



Iraq

Theological Reflection

- C “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.” (Micah 4:3)
- C “A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom.” (Martin Luther King Jr.)
- C Aid is our moral responsibility accrued by the very act of invading and occupying Iraq.

Background

The *policy of preemption* led to the Iraq War and continues to endanger the stability of the MidEast and peace in the world.

- C We are in a war with unclear objectives started on basis of unreliable information when peaceful options were available.
- C We have destroyed Iraq’s infrastructure and have incarcerated, tortured and/or killed many innocent civilians.
- C We learned there were no WMDs, have captured and killed the person we claimed was responsible for actions we took.
- C We disbanded the Iraqi army and lost track of its weapons.
- C We have allowed the employment of mercenaries beyond reach of accountability to American people.



Iraq

Theological Reflection

- C “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.” (Micah 4:3)
- C “A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom.” (Martin Luther King Jr.)
- C Aid is our moral responsibility accrued by the very act of invading and occupying Iraq.

Background

The *policy of preemption* led to the Iraq War and continues to endanger the stability of the MidEast and peace in the world.

- C We are in a war with unclear objectives started on basis of unreliable information when peaceful options were available.
- C We have destroyed Iraq’s infrastructure and have incarcerated, tortured and/or killed many innocent civilians.
- C We learned there were no WMDs, have captured and killed the person we claimed was responsible for actions we took.
- C We disbanded the Iraqi army and lost track of its weapons.
- C We have allowed the employment of mercenaries beyond reach of accountability to American people.



Iraq

Theological Reflection

- C “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.” (Micah 4:3)
- C “A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual doom.” (Martin Luther King Jr.)
- C Aid is our moral responsibility accrued by the very act of invading and occupying Iraq.

Background

The *policy of preemption* led to the Iraq War and continues to endanger the stability of the MidEast and peace in the world.

- C We are in a war with unclear objectives started on basis of unreliable information when peaceful options were available.
- C We have destroyed Iraq’s infrastructure and have incarcerated, tortured and/or killed many innocent civilians.
- C We learned there were no WMDs, have captured and killed the person we claimed was responsible for actions we took.
- C We disbanded the Iraqi army and lost track of its weapons.
- C We have allowed the employment of mercenaries beyond reach of accountability to American people.

- C We have ignored the history of the region and the culture of the Iraqi people – and underutilized their talents and expertise.
- C Our continued military presence has continued to inflame the situation.

What Will Help

- C Acknowledge the costs of present policy in human lives, financial costs and international good will.
- C Stop actions that produce destruction of life and property and work to create conditions for stability and peace thereby reducing the chaos and desperation.
- C Change the focus of our presence
 - C Listen to other voices (allies, NGOs, loyal opposition, people who know history and culture of area.)
 - C Engage in honest debate.
 - C Pursue goals in manner consistent with moral principles, political wisdom and international law.
- C De-emphasize military needs and emphasize reconstruction
 - C Use funds provided by Congress for safe, orderly withdrawal of combat troops.
 - C Do not restrict use of funds for social and economic reconstruction.
- C Respect the will of the Iraqi people in rebuilding their own lives and country.

(5/07)

Member Denominations

American Baptist Churches, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Empire Baptist Missionary Convention, Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Presbyterian Church (USA), Reformed Church in America, Religious Society of Friends, United Church of Christ, The United Methodist Church.

- C We have ignored the history of the region and the culture of the Iraqi people – and underutilized their talents and expertise.
- C Our continued military presence has continued to inflame the situation.

What Will Help

- C Acknowledge the costs of present policy in human lives, financial costs and international good will.
- C Stop actions that produce destruction of life and property and work to create conditions for stability and peace thereby reducing the chaos and desperation.
- C Change the focus of our presence
 - C Listen to other voices (allies, NGOs, loyal opposition, people who know history and culture of area.)
 - C Engage in honest debate.
 - C Pursue goals in manner consistent with moral principles, political wisdom and international law.
- C De-emphasize military needs and emphasize reconstruction
 - C Use funds provided by Congress for safe, orderly withdrawal of combat troops.
 - C Do not restrict use of funds for social and economic reconstruction.
- C Respect the will of the Iraqi people in rebuilding their own lives and country.

(5/07)

Member Denominations

American Baptist Churches, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Empire Baptist Missionary Convention, Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Presbyterian Church (USA), Reformed Church in America, Religious Society of Friends, United Church of Christ, The United Methodist Church.

- C We have ignored the history of the region and the culture of the Iraqi people – and underutilized their talents and expertise.
- C Our continued military presence has continued to inflame the situation.

What Will Help

- C Acknowledge the costs of present policy in human lives, financial costs and international good will.
- C Stop actions that produce destruction of life and property and work to create conditions for stability and peace thereby reducing the chaos and desperation.
- C Change the focus of our presence
 - C Listen to other voices (allies, NGOs, loyal opposition, people who know history and culture of area.)
 - C Engage in honest debate.
 - C Pursue goals in manner consistent with moral principles, political wisdom and international law.
- C De-emphasize military needs and emphasize reconstruction
 - C Use funds provided by Congress for safe, orderly withdrawal of combat troops.
 - C Do not restrict use of funds for social and economic reconstruction.
- C Respect the will of the Iraqi people in rebuilding their own lives and country.

(5/07)

Member Denominations

American Baptist Churches, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Empire Baptist Missionary Convention, Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Presbyterian Church (USA), Reformed Church in America, Religious Society of Friends, United Church of Christ, The United Methodist Church.