

On the Corner Fringe: Christian Nationalism December 22, 2020

The following text is a message from Corner Fringe Ministries that was presented by Daniel Joseph. The original presentation can be viewed at <https://cornerfringe.com/media/frbyd5c/otcf-christian-nationalism>

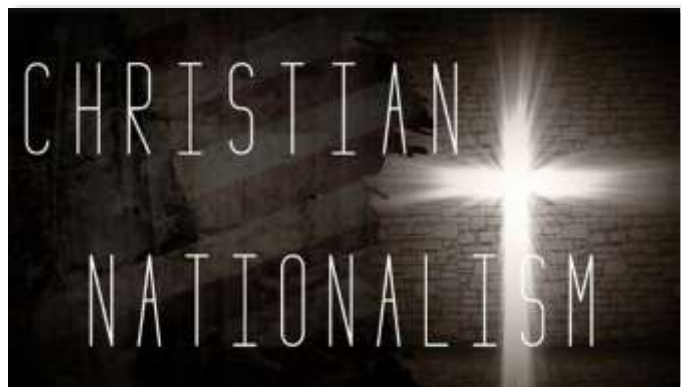
*Portions of this document have been edited from the video message to better present a comprehensive, written document. Special attention was given to preserve the original context, but this document is not verbatim. Scripture verses are in the red text with other quotes in blue. Therefore, it is recommended that this document be printed in color. The Hebrew words are generally accompanied by the transliteration into the English alphabet. In most cases, the Hebrew is to be read from right to left.

The Scriptural Case for Christian Nationalism

In this transcript of a message by **Pastor Daniel Joseph** from **Corner Fringe Ministries**, he analyzes the controversial intersection of faith and politics following a public critique of "Trumpism" by **Beth Moore**. Daniel uses a **Wikipedia** definition of **Christian nationalism** to argue that many aspects of the movement—such as advocating for **pro-life legislation**, supporting **Israel**, and displaying the **Ten Commandments**—are actually core biblical duties. **Daniel** contends that seeking to influence a nation's laws with **scriptural morality** is a necessary pursuit for believers who want their country to be blessed by **God**. He strongly rejects the concept of **religious pluralism**, labeling it as "spiritual insanity" because he believes there is no hope for a society outside of the **one true God**. Ultimately, he characterizes the backlash against **Christian nationalism** as a dangerous attempt to remove **Christian influence** from the public square and marginalize faithful citizens.

Welcome everyone. I'm Daniel Joseph; you're "*On The Corner Fringe*." Thank you so much for joining me today. I hope you are having a good week.

We are going to be dipping our toes in the pool of insanity. I don't know if you read a recent headline, but it is as follows: "[Beth Moore Urges Christians to Reject 'Trumpism': 'Christian Nationalism Is Not of God,'](#)"—Michael Foust, *Christian Headlines*, December 14, 2020. The article goes on to quote Beth Moore's tweet. [I do not believe these are days for mincing words. I'm 63 1/2 years old & I have never seen anything in these United States of America I found more astonishingly seductive & dangerous to the saints of God than Trumpism. This Christian nationalism is not of God. And she goes on and says, "Move back from it." Get away from it.](#)





Now the subject has caused a firestorm of debate online. Many Christians sided with her to support her. I think she had, like, over 130,000 likes not long after she posted it, and many others came to contend with this statement. They were very disturbed; some were discouraged, respecting Beth Moore and who she's been and the ministry she's done, and were very discouraged over these statements. And so, you know, this is something I wanted to take up several months ago. I just never got around to it.

And we're going to do it now; opportunity knocks, I guess, as they say.

You know, I think the best way to approach this is that it's important to define the term "Christian nationalism." We can't talk about this sensibly. We can't get into this. I mean, this is a pool of controversy. I don't want to get into this pool without defining some terms because one thing I have discovered, and I've noticed this over the last couple of months, is that I really feel that various Christians understand Christian nationalism differently. They see things differently.

Now, obviously, Beth Moore uses the term synonymously with Trumpism, which tells us a lot: she believes that, you know, Trumpism—we can only assume that what she meant by Trumpism is those who are radical, you know, Christians that radically support him, and probably in her mind to the detriment of the faith. And so she believes that's Trumpism, and she's likening that to Christian nationalism.

