

## A RESPONSE TO DARROW MILLER

A few weeks ago, I posted a “sympathetic critique” of Darrow Miller’s book, “Discipling The Nations: The Power Of Truth To Transform Cultures.” He kindly responded with several, lengthy statements. I encourage you to read my blog, parts one and two, and his commentary.

I have posted my response at the end of his comments in part two of my blog in English. However, since our dialogue is public, I post the same response here in Spanish.

Darrow,

I was happy to receive your response to my blog. My site is quite restricted in its exposure and I sometimes joke that it is just a dust mite on the back of a flea atop a mangy mutt. While the site is gaining readership, I rarely get feedback. So, your thoughtful commentary was a pleasant surprise.

Your tone, as well, was kind and open, and corresponds to how I describe you in the blog. It will be a pleasure to meet you, when you next come. You are right that we share commonalities, at least about diagnostic issues. I suspect that we differ on prescriptive options. I am not an “optimistic” realist, as you.

I will make three brief comments, because “an analysis as reflective as yours deserves an attentive response.” ☺

First, I not only read your book (twice), I studied it. I took notes, made cross-references, searched for citations of your texts by others, sought other reviews, and I looked at your ministry website. I probably edited and re-edited the blog more than twenty times. I also sent drafts to friends for their review and suggestions. Three of these were highly trained individuals. Four were thoughtful, Argentine Christians. Except for one negative review, all the input was positive, (even the not so positive response was helpful, though).

Second, you referred me to several, additional texts of yours and of others, and I am grateful. In my blog I referred readers to resources on my site, including two articles by myself. Might I suggest you read: “A Place at the Table: Christian Political Engagement in a Post-Christian Context” and “The Mission of God and Economic Prosperity.” (They are on the site in Spanish. If you want English copies, I can provide them to you.) You will see in the article, “A Place At The Table,” that my vision for Christian social engagement is different than yours (though not incompatible). I also invite you to read some of my blogs (on the “English Page”).

Third, if we assume your optimism is warranted, I wonder how it might be implemented. What is the infrastructure (institutions, economic, ideas, education, personnel) to make it happen? The infrastructure issue is what I raise in several of my questions at the end of part two. This is a theme with which I am interested. Even if your optimism and vision are plausible, there would be *massive*, long-term changes needed in terms of education (theological and general), economic investment, and leadership in the church.

Finally, you wrote: “I do not know if what I have written will show that we have more similar positions than what we thought, or quite the opposite. Maybe they confirm your concern and show that we still differ more than we thought. Whatever the case, I value very much the opportunity to establish a deep dialogue with you.” Thank you. I would enjoy a dialogue, as well.

I have learned quite a bit about you from your book, videos, your comments about my blog, and the recent Congress here in Buenos Aires. I would like to tell you more about this site, *Cosmovision Biblica*, and the ministry of Global Scholars (including the upcoming Society of Christian Scholars).

I think, honestly, that we will discover areas where can cooperate and areas where we should function individually or in parallel. In fact, I suspect that the ministries of *Cosmovision Biblica* and Global Scholars will support your work over the long term.

Until we meet, blessings,

Richard