



High Meadow Ranch Men's Bible Study

“We Will Not Be Silenced” Series

Chapter 7: Capitalism is the Disease; Socialism is the Cure

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 | 7:00 PM

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America turns further from Christian values and the core principles of liberty every day. It's frustrating when you feel like you can't assert Biblical truth without facing condemnation. It's sad that outrage and victimhood have replaced respect and reason. How can you stay rooted in your own faith and continue publicly testifying for Jesus?

In *We Will Not Be Silenced*, Dr. Erwin W. Lutzer gets us ready to live out our convictions against a growing spirit of hostility by obtaining a better understanding of non-believers' legitimate hurts and concerns regarding issues such as racism, sexism, and poverty, and identify the toxic responses secular culture disguises as solutions. In the process, we'll evaluate how we can witness, show compassion, and gentleness outside the faith without affirming their beliefs. *We Will Not Be Silenced* (WWNBS) will prepare you to move beyond fear and boldly accept the challenge of representing Christ to a watching world that needs Him now more than ever before.

1. On pages 179 – 183 in WWNBS we read the section entitled, *Yes, Marx Does, in Fact, Rule from the Grave*. This is a very important section of the book that deals with the philosophies of Marx and the impact he has had on many world leaders over the past 150-plus years. Read this section of the book and answer the following questions.
 - a. What concerned Marx about the English Industrial Revolution?
 - b. Why did Marx hate Christianity?
 - c. Why has Marxism looked so attractive to so many people over the years, especially people in Russia and Latin America?
 - d. List some of the things for which people blame capitalism?
2. Climate change has certainly been a hot topic over the past 20 years.
 - a. What are your personal thoughts on climate change?
 - b. As Christians, what should our views on the environment and Creation be?
 - c. Why are the radical socialists so adamant about climate change (see pages 185-186)?

3. The past two years have created experiences none of us could have previously predicted. Unfortunately, we're still living with some of the aftermath.
 - a. In what ways did COVID give governing authorities "greater than usual" power?

 - b. In what ways do these governing actions indicate we are moving closer towards socialism?

4. Although socialism is a philosophy and way of thinking, it also manifests through economic drivers.
 - a. In 2020 our government provided economic stimulus to Americans and American businesses. How was this accomplished?

 - b. What is fiat money and what does it do to an economy?

5. Capitalism and Christianity seem to go "hand in hand" in the United States.
 - a. What has capitalism given to Christians in the United States?

 - b. Read Luke 16:1-13 about the Shred Manager. What advice does Jesus give us in verse 9?

 - c. Read Luke 12:42-48. What does this passage communicate to us, especially verse 48, about how we should view the financial blessings that come from God?

6. Most of us would identify ourselves as Capitalist. Is there a dark side of capitalism?

7. For more than a thousand years the Bible has been used to defend everything from polygamy to slavery. Considering various Bible passages, provide some examples in the table below when the Bible could be considered "pro-capitalism" and "pro-socialism."

Pro-Capitalism	Pro-Socialism

8. If you were to sit down and visit with a young person and capitalism versus socialism, what would you say? Please provide your answers below.