



mistakes when bringing religion into politics. Indeed, both gave their strongest answers of the night in response to the question of what they would say to those who are concerned about the mixing of faith and politics. ["The biggest danger for those of us of religious faith when we're in the public sphere is a certain self-righteousness," said Obama.](#) "What those of us of religious faith have to do when we're in the public square is to translate our language into a universal language that can appeal to everybody."

The statement was a clear rebuke to the religiosity of the Bush era. During a 2000 primary debate the then presidential candidate [named Jesus as his favorite philosopher](#) "because He changed my heart." Bush refused to

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