

Lesson 102

Leaving the Right Behind

• Political Parties

- Who are the Democrats?
- Who are the Republicans?
- \circ The switch
- Who are the Libertarians?

• The Right Wing

- The three positions in the right wing
- The trinity of the right wing

• Why We Moved from Right to Left

- Two streams and Moral majority
- o Ipsus and the Nethinims

In this week's lesson we are going to look at political parties and ideologies in the United States. We are going to further familiarize ourselves with the Democrat and Republican parties, and we are going to look at a new party: the Libertarian party. We are then going to explore the right wing a little more. And finally, we are going to look at this Movement and see which side of the political spectrum we're on - and how we got there.

Political Parties

Who are the Democrats

The Democratic Party is the oldest political party in the United States and the world. It is currently one of the two major parties in the United States. In the 1800s, Federalists such as George Washington and John Adams were opposed by those with different views, such as Thomas Jefferson and James Madison. In 1792, Jefferson and Madison formed an opposition party called the Democratic-Republicans. In 1824, four Democratic-Republicans ran for president against each other. One of them, Andrew Jackson, won the popular vote but failed to win the electoral college; so John Quincy Adams, a member of the opposing Whig party, was given the victory by congress. Because of this, Senator Martin Van Buren, a Democratic-Republican, created a new political party- the Democratic Party- to support Jackson. In 1828, the Democrats won the election when Jackson defeated Adams. The Democratic Party became known as the party of the "common man"; they supported individual rights and opposed federal banks and tariffs on goods. However, early Democrats only supported rights for some, as they were the main supporters of slavery. In 1860, Southern Democrats split from the United States (then called the Union) by nominating their own president to preserve slavery and other rights they believed the president Abraham Lincoln, a member of the opposing Republican Party, would take away. The south then went into a four year long Civil War with the Union. Yet, in the 1900s, following World War II and the Great Depression, the Democrats took a more progressive position. To recover from the Great Depression, Democratic President Franklin D. Roosevelt worked on liberal policies such as the New Deal, which was a series of programs from 1933 to 1939. The Democratic Party became a socially liberal party. Today, the Democratic Party is a liberal party- they are the main supporters of Civil Rights, Feminism, LGBTQ+ rights, religious rights, and health care reform. They also support banks and tariffs. There have been 16 total Democratic presidents, including Joe Biden who is the current United States President. Democrats currently control 22 state governorships, 17 state legislatures, and three of the nine Supreme Court Justices are liberal. The Democratic Party is the 3rd largest in the world and the largest in the United States. Although according to the Pew Research Center, fewer than half of Americans (45%) say Democrats "govern in an honest and ethical way," Democrats are still viewed more favorably by Americans than the opposing Republican Party, on issues such as health care and COVID-19.

Who are the Republicans

The Republican Party is the second-oldest political party in the United States. The Republican Party was formed in 1854 to oppose the expansion of slavery into the North of the United States. The name "Republican" was chosen on March 20, 1854. The party mostly consisted of Presbyterians, Methodists, Lutherans, and Quakers, among other groups. The most notable group that rejected the Republican Party were Catholics, who sided with the Democrat Party. The Republican Party controlled the political landscape in America up until the 1930s. In 1912, the Republican Party began to change more into what it looks like today. In 1964, the Civil Rights Act was passed. That is when the Southern states began to ally themselves with Republicans while the Northern states allied themselves with the Democrats. The first Republican president was Abraham Lincoln and since him there have been 18 more Republican presidents. Some notable Republican presidents are Dwight D. Eisenhower (the "in God we trust" president), Ronald W. Reagan, George W. Bush (the president who invaded Irag), and of course, Donald J. Trump. Today, the Republican Party is the major conservative party in the United States. Now, the party supports issues like lower taxes for the rich, gun rights, and immigration restrictions. Currently, there are 28 Republican governors, 211 Representatives in the House, and 50 Senators in the Senate. After Trump became president and the Republican Party swore their allegiance to him, more radical Republicans (like Marjorie Taylor Greene and Ronald DeSantis) are starting to shape the party.

The Switch

As we have just seen, the Democrat and Republican parties of today are not the same as the ones that existed in Ellen White's time - so when and how did they change? After the Civil War the Republican Party was dominated by the industrialized North, and in the South by the newly freed slaves. The Democrat Party was dominated by southern former slave owners. The Republicans, for a little while, tried to increase the rights of the former slaves, by passing things like the Civil Rights bill of 1866. But then the party began to be taken over by northern businessmen who had gotten rich thanks to the enlargement and increased spending of the federal government during the Civil War and also just because of the North's continued industrialization. These new leaders concluded that they had done more than enough for the African Americans in the South so they left the former slave states to their own devices. The Southern states began to immediately disenfranchise African American voters. Because of that the Republican Party in the South got even weaker, so they started firing African American leaders and appointing more white people: to try to attract Southern white voters - and this worked, although the South was still majority white Democrats. The Republican Party continued to support businesses - and then the Great Depression came and Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected. Roosevelt was a Democrat and the Republicans hated his "New Deal" policies as they expanded the government and restricted their businesses. Some Democrats didn't like this increase in the power of the government either, they even worked with Republicans to hinder this. As a matter of fact, at this time you could find prominent politicians with similar views in both parties. Yet as African Americans began to be allowed to vote they started voting for Democrats because of the Great Depression. But the South also stayed mostly Democratic because they didn't want to vote for the party Lincoln belonged to. At this point (mid 1900s) the Republican Party supported capitalism and businesses, while opposing federal government control. Many business owners had also tried to use apostate Protestantism to support their views; the party was also mostly white. The Democrats were also mostly white thanks to the legacy of the Civil War, but the last few

