

I have taken for my subject this morning the Duty of the Christian in relation to the coming election. The question might be asked, Why should the Christian be bothered about the election? After all our citizenship is in heaven from whence we look for the Saviour. Alas, some people are so heavenly minded they are no earthly good. God wants us to be both to be heavenly minded and good for something on this earth. I believe that the coming election for the Christian is a time of great crisis. I believe there are three reasons why this election can be one of the most important that was ever held in this country.

I would like to look at these with you. I believe it is the Christian's duty to think about earthly conditions. He should care for his family. He should watch out for the safety of himself and his friends. There are many things he should do on this earth. Election can have a very important place among these.

There are three reasons why I feel that this is an extremely important election. The first of these is the --because of the American progress towards disaster, that has been made in the last 50 years. The moral decline of this country is unimaginable. When I was a boy if you had told anybody that the things would be presented on TV, in the movies, and blatantly shown in the advertisements that are so visible today, people just would not have believed you, that such a thing was possible.

If anyone had told you in those days the time would come when one of every two marriages would end in divorce, they would not have believed you. If anyone had told you the time would come when hundreds of homosexuals would parade in San Francisco, advertising the most licentious rites(?) and activities, and insisting that they be given equal rights to teach in our schools, equal rights in every way, with those who try to have a decent lifestyle, I'm sure people 40 years ago would have said, It's absolutely impossible; such a thing could not happen! in America!

But during these last 40 years great changes have taken place in our country. I was greatly shocked when I went to college --that was a long time ago. It was just about to the end of the first World War. At that time the general attitude of America was very patriotic. In fact you might call it jingoistic. The general attitude of the people among whom I was brought up was that everything in America was wonderful; everything in America was pretty and everything in the rest of the world was in some way degraded. They used to say, We beat them three times and we'll beat them again if we have to! That was the general attitude at that time.

But then I got into college and I saw that the attitude of those professors who had positions where they could have the greatest influence on their students was that practically everything in America was wrong! Over in Russia they were having new experiments; they were having new methods we should watch and see if we cannot improve conditions in our own country to get more in line with them. My first year there I won a place on the debating team. We had a *rather small college, but still I was much surprised when in*