

THY KINGDOM COME #19
Developing A Biblical Worldview

I. Introduction

We are learning to develop a biblical worldview by applying the Word of God to every area of life; including politics, civil government and the issues of our day.

The Polls Tell Us

71% of Americans believe our country is on the wrong track

78% think our moral values are getting worse

58% believe our best days are behind us

C.S. Lewis

A sick society must think much about politics, just as a sick man must think about his digestion.

We cannot separate the suffering of our sick society from politics.
But Christians in America make 2 mistakes when it comes to politics.

The first mistake is non-involvement, which amounts to a betrayal of our God-given rights and responsibilities as Americans.

The second mistake is more subtle but just as serious...to fall for the myth that any political party or politician can save us.

The great St. Augustine had this warning for the Church just 400 years after Christ...

Saint Augustine (354-430)

Put no faith in salvation through the political order.

In more recent days, Christian commentator Cal Thomas said the same thing.

Cal Thomas

There is no salvation in politics. The Kingdom of God will not arrive on Air Force One.

But the current political party in power, that controls all 3 branches of our government, would disagree. These people DO see themselves as our savior; they have done away with God because God is not needed in their system of salvation.

So tonight I want to expose this sinister system of government with a message I'm calling...

"The Myth of the Messianic State"

Let's begin with a definition of terms: What is a 'myth'?

"Myth"

A widely held but false belief or idea

- For 1000's of years people believed the earth was flat
- Some still believe touching a frog will give you warts
- Or eating carrots will improve your eyesight

Most myths are harmless. But some are deadly. Such is the 'Myth of a Messianic State'. What do we mean by 'messianic'? The Christian definition would be...

"Messianic"

Of or relating to Jesus Christ or the salvation believed to be brought by Him

But the meaning of 'messianic' is not limited to the Judeo-Christian understanding

"Messianic"

Of or relating to any popular leader or political party that promises salvation or that claims an ability to bring about an ideal era of peace and prosperity.

The fact is that human nature always seeks a savior; men need a Messiah; either a religion, a powerful person or a political party that will promise a deliverance from difficulty and bring us happiness and security. So the question becomes, "who do we trust to bring it about?" God or man? God or politics? Here's what the Bible says...

Psalm 118:8-9

It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.

It's troubling to me that so many Americans, even professing Christians, are putting their confidence in 'princes', meaning the politicians who offer us salvation by politics. Listen to their speeches. They promise things only God can deliver.

Herb Schlossberg, "Idols for Destruction", 1993

"We should not make the mistake of thinking that the religious language is purely literary form. The state, for these devotees, is messianic in all its essentials, and their politics are directed toward religious ends."

Herb Schlossberg, "Idols for Destruction", 1993

For them, the state is the only savior we can expect on earth. Salvation is only to be found in the messianic state, or it is to be found nowhere. Therefore, they believe that the only human endeavor that can save us is politics.

The sickness of our society and the corruption of our culture is no longer a debate between Republican and Democrat, or Red States and Blue States.

Theme

What we are witnessing today is a war between 2 worldviews. Both are basically religious in nature, because both say they can save us. Who will we trust? One option is Christianity, offering salvation in Christ; the other is 'Humanism', which offers us salvation by the State.

In his amazing essay on 'Law and Liberty', R.J. Rushdoony explains how humanistic politicians see themselves as our saviors...

R.J. Rushdoony, "Law And Liberty"

For humanism, salvation is an act of the state. It is the civil government which regenerates man and society and brings man into a paradise on earth. As a result, for the humanist, social action is everything. Man must work to pass the right set of laws, *because his salvation depends upon it.*

This is a perfect prophetic picture of the humanistic spirit behind the modern American Marxist political party; that *we can be saved if we pass the right laws.*

Examples

- Legislating lockdowns and mandatory vaccines would save us from COVID
- That passing the Inflation Reduction Act will save us from inflation (?)
- That we can save the planet if we pass the Green New Deal

J. Rushdoony, "Law And Liberty"

Wherever we look now, whether with respect to poetry, education, civil rights, human rights, peace and all things else, we see laws passed designed to save man. Supposedly, these laws are going to give us a society free of prejudice, ignorance, disease, poverty, crime, war, and all other things considered to be evil. These legislative programs add up to one thing: salvation by law.

