

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

RELIGION WITHOUT POLITICS?

A local TV news program was interviewing people on the street tonight. The Question: Should Religion be kept out of Politics? The unanimous reply: Absolutely! Religion is private, they said, and should not be mixed with politics, economics or even social issues. What kind of Religion, we may ask, would that be? It would be a Religion without values, principles to live by or morals. Or are those also private matters having nothing to do with living our lives in society? Does Religion have nothing to say about character and human relations? Does it offer no guidance about social justice and the care of the marginalized and oppressed? What kind of Religion has no connection with health and wealth? Has it nothing to offer to counter greed and selfishness, not only in our private lives, but in our national lives as well. Our Nation has the world's largest Prison System with more people incarcerated than any other country in the world. What kind of Religion has nothing to say about that or about terrorism or war or violence? These people interviewed must think Religion is confined only to mystical inner feelings and maybe to events like weddings and funerals. They certainly do not know anything about Biblical Christianity! There is an increasingly popular twist on this scenario. There are many young "Evangelicals" who also insist that the Religion they believe in should be kept separate from politics and cultural issues. This is strange because they are very concerned, even passionate, about changing the world, including its Politics and cultural issues. Turns out what these young Evangelicals mean is that Religion should be kept separate from what they perceive the Religious Right and the Republic Party stand for. In practice their Religion is more compatible with the Religious Left and the Democratic Party. I really wish I had the opportunity to show them what the Bible actually says about Politics and social, economic issues. They have a lot to learn!http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/01/us/01evangelical.html?_r=1&oref=slogin

Posted by Cal in QT Thots at 18:54