

# Politics

October 2020

## Introduction

We live in an age where political divisions are rampant in our society. Unfortunately, these divisions are also present in our churches. History and experience have proven that no political ideology or system can provide lasting peace, justice, and joy because of the inherent flaw in humanity. Based on God's word, we know that only Jesus can provide lasting peace, justice, and joy. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are commanded to take a Biblical approach to all of life, including politics. Considering this, what should be our role in the current political system and climate?

## Summary Statement

LifeChurch Canton believes that our true king and leader is Jesus the Christ (Isaiah 9:6-7). He is our ultimate hope to bring salvation to all of those who profess Him as Lord. He is the Messiah that brings peace and justice, forgiveness and healing, hope, and love.

We do not and will not subscribe and promote any political ideology or system, because any government that has or ever will exist is flawed and imperfect except the Kingdom of God. When the government fails to provide the peace, justice, and joy we desire, we should not be surprised. Rather we should remember that this is in keeping with the flawed nature of human government and that Jesus prepared us for this reality.

Our obedience is to Jesus and his Word. His word clearly commands us to seek and promote the welfare of our city, state, country, and world (Jeremiah 29:7). Welfare is the word *Shalom* and means seeking and promoting the peace, wellbeing, and restoration of all people. As such, we participate in our political process out of obedience to God and in a manner that is in keeping with His values.

Additionally, we are commanded to participate in a way that is also *Shalom*, devoid of pride, and anger. In all of our interactions, even in regards to politics, we should do so in a way that is loving and promotes peace. As Christians, our role in our political system is to promote peace, justice, and joy by standing for Kingdom values as citizens of our country and subjects of the Kingdom of God.

### Primary Texts

Isaiah 9:6-7

Jeremiah 29:7

### Secondary Texts

Philippians 3:20

Daniel 2:44

John 18:36