***Christ and Culture-Engaging in the Midst of Politics***

-Based on Focus on Family Truth Project with teachings from Christian Theologian Dr. Wayne Grudem and Michael Wear

4 Week Class

Facilitator Suggested Questions

*Note to Facilitator: You will probably not be able to get through all the questions-- just pick the ones that you believe are most relevant for your group.*

**Session Three:**

*The State: Whose Law?*

* How should God be reflected in HIS social system of the state/government? How can it be abused? Why should we care if it is abused? (Answer: The government should be there to serve the people with HIS designed purpose in mind of doing HIS defined good and punishing evil…not usurping the other social spheres. It can be abused once it begins to define good and evil WITHOUT God and begins to usurp the authority of other spheres. e.g. redefines marriage outside of God’s word, etc. )
* Why has God placed Himself in this social sphere of the state/government? (Answer: Because this sphere can be the most terrible monster of all with its power and God wants to remind the governing that HE is sovereign, not those that govern. Daniel 4:29-35)
* What is sphere sovereignty? (Answer: If God created each of these social spheres—*Family, Community, Labor, God & Man, Church, State--* with HIS design, that means that these other spheres are sovereign *within the* *purpose* HE created them….nothing more and nothing less.)
* *Does the State have sovereign rule/authority over the rest of the Social Spheres?* (No-2nd Chronicles 26. When King Uzziah sought the Lord, he got God’s blessing. But when his pride stepped in, he began to try and usurp other “spheres” such as the priests/church, the Lord gave him leprosy and lost his rule.)
* What is the purpose of the State according to God’s design? (Answer: Romans 13: To punish evil, do good)
* What happens when the governing no longer look to God for what is good and what is evil? What happens if they determine evil is good? Has this happened?
* What is the Rise of the State? What are its effect? (Answer: It is the State taking more and more authority over the Social Spheres that God set up—it begins to compete with the spheres that God created. The State begins to act as “god”, and soon it looks as though it is the State that provides—not God. The culture begins to change the State as our savior.)
* What is the Rise of the Global State? (Answer: The State will eventually not be able to answer all needs, so we must have a global state….setting it up for the rise of the anti-Christ. The State is nothing more than fallen man often times assuming more and more responsibility to solve all of mankind’s problems—of which it never will.)
* Where is our salvation? The State or the Lord? (Answer: The Lord-Psalms 37:39