

# Political Ideologies

## Theory & History

# Fundamentalism

- Born out of American (evangelical) Protestantism in early 20<sup>th</sup> Century
- Commonly associated with inflexibility, dogmatism, authoritarianism and sometimes violence
- **Theocracy:** “The principle that religious authority should prevail over political authority usually through the domination of church over the state”

# Fundamentalism

- **Core**
- Politicization of religion
- Religion everywhere, no public/private distinction

# Fundamentalism

- **Clash of civilizations:** “The theory that, in the post-Cold War world, conflict would not be primarily ideological and economic, but rather cultural in character”

# Fundamentalism

- Reaction against moral decay, corruption, “sick old world”
- Utopian
- Puritanism – “I want to take apart the entire political and philosophical structure of modernity and return to Islam to its unpolluted origins” – *Sayyid Qutb*
- Moral absolutism
- Patriarchal with women
- Anti-modernism, anti-west?

# Fundamentalism

- Elitist (only a group of privileged people have access to and know what the “truth” is)
- The source of truth **unchangeable** and **unchallengeable**
- Orthodoxy
- No room for relativity (not only in religion, but in every aspect of life as part of religion)

# Fundamentalism

- **Scriptural literalism:** “A belief in the literal truth of sacred texts, which as the revealed word of God, have unquestionable authority reducing the complexity and profundity of the text”
- Accepting one and only interpretation as “true” and “religious” and declaring others as “false” and “unreligious” (the practice of excommunication)
- Not only intolerant of other religions, but other interpretations of the same religion
- Fundamentalism X Relativism

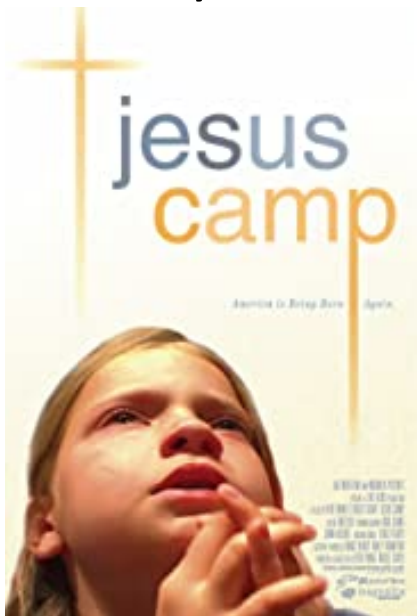
# Fundamentalism

- Militancy
- Totalitarianism (abolishing all civil institutions, civil society and private life)
- **Millenarianism:** “A belief in a 1000-year period of divine rule; political millenarianism offers the prospect of a sudden and complete emancipation from misery and oppression”
- **Apocalypticism:** “A belief in the imminent end of the world (as we know it), often associated with the return of a supreme or God-like figure denoting final solution and purification”



# Fundamentalism

- **Documentary**, “*Jesus Camp*” (2006), directed by Heidi Ewing & Rachel Grady, 87 min.



# Links

- <http://www.keremblog.info/>
- *avesis account:* <https://avesis.yildiz.edu.tr/keremkar>
- *departmental website:* [www.itb.yildiz.edu.tr](http://www.itb.yildiz.edu.tr)

# Books

- **Andrew Heywood**, *Political Ideologies: An Introduction*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012, 5th edition or above.
- **Kevin Bloor**, *The Definitive Guide to Political Ideologies*. Milton Keynes: Author House, 2010.

# Next Week

- next week, **ecologism**
- please don't forget to check out **chapter 9** from both of our books!
- thank you...