

PATRIOTIC CHRISTIANS

Ro 13:1-6; I Pet 3:13-17

I. GOOD PATRIOTISM IS GOOD

- A. As with all goods, patriotism can be perverted—e.g. idolatrous nationalism evident in Europe, 1870-1914, Germany under Hitler;
- B. Rightly ordered by love, patriotism befits Christians
 - 1. Loving God includes submission to Law & laws (N.B. “laws of Nature and of Nature’s God” in *Declaration of Independence*); extends to supporting legitimate (i.e. righteous) authorities
 - 2. Loving neighbors
 - a. Recognizing we are (as Aristotle insisted) social/political creatures, needing others
 - b. Orderly society essential for well-being, securing peace, promoting prosperity
 - c. Taxes, laws, needed to provide roads, police, schools, etc.
- C. Delegated by God, “Sovereignty” questions differently answered
 - 1. Tyranny always wrong, tyrants deserve removal
 - 2. Some monarchs claimed “divine right” to rule—e.g. James I
 - 3. Some monarchs acknowledged the people transferred sovereignty to them—e.g. Louis IX
 - 4. Representative republics recognize citizens are sovereign (accepting right/responsibility for “self-rule”) and select rulers
 - 5. Pure popular sovereignty in democracies (necessarily small & generally unstable)

II. CIVICS AT ISSUE IN CURRENT “CULTURE WARS”

- A. Two textbooks revealing
 - 1. *A Patriots’ History of the United States*, by Larry Schweikart & Michael Allen
 - a. Thesis: U.S. unique & good, thought flaws fully evident
 - b. Illustrations provided: Columbus praised; Pilgrims & Puritans approved; Framers lauded
 - c. Strengths
 - 1. Documentation—citations abundant, sources acknowledged
 - 2. Accuracy—evident to scholars and informed laymen
 - 3. Readability— needed for textbooks
 - d. Weakness: “cheerleading” may obscure reality
 - 2. *A Peoples’ History of the United States*, by Howard Zinn
 - a. Thesis: the nation’s history essentially one of oppression—Indians; Slaves; Workers
 - b. Illustrations illuminating: Columbus evil; Pilgrims & Puritans basically unmentioned, except to dismiss for oppressive acts; Founders established a nation designed to oppress minorities & enrich themselves—“mythology” of founders dismissed & ridiculed
 - c. Strength: elicits empathy for oppressed
 - d. Weaknesses
 - 1. Precise documentation lacking—quotatons manipulated
 - 2. Wildly inaccurate in sections
 - 3. Clearly a Marxist “re-writing” of history, similar to what was done under Stalin
- B. Two parties (cf. *Character of Nations*, by Anthony Codevilla)
 - 1. City party—urban, Democratic Socialists, non-patriotic, single women
 - 2. Country party—rural, small towns, Republican, patriotic, men

III. CULTURAL MARXISM STRATEGIES & SUCCESSES

- A. Core Objectives (cf. Igor Shafarevich, *The Socialist Phenomenon*)
 - 1. Abolish private property—note Bernie Sanders re Elon Musk; CA wealth tax on ballot
 - 2. Abolish religion—atheism promoted; removing prayers, 10 Commandments
 - 3. Abolish the family—cooperative farms in USSR, progressives in US promote state-run child care
 - 4. Abolish hierarchies—“comrades,” DEI programs, hiring policies
- B. American Marxism vigorous and victorious
 - 1. David Horowitz—*Radical Son*; early communism repudiated,
 - 2. Liz Wheeler—*Hide Your Children: Exposing the Marxists behind the Attack on American Kids*
 - 3. Mark Levin—*American Marxism*
 - 4. Peter Schweizer—*The Invisible Coup: How American Elites and Foreign Powers Use Immigration . . .*
 - 5. Michael Youseff—*An Unholy Alliance: How Progressivism Brought About an Islamist Invasion*