Well, I want to take you to this, which is a resource I don't often draw from, but in this instance I think it's going to really bear some fruit for us. If you type into Google "Christian nationalism," or even look up the definition of "Christian nationalism," you're going to see right there on page one, most likely Wikipedia. They're one of the only sources that actually define Christian nationalism comprehensively.

And I'll tell you why. I'm 47, and I've never heard the term until President Trump got in office. And that's just a couple of years ago. Never heard the term Christian nationalism. I've heard of a lot of other derogatory terms used over the last decade regarding conservatives or Christians, such as "radicalized Christians," "Christian radicals," "Christian extremists," "conservative extremists," and "conservative terrorists." We could go on. I've heard all these terms. I've never heard of Christian nationalism. This hasn't come to light until the Trump administration. And now, all of a sudden, this term is taking off. It's grown wings, if you will. And now everyone's talking about it.

Well, I want to define this term. We need to understand it well so we can engage with it. And so I want to take you to Wikipedia, and this is what we read: [Wikipedia—Christian Nationalism—Christian nationalism is Christianity-affiliated religious nationalism.](#)



Christian nationalists primarily focus on internal politics, such as passing laws that reflect their view of Christianity and its role in political and social life. Now I'm going to stop right here. I'm not going to read everything that Wikipedia has; it's quite comprehensive. But I'm going to draw a lot from this. I'm going to draw from it a lot so you get a clear idea of what's being conveyed.

Thus far, you look at how they're defining it, and the very first thing, your opening statement, is pretty important. This is saying that Christian nationalists are really bent on passing laws that reflect their view of Christianity. So this means getting into politics. This means caring about what legislation passes and wanting to have a controlling influence over it. Well, I mean, if that's how, at least at this point, if that's how you define Christian nationalism, then sign me up. I'm an absolute Christian nationalist. If that's how you view it, as someone who is a Christian who wants the moral principles that I can read in Scripture, the moral laws being governed here, I want that implemented in my society. I want it actually woven throughout the tapestry of society. I am all about that. I don't know how a Christian could think otherwise. It boggles the mind. This absolutely should be who we are as the people of God seeking to influence families and society at every level.

You know, I think of an organization I just have the highest regard for, and it's the ACLJ, Jay Sekulow, a messianic Jew, a brilliant, incredible human being tirelessly working at the legislative level and defending religious freedom, but also advancing more restrictions and going against abortion. And I mean, he's the tip of the spear. If we're going to overturn Roe v. Wade, he is going to be one of the key guys to help facilitate that. And we should be desiring to overturn Roe v. Wade. And so, I'm concerned when people are attempting to use Christian nationalism in a derogatory way when, thus far, at least at this point, we've seen, man, this is who we should be.

Continuing, it says this: Christian nationalists have encouraged evangelism, as well as for families to have more children as a means of increasing the Christian population growth. How dare they? Right? And so again, I mean, they have such a way, and even the way this is written, the world has such a way of turning things upside down and inside out. The reason Christians have kids is that God commissioned them at the beginning. Genesis 1:28— “Be fruitful and multiply.” So the concept here isn't that I'm having kids solely to control society. That never enters the mind. That's not the reason I'm having kids. I'm having kids because God has blessed us. I'm having kids because it's God's will. It's the heart of God to be fruitful and multiply. And to be able to experience that blessing, there's nothing like it. That's why a Christian would have kids. I mean, you know, this kind of verbiage and this kind of language, it's eerily reminiscent of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

Where I get concerned is about how there is such a twisting of reality, total perversion, to try to demonize the Jews in every way, and their sole goal is to take over the world. Make no mistake, any Jew with their weight in salt knows that the world is going to be taken over by their king. It's going to be the *Mashiach*; it's going to be the Messiah, the King of the Jews; it's going to be Him. All the kingdoms are going to fall before Him. So we don't need this grand plan to, like, subvert the world, to take over the world. It's absolutely ludicrous. So again, I say if you want to define a Christian nationalist as someone who goes out and is going to have children and a big family, or even a little family, whatever God decides, sign me up. I guess I'm a Christian nationalist then, because I am very pro-family. The Bible is very pro-family.

It goes on. Christian nationalists support the presence of Christian symbols and statuary in the public square, as well as state patronage for the display of religion, such as school prayer ... And then dropping down. Christian nationalism in the United States manifests itself through the promotion of religious art

and symbolism in the public square, such as the displaying of the Ten Commandments and the national motto “In God We Trust”...

