



## 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. Additionally, we have not, in this guide, made a direct comparison between the candidate's beliefs and traditional biblical Christianity (though you will find that kind of information in articles on the ministry website and in our live presentations). Our purpose here is to simply make comparisons based on the worldview categories of the two candidates and show how they have chosen to express their beliefs through selected policies and pronouncements. 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](http://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.

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# Presidential Voter Guide

## Worldview Comparison



Mitt Romney



Barack Obama

### Worldview Comparison

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

### <sup>7</sup> Essential Worldview Beliefs

<b>Belief about God</b> (What is God like?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polytheistic</li> <li>• God was once a man.</li> <li>• Is the God of our planet.</li> </ul>	Divine spiritual influence.
<b>Belief about Man</b> (What is a human being?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spirit child of God and his wife.</li> <li>• Put in a body on earth.</li> <li>• Could become a God.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material creature.</li> <li>• Oppressed or oppressor.</li> </ul>
<b>Belief about Salvation</b> (What is salvation and how is it achieved?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>General:</b> Immortality for all by Jesus' suffering &amp; death on the cross.</li> <li>• <b>Individual:</b> Membership in LDS, marriage, good works and water baptism.</li> </ul>	Working to overcome oppression in this world.

### Worldview Expressions in Policy

#### Life Issues

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

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Mitt Romney



Barack Obama

### Marriage and Sexual Issues

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

### Economic Issues

<b>Government Control of Healthcare</b>	<sup>25</sup> Opposes	<sup>26</sup> Supports
<b>Government Control of Private Companies</b>	<sup>27</sup> Opposes	<sup>28</sup> Supports
<b>Economic Philosophy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><sup>29</sup> Free Market</li> <li><sup>30</sup> Priority of the individual.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><sup>31</sup> Redistribution of wealth through the tax structure.</li> <li><sup>32</sup> Priority of society.</li> </ul>

### Judicial Issues

<b>Judicial Approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><sup>33</sup> Strict Constructionist - (Judges are to interpret law based strictly on the Constitution.)</li> <li><sup>34</sup> Rights originate from God.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><sup>35</sup> Positive Law (rights are given by the government.)</li> <li><sup>36</sup> Judges may interpret law based on current societal situation.</li> </ul>
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## Sources and Explanations

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