

PRACTICALLY APPLYING REFORMED CHRISTIAN POLITICS

It is the duty of civil governments at every level- federal, state, and local – to “kiss the Son” and uphold God’s moral law summarized in the Ten Commandments, and it is the duty of citizens to support and promote such. This is the essence of reformed Christian politics. Rev. GH Kersten correctly noted our civic duty with respect to reformed Christian politics thus: “Reuben was pious, but this pious Reuben did wrong. He withdrew himself and stayed with his flocks. It was for this reason Deborah rebuked him...(Judges 5:16). Have we not frequently been like Reuben? We did indeed mourn over breaches among our people and in our government...so there was yet some concern among us...But notice why we are guilty regarding the coalition of a government at the local, provincial, and federal level which is hostile to God: we did not go out to battle!...No, we would not participate!...This may not continue.” (J. Mulder, *Of Mercy and Faithfulness*, p. 19, as quoted in *Rev. G.H. Kersten* by Rev. M. Golverdingen).

Often one hindrance to reformed Christian politics is that people do not know how practically to apply it in today’s circumstances. The challenge seems insurmountable, until considered in stages, with a large amount of the early focus at the local level, praying to God for and seeking reformed Christian government in one’s own local government. Remember, the local magistrate, like the federal magistrate, has a duty to honor Christ and uphold God’s moral law. Even if the federal government is wicked, the local magistrate still has this duty. So let’s consider some viable avenues that are possible with very limited resources, with a special focus on the local level:

1. Help distribute literature to friends, neighbors and fellow church members.

The Reformation Party has provided some tracts which can be distributed, and there are other tracts available from other sources. These explain the Biblical rationale for reformed Christian politics, and the Protestant confessional attestation to such. They explain how our chief problem as a society and nation is not economic, but rather spiritual and moral. At this time in history, the foundations need to be laid again, so people can understand why Biblical repentance and reformation are important and why it is the civil magistrate’s role to promote them.

2. Help organize a local branch of the Reformation Party.

The Reformation Party is seeking to organize local branches where possible. We call this the Campaign for Community Biblical Governance (see <http://www.reformationparty.org/campaign.htm>). This requires individuals volunteering to coordinate such in their own local area.

3. Write letters to and speak in person with your local civil officials.

Especially local civil officials are very approachable, both in person and by letter. They need to be informed of their duty before God. The Reformation Party has provided a sample letter which can be tailored to your own locality’s circumstances.

4. Speak before your local town council.

One way to engage in explicitly reformed Christian politics is by speaking before local town council meetings, which often include a time for citizens to provide public comment to the council. This is an

excellent opportunity to encourage local civil officials to govern according to Biblical principles. The Reformation Party has provided a sample speech which can be tailored to your own locality's circumstances.

5. Write letters to the Editor in your local paper.

Many people read such letters to the Editor, and this is an opportunity to explain the duty to bow to the Lord Jesus Christ individually and as a society.

6. Run for civil office in your community on a campaign stressing Biblical repentance and reformation.

It is not difficult to run as an official write-in candidate for local office, and it is an opportunity to set before the public Biblical duties and blessings that flow from submitting to the Lord Jesus Christ.

7. Help someone else's campaign who is running for civil office.

Even if you are not qualified to run for civil office yourself, or other obligations preclude it, you can help in some way with another Christian's campaign calling for Biblical repentance and reformation.

8. Encourage qualified reformed Christians you know to run for local office.

People often need to be encouraged before they will take an action. So encouraging someone especially qualified to run for local office is an important part of the overall effort.

9. Seek to form reformed Christian neighborhoods and towns.

The Reformation Party calls this its New Plymouth Project (see <http://www.reformationparty.org/plymouth.htm>). It recognizes the desirability of members residing near their church, school and one another, and forming reformed Christian neighborhoods and communities in the process.

10. Pray!

This is undoubtedly the most important one, for "the king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD, *as* the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will." (Proverbs 21:1)

So there are many practical ways reformed Christians today can apply reformed Christian politics. But is it worth our time and energy? After all, how can we possibly hope to make a practical impact with such small numbers? We always need to keep in mind that in redemptive history God has often used very humble tools to do great things in order to manifest His glory more clearly. Let us do our duty, and leave the results with God.

This tract is published and distributed by the Reformation Party (www.reformationparty.org) to encourage explicitly reformed Christian politics so that civil governments "kiss the Son" by upholding God's moral law summarized in the Ten Commandments. Such Reformation Party Tracts are available for free print out and distribution from www.reformationparty.org/rp/tracts.php.