

Morning Sermon 6/19/2022 –
“What the Bible Says about Socialism”
Acts 2:44-45; Judges 1:5-7

I. *The Bible verses claimed (falsely) for socialism –*

⁴⁴ Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, ⁴⁵ and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. Acts 2:44–45 (NKJV)

A number of times I have had people, both in person, or online tell me “Socialism” is taught in the Bible. Whenever someone has done this, I know now before they say anything, what Bible verses they will reference, the two verses above, Acts 2:44-45.

Fans of socialism wish it worked like it did for the apostles, but it never does! Why? What is missing? Why are not the verses above a Biblical endorsement of socialism?

1. *Socialism does not account for humanity’s moral depravity! Socialism does not deal at all with sin –*

In context, the people who share everything in Acts 2:44-45, were people who realized their sinfulness earlier –

³⁶ “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” ³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?” ³⁸ Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; Acts 2:36–38 A (NKJV)

A. *They had crucified Christ - :36*

B. *They were cut to the heart - :37*

C. *They were commanded to repent - :38*

D. *They were commanded to be baptized - :38*

E. *Baptism was symbolic of the washing from sin, which ultimately only Christ could do!*

F. *Even the preacher(s) realized his (their) sinfulness –*

⁶⁰ But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are saying!” Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹ And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, “**Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.**” ⁶² So Peter went out and wept bitterly. Luke 22:60–62 (NKJV)

⁸ When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!” Luke 5:8 (NKJV)

G. *Socialism assumes the POLITICIANS who receive the money ARE SINLESS! Devoid of all greed! They would NEVER take more money for THEMSELVES than for the people! HA!*

This is one of the first errors of socialism, those who control the MONEY, PROPERTY, even PEOPLE take the BIGGEST CUTS for themselves ... it has never been seen otherwise.

If a modern socialist wanted to do Acts 2, there is no law stopping it! Quite a few wealthy, multi-house, multi-millionaire politicians push now for socialism ... if Acts 2 is socialism, which it is NOT, none of these people are selling all they have and sharing it with their neighbors -

2. *Socialism does not acknowledge God or His power or even His existence, definitely not His teaching (doctrine) or rules / Law ... –*

³⁸ ... **and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** ³⁹ For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” ⁴⁰ And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.” ⁴¹ **Then those who gladly received his word were baptized;** and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. ⁴² **And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.** ⁴³ **Then fear came upon every soul,** and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. Acts 2:38–43 (NKJV)

The sharing (in Acts 2) of all things is voluntary, not forced ...

- A. *It was according to the promise and workings of God’s Spirit ... :38*
- B. *There was a diligent study of the Apostle’s teaching - :42*
- C. *There was a fear of God - :43*

Socialism defined – “a political and economic theory of social organization which advocates that the means of production, distribution, and exchange should be owned or regulated by the community as a whole.” Oxford U.S. Dictionary

How does a community do this? Especially if the community is a country, the U.S.A.?

Democratic socialism – through its elected leaders ... Politicians, not the community as an entirety, are the authority of THE COMMUNITY.

“So, part of it is we have to break through our kind of private idea that kids belong to their parents, or kids belong to their families, and recognize that kids belong to whole communities.”
Melissa Harris-Perry, MSNBC

The Community is the Government / the Politicians, when this “Community” does not acknowledge God, or the Apostle’s Doctrine, Biblical raising of children according to the training and admonition of the Lord, becomes impossible –

⁴ **And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4 (NKJV)**

Recently, “Community control” of children means they must be taught transgenderism, even as five year-olds! Socialism, though primarily economic, attacks the family, attacks God, reveres the STATE (the community) ...

D. *Because God is not in socialism there is no fruit of the Spirit –*

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. Galatians 5:22–23 (NKJV)

E. *Because God is not in socialism there is only the works of the flesh –*

To be fair, without God, even capitalism would be cruel ...

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness,
²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions,
dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you
beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit
the kingdom of God. Galatians 5:19–21 (NKJV)

F. *But capitalism does not contrast with the Bible, because the Bible clearly teaches –*

• *Private property –* ¹⁵ “You shall not steal. Exodus 20:15 (NKJV)

¹⁷ “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his
male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your
neighbor’s.” Exodus 20:17 (NKJV)

• *Personal responsibility –* ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If
anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. 2 Thessalonians 3:10 (NKJV)

"Private property creates for the individual a sphere in which he is free of the state. It sets limits to the operation of the authoritarian will. It allows other forces to arise side by side with and in opposition to political power. It thus becomes the basis of all those activities that are free from violent interference on the part of the state. It is the soil in which the seeds of freedom are nurtured and in which the autonomy of the individual and ultimately all intellectual and material progress are rooted."

~ Ludwig von Mises

3. *Socialism forces people to give their money (and ultimately their lives) to the state ...
that is not what is happening in Acts 2*

The Apostle’s did not grow rich taking the people’s money –

⁶ Then Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of
Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.” Acts 3:6 (NKJV)

(Paul) - ³³ I have coveted no one’s silver or gold or apparel. Acts 20:33 (NKJV)

II. *The Lies of Socialism –*

1. *That it is somehow Christian, or more “Christian” than capitalism, what I have already
preached exposes this lie, but usually socialists CLAIM to help the poor, when in reality
they only help politicians: A. Gain power B. Control all money!*

2. *They want and often cause the problem- poverty, in order to promise their own
solution, a sort of robbing the rich to give to the poor, yet what they do is rob everyone
... they create a crisis to consolidate CONTROL!*

3. *Capitalism – you decide what to do with your own money and possessions.*

Socialism or Communism the government makes all decisions, because all the money, and everything, including people, “the children belong to the community, meaning the state” belong to THEM!

“The government that is BIG ENOUGH to give you everything you want, is BIG ENOUGH to take away everything you have.” President Gerald Ford

“Accuse them of what you do!” Karl Marx, one of the fathers of Socialism & Communism

“Inflation is not caused by the actions of private citizens, but by the government: by an artificial expansion of the money supply required to support deficit spending. No private embezzlers or bank robbers in history have ever plundered people's savings on a scale comparable to the plunder perpetrated by the fiscal policies of statist governments.” ~ Ayn Rand

*III. Where do we find socialism / communism in the scripture? In Judges 1 -
⁵ And they found Adoni-Bezek in Bezek, and fought against him; and they defeated the Canaanites and the Perizzites. ⁶ Then Adoni-Bezek fled, and they pursued him and caught him and cut off his thumbs and big toes. ⁷ And Adoni-Bezek said, “Seventy kings with their thumbs and big toes cut off used to gather scraps under my table; as I have done, so God has repaid me.” Then they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died. Judges 1:5–7 (NKJV)*

- 1. Socialism takes away the individual's power to attain wealth, cuts off thumbs and big toes ...*
- 2. Socialism makes everyone dependent of a dictator (or dictators) –*

“Every socialist is a disguised dictator” Ludwig Von Mises

“There is no difference between communism and socialism, except in the means of achieving the same ultimate end: communism proposes to enslave men by force, socialism – by vote. It is merely the difference between murder and suicide.” Ayn Rand

The same could be said of so-called “Democratic Socialism” it is just another name for the same thing ...

We see Adoni-Bezek judged (not applauded) by God and His people!

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