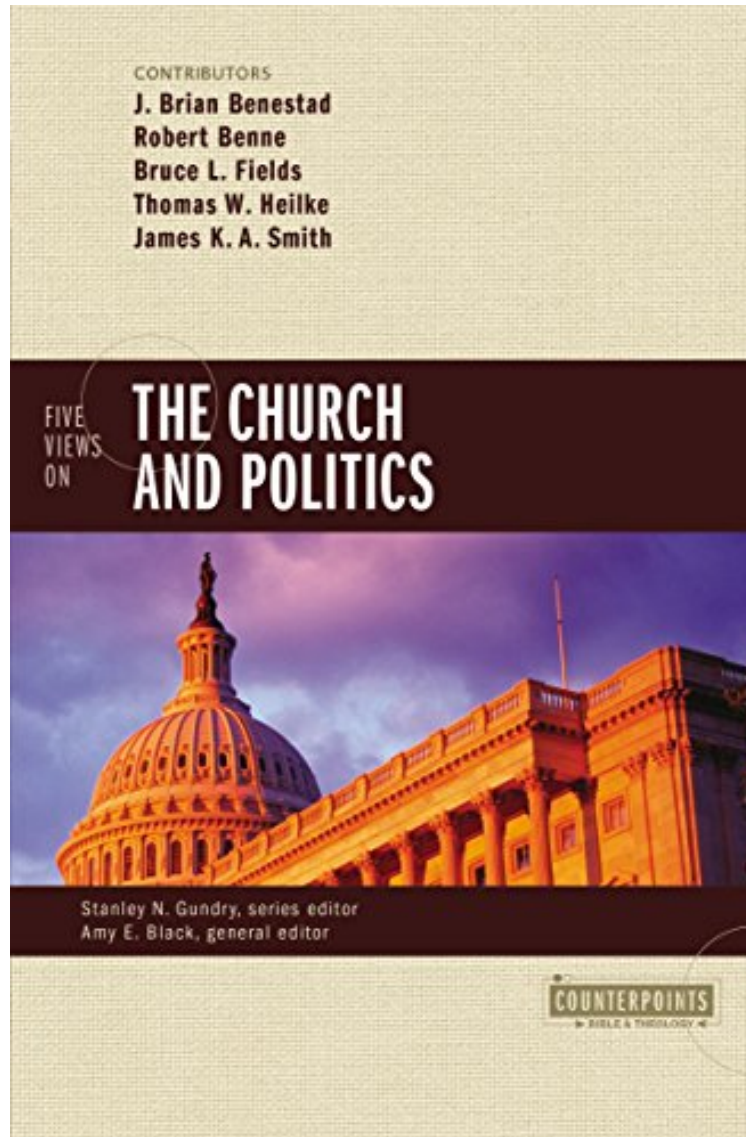


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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Know the history in order to know what is happening now. By Frenchclass This is not a lightweight book, but I enjoyed it greatly. The descriptions of the historical development of the various views was helpful in understanding them. What I especially liked was that this is a "conversation", in which each contributor answers all the others, offering both points of appreciation and critique. This is a "thinking" book, and a very timely one. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A helpful book in Understanding Christ and Culture By Josh This book seeks to take Richard Niebuhr's five types from his book "Christ and Culture" and apply them to specifically to politics. Each of the five authors assumes one of the Niebuhr's types and then shows how that type plays out in the political realm. Very helpful book continuing a much-needed discussion. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Clayton Very balance and informative comparison of all five perspectives on the church's involvement on politics.

Few topics can grab headlines and stir passions quite like politics, especially when the church is involved. Considering the attention that many Christian parachurch groups, churches, and individual believers give to politics and of the varying and sometimes divergent political ideals and aims among them Five Views on the Church and Politics provides a helpful breakdown of the possible Christian approaches. Readers will find themselves equipped to think more deeply about the relationship between church and state in a way that goes beyond mere policy debates and current campaigns. General Editor Amy Black brings together five top-notch political theologians in the book, each representing one of the five key political traditions within Christianity: Anabaptist (Separationist) Thomas Heilke Lutheran (Two Kingdom) Robert Benne Catholic (In Tension) J. Brian Benestad Reformed (Integrationist) James K. A. Smith Black Church (Prophetic) Bruce Fields Each author addresses his traditions theological distinctives, the role of government, the place of individual Christian participation in government and politics, and how churches should (or should not) address political questions. Responses by each contributor to opposing views will highlight key areas of difference and disagreement. Thorough and even-handed, Five Views on the Church and Politics will enable readers to consider the strengths and weaknesses of the most significant Christian views on political engagement and to draw their own, informed conclusions.

About the Author J. Brian Benestad (PhD, Boston College) is the D-Amour Chair of Catholic Thought at Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts. The editor of Fellowship of Catholic Scholars Quarterly, his published works include The Pursuit of a Just Social Order and Church, State, and Society: An Introduction to Catholic Social Doctrine.