I'm going to stop right there. So what it's saying is you'll know a Christian nationalist when you see one, when they're touting it, and they want the Ten Commandments to be displayed in public arenas, public areas, and government buildings. When they talk about having prayer in school, all of these things fall under the category of Christian nationalism. I'm going to tell you again: I don't know how you can call yourself a Christian and not absolutely be pro all of these things. Be pro-prayer in school, and be pro the 10 Commandments displayed everywhere, in government buildings, in parks, wherever. We should be very adamant about implementing all of these things.

See, because these things used to be here in this country. Prayer was in schools. It wasn't just prayer; we read the Bible in schools. They heard the Word of God. You know what's interesting? The schools, you know, there was a time in this country when the school system was mindful of the God who created heaven and earth. They were mindful of it. He was in their thoughts. They posted the Ten Commandments all over; they were posted in schools and in government buildings. Guess what? When that happens, it signifies that you are mindful of God.

But we know this: when the spirit of Antichrist rolls into town, it destroys all of those things. It wants to destroy life. It wants to rip out the Word of God. It wants to rip prayer out of schools. It wants to leave nothing left so that there is no remembrance of God. And so, you know, I take great exception with the words that Beth Moore has spoken. To say I'm concerned doesn't begin to cut it. I'm more than concerned. I'm extremely alarmed that a Christian figure can come out and make a statement like this. It's mind-boggling.

Now, some people will say, "Well, hold on, Daniel. You know what you're doing is you're wrapping the gospel in the American flag." I actually believe the opposite. True Christian nationalism wraps the American flag in the gospel because the only thing that will protect this nation is that. We need the cloak of the gospel to protect this nation. Why does Psalm 33:12 say, “**Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD**”? That's a Christian nationalistic statement. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. For that to happen, you would have to have Christians promoting Christianity, not in churches, not just at the parks, but at a governmental level.

I mean, this is an absolute fact. You want a good example of this? Go to Nineveh. Go to the book of Jonah. Jonah goes out and prophesies, and God puts in His words, "In 40 days, you're dead. I'm going to wipe you out in 40 days." And what happens? The king acts at a governmental level. The king moves. He implements edicts that cultivate righteousness, mandates these things, and mandates prayer and fasting. I mean, it is no joke. He was not messing around. Had he not done that, they would have been destroyed. See, at that moment, they became a blessed nation whose God was their Lord. And God had mercy upon them. Okay?

And so, getting to Beth Moore's statement that Trumpism is not of God and Christian nationalism is not of God—it's ridiculous. Now, let me be clear: nobody should follow or esteem President Trump as the Messiah or anywhere close to that. That's not the situation. He is merely a man who is promoting the ideals in Scripture, like very few presidents have done in our lifetime. In fact, I would argue he's done more than any other president in our lifetime regarding, number one, blessing Israel, okay? I don't support Trump because I like his personality. I wouldn't be supportive of that, but I am supportive of his stance on Israel, and here's what I know: when we're told in Psalm 33:12, “**Blessed is the nation whose**

God is the LORD.” And I’m told in Genesis 12:3 that if you bless Israel, you will be blessed. I can get behind that. I will support that.

I don’t care what their name is. I don’t care what their background is. I don’t care what ethnicity they are. I don’t care what color they are. It doesn’t matter. We have a man who is doing things that, biblically, will bring about blessings, and that is my concern. It just so happens that President Trump has been the most pro-Israel president that I know; I guess there could be an argument for John Adams. That being said, we want to support that. If we want our nation blessed, we should get behind that, okay? I don’t support the way President Trump conducted his past life in any way. And I’d add to that, and I say this with great respect: there’s a lot of growth that needs to happen.

That being said, the second thing that I know about President Trump is that no one has gone harder against Planned Parenthood, against the abortion industry, than him. Defunding millions upon millions of dollars, doing more for the work of a pro-life movement, of a pro-biblical movement of valuing the unborn than any president we know. See, that will bring a blessing again. We have been wallowing in blood and in our sin, and there’s no question it merits the most horrific judgment that the planet’s ever known, what we have done, and the atrocities we have committed.

