

Three Christian Responses to Neo-Pagan Western Civilization

Saturday, Mar 23, 2024 08:00 AM CT • 54:01

Host: David Wheaton 00:08

Three Christian Responses to Neo-Pagan Western civilization. That is the topic we'll discuss today right here on The Christian Worldview Radio Program, where the mission is to sharpen the biblical worldview of Christians and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. I'm David Wheaton, the host.

To borrow a popular term today, the United States is in "transition." Whereas the nation once "identified" as a broadly Christian nation (the Declaration of independence refers multiple times to the Christian God), a real transition (in contrast to the imagined transitions and marriages of the transvestite/homosexual movement), has and is taking place to a present-day, post-Christian, Neo-pagan nation where satanic statues are displayed in state capitol buildings and a reworked Marxist based anti-Christian religion of woke-ism has captured many minds in nearly all institutions.

How and why has this happened in a nation so known for and influenced by Christianity?

1. Is it infiltration of nefarious forces (e.g. globalists and Marxists)?
2. Is it the leavening principle of sin over time?
3. Is it compromising churches exerting less influence?
4. Is it Christians unengaged from culture and politics?
5. Is it the judgment of God where He gives us over, Romans 1 and 2 unrestrained sinfulness? Whatever the reasons, here we are in our present state of depravity and foolishness (i.e. thinking and living as if there is no God). So what should Christians do now?

Broadly speaking, there are three general responses that are common to the direction our country is heading.

- **The first is Christian faithfulness.** This is where there's a primary focus on personal sanctification, family discipleship, and the local church, along with some civil engagement such as voting, running for public office, and supporting organizations that advocate for Christian based policies. Examples of the Christian faithfulness response would be a ministry like G3 or John MacArthur.
- **A second response is the Christian activism response.** This is a more muscular posture that aims for spiritual and cultural change, including local church advocacy in politics and issues, on the street confrontation of sin, and a willingness to unite across theological divides to accomplish political objectives. An example of this kind of Christian activism would be the organization Turning Point USA and Charlie Kirk.
- **A third response is the Christian dominionist.** Again, broadly speaking, because there are more than just these three, is what I will call Christian dominion. This is the belief that Christ reigns

overall and thus, there's a mandate that institutions in society be reclaimed, possibly even by force, if push comes to shove, to reflect overtly Christian laws and magistrates. An example of this would be full throated Christian Nationalists, some in the New Apostolic Reformation movement amongst others.

Which response most honors God and the example that His Son set along with His disciples?

Join us today on The Christian Worldview as Andrew DeBartolo, Director of Operations for Liberty Coalition Canada describes what is occurring in his country and ours, and what he believes Christians should do. Andrew, it's good to have you back on The Christian Worldview Radio Program. Before we get into our topic today, I'd like to ask, How did God bring you to saving faith? And tell us about what you do now.

Guest: Pastor Andrew De Bartolo 05:19

I grew up in a, what I like to call, a part-time Catholic family. We went to church at Christmas and Easter, and then eventually, not at all. I was still interested in being involved with the church and I would still attend youth group. Even from a young age before I was saved, I was interested in the scriptures and reading them and being exposed to them. This went on for several years.

Eventually, my brother and I were connected with an outreach ball hockey league that was being put on by the church just down the street from where we lived. It was an evangelical church. We joined the ball hockey league, and I started attending youth group there. There, I was really challenged with the truth of the gospel, with the necessity of needing my sins to be atoned for and the inability for me to save myself. After being exposed to that for several years, and having really great conversations with my Youth Pastor and other older godly men who discipled me, when I was about 16 years old, toward the end of my grade 10 year, I had decided, after God had cracked open a hard shell around my heart and poured His love in, that I was going to follow Him and obey Him and serve Him. I responded in faith to His goodness, and committed that I would spend my life serving Him.

That essentially changed the trajectory such that I began serving and being involved in every way I could in my new church, which is this evangelical church where I began attending. Eventually I decided to go to Bible college. I served for about 15 years total in pastoral ministry as an associate pastor, a teaching elder, and a planting elder at a church.

Toward the end of my time with the church, I was also working bi-vocationally with Liberty Coalition Canada, which is what I do now full time. Our church ended up merging with another church north of the city where we lived. Then my wife and I decided to relocate our family to another church in another city that we thought was good. The church has a classical Christian school and they're very much engaged in the way that we think is right and good. Now I'm full time with Liberty Coalition Canada. Since the last time we spoke, we welcomed twins into the world, and we now have five kids and the twins are about four and a half months.

Host: David Wheaton 07:49

Well, congratulations on that. You have a full home and a very full life as well. Andrew DeBartolo with us on The Christian Worldview. Liberty coalition, we're going to get into this later in the program, but they really exist for three reasons. Here's what they say:

1. We provide Canadians with the Christian conservative worldview of culture, law and politics by proclaiming the rule and reign of Christ over the nations urging people to turn to Christ and faith for the forgiveness of sin.
2. We defend Canadians who are being discriminated against for their religious and conscience beliefs.
3. We engage in social advocacy to help transform our country to better reflect biblical principles.

Our guest today, Andrew, is the director of operations for Liberty Coalition Canada. Let's get right into one of the things we're going to talk about in regard to our topic of a Christian response to what I call Neo- pagan Western Civilization. That's what Western civilization, once very strongly Christian influenced, has turned into not just post Christian but into a pagan, or really overtly God rejecting civilization. A recent bill has gone through Canada and we've seen a number of these over the last few years. This one named Bill C-63, or what is called the Online Harms Act.

In the National Post in Canada, a columnist named Carson Jeremiah wrote this. Under the new section 13 of this bill C- 63, "It is a discriminatory practice to communicate or cause to be communicated hate speech by means of the internet or any other means of telecommunication in a context in which the hate speech is likely to foment detestation or vilification of an individual or group of individuals on the basis of a prohibited ground of discrimination."

Next paragraph. "However, even though the government is using language from the Supreme Court of Canada to define hate speech, the difference between those two words detestation or hate speech in disdain or dislike, which is not hate speech, are hardly easy or obvious distinctions even for lawyers. They come down to the subjective opinions of first, those filing the complaints and second, the government bureaucrats tasked with deciding whether such complaints are valid enough to be subjected to a full inquiry. So I think you and Christians in Canada are very concerned about where this bill is going and what it's going to do to the freedom of conscience and speech for Christians in Canada. Andrew, what are you most concerned about with this bill?

Guest: Pastor Andrew DeBartolo 10:37

The simple creation of the category of hate speech, it doesn't exist. This is a made up gnostic category, that you can criminalize speech to greater measure or any crime for that matter to greater measure, because of the motivation of hate. Not only is it made up, but it's also unbiblical. The scriptures give us biblical categories for punishing crime. In the case of murder, for example, if you intentionally take the life of an innocent person, that's murder. The punishment for murder isn't increased because you really, really, really didn't like the person. By doing this, by creating these

made up categories and attaching greater punishments to them, that's a problem. It's also a problem, because the definitions that they use of hatred, or harmful speech are vague, and leave a very wide door of interpretation for both lawyers and judges. The punishments in this bill are extreme. For a person who commits a hate crime, as it's vaguely defined in the bill, could be imprisoned for life in prison. In Canada, that's a greater punishment than rape, or even lesser forms of murder and manslaughter don't carry with it that kind of punishment.

It seems clear to those of us who have seen a trajectory and a cultural move in our country, that the people who will not be punished by this bill, will not be Muslims who communicate an anti sodomy opinion, probably not Jewish people who would hold to a view of traditional marriage. But it seems rather clear that it's Christians coming in the crosshairs of the federal government. This piece of legislation is currently being debated in the parliament. This also comes just a couple days after another piece of legislation was introduced Bill C-367, which seeks to remove the exemption clause for hate speech when you ground your justification in a religious text. If you say, marriage is one man and one woman or I know you think you're a woman, but you're a man, someone could accuse me of hate speech. But if I say, well, that's not my point, I'm just quoting the Bible. That's not my opinion, these are long held religious beliefs, that's allowed, that's an exemption to you being punished because you're quoting a religious text.

