

Capitalism, Socialism, and Communism, Oh My!

Capitalism is based on private ownership of the means of production and on individual economic freedom.

What would you say are the pros and cons of a capitalistic system?

Socialism is a political and economic theory of social organization which advocates that the means of production, distribution, and exchange should be owned or regulated by the community as a whole.

Democratic socialism believes that both the economy and society should be run democratically in order to meet public needs instead of making profits for a few.

What would you say are the pros and cons of a socialist system?

Communism is a political theory derived from Karl Marx (sometimes called Marxism), advocating class war and leading to a society in which all property is publicly owned and each person works and is paid according to their abilities and needs.

What would you say are the pros and cons of a communist system?

What are different Biblical verses that work for or against these different systems?

Proverbs 31:16-18 ESV

She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She dresses herself with strength and makes her arms strong. She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night.

Leviticus 23:22 ESV

“And when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, nor shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the Lord your God.”

Acts 2:44-45 ESV

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

If God were to step in to create a government/economic system for humanity, what do you think that would look like? What Bible verses or theological themes would you use to defend that idea?