

Christianity And The Constitution The Faith Of Our Founding Fathers

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The Religion of the Founding Fathers - David Lynn Holmes 2003

"Christian Faith among our first presidents is either ignored or misunderstood. ... Twenty-first century Christians may see the founders of the nation as devout in the way they are devout; twenty-first century rationalists may see them as secular as themselves. In this well-written, engaging, and handsomely illustrated book, David L. Holmes sets us straight by telling a fascinating tale grounded in the historical record." Richard w. Bailey, University of Michigan; President, Guide of Scholars of the Episcopal Church

[America's Christian History](#) - Gary DeMar 2005

"From the founding of the colonies to the declaration of the Supreme Court, America's heritage is built upon the principles of the Christian religion. And yet the secularists are dismantling this foundation brick by brick, attempting to deny the very core of our national life. Gary DeMar presents well-documented facts which will change your perspective about what it means to be a Christian in America; the truth about America's Christian past as it relates to supreme court justices, and presidents; the Christian character of colonial charters, state constitutions, and the US Constitution; the Christian foundation of colleges, the Christian character of Washington, D.C.; the origin of Thanksgiving and so much more."--Publisher's description

The Religious Beliefs of America's Founders - Gregg L. Frazer 2014-08-15

The first comprehensive analysis of the Founders' religious beliefs as they themselves expressed them. Contends that they were neither what contemporary secularists nor what contemporary Christians often wish they were that is, neither deist nor Christian."

Faith in the Public Square - Robert D. Cornwall 2012-03-13

What happens when a newspaper editor gives his primary editorial slot on Sundays to a pastor? In the case of Bob Cornwall, a pastor in Troy, Michigan, the result is a series of relevant, interesting, and challenging essays that go well beyond the local scene while still managing to be relevant to Americans in their local situation. Now extensively revised and organized as to theme, these essays form a coherent statement of progressive Christianity at work in the public square. At the same time they are seasoned with a look at how the public square influences the spiritual life of a Christian living in mid-America. The 52 essays in this collection go well beyond one place and time. You will find yourself, your community, your state, your nation, and your world in each. Can a person of faith be involved in the public square with integrity? Is public policy made better by this action? Can faith remain whole and genuine following the encounter? Read these essays to discover the answers, and

perhaps find a new optimism for the future as you do. Anyone can benefit, but pastors and church leaders will find help in demonstrating their faith in the public square.

No Establishment of Religion - T. Jeremy Gunn 2012-11-29

This book shows how America's ongoing battles over religion and education, immigration, polygamy, religious funding, religious exemptions, and more have made the original and evolving understanding of disestablishment of religion a source of perennial cultural and constitutional controversy. The authors of the essays in the volume stake out strong and sometimes competing positions on what "no establishment of religion" meant to the American founders and what it can and should mean for America today.

The Founding Myth - Andrew L. Seidel 2021-10-12

Was America founded on Judeo-Christian principles? Are the Ten Commandments the basis for American law? In the paperback edition of this critically acclaimed book, a constitutional attorney settles the debate about religion's role in America's founding. In today's contentious political climate, understanding religion's role in American government is more important than ever. Christian nationalists assert that our nation was founded on Judeo-Christian principles, and advocate an agenda based on this popular historical claim. But is this belief true? The Founding Myth answers the question once and for all. Andrew L. Seidel builds his case by comparing the Ten Commandments to the Constitution and contrasting biblical doctrine with America's founding philosophy, showing that the Declaration of Independence contradicts the Bible. Thoroughly researched, this persuasively argued and fascinating book proves that America was not built on the Bible and that Christian nationalism is un-American. Includes a new epilogue reflecting on the role Christian nationalism played in fomenting the January 6, 2021, insurrection in DC and the warnings the nation missed.

The Faiths of the Founding Fathers - David L. Holmes 2006-05-01

It is not uncommon to hear Christians argue that America was founded as a Christian nation. But how true is this claim? In this compact book, David L. Holmes offers a clear, concise and illuminating look at the

spiritual beliefs of our founding fathers. He begins with an informative account of the religious culture of the late colonial era, surveying the religious groups in each colony. In particular, he sheds light on the various forms of Deism that flourished in America, highlighting the profound influence this intellectual movement had on the founding generation. Holmes then examines the individual beliefs of a variety of men and women who loom large in our national history. He finds that some, like Martha Washington, Samuel Adams, John Jay, Patrick Henry, and Thomas Jefferson's daughters, held orthodox Christian views. But many of the most influential figures, including Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, John and Abigail Adams, Jefferson, James and Dolley Madison, and James Monroe, were believers of a different stripe. Respectful of Christianity, they admired the ethics of Jesus, and believed that religion could play a beneficial role in society. But they tended to deny the divinity of Christ, and a few seem to have been agnostic about the very existence of God. Although the founding fathers were religious men, Holmes shows that it was a faith quite unlike the Christianity of today's evangelicals. Holmes concludes by examining the role of religion in the lives of the presidents since World War II and by reflecting on the evangelical resurgence that helped fuel the reelection of George W. Bush. An intriguing look at a neglected aspect of our history, the book will appeal to American history buffs as well as to anyone concerned about the role of religion in American culture.

