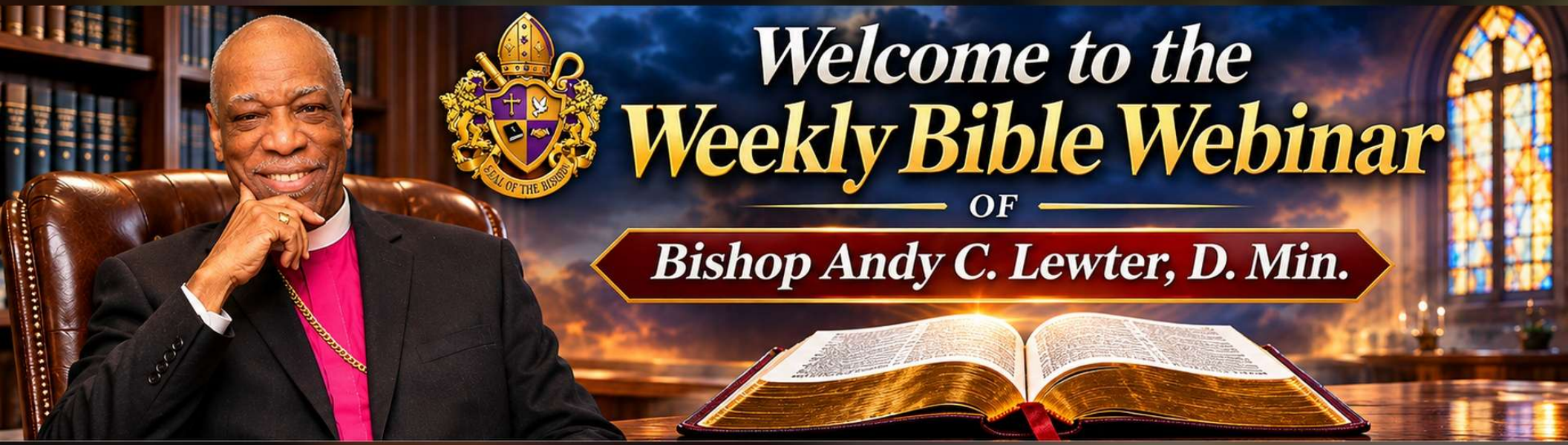
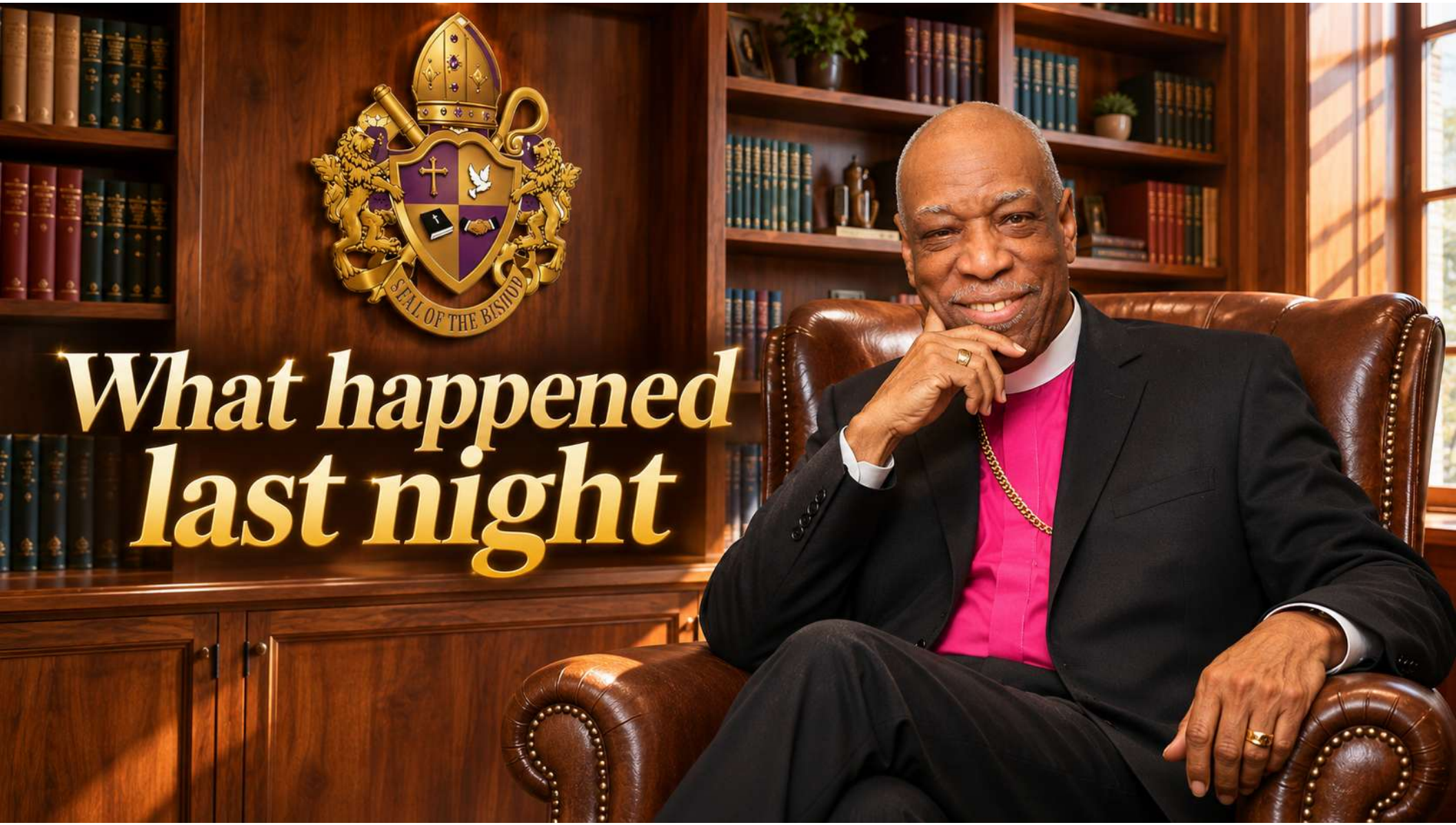
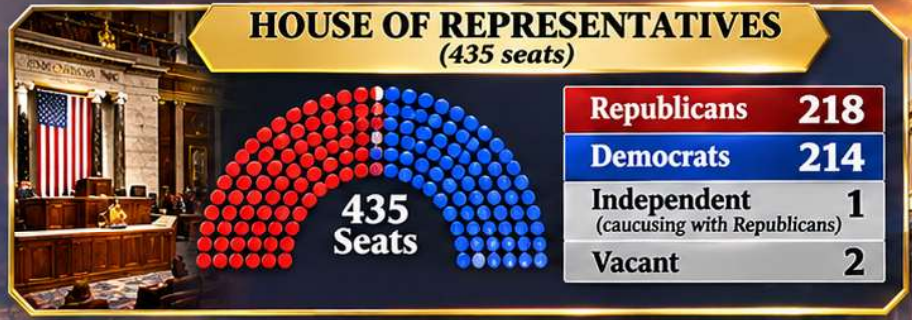

Welcome to the
Weekly Bible Webinar
OF
Bishop Andy C. Lewter, D. Min.


SEAL OF THE BISHOP
What happened
last night

# THE 2026 MIDTERM ELECTION:
# A SHIFT IN CONGRESSIONAL POWER

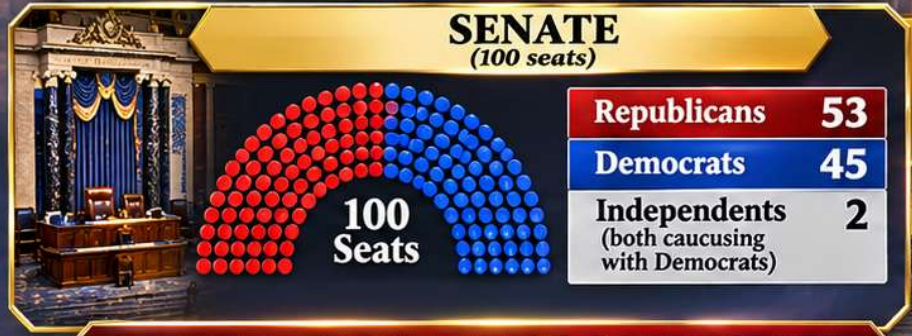
## BEFORE THE ELECTION —
119th Congress *(sitting membership)*

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
*(435 seats)*




| | |
|---|---|
| Republicans | 218 |
| Democrats | 214 |
| Independent (caucusing with Republicans) | 1 |
| Vacant | 2 |

### SENATE
*(100 seats)*



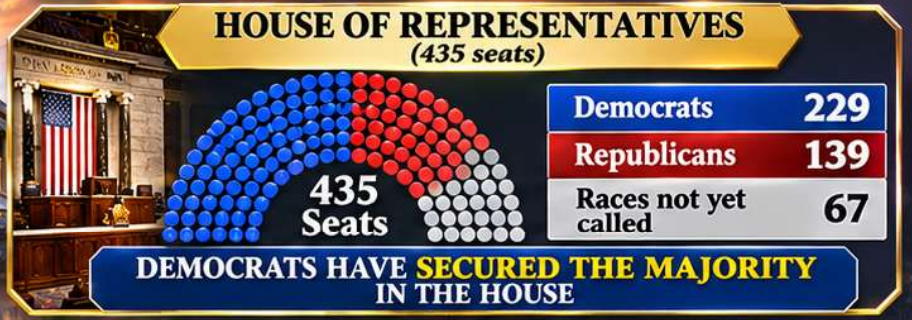

| | |
|---|---|
| Republicans | 53 |
| Democrats | 45 |
| Independents (both caucusing with Democrats) | 2 |

**RESULT:** REPUBLICANS CONTROLLED BOTH CHAMBERS

## THE SHIFT

## AFTER THE ELECTION —
120th Congress *(called races snapshot, Nov. 4, 2026, 12:58 p.m. ET)*

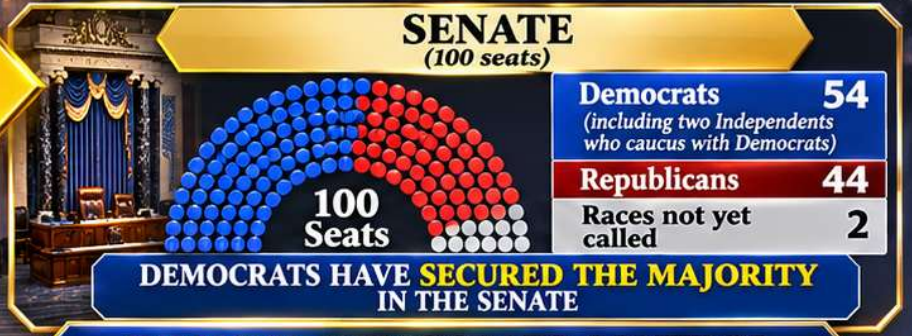
### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
*(435 seats)*




| | |
|---|---|
| Democrats | 229 |
| Republicans | 139 |
| Races not yet called | 67 |

DEMOCRATS HAVE **SECURED THE MAJORITY** IN THE HOUSE

### SENATE
*(100 seats)*



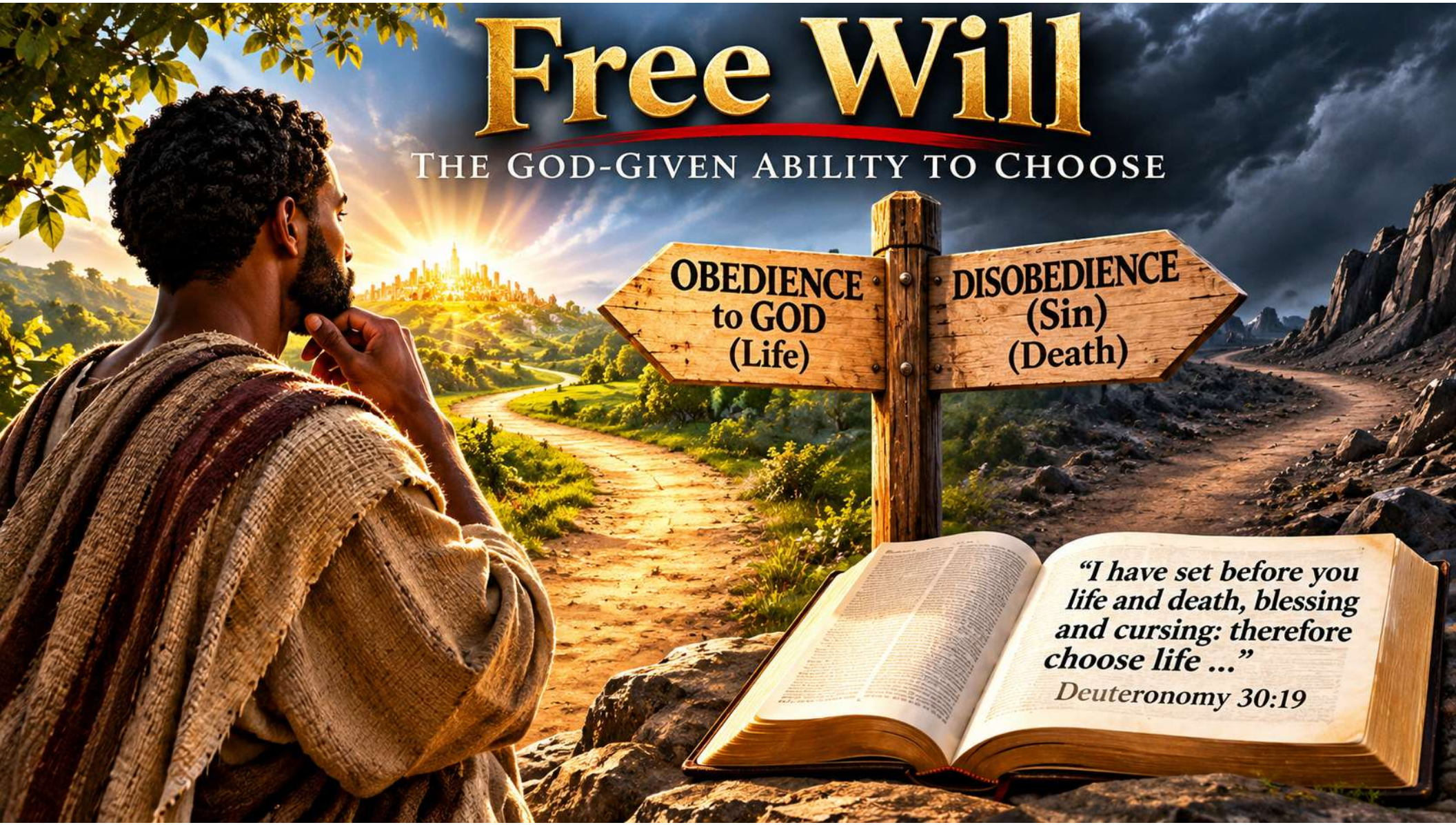

| | |
|---|---|
| Democrats (including two Independents who caucus with Democrats) | 54 |
| Republicans | 44 |
| Races not yet called | 2 |

DEMOCRATS HAVE **SECURED THE MAJORITY** IN THE SENATE

**RESULT:** DEMOCRATS CONTROL BOTH CHAMBERS

*Election results determine the incoming Congress; newly elected members take office January 3, 2027. Uncalled races may change final seat totals.*