Bill C.-367 wants to remove that exemption clause so you cannot use the scriptures as justification. You put that together with Bill C-63, it seems like this is more and more of, we need to silence and punish those who would affirm God's design and norms for humanity and creation. We're going to make the punishment rather extreme. That looks to be where this is going. There's another portion of the bill that says if someone believes he will commit a hate crime, you haven't done it yet, but if they have a reasonable suspicion that you will commit a hate crime, and they inform the authorities, if the judge believes that it's justified, you could be placed under house arrest for up to one year before you actually commit a crime. So this is a ,rather dystopian, Orwellian governance, if this legislation works its way through, so lots of concern for Christians.

Host: David Wheaton 14:10

Andrew DeBartolo is our guest today here on The Christian Worldview talking about Christians living in Neo pagan Western civilization. He is the director of operations for Liberty Coalition Canada. Over the last several years, there have been shocking examples of the Government of Canada acting out in really abject authoritarianism. We've seen it in Australia as well. You saw the COVID mandates, prosecutions, even the imprisonment of pastors in Canada. James Coates, Tim Stevens, two examples of this. I think there are others. We saw the response by the Canadian government to the trucker protests in the capital city, including freezing their bank accounts. We see, and as you just mentioned, there's a strong suppression of speech that would speak out against Sexual Perversity. Whether it's drag queen story hour or the so called transgender ideology or homosexuality.

Why do you think Canada is even more aggressive than the United States? Because the United States is very aggressive in exporting and advocating for these so called values. But why is candidate

even more aggressive in government authority over individual liberties? Is there a different mentality in Canada?

Guest: Pastor Andrew DeBartolo 15:25

Our actual system of governance here lends itself to authoritarianism. I mean, right at the genesis of our countries, the United States is founded by men, who ultimately see the lawless and godless practices of a king in England, and it was the king who'd broken covenant. It was the king who was acting in a lawless manner. You have the genesis of a country as breaking away from that tyranny. Where as Canada, technically is still a part of the British Commonwealth, and very much under the monarchy. Even if it's just a kind of puppet monarchy, King Charles really doesn't exercise a ton of authority in Canada, but our country is grounded upon the, "we did not separate", we are still very much a part of the monarchy. That kind of top heavy, a lot of the power at the top, it plays itself out in our executive branch, in our legislature, and in our judicial branch as well.

A couple examples for what this looks like. In Canada, the Prime Minister is allowed to appoint people to the Supreme Court. There is no process of debate in the Senate, no push back, it's he picks who he wants and they're there. No questions.

In the United States, legislation is created in the house and then it's approved in the Senate. The President has the power to veto it, the Supreme Court can step in if it's unlawful, and there's checks and balances where it can bounce back and forth. In Canada, that doesn't exist. In Canada, as long as you have enough votes in Parliament, you pass the legislation, the Senate will go along with it, the Prime Minister doesn't have veto power and the Supreme Court essentially does nothing about it. So Canada lends itself to authoritarianism. Our provinces don't have the same autonomy as individual states do, because again, these are states, a part of a union, as opposed to Canada, which is provinces, a part of a country that's still a part of the Commonwealth. Our system lends itself to authoritarianism. But I would say there is a mentality difference among Canadians as well. There's a greater compliance and a greater trust for the state, which again, has a lot to do with the history of our country.

It is right to distrust men in positions of power, which is precisely why your constitution is written the way that it is, because it's not designed to limit the freedoms of the citizens. It's designed to limit the ability of the federal government to infringe upon the rights and freedoms of its citizenry because those rights and freedoms have been given to them by God. That's baked right into your constitution, your Bill of Rights, and really your mentality as a country.

In Canada, that's not our thinking. Our thinking is not, we exist because the men who framed our Constitution had a distrust for tyrants. Rather, the framing of our Constitution is very much doing the will of said tyrants as being an expression of the monarchy here in Canada on the other side of the ocean. There are deep threads that run all the way back to the beginnings of our two countries that make us very different in the way we approach authority, tyranny, and the way our country lends itself to people being tyrannical without the checks and balances to hold them accountable.

Host: David Wheaton 18:43

That is very interesting that the influences in the founding of each nation from Canada to America over a couple of 100 years ago, those threads, those foundational principles are still very prevalent in the way the society operates today. Andrew, despite the more Christian individualistic separation of powers of the United States, where the more monarchy top down from above, despite those differences, both nations had a pretty strong Christian influence in the beginning, even when Canada, yes, there was the Church of England, so there was a Christianity. I mean, England is still "officially" a Christian nation.

In our country, although, maybe not designated as an official Christian religion or Christian nation, there was a very strong Christian influence and principles in the founding and for the history of our country. Both of our countries now have become blatantly God rejecting. Again, beyond post Christian into a NEO paganism. Just to give a few examples, abortion at any time during a mother carrying her baby. Widespread promotion of what God calls sexual perversity. There is now especially the sin of partiality. Very extensive in our country. It's like an ethno discrimination. It's encouraged, this push for equity to equalize the playing field. It doesn't matter to people who are for it, that you're discriminating against one ethnic group over another. How did we get to such a point? Who or what is to blame for going from this more of a Christian founding to this Neo paganism of today?

Guest: Pastor Andrew DeBartolo 23:26

Men have been raising this concern for years now. In Canada, maybe not so much. I'm thinking about men like Francis Schaeffer or J. Gresham Machen in the United States. Here are men who 50, 70, 80, 90 years ago, were looking at the trends and the cultural moves from the 20s and warning people. I've read some of Schaffer's stuff from the 80s, where he's looking at the period from the 20s, to the 60s, saying, if we don't understand what's actually been happening in our country, this is what it's going to look like. And sure enough, in a very prophetic fashion, Schaefer's essentially hit the nail right on the head.

What I think happened was, you reach a period of time as a country where it is decadent and prosperous, where the urgency of real gospel ministry, the urgency of a church that is going to stand out, a church that is the narrow way, a church that will be hated by the world, dissipates once you essentially have an accepted Christian culture. There's a period of time in our country where being a Christian didn't cost you because everyone believed the same things, or at least accepted the same cultural norms on the outside, which naturally lends itself to apathy, a lack of urgency.

The other thing that happened toward the end of the 1800s, I think it obviously worked its way over here, is once theological liberalism started to sink its teeth into the church, the responses from the church were basically you had fundamentalists and evangelicals. Evangelicals, their position was, we're going to be about the social gospel, we're going to engage with the culture, we're going to try to still be a part of what's going on. Then eventually, this fell to theological liberalism. All the mainline denominations fell, the social gospel, the emergence of liberation theology, and the emergence of all sorts of social justice critical theory comes from them.

Then you have the fundamentalists. The fundamentalists are the ones who said, We will totally distance ourselves from this, we will separate ourselves in a similar way that the Baptists did in England, and we're going to be completely disengaged. We're going to disengage from culture, from politics, from media, from art, and everything. We're going to pull back entirely, and let them have all our institutions. These are the two responses of the church. You fast forward a little bit. Once the veneer of a Christian culture starts to fade, what you see is that the foundation underneath has actually been rotting away for generations, which you didn't notice in the 50s. The 50s, I would argue, if we're looking at individual people, separate from external moral compliance to God's laws, because it was getting generally accepted culturally, you still had a godlessness and a hatred for God that was just as rampant in the 50s as it was now.

The difference is, you had what Schaffer calls these biblical Christian moorings, these bumpers like bowling, like the gutter bumpers, that prevented things from going to wild. But people were still whipping a bowling ball into the gutter, it just didn't go because the bumpers held it together. That's what God's law does. It provides flourishing, and order, and peace. What we've done is we've essentially disconnected ourselves or we have removed the shackles of a Christian worldview and biblical principles. All we've done is expose, what's been underneath for a very long time, has actually been a hatred and rejection of God. So what we're seeing is not something new. What we're seeing is something that was present as far back as I would say, the First and Second World Wars where people can start to see the trend move away from real love for God.

Because our culture has distanced itself from a biblical Christian norm, now we're seeing what happens when there are no boundaries, when there are no good restrictions holding it together. This has been a very long play. This is something that's been, as I like to say the house on the top has looked good for a while, but the termites of this kind of leftist, Neo Marxist, progressive cultural behemoth, have been like termites eating away at the foundations for 80 years now. Because it was so well built by our forefathers and faith, it's been upright. But what we've noticed, what you and I have noticed in the last, let's say, 10, 20 years is the house up top has started to shift. Like, whoa, what's going on? Why is it not sitting right? And then we've gone the basement and what we've seen is the termites have been eating at the foundation for 80 years. Now, we're trying to patch it back up, when it appears that the whole house is in the midst of collapse because we've been asleep at the wheel.

We've been voting in compromised conservatives, who aren't conservatives at all. We've been disengaging from all the good ways that we should have been engaging. And we've allowed the termites to devour and really waste the inheritance that we've received from godly men who built our countries. Only now we're noticing it because the rot is so deep, that we can't help but notice that the house is shaking, but the foundation's have been being eaten away at for generations now.

Host: David Wheaton 29:17

I agree with you there, Andrew. The foundations are crumbling for sure. There is an anti Christian consensus in all the major institutions of society that tends much more towards socialism, Marxism, a

godless worldview, whether in politics, media, the educational system, corporations, culture, entertainment, you name it, those institutions have been completely taken over and you can look at a lot of reasons and you name some of them for that. There's also the leavening of sin that people become without the restraint of the Holy Spirit in their lives or even the proclamation of biblical truth from the pulpit. People and nations become more godless over time. You see that in history. Even the nation of Israel. Watching God lead them out of Egypt. Pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night, and the miracles being done and so forth. Even they, being given the 10 commandments, they rebelled against that. The principle of sin is strong within us.

But then what you said about the church becoming much weaker. Compromising theologically and not having that place of influence that it once had in both of our countries and Christians being unengaged or confused about how to be engaged in politics. I don't think there's one reason, but all these reasons put together, I think, really prove the point of what you're saying about the foundations crumbling. That's why we are where we are today.

So the obvious follow up question is, What's the Christian response to this, Andrew? Are there any precedents in modern history, let's say going back 600 years to when the Reformation started, for a nation like yours or ours, going back from a pagan or a God rejecting state to more of a nation that honors God. You look at the Reformation time, that changed the power dynamic of what was actually a "Christian dominant authority", the Roman Catholic Church, coupled with the civil leaders in the various countries over there. But do you see any precedent in modern history for being able to remake a foundation once we've descended this far?

Guest: Pastor Andrew DeBartolo 31:37

I would categorize myself as an optimistic leaning realist. I generally don't lend myself to pessimism or unnecessary anxiety or worry. I say that here, because I'm quite convinced that as far as Western culture goes, the foundations are too far gone, and I think that we've passed the point of no return. The evidence, and you've listed some of it already, the evidence of what is happening in our country is not the thing that brings on the judgment of God, it is the judgment of God upon a nation. You don't have to comb through the scriptures very long to see that the senseless murder of the innocent and the vulnerable, the disregard for the widow and the orphan is a sign of God's judgment. The land not producing as it should, being led by women, for example, and having women usurp men as leaders in various roles. Economic chaos and confusion. All of these things in the scriptures are evidence of a nation that is presently under the judgment of God.

When I read the Minor Prophets, I see the plea of the prophets to rebellious Israel. There's still yet time. If you turn, God will still show you mercy. He might relent at what He's doing, but they always reach a point where enough is enough, and where they say it will get you a closed door to forgiveness. I could be wrong. I'm no prophet. There is a strong sense, and I think it's biblically grounded that we have passed that point of no return. Western civilization as we know it is in its twilight, and the house is coming down. I don't think there's a way to repair the foundation. The only way to have a beautiful home that is a western culture 2.0, a nation built on and functioning with biblical principles, the thing has to come down and we have to rebuild it again from the beginning.

Everyone loves the period of the Reformation in the 1500s into the 1600s. We love the story of Luther and him before the king of the died of forms and the stories of John Knox praying, God give me Scotland or I die, or William Farel putting the fear of God literally into John Calvin so that he would stay in Geneva, and Pastor a church with him. We love that. But the part of the Reformation we forget is 200, 300 years before these heroes, faithful men who began the process of reformation, were being burned alive at the stake for simply translating the Bible into English. In 1221, the Holy Roman Empire deemed it illegal to translate the Bible into any language other than Latin. You have men like Jan Hus, or Antonio _____ in Italy, or men like Wycliffe, who they were faithful and they died hundreds of years before Luther. I think that's where we are, and the Reformation that we're going to see, the turnaround, the revival, this awakening, and this rebuilding of a solid Christian culture, is something that our grandkids, and maybe their children will be able to be a part of building.

We need to be okay with being the proto reformers. Those men that don't get the same airtime as Luther, Calvin, Zwingli, and Knox, but the men who, through their sacrifice and faithfulness have disappeared from history, but they are the foundations of what would become Reformation. Our job, I'm convinced, is not to expect the turnaround. I think our job and what I personally have committed myself to, is to be handing off to my children a strong, robust church, and love for Christ. Essentially, I need to give my children the tools, and the instructions to build, and the weapons and the training to fight. They will then impart that to their children. By God's grace, long after we're gone, I think we can have the rebuilding of a wonderful Western culture 2.0 that is grounded upon biblical principles, that has a culture that blesses the entire population, entire nations, because that's what God's law always does.

Ours is to get our kids ready for that. It's similar to people who started building the temple but didn't see it completed. I think that's our job. Our job is to start the cathedral that's going to take 180 years to build, and we won't see its end, and people who aren't alive today will be a part of its completion. We need to be okay with that. There's romance in the finished product, everyone wants to go inside the beautiful house. No one wants to go in the raw land and be a pioneer, and remove stones and cut down trees and deal with the wild animals and pull the weeds. But I think that's our lot and we need to be okay with that. I am okay with that. I trust God, and I'm joyful and hopeful in the purposes of God long after I'm gone, but what Christians need to do today is commit themselves to the work of digging, and laying a new foundation, so that we can teach our kids how to do it after we're gone so that their kids will be the ones to erect the structures that we, to our shame, as Christians for generations now, have wasted and we have squandered because faithful men did the work that now we're going to have to do.

Hopefully we can help our kids to be a little wiser about it. It's not a super happy answer, but I would rather be honest about the work we need to do. It is God glorifying work, and the Lord will bless it, and He will give us His Spirit and joy and peace and the strength to do it. I'm faithful to be forgotten in the annals of history as that man 200 years before the Reformation comes, but by God's grace, I can stand before Him some day, and be joyful that He allowed me to be even that part of it, that I

could have handed that off to my kids and my grandkids. That is enough for me. I'm content with that.

Host: David Wheaton 38:05

I really aligned with much of what you said there about building strong families, passing down the heritage of what it means to follow Christ, and strong churches and gospel proclamation and doing the things that lead toward strong homes and churches, and also countries as well. Knowing where things are going now, and likely they're not going to turn around in the short term. I would also say I like your optimism that there may be a reformation time in the future, but I think it probably has to do with a slight difference in eschatology between what you hold, understand Scripture to teach, and what I do regarding the time of Christ's return.

There's also a possibility, in my own mind and understanding of Scripture that this may be going down and we may be heading towards more of a globalistic world as talked about in Revelation, with the Antichrist and global ruler and a consolidation of power, more authoritarianism, that more in the near term, that's where it looks like the world is going. Not towards a reformation 2.0. Although I'm not going to say it's never going to get there. It certainly could happen. We don't know the timing of God. But the other possibility, I guess I'm saying is that the return of Christ is coming. So yes, there's worthy in the labor that you were just talking about. Whether or not it comes or not, we need to be working in our own personal lives and sanctification in our children, and our churches as if Christ isn't going to return anytime soon. We keep laboring, but we don't exactly know what God's time table is. Is that fair enough?

Pastor Andrew DeBartolo 39:38

Yes. I think that is the attitude that we see in our ancestors of the faith who they themselves didn't know, who found themselves in dire times. The Christians during the first century, especially when Nero set fire to Rome to make room for his own temple and then blame the Christians. Then he turned up the heat on Christians in the late 60s and engaged in some of the worst persecution of Christians you've ever seen in history. I'm sure that there were Christians in that time who were thinking, Okay, this is it. Persecution is Empire wide. It's got to end now.

This is essentially why Peter writes 2 Peter. People are saying, Peter, what's going on? We're suffering, why hasn't Jesus come back? What's He waiting for? That was the mentality in the first century, but what we understand is they were still faithful. It was 300 years later, in the midst of intense persecution, and what they did to Christians was unspeakable. 300 years later, God in His mercy, made Christianity a legal religion in the empire and then several decades later, it became the religion of the empire. All throughout history, faithful men, they don't know, when the end will come. They don't know the timeline of God, but they are obedient to Him in the present, and build as if it will go on for a while not knowing that it will, in case that it does and also because that's what He requires us to do.

