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- *"[We will] rescind [funding for the] unnecessary, wasteful, and ineffective wall on the southern border... [and] provide a roadmap to citizenship for the millions of undocumented workers, caregivers, students, and children"*
- *"We will significantly raise the annual global refugee admissions target... create a minimum annual number for refugee admissions... [and create] new pathways for refugees"*
- *"[We] will make gender equality a key foreign policy priority... We will incorporate climate issues as key priorities at the Department of State, the Department of Defense, and in the Intelligence Community"*
- *"We will reject the targeting of Muslim, Arab, and other racial and ethnic communities based on their faith and backgrounds at home and abroad... our counterterrorism priorities, strategies, footprint, and tools should shift [to] respond to the growing threat from white supremacist and other right-wing terrorist groups."*
- *"[We] will enact universal background checks, end online sales of guns and ammunition... [and] ban the manufacture and sale of assault weapons and high capacity magazines."*

**Our take: Pledges increased latitude for immigration, and limits on the Second Amendment.**

## MARX & LENIN

- *"As an ultimate objective, 'peace' simply means communist world control."*
- *"National differences and antagonisms between peoples are daily more and more vanishing... The supremacy of the [workers] will cause them to vanish still faster... [The Communists] openly declare that their ends can be attained only by the forcible overthrow of all existing social conditions."*

**Our take: Marxism seeks to dissolve national borders and transform society in order to expand global socialist control.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- *"Border security is a national security issue, and our nation's immigration and refugee policies are placing Americans at risk. To keep our people safe, we must secure our borders, enforce our immigration laws, and properly screen refugees and other immigrants entering from any country."*
- *"We are also thankful for the many legal immigrants who continue to contribute to American society."*
- *"Tyranny and injustice thrive when America is weakened. The oppressed have no greater ally than a confident and determined United States, backed by the strongest military on the planet."*
- *"Lawful gun ownership enables Americans to exercise their God-given right of self-defense for the safety of their homes, their loved ones, and their communities."*

**Our take: Promotes border security and legal immigration. Strongly supports both national and personal self-defense.**



# SUPPORT OF ISRAEL

## THE HOLY BIBLE

**Israel is to be a blessing to the world, and the world will be blessed when they bless Israel:**

- *"Now the LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed... And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.'"* (Genesis 12:1-3, 17:8)
- *"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! 'May they be secure who love you! Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!' For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, 'Peace be within you!' For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good."* (Psalm 122:6-9)
- *"So that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith."* (Galatians 3:14)

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

- "[We] believe a strong, secure, and democratic Israel is vital to the interests of the United States. Our commitment to Israel's security, its qualitative military edge, its right to defend itself, and the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding is ironclad."
- "We support a negotiated two-state solution that ensures Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state with recognized borders and upholds the right of Palestinians to live in freedom and security in a viable state of their own."
- "[We] will restore U.S.-Palestinian diplomatic ties and critical assistance to the Palestinian people"
- "We oppose any effort to unfairly single out and delegitimize Israel, including at the United Nations or through the [BDS Movement], while protecting the Constitutional right of our citizens to free speech."

**Our take: Promises to support Israel. Promotes two-state solution and US diplomatic ties with Palestine.**

## MARX & LENIN

- "Thus do these loans, which are a curse to the people, a ruin to the holders, and a danger to the governments, become a blessing to the houses of the children of Judah. This Jew organization of loan-mongers is as dangerous to the people as the aristocratic organization of landowners.... The fortunes amassed by these loan-mongers are immense, but the wrongs and sufferings thus entailed on the people and the encouragement thus afforded to their oppressors still remain to be told...."

**Our take: Marx was openly antisemitic and classified Jews as a global oppressor group.**

## REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

- "We reaffirm America's commitment to Israel's security and will ensure that Israel maintains a qualitative military edge over any and all adversaries. We support Israel's right and obligation to defend itself against terror attacks upon its people and against alternative forms of warfare being waged upon it legally, economically, culturally, and otherwise."
- "We recognize Jerusalem as the eternal and indivisible capital of the Jewish state"
- "We oppose any measures intended to impose an agreement or to dictate borders or other terms, and we call for the immediate termination of all U.S. funding of any entity that attempts to do so."
- "We reject the false notion that Israel is an occupier and specifically recognize that the [BDS movement] is anti-Semitic in nature and seeks to destroy Israel. Therefore, we call for effective legislation to thwart actions that are intended to limit commercial relations with Israel, or persons or entities doing business in Israel or in Israeli-controlled territories, in a discriminatory manner."

**Our take: Promises to support Israel. Rejects imposing two-state solution on Israel.**

# CHRISTIANS ENGAGED VIDEO CLASSES

If you'd like to dig deeper into the Bible's teaching on these topics, check out the Christians Engaged [on-demand video course library](#). Each class features pdf study notes, powerful teaching videos, and group discussion questions. Perfect for group or individual study, these courses will give you a solid foundation on civics and the Biblical Worldview! [Sign up today!](#)



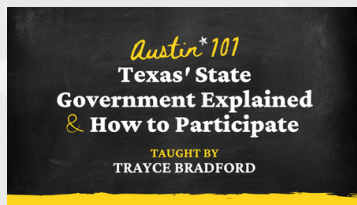
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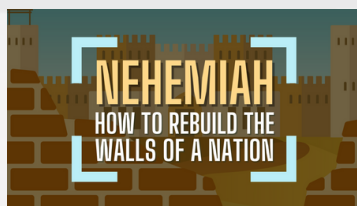
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All believers are called to act justly, and this course will shine the light of God's Word onto this vitally important topic. Championing true Biblical Justice is one of the most important and practical ways to love our neighbors! This 8-part class will equip believers with the truth of Scripture so that they can bring the healing of the Gospel to our nation, and stand up against the counterfeit "justice" in our culture today.



## **BIBLICAL ECONOMICS**

When we separate Economics from the principles found in God's Word, people suffer! But if we apply biblical economic principles to our lives and our culture, they will usher in life, joy, prosperity, and care for the poor. Don't miss this important 8-part class which will lay the foundation for a healthy economy.



# TAKE THE PLEDGE

## PRAY, VOTE & ENGAGE

Christians Engaged exists to awaken, educate, and empower believers in Jesus Christ to:

- PRAY for our nation and elected officials regularly
- VOTE in every local, state, and national election to impact our culture
- ENGAGE our hearts in civic education or involvement for the well-being of our local communities and our nation

Take the Pledge to begin your journey.

**TAKE THE PLEDGE**

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