

SERMON NOTES
November 11, 2012
T. Don Guthrie, preaching

Early Voting
Acts 15:1-2, 4-12

Vote – Latin, *votum* – “a vow”

A promise we make

A commitment we give

Unchanged by victory or defeat

- They voted for UNITY
Vs. 2 – Paul and Barnabas...should go up to Jerusalem

- They voted for TRUTH
Vs. 2 – “great dissension and debate”

- They voted for GOD
Vs. 28 – “It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us.”

God’s agenda is NOT like ours!

- They voted for LEADERSHIP

1 Timothy 2:1-2

¹First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, ²for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

- They voted for CONSIDERATION (RESPECT)

Not everyone! Not even all believers.

Acts 15:1-2, 4-12

¹ Some men came down from Judea and *began* teaching the brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." ² And when Paul and Barnabas had great dissension and debate with them, *the brethren* determined that Paul and Barnabas and some others of them should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders concerning this issue.

⁴ When they arrived at Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. ⁵ But some of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed stood up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses."

⁶ The apostles and the elders came together to look into this matter. ⁷ After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brethren, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles would hear the word of the gospel and believe. ⁸ And God, who knows the heart, testified to them giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He also did to us; ⁹ and He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith. ¹⁰ Now therefore why do you put God to the test by placing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke which neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹ But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they also are."

¹² All the people kept silent, and they were listening to Barnabas and Paul as they were relating what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles.