



Lesson 37

They're Taking Over

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We know that as we get closer to the Second Coming, Evangelical Christians will gain more and more power. The world will become unilateral with the USA (Trump) controlling everything. One of the ways Trump and the Evangelical Christians will gain this power is taking over the three branches of the US government. The three branches are the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches. In this lesson, we'll learn what the three branches are, what they do, and see how the Evangelicals are taking over them.

Dominionism

The 7 Mountains

The far right (conservative) evangelical Protestants have a plan to take over the United States- it is called Dominionism or the "seven mountains". They believe that according to Genesis they are to have dominion over everything. Based on other verses in both the Old and New Testament they think that the "everything" they are supposed to control can be symbolized by "seven mountains". They want to start by first taking over the United States and make it a Christian nation. So they need to control the "seven mountains" in the US. The "seven mountains" are: government, media, education, business, family, entertainment, and religion. They plan to take over those seven areas by getting loyal Evangelicals at the "top" of those mountains. To take over the government they began to work through the Republican party because they have similar conservative ideas. They have taken control of the government primarily under the Trump administration.

The Evangelicals' First Try

Ronald Reagan

Back in the 1980s the Evangelicals were looking for a president who would uphold their views. At first they were skeptical about Republican presidential candidate Ronald Reagan. After all, he, as governor of California, passed the nation's most liberal bill on abortion ever. But, in 1980, 67% of white evangelical voters supported him. When he ran for election again in 1984, 76% supported him. Jerry Falwell, the founder of the Moral Majority, even supported him. By the end of his second term in 1989, leaders within the Christian Right said he was one of the greatest presidents. But despite this, he didn't do everything they wanted him to. He didn't pass all the right leaning bills that they had hoped he would. That's why he was called a "secular conservative". However, the Christian Right did accomplish their purpose: they got a conservative president in office.

The Executive Branch

What is the Executive Branch?

The Executive branch of the US government contains the President, Vice President, and Cabinet. The President is the most powerful person in the country, he/she is the head of the US government. The President can sign into law bills that congress gives them, and he/she can pass executive orders themselves. The President is also the head of the National Security Council (NSC), which deals with national security, military, and foreign policy. These are just some of the powers the President has. The Vice President is the President's top advisor. He/she is also part of the NSC and will become President should anything happen to the President. The Cabinet is the third part of the Executive branch. The Cabinet is made of 15 heads of executive departments (the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Treasury, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the Secretary of Homeland Security). The Trade Representative, the Director of National Intelligence, the Director of Management and Budget, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration are also part of the Cabinet along with the Vice President. The President is the leader of the Cabinet and they are his/her closest associates.

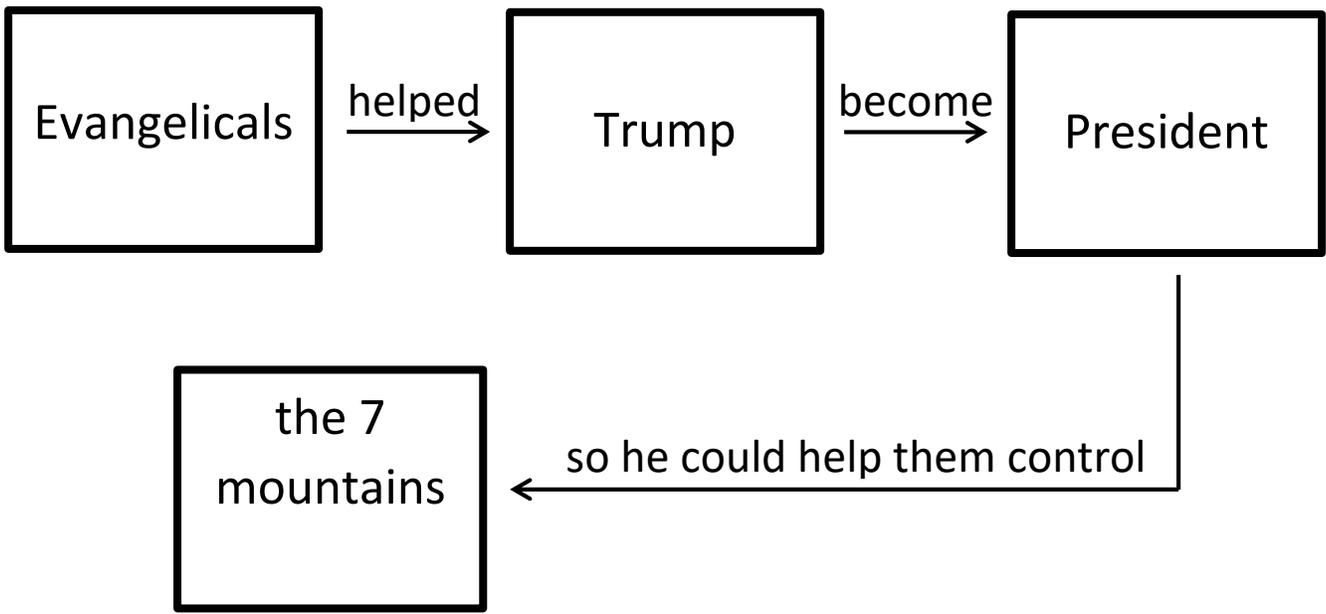
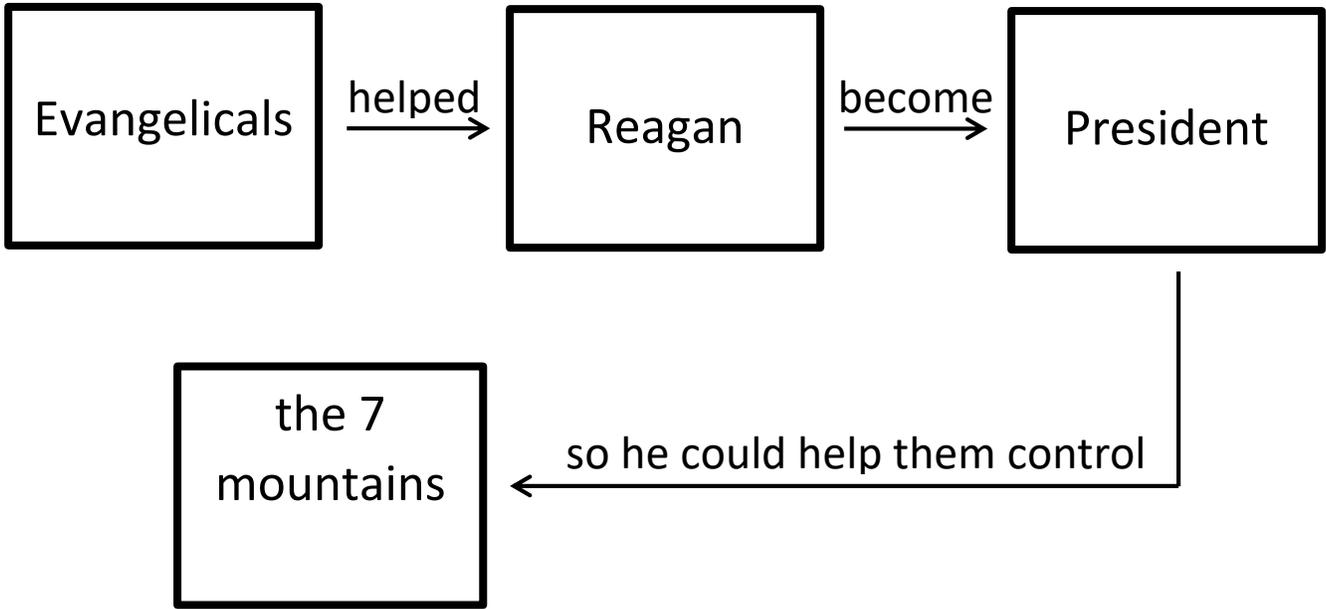
Trump (and Evangelicals) take over the Executive branch

The Evangelicals decided to back Donald Trump in the 2016 elections. He was elected as president in that year. Through him the conservative Evangelical Protestants took control of the Executive branch. He was/is a Republican and a conservative Protestant; he supports the same conservative things that they believe in. They believe that he is Cyrus and was chosen by God to be the leader of the United States to fulfill what they think God's will is. Most of the Evangelicals voted for him. With his election the conservative Protestants gained control of the Executive branch; unlike Reagan Trump is ready and willing to follow their command.

Example: Trump the last president

Donald Trump will be the last president of the United States. We came to this understanding from Daniel 11:2. "And now will I show thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia." Persia was part of a two-horned power: Medo-Persia. The United States is also a two-horned power (Republicanism and Protestantism), so Persia can represent the US. Daniel 11:2 says three kings shall yet stand up- yet being the key word. This means that a king was already standing and three would come after him. The king standing was Cyrus and we can line up his reign with 1989. The three kings after Cyrus were his son Cambyses, false Smerdis, and Darius. In 1989, the president standing was George H. W. Bush. The three after him were Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama. Then the verse says the fourth would be far richer. This means that a president should stand up after Obama. That president is Donald Trump. After the

fourth king, Daniel moves on to the next kingdom. Although there were more kings after Darius in history, that's not part of Daniel's story and since we are making application of Daniel's story, the kings following are not relevant to our application either. So after Donald Trump, the kingdom will switch, which means he will be the final president of the United States.



The Legislative Branch

What is the Legislative branch?

The Legislative branch of the US government is Congress. Congress is made of two parts: The House of Representatives (“House” for short) and the Senate. The House has 435 members, 435 members elected by the 50 states and 6 members representing the territories the US owns. The members of the House elect a Speaker of the House to be their leader. The Speaker of the House is the third in line to become President (if something happens to the President, the Vice President becomes President, and if something happens to the Vice President, the Speaker of the House becomes President). The House also has the power to impeach the President- but not remove him from office. The Senate has 100 members, 2 from each of the 50 states. The Senate’s leader is the Vice President and he/she will cast the deciding vote (for a bill Congress wants to pass) if 50 Senators vote one way and 50 another. The Senate has the power to remove the President from office if the House impeaches him/her. Together, the two parts of Congress can declare war, change existing laws, pass new laws, and other things. Congress also oversees the Executive branch, which puts a check on how much the President can wield his/her power.

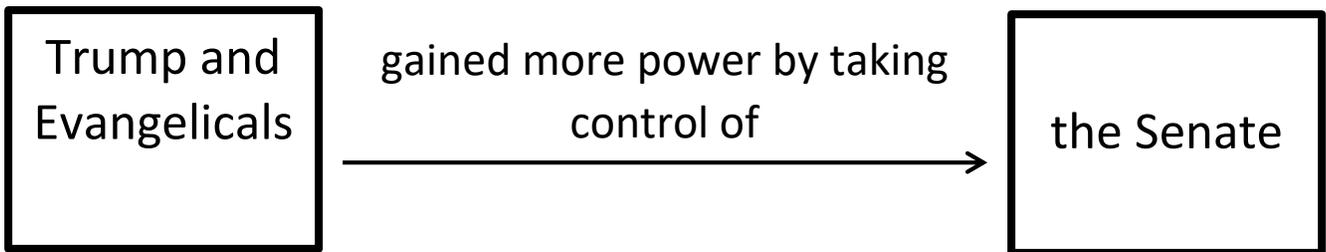
Republicans (and Evangelicals) take over the Legislative branch

Evangelicals don’t have control of the whole Legislative branch- they just have control of half of it: the Senate. In 2014, Steve Bannon, Jeff Sessions, and Stephen Miller began devising a plan to take over the Republican party and make it more conservative than it currently was in order to fulfill their conservative Protestant ideas. They ultimately wanted to control the government and make America a conservative Christian nation. They started to carry out their plan that year. So in 2014, the Republican party took control of the Senate- they won the majority of the seats that were up for election in that mid-term election. Since bills need to pass in both Houses, the Evangelicals through the Republicans (because they back the Republicans) can stop or change any bill from the House of Representatives (which is controlled by Democrats). The leader of the Republicans in the Senate- the majority leader- is Mitch McConnell and in 2014 he began to prepare for a Republican president. After Trump’s election the Republicans in the Senate became extremely loyal to him; they were ready to back and assist him. The conservative Protestants now controlled Donald Trump and the majority Republican Senate.

Example: Trump’s impeachment

President Donald John Trump was impeached on December 18, 2019 by the United States House of Representatives. They voted on the two articles of impeachment on whether or not he committed impeachable offenses. Both votes were partisan, meaning only Democrats voted to impeach him. This made president Trump the third president to be impeached- ever. Of course, impeachment doesn’t mean he’s not the president anymore (although that would be great). The Senate would have to vote to remove him and they did vote the next year, on February 5, 2020, but he was acquitted. The vote on the first article was bi-partisan, meaning both Democrats and Republican (yes, one Republican) voted for it. The vote on the second

article, however, was partisan, meaning only Democrats and no Republicans voted for it. The Republicans have control of the Senate and they are loyal to the President. The Evangelicals who back the Republicans are loyal to the president.



The Judicial Branch

What is the Judicial branch?

The Judicial branch of the US government is the courts. There are three levels of federal courts, the District Courts, the Courts of Appeal (aka Circuit Courts) and the Supreme Court. All of the court judges are nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The judges serve for life or until they retire. In some cases, though, they can be impeached by Congress. There are 94 District Courts- they are the lowest level of courts. They have the power to interpret the law. Once a District Court makes a decision on a case, the party they're making the decision against can appeal to the Courts of Appeal. The Courts of Appeal are a higher level of courts, there are 13 of them. They as well have the power to interpret the law. Once the Circuit Court has decided on the case, they have the option to place the case back into the hands of the District Courts. But if one of the parties aren't satisfied with the decision, they can appeal to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court is the highest and most powerful court in the country. It has 9 justices, one of which is the Chief Justice. They too have the power to interpret the law and can either officially decide on a case or place it back in the Circuit Court.

The 4/4/1

The Supreme Court's decisions are final (unless it undoes itself). But those decisions aren't made by one person. There have been 9 judges (justices as they are called) in the Court since 1869. At the beginning of the Judicial system there were only 6 judges though. The Supreme Court is usually balanced. There are supposed to be 4 conservative justices, 4 liberal justices, and 1 justice in the middle. That way all of the cases don't just end up either conservative or liberal because one of those ideologies is in the majority.

The 5/4: conservatives are taking over the Judicial branch

Donald Trump has destroyed the Supreme Court. Originally, there were nine justices. Four were liberal leaning and four were conservative leaning and one was moderate- not too liberal not too conservative. But Trump destroyed that order. He put in two conservative justices- justices Neil M. Gorsuch and Brett M. Kavanaugh. Now, there are five conservative justices and four liberal justices. This throws the balance off. Now the Supreme Court is conservative leaning. On top of that, Supreme Court justices are in their positions for life unless they die, resign, or are impeached, so the damage Trump has done will last for years.

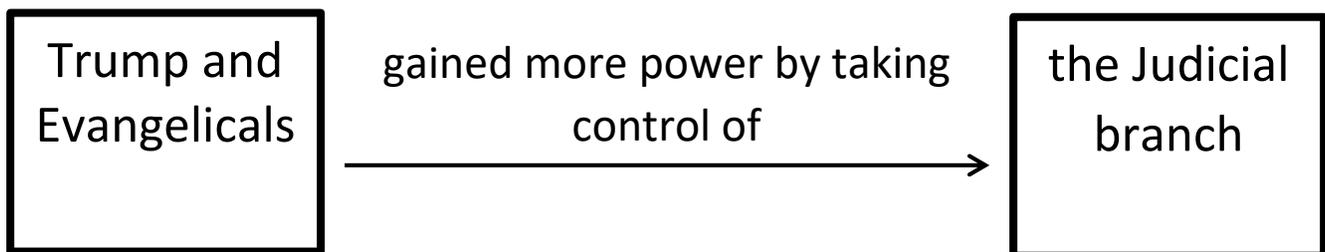
Example: conservative rulings

We have seen that Trump has taken over the Executive and Legislative branches- but he didn't stop there. Trump made the Supreme Court 5-4 (more conservative)- we are now seeing the effects of that. On April 6, 2020 the Supreme Court made a decision on *Republican National Committee vs. Democratic National Committee*. In Wisconsin, the US presidential primaries were going to be held on April 7, 2020. Democratic

parties and others, wanting to lessen the effects of Covid-19, suggested extending deadlines for voting by mail. Republican entities opposed them and the argument made it to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court ruled in the Republican's favor. This was a 5-4 ruling, 5 conservatives having their way over 4 liberals. Another ruling was on April 23, 2020; this was *Barton vs Barr*. In 1989, Andre Barton became a citizen of the US. In 1996, he committed several felonies. In 2007 and 2008, he was convicted of more criminal charges. In 2016, immigration authorities began the process of deporting Barton to Jamaica where he came from; but Barton argued he couldn't be because he was a legal US citizen. The case went to the Supreme Court and on April 23, 2020 it was decided that Barton could be deported, paving the way for more legal citizens to be deported. This ruling was also 5-4, the 4 liberals opposed it but the 5 conservatives were in the majority, so it passed. These are just two cases where the conservatives over-powered the liberals in the Supreme Court; they're what Trump is using to take over the Judicial branch- and it's working.

Conservatives don't have full power yet

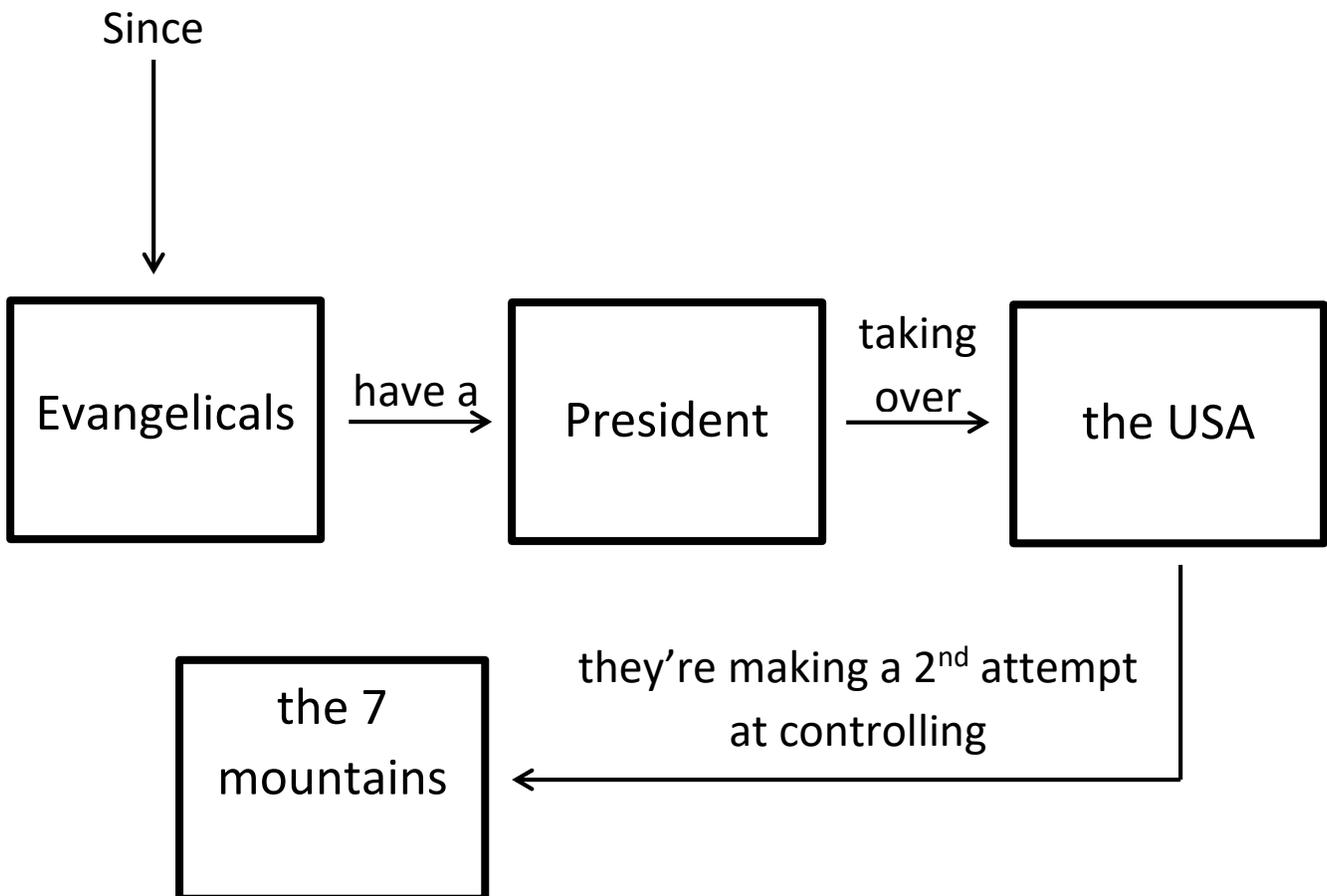
Although the Supreme Court is majority conservative lately they have concluded cases in favor of the liberals. On May 29 (of this year) the Supreme Court decided the *South Bay United Pentecostal Church vs, Gavin Newsom* case. It was about whether or not California was discriminating against religion by saying churches can only fill up to 25% capacity in the current Covid-19 pandemic. In a 5-4 decision the 4 liberals and the chief justice won- they said that that guideline was not discrimination. On June 15, the case of *Bostock vs. Clayton County, Georgia* was decided. Six of the nine justices agreed that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protected people from being fired just because they were gay or transgender. The chief justice and one of Trump's appointees sided with the liberals in this case. Three days later, on the 18th another case was decided. It was the *Department of Homeland Security vs. Regents of the University of California*. The chief justice again sided with the 4 liberals to make the case's decision 5-4. They decided that they can review what the DHS does and that it didn't follow the right steps when it tried to cancel DACA (which is a program started by president Obama that protects immigrant children). Therefore, DHS' decision was illegal. These are cases that Evangelicals would have liked to be decided differently – so they show us that conservative Protestants don't yet have full control of the Judicial branch.

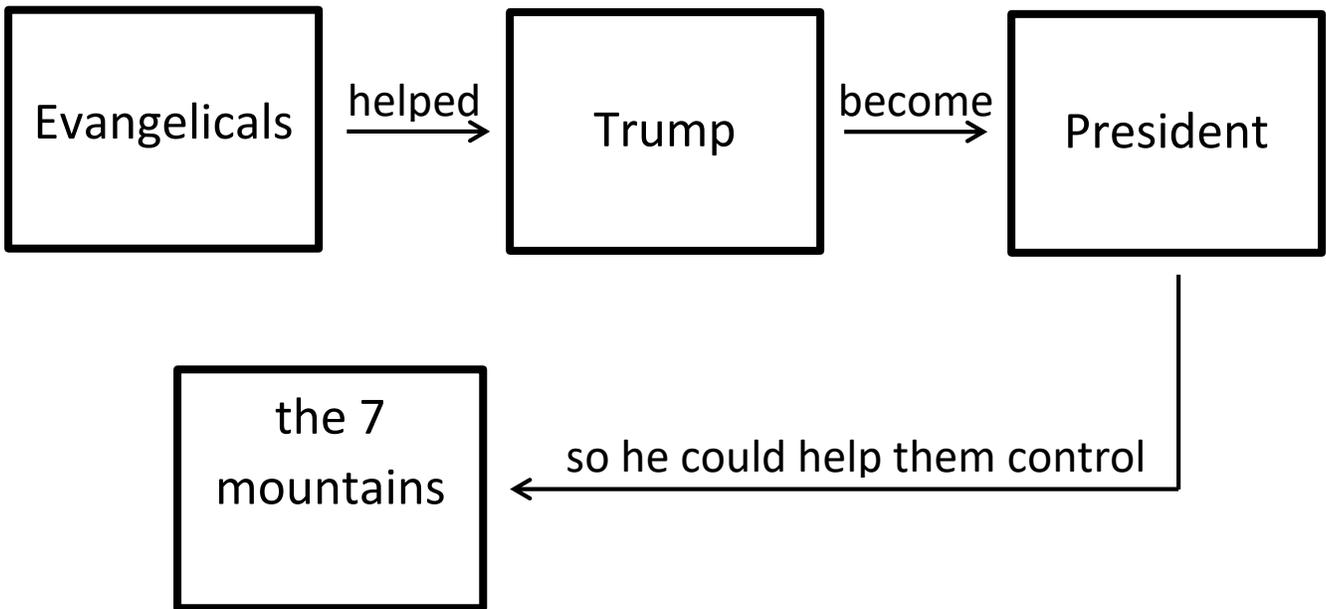
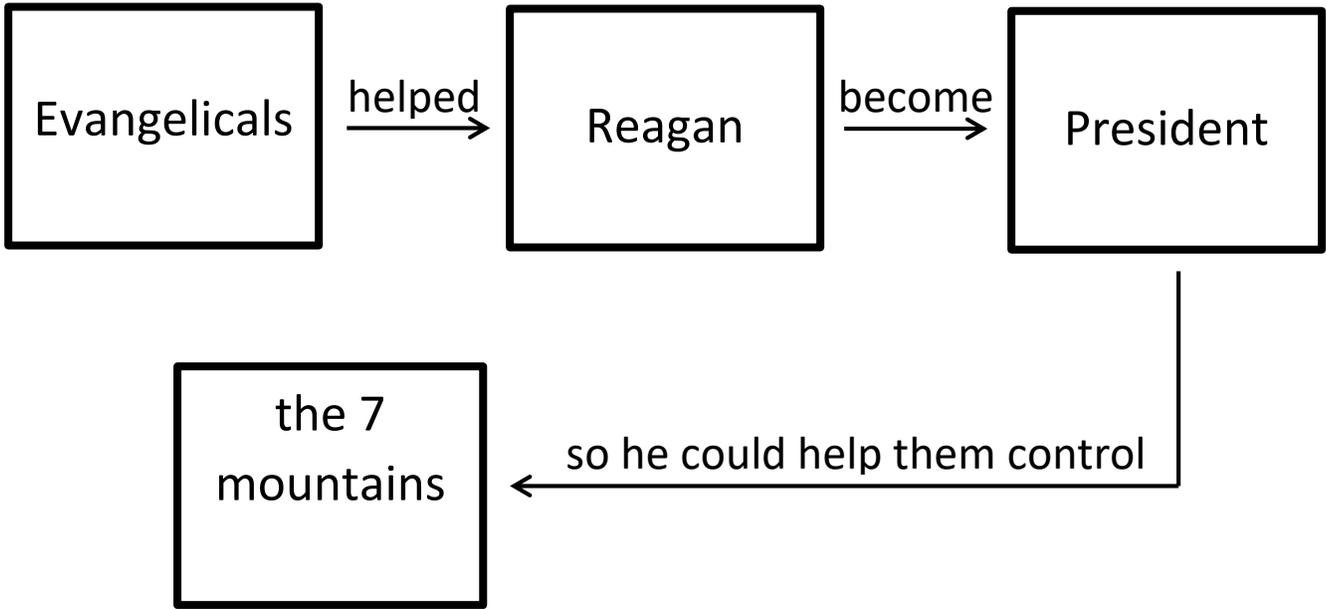


