



CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

Understanding the Unholy Union of
Christian and American Identity

WHAT IS CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM?

“American Christian nationalism argues that the American state should be run by Christians and should protect and promote the concerns of Christians over others.” (Campbell)

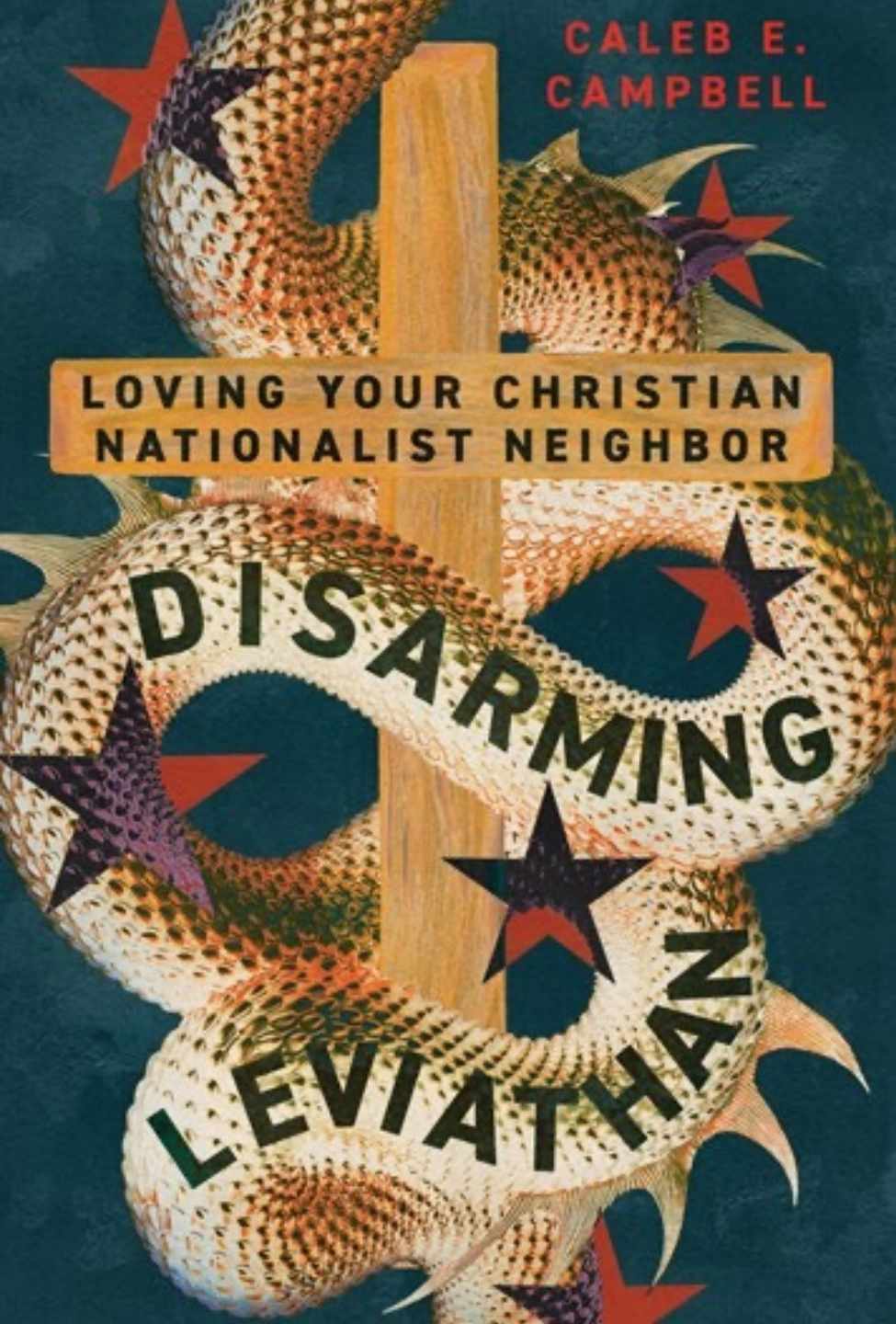
A “cultural framework that blurs the distinctions between Christian identity and American identity, viewing the two as closely related and seeking to enhance and preserve their union. It is undergirded by identification with a conservative political orientation (though not necessarily a political party), Bible belief, premillennial visions of moral decay, and divine sanction for conquest.” (Whitehead and Perry)



WHAT IS CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM?

White Christian nationalism “is the belief that America’s founding is based on Christian principles, white protestant Christianity is the operational religion of the land, and that Christianity should be the foundation of how the nation develops its laws, principles, and policies.” (Butler)





THREE INTERWOVEN ELEMENTS

1. Ideology: "Christians should bind themselves together as a nation and govern themselves as a religious nation-state."
2. Idolatry: "American Christian nationalism envisions a worldly government that embodies the kingdom of God and thus creates an idol out of the state."
3. Identity: "For many... American Christian nationalism refers to the tribe they belong to. They commonly invoke Scripture, reference Jesus, and speak of America's Christian heritage."

THREE DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS

1. The pursuit of power. For adherents of Christian Nationalism, the ends justify the means.
2. The enforcement of boundaries. Christian nationalists, “particularly if they are white, remain committed to the belief that real Americans – or at least ‘the good kind’ of Americans – are native-born, white Christians.”
3. Christian Nationalism seeks to maintain order in the public sphere by regulating private worlds such as gender roles.

