

Why We Should Be Thankful for the Electoral College

I trust you are familiar with the workings of our Electoral College as set forth in our constitution. It is a mainstay of our Republic and should be properly understood by each American, especially since the clamoring for change will again ratchet up in light of Donald Trump's victory. He won the election in spite of losing the popular vote nationally.

Article 2 Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution sets forth the following:

"Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector. ... The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States."

It should quickly become obvious that the intent of the Founders was twofold. First, they did not envision the people directly electing the President and Vice-President. Second, they sought to avoid the dominance of more populace States.

So here is the flow of our Presidential election. Once the population of a given State goes to the polls a winner of that State is determined by popular vote. The candidate receiving the most votes from the people of that State wins the Electoral Votes of that State. Thus the will of the people of that State finds expression

through the Electors now generally bound to the winning candidate through their popular vote.

Just to review, the various States are awarded a certain number of electoral votes based upon the number of Senators and Representatives to which the State is entitled in Congress. Of course, the number of Representatives for a State is determined upon the overall population of the State. Thus more populace States end up with more Electoral Votes than States with less population.

However, the smaller States find adequate representation in the Electoral College because the population of the larger States can never make them irrelevant.

Because the smaller States possess a proportionate amount of Electors a candidate who wins enough of the smaller States can still win a national election in spite of losing the larger States. This makes every State relevant, emphasizes the Sovereignty of the various States, and keeps power in the nation more balanced so as to prevent the larger States from forcing their will on the entire country.

For a moment allow me to emphasize that we are the *United States* of America. In order to function as a union of States none can ever be abused or relegated to a subjective role to the more dominating States in the union.

In my opinion the compromises agreed upon by our Founders that established the Electoral College fits the idea of a “United States” of America in such a way that the various States need not fear facing a scenario of helplessness. In fact, as just demonstrated in the election this past Tuesday the various States have the power to avoid the dominance of the more populace States if enough of them are of the same mindset.

However, if the President was elected based solely upon the national vote then the currently more populace States of California, New York, Texas, and Florida could easily skew a Presidential election in spite of how the smaller States voted. I trust you see the point.

Through the Electoral College our Founders emphasized the sovereignty of each State and sought to give each properly weighted influence in selecting a President and Vice-President. In so doing as the nation grew no one part of the country could come to dominate based upon size alone.

Furthermore, if the country elected the President solely on the basis of the national vote what would be the purpose of even maintaining individual States. Over time the drift toward centralized power in dominant areas of the country would be much easier. The Electoral College certainly serves to hold that possibility at bay.

Here is something else to think about. The concept of the Electoral College very much mimics our individual desire for representation in Congress. Here is what I mean. Just as we do not want to be taxed without representation in Congress, likewise no State participating in the Union wanted to face the prospect of a President governing them without proper representation in the process that elected him. Again the Electoral College serves to foster a more balanced approach as far as the individual States are concerned.

One more thing is in the mix. Our Founders sought to protect the nation from the unfortunate event of extreme corruption on the part of the general population. Jarrett Stepmen of the Heritage Foundation writes, “*Some elements of the Electoral College, such as the indirect vote through intermediaries, were hotly debated at*

the 1787 Constitutional Convention. It was eventually justified in part as a stopgap to potentially reverse the vote if the people elected a criminal, traitor, or similar kind of heinous person. The Founders wanted to empower democratic elements in the American system, but they feared a kind of pure, unrestrained democracy that had brought down great republics of the past.”

Jarrett continues, “As students of ancient history, the Founders feared the destructive passions of direct democracy, and as recent subjects of an overreaching monarch, they equally feared the rule of an elite unresponsive to the will of the people. The Electoral College was a compromise, neither fully democratic nor aristocratic . . . In addition to balancing the protection of individual rights and majority rule, the Founding Fathers attempted to create a “federalist” system that would keep most of policy making power reserved to states and localities. America’s presidential election system also was designed to empower the states, not just the American people as an undifferentiated mass.”

In my opinion we should be thankful the nation has such a system. Could you imagine what America would become if the dominant seats of liberalism in our major cities could dominate the Presidency through the national vote? The rest of the country would soon be their slaves.

Keep praying for America. Prayer made the difference this past Tuesday. The will of the majority of the States in the Union prevailed against the liberal establishment that dominates the major population centers of the country, to a large extent the two major political parties of the nation, and the mainstream media.

The net result is clear. The nation has a slight reprieve from the onslaught of misguided liberalism. However, the forces in play are still quite real. The battle for America will continue. In my opinion, the good news is the Lord just granted us the opportunity to hold back the blatant attacks upon religious freedom. Let's keep standing in the battle for a free America! And be prepared to stand against the clamor aimed at moving us away from the Constitution. It is sure to come.

May God bless America is my prayer.