



## Christianity and Socialism – Part 1

### No Place for God

by Tom Watson

Socialism has so many variations it is hard to define. Even Bernie Sanders, who claims to be a Democratic socialist, gives a vague definition of socialism. Karl Marx, a professed atheist is the father of socialism. He saw his ideology of ending class struggles as a prophecy and called his vision scientific socialism.

In the United States, forty-seven percent of young people now believe that America's future should be driven by socialism over capitalism. Among millennials twenty-two percent support the abolishment of private property, forty-five percent believe higher education should be free, and seventy percent say they would likely vote for a socialist candidate.

In recent weeks, the claim that capitalism is the cause of racism, that violence is justified as a means to an end and a call to abolish law enforcement are straight out of the playbook of Marxism. Recent examples of these include the national press secretary for avowed socialist Bernie Sanders writing, "There will be no racial equality under capitalism," the City of Fort Worth dismissing all charges against those arrested for rioting and the Minneapolis City Council voting to disband the Police Department,

Nearly 100 years ago with the much of the church turning liberal and to the social gospel, J. Gresham Machen (Christianity and Liberalism, 1923) warned the church of the danger of socialism when he wrote:

The whole development of modern society is tended mightily toward the limitation of the realm of freedom for the individual man. The tendency is most clearly seen in socialism; A socialistic state would mean the reduction to a minimum of the sphere of individual choice. Labor and recreation, under a socialistic government, would both be prescribed, and individual liberty would be gone. **But the same tendency exhibits itself today even in those communities where the name of socialism is most abhorred.**

Machen continued that with socialism, "the great principles of liberty are being thrown ruthlessly to the winds." Christian should know this is especially true of religious freedom. Marxian socialist Nikolai Lenin wrote, "every religious idea, every idea of god, every flirtation with the idea of god is an unutterable vileness ..." he said, "We demand complete disestablishment of the church ..." Christians living in socialist countries know the horror of this even as I write.

With the media inciting racial hatred and resentment on both sides, with the political turmoil intensifying even more as we near the election, with so many, even those who identify with Christianity, being deceived politically and spiritually, what are we as a nation willing to embrace? **Will America, with all its present problems, end up choosing something worse?** It would not necessarily take a personal dictator, but a political party or any branch of the government could thrust socialism upon the American people.

More and more conservative and/or faith-based editorials see America turning to socialism while warning that socialism, even so-called "Christian socialism" has never worked. **Every day we pray that even though the Lord is just and has every right and reason to do so, He would not let this nation succumb to evil but bring it to repentance. Please pray with us.**

First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of our God and Savior, who desires all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

1 Timothy 2: 1 - 4

### Coming up

The Supreme Court - When Christianity becomes the Enemy

The Media - Collusion and Manipulation: How have they influenced you?

The Church - Marxism in the pulpit: Systemic Racism, Critical Race Theory

The Christian - Cave or Courage?

The Children and Grandchildren - Are they being prepared?