

“It’s Just War...”

Sermon Notes (topical, Rom 12:17-13:5) 10/26/08

What is Scripture’s position regarding war? How should Christians understand and respond to war? Several views:

- I. PACIFISTS – one extreme. “*No resistance, no aggression, no war!*” Cite Is 2:4; Matt 5:44-45; 9:9-10; more.
- II. ACTIVISTS – another extreme. “*Protect country and its people at all costs!*” Cite 1 Pet 2:13-15; Rom 13:1-4; more.
- III. JUST WAR – the dominant view of Christianity, currently observed by our gov’t. Seeks to *limit* reasons for going to war, and to *regulate* conduct in it.
 - A. Justice TO War: Governs decision to engage at all.
 - 1) Just CAUSE.
 - 2) Just INTENTION. Rom 4:19
 - 3) Last RESORT.
 - 4) Competent AUTHORITY. 1 Pet 2:13-15; Rom 13:1-4
 - 5) Proportionate OBJECTIVES.
 - 6) Probability of SUCCESS. Luke 14:31-32
 - B. Justice IN War: Guidance for war-time activity.
 - 1) PROPORTIONALITY. Hab 1:11; Amos 1:3, 11
 - 2) DISCRIMINATION. Deut 20:19-20; Amos 1:13
 - 3) Prohibition of ABUSE. Is 10-13; Ex 20

See Is 56:1; Ps 82:3-4 (many Ps!); Heb 11:33-34; Rom 3:25-26; 14:19; Luke 3:14; Acts 10; Josh 8; 11; 1 Sam 23; Gen 14; 9:5-6; Jn 2:13-22; Gal 6:7-9; Rev 19; more!