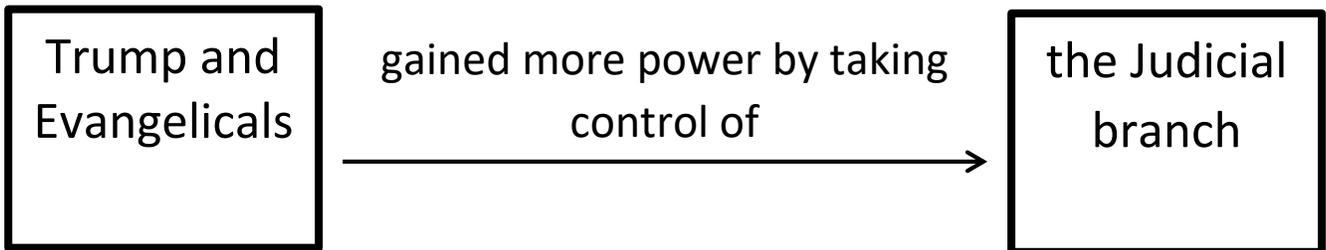
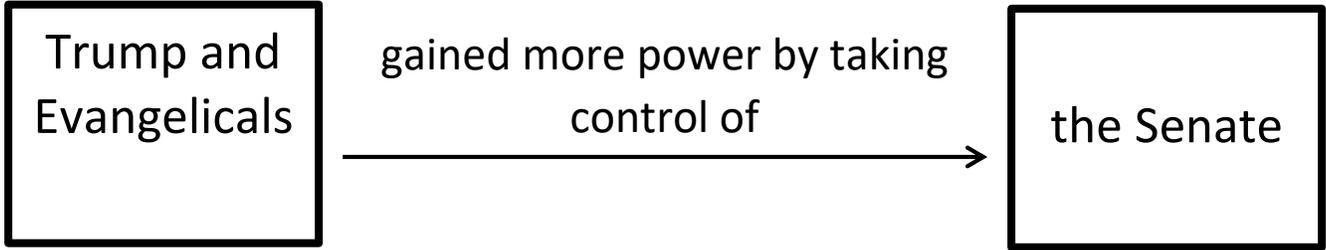
Donald Trump

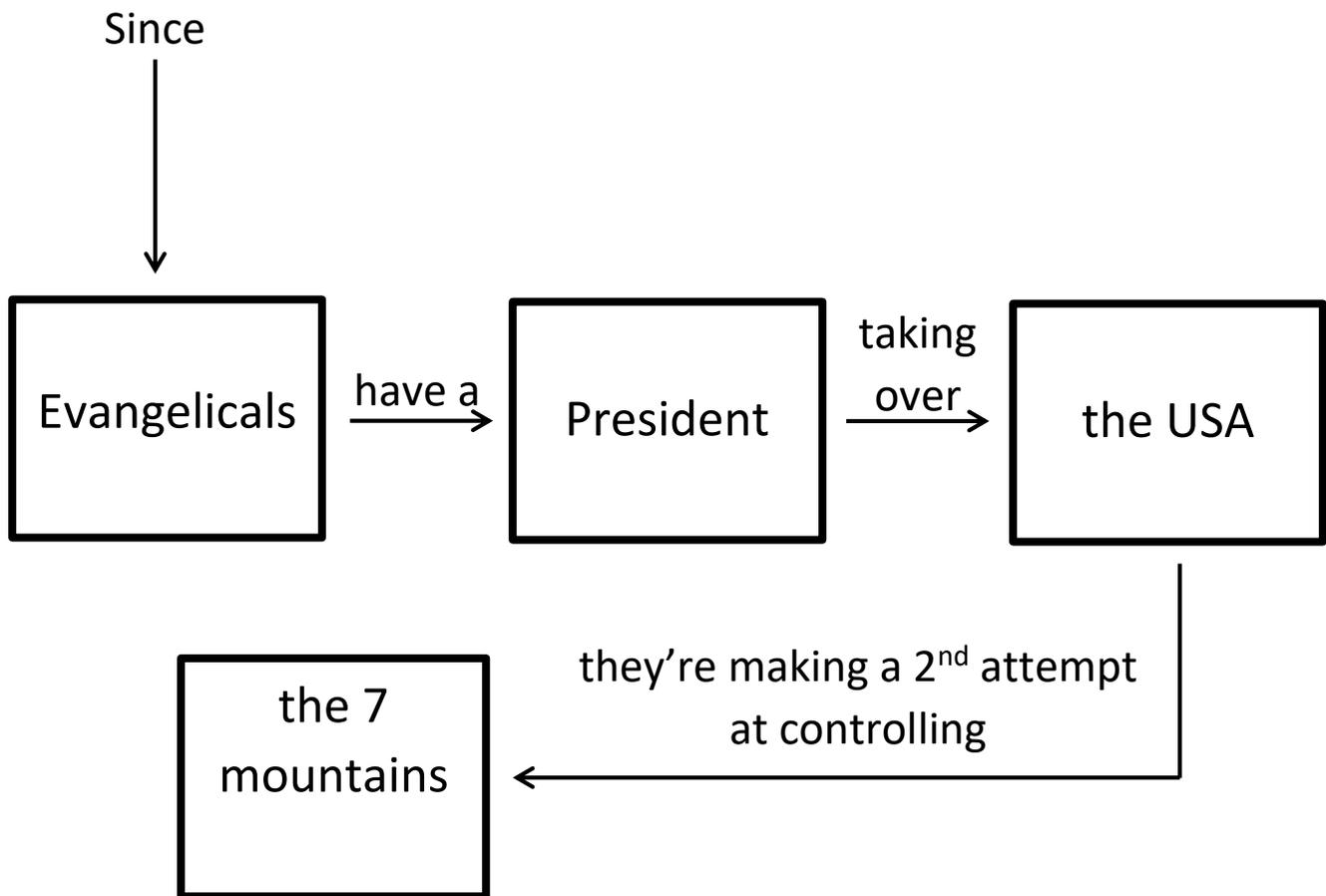
Trump the dictator

Donald Trump is a dictator. He has been a dictator since he got into office in 2016 and he will continue to be a dictator- ruining the United States. He is the final president because he is a dictator. But how do we know that he's a dictator? We have seen him suppress the free press. He breaks the law and gets away with it. He's setting up his children in positions of responsibility so when he's gone- they can take over. That's what we call a monarchy. Donald Trump is controlled by Evangelicals, so it is them who are taking over the government.









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