

## The Goal & Method of Electing Officials (An Election Day Sermon)

### Text: Proverbs 16:6

**Intro:** Election Day sermons used to be quite common in America. Often on Election Day, townspeople would assemble at church to hear their pastor admonish them to pick honorable men for public office. I hope all of you that are eligible to vote are registered and have made plans to vote next Tuesday. The Lord showed me something back almost 20 years ago that helped me immensely as I pondered the downward trajectory of our society. My unspoken question nagging at my mind was “is it possible to recover what has been lost of America’s Christian heritage?” If so, how can that be accomplished? I can still remember the night I was kneeling beside my bed in a hotel room on Barksdale AFB in Louisiana doing my Bible Reading. That night I read Proverbs 16:6 and the Lord opened my eyes to the answer I had been looking for so long. Since that night, I have learned that the phrase used in that verse is used several other times in scripture. We will look at them all tonight, but let’s start with that passage in Proverbs.

#### I. Universality of the application

- a. It speaks of God’s process in saving us.
- b. It applies to inter-personal disputes between brothers in Christ
- c. It has application to returning a society to the right path.

#### II. The order of these truths is important

- a. Mercy must come first
- b. If truth was first, we could never get to Mercy

#### III. The many facets of this truth

- a. It is intrinsically in God’s makeup – Psalm 86:15
- b. It is rooted in God’s glory - Psalm 115:1 & 138:2
- c. It is immense - Psalm 108:4 & 57:10
- d. It introduces God – Genesis 24:27 & Psalm 89:14 contrast with the god of Islam
- e. It makes salvation possible – Psalm 57:3 & 98:3
- f. They are inseparable – Psalm 85:10
- g. They are conditional – I Kings 3:6 & Psalm 25:10
- h. It is a blessing to faithful people – II Sam 15:20
- i. It preserves those who receive it – Psalm 40:11 & 61:7; Prov 20:28
- j. Its effect is lasting – Psalm 100:5 & 117:2
- k. It is a command to be obeyed – Prov 3:3
- l. It is the product of obedience – Prov 14:22
- m. It is multi-generational – Micah 7:20
- n. It is foundational for leadership in society – Isa 16:5

#### IV. The application – Prov 16:6 is the Biblical solution for the way back from societal suicide. Mercy & forgiveness to those who have sinned, but a rejection of continued allowance of the sin. Vote for leaders who will apply this principle