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The Seven Mountain Mandate: A Call to Mobilize Christians Worldwide

The Seven Mountain Mandate is a powerful transformational strategy that is uniting Christians across denominations globally. At its core, it's about seven spheres of influence - arts/entertainment, education, government, media, business, religion, and family - which must be taken over for God's kingdom to advance the discipling of nations beyond individual levels. Prayer networks are being established in various countries and continents to subdue each sphere for Jesus. The term is not new, but a significant event occurred in 1975 when two influential figures, Bill Bright and Loren Cunningham, met to discuss their experiences with God. Both had received similar messages that the discipling of nations couldn't be limited to individual growth, but must lead to societal transformation. They agreed on seven spheres of influence, each requiring a unique strategy for conquest. These spheres include arts/entertainment, education, government, media, business, religion, and family. Each has its distinct culture and mindset that must be aligned with God's kingdom. The mandate is not about individual conversions, but about transforming society through the discipleship of nations. The common denominator among these spheres is that they require a unified strategy for conquest to fulfill the Creation Mandate in Genesis and the Great Commission in Matthew 28. Bill Bright and Loren Cunningham, two prominent figures in international revival Christianity, played a significant role in shaping this movement. Their meeting marked the beginning of a worldwide strategy to mobilize the Body of Christ. The revolution is multifaceted, involving education, government reform, media manipulation, business transformation, religious reformation, and family revitalization. It's about reclaiming these spheres for God's kingdom, not just expanding individual churches or ministries. The Seven Mountain Mandate is a call to action, urging Christians worldwide to unite and take authority over their nations, cities, and communities. The Business sphere stands alone from the Government and Education spheres, each with unique characteristics. However, only a few individuals can excel in multiple spheres simultaneously. In Norway and Scandinavia, common ground exists among the mountains, but differences are significant for those seeking to conquer a particular sphere for God's Kingdom. Jesus sent out His disciples in pairs, emphasizing the importance of collaboration. Climbing the seven mountains alone is not recommended. Today, the Church must reevaluate its role in society and redefine mission strategies. We can no longer send missionaries alone to Timbuktu's or Polynesia's, while young people preparing for a lifelong conquest of the Media mountain or Government mountain must undertake this task individually. We must equip them with eternal results on their respective mountains. Servants on the Mountain must remember that they are ambassadors for Christ, sent to love and serve humanity. Ideas and values guide our ministry on each mountain. Principles and ideology shape society in the long term. Servanthood is a deeply held attitude, easily forgotten. The concept of the Seven Mountain Mandate draws inspiration from various thinkers, including Bill Bright and Loren Cunningham, who emphasized the importance of Christians engaging influential societal domains. This idea has connections to broader theological perspectives like Dominion Theology and Kingdom Theology, although adherents differ on how extensively the church should exercise authority. Believers are called to impact various "mountains" - government, media, arts, entertainment, business, education, and family. They're encouraged to uphold integrity in these areas, demonstrating God's character (Phil. 4:8). 7 Mountains of Influence - Arts & Entertainment: This field reflects cultural values; Christians can create art that celebrates truth, goodness, and beauty, pointing people toward God (Exod. 35:30-35). 7. Business/Economics - Biblical ethics in commerce and management as a testimony to integrity. Godly stewards can balance sacred principles with economic productivity. 1. Points of Concern & Discussion: 1. Misinterpretation - Criticisms that emphasizing "taking mountains" might be seen as triumphalist or politicized, instead of responsible stewardship. 2. Focus on Earthly Success vs. Spiritual Priorities - Detractors claim the Seven Mountain Mandate prioritizes shaping earthly institutions over preaching the gospel and waiting for Christ's kingdom (John 18:36). 3. Variety in Application - Different proponents apply the Seven Mountains in varying ways, leading to misunderstandings about what such influence entails. Advocates of the Seven Mountain Mandate draw inspiration from passages such as Genesis 1:28 and Matthew 28:18-20 to champion holistic cultural involvement. However, individual perspectives on this mandate vary, prompting believers to weigh its significance through scriptural analysis and prayer. By serving as salt and light across all seven "mountains," Christians strive to fortify families, communities, and nations while bringing glory to God. The Seven Mountain Mandate, also known as Seven Mountain Dominionism or 7M, is a religious movement within the evangelical community that believes followers of Christ have been tasked with instilling Christian values in seven key pillars of society. According to its founders, Bill Bright and Loren Cunningham, God imparted a message to both men in 1975, instructing them to reclaim the "seven spheres of society" - religion, family, education, government, media, arts and entertainment, and business. This mandate is rooted in biblical passages, including Genesis and Revelation, which emphasize dominion over creation. For instance, Genesis 1:28 commands Adam to "fill the earth and subdue it," while Revelation's depiction of a beast with seven heads is seen as an allegory for human dominance. As part of the broader New Apostolic Reformation (NAR), the Seven Mountain Mandate advocates for direct spiritual power and emphasizes the role of apostles in their movement. Unlike many Christian denominations, NAR does not prioritize biblical scripture but instead focuses on personal experience and the authority granted to its leaders. The Seven Mountain Mandate's emphasis on dominionism - a philosophy that seeks to establish a society governed by Christian principles - has raised concerns about the potential for extremist political ideologies. The Seven Mountain Mandate philosophy aims to spread Christianity through various sectors