Christianity and the Constitution - John Eidsmoe 1995-08-01

Using the writings of the founders and records of their conversations and activities, John Eidsmoe demonstrates the influence of Christianity on the political convictions of the founding fathers.

What's Wrong with the Christian Right - Jan G. Linn 2004

Silence may be golden, but not when it comes to the extremes of the Christian Right. That is why Jan Linn wrote his new book, *What's Wrong With The Christian Right*, just released by BrownWalker Press. As a former college and seminary teacher and author of ten previous books, Linn uses the Christian Right's own words and actions to show the extent to which it is trying to reshape both American politics and Christianity

into its own image. The book describes in detail the agenda of the Christian Right, the tactics it employs, and the ways it plays loose with truth. It is also a call to action to everyone disturbed by the power and influence of the Christian Right. With careful documentation, this book exposes the extent to which the Christian Right is influencing American politics, who its political allies are, the ways it is working to re-shape America into its own image, and the hypocrisy it practices in the process. The book also takes issue with the Christian Right's agenda on major issues, and the distorted image its extremism presents of Christianity. What's Wrong With The Christian Right is ultimately a call to all liberal minded people, especially people of faith, to join the effort to offset the Christian Right as the dominant religious voice in America today. Several outstanding leaders in their field have commended the book to a wide reading audience. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell, former General Secretary of the National Council of Churches of Christ, calls the book "a must read." Dr. Albert Pennybacker, founder of the Clergy Leadership Network, describes it as "a book for these times." Dr. Arvid Lundy, retired from Los Alamos National Laboratories and a non-Christian agnostic, describes the book as "a joy to read." James Autry of People for the American Way describes it "a careful, thoughtful, well researched examination of those we call the Christian Right."

Religion in American Politics - Frank Lambert 2010-02-01

The delegates to the 1787 Constitutional Convention blocked the establishment of Christianity as a national religion. But they could not keep religion out of American politics. From the election of 1800, when Federalist clergymen charged that deist Thomas Jefferson was unfit to lead a "Christian nation," to today, when some Democrats want to embrace the so-called Religious Left in order to compete with the Republicans and the Religious Right, religion has always been part of American politics. In Religion in American Politics, Frank Lambert tells the fascinating story of the uneasy relations between religion and politics from the founding to the twenty-first century. Lambert examines how antebellum Protestant unity was challenged by sectionalism as both North and South invoked religious justification; how Andrew Carnegie's

"Gospel of Wealth" competed with the anticapitalist "Social Gospel" during postwar industrialization; how the civil rights movement was perhaps the most effective religious intervention in politics in American history; and how the alliance between the Republican Party and the Religious Right has, in many ways, realized the founders' fears of religious-political electoral coalitions. In these and other cases, Lambert shows that religion became sectarian and partisan whenever it entered the political fray, and that religious agendas have always mixed with nonreligious ones. Religion in American Politics brings rare historical perspective and insight to a subject that was just as important--and controversial--in 1776 as it is today.

It's OK To Say "God" - Tad Armstrong 2011-11-18

"Our Founders would not recognize today's America. Christianity is under attack as never before. My career as a Baptist minister and as chaplain of the Texas House of Representatives has, in a sense, taken me to both sides of Jefferson's metaphorical 'wall of separation.' Mr. Armstrong puts it a bit differently: "There should be at least a short fence of separation between Caesar and God. If the divider falls, government will strong-arm religion." Instead of relying on sound bites, headlines, and e-mails, he takes you straight to the Supreme Court opinions that have shaped the religion clauses of the First Amendment. You will likely be very surprised at what you find. It's OK to Say 'God' brings the Constitution back to Main Street where it belongs. His commentary is both eye-opening and refreshing. His suggestions of how Christians should respond to the culture war focus more on fulfilling the mission of Jesus Christ than on whether a nativity scene or a Menorah should win the favor of the courts at Christmas. Whether you decide to implement his suggestions in your life or not, Mr. Armstrong is most concerned that all Americans stop living in ignorance of these most important laws of our land. Learn as a family—discuss these truths with your children and grandchildren—and start living your faith out loud, for contrary to false rumor, it really is OK to bring God back into our culture and back into our government. Tad will show you the way." —Pastor R.B. Hall, former chaplain of the Texas House of Representatives

Christianity and the Laws of Conscience - Jeffrey B. Hammond
2021-06-24

This book explores the Christian theological, legal, constitutional, historical, and philosophical meanings of conscience for both scholarly and educated general audiences.

Religious Tolerance and the Christian Faith - Walter Bonar Sidjabat
1965

The United States a Christian Nation - David Josiah Brewer 1905

The Three Cs That Made America Great - Mike Huckabee 2020-09-01

Forces on the Left seeks to fundamentally change our nation by disregarding the principles upon which it was founded. Members of the media and liberal politicians seek to damage our economic, political, and educational systems for their gain. This is a book which: Exposes the Left's plan to undermine the Christian values on which the nation was built Reveals how attacks on Christianity are part of the political agenda of Liberals Provides a clear understanding of capitalism and how free markets benefit all people Reveals how Liberals undermine capitalism with their socialistic policies Shows how the Constitution's purpose to restrain government and protect individual liberty Unmask the efforts of the liberal Left to subvert the power and relevance of the Constitution Exposes the current corruption in government and culture which undermines the principles on which the nation was founded America faces a war of values that will determine its future and likely decide if it will continue as a great nation on the world stage. The Three Cs That Made America Great sounds a needed alarm to Christians and conservatives to answer the call to action and push back against the forces that desire to move America from its heritage and founding principles. It is time for God's people to take an active role in the political arena, not with violence, but with votes and voices that proclaim and defend the values that made our nation the brightest light of freedom the world has ever known.

Sex and the Constitution: Sex, Religion, and Law from America's Origins

to the Twenty-First Century - Geoffrey R. Stone 2017-03-21

A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice Selection A "volume of lasting significance" that illuminates how the clash between sex and religion has defined our nation's history (Lee C. Bollinger, president, Columbia University). Lauded for "bringing a bracing and much-needed dose of reality about the Founders' views of sexuality" (New York Review of Books), Geoffrey R. Stone's *Sex and the Constitution* traces the evolution of legal and moral codes that have legislated sexual behavior from America's earliest days to today's fractious political climate. This "fascinating and maddening" (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette) narrative shows how agitators, moralists, and, especially, the justices of the Supreme Court have navigated issues as divisive as abortion, homosexuality, pornography, and contraception. Overturning a raft of contemporary shibboleths, Stone reveals that at the time the Constitution was adopted there were no laws against obscenity or abortion before the midpoint of pregnancy. A pageant of historical characters, including Voltaire, Thomas Jefferson, Anthony Comstock, Margaret Sanger, and Justice Anthony Kennedy, enliven this "commanding synthesis of scholarship" (Publishers Weekly) that dramatically reveals how our laws about sex, religion, and morality reflect the cultural schisms that have cleaved our nation from its founding.

The Founding Fathers and the Place of Religion in America - Frank Lambert 2010-07-28

How did the United States, founded as colonies with explicitly religious aspirations, come to be the first modern state whose commitment to the separation of church and state was reflected in its constitution? Frank Lambert explains why this happened, offering in the process a synthesis of American history from the first British arrivals through Thomas Jefferson's controversial presidency. Lambert recognizes that two sets of spiritual fathers defined the place of religion in early America: what Lambert calls the Planting Fathers, who brought Old World ideas and dreams of building a "City upon a Hill," and the Founding Fathers, who determined the constitutional arrangement of religion in the new republic. While the former proselytized the "one true faith," the latter

emphasized religious freedom over religious purity. Lambert locates this shift in the mid-eighteenth century. In the wake of evangelical revival, immigration by new dissenters, and population expansion, there emerged a marketplace of religion characterized by sectarian competition, pluralism, and widened choice. During the American Revolution, dissenters found sympathetic lawmakers who favored separating church and state, and the free marketplace of religion gained legal status as the Founders began the daunting task of uniting thirteen disparate colonies. To avoid discord in an increasingly pluralistic and contentious society, the Founders left the religious arena free of government intervention save for the guarantee of free exercise for all. Religious people and groups were also free to seek political influence, ensuring that religion's place in America would always be a contested one, but never a state-regulated one. An engaging and highly readable account of early American history, this book shows how religious freedom came to be recognized not merely as toleration of dissent but as a natural right to be enjoyed by all Americans.

