



Faith as a Weapon: 10 Alarming Truths About the Rise of Christian Nationalism in America

- June 4, 2025 On January 6, 2021, a violent assault on the U.S. Capitol unfolded not just under a haze of political extremism but with an unmistakable current of religious fervor. Among the flags and chants, Christian symbols (crosses, Bibles, and “Jesus Saves” signs) merged with calls to overturn the 2020 election, revealing a deeper undercurrent: a belief that the insurrection was not only patriotic but part of a holy war. Rioters invoked God as they stormed the halls of Congress, framing their actions as spiritual warfare against a demonic regime.

In the weeks leading up to the attack, leaders like [Michael Flynn](#), [Lance Wallnau](#), and [Paula White-Cain](#) mobilized believers with militant rhetoric and apocalyptic prophecy. At Jericho Marches around the Capitol, crowds were told they were fighting a spiritual war to reclaim America for God. Trump’s own spiritual advisor, White-Cain, implored God to “overturn every adversary against democracy” in the name of Jesus, while [Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene](#) (R-GA) called January 6 “our 1776 moment.” Their actions weren’t outliers. They reflected a deeper and coordinated campaign by Christian nationalist leaders who had spent months — and in many cases, years — casting Donald Trump’s presidency and the 2020 election as a battleground between good and evil.

While militia groups and white supremacists took the spotlight, January 6 exposed a more insidious threat: a growing cadre of Christian nationalists, New Apostolic Reformation, and Catholic integralist leaders seeking to dismantle democracy and replace it with government by divine rule. These movements — backed by powerful political operatives like [Leonard Leo](#), the Federalist Society’s judicial architect, and elevated through Trump-era appointments like [Russell Vought](#) — share a common goal: to impose a narrow, authoritarian vision of Christianity on the entire country. As their leaders gain influence, the lines between religious devotion and political extremism are growing dangerously thin.

“[Faith as a Weapon](#)” is a critical examination of the theocratic vanguard rising in American politics. It offers a sobering look at the movements that helped carve its path — and continue to shape the road ahead. Understanding these ideologies, their strategies, and their ultimate aims is essential for protecting America’s constitutional promise of religious freedom for all.

The following offers a clear introduction to these movements — and a revealing look at the power players behind them — explored in 10 shocking points:

1. Christian Nationalism Seeks to Transform the U.S. Into a Theocracy

Leaders like Pastor [Douglas Wilson](#) argue for embedding Christianity into laws, courts, and public life. This isn’t about freedom of faith — it’s about rewriting the nation’s identity to enforce Christian supremacy above our civil rights and liberties.

2. It’s Not Just Religious — It’s Authoritarian

Christian nationalism merges theology with [dominionism](#): the belief that Christians are divinely mandated to rule society. This ideology is explicitly anti-pluralist and rejects the idea of religious or cultural diversity.

3. The Movement Is Now Deeply Embedded in Political Power

Once considered fringe, Christian nationalism now boasts appointees and influencers at the highest levels of government, particularly aligned with Donald Trump and Project 2025’s sweeping [authoritarian agenda](#). Speaker [Mike Johnson](#) and figures like [Pete Hegseth](#) exemplify Christian nationalist influence at the highest levels. Their agenda includes rewriting laws and budget priorities to reflect their biblical worldview.

4. Apocalypticism Fuels Political Extremism

Movements like the [New Apostolic Reformation \(NAR\)](#) believe they are living in the End Times. Their goal isn’t just political victory — it’s spiritual warfare aimed at hastening the apocalypse and Christ’s return.

5. The Doctrine of Dominion Is Popular and Pervasive

According to the Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI), 30 percent of Americans either adhere to or sympathize with Christian nationalist [views](#). These views are tied to anti-immigrant sentiment, patriarchy, political violence, and conspiracy theories like QAnon.

6. Far-Right Billionaires and Media Ecosystems Are Fueling the Movement

Groups like the Council for National Policy and the [Ziklag Group](#) are bankrolling efforts to reshape American institutions. [The Seven Mountain Mandate](#) seeks to dominate seven spheres of society — including media, education, and government.

7. Catholic Integralists Believe Their Religion — Not Democracy — Should Govern the U.S.

The integralist [vision](#) argues that the state should submit to the Catholic Church, treating civil government as a tool to enforce religious doctrine. This isn't just about "values-based policy" — it's a call to dismantle the separation of church and state.

8. Their Vision Criminalizes Dissent from Catholic Orthodoxy.

Some integralist [thinkers](#) argue the Church holds permanent jurisdiction over baptized individuals and supports state punishment for Catholics who abandon doctrine. It's a framework where leaving the Church isn't just a spiritual matter — it becomes a punishable offense.

9. The Threat Is Real

Christian nationalism isn't just a political trend — it's an organized, well-funded, and increasingly mainstream push to transform the U.S. into a Christian autocracy. Understanding its ideology, players, and ambitions is the first step in defending inclusion and democracy.

10. Resistance Is Growing

While Christian nationalists are gaining power, two-thirds of Americans remain skeptical or opposed to their [political ideology](#). Faith leaders, civil rights groups, and grassroots movements are pushing back, warning that Christian nationalism threatens both religious freedom and democracy itself.