

THE HUMANIST DUALISM

**ECONOMICS:
WORK AND PROSPERITY
IN CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE**

A Beka Book
(1999)

- Strongly pro-free market
- Briefly contrasts supply-side versus demand-side economics
- Supports gold standard; misses its Biblical basis and implications
- Explains unions' anticompetitiveness; defends right-to-work
- Questions value of antitrust
- Little on Austrian School view that central bank interest rate manipulation, not capitalism, causes "business cycles"
- Notes unscientific, neo-socialist agendas in environmentalism and "global warming" orthodoxy, and flaws in Malthusianism
- Favors free trade; rejects supra-national vetoes on national policy as humanistic revolts against divine sovereignty

**ECONOMICS
FOR CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS**

Bob Jones
University Press
(1998)

- Strongly pro-free market
- No clear contrast of supply-side versus demand-side economics
- Neutral on gold standard versus paper money
- Little on labor unions' adverse economic effects
- Conflicted treatment of antitrust
- Prefers the Austrian theory of "business cycles," that increases in the money supply cause general booms and busts
- Says special interests often trump public interests in public policy, and politicians are as selfish as private entrepreneurs
- Gives sound advice on Christian business issues involving entering into partnerships, and borrowing and lending money

Humanism makes either **society** or the **individual** sovereign, subordinating the one to the other. In economics this means **government control** or **libertarianism**. The former's goal is to

We will not have this man [Christ] to reign over us.
Luke 19:14

redistribute wealth to the state; the latter's, **personal freedom**. **Redistribution kills productivity**. **Without virtue, freedom dies**. The first brings **want**; the second, **anarchy**. Both are suicidal.

Government control promises humanistic security, an oxymoron, a rejection of divine sovereignty, of God's Word, of Jesus Christ. For such apostasy the Bible predicts insecurity – dwindling

And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the Lord will not hear you
1 Samuel 8:18

property rights, debased money, oppressive taxation – as sovereign rulers shift wealth and power to themselves, persuasive proof of the non-humanistic origin of Scripture.

Libertarians often agree with specific Biblical economic principles. Yet they err in thinking these deny only government sovereignty over property, taxation, money. In fact these

I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.
Psalms 119:45

deny all sovereignty to any human entity. They maximize happiness because thus saith the Lord, not because they promote individual freedom (although they do that).

versus

THE TRINITARIAN ANSWER

In the Trinity, unity and plurality are equally ultimate and neither subordinate. The Godhead is not inferior to the three Persons, nor they to the Godhead. The Word of God being

That they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me [Christ], and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us
John 17:21

both a divine Person (Christ) and divine Truth (Scripture), human unity and individuality are also equally ultimate and neither subordinate when man obeys Biblical principles.

The same specific Biblical economic principles bind human government today as absolutely as Jesus Christ is God's only-begotten Son. If they can change over time, become obsolete, no

For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.
Psalms 119:89

longer apply, the Word of God Himself can evolve and we may have new Christs, other Saviors, a Trinity in flux. The finality of God's written and Personal Word stands or falls together.