



The Truth

The Truth Watch weekly newsletter

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“Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.” (Philippians 1:27)

“Christians are either going to fight for our religious liberties or we are going to continue to see them stripped away one by one. We should be ashamed at our complacency.” –Dave



Does the US Constitution prohibit voters from choosing a candidate based on religion? If you ask Carly Fiorina and the other constitutionally ignorant responding to Dr. Ben Carson’s latest “guffaw,” the answer would be yes. However, if you actually read the Constitution, the answer is a resounding no.

So what are the remarks that have the hand-wringers up in arms? Here is what Dr. Ben Carson said on NBC’s “Meet the Press:”

“I would not advocate that we put a Muslim in charge of this nation. I absolutely would not agree with that.”

The constitutionally ignorant are saying Dr. Carson’s opinion is a violation of Article VI, Section 3. Here’s what it actually says:

“The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and

judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.”

The Constitution limits the powers of the federal government, so that article forbids the government from invoking a religious test. However, we have individual liberties guaranteed to us by the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the Constitution. The first freedoms outlined are religious rights:

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...”

So if Ben Carson, you, or I decide we will never vote for a Muslim for President, that is our prerogative and right as Americans. The question is how hard do Americans want to fight for those rights while facing the phony outrage of the mainstream media and extremist Muslim fronts such as the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR).

FROM THE FOUNDERS



Our Founding Fathers designed a government that would be one that is self-governing by a people who are moral and religious. The prominent religion was Christianity; nevertheless our Constitution protects the individual liberties of candidates and citizens alike.

“Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is their duty, as well as privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers. National prosperity can neither be obtained nor preserved without the favor of providence.” John Jay, Founding Father and first Chief Justice of US Supreme Court

Imagine Dr. Carson or any candidate saying we should “select and prefer Christians for their rulers.” The bogus outcry of separation of church and state would be invoked resolutely and repulsively. However, that position is only tenable by ignoring or rejecting our nation’s history at its founding. And there has been and is an ongoing academic effort to do just that.

Liberal professors regularly dismiss our Founding Fathers as men lacking honor and/or slave owners. However, they have a hard time doing so with President John Adams, and his oft-quoted remarks in his October 11, 1798 address to the military:

“We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is whole inadequate to the government of any other.”

So if we are to protect and keep our republic, as Benjamin Franklin exhorted us to, then we will have to understand that morality must rule again in our hearts, homes, and society as a whole.

It is our duty and our privilege to do so.

FROM THE PULPIT

“The church must take right ground in regard to politics...God cannot sustain this free and blessed country...unless the church will take right ground. Politics are a part of religion in such a country as this, and Christians must do their duty to the country as a part of their duty to God...He will bless or curse this nation, according to the course they take. ” Reverend Charles G. Finney, [“Lectures on Revival of Religion: Lecture XV - Hindrances to Revivals”](#), 1835.

Reverend Finney was alarmed by evangelical voter apathy 180 years ago. Nothing seems to have changed, except that today we are without excuse more so than our forefathers. The information available and ease of voting makes citizen inactivity unjustifiable.

I know of several churches along the Florida Panhandle, a congressional district among the most conservative in the nation, whose clergy refuse to be involved in politics.

Many take this stand because of the bogey-man tax exempt status. That is an excuse drenched in ignorance and cowardice. No church has ever lost its tax exempt status for preaching on politics.

Understand that the lectures Rev. Finney compiled in his book are actual sermons he gave to his own church. In the sermon from which the above quote is found, Rev Finney tells us for whom we should vote :

“They must be honest men themselves, and instead of voting for a man because he belongs to their party...they must find out whether he is honest and upright, and fit to be trusted. They must let the world see that the church will uphold no man in office, who is known to be a knave, or an adulterer, or a Sabbath-breaker, or a gambler, or a drunkard. Such is the spread of intelligence and the facility of communication in our country, that every man can know for whom he gives his vote. And if he will give his vote only for honest men, the country will be obliged to have upright rulers. All parties will be compelled to put up honest men as candidates. Christians have been exceedingly guilty in this matter. But the time has come when they must act differently, or God will curse the nation, and withdraw his spirit.”

Would to God that pastors across America preached such a message to their flocks. Imagine the effect that active Christian citizens would have on this nation were the Church to rise up and take back right ground in regard to politics.

TO THE STREETS

I don't know about you, but I am long past holding my nose and voting for the lesser of two evils. We are commanded to not do evil, not settle for the lesser of the two. We have a choice; we can choose righteousness or irreverence. I cannot imagine Jesus telling us "Well done thy good and faithful servant" if we knowingly vote for men or women who lack the principles of which Rev. Finney wrote. Here's how WE the People, more specifically we the Church, can impact politics immediately:

1. [Contact](#) your elected officials at every level and tell them you expect them to defend religious liberty at all times. If they waver, they will lose your vote because they have violated their oaths of office.
2. Join the National Federation of Republican Assemblies (NFRA) today. Many states already have an assembly or if you are interested in starting one, then please let me know and I will help you start one. We are dedicated to putting into public and party offices only true conservatives who uphold the NFRA [principles](#).
3. Choose wisely how you spend your time gathering information. I stopped watching FOXNews back in January 2012 when it became obvious they had become Mitt Romney Central. They have proved to be nothing more the GOP Establishment's PR firm. I watch One America News Network (OAN). Check them out and if your cable provider doesn't carry [OAN](#), ask them to.
4. Subscribe to my good friend Steve Deace's podcast and visit his [website](#). Steve and his lovely wife Amy recently spent the weekend here on the Emerald Coast where Steve was the keynote speaker for our 8th Annual Hope Rides Alone Family Reunion Banquet honoring my late son Sergeant Eddie Jeffers. Many of the recurring attendees said that Steve was the best speaker yet. You can listen to his speech in its entirety [here](#).
5. A media source I rely upon daily is my good friend Frank Salvato's [New Media Journal](#). Frank provides the best and most concise news aggregation, analysis, and commentary.

We will be held accountable by God Almighty for how we vote and I want to stand before my Heavenly Father with a clear conscience. How about you?

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