

**March 11, 2018**  
**Power and Politics**  
**Taken From James Hunter: How to Change the World**

A better relationship with power

1. Disentangle the life and identity of the church from the life and identity of American society.
2. Decouple the “public” from the “political.”

Because of the Fall, all power is tainted. Its disposition is to abuse.

Jesus and social power

1. Derived from his submission to the Father
2. Rejected status and reputation and privilege
3. Compassion defines his power
4. Noncoercive with outsiders

Jesus’ kingdom shows the power to bless, unburden, serve, heal, mend, restore, and liberate.

Alan Jacobs: “Wokeness and Myth on Campus” from the New Atlantis

For those we see in campus protests, “disagreement and alternative points of view may well appear to them not as matters for rational adjudication but as defilement from which they must be cleansed”.

They see it as: “The marginal person cannot be expected to obey the norms of the very society which has oppressed him — in this case, free speech, open debate, and other liberal norms. The appeal to administrative authority, then, is not just a demand that those who bring defilement be punished and expelled, but also a reminder that such expulsion, by bringing marginal persons under the protection of an administrative authority, is simultaneously an attempt to bring them back under the community’s norms. The not small irony in this case is that the appeal to administrators to expel the defilers itself violates the community’s ostensible liberal norms.”

“For it is safe to say that no human beings have ever lived in a more cognitively complex environment than we do. Faced with the constant inflow of information, we grow increasingly reluctant, if not actually unable, to make subtle distinctions.”