

politics should not be mixed. Ministers have no business of getting into ~~polit-~~ politics. We must define ~~it~~ politics. If by politics we mean simply the question/^{whether} Mr. Smith or Mr. Jones is to win a certain election, which of these two men ~~is~~ is ~~going~~ going to secure a certain gain in the government or who are going to, what party is going to win out when two parties have difference, if two parties have difference merely that is ~~nearly~~-a matter of different economic or political idea, then the servants of the Lord ~~wh-~~ should not mix with them, but should be able to speak to both sides as ~~a~~ ^{God's} representative ~~of~~ and call them both ~~to~~ to stand for truth and on it, but when you have a situation where you have a wicked dynasty, like a dynasty of ~~a~~ Omri and Ahab or like the wicked king/^s of ~~Man~~ Damascus who were making these attacks upon Israel, there is a situation where the Lord may call upon the ~~men~~ ^{to} ~~who~~ interfere to take action in a measure ~~to~~ in behalf of the right and justice. The servants of God must have his primary activity in the ~~things-~~ extension of God's word and in the proclamation of ~~God's~~ the Gospel. As a ~~cit-~~ citizen he has a duty to do what he can to have good government and to have ~~in~~ the most capable men on the part of the commissions of the political power. Again as a servant of the Lord, it is his duty ~~to-speak-out-on~~ occasions to speak out ~~on-~~ where moral issues are involved. Elijah and Elisha continuously lived under Ahab and his wicked son, and even helped these men, when they were menaced by Syria to preserve the independence~~d~~ of Israel. When the situation reached the point where a change for the better could be made, the prophet took an active part. The prophet was not out ^{for} ^{ing} ~~to/propagandiz~~ and ~~struggl~~^{ing}, working and struggling/ to make this change and ~~make-~~ making it his primary activity. He had other activities which are primary, of course. But when the political situation became such that change should be made, could be made with a little more pressure being put on the one side or on the other, then the servant of God did not hesitate to put that pressure on that side to make the change. Here in chapter 8 and in chapter 9 we find the prophet of God very ~~activit---~~ ~~in-chapter-8--~~ active. In chapter 8 to our amazement we find the prophet of God interfering with politics not of Israel but of the distant land of ... Damascus. In this case, however,