**Recommended Resources for Personal or Group Study of Christian Nationalism**

**Justice Advocates in the Roanoke and New River Valleys**

Christian Nationalism is a pervasive and complex ideology encompassing both historical and contemporary concerns. The Justice Advocates team encourages organizations, congregations, and individuals to gain an understanding of its basic tenets in order to comprehend the urgency of the challenge it represents to both American democracy and the witness of the Church.

Resources for the study of Christian Nationalism are plentiful. The limited options presented here represent what we have found useful. We believe these options come from reliable sources and are readily adaptable for individual or small group study. They are certainly not exhaustive!

**Definitions**

* Christians Against Christian Nationalism: a political ideology and cultural framework that seeks to merge Christian and American identities, distorting both the Christian faith and America’s constitutional democracy. Christian Nationalism demands Christianity be privileged by the state and implies that to be a good American, one must be Christian. (Vote Common Good, Confronting Christian Nationalism, p. 3)
* Robert Jones (PRRI, author *White Too Long*): White Christians believing that America is their private promised land, divinely set apart for them by God. (paraphrase)
* Jemar Tisby (author: *The Color of Compromise*, *How to Fight Racism*): an ethnocultural ideology that uses Christian symbolism to create a permission structure for the acquisition of political power and social control.
* Philip Gorski and Samuel Perry (authors: *The Flag and the Cross*, as quoted in Sojourners): a constellation of beliefs — that the founding of the United States was ‘divinely inspired’ or that God is invested in the success of the U.S. — that manifest in political goals.

**Five Markers of Christian Nationalism** (PRRI/Brookings Institution Christian Nationalism Survey, November and December 2022)

* The United States government should declare America a Christian Nation.
* The laws of the United States should be based on Christian values.
* If the United States moves away from our Christian foundations, we will not have a country anymore.
* Being Christian is an important part of being truly American.
* God has called Christians to exercise dominion over all areas of American society.

**Four positions along the spectrum (PRRI terms/Whitehead, CACN terms)**

* + - Adherents/Ambassadors
		- Sympathizers/Accommodators
		- Skeptics/Resisters
		- Rejecters

**Quotes**

* “White Christian Nationalism is the greatest threat to democracy and to the Christian witness of the Church in the United States today.” (Jemar Tisby)
* “When you are accustomed to privilege, equality feels like oppression.” (Jemar Tisby)

**Names to Know in the Movement Against White Christian Nationalism**

**Philip S. Gorski**: professor of sociology and religious studies, Yale University, co-author of *The Flag and the Cross*

**Robert P. Jones**: president and founder of PRRI (Public Religion Research Institute), author of *White Too Long*

**Samuel L. Perry**: sociologist, University of Oklahoma, co-author *Taking America Back for God* and *The Flag and the Cross*

**Katherine Stewart**, journalist focusing on public policy and religion, featured in the New York Times and Washington Post, author of *The Power Worshippers*

**Jemar Tisby**, historian, author, and speaker, author of *The Color of Compromise* and *How to Fight Racism*

**Amanda Tyler**, attorney and executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, lead organizer for Christians Against Christian Nationalism

**Andrew L. Whitehead**: associate professor of sociology, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, co-author of *Taking America Back for God*

**Justice Advocates: The Threat of Christian Nationalism: What It Is, How It Started, How We Respond Today (September and October 2022)**

* Christian Nationalism: Its Historical and Theological Antecedents <https://www.facebook.com/108484948468327/videos/807089917103124>
* Christian Nationalism in Recent United States History: Why “What the Founders Meant” Matters Today <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=797305684723038>
* Christian Nationalism: An Interfaith Response <https://www.facebook.com/108484948468327/videos/1088353935210231>

**Jemar Tisby: White Nation Under God (YouTube series)** <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzgbWOlqJ4CM_dHTIdjt0R0XqHg401VCa> )

* What is White Christian Nationalism? (Jemar Tisby)
* White Christian Nationalism and the January 6 Insurrection (Andrew Seidel)
* How Christians Can Resist White Christian Nationalism (Amanda Tyler)
* How I Escaped the Web of White Christian Nationalism (Chuck Armstrong)
* (Plus) How White Christian Nationalism Threatens Democracy (Gorski and Perry)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQotw3hWLfU&list=PLNCjSlZSm6Eb2O0pRc5V1f4gzQhoFvfMJ&index=2&t=19s>

**Christians Against Christian Nationalism** (<https://www.christiansagainstchristiannationalism.org/> )

* Statement: <https://www.christiansagainstchristiannationalism.org/statement>
* “Responding to Christian Nationalism”: Three session study for personal and group use; sermon series (<https://www.christiansagainstchristiannationalism.org/discussion-guides/responding-to-christian-nationalism-curriculum>)
	+ Session One: What is Christian Nationalism?
	+ Session Two: Biblical Responses to Christian Nationalism
	+ Session Three: Connections Between Christian Nationalism, Racism, and White Supremacy
		- Utilizing videos from Christians Against Christian Nationalism (among many available on YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/@BJContheHill](https://www.youtube.com/%40BJContheHill) )
			* “Democracy and Faith Under Siege: Responding to Christian Nationalism” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmgWHBoGBi8>
* Baptist Joint Committee resources: <https://bjconline.org/christian-nationalism/>
* Testimony of Amanda Tyler before Congress
	+ Amanda Tyler’s Testimony: “Confronting White Supremacy: December 13, 2022” (House) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3AqNB8OnPg&list=PLNCjSlZSm6Eb2O0pRc5V1f4gzQhoFvfMJ&index=10&t=3s>
	+ Expanded written testimony: <https://bjconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/BJC-testimony-for-House-Oversight-Committee-hearing-on-white-supremacy.pdf>

**PRRI (Public Religion Research Institute)**

* The PRRI/Brookings Institution Report (survey taken November 21-December 14, 2022)
* “A Christian Nation? Understanding the Threat of White Christian Nationalism to American Democracy and Culture” (presentation: February 8, 2023)
* Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZLpF-w8-lE&list=PLNCjSlZSm6Eb2O0pRc5V1f4gzQhoFvfMJ&index=7&t=981s>
* Report: <https://www.prri.org/research/a-christian-nation-understanding-the-threat-of-christian-nationalism-to-american-democracy-and-culture/>

**Diana Butler Bass**: White Christian Nationalism: The Realities We Face

As presented to Temple Micah, Washington, D.C., February 13, 2023

Note: includes a presentation of data from the PRRI survey and reflections on theological movements undergirding Christian Nationalism (Dominionist, Christian Reconstruction, Neo-Traditionalist Catholicism)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TpIUHhWdp0U&list=PLNCjSlZSm6Eb2O0pRc5V1f4gzQhoFvfMJ&index=10&t=2s>)

**Vote Common Good** (<https://www.votecommongood.com/> )

(Mission) Helping People of Faith Make the Common Good Their Voting Criteria (focused on evangelical and catholic traditions)

Resource: “Confronting Christian Nationalism: A State-of-the-art Training Program for Faith Communities, Leaders and Individuals”; a three-session video and discussion curriculum

<https://www.votecommongood.com/confronting-christian-nationalism-curriculum/>

**Print Resources**

Articles

“Do We Dare to Disciple People Out of Christian Nationalism?” Adam Russell Taylor <https://sojo.net/articles/do-we-dare-disciple-people-out-christian-nationalism>

**Book Sampler (by date of publication)**

* *Taking America Back for God: Christian Nationalism in the United States*, Andrew L. Whitehead and Samuel L. Perry, 2020 and 2022
* *Power Worshippers: Inside the Dangerous Rise of Religious Nationalism*, Katherine Stewart, 2020
* *The Flag and the Cross: White Christian Nationalism and the Threat to American Democracy*, Philip S. Gorski and Samuel L. Perry (forward by Jemar Tisby)