



## 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:

#### Edward Payne:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important work, like looking for your favorite publication and reading a guide. Beside you can solve your condition; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution*. Try to stumble through book *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution* as your buddy. It means that it can for being your friend when you truly feel alone and beside associated with course make you smarter than ever. Yeah, it is very fortuned for you. The book makes you much more confidence because you can know every thing by the book. So , we should make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

#### Eric Butler:

Information is provisions for those to get better life, information currently can get by anyone on everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a concern. What people must be consider if those information which is from the former life are difficult to be find than now is taking seriously which one is suitable to believe or which one the resource are convinced. If you receive the unstable resource then you have it as your main information there will be huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not

happen within you if you take Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution as your daily resource information.

**Jack Michaud:**

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book particularly book entitled Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe unidentified for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a publication then become one contact form conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get prior to. The Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution giving you yet another experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful information for your better life with this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

**Omar Stewart:**

This Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution is great publication for you because the content which is full of information for you who always deal with world and get to make decision every minute. That book reveal it details accurately using great organize word or we can say no rambling sentences included. So if you are read the idea hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only provides you with straight forward sentences but tricky core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, information in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no reserve that offer you world inside ten or fifteen moment right but this book already do that. So , it is good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. busy do you still doubt that will?

**Download and Read Online Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd  
#CDG20ON4WFA**

# **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**

**CDG20ON4WFA: Sacred Scripture, Sacred War: The Bible and the American Revolution By James P. Byrd**