

Alissa Kipp

Mrs. Meszaros

AP Lang 11:4

30 November 2022

The Objective to Unite

Jesus, in Matthew 5:14-16, declares, “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven,” (*ESV Bible*). God calls Christians to be a light, to dispel the darkness looming around them. Likewise, this applies to the role of Christians in government and politics. Christians are called to be a “light” to the world, essentially meaning that they should stand out and counterculture in order to unite all people together under God for His glory. Furthermore, two vital ways in which Christ’s followers can unite the people of the world are through the means of prayer and love.

Due to The Fall, sin and brokenness corrupt the world and that sin will inevitably result in corrupt leadership and therefore, a broken government (Racette). Broken hearts are unable to transform broken hearts, but God, the only unbroken being, has the power to transform any and all evil and corruptness. Through obtaining this knowledge and knowing their limitations, Christians have the ability to play a large part in the unification of people by simply praying. Praying by asking God to use them however He desires and by simply being prepared and willing to allow God to come into their life and use them how He wants. Even praying for the wisdom of people in any level of leadership is something essential for the role of Christ’s followers in government and politics (Racette). Furthermore, God commands his followers to

“pray for those who persecute [them].” because God is capable of working through people for a greater purpose (Brown).

Moreover, when politics and religion blend, tension can rise (Stauffer). However, that does not prohibit Christians from standing up for their faith, as long as they act with love and respect. Even Jesus, the source of love, was not passive when it came to taking a stand for what was right and for convicting the evil. (Brown) While some may argue that God uses human evil for good so Christians should uninvolve themselves from politics (Gray 78), and while that statement is true, He also calls Christians to take care of His creation which includes the government because He is the creator of the people involved in it. God calls His followers to show love and respect to the people in power, and therefore, unite all people.

Christians do have a role to play in politics and government and that role can be carried out through consistent prayer and exemplifying God’s love. They can take care of and love the people in authority over them by portraying Jesus’ love and leadership (Regent University), and through that, carrying out their calling from Matthew 5:14-16.

Works Cited

Brown, Morgan. "The Role of a Christian in Today's Political Climate." *The Bell Tower*, 15 Sept. 2022.

Gray, Kenneth H. "Prostrating Before Politics." *Christianity Today*, vol. 44, no. 11, Oct. 2000, p. 78. *EBSCOhost*, <https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?>

Racette, Evelyn. "Should Christians Get Involved with Current Politics?" *GCU*, 28 Aug. 2017.

Regent University. "The Necessity of Unification in Globalization: A Christian Perspective." *Regent University*, 7 July 2022.

Stauffer, Aaron. "What about Religion? Christian Politics Are of Sacred Value in Polarized Times." *Vanderbilt University*, Vanderbilt University, 12 July 1970.

The ESV Bible. Crossway, 2001, www.esv.org

