



Jewish Believers and Christians working together for Israel's salvation since 1963



Kevin Geoffrey
President, MJMI

If you're like me, you have been troubled over the impending presidential election. Though past cycles have yielded some less-than-ideal candidates, this time around our alternatives appear, well, apocalyptic. While there was one candidate I never personally considered a viable option, the idea of voting for that candidate's main

opponent has not exactly brought me a great deal of comfort. After months of contemplating many peoples' opinions on the topic, I finally decided to go to the Scriptures to see if they could provide me with any guidance about how I might cast my ballot in righteousness.

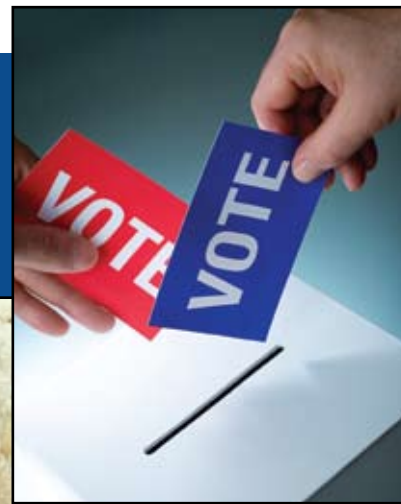
Choices in Scripture

When it comes to making choices, there is no better way than to receive direct instructions from God. For example, it was by way of the *uriyim and tumiyim*—the “lights and perfections”—embedded in the high priest's breastplate, that Israel knew when they were to “go out, and... come in” (Exodus 28:30, Numbers 27:21, cf. 1 Samuel 28:6). Wouldn't *that* be nice way to go?

Then, of course, there is Gideon's fleece. When he was faced with an important choice, he actually *tested* God, such that “if [so-and-so happens], then I have known that You[, God, will] do... as You have spoken” (Judges 6:36-40). But laying out a fleece doesn't seem applicable here.

There is also Acts 1:23-26, which records how the emissaries *cast lots* for Judas' replacement among the Twelve. Maybe that's not such a bad idea: just flip a coin and believe for a divine result! After all, they were inquiring

A season of choices is upon us. As we go to the polls to cast our vote for president, let us pray continually that God will give us wisdom in our decisions, and that no matter what the outcome of this election is, He will preserve and protect our nation.



of God, “You, ADONAI, who are knowing the heart of all, show *us* which one of these two you chose” (MJLT). But can we faithfully apply this passage to our present circumstances? Is the choice between two godly, righteous disciples equivalent to choosing between two... um... (how do I put this?) two... other kinds of... people?

Give Us a King

After pondering these things for a while, I think I finally settled on 1 Samuel (Sh'muel) 8:4-19 as the passage that best informs me concerning the presidential election. During a critical moment in Israel's development, the elders of Israel approached Sh'muel and said to him,

“Now, appoint to us a king, to judge us, like all the Goyim [nations].” And the thing is evil in the eyes of Sh'muel... and Sh'muel prayed to ADONAI. And ADONAI said to Sh'muel, “Listen to the voice of the people, to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but it is Me they have rejected, from reign-

ing over them....” And Sh'muel spoke all the words of ADONAI to the people who are asking from him a king, and says, “This is the custom of the king who reigns over you: he takes your sons... And he takes your daughters... And your fields, and your vineyards, and your olive-yards—the best—he takes... and you are to him for slaves. And you have cried out in that day because of the king whom you have chosen for yourselves, and ADONAI does not answer you in that day.” And the people refuse to listen to the voice of Sh'muel, and say, “No, but a king is who we want over us....”

In asking for a king—even a king that they knew would

oppress and enslave them, as it was in Egypt—Israel disavowed everything that made them *exceptional*, sought the ways of the worldly nations around them, and rejected the good God as their one, true King...

...and God told Sh'muel to give them what they deserve.

My brother, my sister, our nation has so increasingly rejected God that, in far too many ways, it makes little difference who becomes our next president—God will give us the king (and country) we

Update from Israel

I recently received an update from our ministry friend Israel P., who has been spreading the Good News of Messiah in Ashdod. He wrote:

"We recently did an amazing Gospel outreach, taking 270 non-believers up to the Galilee. We took people to biblical sites and shared with them Scriptures of the events that took place there. I shared the Gospel with many people who were hearing it for the first time. It is always an amazing experience to see people first hear the message of salvation, witness how God is touching their hearts, pray for them and see the Lord heal them.

"The people's response was overwhelming. We saw so many healings and tears; people were really touched. Three days later we held a special post-outreach meeting and 40 people gladly showed up. The amazing part was when they also joyfully accepted the invitation to receive water immersion. We took 29 people to the Jordan River, the place where Yeshua was immersed. It was such a special moment for everybody. We saw many tears of joy, and people were truly touched as they buried the old man and a new one arose from that water.

"An incredible testimony comes from Yaakov, a young Israeli who got saved recently and went with us to the Jordan River to be immersed. When he was serving in the army, he was actually stationed right on the border with neighboring Jordan, his guard tower overlooking the Jordan River. Every time he would see people receive water immersion, he would mock them and think 'What an absurd ritual!' never realizing it actually comes from the Torah. What a special moment when Yaakov, who was practically raised in a synagogue, was being immersed in water, allowing a new man to be born in his Messiah, Yeshua!"



deserve, and we will "cry out in that day because of the king whom [we] have chosen for ourselves." Our future lies not in the half-hearted support of a presidential candidate, but in our daily commitment to offer a full-throated endorsement of the Messiah.

Our True Purpose

My plan, then, for the upcoming election is to pray: to pray for the candidates, and for the electorate; to pray for God's mercy... and for a miracle. I'm also going to pray that my voting choice is both godly and righteous; and that God will give me peace over it, regardless of the consequences.

However, we must always remember that there is no regulation, legislation—or even the results of an election—in which we can trust to preserve our freedoms, when our daily lives, and the lives of our neighbors, are not first governed by the will and the Word of God. We can only be truly free when we freely proclaim Yeshua as Messiah—to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile—and work with our every breath to lead those around us to Him.

This, my friends, is the purpose of MJMI: to tirelessly proclaim the Good News of Yeshua to the Jewish people. We greatly need not only your prayers, but also your financial assistance, so that we can do our part to participate in the salvation of all Israel. Your donation of **\$10, \$25, \$100 or more** will help us accomplish our mission and vision to see all Israel come to know their

Messiah. You can use the enclosed card and envelope, or visit www.mjmi.org to send your much-needed donation today. And if you aren't already, please consider becoming a ministry partner, so that I will know we can count on your support each month.

We may cast our votes for president, but let us first *choose* our King Yeshua—who *saves us* from what we deserve.

For the sake of the Messiah,

Kevin Geoffrey, President, MJMI