

Christian Nationalism

Matthew 23:37-40

“Love becomes a demon when we make it a god.”

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Introduction:

We are citizens of heaven, not of earth. We should love our country but we are devoted foremost to God.

Hebrews 11:13, Philippians 3:20, 1 Peter 2:11

Christian Nationalism is hard to discuss:

1. No one knows what it is exactly
2. Few people will admit to it
3. Can it be good? Is it always bad?

Christian nationalism is an American god of the land ideology:

America and God are made the same

Five Levels of Patriotism.

I. Level One: Love of Home

We love the familiar smells, tastes, and sights of home

Matthew 23:37-40 Oh Jerusalem.... Jesus loved his country

It is a healthy thing to love your home.

II. Level Two: Love of Country's Past

A. Our mythology: George Washington: cannot tell a lie

Abraham Lincoln: log splitter

B. Our scars and blemishes

Slavery, corruption, colonization

C; It is good to have the fables of country and to recognize mistakes

III. Level Three: My Country is Better Than Yours

The Ugly American: Eugene Burdick. Political need to value cultures

Colossians 3:10

Christian nationalism: convergence of the US and Christianity.

And desire to promote them both

Michael Horton: God created US as extraordinary and loves only her

Missionary work: Create American Christianity or biblical Christianity?

In New Testament: Jewish leaders who promoted Old Law (food, cir.)

Gal. 3:28

God is over all nations: Dan 2:44, Acts 17, John 3:16, Mt. 28:18-20

IV. Level Four: I Must Fix Your Country

“White man's burden” Colonialism

Do they have to be like me to be good?

Signs of Christian nationalism

1. My emotional state rises and falls with political events
Jerome and Rome: If city falls, can Christ be Lord?
2. When I divide with other Christians over politics
Can't live with Christians with different politics
3. When I seek to protect my freedoms but not others
4. When I'm more passionate with protecting my way of life than my neighbors well being. Good Samaritan.

V. Level Five: I Only Love My Country If It Wins

Romans 9 & 10 My heart's desire for Israel is for them to be saved.

Esther 4:14 The Lord put you here for a reason.

Conclusion: There is a danger of over-patriotism. We have shouted the name of Christ and enacted the service of Molech.