TAKING AMERICA BACK FOR GOD



CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM
IN THE UNITED STATES

Andrew L. Whitehead and Samuel L. Perry

CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM AND RACE

Butler on white Christian nationalism as a unifying theme:

- America is a divinely appointed nation by God that is Christian.
- America's founders, rather than wanting to disestablish religion as a unifier for the nation, were in fact establishing a nation based on Christian principles, with white men as the leaders.
- Others (Native Americans, enslaved Africans, and immigrants) would accept and cede to this narrative of America as a Christian nation and accept their leadership.



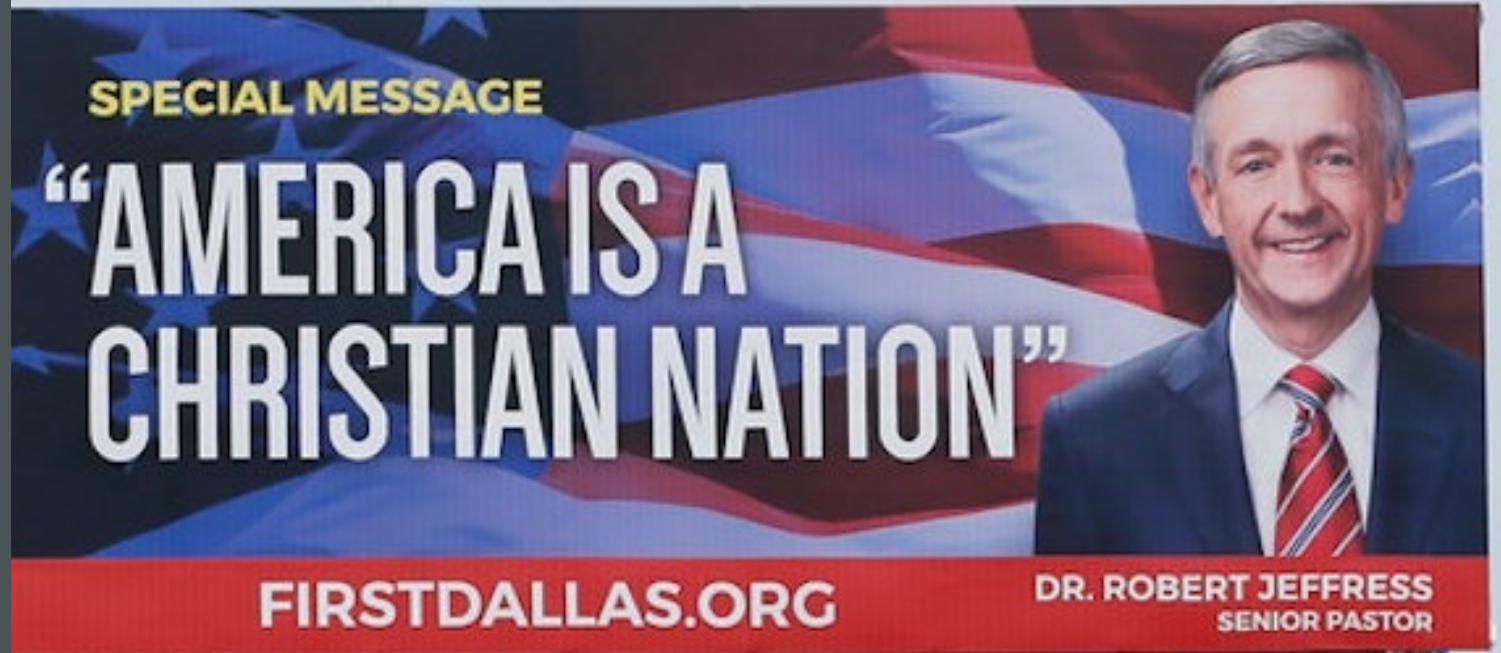
WHAT IS CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM?

Christian nationalism
syncretizes USA
citizenship, Christian
identity and racial
whiteness to forcibly
protect the interests
of white Christian
citizens.



WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

- Misrepresents Jesus
- Distorts witness
- Harms neighbors



A billboard advertisement for First Dallas. The top section features a background of the American flag. On the left, the text "SPECIAL MESSAGE" is written in yellow. Below it, the quote "AMERICA IS A CHRISTIAN NATION" is displayed in large, white, bold letters. On the right side of the billboard is a portrait of Dr. Robert Jeffress, a man with grey hair, wearing a blue suit, white shirt, and a red and white striped tie. Below the portrait, the text "DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS" and "SENIOR PASTOR" is written in white. At the bottom of the billboard, a red banner contains the website "FIRSTDALLAS.ORG" in white capital letters.

OUTFRONT

2-2188

SAVING AMERICA WITH CHARLIE KIRK



WHY HAVE SOME ADOPTED CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM BELIEFS?

Our discipleship has often

- ignored politics;
- ignored impact of right-wing media;
- and, neglected cultural anxieties

KINGDOM, THE POWER, AND THE GLORY

AMERICAN EVANGELICALS
IN AN AGE OF EXTREMISM

TIM ALBERTA

New York Times Bestselling Author of *American Carnage*

“You hear this stuff, and it makes you realize that we need more power. There are enough of us to take it.”

– Randy Pitcher (retired Army medic)

“We’re in trouble. God was kicked out of the White House as soon as Trump left office. When Trump left the White House, he took God with him.”

– Pastor Lydia Maldonado



IN GOD
We TRUST

HOW CAN WE RESPOND TO CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM?



STOP
THE
Steal!

- Confessionally
- Missionally
- Practically