

August 15, 2021

Scott's Thoughts



Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and

perfect. Romans 12:2 (ESV).

I'm hearing more and more negative comments about the political situation in our country. It bothers me a lot. I wonder why it is this way. I think back to my childhood and remember life in a very different way. I'm sure there has been political disagreement in our country for as long as we have been a country. In fact, if we study history, we will find there have been times when our forefathers came to blows. On February 6, 1858, at about 2:00 a.m. a brawl erupted in the House of Representatives that eventually involved some 30 members of the house before it was brought under control. The brawl shows just how divided we as humans can become over an issue. The issue being contested was whether Kansas would enter the Union as a Slave or Free State. I wonder how big the brawl would have been if the modern news media had been around to bang the drums on both sides.

As a child I watched the TV news only because my father wanted to watch it. I had no need to know what was going on outside of my little world. As I got a little older, I vividly recall the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. I wasn't old enough to really understand the importance of this event. It

would be years before I would understand the ramifications of this senseless murder. But one thing my whole family did was watch the news coverage that was on every channel. The coverage gave the facts over and over again without embellishment. They just reported what was taking place.

Today the news is different. It's reported by showing a ten to twenty-second news-clip of someone saying something, then for the next five or more minutes, the "Reporters" use their own narrow point of view to explain to the listeners their version of what they think the individual just said. My real question is this: if I only watch the news cast that speaks from my preferred point of view, am I thinking for myself or being channeled into a narrow way of looking at facts?

I could just stop all TV, Newspapers, Radio and refuse to discuss the state of our nation, but that would be choosing to live willfully in ignorance. There's another option. I can get my news from a variety of sources and make up my own mind. I can also compare the news to God's word to decide what is more important: pressing my opinion of the issues of this country or doing God's work.

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott