

# How Christians Should Respond to a Donald Trump Presidency

By David A. DeWitt

## What Evangelical Christians Believe About Donald Trump

There are three positions I have heard from evangelical Christians about Donald Trump.

### Position #1. Donald Trump Is God's Gift to the Church to Reverse the Evil Trends in America

On January 18, 2025, Robert Jeffress, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas, published:

I believe President Trump's reelection represents to many people, God giving America another chance, perhaps her last chance, to reverse this downward trajectory. ... All of these [downward trajectory] things have caused people of faith to lament, but they feel hopeful now that President Trump is about to enter the White House and they are going to be filled with prayers for him.

[foxnews.com/video/6367248108112]

Reverend Franklin Graham implied that God saved Trump:

"The bullet that went through his ear missed his brain by a millimeter, and his head turned just at the last second when the gun was fired. ... I believe that God turned his head and saved his life."

[bbc.com/news/articles/c20glzv4do]

### The Problem with the "God's Gift to the Church" View

Most of us evangelicals would go along with Robert Jeffress and Franklin Graham in that we are relieved at the election of President Trump. We believe he will at least take a stand against the satanic evil being forced upon our society by the progressive movement.

The problem with Jeffress' comment is that it sounds like he believes God has a national commitment to America. But what bothers me most about these evangelical comments is they seem to assume they know what God is doing. As Franklin Graham said, "I believe that God turned his head and saved his life." But nobody knows what God is doing unless He specifically tells us in words through His prophets, as recorded in the Bible. For example, the whole point of the book of Job is to tell us that we do not know what God is doing in our lives, and it is none of our business. Daniel said,

*Daniel 2:20-21, It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings.*

True, God, in His sovereignty, established Donald Trump as the U.S. President, January 20, 2025. But God in His sovereignty also established Joe Biden as President January 20, 2021. God's sovereignty established the leadership of Vladimir Putin in Russia, Kim Jong Un in North Korea, and Xi Jinping in China. Whatever God is doing in America, and what He has done everywhere throughout history, is not something we can know, unless He has revealed it through His prophets. And there are no new true prophets today.

### Position #2. Donald Trump Is the Antichrist

After President Trump's election in November of 2024, I was asked several times, by Christians, "Is Trump the antichrist?" This is a pretty extreme, far right, position. Only a small percent of Christians hold this position, but some are quite committed to it.

### The Problem with the "Trump Is the Antichrist" View

Most of us evangelicals do not think of President Trump as the Messiah nor the antichrist. He is just a

man who wants to reverse the decline going on in America. There are two **basic** reasons why President Trump is not the antichrist:

- (1) President Trump is not loved (and certainly not worshipped) by the whole world. Those with the world's progressive agenda hate him.
- (2) President Trump is a nationalist, and the antichrist is a globalist. Those two goals, and the policies that accompany them, are directly opposed to one another. I shall say more about this later.

### **Position #3. Donald Trump Is Evil**

This is a big deal and the position of most Christians who do not support him and did not vote for him. The following is from a businessman who has been a Christian for many years. [I have edited it down to fit this paper. I am withholding his name, but there are many Christian men and women who hold this view.]

Since the 1970s, 26 women have accused Donald Trump of rape, groping without consent, and other lewd, inappropriate behavior. Many women, including his ex-wife, Ivana, have made allegations of sexual misconduct. ...He has been overheard (and unable to deny) making vulgar comments about and toward women ...Trump was indicted and sentenced on 34 fraudulent charges involving financial records. Trump is egocentric... Trump has been involved in 4,095 lawsuits in 3 decades (*USA Today*), as both plaintiff and defendant.

The following is from another Christian businessman commenting on the above quote. [I have also edited it down to fit this paper. I am also withholding his name, but there are many Christian men and women who hold this view.]

My first instinct is to dismiss this comment as yet another emotional, uninformed regurgitation of mainstream media propaganda—the same media that has repeatedly lied about Trump, COVID, vaccine efficacy, 2020 election fraud, January 6th, and Russia collusion, among other things ... So now, we are supposed to trust the accusations of old girlfriends and ex-wives? Puhlease ... A promoter, entrepreneur and billionaire businessman like Trump, will be part of lawsuits over the years. But let's remember one very important fact. Trump was a billionaire BEFORE he ran for office. Every other politician that has gone to Washington DC not only kept their paycheck but increased their net worth exponentially. Have you called them "evil?" I doubt it. But, "evil" Trump has donated his entire \$400,000 annual salary and, it's worth repeating, was a billionaire BEFORE he got there. In Trump's first week of office in 2025 he has found and returned 80,000 of the 300,000 trafficked children that went missing under the Biden administration. The illegal border crossings by rapists, murders and drug dealers (aka evil) at our southern border have dropped from 2,000 per day to 100 per day.

## **Three Reasons We Should Support President Trump**

### **1. President Trump Is Better than Any of the Liberal Progressive Alternatives**

Although President Trump will not be a perfect president, possibly he will be like one of the good kings of Judah. The Northern Kingdom of Israel had no good kings, and they were taken into captivity to Assyria in 722 B.C. The Southern Kingdom of Judah had some good and some bad kings. The good kings were not perfect, but they helped put off the exile of Judah to Babylon until 586 B.C. So, even though they were not perfect, they helped preserve Judah for another 136 years (see 1 Kings 22:41-43).

### **2. Trump Stands for Law and Order**

Let's say you believe President Trump is an immoral scoundrel. Even if his personal life is a mess, His support of law and order are what a government is supposed to do. A friend of mine gave me this example. Suppose you saw someone trying to kidnap your child from a playground and a rough looking man came along, beat up the kidnapper, and saved your child. Would you not want your

child saved if the man who saved your child was on his third marriage, egocentric, and had been involved in 4,095 lawsuits in three decades? No matter who you think President Trump is morally, his goal is to save our country.

In Romans 13:1-4, Paul said government *is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil*. I recall an interview with Trump before he became the President. [This was on one of the news networks, I cannot remember which one, so this is only from my memory]. A reporter asked Trump what he thought about the idea of doing good for your enemies and turning the other cheek. Trump said, “I don’t know if I agree with that.” The reporter was referring to the comments made by Jesus in His “Sermon on the Mount” (although I doubt either of them knew that). Jesus’ “Sermon on the Mount” was for individuals, not governments. Individuals should do good to their enemies and turn the other cheek. But a government should *be an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil* (Romans 13:4). No government would survive if it followed the principles Jesus gave on the Sermon on the Mount. No individual should do what Paul said a government should do, *be an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil*.

### **3. President Trump Is a Nationalist, Not a Globalist**

Satan’s antichrist is a globalist. Trump is on the opposite end of the spectrum from most global leaders today (like, say, Pope Francis). The book of Revelation (especially chapters 17–18) tells us of the destruction of the antichrist’s evil reign, which is a global government, with no independent nations. Nationalism itself, which promotes secure borders, a prosperous economy, and a strong military, opposes the satanic globalist future.

Nationalism also means we are to take care of the nation we live in, knowing it will not last forever. When Judah was in captivity to Babylon, they were told to treat it well.

**Jeremiah 29:4-5, 7**, *“Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon, ‘Build houses and live in them; and plant gardens and eat their produce... Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare.’”*

We can, therefore, conclude that nationalism is more comparable to what God is doing than globalism, not because our nation will last forever but because it is the right thing to do.

## **Areas Where We Should Not Look to President Trump for Leadership**

### **1. Morally, President Trump Is Not a Positive Example for Us Or Our Children to Follow**

- He has been married three times and defines his family with children from those three marriages, not a model we should admire or condone or set for our children as normal.
- President Trump is not opposed to all abortion. He opposes late-term abortion and its funding by Planned Parenthood.
- President Trump is positive toward and supportive of the homosexual community. Scott Bessent, Trump’s pick for Treasury Secretary, is openly homosexual. Wikipedia reports: “If confirmed by the Senate, Bessent will be the first openly gay Secretary of the Treasury and the highest-ranking LGBTQ official in U.S. history.” [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scott\_Bessent]
- Physical strength is not moral strength. President Trump’s plan for fixing America is to strengthen the border guards, the police, and the military. Although that is needed, it will not solve America’s moral problems.

### **2. Financially, President Trump and Jesus Are on the Opposite Ends of the Spectrum**

Financially, Jesus and the apostles define “winning” very differently than President Trump.

**Matthew 19:23-24**, *And Jesus said to His disciples, “Truly I say to you, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”*

### **3. Prophetically, President Trump Is Not Going to Save the World**

We are headed for an ecumenical everything, with the antichrist world order of immorality and blasphemy, which Jesus will destroy at His Second Coming (Matthew 24; Revelation 20). After Jesus’ millennial reign, the world will be completely destroyed (2 Peter 3:10 & 12). This is not a time to become a postmillennialist, thinking we should bring in Christ’s kingdom on earth and then He will return.

**Philippians 3:20**, *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.*

## **President Trump Is Our President, Not Our King**

I would like to go back to something that happened over 3000 years ago.

**1 Samuel 8:4-7**, *Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah; and they said to him, “Behold, you have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations. “But the thing was displeasing in the sight of Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” And Samuel prayed to the LORD. The LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them.”*

The times of the judges (c.1300-1100s B.C.) were hard times in Israel. Everyone did what was right in their own eyes. So Israel would fall into sin, be rescued by a judge, then fall into sin again. So the elders came to Samuel because they wanted a king. Neither Samuel nor God approved of a king, but God said it was because *“they have rejected Me from being king over them.”*

As with President Trump:

- The people wanted a king to represent them and fight their battles for them.
- Making a man a king has the danger of ignoring God and looking to the king for moral guidance. God told Samuel, *“they have rejected Me from being king over them.”*
- If you are looking for a king to save you, *“then you will know and see that your wickedness is great which you have done in the sight of the LORD by asking for yourselves a king”* (1 Samuel 12:17).

We should remember the words of the prophet Jeremiah,

**Jeremiah 17:5, 7, 9**, *Thus says the LORD, “Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind and makes flesh his strength, and whose heart turns away from the LORD ...Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD and whose trust is the Lord...[because] The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?”*

## **Trump Says He Wants to Be a President of “Common Sense”**

President Trump has repeatedly said that his presidency will be one of “common sense.” Common sense is President Trump’s basis of morality. And that is a good thing, as far as it goes. Common sense leads a person to (1) natural moral law derived from applying reason to the natural world (Romans 1) and (2) the use of a conscience (Romans 2). We are all born with the ability to reason and a conscience, that point to what is right. But there is also supernatural moral law given by God in words to the prophets which we have recorded in the Bible. Supernatural moral law always overshadows natural moral law. Common sense will never get anyone to the righteousness defined by the supernatural moral law given by words inspired of God and recorded in the Bible.