

The socio-politico-economics of Jesus:  
God's politics or secular Right/Left politics?

It is imperative for every Christian who is serious about being a follower, a disciple/learner, of Christ to develop his socio-politico-economic philosophy from universal truths in the Bible (rather than cherry-picking passages). Failure to get one's political philosophy from the Bible/God/Christ will most assuredly mean that one will get his philosophy from the secular Right or Left.

Such a believer will be in the vulnerable position of uncritically adopting the politics of the Right or the Left—which has been a problem for at least four decades in this country. We must not allow the secular politics of the Right or the Left co-opt us. Unless your favorite political commentator is primarily getting his views from the Bible, you can bet that it is a secular view. The good news is that the better way of Jesus avoids the problems in each party while supporting strengths/truth in each party. The better way of Jesus is always balanced—the Whole Truth/Total Truth.

Let's consider secular rightwing politics. Historically, the rightwing has rightly championed family and the sanctity of human life (unborn), but often neglects social justice for the poor, unduly accepts American nationalism, avoids environmental concerns over God's creation, and has not been on the right side of racism (either actively or by neglect). In sum, this results in what could appropriately be called a sub-Christian religio-political movement. It is not holistically Christian/biblical.

Consider the secular leftwing politics. On the one hand, the Left often rightly defends justice, peace, and the environment. But on the other hand, it has wrongly forgotten about the importance of the family and sexual morality, refuses to defend the unborn, and has uncritically

accepted too much collectivism. This is equally sub-Christian—it is just that it is more aligned with the secular Left. It is not holistically Christian/biblical.

Jesus offers us a better socio-politico-economic philosophy, which is grounded in the two great commandments (Matt 22:37-40) and the Golden Rule (Matt. 7:12), which is grounded in the dignity of every single person. Christ offers the only socio-politico-economics that eliminates personal partisanship, vilification, acrimony, divisiveness, and identity politics that is destroying our country and our beloved institutions. It is the only politics that seeks the common good for the whole country.

A helpful chart on the Left and Right:

