

CHURCH, STATE, AND CITIZEN

Christian
Approaches
to
Political
Engagement

EDITED BY

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Church State And Citizen Christian Approaches To Political Engagement

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Church State And Citizen Christian Approaches To Political Engagement:

Church, State, and Citizen Sandra Fullerton Joireman, 2009 Christians are often portrayed as sharing the same political opinions and the same theological foundations for their actions Yet from the time of the early church believers have held a variety of perspectives on the relationship between church and state and what constitutes legitimate political behavior for Christian citizens Thoroughly Christian political beliefs run the gamut from disavowal of any political responsibility to a complete endorsement of government policies and the belief that the state has been divinely appointed In *Church State and Citizen* Sandra F Joireman has gathered political scientists to examine the relationship between religion and politics as seen from within seven Christian traditions Catholic Lutheran Reformed Anabaptist Anglican Evangelical and Pentecostal In each chapter the historical and theological foundations of the tradition are described along with the beliefs regarding the appropriate role of the state and citizen While all Christian traditions share certain beliefs about faith e g human sin salvation Christ's atonement and political life e g limited government human rights the incompleteness and partiality of all political action there are also profound differences The authors discuss the contemporary implications of these beliefs both in the United States and in other areas of the world where Christianity is showing increasing vigor

CHURCH, STATE and CITIZEN Emmanuel Ihim, 2019-05-04 *Church State and Citizen* is a biblical based approach for political engagement which challenges Christians to always give their ultimate allegiance to God in the public square It is a very insightful and useful resource and contains immense biblical wealth and practical experience on the vital issues relating to the Church State and citizenship This book is a worthy investment of time and resources I encourage you to join the author in this book on his eventful historical explorations theological reflections moral juxtapositions and healthy analysis of the experiences of great men and women who through the prudent engagement in politics were used by God to reshape the ungodly cultures renovate their socio political landscape and reform the decadent structures of their societies Emmanuel Ihim brings a fresh theological breath into the art of Christian political engagement and introduces a special revelation upon the dynamics of limited government God's sovereignty the legitimacy of government the value of human dignity God's concept of Christian citizenship Church and state and more Ihim unravels why Christ did not give the State the key of the Kingdom and with it His redemptive power but instead gave it to the Church neither did He give to the Church the sword and its coercive power but gave it to the government Church State and Citizenship expounds on the invaluable responsibility of the Church to teach the Bible as a common standard of law both to the Church and State mobilize forces of compassion courage truth and justice to salvage society expose sin equip believers encourage the magistrates and embolden God's vision for humanity in society Emmanuel Ihim unfolds biblical cornerstones and practical realities for Christian political engagement which include discovering Biblical TRUTH on the subject of politics and governance developing basic biblical principles as policy tools for operating in the public square and linking these principles with basic complimentary moral values as they ties into the

political and social realities of the time Church State and Citizen clarifies the puzzles surrounding Church and State and contend that the Church and State s independent status is mutually exclusive He describes it as an institutional separation that has an interface between religious faith and civil government Emmanuel Ihim argues that the spirit behind the separation of the Church and State is to guarantee that neither the Church nor the state unnecessarily meddles with each other s affairs but that they coalesce to balance and preserve each other Ihim explores the theological misconceptions and misinterpretations of Biblical Worldview of government and adequately resolves many controversial questions about Christian political engagement proffering solutions upon which Christian political engagement should rightly be predicated This Book challenges the apathy of Christians to comprehend the value of political power and its relationship to our cultural mandate and our commission to disciple the nations Ihim rejects passivity for this is equivalent to culturally surrendering to satan both the Lordship of Christ over all spheres of life and the dominion status that God gives to His children It is tandem to rendering to Caesar both what belongs to Caesar and also that which belongs only to God Church State and Citizen offer a practical guide for Christian political engagement and highlight some benefits of Christian political engagement including how it Secures the Bible based structure for our society and government Ensures that only Individuals of character and integrity are elected in public office Nurtures democracy religious freedom sanctity of life and civic pleasantness for the propagation of the gospel Demonstrates and builds upon the Lordship of Jesus over every sphere of life and society

I Pledge Allegiance David Crump,2018-02-01 What does it really mean for Christians to live as faithful kingdom citizens in today s world Bitter partisan conflict State sanctioned torture Economic injustice Ethical corruption Even a cursory glance over daily news headlines shows a stark contrast between the American political state and the kingdom of heaven Where then does the Christian s ultimate allegiance lie In I Pledge Allegiance David Crump issues a clarion call to Jesus s twenty first century disciples stirring them up to heed God s word and live out their kingdom citizenship here on earth Closely examining the ethical teachings of Jesus and his apostles in the New Testament and using real world examples to illustrate the vital issues at stake Crump challenges Christians to embrace the radical counterintuitive upside down way of Jesus a way of living and thinking that turns the world s values on their head smashes through stale political and cultural conventions and welcomes God s kingdom into the very heart of our shared society

