

Contents

Introduction	1
1 What is this book about? A standpoint	1
I A First Reconnaissance	7
2 The difficulty of discussing politics	7
3 Against confusion of languages	16
4 Theology is not criticism of society	24
II Religion and Society	32
5 Religious faith and the social sciences	32
6 Religion serves to consolidate systems: the functionalist and Marxist interpretation	38
7 The value and truth of Christian faith	47
8 Social determination and ideological criticism	56
9 Contextual theology: politics in the outline proclamation of the Christian message of salvation	62
III God and Society	77
10 The empty world	77
11 Christology provides no directives	88
IV Messianic or Christian?	101
12 The Sermon on the Mount in politics?	101
13 The doctrine of the two kingdoms	112
14 Faith, politics and ethics	124

V	What the Church Says	140
15	The politicizing of the church	140
16	The socializing of faith	154
17	Why the church?	165
18	Here and hereafter	173