Host: David Wheaton 41:09

That's very well said. Final question for you, Andrew. I'm sure you follow this in America now that the election in our country is later this year, the two primary candidates of the two main parties. Democrats, Biden is going to be the nominee and Trump is going to be the nominee for the Republican Party. There will be other candidates to vote for, but we have a two party system whether you like it or not. There are many evangelicals or professing evangelicals in this country who are leaders who will not vote for Trump. They consider him to be a morally reprehensible person, they don't like his arrogance, or his policies.

People like David French, who writes for The New York Times, actually. Russell Moore, the head of Christianity Today. Others like them. They may not come out outright and say vote for the Democrat Party, but I think by implication, that's what they're saying by saying don't vote for Trump. It'd be better to have anyone than him be President. They'll say that Christians can vote for those on the left because those in the left advocate for Christian policies like Love thy neighbor. We need to welcome immigrants and government services for people. Welfare and health care and so forth. These are Christian values that the Republican Party doesn't represent.

It's not just about abortion, sexual issues on the right, but it's about these other issues on the left and Christians can go either way. Are you seeing that sort of advocacy in Canada? You have a very liberal, very leftist leader Justin Trudeau. Are you seeing that same sort of advocacy going on by evangelical Christians in Canada, who really don't see the slide in the country as you've been describing today and really think there's a lot of good things about what's going on?

Guest: Pastor Andrew DeBartolo 45:42

That was the play in 2015 when Trudeau was first elected. I remember having many Christians, especially young adults, and late teenagers, who were trying to tell me that a vote for Justin Trudeau was the moral vote. The Liberal Party did a good job at winning them over. They would say, well, the Conservative Party are the party of the rich, and they're not going to do anything about the poor and social justice, and you're the Liberal Party.

The whole time I'm thinking, this was also when Justin Trudeau said that, if you don't support the murder of pre-born babies, you can't be a member of his cabinet. I thought that kind of cognitive dissonance would make my head split in two. The liberal party went on a phenomenal PR campaign in 2015 to get the Christian, or the professing Christian, the undiscerning Christian to vote for him, and they were successful in doing so. It's a little bit different now with this upcoming election, because even the Christians, for example, who were not allies during the COVID lockdowns, who said that we were being unfaithful scofflaws for disobeying Romans 13, even they recognize that the kind of legislation that is being put forth by the Liberal Party is so anti Christian on the face of it. They recognize it is not a wise vote.

April 1, we are increasing our carbon tax, which is a carbon penalty by 23%. The Liberal government wants to bring in a half a million immigrants each year, which for our country size, we're 1/10 of the United States. You guys bring in 5 million immigrants a year. That's a lot of people. I think people

recognize the Liberal Party is not viable. The concern I have that seems very scripted, in that the leader of the Conservative Party has been setting himself up as the antidote and the Savior to Justin Trudeau, which I think is duping a lot of Christians when in reality, he's an establishment guy. He's pro sodomy, pro the murder of preborn babies, pro doctor assisted murder for adults, and pro mass immigration. He has no problem with any of that. He's basically a lefty. The difference in the States is, and I think the reason why there is such an aggressive campaign against someone like Donald Trump, is because for all of his flaws, and there are many, and I can understand the true follower of Christ objecting to voting for him, because their conscience doesn't allow it and that is a valid position. I don't want to invalidate people. I don't think people need to be guilted into saying, put your conscience aside. If you don't vote for Trump, our country is going to be destroyed. That violates Romans 14. It's a valid position if you don't want to vote for him because you can't in good conscience do that, that's fair.

The difference is he doesn't happen to be the same establishment, swamp creature, as our conservative guy up here. There's such hatred toward him. I would also if I could be so inclined, and exercise a little bit of American muscle, even though Canadians are known for being polite and not very confrontational, is I think men like David French and Russell Moore are enemies of the church and of Christ. I don't think that they actually know the Lord Jesus Christ. They are doing such harm to the name of Christ and to the gospel, and so unrepentant in their denial of truth. They're willfully pushing people to accept all manner of evil and godlessness that I do not understand. I do not see how the Holy Spirit of God can exist within men, who apparently have completely snapped in the last five to seven years. But men who are hurting the church, the fact that these men would partner with pagans in making this movie on Christian nationalism, to me is the final bit of evidence needed that they are not friends of the church, they hate the church, and they don't love the Bridegroom of the church.

