

October 18, 2020 am

Dr. Jay Robertson

“God, Government, and the Church” Part 1

Romans 13:1-7

Memory Verse: Romans 13:1

A. What is Paul teaching us in Romans 13:1-7?

B. How did Nazi Germany use Romans 13? What was the result?

C. Four Popular Pulpit Approaches towards Politics

1. Separation of the pulpit and politics
2. Equation of the pulpit and politics
3. Integration of the pulpit and politics
4. Proclamation of politics from the pulpit

D. “A wall of separation between the church and the state” (Thomas Jefferson)

E. The First Amendment (1791)

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

F. Exeter, New Hampshire Constitution (July 5, 1639)

G. Constitution of South Carolina (1778)

H. Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (1780)

I. Politics—“The science of government; that part of ethics which consists in the regulation and government of a nation or state, for the preservation of its safety, peace, and prosperity; comprehending the defense of its existence and rights against foreign control or conquest, the augmentation of its strength and resources, and the protection of its citizens in their rights, with the preservation and improvement of their morals. Politics as a science or an art is a subject of vast extent and importance.” (Webster’s Dictionary, 1828)

J. Can you legislate morality?

K. Three Spheres of Authority

1. The home
2. The government
3. The church

L. All three spheres have limitations.

M. Your eschatology impacts your view of politics.

1. Dispensation premillennialism
2. Postmillennial optimism
3. Amillennialism's already/not yet approach

N. We must engage in the political realm. We cannot divorce ourselves from politics and as Christians we should not.

Conclusion

A. We should not make little of politics, but neither should we make much of politics because it's not our hope.

B. Christ is our hope!!!

C. The Gospel Definition