

TH604 - Dr. Louis A. Decaro
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March 28th, 2023
Chapter 9 5-3-1

5 Quiz Questions:

- 1) What is the Christ against culture approach?
- 2) What is the Christ of culture approach?
- 3) What is Christ above culture approach?
- 4) What do Christ and culture in paradox proponents take seriously?
- 5) What does the Christ the Transformer of culture approach believe?

Answers:

- 1) The Christ against culture approach encourages Christians to “draw a sharp line between the redeemed people of God and fallen society and culture (191).” The opposition between the Christian faith and the world.
- 2) Christian faith is merged with the heights of human insights and civilization; simultaneously embracing faith and many societal and cultural norms with minimal dissonance (197).
- 3) Affirms that Christ but also culture is a good gift from God; contending that there is a life within society and its institutions that is good and needs to be affirmed (200).
- 4) The pervasiveness of sin in human culture and society, recognizing that because of sin the kingdoms of this world will not become heaven on earth by human effort (207).
- 5) Recognizes the sinfulness of humanity and culture, but is hopeful that something can be done to transform society into a desired religious ideal (208).

3 Terms:

- 1) Monasticism: A movement seeking the vision of God or a protest against the laxity of the church (193).
- 2) Mysticism: Eliminating temporal distractions; mostly monks or nuns (193).
- 3) Paradox: a seemingly absurd or self-contradictory statement or proposition that when investigated or explained may prove to be well-founded or true (Oxford).

1 Summary Paragraph:

Deciding whether or not to choose to integrate Christ with cultural norms, or to separate the two completely depends on one’s core belief system. Still more, one can choose to place Christ above all culture, focusing on the dimension beyond reality that gives us our existence. Oftentimes these expressions occur simultaneously as believers converge together. At the end of it all, the statutes of Christ are superior, and the value placed on things of this world needs to be weighed to determine which falls under proper Christian ethics and values.