

CAPITALISM, SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM REVISITED - Part II

Reference: miscellaneous Scripture

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Karl Marx (1818-1883 A.D.) summarized socialism in the now famous statement: "From each according to his _____, to each according to his _____."

In a theoretical sense, socialism wants to create _____.
Socialists don't understand that there's never going to be equality.
Reference: **Matthew 26:11** (see screen)

Definition: Capitalism is an economic system where material goods and capital (capital could exist in the form of financial assets, real estate, a skill set, tenure, intellectual property, and copyrights, etc.) and the means for creating material goods and capital are owned and controlled by private _____ and or _____ competing together in a free market.

Definition: Socialism is an economic system where material goods and capital and the means for creating material goods and capital are owned and controlled by the _____ as a whole in a collective sense usually **through a centralized government** rather than through individuals and private companies.

Definition: Communism is an economic and **political** system where material goods and capital and the means for creating material goods and capital is both **government** _____ and government _____.

Remember three things about these ideologies:

- Socialism and capitalism are exact _____.
- Socialists are _____-capitalist and capitalists are _____-socialist.
- All communists are socialists; but, not all socialists are communists (yet) because socialism is a _____ economic system. Socialism is the transitional stage between the overthrow of capitalism and the realization of communism.

Illogical logic from liberal progressives:

Premise: Jesus wants us to _____ for the poor.

Premise: Socialism _____ for the poor.

Conclusion: Therefore, Jesus wants us to have _____.

Premise: Jesus wants us to care for the poor. _____

References: **Matthew 6:3; Luke 3:11** (see screen)

Premise: Socialism cares for the poor. _____

Even if the first two premises are true, it still doesn't mean the conclusion is true.

Examples: watering lawn and punishing criminals

Misunderstood biblical texts used to support socialism and communism:

Reference: **Acts 2:44-45; Acts 4:32, 34-37** (see screen)

These passages did not teach that the first church practiced a primitive form of socialism-communism for three important reasons:

Reason One: The earliest congregants still owned _____

Reference: **Acts 8:3; 9:11; 10:5-6; 12:12** and **Romans 16:3, 5** (see screen)

Reason Two: There was **no** _____ to give to one another in such sacrificial proportions. This was completely voluntary.

Reference: **Acts 5:1-4** (see screen)

In order to demonstrate that **Acts chapters 2** through **5** teach Christian socialism or communism then four things would have to be true:

- _____ believers in Jerusalem sold _____ their possessions and put them in a communal pot which was then controlled by the state (the distinctive mark of socialism).
- Private property rights (upheld throughout the rest of Scripture) were _____ by these passages.
- The voluntary giving demonstrated by individuals in these passages would have to give the state the right to _____ people to give up their property.
- The pattern in these passages was _____ but permanent and it was the rule throughout the rest of the New Testament.

Reason Three: This was Christ's church and not some _____ ideological system.

The basic difference between Christianity and socialism-communism is:

Christianity teaches...

what is mine is _____.

Socialism-communism teaches...

what is yours is _____.

Reference: **Matthew 5:17; Exodus 20:15; Exodus 20:17**

Definition: Modern social justice is a concept some use to describe the movement towards a socially just, global society. Social justice is based on human rights and equality and involves a greater degree of _____ through progressive taxation, income redistribution, and even property redistribution.

Two fundamental problems with economic egalitarianism (socialist) doctrine:

- There is a mistaken premise that those that are rich have become rich through _____ the poor.
- Socialist societies aren't _____.