

# The Dangers of Political Ideology in the Lord's Church

**Ideology: the body of doctrine, myth, belief, etc., that guides an individual, social movement, institution, class, or large group**

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## 1. Can lead to “speaking evil of dignitaries”

(2 Pet. 2:10; Jude 1:8; Titus 3:1-2)

- Speaking evil = vilify, defame, blaspheme, rail at
- Rom. 13:1-7 – At what point does practicing our rights as Americans to disagree with the President (administration, government) cross over to “speaking evil”?
- I Pet. 2:13-17 – We are not to use our liberty in Christ as a cloak for vice, i.e. to resist governing authorities, seek anarchy, seek our own will

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## 2. Can lead to unwillingness to yield my liberties for the sake of the brethren

- I Cor. 8:1-13 – Do not allow my liberty (rights) to be a stumbling block, v.9
- I Cor. 9:1-6, 11-12, 15, 19 – Paul yielded his rights to “win the more”
- I Cor. 10:23-33 – All things are lawful but not all things are helpful, edify

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## 2. Can lead to unwillingness to yield my liberties for the sake of the brethren

- Gal. 5:13-15 – Do not use your liberty at the expense of your brethren
- The wearing of masks, changes in the passing of communion, changes in service times, etc.
- There is a difference between fear and reasonable caution; what might seem to be fear to me can be reasonable caution to another; who am I to define the difference?

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## 3. Can lead to the loss of perspective

- In Teaching Others – I Cor. 9:19
  - Republican vs. Democrat?
- In showing love for my brethren – Gal. 5:22-25
  - Am I going to allow the fruit of the Spirit to be swallowed up by pride?
- In living as a “pilgrim” – I Pet. 2:9-12
  - While my rights and liberties as an American are to be valued, my home in Heaven is of infinitely more value!