Choosing The Right Man For The Job  
(A Pre-Election Day Sermon)  
I Samuel 16:1-13 (NKJV)  

This coming Tuesday millions of Americans will be going to voting precincts all across this country to cast their ballot for the next president of the United States, as well as other elected officials.  

This is being called the most critical election in America’s history. America’s future is riding on this election.  

In our scripture text this morning, we learn a scriptural principle from God Himself on **How To Choose The Right Man For The Job.**  

Please turn with me to **I SAMUEL chapter sixteen.**  

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (NKJV)  

1 Now the Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons.”  

2 And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” But the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’”  

3 Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you.”  

4 So Samuel did what the Lord said, and went to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, “Do you come peaceably?”  

5 And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.  

6 So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is before Him!”  

7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”
8 So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.”

9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.”

10 Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.”

11 And Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all the young men here?” Then he said, “There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here.”

12 So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!”

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

**PRAYER**

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**INTRODUCTION**

As chapter sixteen opens, it is time for THE ELECTION OF A NEW KING to rule over Israel.

For several centuries after the Israelites entered the Promised Land they were governed by God Himself, who raised up a series of JUDGES to rule over the people and guide them in the ways of righteousness. SAMUEL was the last of those JUDGES.

But after awhile, the Jewish people began begging to have a KING so they could be like their neighboring nations. This angered Samuel, so he prayed to GOD about what he should do.

In I Samuel 8:7 God said to Samuel, “Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you: for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected ME that I should not reign over them.”

By God’s guidance, Samuel chose a man from the tribe of Benjamin to be Israel’s first king. His name was SAUL.
SAUL’S reign as king had started with such great hope and promise. For a time SAUL was faithful to the Lord and led the Israelites in a way that pleased the LORD.

To make a long story short, in time King Saul became a proud, arrogant man who rebelled against God and began seeking out political counsel from a witch.

And I Samuel 15:35 says, “Nevertheless, Samuel mourned for Saul, and the LORD regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.

So as this 16TH CHAPTER begins, SAMUEL is still mourning over the tragic demise of King Saul. In verse 1, God asks Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel?”

In essence what God was telling Samuel was, “Its time to get over Saul and move on.”

God instructed Samuel to “fill his horn with oil” and go to the home of Jesse in Bethlehem. Samuel expressed his concern that if Saul found out what he was doing he would kill him. So God instructed Samuel to take a heifer with him to Bethlehem to offer as a sacrifice and invite Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice.

This sacrifice set the stage for the ELECTION OF ISRAEL’S next king.

I want to listen to VERSES 6-13 from the Contemporary English Bible, because it makes this ELECTION PROCESS crystal clear.

6 When Jesse and his sons arrived, Samuel noticed Jesse’s oldest son, Eliab. “He has to be the one the Lord has chosen,” Samuel said to himself.

7 But the Lord told him, “Samuel, don’t think Eliab is the one just because he’s tall and handsome. He isn’t the one I’ve chosen. People judge others by what they look like, but I judge people by what is in their hearts.”

8 Jesse told his son Abinadab to go over to Samuel, but Samuel said, “No, the Lord hasn’t chosen him.”
9 Next, Jesse sent his son Shammah to him, and Samuel said, “The Lord hasn’t chosen him either.”

10 Jesse had all seven of his sons go over to Samuel. Finally, Samuel said, “Jesse, the Lord hasn’t chosen any of these young men.

11 Do you have any more sons?” “Yes,” Jesse answered. “My youngest son David is out taking care of the sheep.” “Send for him!” Samuel said. “We won’t start the ceremony until he gets here.”

12 Jesse sent for David. He was a healthy, good-looking boy with a sparkle in his eyes. As soon as David came, the Lord told Samuel, “He’s the one! Get up and pour the olive oil on his head.”

13 Samuel poured the oil on David’s head while his brothers watched. At that moment, the Spirit of the Lord took control of David and stayed with him from then on.

David went on to become Israel’s greatest king. He wasn’t perfect by any stretch of the imagination. In fact he was guilty of a number of grievous sins. But the one thing that set King David apart from King Saul was this:

King Saul never took responsibility for his sins, but always pointed the finger of blame at someone else.

But David, on the other hand, took complete responsibility for his sins, and repented of them.

