

# Salt and Light

Bringing political and moral clarity into the fog of political correctness!

- [Home](#)
  - [Pastor's Perspective](#)
  - [Pastor's Perspective Archives](#)
- 

## Pastor's Perspective

Hey Everyone!

Welcome to the new feature for "Salt and Light." I have asked my pastor, Dr. Dennis Brunet to help shed some light on very contemporary and somewhat controversial issues. We will be exploring why evangelicals take the stands they do. Stay tuned!

Also, if you haven't got yours yet, you're going to want to get a copy of my book, "Understanding Evangelicals: A Guide to Jesusland." Just hit the link on the lower righthand column and it will take you to Amazon.

### *More Wisdom on Candidates*

**S&L:** One argument that is going around is that conservative will have to settle for the lesser of two evils because if we don't we will be stuck with Hillary Clinton as president. I for one and many Christians am tired of holding our noses and voting this way. How would you address this notion of voting for the lesser of two evils?

**Brother Dennis:** You see when you come on the issue of "we know you so abhor the Clintons and the sins of the Clintons or the imagined or the real sins"...I don't know what they are. But when you take the premise and say okay, you're going to vote for anybody, or virtually anyone rather than Hillary, that goes against Christianity. Okay? I am not to do anyone wrong; I do no one harm. And for me to vote against Hillary in that personal way, in the deep-seatedness brings the conviction of the Holy Spirit that you're not supposed to do that. Okay?

So the Left having a secular view, where hate is just another emotion as long as you don't draw blood or something like that, that'll work...hate Bush. It's not going to work with a key nugget of evangelical voters; they're just not going to do that. And given that environment, it so convicts their conscience, that they just won't go and vote.

**S&L:** Yeah, and we saw that, we saw that. I remember Brother Greg (Education and Music Minister on Brother Dennis' pastoral staff) had answered an email because I had asked him about that and he said, "I'm not voting for the lesser of two evils anymore." He said "I'm tired of doing that, I done that before and it never feels good." And people say, "You know, plug your nose...swallow it down, and go ahead and pull the lever." And like you said, we're tired of it and we're not doing it anymore.

**Brother Dennis:** Well is it good citizenship? You see, good citizenship is defined in the Scriptures and that is moving for the good, okay? It's not Islam; I'm not trying to create a state run by the church. Okay? Catholicism does that; wherever Catholicism dominates, they run the government. Okay, that was the danger of worrying about Kennedy. The problem is the Catholics didn't have a big enough base back then, but that's changing. And so my part is making sure that what I'm voting for is going to be a blessing; it's going to work for the good of

the people and if you don't, then I'm not at all convinced that it is wrong not to vote.

**S&L:** Yeah and I've seen some pamphlets where it says, "It's your duty to vote," or "It's unchristian not to vote," and I've even wrote in my book where Charles Finney said that our country would not get right until Christians take back the right ground.

**Brother Dennis:** Sure

**S&L:** That's true but you don't do it by compromising on every candidate that comes your way.

**Brother Dennis:** Well, wouldn't the quickest way for a third party to start in this country be from people saying, "I'm not going to go for the other two?" Thus, some bright person is going to wake and say, "There is a sizable group based upon a commonality of right and wrong."

See Brother Dave when I was in law school one of the biggest jokes is the whole law and morality deal was, "You're trying to legislate morality." All laws are some morality and law school taught us that and my law school was not a Christian law school. Your morality, your sense of right and wrong is going to determine what the laws are. If robbing a bank is okay to you, then there's no law against robbing a bank. But if robbing a bank to you is wrong and to enough people, then you go ahead and pass a law and say stop that.

The same thing with a neighbor's dog come and messing your yard; if you say, it don't bother me, then there's no law against it! But if you have enough people say, you know what, that's just wrong. Keep your dog in your own yard to do that, and then you get all these different laws. It's a morality issue, it goes from homosexuality to anything else. And so Christians have a sense of right and wrong as well. It's not rather you can do it; it rather or not you should do it.

**S&L:** Yeah, that's the shallowness of it because I used to believe that; you can't legislate morality. I guess I was thinking mostly on the abortion issue and the other hot button issues.

**Brother Dennis:** I can't legislate salvation, and I can't legislate holiness. But I can sure make you pay a price for evil; I can do that. Why? Because society has to exist; you know the Bible says that the government does not bear the sword in vain, Romans 13. So let's bat some questions around; I want to get up to speed to where you're at (election issues).

**S&L:** With all the presidential candidates starting out so early now on the Republican side, there's been a lot of angst in some of my group about you evangelicals are going to ruin it for the Republicans because you're not willing to vote for Mitt Romney because he's a Mormon. There's even a website called "Evangelicals for Mitt.com" where evangelicals are going to vote for him. I even heard on the radio this morning on Rush Limbaugh a minister who called himself an evangelical said that "evangelicals are not going to reject Romney because of his Mormonism as the media is trying to portray." He further stated that "evangelicals didn't vote for Bush because he was a Christian but because he was a conservative, which is why this minister will vote for Romney."

So what is your stance on a Mormon President?

*Next posting we will look at Brother Dennis' comments on a Mormon President.*

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- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)
- [December 2006](#)

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- [Media](#) (1)
- [Politics](#) (8)
- [TheVanguard.Org](#) (22)

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