

Nov 1, 2020
Constantine and Nationalism



Key Scriptures

Mat 16:26 "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

1Co 1:10-15 Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment. (11) For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, that there are quarrels among you. (12) Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of Christ." (13) Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? (14) I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, (15) so that no one would say you were baptized in my name.

1Co 1:31 so that, just as it is written, "LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD."

The Big Point:

Throughout this message series, we have looked at the complicated legacies that our forefathers have left us. The great Azusa Street Revival birthed modern Pentecostalism. Martin Luther birthed the Great Reformation. Jonathan Edwards helped launch the Great Awakening. Constantine the Great made it legal to be a Christian in the Roman Empire. Along with each of these achievements there was a cost.

The big point of this series is not what was wrong with each of these men, but what of these fallibilities is alive in us.

Important points from the message:

- If anything keeps you from loving people it is sin.
- The Church is called to model something different than the world.
- There is no New Testament example of Jesus ever sending a person to rule in his name.
- We are to look at politics through the lens of Jesus and not the other way around.
- To say Jesus is Lord is to say everything else is not.

Questions that may get your group talking.

- Which message in this series spoke to you the most?
- What are some things you learned about or want to learn more about through this series?
- What did you think this quote meant, "Jesus may live in your heart but grandpa still lives in your bones."

Questions to get your group thinking:

- What is exciting about hearing our spiritual history?
- What do you think keeps us from being united?
- What do you think about the movement of the day we worship?

Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Check and see if your life is producing the fruit of the Spirit.
- Hunger for the power of love and holiness.