

The Church and Politics  
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Part II - July 30, 1954

Matters of politics and government should never occupy the primary place in the thought and activities of the Christian or of the Christian church.

Yesterday afternoon we had a very interesting discussion. There was not time for very much about this talk, because all three were ~~xxx~~ taken up. But a few questions were ~~xxxx~~ brought out that were of considerable interest to me, and also right after the meeting in the morning I was asked a question ~~xxx~~ privately, which showed that I had not made one of my points as ~~xxxx~~ clear as I should have. And it is one which was perhaps not the most obvious but it is, in my opinion, one of the most important.

I would like to take one of these questions of ~~xx~~ yesterday and speak a little about it first, and then to take the other two and touch upon them in connection with the resume of the main points of yesterday.

The third question which was ~~xxxxxxx~~ asked was about the government of the social gospel today. Was the social gospel a passing trend of thirty years ago., which has been abandoned today. I am sorry that I am ~~xxxxxx~~ not in as good a position to discuss that as I might be if I had a week to go through~~x~~ the recent literature in order to find specific evidences of the impression which I have had of it. I have very definite impressions. My impressions may be colored to a certain extent, by my previous studies in earlier times. But I do not think they would prove incorrect with a very close study of the recent literature. I have not had time for that minute study, but I want to give you a mention of my impression of it.

I found, when I was in college, and during the years immediately thereafter, that I was impressed with the fact that so many of our American clergymen and American theological leaders seemed to be looking for something to replace the dynamic which they had once had, or which the church had once had. The dynamic, the original dynamic, had been here in the message of Christ, be saved for eternal life. You are lost and going to hell without