



Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution

By James P. Byrd

Download now

Read Online ➔

Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd

Winner of an Award of Merit in the *Christianity Today* Book Awards, History/Biography category

On January 17, 1776, one week after Thomas Paine published his incendiary pamphlet *Common Sense*, Connecticut minister Samuel Sherwood preached an equally patriotic sermon. "God Almighty, with all the powers of heaven, are on our side," Sherwood said, voicing a sacred justification for war that Americans would invoke repeatedly throughout the struggle for independence.

In *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War*, James Byrd offers the first comprehensive analysis of how American revolutionaries defended their patriotic convictions through scripture. Byrd shows that the Bible was a key text of the American Revolution. Indeed, many colonists saw the Bible as primarily a book about war. They viewed God as not merely sanctioning violence but actively participating in combat, playing a decisive role on the battlefield. When war came, preachers and patriots alike turned to scripture not only for solace but for exhortations to fight. Such scripture helped amateur soldiers overcome their natural aversion to killing, conferred on those who died for the Revolution the halo of martyrdom, and gave Americans a sense of the divine providence of their cause. Many histories of the Revolution have noted the connection between religion and war, but *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War* is the first to provide a detailed analysis of specific biblical texts and how they were used, especially in making the patriotic case for war. Combing through more than 500 wartime sources, which include more than 17,000 biblical citations, Byrd shows precisely how the Bible shaped American war, and how war in turn shaped Americans' view of the Bible.

Brilliantly researched and cogently argued, *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War* sheds new light on the American Revolution.

↓ [Download Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the Am ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the ...pdf](#)

Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution

By James P. Byrd

Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd

Winner of an Award of Merit in the *Christianity Today* Book Awards, History/Biography category

On January 17, 1776, one week after Thomas Paine published his incendiary pamphlet *Common Sense*, Connecticut minister Samuel Sherwood preached an equally patriotic sermon. "God Almighty, with all the powers of heaven, are on our side," Sherwood said, voicing a sacred justification for war that Americans would invoke repeatedly throughout the struggle for independence.

In *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War*, James Byrd offers the first comprehensive analysis of how American revolutionaries defended their patriotic convictions through scripture. Byrd shows that the Bible was a key text of the American Revolution. Indeed, many colonists saw the Bible as primarily a book about war. They viewed God as not merely sanctioning violence but actively participating in combat, playing a decisive role on the battlefield. When war came, preachers and patriots alike turned to scripture not only for solace but for exhortations to fight. Such scripture helped amateur soldiers overcome their natural aversion to killing, conferred on those who died for the Revolution the halo of martyrdom, and gave Americans a sense of the divine providence of their cause. Many histories of the Revolution have noted the connection between religion and war, but *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War* is the first to provide a detailed analysis of specific biblical texts and how they were used, especially in making the patriotic case for war. Combing through more than 500 wartime sources, which include more than 17,000 biblical citations, Byrd shows precisely how the Bible shaped American war, and how war in turn shaped Americans' view of the Bible.

Brilliantly researched and cogently argued, *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War* sheds new light on the American Revolution.

Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd
Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #745484 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Oxford University Press, USA
- Published on: 2013-06-04
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.40" h x 1.00" w x 9.30" l, 1.05 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 256 pages

 [Download Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the Am ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd

Editorial Review

Review

"Marvelously researched and historically compelling an achievement of the first order."--*Reviews in American History*

"Short but potent It will be foundational for all future studies of the Bible and the American Revolution, and it will be of great interest and relevance for broader studies of religion in late colonial America." --*Reviews in History*

"Excellent and trailblazing It is impossible to do justice to the richness of the book's findings and insights in a short review fascinating, important, and insightful." --*Journal of American History*

"With its remarkable research and deft insights, Sacred Scripture, Sacred War represents a major breakthrough in the study of religion and the American Founding. Never before have we had such a systematic investigation of how the Patriots actually used the Bible. Anyone interested in the Revolution will have to contend with Byrd's book." -- Thomas S. Kidd, author of *God of Liberty: A Religious History of the American Revolution*