The sex trafficking that goes on, the pornography that goes on—this stuff is absolutely vile. You know, the first time I ever heard of major sex trafficking rings being literally broken was under President Trump. See, there are particular things for me as a believer in Jesus that I am concerned about, that we need to have concern about, that we need to constantly be praying about, and that we need to be doing everything we can in our power to prohibit. To no longer be a nation that supports abortion or sex trafficking or policies that are anti-Israel. I don’t want any part of that because whoever does that is going to be cursed. And you know we can add to this. President Trump has been the most pro-religious freedom president we’ve had; some would argue since Reagan. I mean, he has been incredible.

That being said, do I trust in him? I trust in no man. What does Scripture say? Jeremiah 17:7— “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD.” And in Jeremiah 17:5— Thus says the LORD: “Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength. Cursed is the man who trusts in man. That’s not a biblical concept. So if Beth Moore’s interpretation of Trumpism is blindly supporting a man with no biblical conviction, well, I don’t do that. I’m not on board with that. And yet, according to the definition of a Christian nationalist, that’s what I am. But I do support the policies he has stood for. Especially the biblical ones. Biblical ones that are so central. But again, there’s plenty of room for growth, but it’s a good start. We have something to work with, right?



And so, I just want to continue because we have more here. Let me finish this out. It says—[Wikipedia—Christian Nationalism...](#) such as the displaying of the Ten Commandments and the national motto “In God We Trust,” which came into force in order to distinguish the United States from the state atheism of the former Soviet Union.” Isn’t that fascinating? In other words, by displaying the Ten Commandments and bearing banners that say, “In God We Trust,” we want these

things to distinguish us from communism. I mean, that is the antithesis, the very enemy of the gospel of Jesus, Yeshua. Communism is, as many of you know, the septic tank of evil. I mean, it really is. So, as it describes the reality here, I'm all for this. I couldn't agree more about bearing this title, whether you're going to say it derogatorily about me or not. I'll own it if this is how you define it. Okay?

It goes on. [The ideology also advocates for public policy to be supported by religious beliefs](#), yes, absolutely, [such as enshrining the sanctity of life in law through the buttressing of the pro-life movement](#). Yes, absolutely. And we've already talked about this. This is exactly what I would want to do, but now, interestingly enough, we have people like Beth Moore coming out with statements that are of great concern to me.

And we don't just have Beth Moore; we have organizations formed by Christians, like Christians Against Christian Nationalism, and you can check out their website. They are absolutely coming out against Christian nationalism, speaking against it. I want to give you a taste of this so you understand where they're coming from. These are just a few snapshots from their website, but they say, ["Government should not prefer one religion over another or religion over non-religion."](#) Now, keep in mind these are Christians saying this. I'm going to read this again. The government should not prefer one religion over another or religion over non-religion.



Really? How does that work in light of Psalm 33:12? [Blessed is a nation whose God is the LORD](#). How does that work in light of Ezekiel 14:13 when the Lord comes out and says, ["Son of man, when a land sins against Me by persistent unfaithfulness, I will stretch out My hand against it; I will cut off its supply of bread, send famine on it, and cut off man and beast from it."](#) I will destroy that nation. How does that work in light of Jeremiah 18:7? ["The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it."](#) I'm going to come and destroy you because of the sin that you've committed. How does that work in light of Nineveh, Jonah, that whole story? How does this statement align with the Bible?

You know, one of the things that blows my mind is this: all these guys are coming out and derogatorily coming against Christian nationalism and speaking against it. All I hear are broad, sweeping statements, but I don't hear anyone getting involved in the Word and supporting their position scripturally. You know, as a Christian, you're going to come out, and you're going to come swinging a big bat like this and come against other Christians. You better come heavy with the Word, and I don't see any of that, and for someone to make a statement like this, to me, utterly ridiculous. I mean, it really is.

Religions are influencing governments all over the world. Look at India. Are you going to try to tell me that the Hindu religion does not influence India and that every level of government is influenced? It has influenced the whole fabric of their society. I mean, Indonesia, are you going to tell me that the Islamic belief system is not at a governmental level? That they're not influential? You can't be serious.



Let me share the next statement with you. "Religious instruction is best left to our houses of worship, other religious institutions, and families." In other words, stay out of politics. Stay out of the government. You have no business, and it's the whole concept of church and state. Never mind the fact that it was never the intent of church and state as a Baptist colony, if you will, to come, and they had

considerations that they were being taxed for the Congregationalists. I'm not going to get into it. I mean, you want to talk about totally perverting and looking at history in a demented way for the sake of what? For the sake of facilitating and cultivating an environment where the government has no influence of faith, of Christian morals, and of ideals, please tell me you don't see this as completely insane. This should trouble every single one of us. I mean, I can't even; I struggle with what we're reading here. I really do.

