



# The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy

*Aristotle Papanikolaou*

Download now

Read Online →

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy

*Aristotle Papanikolaou*

**The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy** Aristotle Papanikolaou  
*Theosis*, or the principle of divine-human communion, sparks the theological imagination of Orthodox Christians and has been historically important to questions of political theology. In *The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy*, Aristotle Papanikolaou argues that a political theology grounded in the principle of divine-human communion must be one that unequivocally endorses a political community that is democratic in a way that structures itself around the modern liberal principles of freedom of religion, the protection of human rights, and church-state separation.

Papanikolaou hopes to forge a non-radical Orthodox political theology that extends beyond a reflexive opposition to the West and a nostalgic return to a Byzantine-like unified political-religious culture. His exploration is prompted by two trends: the fall of communism in traditionally Orthodox countries has revealed an unpreparedness on the part of Orthodox Christianity to address the question of political theology in a way that is consistent with its core axiom of *theosis*; and recent Christian political theology, some of it evoking the notion of “deification,” has been critical of liberal democracy, implying a mutual incompatibility between a Christian world view and that of modern liberal democracy.

The first comprehensive treatment from an Orthodox theological perspective of the issue of the compatibility between Orthodoxy and liberal democracy, Papanikolaou’s is an affirmation that Orthodox support for liberal forms of democracy is justified within the framework of Orthodox understandings of God and the human person. His overtly theological approach shows that the basic principles of liberal democracy are not tied exclusively to the language and categories of Enlightenment philosophy and, so, are not inherently secular.

"Aristotle Papanikolaou’s *The Mystical as Political* is a stellar contribution to the analysis of Orthodox thought and also to current debates about theology and politics. For too long scholars in the Western academy have failed to engage the resources and insights of Orthodox theology. This book aptly shows those resources and insights in a way that marks a genuine advance in thought. *The Mystical as Political* rewards its reader with fresh insight into the complex relation between faith and politics. Papanikolaou is a rising star on the theological scene. This book deserves wide readership as a crucial theological contribution to debates about our political and personal lives." —**William Schweiker, University of Chicago**

"In *The Mystical as Political*, Papanikolaou not only guides readers through the rich legacy of Eastern Orthodox political thought, from the formative struggles of the pre-Constantinian era to the post-Enlightenment, post-Ottoman, and post-Communist challenges encountered today, but also presents a compelling argument that Orthodoxy’s goal of 'divine-human communion' can—and should—include core elements of modern liberal democracy and the human rights tradition. This study signals a new phase in political theology for Orthodox and non-Orthodox alike, and it secures Papanikolaou’s place as one of today’s leading Orthodox thinkers and theological bridge-builders." —**Perry T. Hamalis, North Central College**

“Aristotle Papanikolaou’s *The Mystical as Political* will be the standard Eastern Orthodox text in classes on theology and politics. It evinces a thorough engagement with the current debates in theology and politics, a rich awareness of the theological issues at stake, and a crisply distinctive position of its own. It will be enormously educational for classroom use, as well as being an immense contribution to the scholarly

conversations on these matters.” —**Charles Mathewes, University of Virginia**

 [Download The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Or ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy  
Aristotle Papanikolaou**

---

## **Download and Read Free Online The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy Aristotle Papanikolaou**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Oliver Crites:**

The publication untitled The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy is the publication that recommended to you to see. You can see the quality of the book content that will be shown to you. The language that article author use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The copy writer was did a lot of exploration when write the book, and so the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also might get the e-book of The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy from the publisher to make you a lot more enjoy free time.

#### **Frances Temple:**

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The book lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, brief story and the biggest some may be novel. Now, why not hoping The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied by reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the way for people to know world considerably better then how they react toward the world. It can't be said constantly that reading habit only for the geeky particular person but for all of you who wants to become success person. So , for all of you who want to start studying as your good habit, you may pick The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy become your own personal starter.

#### **Joseph Kidwell:**

Would you one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt if you are in the book store? Make an effort to pick one book that you find out the inside because don't evaluate book by its handle may doesn't work this is difficult job because you are frightened that the inside maybe not seeing that fantastic as in the outside search likes. Maybe you answer can be The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy why because the great cover that make you consider concerning the content will not disappoint an individual. The inside or content is actually fantastic as the outside or even cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly assist you to pick up this book.

#### **Jeanie Clark:**

As we know that book is very important thing to add our expertise for everything. By a guide we can know everything we would like. A book is a group of written, printed, illustrated or even blank sheet. Every year has been exactly added. This guide The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy was filled with regards to science. Spend your extra time to add your knowledge about your scientific research competence. Some people has various feel when they reading the book. If you know how big benefit from a book, you can truly feel enjoy to read a book. In the modern era like at this point, many ways to get book which you wanted.

**Download and Read Online The Mystical as Political: Democracy  
and Non-Radical Orthodoxy Aristotle Papanikolaou  
#Z7S5T0A6W94**

## **Read The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy by Aristotle Papanikolaou for online ebook**

The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy by Aristotle Papanikolaou Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy by Aristotle Papanikolaou books to read online.

### **Online The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy by Aristotle Papanikolaou ebook PDF download**

**The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy by Aristotle Papanikolaou Doc**

**The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy by Aristotle Papanikolaou Mobipocket**

**The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy by Aristotle Papanikolaou EPub**

**The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy by Aristotle Papanikolaou Ebook online**

**The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy by Aristotle Papanikolaou Ebook PDF**