

**LIVING LIKE THE ELECT**  
**Part One: Before an Election**  
**Pastor Rick Henderson**                      **September 14-15, 2024**

*Romans 8:1, 28-29; Romans 14:5,13 & 19; Acts 26:32*

**ROMANS 8:1** *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,*

**ROMANS 8:28-29** *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.*

**MY AGENDA:**

1. Set you free from false charges of condemnation.
2. Inspire you to take your next step to be like Jesus.

**JESUS FOLLOWERS WILL:**

- Vote for and support Republicans
- Vote for and support Democrats
- Vote for and support a third-party
- Vote for and support multiple parties
- Not vote at all

**ROMANS 14:5** *One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. **Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind.***

**ROMANS 14:13** *Therefore **let us stop passing judgment on one another.** Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister.*

**ROMANS 14:19** *Let us therefore **make every effort** to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.*

When we **CONFLATE** our faith with a political party, platform, or candidate, we become **PAWNS** for their agenda.

When we give ourselves as **PAWNS**, we give up our **PROPHETIC** voice.

*You wonder how one party came to be so fanatically committed to unfettered access to assault weapons. And the other to unfettered access to abortion. If you're old enough, you remember that this was not always the case, and that both parties adopted their current positions primarily as a reaction to the other party. And so at one convention they're raffling off assault rifles—a weapon designed to take human life—as political theater. And at the other convention they're giving away free abortions—a medical procedure designed to take human life—as political theater. –Phil Vischer*

**REALITY CHECK:** It's easier to reflect our **CULTURE** than our **SAVIOR**.

**ACTS 26:32** *Agrippa said to Festus, "This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar."*

*Love refuses to make enemies of those opposed to us. But love goes even farther, seeking the good of others ahead of our own. According to Dallas Willard and Gary Black Jr., 'In the larger social, governmental, or economic setting, those motivated by love do what they can to establish and sustain arrangements and practices that will benefit everyone or as many as possible.' How many evangelicals stop to consider whether loving neighbor might sometimes mean voting against their own interests?*

**–Constantine Campbell**

**RESOURCES:**

- **Book:** *Compassion and Conviction* by Justin Giboney, Michael Wear, and Chris Butler
- **Podcast:** Church Politics Podcast