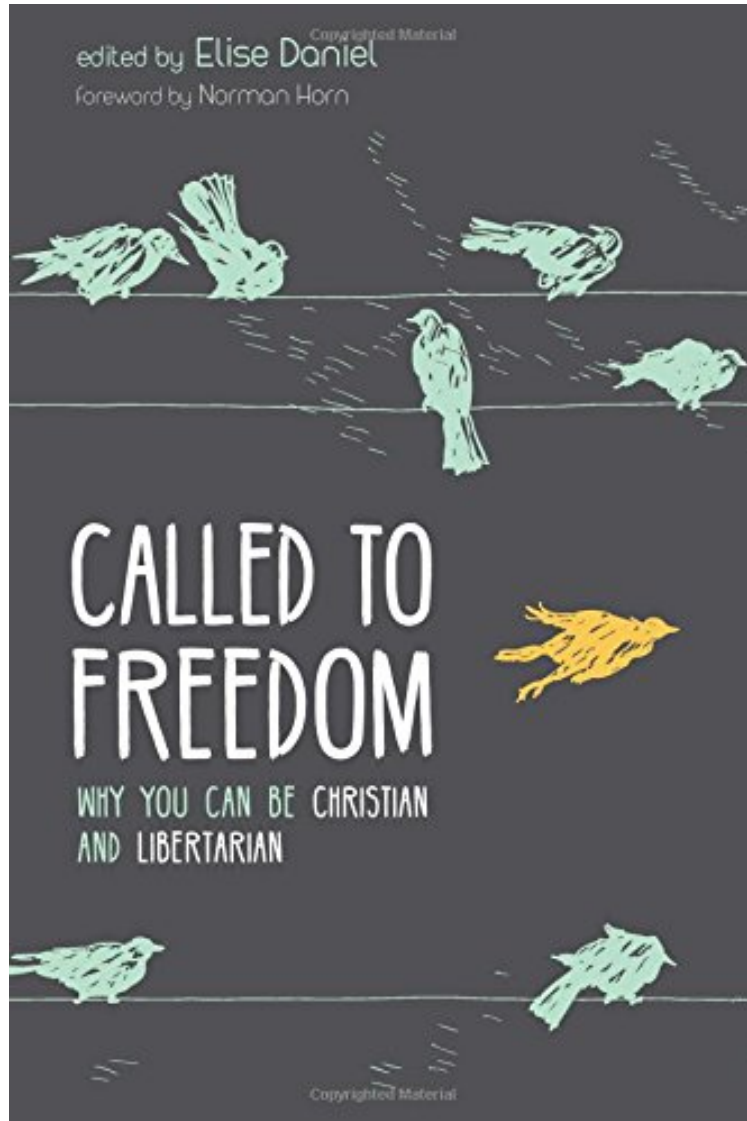


[E-BOOK] Called to Freedom: Why You Can Be Christian and Libertarian

Called to Freedom: Why You Can Be Christian and Libertarian

From Wipf and Stock
ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook



#174605 in Books 2017-01-09 2017-01-09 Original language: English 9.00 x .37 x 6.00l, #File Name: 1498280943160 pages | File size: 25.Mb

From Wipf and Stock : **Called to Freedom: Why You Can Be Christian and Libertarian** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised **Called to Freedom: Why You Can Be Christian and Libertarian**:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. **Called to Freedom: A Libertarian Christian Primer** By Benjamin Miller TL;DR: **Called to Freedom: Why You Can Be Christian and Libertarian** is a must-have for any politically-inclined Christian. It is especially excellent for conservative Christians who are intrigued by libertarianism but

