

Thank God for Bloodless Coups!

Congratulations to the Democratic Party on winning back both the House and the Senate in this year's election. Obviously the majority of Americans voting wanted change of leadership and direction, especially in our Iraq policy. And they got it without a bullet being fired!

I am so thankful to be in a democracy that allows free and vigorous debate about which direction to take. I am so glad to be able to go and vote safely without the deck stacked toward the party in power. And I am glad that we'll have the option to try and vote them all out if they don't represent our values in the coming days!

One of my most used books is a prayer book that allows me to pray for every nation on earth during the course of the year. One thing I often notice as I go through it is how many countries have had some type of coup in the last several decades. Often much blood was shed as one group seized power from another. In most of those countries there is little that resembles the freedoms we have. Thank God for bloodless coups!

I would also like to thank the Democratic Party for listening to conservative Pro-Life Christians like myself. After the last election I wrote that it would be nice to have more Pro-Life Democrats running for office. It was nice to see Pro-Life candidates like Bob Casey and Heath Shuler put forward. It was not a surprise to me that they won.

I would also like to assure all our elected officials of my prayers, and challenge Bible believing Christians to also pray for ALL our elected leaders. This is the passage that guides my prayers:

“Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”
-I Timothy 2:1-4

Using that as my guide I first pray that those in authority will come to know Jesus, and I also pray that God will lead them into His truth on the issues before them.

Let me close by giving an open word to conservative Christians.

“He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” –Micah 6:8

Conservative Christians, our heart is to ‘do justly.’ Whatever issue is before us, we search the Bible for insight into that issue. On many things the Bible is so clear that we are compelled to share what God says with our nation. Whether the nation likes it or not, we must keep speaking the truth in love. Where the Bible is not clear, however, let's not put forward our ideas as if they were scripture.

Conservative Christian, our heart is also more and more to 'love mercy.' We don't do our good deeds to be seen by men, we do them because we love God and people. That said, I wish the media would give more coverage to the amazing acts of charity from so many Christians in places like the Gulf Coast. I wish that for every negative story about Iraq there were two stories about the good our soldiers are doing in rebuilding that country. I wish President Bush was given more credit for the increases to funding AIDS help in Africa. But even if the more balanced view of who conservatives are is never presented, please remember this verse:

"Do not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."
-Galatians 6:9

Finally conservative Christian, you and I need to admit that we are not known enough for 'walking humbly.' And I think we need to admit that a good part of that is our own fault. We are known for an arrogant posture and talking AT people rather than WITH people. Doing justly and loving mercy mean nothing without the humble walk with God...

"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."
-James 4:10

Thank God for bloodless coups! Danny Campbell <><