That campaign is aggressive down there because Trump is not a swamp creature in the same way that many people are, but here in Canada, I would be shocked if Justin Trudeau wins the upcoming election. That still doesn't make me necessarily hopeful because the Conservatives here are just as bad as the liberals. This is just the script. It's time for Justin Trudeau to ride into the sunset, into his multimillion dollar global conglomerate job somewhere, and the new person who will be elected here is just again, doing what he's told. He's a guy who had a profile page on the WEF. His campaign manager also happens to be a member of the WEF. In Canada here, the political situation is a uni party. They're all globalists. Half our federal cabinet was a part of the WEF Young Leaders Program. It's different here because Christians recognize that Trudeau and what the Liberals are doing is so anti Christian, that they will, I'm sad to say get duped into voting for the conservatives, who are really no better. So the situation is a little less happy up here in Canada in that regard.

Host: David Wheaton 50:46

Andrew, we thank you for the clarity and the historical and biblical perspective you bring to these big movements of what is taking place in western civilization, and all the hard work that you do. We thank you for who you are, and for coming on The Christian Worldview Radio Program today.

Guest: Pastor Andrew DeBartolo 51:04

It's always a pleasure David. I appreciate you. I'm happy for the the friendship and the relationship and knowing each other. I'm grateful to God for it. So it's always a good time to chat with you.

Host: David Wheaton 51:15

We have links to Andrew DeBartolo at our website, TheChristianWorldview.org. We're almost out of time, but remember those three general categories of Christian response to a God rejecting nation that we referenced earlier today in the program? Christ and the apostles model the Christian faithfulness category, they focused on the Great Commission, and the local church. There's no example of direct political or cultural activism. That being said, certain aspects of Christian activism can be justified, especially with a God rejecting nation with confrontation of sin. Even the church speaking clearly on civil issues, but be careful of prioritizing politics and culture over the gospel in the local church, and it blurring doctrinal lines to do so.

I don't see the model for Christian dominion, that is until Christ comes and fulfills that role himself. Christianity had dominion in the Roman Empire and England and like secularism, that led to oppression and compromise. Revelation 19 states that Christ Himself will return to take dominion. From his mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it, He may strike down the nations and He will rule them with a rod of iron. Let's rest in that.

The Christian Worldview is a listener supported nonprofit radio ministry, furnished by the Overcomer Foundation, whose mission is to sharpen the biblical worldview of Christians and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. To make a donation, become a Christian Worldview Partner, order resources, subscribe to our free newsletter, hear a replay of today's program, order a transcript, or find out, "What must I do to be saved?" Go to TheChristianWorldview.org or call toll free 1-888-646-2233. You can also write to Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331. That's Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331.

Thanks for listening to The Christian Worldview. We hope you have a meaningful Easter week. Next weekend will be a special program on Easter. Until next time, Think biblically, live accordingly and stand firm!

TCW Upcoming Events:

Just a quick update on our upcoming events. First, The Christian Worldview Speaker Series Event with Alex Newman on: How the Push For Global Governance Utilizes Climate Change, Public Education and More. The heart of God rejecting man yearns to get back to Babel, creating a world where man rules apart from God. Evidence for this is all around us. Revelation says this is where the world will end up. Christian journalist Alex Newman will join us for a Christian worldview speaker series event on Friday, April 12, at Beacon of Hope church in St. Paul. You can come for a donation of any amount. Seating is limited, and we are 75% full, and you need to register in advance. Go to our website, TheChristianWorldview.org or call us to reserve your seat.

Secondly, the Overcomer Course for young adults June 21st and 22nd at Stone House Farm in Jordan, Minnesota is now nearly 40% full. Ages 18 to 25 is a highly transitional time. The convictions developed and the decisions made during this crucial stage sets ones course for years to come. In eight sessions, over two days, addressing life's most important issues. Such as God and the gospel, right thinking and living relationships in marriage, vocation, the local church and more. The Overcomer Course is designed to help young adults gain clarity and conviction on God's plan and their purpose in it. There will be plenty of time for interaction and discussion as well. You can find out more and register by calling 1-888-646-2233 or by visiting thechristianworldview.org

If you want to come to these events, be sure to go to our website or give us give us a call.