confused as to its relation to their Christians faith. Called to Freedom: Why You Can Be Christian and Libertarian is exactly what it claims to be: an argument in favor of the compatibility of libertarian political philosophy and Christian theology. What to expect: This book is in many ways a "beginner's guide to libertarian thought from a Christian perspective. By no means did I feel as though I was reading a political theory text when reading this book. Rather, this book reads like a Christian book first and foremost and a political book second. The authors have a strong understanding that being Christian precedes being libertarian and have structured the book as such. The book lays out how libertarianism can fit within a Christian worldview rather than Christianity in a libertarian worldview. Pros: As mentioned above, the book puts the focus first and foremost on the understanding of Christian theology within a political environment. The first chapter comes out guns blazing, to an extent unexpectedly, with a theological discussion rather than a political one. It lays the groundwork by understanding what Christianity tells us about human nature before applying that teaching to political theory. The book goes on to discuss what the proper role of government should be given this human nature framework and debunks several myths about Christian libertarianism including the infamous "Romans 13". The last two chapters of the book are a refreshing change of pace that draw a stark contrast between the wonder of human achievement in a free society versus the devastation of authoritarianism. The arguments are easy to understand and sacrifice little in terms of strength to achieve such a feat. Cons: The book is mostly geared towards those who are already interested in libertarianism as a political ideology. Left-leaning Christians may be challenged in their views but are unlikely to find convincing arguments on issues related to economics. One of the pros of the book is that it's written for a general Christian audience regardless of denomination (which I applaud it for). However, denominations with intricate doctrinal teachings (myself being Catholic) may have some cravings left unfilled. (Not a major con, just an expectation to have) Again, the book is meant to be more of a beginner's guide and those look for something deeply technical will be left unsatisfied. Conclusion: This book is a must buy. In fact, it's one of those books that you should buy multiple copies of to give to friends as a proselytizer. From the deeply libertarian, to the newbie, there is much to be gained from the book. It fulfills exactly what it promises to be without losing course one way or another. There is not a better introductory book to Christian libertarianism than this one. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Ellen Great mix of personal tone and well-educated arguments. Would highly recommend to anyone exploring these topics. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Must read for ALL Evangelicals By Eugene Rossi I first stumbled across Libertarianism in the confusion following the nomination of Donald Trump last year, specifically when I discovered Austin Petersen, a pro life Libertarian who ran for office as well last year. As expected, there wasn't much material on the subject of how a theologically conservative Christian might argue for Libertarian ideas in government. So over the last year I began following Libertarian Christian Institute, pro life Libertarians and a few other groups on Facebook. Although some people I met seemed to identify as "Libertarian" only as a way to disassociate from Trump and push their own hyper-conservative agendas (Some called for the elimination of public education yet supported the death penalty for blasphemy or homosexuals), but most were very reasonable people who shared many of my Christian beliefs, only that it isn't the government's job to enforce all of those beliefs. After much thought, reading and prayer, I began changing many of my previously held views on what the role of government should be in interfering with various issues, although I still do not consider myself a textbook Libertarian. The few issues I am decidedly Non-Libertarian on are immigration reform, pro-life (most Libertarians are either pro choice or at least do not believe abortion should be outlawed), capital punishment, and social welfare programs (I believe we need to reform the current system but not abolish it until better alternatives become more realistic. Why do I say all this about myself? Because as someone who no longer sees any one brand of political theory as the right way to help our country, this book was very well written in a respectful manner, and it explains the issues in terms the average lay person can easily understand. This book succeeds where other Evangelicals (in my opinion) have failed in properly questioning the establishment, majority views of the "Religious Right." I suggest reading it with an open heart and mind, and if you take nothing else away from it, remember this - The government is by definition Force - when laws are passed, when morality is legislated, it means the government must use the threat of violent force to maintain those laws. That is not to say morality should never be legislated, but it should give us Christian Conservatives pause to consider the logical conclusions of the current popular Evangelical political framework - why should we militantly support the State's role in enforcing a Biblical view of marriage while not doing so in regards to divorce laws, Sabbath keeping, or believing in Christ at all for that matter? The consistent application of those laws leads to Theonomy, a violent and oppressive worldview that is deeply rooted in church history as well as early American history. Is that really what the Church is called to be? This book answers with a resounding "No", and instead aligns with what I also believe, that the laws of government should be limited primarily to the basics necessary for a free society; the protection of individual rights including the right to life, liberty, and property.

Conservatism, Republican politics, and traditional Christianity are thought by some to go together like baseball and apple pie. Yet, for a growing number of people, libertarian political thought provides an alternative to the traditional Christian right. That number includes the six young authors of this book who explore and expound the case that one

can be both a Christian and a libertarian. *Called to Freedom* explores the major points of tension between the Christian faith and political liberty to demonstrate why the two can coexist in harmony. Through their own personal experiences, and from six different perspectives, the authors offer both thoughtful arguments and encouragement to anyone navigating the space between Christianity and libertarianism. It is in that space that the authors have found a home, one that prioritizes the kingship of Jesus Christ and the inherent dignity of the people created in his image. If you are a Christian exploring libertarian thought, or if you feel caught between your Christian beliefs and libertarian political instincts, this book is written for you.

Contributors: Jacqueline Isaacs is the inaugural Fellow in Strategic Communication at the American Studies Program in Washington, DC. She earned her MBA in marketing at Johns Hopkins University and her BS in government at Oral Roberts University. Jason Hughey is a certified personal trainer and group fitness instructor. He earned his BA in government from Regent University in 2012 and worked for several liberty-advancing nonprofits before switching to the fitness industry full-time. Taylor Barkley lives in Washington, DC with his wife and works at a public policy organization and part-time with Search Ministries. He graduated from Taylor University with a degree in history and political science. Leah Hughey is a graduate of Regent University, where she studied government and history. She works at a Christian ministry focused on fostering collaboration between charities and churches to solve social problems in the cities they serve. Leah has been happily married to coauthor Jason since 2013. Philip Luca is an award-winning marketing strategist working with tech companies and startups in the DC area. He currently serves on the board of the American Marketing Association, DC as the VP of Social Media. He holds two graduate degrees from Liberty University in digital media and theology.