"Historians believe they know why Founders such as John Adams and Thomas Jefferson became revolutionaries, but the reasons why most common people supported the American Revolution, and were willing to fight and die for American independence, has remained something of an enigma. By studying how the Bible and the clergy inspired patriotism, historian James Byrd has provided answers that unravel some of the mystery. Byrd has written a good and important book that enriches our understanding of the American Revolution." -- John Ferling, author of *Independence: The Struggle to Set America Free*

"It is no secret that the Bible is the quintessential text in American political and cultural history. Its cadences soar in presidential addresses and in America's greatest novels. Until recently, the central role the Bible has played in American wars has been less clear. Now, thanks to James Byrd, scholars have a thoroughly narrated index of the American Revolution that shows just how pervasive the Bible was to patriots pursuing their war for independence. Richly detailed and beautifully written, this book makes a major contribution to the literature on America's religious destiny, which was forged in the travail of revolution." -- Harry S. Stout, author of *The New England Soul: Preaching and Religious Culture in Colonial New England*

"By far the most comprehensive analysis ever undertaken of how revolutionary Americans defended their patriotic convictions through scripture." - *Christianity Today*

"Byrd mines his dataset of wartime sermons during the long eighteenth-century to great effect...adds immeasurably to our understanding of the Bible's function during wartime and the ways in which American patriots understood the Revolution." - *Religion in American History*

"A convincing, first systematic analysis of how early American preachers and authors used the Bible to interpret Americans' engagement in war... Recommended." --*CHOICE*

"*Sacred Scripture, Sacred War* is a milestone in understanding Christianity in the American Revolution."-*Fides et Historia*

About the Author

James P. Byrd is Assistant Professor of American Religious History and Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Research at Vanderbilt University Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion. He is the author of *Jonathan Edwards for Armchair Theologians* and *The Challenges of Roger Williams*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Colleen Nguyen:

What do you ponder on book? It is just for students since they are still students or it for all people in the world, the actual best subject for that? Just you can be answered for that concern above. Every person has different personality and hobby for each other. Don't to be compelled someone or something that they don't would like do that. You must know how great as well as important the book *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution*. All type of book would you see on many options. You can look for the internet sources or other social media.

Pamela Watkins:

Do you certainly one of people who can't read enjoyable if the sentence chained inside straightway, hold on guys this particular aren't like that. This *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution* book is readable through you who hate the perfect word style. You will find the facts here are arrange for enjoyable examining experience without leaving even decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer involving *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution* content conveys thinking easily to understand by many individuals. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different by means of it. So , do you even now thinking *Sacred Scripture, Sacred*

War: The Bible and the American Revolution is not loveable to be your top list reading book?

Mary Larrick:

Do you like reading a book? Confuse to looking for your best book? Or your book was rare? Why so many concern for the book? But just about any people feel that they enjoy regarding reading. Some people likes looking at, not only science book and also novel and Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution or perhaps others sources were given understanding for you. After you know how the great a book, you feel wish to read more and more. Science publication was created for teacher or maybe students especially. Those textbooks are helping them to increase their knowledge. In various other case, beside science e-book, any other book likes Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution to make your spare time considerably more colorful. Many types of book like this.

Donna Robinson:

As a pupil exactly feel bored to be able to reading. If their teacher expected them to go to the library as well as to make summary for some guide, they are complained. Just minor students that has reading's soul or real their interest. They just do what the professor want, like asked to go to the library. They go to presently there but nothing reading very seriously. Any students feel that looking at is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful photos on there. Yeah, it is to be complicated. Book is very important to suit your needs. As we know that on this time, many ways to get whatever you want. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. So , this Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution can make you feel more interested to read.

**Download and Read Online Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd
#FR5NYIWK3VJ**

Read Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd for online ebook

Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd 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 Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd books to read online.

Online Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd ebook PDF download

Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd Doc

Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd Mobipocket

Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd EPub

FR5NYIWK3VJ: Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd