

The Letter to the
Hebrews



High Priest

- The author uses language from the Old Testament system of priests and sacrifices to further explain the role of Jesus.
- Because of Jesus, we experience forgiveness from God the Father and access to His throne that flows with grace and mercy for every need.

**Because of Jesus, We
may Approach the
Throne of Grace**

Hebrews 4:14-16

Throne of Grace

- Jesus is the “great high priest” but He can also sympathize with our weakness.
- Although He never sinned, Jesus was tempted and understands temptation.
- We are encouraged to approach the throne of grace with confidence.

Throne of Grace

- The high-priestly ministry of Jesus actually achieved for believers what Israel never enjoyed.
- We have immediate access to God and freedom to draw near to Him continually.
- We have access to what was “off-limits” to other believers in the Old Testament.

Throne of Grace

- We are invited to occupy the Holy of Holies - offering daily prayers of thanksgiving and repentance.
- And we can be confident that we will receive God's grace and mercy.
- We may "draw near" (present tense) - we can come whenever the needs arises.

Application

- Temptation - Jesus can sympathize with our weakness and temptations.
- Tempted to sin - these verses provide comfort and direction in those times.
- Verses to memorize - Hebrews 4:14-16 and James 1:13-15.

**Jesus isn't just a Priest,
but is also a Sacrifice**

Hebrews 5:1-4

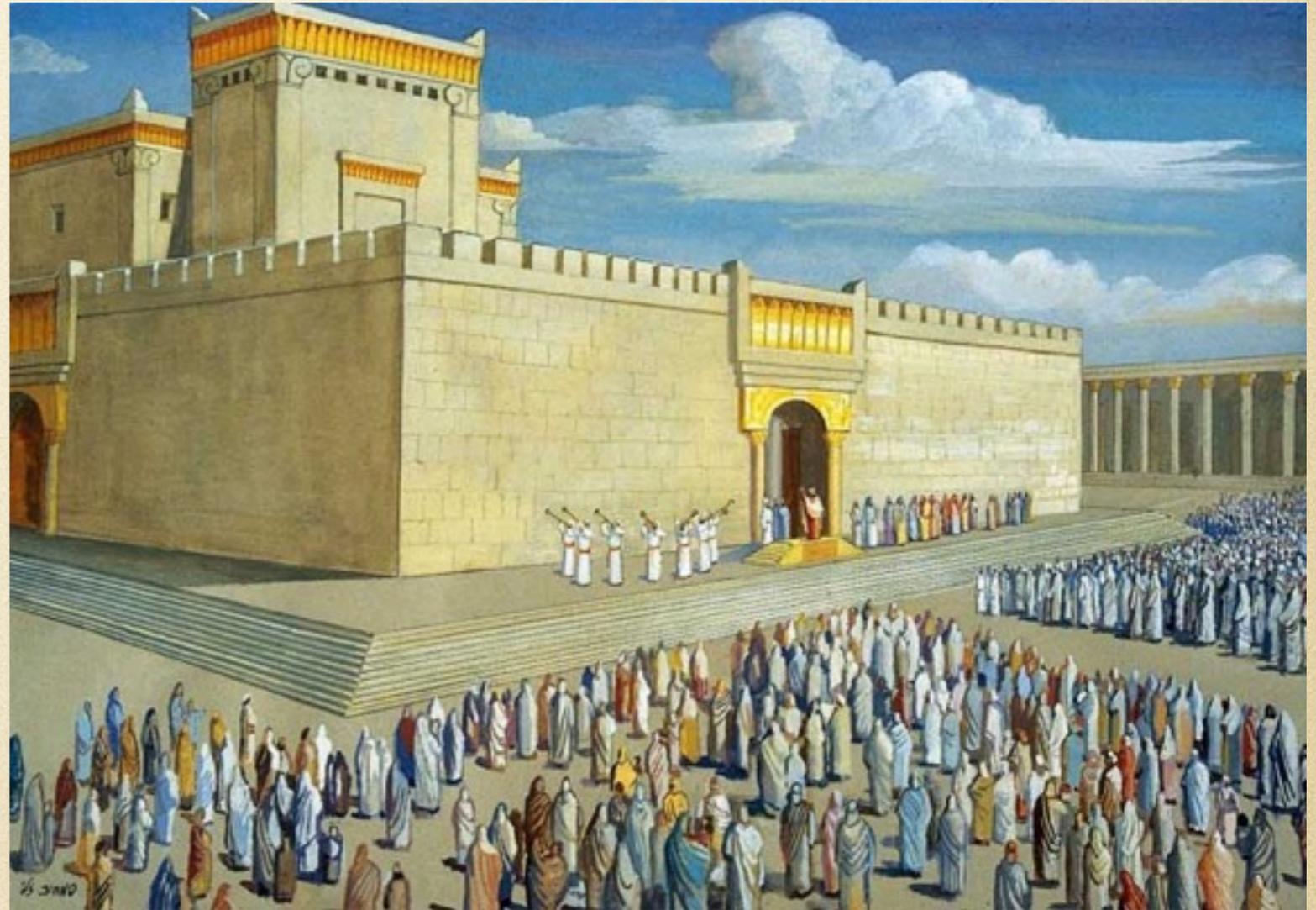
Sacrifice

- The Old Testament priesthood was established to represent man to God.
- Priests received the people's daily sacrifices and offered them in the Temple.
- They did this to appeal to God's grace and mercy.

Sacrifice

- Once a year, the high priest would go behind the temple veil to enter the Holy Place on behalf of himself and the people.
- He would present a sin offering of atonement, which provided ceremonial cleansing to the nation for one year (Leviticus 16).

Sacrifice



Sacrifice

- Worshippers could approach the outer limits of the sanctuary.
- Ordinary priests could approach the altar.
- Only the high priest could approach the mercy seat in the Holy Place.
- Jesus is a better High Priest.

Questions

- Is Jesus an acceptable sacrifice?
- He is fully acceptable in the Father's eyes.
- Does Jesus have compassion for us that a high priest would have for the people?
- Hebrews 5:2 - says He Himself "is beset with weakness."

**Jesus is a Priest
and a King**

Hebrews 5:5-10

Priest and King

- The qualifications of high priest are listed.
- Jesus is declared a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.
- The priesthood is a divine vocation, not a human institution.
- Aaron, the Levite, was a high priest.

Priest and King

- The author looks at a different order of high priest: order of Melchizedek.
- This is not Aaron but Abraham.
- Psalm 110 - introduces us to the idea that Jesus is a priest and a king, like Melchizedek who was the king of Salem and priest of the Most High God.

Priest and King

- The priesthood of Jesus was unique (to be discussed in later chapters).
- For now, the author affirms two important prerequisites:
 - He was appointed by God.
 - He experiences genuine humanity.

Priest and King

- Verse 7 - While Jesus lived on earth, He cried out in pain and wept in sorrow.
- He offered up priestly prayers to God.
- He honored God, God answered Him.
- Jesus rose from the grave. In that way, Jesus conquered death.

Priest and King

- Verse 8 - Though He was God's Son, He learned trusting and obedience.
- Jesus experienced genuine humanity and therefore has genuine empathy with us.
- Verse 9 - Jesus was made perfect and is the source of salvation for all who believe.

**Believers must
Mature in Theology
and Practice**

Hebrews 5:11-14

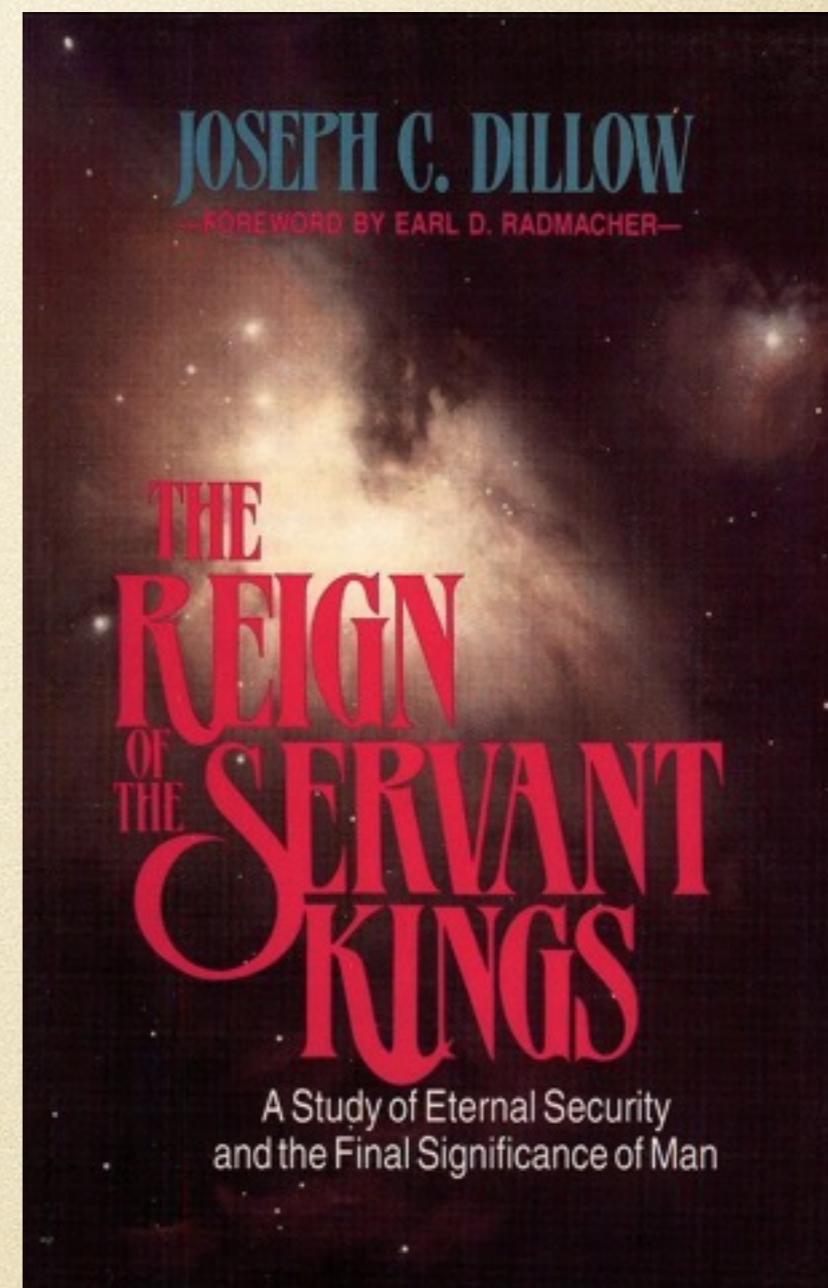
Mature

- The recipients are criticized for being immature in the faith.
- They had become “dull of hearing.”
- This was a temptation in that day, and an even greater temptation for us today in a world full of devices and distractions.

Mature

- Verse 12 - The “oracles of God” is a phrase used to refer to the Old Testament as divine revelation.
- By now, the readers should be feeding others, but they are still learning to hear and digest the Word of God for themselves.

Mature



Mature

- Verse 13 - “The Word of Righteousness” is a phrase that speaks to moral choices that Scripture navigates for the believer.
- It applies to correct ethical decisions that are informed by Scripture.
- The readers did not have skill or experience in this area.

Mature

- Verse 14 - “Trained discernment” applies to a mature believer who engages with God’s Word and chews revelation like solid food.
- A believer is exercising discernment when he or she is able to distinguish God’s voice (good) from the Enemy’s voice (bad).

Five Dangers to Avoid

- Do not drift in the Christian life.
- Do not neglect this great salvation.
- Do not have a hardened heart.
- Do not let your ears get dull.
- Do not lose your drive to maturity.

**The Christian
and Voting**

Prestonwood



Dual Citizenship

- Philippians 3:20 - “our citizenship is in heaven.”
- John 17:15-18 - we have been sent into the world, and thus have a citizenship here on earth.
- We have a citizenship in both heaven and earth.

Church and Politics

- Church = body of Christ
 - Matthew 5 - salt and light
 - 2 Corinthians 5 - ambassadors
- Church = institution
 - Mark 12 - render unto Caesar
 - Civil versus ecclesiastical

Government

“Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. . . Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.”

Romans 13:1,7

Government

- The Bible teaches us that God established the forms of government that rule the nations of the earth.
- Ours is a government of the people and by the people, then that means God has put us in charge.

Government

- Our first and most fundamental right is that of voting.
- We elect our own leaders who are our representatives in government.
- We also have a civic duty to be involved in society (jury duty, contacting legislators).

Government

“Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority, or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.”

1 Peter 2:13-14

Government

“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.”

1 Timothy 2:1-2

Key 16

- President
- Supreme Court (9)
- Senators (2), Representative
- Governor
- State Senator, State Representative

Civic Duties

- Obey those in authority
- Pray for those in authority
- Vote for those in authority

Salt and Light

- Matthew 5:13 – “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men.”
- What does the Bible mean when it says we are to be the salt of the earth?