This is why GOD HIMSELF called David, “A man after My own heart.” (Acts 13:22)

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Over the course of time the Jewish people would go on to select many more Kings, some of them good, and some were horrendously bad kings.


KING AHAB and his wicked first-lady, JEZEBEL promoted Baal worship throughout Israel, and sacrificed their own children to idols. They also persecuted the prophet Elijah. And Jezebel had Naboth killed so she could give his vineyard to her wicked husband. (I Kings 16:29-34; 18:17-19:2; 20-22:40; 2 Chronicles 18)

REHOBOAM, ATHALIAH, AHAZ and MANASSEH all became Kings in Judah after the country was divided. All of them led the Israelite people into idol worship and turned them against God.

God’s word teaches us that God only tolerated these “wicked kings” for so long before He brought judgment against all of Israel. And as a result, the Jewish people were carried into captivity, and they lost control over the Promised Land for over 2,500 years.

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APPLICATION

As we head into this Tuesday’s national election there is a critically important principle to be learned from our scripture about “Choosing The Right Man For The Job.”

And that principle is this: When choosing the right man to be the leader of a nation, don’t look at the man’s outward appearance, don’t look at which political party the man belongs to, don’t listen to the promises the candidate makes, LOOK AT THE MAN’S HEART!
Now you are probably wondering, “How can we know what’s in a man’s heart?” Actually there are two scriptural ways we can discern what’s in a man’s heart.

(1) One way is to **LISTEN TO THE WORDS THAT COME OUT OF A MAN’S MOUTH.**

Jesus said in **Matthew 12:34 (NKJV)**  

> For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

Jesus is drawing a direct connection between a man’s heart and a man’s mouth. A man may be very eloquent, very smooth talking, but eventually his words will reveal the true nature of his heart.

If there is **HATRED** in a man’s heart, his mouth will venomous words.

If there is **DECEPTION** in a man’s heart, his mouth will speak lies and half truths.

If there is **EVIL** in a man’s heart, his mouth will profane words.

If there is **PRIDE AND ARROGANCE** in a man’s heart his mouth will speak boastful words.

“For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.”

(2) The other scriptural way you and I can discern what is in a man’s heart is to **LOOK AT THE “FRUIT” HIS LIFE BEARS.**

Jesus tells us in **Matthew 7:15-17 (NKJV)**

> 15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.

> 16 **You will know them by their fruits.** Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles?

> 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.
What Jesus is telling us here is this: “If you want to see what’s really in a man’s heart……..if you want to see what the man is really made of…… just examine the “fruit of his life.”

If there is “goodness” in a man’s heart, it will be evident in the “good fruit” the man bears in his life. If there is “evil” in a man’s heart, it will be evident by the “bad fruit” the man bears in his life. A man may “lie” with his lips and fool a lot of people, but the “fruit of his life” will reveal the truth.

When it comes to CHOOSING THE RIGHT MAN FOR THE JOB to be the President of The United States, we must follow God’s own example and carefully examine what’s in the heart of a man. We must look beyond all the “political rhetoric……..the campaign promises…….and ……the political “mud-slinging”……and examine “the fruit” the man has bore in his life.

What does President Barack Obama’s WORDS and FRUIT reveal about the condition of his heart?

What does Mitt Romney’s WORDS and FRUIT reveal about the condition of his heart?

As Christians, you and I must value our LOYALTY to Jesus Christ and the principles of God’s word more than we value our loyalty to a certain political party.

Jesus tells us in Matthew’s gospel that, as Christians, we are “the salt of the earth and the light of the world.” That means we bear a tremendous responsibility to PRESERVE and PROTECT the principles and values of our Christian faith, knowing that if we don’t, we are contributing to the demise of our nation.

Discerning Christians all across America have grave concerns about the direction our current President is taking this country, and rightfully so.

Consider the following:
GOD'S WORD FORBIDS THE ABORTION OF BABIES

Proverbs 6:17 tells us one of the things God hates is “Hands that shed innocent blood.”

Numbers 35:33 So you shall not pollute the land where you are; for blood defiles the land, and no atonement can be made for the land, for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it.

In his own words, President Obama said, “Today marks the 38th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. I am committed to protecting this constitutional right.”

As Christians, we must not, we cannot vote for a candidate who supports the abortion of innocent babies.

GOD'S WORD FORBIDS SAME-SEX MARRIAGES

I Corinthians 6:9 says “Homosexuals and sodomites will NOT inherit the kingdom of God.”

Leviticus 18:22 “You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination.”

In his own words, President Obama says, “Same-sex couples should be able to get married.”

As Christians, how can we vote for a candidate who supports a sinful practice God Himself calls an abomination?

GOD’S WORD PROMISES A BLESSING ON NATIONS WHO SUPPORT ISRAEL AND A CURSE ON NATIONS WHO DON'T SUPPORT HER.

Genesis 12:1-3 (NKJV)

1 Now the Lord had said to Abram:  
   “Get out of your country,  
   From your family  
   And from your father’s house,  
   To a land that I will show you.

2 I will make you a great nation;  
   I will bless you  
   And make your name great;  
   And you shall be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you,  
   And I will curse him who curses you;  
   And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”
In his own words, President Obama said and I quote:

“The United States believes that negotiations should result in two states, with permanent Palestinian borders with Israel, Jordan and Egypt, and permanent Israeli borders with Palestine. The borders of Israel and Palestine should be based on the 1967 lines.”

What the President is saying is that land should be taken away from Israel, land that God promised to Abraham, and given to the Palestinians.

David Barton, who is president of Wallbuilders, a Christian organization fighting to preserve and protect our Christian heritage in this country, recently wrote an article about the dangers President Obama poses to religious freedom in this country.

Mr. Barton wrote:

“The hostility of President Obama toward Biblical faith and values is without equal from any previous American president. “

He goes on to cite a number of examples:

April 2008 Obama speaks disrespectfully of Christians, saying they cling to guns or religion and have an antipathy to people who aren’t like them.

April 2009 When speaking at Georgetown University, Obama orders that a monogram symbolizing Jesus’ name be covered when he is making his speech.

April 2009 In a deliberate act of disrespect, Obama nominated three pro-abortion ambassadors to the Vatican; of course, the pro-life Vatican rejected all three.

May 2009 Obama declines to host services for the National Prayer Day (a day established by federal law) at the White House.

October 19, 2010 Obama begins deliberately omitting the phrase about the Creator when quoting the Declaration of Independence an omission he has made on no less than seven occasions.

November 2011 Obama opposes inclusion of President Franklin Roosevelt’s famous D-Day Prayer in the WWII Memorial.

May 2009 Obama officials assemble a terrorism dictionary calling pro-life advocates violent and charging that they use racism in their criminal activities.
July 2009  The Obama administration illegally extends federal benefits to same-sex partners of Foreign Service and Executive Branch employees, in direct violation of the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

May 2009  While Obama does not host any National Day of Prayer event at the White House, he does host White House Iftar dinners in honor of the Muslim Ramadan.

April 2010  The Obama administration requires rewriting of government documents and a change in administration vocabulary to remove terms that are deemed offensive to Muslims, including jihad, jihadists, terrorists, radical Islamic, etc.

In a speech given in August 2010  Obama speaks with great praise of Islam and condescendingly of Christianity.

Christians, what does the President’s WORDS and ACTIONS say about his heart?  Do his words and actions show him to be a man who will preserve the sanctity of human life?  Do his words and actions show him to be a man who will protect the Biblical definition of marriage?  Do his words and actions show him to be a man who will continue to support Israel, like every American President since Israel became a nation in 1948?

Look past his words! Look past his promises! And look at his heart!  There is a “reckless driver behind the wheel in the Oval Office, and we are all passengers.”

The Church for the last one hundred years has sat on the sidelines and remained silent.

*We sat in silence while the truth that God created man was replaced with the lie that man descended from monkeys.

*We sat in silence while prayer, Bible reading and the Ten Commandments were removed from our schools.

*We sat in silence while over 55 MILLION unborn babies have been murdered by abortionists.

*We sat in silence while homosexual and lesbian relationships have become more tolerated and accepted.

CHURCH, WE MUST BE SILENT NO MORE! ITS TIME WE STAND LIKE A MIGHTY ARMY OF GOD AND LET OUR VOICE BE HEARD!