of society, including government, education, and entertainment. Its followers believe that infusing Christian values into these areas will bring about the second coming of Jesus Christ. The group, known as YWAM, operates in 180 countries and trains thousands of people annually, with a focus on social influence, particularly in government. The Seven Mountain Mandate: A Christian Movement to Influence Society According to some evangelical groups, Christianity has a divine right to impact every aspect of society. This movement aims to "take over" seven spheres - family, religion, education, media, arts and entertainment, business, and government - but only to spread God's message within them. The Seven Mountain Mandate has been described as an ideological feature of the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) movement, which assigns a "revelation status" to it. It's also linked to Independent Network Charismatic Christianity and Neo-charismatic movements. According to a 2024 poll, 41% of American Christians believe in the 7MM. This ideology is part of dominionism, with its roots in biblical passages like Revelation 17:1-18 and Isaiah 2:2. Proponents aim to influence society through strategic spiritual warfare by researching territorial spirits, mapping geographical strongholds, and interceding through prayer. Key figures associated with the movement include Michele Bachmann, Lauren Boebert, Rafael Cruz, Mike Johnson, Tom Parker, Paula White, and Andrew Wommack. Critics argue that the Seven Mountain Mandate shares similarities with Marxist and Gramscian theories of ideological state apparatuses (ISAs). The movement's goal is to establish the kingdom of God on earth and bring about the end times by controlling seven areas: family, religion, education, media, entertainment, business, and government. A Christian nonprofit organization called Ziklag subscribes to this mandate, with exclusive membership for high-net-worth individuals and faith-based interests. The Christian nationalist movement in the US has been quietly taking over, according to experts who warn of extremist risks. This movement is built around a theology that sees itself as part of a global struggle against secularism and what it perceives as "secular humanism". The ideology is rooted in a fringe evangelical tradition known as New Apostolic Reformation (NAR), which aims to remake America in its image before the end times. Some key figures and events have contributed to this movement's growth, including Loren Cunningham's pioneering work in short-term missions and his influence on Donald Trump's presidential campaign. The "Seven Mountains" conspiracy theory, popularized by Christian nationalist leaders, seeks to take control of key sectors like government, media, and education. Critics argue that this movement poses a threat to democracy, as seen in the words and actions of figures such as Alabama Justice Tom Parker, who has stated that American law should be rooted in the Bible. Experts warn about the dangers of extremism, citing instances where Christian nationalists have infiltrated local governments, school boards, and other institutions. The movement's influence extends beyond politics, with some groups being accused of operating like cults. The Ziklag organization, for example, has been described as a secret group of wealthy Christians working to sway elections and shape the country according to their own agenda. Overall, the Christian nationalist movement in America is a complex and multifaceted issue that warrants close attention from scholars, policymakers, and concerned citizens alike. Given article text here "Seven Mountain Mandate: Examining the Rise and Implications of a Controversial Christian Movement" The concept of the 7 Mountain Mandate, also known as Influence, has its roots in 1975 with Loren Cunningham and Dr. Bill Bright. The theory proposes that seven areas of influence must be infiltrated by Christians to have an impact on society. The movement gained traction in the early 2000s and gained popularity during Donald Trump's presidency, with many Christians believing a powerful leader could help them advance their spheres of influence. The 7 Mountains of Influence are: 1. Religion: Many nations are aligned with one or more religions, which govern how people act and behave. 2. Family: The Bible emphasizes the importance of family, and it has a significant impact on thoughts and decisions. 3. Education: Believers often complain about public education's attempt to indoctrinate children, leading them to prioritize private Christian schools or home-schooling. 4. Government: Christians may want to have representatives in government to implement more Christian values into legislation. 5. Media: News outlets determine what is newsworthy and can spread truth or misinformation. 6. Arts and Entertainment: The arts have a profound influence on people, with "garbage in, garbage out" serving as a cautionary phrase. 7. Economy: This mountain is less explicitly discussed but is often seen as a critical area for Christians to exercise influence. The concept of the 7 Mountains of Influence, a framework for Christian influence in various sectors, is often rooted in biblical principles but lacks concrete biblical support. While some Christians believe that gaining influence can help instill biblical values, others raise concerns about potential issues with this approach. In the business world, Christian businesses can play a crucial role in shaping integral practices that promote fairness and social responsibility. However, critics argue that the 7 Mountains of Influence movement might be misguided, particularly if it leads to Christian nationalism or Dominionism, where Christians seek to dominate all areas of life. Some proponents of this movement cherry-pick biblical verses to support their claims, such as Genesis 1:26 and Revelation 17:9, without fully considering the context and broader implications. This selective interpretation can lead to misapplication of biblical principles and potentially harm the very people they aim to influence for the Gospel. The 7 Mountains of Influence should not be applied with eisegetical interpretations that only fit a movement's narrative. Instead, we must consider context and actions. The early church faced persecution and yet God moved. This challenges the perspective that taking power is necessary for God's influence. Early Christian history shows that God can work through people undergoing persecution. The 7 Mountains of Influence may have good intentions but overlooks the main mission of Christians: preaching the Gospel to all nations.

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