Did America Have a Christian Founding? - Mark David Hall 2019-10-29
A distinguished professor debunks the assertion that America's Founders were deists who desired the strict separation of church and state and instead shows that their political ideas were profoundly influenced by their Christian convictions. In 2010, David Mark Hall gave a lecture at the Heritage Foundation entitled "Did America Have a Christian Founding?" His balanced and thoughtful approach to this controversial question caused a sensation. C-SPAN televised his talk, and an essay based on it has been downloaded more than 300,000 times. In this book, Hall expands upon this essay, making the airtight case that America's Founders were not deists. He explains why and how the Founders' views are absolutely relevant today, showing that they did not create a "godless" Constitution; that even Jefferson and Madison did not want a high wall separating church and state; that most Founders believed the government should encourage Christianity; and that they embraced a robust understanding of religious liberty for biblical and theological reasons. This compelling and utterly persuasive book will convince

skeptics and equip believers and conservatives to defend the idea that Christian thought was crucial to the nation's founding--and that this benefits all of us, whatever our faith (or lack of faith).

Godly Republic - John J. DiIulio 2008-11-18

"John DiIulio's *Godly Republic: A Centrist Blueprint for America's Faith-Based Future* is a splendid book. It is a much needed book. It is a book that will raise eyebrows and raise hackles-at both edges of the political spectrum. It will also raise the consciousness of readers who are willing to consider dispassionately the careful, thoughtful, and quite penetrating argument Professor DiIulio makes for a via media on the question of public aid to religiously based providers of social services to our fellow citizens who are in need. I hope and—dare I say it?—pray that there will be many such readers."—Robert P. George, Princeton University
"DiIulio's manuscript explodes myths that have surrounded our understanding of constitutional history, law and religion, the public administration of social services programs, the nature of religious service organizations, and the politics surrounding faith based programs. His style is casual, breezy, often funny, and filled with autobiographical detail. Only DiIulio, who is not only a streetwise activist for the poor, but also a prominent social scientist and political figure, could have written this important book."—Steven Shiffrin, Cornell Law School
"John DiIulio has done his country another important service. *Godly Republic* makes a compelling case that respect for religious influence and genuine pluralism go hand in hand in American history. John is a voice of reason and civility in a debate that needs more of both."—Michael Gerson, Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, Former Chief Speechwriter for President George W. Bush
"John DiIulio is a person of faith, learning, and wisdom. He brings his passion for truth and history to his examination of the right relationship between religion and government, faith and politics. This illuminating book is a must read for all who seek insight and guidance on these difficult questions."—Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Former Lt. Gov. of Maryland, Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University, and author of *Failing the Faithful*
"*Godly Republic* is lively, stimulating, and thought

provoking—just what we have all come to expect from John DiIulio, one of America's leading political thinkers."—William Kristol, Editor, The Weekly Standard "John DiIulio has done more than anyone in America to unleash the power and capacity of sacred places to serve the poor and needy. In *Godly Republic*, he lays a foundation for splitting the atom of faith-based civic power. This sage and saint of the compassion agenda might just pull it off—and bring our country around a faith-based agenda that could ignite millions of Americans in service to the nation."—John M. Bridgeland, Former Director, White House Domestic Policy Council and USA Freedom Corps "John DiIulio presents a succinct and authoritative statement on what the Founding Fathers actually intended as operating principles for a healthy democratic society... A scholar and a man of deep religious faith, he brings to this book first-hand experience... *Godly Republic* will be of enormous value to leaders in political, academic, and religious circles as well as citizens in all walks of life."—George Gallup, Jr., Pollster and Founding Chairman, George H. Gallup Institute "John DiIulio rejects the kind of Evangelical triumphalism that declares America to be a Christian nation, even as he turns from that secularity which leaves no room for religion in the public sector. Writing in a lucid style, he shows how religion and government can maintain a legal relationship that addresses some of the greatest social needs of our time."—Reverend Tony Campolo, Professor Emeritus, Eastern University "No one in the country better understands the connection between policy and on-the-street results than John DiIulio. In *Godly Republic* he combines his experiences, from urban neighborhoods to the White House, to convincingly show how faith can be a unifying force for citizens and their communities all across the country."—Stephen Goldsmith, Chairman, Corporation For National Service, Former Mayor, Indianapolis "John DiIulio's renowned leadership in the faith-based initiatives debate is here complemented by his keen scholarship. James Madison's erudition shines in glory as DiIulio explains how the framer of the Constitution balances John Witherspoon's orthodox Christianity and Thomas Jefferson's deistic perspective, thereby creating the '*Godly Republic*.' This is a must read for friend and foe alike of the faith-based

movements that will impact American government for generations to come."—Reverend Peter Lillback, President, Providence Forum and Westminster Theological Seminary "Having excelled at opening government's doors to a greater role for faith-based social work, John DiIulio in *Godly Republic* makes clear that the pedigree for such openness lies deep in our founding principles. Like it or not, America has entered a wide-ranging debate about religion's place in our civil life. *Godly Republic* supplies an indispensable framework for this debate."—Jeffrey Bell, Washington political consultant and author of *Populism and Elitism* "John DiIulio is likely the only person writing today who combines stellar academic credentials and first-hand experience in the corridors of political power and on the streets with faith-based and community organizations. Often compelling, at times challenging, but always thought-provoking, *Godly Republic* offers sharp insights and insider stories to provide a much needed corrective to many myths about religion and government in America."—Amy E. Black, Wheaton College, co-author of *Of Little Faith* "John DiIulio has made a brilliant contribution to the ongoing debate on the place of religion in the public square. Through good, sound research and reader-friendly language, he has presented our nation with a unique and valuable book that should bring much clarity to the issue of the separation of church and state... It should be read by every elected official, policy maker and religious leader."—Rev. W. Wilson Goode, Sr., Director, Amachi Mentoring Program; Former Mayor, Philadelphia "At a time when we struggle with the role and status of religious faith in the public square, John DiIulio, in his usual urbane and scholarly manner, clarifies the misconceptions of the liberal left and religious right. Thank you, John, for providing us the Good News that faith and religion have always been part of the public square."—Rev. Luis Cortés, Jr., President, Esperanza, America's largest Latino faith-based organization "With his trademark combination of candor and intellectual rigor—and a powerful gift for weaving a story—John DiIulio seeks a middle ground in today's increasingly rancorous church-state debates... With him, we travel back to the start of our '*Godly Republic*' and into the minds of our nations' framers; peer into

the most private rooms of the White House, where he served as a top aide; and glimpse what the future can hold in a nation that both respects religious pluralism and allows faith-based institutions to help the most disadvantaged among us."—Gigi Georges, Former State Director, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton and Partner, The Glover Park Group "Take a brilliant analytical mind, add in a huge heart, a passion for justice and a deep religious faith, combine all that with a lively facility of expression, and you have John DiIulio. This is a book so many have been waiting for, the tough-minded reflections of a man who went into the White House trenches to pursue his carefully thought-through dreams of how compassion might be realized through social policy. By offering an honest, searching and deeply intelligent explanation for why things did not quite work out as he planned, DiIulio offers hope that we can get things right the next time around. And he makes clear how urgent it is that we try. DiIulio is a national treasure."—E.J. Dionne, The Washington Post Syndicated Columnist, and author of Why Americans Hate Politics "This wise and engaging book accomplishes an awesome feat—it is both important and a pleasure to read."—Jane Eisner, Vice President, National Constitution Center, and editor of The Philadelphia Inquirer "In Godly Republic, John DiIulio gives us a timely book for the elevation of our public policy and public discourse. It is a terrific read that reminds us that tolerance is both a religious and an American virtue."—Martin O'Malley, Governor of Maryland, Former Mayor of Baltimore "In the White House and in his scholarship and civic service, John DiIulio has explored the theory and practice of allowing faith to inform government action. The unending—indeed, unendable—debate on the proper relationship between religion and government will be livelier and more civil because of this book."—George Will, ABC News and Syndicated Columnist "God and America, what could be more important? And no one is better qualified to explore one of the most important issues of our time than John DiIulio. In a book that weaves a seamless web between superb social science and his own experiences in government, DiIulio has written a must read for any serious citizen—religious or not."—Elaine Kamarck, Public Policy Lecturer, Harvard University; former Senior

Advisor to Vice President Al Gore "A must-read gem written by a rarity: a respected and courageous former public servant who is also one of America's most influential academics on the intersection of religion, politics and social policy. His brilliance and decency shine through on every page."—Rabbi David Saperstein, Director, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism "This is a very impressive book, exactly what one would expect from a political scientist as able as John DiIulio. He takes seriously the flawed arguments and popular myths promoted by extremists on the political right and left, and he writes calmly about issues that many are shouting about. He is a scholar and experienced practitioner who cares passionately about his subject. How we resolve these constitutional disputes will affect our public policies for years to come, and DiIulio wants to make sure we get our historical, and contemporary, facts right. People on all sides need to attend to his arguments, because the potential welfare of millions of lives is at stake."—Michael Cromartie, Ethics and Public Policy Center "In the midst of the myth, mystery, and misunderstanding surrounding the separation of church and state, John DiIulio's book offers challenging insights. Whatever your politics, position, or perspective, Godly Republic is a must read."—Rev. Dr. Herbert Hoover Lusk, III, Greater Exodus Baptist Church

