

Wednesday, September 26, 2007

RON SIDER'S CLAIMS ABOUT EVANGELICALS AND SOCIAL ACTION

"Today almost all agree that faithful mission must also include social ministry. More and more prominent evangelical voices—think of Rick Warren!—now embrace ESA's [Evangelicals for Social Action] longstanding call to empower the poor." "And even the National Association of Evangelicals' official public policy framework embraces what ESA has long promoted—namely, a pro-poor and pro-life, pro-peace and pro-family, pro-creation care and pro-marriage agenda." -Ron Sider ESA current website article But, what do each of these topics mean and involve? Does "pro-poor" mean increased pro-welfare- food, housing, health benefits, etc provided by tax payers for all people who's income is below the Federal Poverty level? Does "pro-life" mean anti-abortion on demand? Does it mean anti-capital punishment? Does "pro-peace" mean anti Iraq War? All war? Does "pro-creation" mean support of the Kyoto Agreements and blaming America for global warming? Does "pro-marriage" include the marriage of homosexuals? Does the NAE official policy embrace all of that? I am definitely pro-poor and pro-life, pro-peace and pro-family, pro-creation care and pro-marriage. But vague generalities aside, we must have definitions of these key terms and explanations of the means to achieve these goals, clearly spelled out. Only then can we see whether we are talking about the same things and work together.

Posted by Cal in Social Issues at 22:05