Look at this one; it says, "America's historic commitment to religious pluralism enables faith communities to live in civic harmony with one another without sacrificing our theological convictions." That doesn't even make sense. That doesn't make any sense whatsoever. Especially again in all the contexts, biblical contexts I just gave you, that makes no sense. It wouldn't hold water at all. Pluralism? What they're saying here is



we should just all, you know, all our different faiths, all of this stuff—we shouldn't worry about it. Let's just all get along in harmony. And I will tell you up front, I want to live in peace with all people regardless of whether they believe in the Bible or they believe in Jesus or not; I still want to live at peace with them. But this I know: Do I want my country given over to other religions?

Again, I ask you, how does that work out for Nineveh? How does pluralism work? Let's run through this situation. Okay, so Jonah goes out. He tells the people, "You better repent and turn to the one true God." There's one God who made heaven and earth. He's going to wipe you off the map if you don't turn to Him. How does it work in pluralism if the king goes out and he has all these multiple faiths saying, "Well, you know what? You need to turn to your God or the commandments that your guys are keeping. You should make sure you're abiding by that, and you know, Buddhists over here, make sure you approach your gods and deal with that." How does that work out for Nineveh in real life? It doesn't.

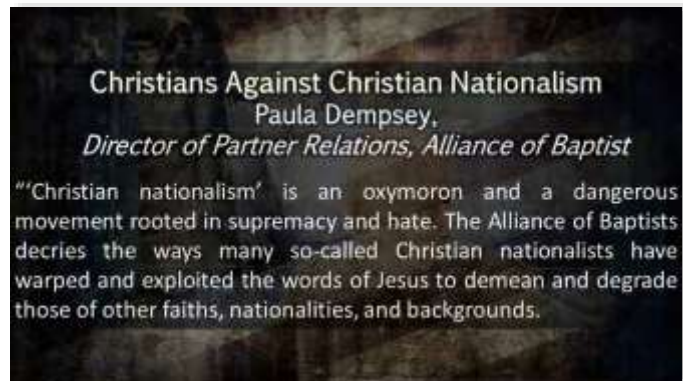
The only way to prohibit curses and judgment from coming upon a nation is to turn to the one true God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God who sent His Son, Jesus, Yeshua, to the earth to save us from our sins. There's no other answer. There's no other hope. And if I'm going to repent, and if we're going to move and we're going to stave off judgment, I need to do it according to the mind of the God of Israel. I can't do it any other way. There's no other way to do this. This pluralistic talk is spiritual insanity. I mean, I can't express this enough.



Moving on. “Conflating religious authority with political authority is idolatrous and often leads to oppression of minority and other marginalized groups as well as the spiritual impoverishment of religion.” This is a nice way, a euphemistic way of saying, “You know what, Christian nationalists are racist.” I mean, I don't have words; I really don't. I get a little worked up when you start reading this stuff that these are

Christians and they're going out and telling other Christians that this is the reality. This is why I want to talk about this, and this is why we need to be educated about this ideology.

Let me give you an example. So, looking at this website, I'm like, who are the contributors to this? Who are the people? What Christians are partnering with this type of organization, Christians Against Christian Nationalism? I'm going to give you an example. There are many examples here; I'll give you one. Paula Dempsey, *Director of Partner Relations, Alliance of Baptists*. This is what she says: “‘Christian nationalism’ is an oxymoron and a dangerous movement rooted in supremacy and hate.” I can only assume she's referring to white supremacy. That somehow Christian nationalists are white supremacists. Again, you're racist, you know—unbelievable.



“The Alliance of Baptists decries the ways many so-called Christian nationalists have warped and exploited the words of Jesus to demean and degrade those of other faiths, nationalities, and backgrounds.” What does that mean? Okay, so you're going to bring Jesus into it and the fact that Christian nationalists are abusing and twisting the Scripture. You make a statement like that; give me some examples. I want examples of it.