One Nation Under God - Kevin M. Kruse 2015-04-14

The provocative and authoritative history of the origins of Christian America in the New Deal era We're often told that the United States is, was, and always has been a Christian nation. But in One Nation Under God, historian Kevin M. Kruse reveals that the belief that America is fundamentally and formally Christian originated in the 1930s. To fight the "slavery" of FDR's New Deal, businessmen enlisted religious activists in a campaign for "freedom under God" that culminated in the election of their ally Dwight Eisenhower in 1952. The new president revolutionized the role of religion in American politics. He inaugurated new traditions like the National Prayer Breakfast, as Congress added the phrase "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance and made "In God We Trust" the country's first official motto. Church membership soon soared to an all-

time high of 69 percent. Americans across the religious and political spectrum agreed that their country was "one nation under God." Provocative and authoritative, *One Nation Under God* reveals how an unholy alliance of money, religion, and politics created a false origin story that continues to define and divide American politics to this day.

Inventing a Christian America - Steven K. Green 2017-05

Among the most enduring themes in American history is the idea that the United States was founded as a Christian nation. A pervasive narrative in everything from school textbooks to political commentary, it is central to the way in which many Americans perceive the historical legacy of their nation. Yet, as Steven K. Green shows in this illuminating new book, it is little more than a myth. In *Inventing a Christian America*, Green, a leading historian of religion and politics, explores the historical record that is purported to support the popular belief in America's religious founding and status as a Christian nation. He demonstrates that, like all myths, these claims are based on historical facts that have been colored by the interpretive narratives that have been imposed upon them. In tracing the evolution of these claims and the evidence levied in support of them from the founding of the New England colonies, through the American Revolution, and to the present day, he investigates how they became leading narratives in the country's collective identity. Three critical moments in American history shaped and continue to drive the myth of a Christian America: the Puritan founding of New England, the American Revolution and the forging of a new nation, and the early years of the nineteenth century, when a second generation of Americans sought to redefine and reconcile the memory of the founding to match their religious and patriotic aspirations. Seeking to shed light not only on the veracity of these ideas but on the reasons they endure, Green ultimately shows that the notion of America's religious founding is a myth not merely in the colloquial sense, but also in a deeper sense, as a shared story that gives deeper meaning to our collective national identity. Offering a fresh look at one of the most common and contested claims in American history, *Inventing a Christian America* is an enlightening read for anyone interested in the story of—and the debate

over-America's founding.

How Free Can Religion Be? - Randall P. Bezanson 2006-05-31

explores the Supreme Court's varied history of interpreting the religious guarantees outlined in the First Amendment. The book discusses eight provocative Supreme Court decisions to track the evolution of Free Exercise and Establishment Clause doctrine, focusing on the court's shift from strict separation of church and state to a position where the government accommodates and even fosters religion.

God in Public - Mark G. Toulouse 2006-01-01

In this important study, Mark Toulouse maps the ambiguous landscape between American Christianity and American public life. Built on an extensive study of religious periodical literature since the mid-1950s and on an analysis of landmark events in American history, Toulouse develops an insightful typology for understanding how Americans have related their Christian faith to public life. For Toulouse, the relationship between American Christianity and American public life exists in four styles of interaction—iconic faith, priestly faith, the public Christian, and the public church—with each model appearing in various forms across the terrain of American history. Carefully examined and accessibly written, this study is sure to generate discussion and bring clarity to the many ambiguities and diversities that continue to mark American Christianity. *Shall the Nation, by a Change in Its Constitution* - Frederic Henry Hedge 1872

The Religion Clauses - Erwin Chemerinsky 2020-07-30

Throughout American history, views on the proper relationship between the state and religion have been deeply divided. And, with recent changes in the composition of the Supreme Court, First Amendment law concerning religion is likely to change dramatically in the years ahead. In *The Religion Clauses*, Erwin Chemerinsky and Howard Gillman, two of America's leading constitutional scholars, begin by explaining how freedom of religion is enshrined in the First Amendment through two provisions. They defend a robust view of both clauses and work from the premise that the establishment clause is best understood, in the

words of Thomas Jefferson, as creating a wall separating church and state. After examining all the major approaches to the meaning of the Constitution's religion clauses, they contend that the best approaches are for the government to be strictly secular and for there to be no special exemptions for religious people from neutral and general laws that others must obey. In an America that is only becoming more diverse with respect to religion, this is not only the fairest approach, but the one most in tune with what the First Amendment actually prescribes. Both a pithy primer on the meaning of the religion clauses and a broad-ranging indictment of the Court's misinterpretation of them in recent years, *The Religion Clauses* shows how a separationist approach is most consistent with the concerns of the founders who drafted the Constitution and with the needs of a religiously pluralistic society in the 21st century.

Religion, Secularism, and Constitutional Democracy - Jean L. Cohen
2015-12-22

Polarization between political religionists and militant secularists on both sides of the Atlantic is on the rise. Critically engaging with traditional secularism and religious accommodationism, this collection introduces a constitutional secularism that robustly meets contemporary challenges. It identifies which connections between religion and the state are compatible with the liberal, republican, and democratic principles of constitutional democracy and assesses the success of their implementation in the birthplace of political secularism: the United States and Western Europe. Approaching this issue from philosophical, legal, historical, political, and sociological perspectives, the contributors wage a thorough defense of their project's theoretical and institutional legitimacy. Their work brings fresh insight to debates over the balance of human rights and religious freedom, the proper definition of a nonestablishment norm, and the relationship between sovereignty and legal pluralism. They discuss the genealogy of and tensions involving international legal rights to religious freedom, religious symbols in public spaces, religious arguments in public debates, the jurisdiction of religious authorities in personal law, and the dilemmas of religious accommodation in national constitutions and public policy when it

violates international human rights agreements or liberal-democratic principles. If we profoundly rethink the concepts of religion and secularism, these thinkers argue, a principled adjudication of competing claims becomes possible.

Civil Government and Religion - Alonzo Trévier Jones 1889

[Faith and Freedom](#) - Robert D. Gingrich 2012-09-01

So, what did America's founders really believe about God, the Bible, and Christianity? Find out in *Faith and Freedom—The Founding Fathers in Their Own Words*. This brand-new survey of the founders' beliefs provides easy-to-read biographical and historical details along with relevant quotations from the speeches and writings of Patrick Henry, John Adams, George Washington, James Madison, Noah Webster, Benjamin Franklin, and a half-dozen others. Often portrayed as either hostile to faith or unbelieving in a personal God, the Founding Fathers of *Faith and Freedom* just might surprise you!

["My Faith in the Constitution Is Whole"](#) - Robin L. Owens 2022-10-03

How Barbara Jordan used sacred and secular scriptures in her social activism US Congresswoman Barbara Jordan is well-known as an interpreter and defender of the Constitution, particularly through her landmark speech during Richard Nixon's 1974 impeachment hearings. However, before she developed faith in the Constitution, Jordan had faith in Christianity. In "My Faith in the Constitution is Whole": Barbara Jordan and the Politics of Scripture, Robin L. Owens shows how Jordan turned her religious faith and her faith in the Constitution into a powerful civil religious expression of her social activism. Owens begins by examining the lives and work of the nineteenth-century Black female orator-activists Maria W. Stewart and Anna Julia Cooper. Stewart and Cooper fought for emancipation and women's rights by "scripturalizing," or using religious scriptures to engage in political debate. Owens then demonstrates how Jordan built upon this tradition by treating the Constitution as an American "scripture" to advocate for racial justice and gender equality. Case studies of key speeches throughout Jordan's career show how she quoted the Constitution and other founding documents as

sacred texts, used them as sociolinguistic resources, and employed a discursive rhetorical strategy of indirection known as “signifying on scriptures.” Jordan’s particular use of the Constitution—deeply connected with her background and religious, racial, and gender identity—represents the agency and power reflected in her speeches. Jordan’s strategies also illustrate a broader phenomenon of scripturalization outside of institutional religion and its rhetorical and interpretive possibilities.

Christianity and the Constitution - John Eidsmoe 1995

Eidsmoe has given us an entire arsenal of new and important evidence substantiating the Christian roots of our government.

Neither King Nor Prelate - Edwin Scott Gaustad 1993

Rev. ed. of: Faith of our fathers. 1st ed. c1987.

Canceling Christianity - David Fiorazo 2021-05-07

Canceling Christianity is about the battle for the heart and soul of America, the spiritual conflict we find ourselves in, and how the forces of darkness, both human and demonic, are behind today's progressive "cancel culture." As we watch our institutions being hijacked by anti-democratic philosophies, cultural Marxists, globalists, and extreme leftists, Fiorazo shows us how to identify the evil in our midst and reclaim our country and our churches. A clarion call for believers who don't want to standby and watch America disintegrate into the atheist abyss, this is a timely and relevant message for today's church. "David Fiorazo is on the cutting edge of helping us understand the battles we face, and his book is required reading for those navigating the difficult times we find ourselves in." -DR. ANDY WOODS, Pastor Sugar Land Bible Church, President Chafer Theological Seminary " With the culture and even some churches disintegrating before our eyes, we need 'watchmen on the wall' sounding the alarm. David Fiorazo is one of those watchmen!" -JAN MARKELL, founder, Olive Tree Ministries, Understanding the Times Radio " Men inspired by God made America great. Yet, we have grown complacent and now shun our founding principles. Fiorazo not only outlines the present crisis but gives us a blueprint for fighting back." -STEVE SMOTHERMON, Pastor, Legacy