Remember, he wrote this in 1984! 38 years ago!

Forbes Magazine

Between 1995 and 2016, the Federal Government instituted 88,899 new rules and regulations and 4,312 laws.

Quora.com

Today, there are 170,000 pages of government regulations on the books.

Not only does the Messianic State believe in salvation by legislation they are now weaponizing government agencies and courts to punish all dissenters.

R.J. Rushdoony

Any who oppose the humanist in his plan of salvation by law, salvation by acts of civil government is, by their definition, an evil man conspiring against the good of society.

The current party in power is a Messianic state that is now promising to persecute any opposition. Just 2 weeks ago...

Joe Biden (9/2/22)

On September 2, in a nationally televised speech, President Joe Biden described anyone who opposes his political agenda (about ½ the country) as “semi-Fascists” and “enemies of the state”.

My Question to President Biden

Is the ‘Pillow Guy’ a Fascist? Is this what an ‘enemy of the state’ looks like?

The truth is while our President accuses the other political party of Fascism he is directing government agencies to raid the homes of his political opponents, seize personal property and harass anyone who questions the 2020 presidential election results; something he and his party did in 2000 and 2016.

This is all out of the Marxist Communist playbook.

Karl Marx

Accuse your enemy of what you are doing, as you are doing it to create confusion.

Christians need not be confused! We are not in a political war, we are in a religious war with humanism, which has no god.

R.J. Rushdoony, “Law And Liberty”

Humanism is a religion, even though it does not believe in God. It is not necessary for a religion to believe in God to be a religion; as a matter of fact, most of the world’s religions are essentially humanistic and anti-theistic.

R.J. Rushdoony, “Law And Liberty”

The new America taking shape around us is a very religious America, but its religion is humanism, not Christianity. It is a very morally minded America, but its ethics is the new morality, which for Christianity, is simply the old sin.

The ‘old sin’ here is that man tries to be god and create his own set of morals and ethics-which always leads to destruction. Like in the days of...

Jeremiah 2:13 HCSB

For My people have committed a double evil: they have abandoned Me,

the fountain of living water, and dug cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that cannot hold water.

Many Americans have abandoned the true Messiah for the Messianic State that promises not only to save America, but the world!!!

R.J. Rushdoony, "Law And Liberty"

This new, revolutionary, humanistic America is also very missionary-minded. Humanism believes in salvation by works of law, and, as a result, we are trying as a nation to save the world by law.

The Messianic State proposes to save the world with schemes like the 'Green New Deal' and the 'New World Order'. Of course they cannot do it without our money!

R.J. Rushdoony

By vast appropriations of money and dedicated labor, they are trying to save all nations and races, save all men from all problems, in the hopes of creating a paradise on earth. They are trying to bring peace on earth and good will among men by acts of state and works of law, not by Jesus Christ.

Sad to say, all this has happened while a sleeping church and pantywaist pastors have failed to propagate a biblical worldview that can apply the Word of God to every area of life, including the place of politics and the proper role of the law.

II. The Biblical Worldview of Law

A. Lawful or Unlawful?

1. In his 1st epistle to Timothy, the Apostle Paul makes a curious comment about the law.

1 Timothy 1:8

We know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully...

a. The implication is that the law can be used lawfully or unlawfully; we need to understand the difference.

2. The most basic 'lawful' use of the law is to convict us of sin and show us our need of a savior.

Romans 3:19-20

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Romans 7:7

I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."

a. Notice that the law can convict us of sin but cannot save us from sin...

Galatians 2:16

...knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

b. Christian salvation is "Christ Plus Nothing"! There is nothing we can add to the finished work of Christ. Keeping God's commandments is a good thing but it won't save us or keep us saved.

c. God uses the law to teach us right from wrong and restrain evil; but He NEVER uses law to save us! Spiritually OR politically!