Salt and Light

- Matthew 5:14-16 – “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

The Christian Vote

- Let's look at Christian voter participation in the 2012 presidential election.
- There were 90 million born again Christians of voting age.
- About 77 million of them were registered to vote, and 51 million of them voted in that election.

The Christian Vote

- That means there were 39 million eligible Christian voters who did not vote or were not registered to vote in 2012.
 - 13 million were not registered to vote.
 - 26 million were registered but did not go to the polls.

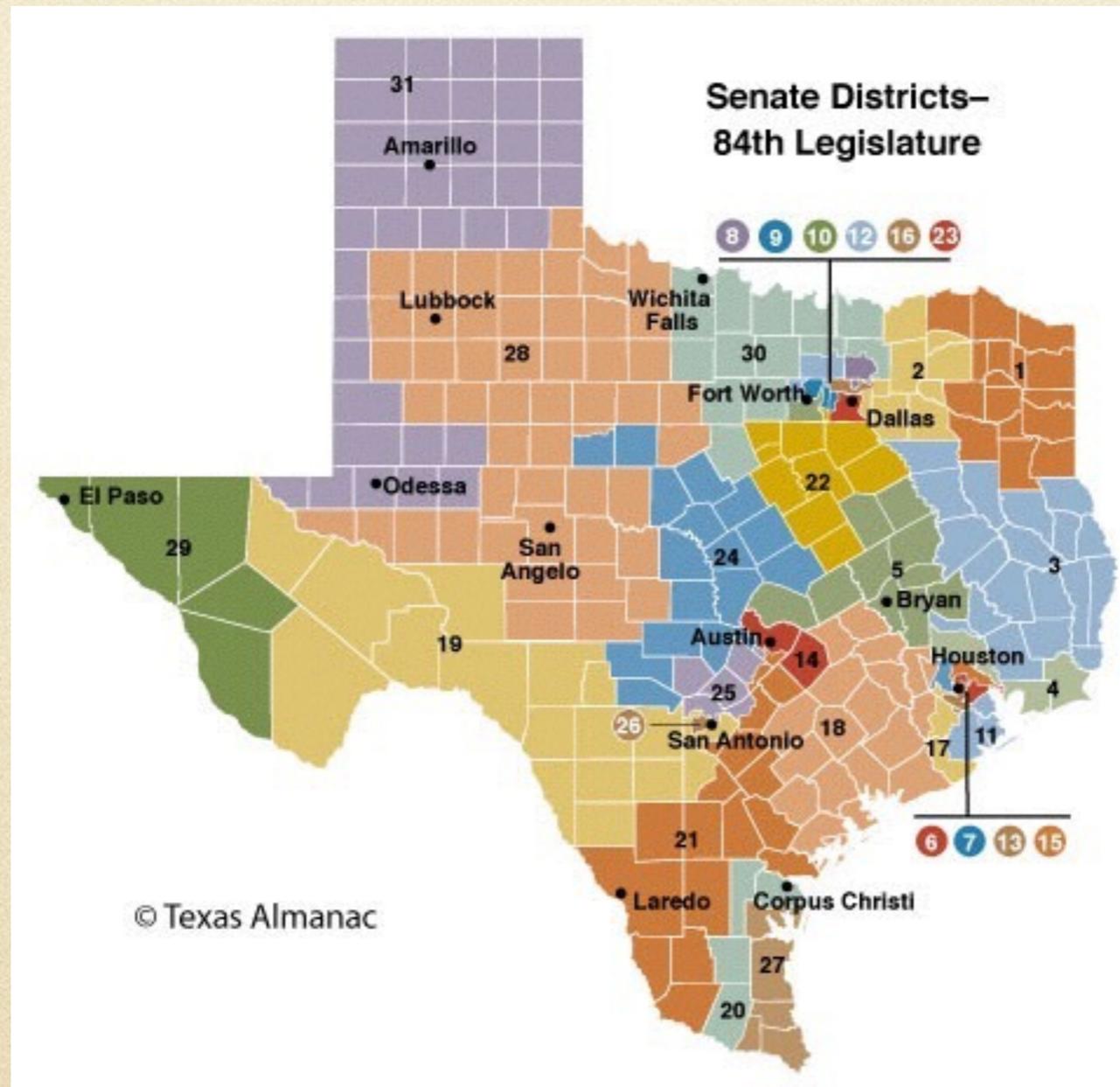
The 2000 Election

- The 2000 presidential election was decided by 527 votes in Florida.
- The 2000 Senate elections resulted in a 50-50 tie.
- In the 2000 House elections, a collective shift of 5493 votes in five districts would have put Democrats in charge.

