



Presidential Voter Guide Explanation

The MarketFaith Ministries **Presidential Voter Guide** has a little different focus than the average voter guide you will find. Rather than a political purpose, it is designed to provide a look at the presidential candidate's worldview foundations and how they are expressed in their policy pronouncements. While this guide can certainly be used to point out political differences, the overarching purpose is to compare the worldview differences.

Interestingly, this is perhaps the first presidential election in American history where neither candidate is a traditional biblical Christian. President Obama's Christian background is out of Liberation Theology, one of the forms of liberal theology which does not recognize the Bible to be the literal Word of God. Governor Romney is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS – also referred to as the Mormon Church), a religion which has its own unique theology not based on the Bible.

Most Americans do not know much about the religious background of either of the two candidates. As such, we, at MarketFaith Ministries, felt it would be a useful contribution to develop a voter guide which expresses these differences. While we all, certainly, have our preferences as to who we would like to see win the election, you will note that here we have not made a recommendation. We have, though, made a direct comparison between the candidate's beliefs and traditional biblical Christianity as a means of comparing the worldview of the candidates with our Christian faith. It is our hope that this will be a help for you as you evaluate the candidates and attempt to understand their beliefs and motives. We also hope that you will make the effort to vote on election day.

MarketFaith Ministries is a Christian equipping ministry with a focus on the topic of worldview and its practical implications for life. You can find out more about the ministry on our website at www.marketfaith.org. There, you will also find a great deal of other information about worldview and its practical implications. While you are there, feel free to sign up for our complementary newsletter which contains articles on the topic of worldview and its practical implications from a Christian perspective. We are also available to speak and do training on worldview topics. Feel free to contact us any time and let's explore ways to bring this cutting edge training to your church or organization.

MarketFaith Ministries

321 Anton Dr.
Tallahassee, FL 32312
850-383-9756 info@marketfaith.org

Presidential Voter Guide

Worldview Comparison

	 <p>Mitt Romney</p>	 <p>Barack Obama</p>	 <p>Christianity</p>
---	---	---	--

Worldview Comparison

¹ Worldview Category	² Theism	³ Hybrid (Naturalism/Theism)	² Theism
⁴ Belief System	⁵ Mormon	⁶ Liberal Christianity (Liberation Theology)	³⁷ Christianity

⁷ Essential Worldview Beliefs

Belief about God (What is God like?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polytheistic • God was once a man. • Is the God of our planet. 	Divine spiritual influence.	³⁸ The God described in the Bible.
Belief about Man (What is a human being?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirit child of God and his wife. • Put in a body on earth. • Could become a God. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material creature. • Oppressed or oppressor. 	³⁹ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made in God's image • Fallen
Belief about Salvation (What is salvation and how is it achieved?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General: Immortality for all by Jesus' suffering & death on the cross. • Individual: Membership in LDS, marriage, good works and water baptism. 	Working to overcome oppression in this world.	⁴⁰ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accomplished by the death and resurrection of Christ. • Appropriated by grace through faith in Christ.

Worldview Expressions in Policy

Life Issues

Abortion	⁸ Opposed except in the case of rape, incest or when the mother's life is on the line.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ⁹ Supports (at every stage) • ¹⁰ Supports taxpayer funding. 	⁴¹ Opposed because of the high value of human life.
Embryonic Stem Cell Research	¹¹ Opposes federal funding.	¹² Supports federal funding.	⁴¹ Opposed because of the high value of human life.
Human Cloning	¹³ Supports federal legislation against.	¹⁴ Opposes federal legislation against.	⁴¹ Opposed because of the high value of human life.

Presidential Voter Guide

Worldview Comparison



Mitt Romney



Barack Obama



Christianity

Marriage and Sexual Issues

State Marriage Amendments	¹⁵ Supports state constitutional amendments preserving traditional marriage.	¹⁶ Opposes state constitutional amendments preserving traditional marriage.	⁴² Supports because of: value of marriage and sin of homosexuality.
Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)	¹⁷ Supports DOMA.	¹⁸ Opposes DOMA.	⁴² Supports because of value of marriage and sin of homosexuality.
Marriage Amendment to the US Constitution	¹⁹ Supports a marriage protection amendment to the US Constitution.	²⁰ Opposes a marriage protection amendment to the US Constitution.	⁴² Supports because of value of marriage and sin of homosexuality.
Federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) - (Grants special employment rights based on sexual behavior.)	²¹ Opposes ENDA.	²² Supports ENDA.	⁴² Opposes because of value of marriage and sin of homosexuality.
Open Homosexuality in the Military	²³ Will not change Obama policy.	²⁴ Actively supports open homosexuality in the military.	⁴² Opposes because of value of marriage and sin of homosexuality.

Economic Issues

Government Control of Healthcare	²⁵ Opposes	²⁶ Supports	The Bible doesn't prescribe.
Government Control of Private Companies	²⁷ Opposes	²⁸ Supports	The Bible doesn't prescribe.
Economic Philosophy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ²⁹ Free Market ³⁰ Priority of the individual. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ³¹ Redistribution of wealth through the tax structure. ³² Priority of society. 	The Bible doesn't prescribe.

Judicial Issues

Judicial Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ³³ Strict Constructionist - (Judges are to interpret law based strictly on the Constitution.) ³⁴ Rights originate from God. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ³⁵ Positive Law (rights are given by the government.) ³⁶ Judges may interpret law based on current societal situation. 	⁴³ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bible doesn't prescribe a particular philosophy. Rights originate with God. Government should guarantee justice for all.
--------------------------	--	---	--

Sources and Explanations

1 Worldview is the assumptions people have about the nature of reality. There are four basic worldviews.	2 Theism asserts that a creator God exists.
3 A Hybrid combines beliefs from two or more worldviews. Every hybrid, by definition, holds contradictory beliefs. Naturalism asserts that there is no supernatural existence.	4 A belief system is an individual expression of a worldview category.
5 The Mormon church was founded by Joseph Smith and is headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah.	6 Liberal Christianity has various forms. The church Obama attended, led by Jeremiah Wright, specifically followed Liberation Theology.
7 Essential beliefs define the boundaries of a belief system which cannot be crossed and remain within the system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romney: http://www.marketfaith.org/non-christian-worldviews/the-gospel-according-to-joseph-smith-mormonism • Obama: http://sojo.net/blogs/2012/02/21/transcript-barack-obama-and-god-factor-interview 	8 http://www.mittromney.com/issues/values
9 & 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.barackobama.com/womens-issues • http://factcheck.org/2008/08/obama-and-infanticide 	11 http://www.mittromney.com/issues/values
12 http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Removing-Barriers-to-Responsible-Scientific-Research-Involving-Human-Stem-Cells/	13 http://www.mittromney.com/issues/values
14 http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=3589&GAID=3&DocTypeID=HB&LegId=6165&SessionID=3&GA=93	15 http://www.mittromney.com/issues/values
16 http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/03/16/obama-amendment-one-north-carolina-gay-marriage_n_1354302.html	17 http://www.mittromney.com/issues/values
18 http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/07/19/obama-defense-of-marriage-gay-rights_n_903680.html	19 http://www.mittromney.com/issues/values
20 http://change.gov/agenda/civil_rights_agenda	21 http://thinkprogress.org/lgbt/2012/05/04/478103/romney-gay-discrimination/?mobile=nc
22 http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/civil-rights	23 http://cnsnews.com/news/article/romney-says-he-will-continue-obamas-policy-having-homosexuals-military
24 http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/09/20/statement-president-repeal-dont-ask-dont-tell	25 http://www.mittromney.com/issues/health-care
26 http://www.whitehouse.gov/healthreform/healthcare-overview#healthcare-menu	27 http://www.mittromney.com/sites/default/files/shared/presidentialaccountabilityscorecard_1_1.pdf
28 http://www.politico.com/politico44/2012/08/obama-lets-repeat-auto-rescue-with-every-manufacturing-131566.html	29 & 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.mittromney.com/jobs • http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Political_positions_of_Mitt_Romney
31 & 32 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.barackobama.com/economy • http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barack_Obama_economic_policy 	33 & 34 http://www.mittromney.com/issues/courts-constitution
35 & 36 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.newsmax.com/InsideCover/obama-goodwinliu-judicalnominee/2011/04/08/id/392278 • http://www.lifenews.com/2011/12/06/senate-republicans-stop-another-obama-pro-abortion-judge 	37 A form of Theism which uses the Bible as its authority source.
38 Deut. 6:4; Isa. 43-44; Matt. 28:19; 1 Cor. 8:6; 12:4-6	39 Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 3:23; 7:14-25
40 Rom. 3:21-26; 10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-10	41 Gen. 1: 26-27; Psalm 139: 13-16; Jeremiah 1:5
42 Gen. 2:24; Lev. 18:22; 20:3; Rom. 1:24-27, 37, 1 Cor. 7:2; Heb. 13:4	43 Gen. 1: 26-27; Psalm 82: 2-4; Prov. 1: 2-4; 21:3; Micah 6:8