



Politics
2nd in the “#Trending” Series
1 Peter 2:1-12, p. 1014
June 23, 2019
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this sermon we learn to place our politics beneath the Lordship of Christ and the Kingdom of God.

The Text: 1 Peter 2:1-12

1) For Christians, any talk of politics must begin with the Lordship of Christ and the Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom of God is God’s Reign (Lord) through God’s People (church) over God’s Place (creation).

2) Under Christ’s Lordship and Kingdom, Christians have a very different political affiliation (v. 9).

a) *Chosen Race – an otherworldly IDENTITY in Christ.*

b) *Royal Priesthood – an otherworldly MINISTRY in Christ.*

c) *Holy Nation – an otherworldly CITIZENSHIP in Christ.*

What do these descriptions really mean?

3) Wisdom is needed to move from God’s Kingdom to the patriotism, parties, and policies of human kingdoms.

a) *Christian perspectives and approaches to civic issues will not find traction in secular, political discourse.*

b) *Regarding policies, there are several important issues which find no explicit instruction in Scripture.*

c) *Regarding parties, neither major party in America can claim close alignment with God’s Kingdom.*

d) *Regarding patriotism, American Christians will become more patriotic when they become less American.*

e) *Christians must apply the politics of the new creation (church) to the politics of the fall (country).*

f) *Christians must practice otherworldly politics for the unity of the church and its witness to the world.*

Response

Live out your identity in Christ – an exile, stranger in your own land, and ambassador of God’s embassy.

Sunday Text Questions for 1 Peter 2:1-12 (“Politics”)

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- 1) Starter Question: How would you explain the Kingdom of God to a non-Christian?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) What do vv. 1-8 teach us about the people of God, the church?
- 4) What does it mean that the church is “a chosen race” (v. 9), and what does that teach us about our unique identity in the world?
- 5) What does it mean that the church is “a royal priesthood” (v. 9), and what does that teach us about our unique ministry in the world?
- 6) What does it mean that the church is “a holy nation” (v. 9), and what does that teach us about our unique citizenship in the world?
- 7) Based upon v. 11, how should Christians live as sojourners and exiles (aliens) in their own land and country?
- 8) How can American Christians know if their love and fight for earthly politics lacks a balance of the Lordship of Christ and his Kingdom?
- 9) How can a Christian, whose primary citizenship is in heaven, also appropriately care and serve their country of physical birth?
- 10) Concluding summary: What does this text teach us about *faith* (doctrine), *hope* (desire), and/or *love* (duty)?

Further study this week: Psalm 2 on the Royal Son (Mon); Matthew 6, especially v. 33, on seeking first the Kingdom of God (Tues); Zechariah 14 on the Kingdom of God (Wed); Ephesians 2 on Christians as resident aliens (Thurs); Psalm 24 on the King of Glory (Fri).