

Christian Nationalism in America

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Questions for Reflection and Discussion

- 1-What does the word “Christian” mean? Who defines “true Christianity”?
- 2-What does the term “Nationalism” mean? How is it different from Patriotism?
- 3-What happens when “Christian” and “Nationalism” form one ideology?
- 4-(Past): Was the United States formed as a Christian Nation?
- 5-(Present): Is the United States a Christian Nation?
- 6-(Future): Should the United States be a Christian Nation?
- 7-Is one religion or one deity invoked in the U.S. Constitution?
- 8-Does the First Amendment give Religion, or any one religion, a favored status?
- 9-What does it mean to say America has a “Secular” form of government?
- 10-What is the intent of the “Wall of Separation” between Religion and Government?
-though this phrase and “separation of church and state” do not appear in the Constitution, are they embedded in the principles of the Founding documents?
- 11-If America was a Christian Nation, what would that mean for all Christians, people of other faiths, and secular citizens?
- 12-When and Why was the phrase “one nation under God” inserted into the Pledge of Allegiance? What is the meaning of that phrase?

13-What do the words “In God We Trust” actually mean? How does this “motto” compare with “E Pluribus Unum”?

14-When, Why and by Whom was the National Prayer Breakfast created? Is it appropriate for politicians to call citizens to prayer?

15-Is the expression or song “God Bless America” patriotic, religious, or both?

16-Did the Supreme Court ban prayer, Bible reading and God from public schools in the 1960’s?

17-Do recent Supreme Court decisions protect “religious freedom” for all or do they protect religious privilege for some?

18-When we hear a political leader speak of their faith, is this appropriate? Does it influence our voting?

19-Should religious activities or symbols be allowed on public property, including government land? (such as sectarian services, crosses, holiday displays, etc)

20-Should the Ten Commandments or any other religious texts be posted in schools, courtrooms or other public spaces?

21-Chaplains in the military, prisons and Congress are primarily Christian. Why is this, and how does this represent diversity of beliefs in America?

22-Should Religion, or any specific religion, be given special privileges in the public square?

23-Should taxpayers fund religious education (“school choice,” vouchers)?

24-Should civil laws be shaped by “biblical laws”? Which ancient legislation, if any, could be incorporated in American laws today?

Your questions, concerns and comments. . .