Now, I'm not saying that everyone who identifies as a Trump supporter or even a Christian nationalist, whatever. I'm not saying they might not be screwed up. They might be in grave error. But you're going to cast this broad net over Christians, and you're going to come against Christians. And by the way, when Beth Moore released that statement, it was just after these Jericho marches that they were doing, where Christians are getting together, and they're saying, “We need to pray.” Many Christians don't believe the elections were fair. They don't believe that the votes were counted. But we need to get together and pray. We need to do this. Now, that is being demonized. Man, so many words; I can't even get them out right now.

And then at the end here, looking at this, so they “demean and degrade those of other faiths, nationalities, and backgrounds.” Let me get this straight. If I cling to the morals indicated in scripture, and I hold fast to that, and I am unwavering, and I want to affect my nation at a legislative level. Now, I am just not considering people of other faiths, and I'm reducing them, if you will, to a crust of bread and acting ill against my fellow man.

No, we are acting in the best interest of the country. We want, and we know, God blesses the nation whose God is the Lord. We know He blesses the nation who blesses Israel. We know He will bless the nation that turns from their wicked ways according to Scripture, according to the Bible. We know this. Why would we not want to set ourselves up? Now, could there be historical blowback from people getting irritated—how dare you come and peddle this nonsense? Well, I can tell you biblically. I'm coming out with another video this week to actually talk about that, and that video is going to be powerful. I want you to watch it.



I want to continue. She says, “We believe in a world where all are beloved as God's children...” Isn't that warm? Doesn't that make you feel so warm inside? You know what? What was that song that Michael Jackson sang? “We are the world; We are the children.” You know, it's just like we're all together. We can just all hold hands. This pluralism is just so beautiful. Do you know what it is? It's a lie. It's total death. There is no hope outside of Jesus, putting your faith in Yeshua, the Messiah. That means for

everyone. But this statement is: it doesn't matter. This woman came on the scene saying, It doesn't matter what faith is. I mean, this is an Oprah craziness, right? Where there are many ways to get to heaven, apparently.

This, my friends, is a perfect example of a hateful statement. This is hatred. When you're not going to be bold enough to say, “No, I'm sorry, there is no other truth, there is no other way, there is no other life outside of Jesus. He's the only one.” And not to come in arrogantly, but to be able to have my speech seasoned with grace and salt. We're to be gracious, but it has to be salty. We're to approach those in the world in love, in compassion, and in patience—all of these things. That is scriptural, that is biblical, and we are to lead by example. Okay?

Well, I'm going to end here for today. I mean, I could go on for another hour, forgive me. I won't do that, but I want to bring this up. We will probably pick this up later, depending on what other interesting statements go viral. But I want to circle back on this at some point.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to me. Those of you who follow, I am so appreciative. I'm thankful for your heart because I know every one of you watching these videos is hungry for Yeshua. You're hungry for His Word. You're hungry for truth.

And we're at a precipice right now. The church is falling apart, and it needs to, because we need to start separating the sheep from the goats. That's what has to start happening right now. Don't be discouraged by this. We have to keep plowing ahead. We have to keep speaking truth. And even when people like Beth Moore come out, our response has to be in truth, but it has to be in love. You know, we have to be careful not to unload on people where they're just going to put up a wall.

And so, let us walk in love with understanding, amen? And with that, bless you.

Defining Christian Nationalism: A Biblical Defense

Core Tenets of Faith-Based Nationalism



Morality in Legislation

Passing laws that reflect biblical moral principles to influence the tapestry of society.



Public Visibility of Faith

Supporting the display of the Ten Commandments and restoring prayer in public schools.



Policy Over Personality

Prioritizing biblical policies like pro-life measures and support for Israel over political figures.

True Christian Nationalism wraps the nation in the Gospel to ensure divine protection and prosperity through biblical governance, rather than being a dangerous ideology.



The Mandate for National Blessing



The Nineveh Precedent

Using the Book of Jonah to show how government-led repentance staves off divine judgment.

Contrast of Perspectives

Critical View (e.g., Beth Moore/Others)	Joseph's Biblical Defense
Religious Symbols  Seen as seductive or dangerous.	 Signifies a nation being mindful of God.
Pluralism  Necessary for civic harmony.	 Viewed as spiritual insanity that invites judgment.
Church & State  Government should not prefer religion.	 Government must cultivate righteousness to be blessed.



Rejection of Religious Pluralism

Arguing that national survival requires turning to the one true God, not multiple faiths.