Democrat presidents had been quite progressive (Wilson, Roosevelt, and Truman). African Americans were turning Democrat and white Americans were turning Republican - slowly. Then, former president and southern Democrat Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights act of 1964; and the Republican nominee that year (Barry Goldwater) spoke against it, and everything switched. Conservative white Americans went over to the Republican Party and African Americans (and other people of color) went to the Democrat Party. By the time Ronald Reagan was elected the Republican and Democrat parties looked pretty much like they do today - and they no longer get along on anything.

Who are the Libertarians

The Libertarian Party is the third largest political party in the United States. It was first conceived in August of 1971 by David F. Nolan in Colorado. The party was inspired by some of the ideas of Murray Rothbard, an Austrian economist. On December 11, 1971, the party was officially formed, and it held its first convention the next year in 1972. The Libertarian Party founded partly due to worries over the Vietnam War, the Nixon presidency, and other events. In 1980, the party had some success when its candidate for president, Edward E. Clark, was voted for by 921,199 people- nearly 1 million. While what was only a small percent of all the votes for president in total, the Libertarian Party became the third largest political party in the United States. Libertarians mainly support the rights of the individual. They want people to control their own lives completely, without the intervention of the government-federal, state, or local. They want to limit the size of the government, along with it lower taxes, abolish the IRS, legalize drugs, support gun rights, and overall move power away from the government and into the hands of private organizations. They also support criminal justice reform, LGBTQ+ equality, and free speech. As of 2020, Libertarians hold 232 elective offices in the United States, none of which are in the House or the Senate. But the fact that there aren't many Libertarians in office doesn't mean there aren't many of them, the Libertarian ideology is much more widespread. It was found in a poll done by Freedom Works in 2013, that 25% of Republican voters in the United States identify as "Libertarian" or "lean Libertarian, and 42% of them favor the term "Libertarian." Outside of Republicans, 42% of 18-32 year olds favorably view the term "Libertarian." So even if there aren't many Libertarians in office, the Libertarian ideology is very widespread, and is still growing.

The Right Wing

The three positions in the right wing

There are three groups of people in the right wing. The first group are those that believe that equality is important. But they also believe that it is not a priority and there are other issues that are more important. They believe that the government should not interfere in matters of inequality but should instead let it play out naturally, meaning if equality was meant to be, it would happen naturally on its own without government intervention. They believe that, for example, the gender wage gap will fix itself. The second group believes that inequality doesn't even exist. They don't think that a gender wage gap exists. The third group believes that inequality does exist, and that is the way it should be. Men and women, they believe, have their separate roles and should conform to those roles. They know that men make more than women and they believe that that is the way it should be. All three positions are part of the right wing.

The trinity of the right wing

Now we are going to look at conservatives another way. We just saw the three subgroups of the right wing, but there are other features of this side that we need to see. Part of this side is the Libertarians – we will see that they are even more extreme than the Republican Party we have been focusing on for the past few years. Their ideas (not necessarily the organized party) are a major part of the problem we face today and will face in the future at the Sunday Law (we will talk about this more in the next lesson). So we need to pay attention to them. Another problem that is pushing us to the Sunday Law is the various attacks against gender equality. As we saw earlier some conservatives refuse to believe that problems (like inequality) even exist this is true for gender equality. A growing number of conservatives not only believe that women have everything they deserve - they also believe that men are being discriminated against (meaning women are the ones in power oppressing them). This has given rise to "men's rights activists" (MRAs) who believe the world is biased to women at their expense, and are trying to "fight" for their rights. These men can be very violent like we saw in Gamergate (in 2014). This Movement also has, for a long time, only seen conservative Evangelical Republicans. But we need to understand that we are not living in the time of Ellen G. White where the focus of the end of the world is Christian nations. The world is only around 30% Christian; and many of the countries that used to be mostly Christian are not any more - like the in United States where religiously unaffiliated people outnumber white Evangelicals. Atheism is gaining ground everywhere and we need to recognize that. All three of these characteristics are found in the right wing: libertarianism, men's rights (both only in the right wing), and atheism. In fact, these characteristics are often found together in a "trinity". Popular men's rights groups on social media are predominantly conservative, preferring libertarianism, and are also even more atheist (or just not religious). People who can be described by this "trinity" think they are the victims and despise any kind of restriction. Men's rights, atheism, and libertarian values are becoming a major characteristic of the right wing and we need to recognize that.