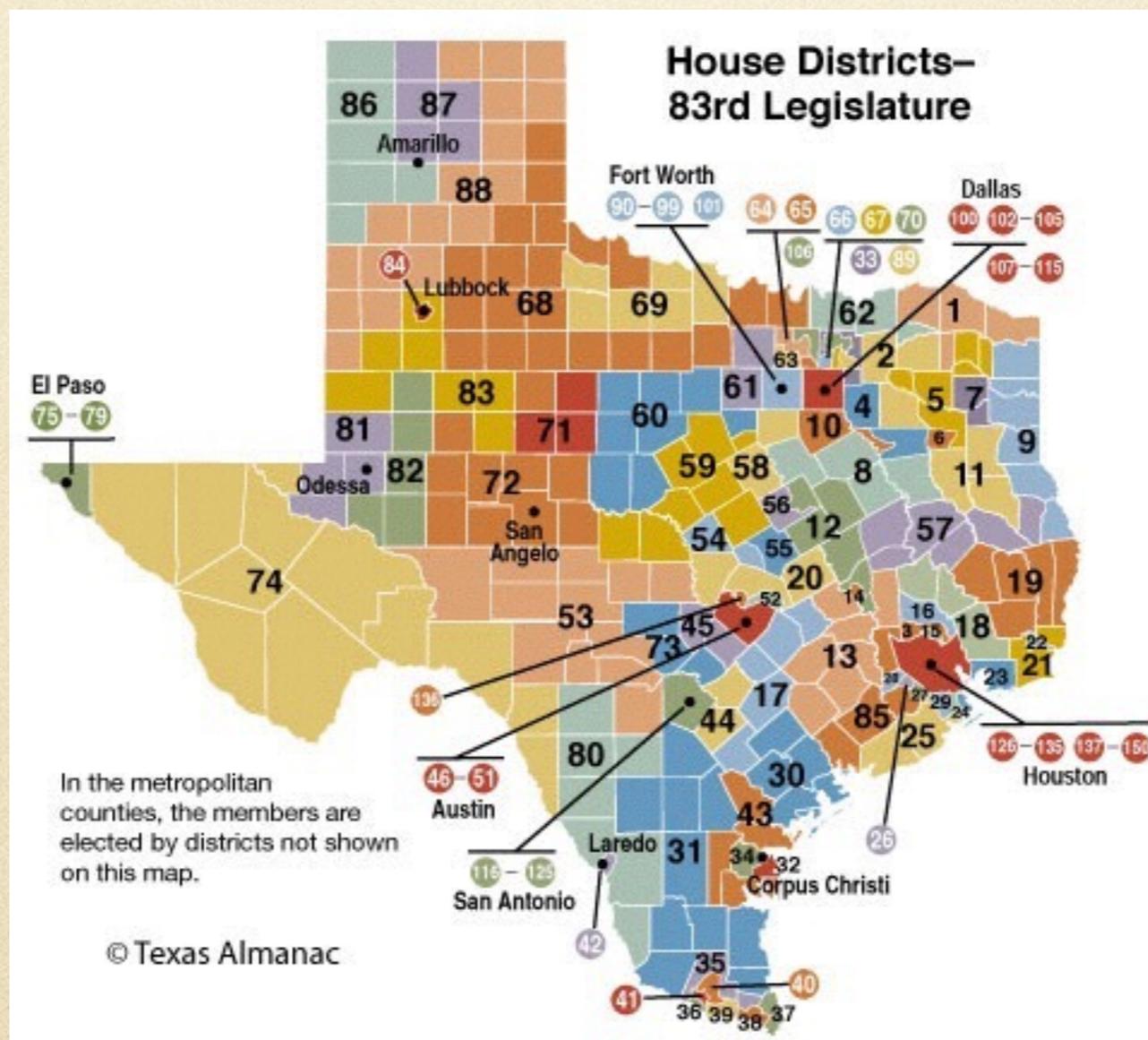
Close Elections

- Penny Pullen - Illinois State Representative, Judge Francis Barth concluded the election was a draw, ordered a coin toss, she lost.
- William Crawford and Jean Miller both received an identical number of votes in an Ohio election.