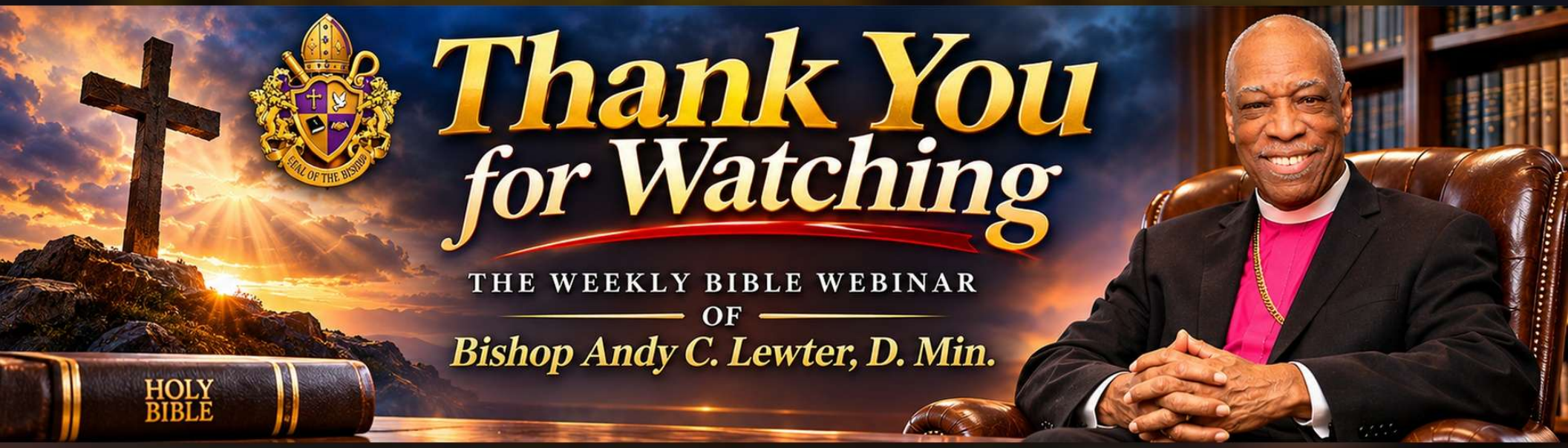

PROVERBS 29:2
When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.


Free Will
THE GOD-GIVEN ABILITY TO CHOOSE
OBEDIENCE to GOD (Life)
DISOBEDIENCE (Sin) (Death)
"I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life ..."
Deuteronomy 30:19


The Opposite of Free Will
Is Divine Determinism
The belief that God completely determines what will happen, including a person's salvation, so that human beings do not have the ability to choose otherwise.
Free Will
Humans have a real ability to choose.
People can accept or reject God's grace.
Salvation involves a human response of faith and repentance.
VS
Divine Determinism (Predestination)
God ultimately decides the outcome of every person.
Salvation is based on God's sovereign choice, not human choice.
Human freedom is limited or completely overridden by God's will.
Major Traditions That Teach Divine Determinism
Reformed / Calvinist
Presbyterian
Some Baptist (Calvinist)
Certain Evangelical and Reformed groups
In short: Free Will says people choose God; Divine Determinism says God chooses people.


The Historical Origins of
Free Will
A JOURNEY THROUGH CHURCH HISTORY
Pelagius
(c. 354–c. 418)
Challenged the idea of inherited sin and taught that humans have the natural ability to choose good or evil.
Augustine
(354–430)
Strongly opposed Pelagius, stressing God's grace and human dependence on God. The debate shaped later views of free will.
Council of Orange
(529)
A key turning point. It affirmed that humans have free will, but it works only with the help of God's grace.
Thomas Aquinas
(1225–1274)
Developed a balanced view: free will is real, but it is fulfilled in cooperation with God's grace.
The Reformation
(16th Century)
Reaffirmed human responsibility to choose, with differences on how God's grace influences that choice.
The doctrine of Free Will emerged from early church debates (Pelagius vs. Augustine), was affirmed by the Council of Orange (529), refined by Thomas Aquinas, and developed further during the Reformation.
CHURCH HISTORY


Christian Denominations That Embrace
Free Will
THE BELIEF THAT GOD GIVES PEOPLE
A REAL ABILITY TO CHOOSE
TO FOLLOW OR REJECT HIM.
MAJOR CHRISTIAN TRADITIONS
THAT AFFIRM FREE WILL
Methodist (Wesleyan)
Stresses human responsibility and the freedom to accept or reject God's grace.
Baptist
Teaches personal faith and voluntary response to the gospel.
Pentecostal / Holiness
Emphasizes a personal decision to repent, believe, and be filled with the Holy Spirit.
Assemblies of God
Affirms human choice in salvation and in living a Spirit-filled life.
Church of God (Cleveland, TN)
Teaches that individuals can choose to obey or disobey God.
Non-Denominational / Evangelical
Generally upholds the freedom to choose Christ and personal responsibility in the Christian life.
What Is "Free Will"?
The teaching that God gives human beings a genuine ability to choose to believe in Him, obey Him, or reject Him.
IN CONTRAST:
Denominations with stronger "divine sovereignty" views (such as Reformed, Presbyterian, and some Lutheran traditions) place less emphasis on human free will, teaching that salvation depends primarily on God's predestining grace.


Thank You
for Watching
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HOLY
BIBLE