Why We Moved from Right to Left

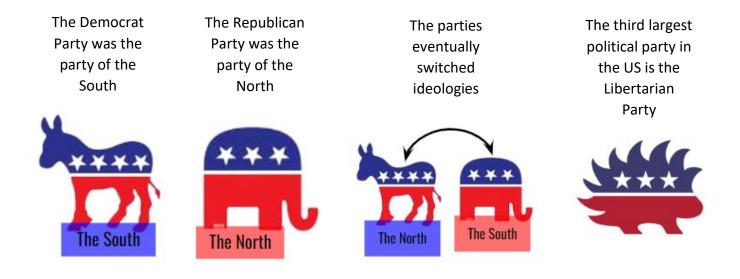
Two streams and Moral Majority

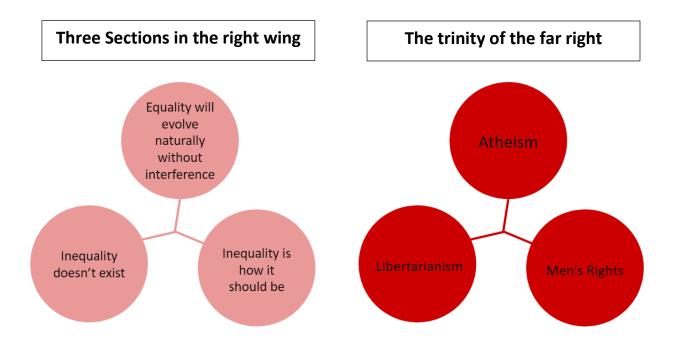
In 2018, this Movement went from right wing to left wing. Previous to 2018, this Movement was conservative. It hated liberals and globalists, thinking they were going to help the Papacy take over the world. In 2018, the Midnight Cry was presented to this Movement. From then on this Movement began to change from right wing, or conservative, to left wing, or liberal. Two of the messages that caused this change was an understanding of two streams and an understanding of the Moral Majority. Two streams is an understanding of the two opposing sides: truth and error. In 1996, Fox News was created- it is the main conservative news source in the United States and it supports the far-right agenda. On the other side of the spectrum we have CNN which is one of the main liberal news sources in the United States and it supports the left-wing agenda. It's also not a coincidence that in 1996, just when Fox News was coming out, the Time of the End Magazine was published, in which Elder Jeff talked about two rivers in Daniel- the Ulai, which was the good river, and the Hiddekel, the bad river. So in 2018, we understood how two streams of information were important, and when we saw Fox News supporting Trump- who is a nationalist, sexist, and according to prophecy a dictator who would help bring the Sunday Law, we began to make the switch from right wing to left wing. Another thing that helped us switch in 2018 was understanding the Moral Majority. The Moral Majority was a conservative organization that operated in the late 1900s. This also tied in to Trump. Prophecy clearly told us that Trump was a bad person, so when we understood the Moral Majority, and how they believe the same things Trump does, we began to see that conservative Evangelical ideology is the incorrect stream of information, which further moved us from right wing to left wing.

Ipsus and Nethinims

There are two more points that helped this Movement move from right wing to left wing. First, was the battle of Ipsus. The actual battle took place in 301 BC. On one side was Antigonus, his son Demetrius, and Demetrius' ally Pyrrhus. On the other side were the allies: Lysimachus, Seleucus, Cassander, and Ptolemy (who ended up not showing up to the battle). This Movement made an application of that battle. We mark the battle of Ipsus in 2016- the Presidential election between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. What we saw from the battle of Ipsus were the two sides: Demetrius being aided by Pyrrhus (the King of the South) versus the three allies. In 2016, it was Trump being aided by Putin (the King of the South) versus the three branches of government. Clinton represented Antigonus, or the ancestors (how things used to be). During the battle of Ipsus, Antigonus was killed, making Demetrius king. Demetrius was very different from his father just as Trump was very different from previous presidents. He represented the wrong, conservative stream of information, which is how we knew that Clinton represented the correct, liberal stream of information. The last point that helped this Movement move from right to left was the Nethinims. In 1996, we can mark the two streams of information. And those two streams don't just affect the Priests; they also affect the Nethinims because the Priests do not begin to teach the Nethinims until the Sunday Law. So, they had to have begun learning the correct information from somewhere. And as we said in the 2016 election, it could not have been the conservative stream, or Fox News. It had to be the correct stream of information- the one that the Priests were getting their information from, which was CNN and other left-leaning sources.

In summary:





Fox News is a conservative news source



CNN is a liberal news source



Trump represents the wrong stream of information



Nethinims have to be getting their information from the correct stream



Official Youth Prophecy Group website: youthprophecygroup.org

If you have any questions or comments on any of the material contact us at: youthprophecygroup@gmail.com

Find all the YPG lesson videos at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeltzVajTXgSQRL-o2XOq_g</u>

Link to YPG Zoom meetings which are at 10:00am Pacific Time on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87170293849</u>