

The Church & Politics

by Steve Higginbotham

It's the political season, and at this time, people often ask, "Should the church get involved in politics?" I'll answer that question, but first I want you to consider the following points. I wish more disciples of Christ would practice their religion like they do their politics.

- I wish more Christians would be as vocal about their Christianity as they are their politics.
- I wish more Christians would be as willing to promote Jesus Christ to the lost as they are their presidential candidate to their neighbors.
- I wish more Christians would be as willing to defend the doctrine of Christ as they are the platform of their political party.

Do you not find it strange that God's children can be moved to be so vocal and involved when it comes to politics, but so timid and uninvolved when it comes to Christianity? Brethren, our actions betray us! Passion is driven by love, and a lack of passion for the cause of Christ betrays our waning love for him.

Now to the question, "Should the church get involved in politics?" The answer to that question is a qualified "no." If you're talking about strictly political issues, "no." Such issues as education reform, welfare reform, income tax, the economy, foreign policy, etc. are issues that can have differing perspectives. For the church to take a position on such issues misses the mission of the church and drives a wedge between itself and honest people who hold a different viewpoint.

However, if you're talking about moral issues that have been politicized, "yes." Not only should the church be involved, but it must. Abortion, euthanasia, homosexual marriage, alcohol, etc., these are issues that are moral issues and the voice of the church must be heard! Remember, the church is the pillar and ground of the truth (1 Timothy 3:15). Not only does the church have the right to speak out on such moral issues, it has a responsibility to speak out on such issues.

On political issues - vote your opinion. But on moral issues - we dare not find ourselves in opposition to God.