Texas Senatorial Districts



Texas House Districts



Are You Registered?

MVP Secretary of State



MY VOTER PAGE
TEXAS ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM

[Elections](#) | [News Room](#)

[English](#) | [En Español](#)

Welcome to MVP



vote for *success*
with the Secretary of State Elections Division

Use the MVP Log In to check your:

- Voter registration status
- Poll location
- Early voting locations
- Registration information
- Key Election Dates

Not Registered to Vote?
[Register](#)

MVP Login:

Selection Criteria

Your Name and County

First Name:

Last Name:

Suffix:

County:

Date of Birth:

Zip Code: -

Family Policy Groups

FRC*Action*

BECOME A MEMBER DONATE NOW

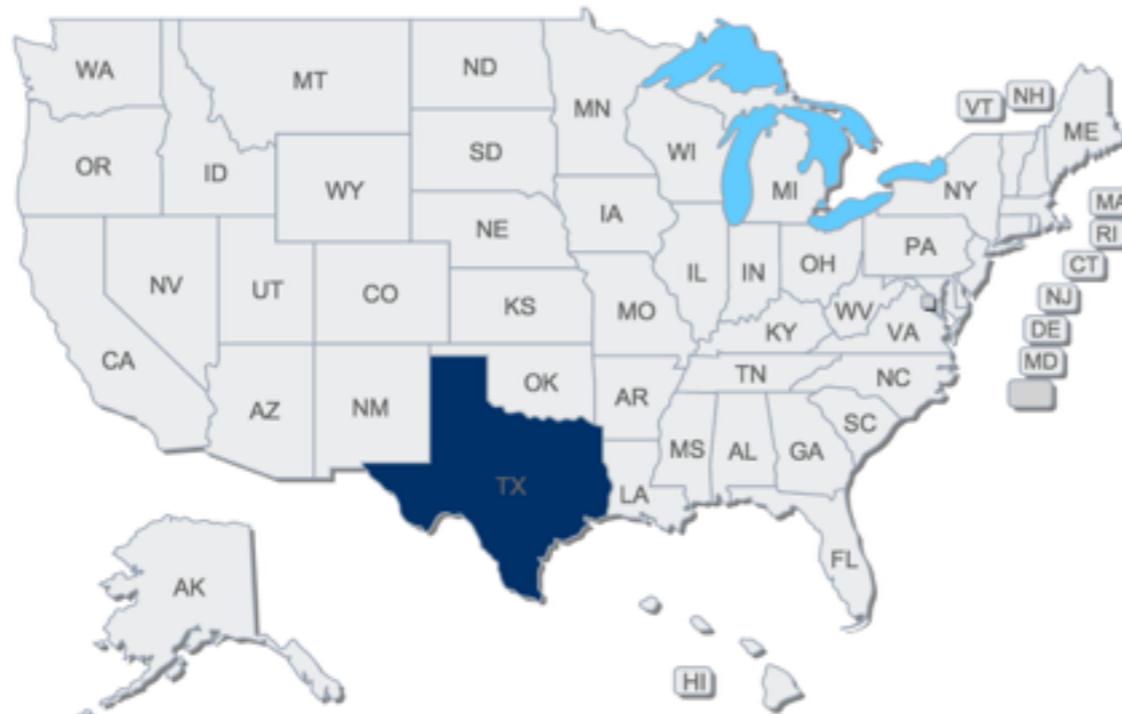
Search for...



THE LEGISLATIVE AFFILIATE OF FAMILY RESEARCH COUNCIL

GET INVOLVED ▾ VOTER RESOURCES ▾ ENDORSEMENTS ▾ NEWS ▾ ABOUT

Family Policy Council Map



Texas Values

Jonathan Saenz

<http://www.txvalues.org>

512-478-2220

512-478-2229 *fax*

Email: info@txvalues.org

Texas Elections Division

<http://www.sos.state.tx.us>

800-252-8683

512-475-2811 *fax*

Email: elections@sos.state.tx.us

Culture Impact Team



INFORM • IGNITE • IMPACT

TAKE ACTION -

VOTER TOOLS -

ISSUES -

RESOURCES -

EVENTS



Start a Culture Impact Ministry