Church, Albuquerque " In Canceling Christianity, David Fiorazo offers an honest assessment of why we must engage the culture and how to begin moving from silence to strength in the battle for hearts and minds." - HEIDI ST. JOHN, author, speaker, podcaster, Mom Strong International **Rituals in Early Christianity** - 2020-10-12

Informed by the paradigmatic shift in ritual and liturgical studies, this volume offers analyses of key ritual traditions in early Christianity. The case studies focus on the dynamic formation and transformation of rituals in the context of Greco-Roman religion, Judaism, and Islam.

The Godless Constitution - Isaac Kramnick 1997

Refutes the claims of the religious right that America was founded as a Christian nation, and emphasizes that separation of church and state was designed to guarantee religious freedom

Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers - Daniel L. Dreisbach 2016-11-01

No book was more accessible or familiar to the American founders than the Bible, and no book was more frequently alluded to or quoted from in the political discourse of the age. How and for what purposes did the founding generation use the Bible? How did the Bible influence their political culture? Shedding new light on some of the most familiar rhetoric of the founding era, Daniel Dreisbach analyzes the founders' diverse use of scripture, ranging from the literary to the theological. He shows that they looked to the Bible for insights on human nature, civic virtue, political authority, and the rights and duties of citizens, as well as for political and legal models to emulate. They quoted scripture to authorize civil resistance, to invoke divine blessings for righteous nations, and to provide the language of liberty that would be appropriated by patriotic Americans. Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers broaches the perennial question of whether the American founding was, to some extent, informed by religious--specifically Christian--ideas. In the sense that the founding generation were members of a biblically literate society that placed the Bible at the center of culture and discourse, the answer to that question is clearly "yes." Ignoring the Bible's influence on the founders, Dreisbach warns,

produces a distorted image of the American political experiment, and of the concept of self-government on which America is built.

The Analogy of Religion, Natural and Revealed, to the Constitution and Course of Nature - Joseph Butler 1856

Christianity Is Not Great - John W. Loftus 2014

In this new anthology critiquing Christianity, John Loftus—a former minister and now a leading atheist—has brought together an outstanding group of respected scholars who focus on the harms caused by the world's leading religion. The contributors begin by dissecting the many problematic aspects of religious faith generally. They repeatedly demonstrate that, with faith as a foundation, almost anything can be believed or denied. And almost any horrific deed can be committed. The authors then take a good hard look at many of the most important political, institutional, scientific, social, and moral harms committed in the name of Christianity. These range from the historical persecutions of the Inquisition and witch hunts to the current health hazards of faith healing. Finally, the authors answer three common Christian retorts to criticisms from nonbelievers: (1) that atheists cannot judge a harmful action without an objective moral standard; (2) that atheists need faith to solve the world's problems; and (3) that atheists cannot live a good life without faith. Loftus and the contributors generally conclude that, given both the well-documented historical record and ongoing problems raised by the faith, Christianity decisively fails empirical tests of its usefulness to humanity.

Law and Christianity in Poland - Franciszek Longchamps de Bériér
2022-12-29

This volume is the first comprehensive study of the Polish history of law and Christianity written in English for a global audience. It examines the lives of twenty-one central figures in Polish law with a focus on how their Christian faith was a factor in molding the evolution of law in their country and the region. The individuals selected for study exhibit wide-ranging areas of expertise, from private law and codification, through national public law and constitutional law, to international developments that left their mark on Poland and the world. The chapters discuss the jurists within their historical, intellectual, and political context. The editors selected jurists after extensive consultation with legal historians looking at the jurists' particular merits, contributions to law in general, religious perspective, and period under consideration. The collection will appeal to scholars, lawyers, and students interested in the interplay between law and religion. Political, social, legal, and religious historians, among other readers, will find, for the first time in English, authoritative treatments of essential Polish legal thinkers and authors.

Christianity and the Constitution - John Eidsmoe 1987

Eidsmoe deals with four major influences on the founding fathers: Calvinism, deism, freemasonry, and science. He then goes on to examine the religious beliefs of thirteen specific men: John Witherspoon, James Madison, George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, Gouverneur Morris, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Patrick Henry, Roger Sherman, and Charles Cotesworth Pinckney.

God and the Constitution - Paul A. Marshall 2002

This book is an indispensable guide for Christians interested in exploring how they can interject their religious convictions into their political actions.