

**Sermon Discussion Questions, July 4, 2010,  
*Christianity, Economics and the Role of Government***

**Dr. Rod MacIlvaine**

Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35; 5:4 and Other Scriptures

1. What do you think the role of government should be in our country? Do you think there is too much governmental influence in our economy or too little? Why? On what do you base your political opinions?

2. Read Acts 2:42-47 and 4:32. How could these verses be misinterpreted and misunderstood? Does the Bible teach a form of communism or socialism? What is the biblical position on property rights? Summarize your answer based on the verses below.

Psalm 24:1

Exodus 22:1-15

Acts 5:4

Exodus 20:15

1 Chronicles 29:16

3. What does the Bible teach about economics? (Matthew 25:14-30, Luke 19:1-44, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2) How does the morality of a nation affect free-market capitalism? If possible, site current examples of this in our society? What does Proverbs 24:27 mean? What concept does it teach?

4. Communism and free market capitalism flow from two radically different worldviews. Communism flows from atheism and capitalism flows from Christianity. What does the atheist worldview say about God, creation, power, and change? What does Christianity say about each of these topics?

5. Why is it so important to know what the Bible says about practical things such as economics and the role of government? Why is it important to know what you believe?

6. As Christ-followers, how should we address public policy debates? How quick are you to defend your financial principles?

7. Why do you think God blesses His people? If you are a Christian and God has blessed you with relative wealth, where is He calling you to be generous? Who might benefit from your example and money management advice?

8. How often do you pray for our nation? In what new ways will you pray this week?