Persuasive Communications

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Professor

Dr. McClane

Essay Title:

An Argument Against Christian Nationalism from a Christian Sociological Perspective

Assignment #1 – Thesis Statement

1. Generate a thesis statement for your persuasive essay.

a. Using the OGS Forum Paper Template, complete the following:

i. Enter your essay title on the title page and the first page of the essay. Complete the rest of the title page.

ii. Use the Thesis Statement Generator to draft a thesis statement. Use only the “generate example” to view several examples of a well-written thesis statement.

iii. On the Thesis Statement page, enter a clear, concise thesis statement of the argumentative position.

iv. In the body of the paper, write a three-paragraph description of the topic that includes the basic logic behind your argument.

v. In the Works Cited section, enter a minimum of 11 references relevant to your topic. Include no more than two books; the remaining references should be for journal articles from a minimum of four different academic journals. Use only primary research articles with a majority of them published within the past 5 years. Include references to both support (additive) and counter (variant) your argument.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. Grade assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

**An Argument Against Christian Nationalism from a Christian Sociological Perspective**

Thesis Statement: Christian Nationalism is the pursuit of establishing a nation that adheres to Christian legalism enacted in the nation’s laws and policies. Which is inherently un-Christian and unjust to members of society as well as a hindrance to people coming to the saving faith of Christianity because Christianity is seen as a political power movement instead of a religious belief system and a way of life.

Christian Nationalism, defined as a political movement that seeks to make a nation’s laws, social policy, culture, society, and political power Christianized. This may seem appealing to Christians to have a nation’s society Christianized by way of the political system. However, there are theological, social-structural, agency, and moral problems with trying to Christianize a nation through political means. Many Christians have an isolated framework to only see the world through a Christian church perspective, life in its entirety is within the walls of the church and may not see the perils of Christian nationalism. However, incorporating a sociological perspective into Christian thinking would provide us insight into navigating our Christian beliefs within our society in order to make positive social change to our society without pursuing Christian nationalism.

In addressing Christian nationalism, there are several points that will need to be addressed; 1) Isolation of Christian thinking vs thinking Christian sociologically, 2) the religious factors of the founding of America, 3) Historical examples of religion becoming politicized, 4) Understanding of the biblical mandate, 5) the distinction between influencing society for Christ and pursuing a political-religious system as Christian nationalism, 6) distinguishing Christian duty from civic duty, 7) examining the consequences of Christian nationalism. Addressing these points will establish the framework to make the argument against Christian nationalism from a Christian sociological perspective.

In presenting the case it would need to be shown that Christians should engage the society to make positive changes in culture, laws, and society. However, there are ways to do this that do not invoke Christian nationalism. A clear distinction would need to be made. In addition, the case would need to be made about how Christian nationalism detracts Christians from their Christian duty, how Christian nationalism is a system of legalism, and how Christian Nationalism promotes utilizing Christianity as a means to gain political power as the ends.

The basic argument is that Christian social action does not equal Christian nationalism, Christian nationalism is a system of legalism, which is against the teachings of Christianity and therefore Christians should not pursue Christian nationalism.

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