Building World Order Mark R. Amstutz,2025-04-01 International relations theorist Amstutz describes how values and perspectives from Christianity can help advance a more humane global order After highlighting key features of the nation state and of global society he illustrates the role of Christian values in international relations with case studies exploring three contemporary global problems migration development and climate change Amstutz contends that a Christian worldview focused on the dignity and rights of the individual as well as an emphasis on the common good can contribute to peace prosperity and justice in the international community The topic of global order is now more important than ever given that the rules based global order established at

the end of World War II is under great stress as witnessed in current wars in Gaza and Ukraine and the emergence of far right regimes in Hungary Turkey and perhaps even France Despite significant improvement in living conditions worldwide the international community continues to face many global problems including failing states domestic and interstate violence persistent poverty growth in refugees mass migration climate change and global economic instability Most importantly the contemporary liberal order is facing major opposition from authoritarian states The contemporary challenge to the liberal order gives rise to urgent questions Will the liberal global order be replaced by a more chaotic power based order Is there a better way to organize the world than the existing UN based nation state system How can the liberal international system be renewed Can fragile states be strengthened What contribution can a Christian perspective bring to the task of renewing global order Amstutz argues that the advance of international justice and global order needs to be based on the nation state the basic building block of our contemporary international community Most initiatives to improve the international community are rooted in political idealism or utopian thought and presume a shift from state sovereignty towards world governance This study by contrast assumes that any improvement in world order will necessarily depend on the ongoing role of the sovereign state In advancing global peace and prosperity three tasks are vital first strengthen weak fragile states second increase the number of constitutional democratic states and third strengthen international cooperation in addressing shared global problems Christian values and perspectives Amstutz claims can contribute to a better world by helping to structure the moral analysis of issues and by inspiring action that advances the common good

The Good of Politics (Engaging Culture) James W. Skillen, 2014-03-18 In this addition to the acclaimed Engaging Culture series a highly respected author and Christian thinker offers a principled biblical perspective on engaging political culture as part of one's calling James Skillen believes that constructive Christian engagement depends on the belief that those made in the image of God are created not only for family life agriculture education science industry and the arts but also for building political communities justly ordered for the common good He argues that God made us to be royal stewards of public governance from the outset and that the biblical story of God's creation judgment and redemption of all things in Jesus Christ has everything to do with politics and government In this irenic nonpartisan treatment of an oft debated topic Skillen critically assesses current political realities and helps readers view responsibility in the political arena as a crucial dimension of the Christian faith

Majority World Perspectives on Christian Mission Nico A. Botha, Eugene Baron, 2022-05-12 It affords us real pleasure to present this editorial on behalf of the Majority World Christian Leaders Conversation MWCLC The MWCLC started slowly but surely since 2016 following a groundbreaking conversation among eleven mission practitioners from the Majority World who met in the United Kingdom somewhere between London and Oxford At the meeting several themes emerged under the banner of missionary questions and impulses of the Majority World from the perspective of the reign of God These themes and more find reflection in the book However before proceeding to the content of the anthology a note on

the concept Majority World seems necessary The time where terms like Third World gained strong currency is long since gone The term Majority World is a new kid on the block and requires some clarification The use of the term is a strategy of avoiding concepts like Developing or Third World or even Global South which are pejorative in a real sense To speak of the Majority World is geographically accurate in that Africa Asia and Latin America are included *Just Politics* Ronald J. Sider,2012-09-01 Evangelicals today probably have more political influence in the United States than at any time in the last century but they might not be certain what to do with it It has been difficult to develop a unified voice on pressing issues such as social justice and moral renewal Bestselling author and theologian Ron Sider offers a biblically grounded factually rooted Christian approach to politics that cuts across ideological divides Shaped by a careful study of society this book will guide readers into more thoughtful and effective political activity It addresses perennially tough questions that often divide the church and includes a case study of the federal deficit debate Practical balanced and nonpartisan this book will be a welcome resource during the 2012 presidential race This is a revised version of what was previously published as *The Scandal of Evangelical Politics* *Anarchy and the Kingdom of God* Davor Džalto,2021-06-15 Perhaps the best book on Christian anarchism since Jacques Ellul a timely and valuable addition to resurgent interest in political theology Eric Gregory Princeton University *Anarchy and the Kingdom of God* reclaims the concept of anarchism both as a political philosophy and a way of thinking of the sociopolitical sphere from a theological perspective Through a genuinely theological approach to the issues of power coercion and oppression Davor Džalto advances human freedom one of the most prominent forces in human history as a foundational theological principle in Christianity That principle enables a fresh reexamination of the problems of democracy and justice in the age of global neoliberal capitalism *Between Faith and Power* Walter R. Ratliff,2020-10-12 What happens when Christians reconsider political engagement Among leading Christian thinkers political engagement is either unavoidably necessary or theologically impossible Is this a false dilemma *Between Faith and Power* examines how Christian groups are grappling with the demands of a pluralistic public square while remaining faithful to their tradition Using the lenses of social science research and theological analysis the book examines the successes and failures of these groups as they engage the public square What emerges are models of Dynamic Engagement that Christian leaders are using to consistently pursue religious liberty across faiths while contributing to the common good **Mission in Context** John Corrie,Cathy Ross,2016-07-22 Stimulated by Andrew Kirk s mission theology this book brings fresh theological reflection to a wide range of mission issues A formidable group of international missiologists are drawn together to explore current reflections on a wide range of issues including poverty and injustice environmentalism secularism the place of scripture in a pluralist culture science and faith liberation theology oppression and reconciliation and much more Kirk s influence and reputation is international and extends to South America USA Eastern Europe Africa and SE Asia Latin American mission has been especially enriched by Kirk s innovative thinking on revolutionary politics contextualisation and holistic mission This is

an indispensable resource of up to date missiological reflections for all involved in mission at every level

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