

Christian Perspective on Revolution and its Ethical Dilemma

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本篇論文的主旨在探討基督徒對「革命」的觀點以及其倫理上的難題。論文一開始就先界定「革命」的意義和分析其可能的聖經根基，並且指出其實踐上所遭遇的倫理難題——暴力使用的正當性。隨後在文中檢視了教會歷史上四位神學家：奧古斯丁、多瑪斯、路德和加爾文對此議題之看法，並且也進一步分析當代基督教倫理學家對使用暴力的不同主張，同時將之分為三類：暴力使用是必要的，可能的和不應該的。基本上本文採用了尼布爾對暴力本質的主張，所以不先天排除基督徒使用革命暴力的可能性，但是在結論也慎重指出基督徒從事暴力革命所應慮的幾項因素。

本文大綱如下：

- (A) The subject and focus of this paper
- (B) The definition of revolution and its biblical foundation
 - a. The definition and marks of revolution
 - b. The biblical foundation of revolution
- (C) Revolution and its ethical dilemma
- (D) Christian classic responses to revolution in historical tradition
 - a. Augustine
 - b. Thomas Aquinas
 - c. Martin Luther
 - d. John Calvin
- (E) Christian response toward revolutionary violence in the contemporary setting
 - a. The advocacy of violence as necessity
 - b. The advocacy of nonviolence as necessity
 - c. The advocacy of violence as possibility
- (F) Conclusion
 - a. Two dimensions of revolution
 - b. The legitimacy and danger of revolutionary violence
 - c. Several considerations of waging the revolution
 - d. The Legitimate authority and goal of revolution