

Nationalism

Identification with one's own nation and support for its interests, especially to the exclusion or detriment of the interests of other nations.

Is the term "love of God & country" and "One nation under God" Really grounded in Biblical teaching?

Based on the Bible, when it comes to loving ANY part of the world, it really goes against what it means to be a Christian - 1 John 2:15-17 - 15 **Do not love the world or anything in the world. IF ANYONE LOVES THE WORLD, THE LOVE OF THE FATHER IS NOT IN HIM.** 16 For everything in the world — the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does — **COMES NOT from the Father but from the world.** 17 The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

Choosing to befriend any part of the world positions us in opposition to God - James 4:4 You adulterous people, don't you know that **friendship with the world IS hatred toward God?** Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

We are not to partner with anyone that is not a believer - 2 Cor 6:14-16 - 14 **DO NOT BE YOKED TOGETHER WITH UNBELIEVERS.** For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? 16 What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For **we are the temple of the living God.** As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.

***As much as some would like to believe it, history clearly shows, there is NO country on earth that is based on Godliness. Though there may be some elements of Christianity in some countries, absolutely none have ever completely followed God.**

When the Bible speaks of "nation", it speaks of race.

God created every race, and all have come from one man in order to seek God - Acts 17:26-28 - 6 From one man he made EVERY NATION OF MEN, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. 27 **God did this so that men would seek him** and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. 28 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, '**We are his offspring.**'

Christian's obligation is to minister to EVERY RACE, to bring them to Christ - Matt 28:19-20 - 19 Therefore go and **make disciples of ALL NATIONS,** baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

As Christians, all races, from all places, form ONE BODY - Rom 12: 5 so in Christ we who are many form ONE BODY, and each member belongs to all the others.

We are to strive to have NO DIVISION in THE Body - 1 Cor 12:24-26 - 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that **THERE SHOULD BE NO DIVISION IN THE BODY,** but that its parts should have **EQUAL CONCERN FOR EACH OTHER.** 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

All Christian's are required to love (defined by God 1 Cor 13) their brothers, or they are NOT considered Christian

1 John 4:19-21 - 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: **Whoever loves God MUST ALSO love his brother.**

1 John 3:14-15 - 14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. **Anyone who does not love remains in death.** 15 **Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer,** and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.

Doing more or less for others based on anything else other than God is called favoritism and favoritism is sin - James 2:9 But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.

God HATES unfairness, so NO Christian should participate or endorse it

Prov 11:1 - The Lord abhors dishonest scales, but accurate weights are his delight.

Prov 20:10 Differing weights and differing measures — the Lord detests them both.

We are actually to be the voice for those that are treated unfairly, no matter the nation - Prov 31:8-9 - 8 "Speak up FOR THOSE who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights OF ALL who are destitute. 9 Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of THE POOR and NEEDY."

With all that has been said, Christian's "nationalism" is not attached to ANY country down here, in fact we are aliens and strangers to every nation down here - 1 Peter 2:11-12 -11 Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may **see your good deeds** and glorify God on the day he visits us.

All Christian's, of all races', citizenship is in Heaven ONLY - Phil 3:18-21 - 18 For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. **Their mind is on earthly things.** 20 But **OUR CITIZENSHIP IS IN HEAVEN.** And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

The Only nation we represent is a HOLY NATION not of this world - 1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, A HOLY NATION, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.