

October 1, 2017

**Series: Trending**  
**Part #1: God and Politics**

**5 Unbalanced Views of God & Politics**

**1. Government Should Promote Religion**

- This view is the idea that civil government should compel people to support or follow one particular religion.
  - September 8, 2017 in the city of Ancha (Nigeria): 19 Christians butchered by Islamic Terrorists. (Powerpoint Image)
  - May 26, 2017 in the city of Minya (Egypt): 29 killed and 23 injured. Christians on the way to worship were massacred – including 10 children. (Powerpoint Image)
  - Jesus distinguished the realms of God and of Caesar. ***“Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s” (Matthew 22:20-21).***
  - Jesus refused to try to compel people to believe in Him (Luke 9:52-55)

**2. Government Should Exclude Religion**

- According to this view, religious belief should be kept at home and kept quiet.
- We must not forget the positive effect Christian leaders and their values have had on society.
  - George Mueller (1805-1848) INCLUDE IMAGE William Carey (1761-1834) INCLUDE IMAGE Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968) INCLUDE IMAGE

**3. Government is Evil and Demonic**

- According to this view, all use of government power is deeply infected by evil, and demonic forces. Not all governing authorities are evil and demonic (Romans 13:1-6 and 1 Peter 2:13-14).
- God gave both the church and the government the responsibility to restrain evil in the world.

**4. Do Evangelism, Not Politics**

- This view claims that the church is only called to preach the Gospel, not engage in politics.
- God leaves Christians here on earth to do evangelism and to do good for others.
- Jesus said, “You shall love your neighbors as yourself” (Matthew 22:39).
  - This means that I should seek the good of my neighbors in all parts of society.
- Jesus said, “Be Salt” ... Salt preserves society from decay.

## 5. Do Politics, Not Evangelism

- Cal Thomas & Ed Dobson: “But we who are Christians are deluded if we think we will change our culture solely through political power.”
- As Christ-centered church we must stand on Biblical Truth: “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).