R.J. Rushdoony, "Law And Liberty"

This brings us to the crucial difference between biblical law and humanistic law. Laws grounded on the Bible do not attempt to save man or to usher in a brave new world, a great society, world peace, or a poverty-free world, or any other such ideal.

R.J. Rushdoony, "Law And Liberty"

The purpose of Biblical law, and all laws grounded on a Biblical faith, is to punish and restrain evil, and to protect life and property, to provide justice for all people. It is not the purpose of the state and its law to change or reform men: this is a spiritual matter and a task for religion.

3. When men use the law unlawfully, the law itself will break down! As the Messianic State in America seeks to save us by the law they increasingly fail to enforce the law! This is why...

- a. Our border is wide open.
- b. Criminals run rampant in our streets.
- c. Murder rates are skyrocketing.
- d. Why?

4. This is what happens when a government uses the law unlawfully; it abandons the biblical purpose for law in restraining evil and tries to use the law to save us.

R.J. Rushdoony, "Law And Liberty"

The basic function of the law is to restrain, not to regenerate, and when the function of law is changed from restraint of evil to the regeneration and reformation of man and society, then law itself begins to break down, because an impossible burden is being placed upon it.

R.J. Rushdoony

Today, because too much is expected from law, we get less and less results from law, because law is put to improper uses. Only as we return to a Biblical foundation for law shall we have a return to justice and order under law.

5. I cannot make the case any clearer!

The law cannot save us, spiritually or politically

The proper functions of the law: to define sin and to restrain evil

The breakdown of law and order in our land is the result of a Messianic State that is using the law unlawfully

6. We all long for PEACE. But there can be no peace with this enemy! Why?

Karl Marx

The meaning of peace is the absence of opposition to socialism.

True Christians can never compromise with Messianic socialist systems. Why?

G.D.H. Cole (1889-1951)

(Radical English Socialist, member of The Fabian Society)

One primary objective of socialism is the abolition of God.

7. Many American Christians and too many mega-church pastors are still sleeping while the spirit of antichrist is stealing the soul of our nation.

R.J. Rushdoony, "Law And Liberty"

The political orders of our world have separated themselves from Christianity because they feel no need for God. They feel no need for God because they plan to become the new gods of creation. They plan to abolish sin and guilt, poverty, disease, and hunger, even death itself, and create a new paradise on earth.

R.J. Rushdoony, "Law And Liberty"

The new politics is a politics of total control, and it therefore hates God, because God represents a roadblock to power. God is the enemy who must be destroyed so that man can become his own god.

III. Close

A. What Can We Do? 3 Things

1. We need to repent of idolatry. An idol is anything we put in place of God.

Jeremiah 2:11

Has any nation ever traded its gods for new ones, even though they are not gods at all? Yet my people have exchanged their glorious God for worthless idols!

a. Men must have a God; if not the real God, a false one in His place.

G.K. Chesterton

Once you abolish *the* God, the government becomes God.

b. This happened in Israel in the days of the Prophet Hosea.

Hosea 8:4

The people have appointed *kings* without my consent, and *princes* without my knowledge. By *making idols* for themselves of silver and gold, they have brought about their own destruction.

2. Besides repentance for idolatry, we need to develop a biblical worldview that applies the word of God every area of life, including government. We must proclaim the Lordship of Jesus Christ over every institution, home, church, and government.

H. Henry Meeter, Theologian

If God is Ruler, no man may ever insist that religion be a merely private matter and be divorced from any sphere of society, political or otherwise. God must rule everywhere! The State must bow to His ordinances just as well as the Church or any private individual.

3. Finally, we must never forget that our true hope is never in political salvation; even if we can elect Christians into office.

Cal Thomas

To focus too much on politics — which is a religion in its own right — when it has consistently demonstrated it cannot address our deepest needs is an indication of how sick we have become. Rather than despair, Christians should recall where real power comes from and apply it as the early church did when it was the target of persecution.

a. The Messianic State is a myth; it cannot save us. Jesus is Lord!

Closing Prayer

Title