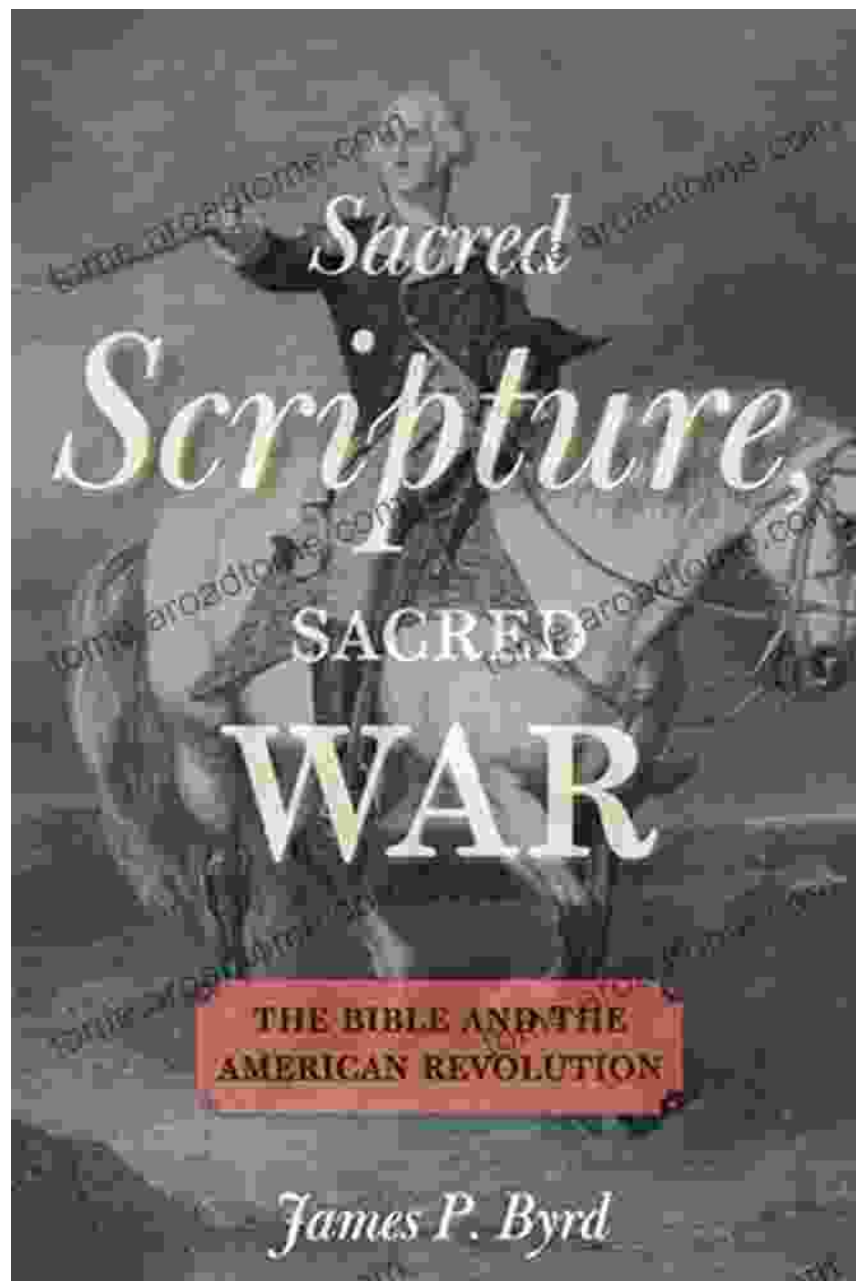


# Sacred Scripture, Sacred War

How the Bible Became a Weapon of Conquest



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

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English



File size	: 1356 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 256 pages
Lending	: Enabled



From the Crusades to the American Civil War, the Bible has been used to justify some of the most horrific acts of violence in human history. In *Sacred Scripture, Sacred War*, author Adam Serwer traces the Bible's role in shaping the history of warfare, revealing how it has been used to justify everything from slavery to genocide.

Serwer's narrative is sweeping and ambitious, but it is also deeply researched and meticulously argued. He draws on a wide range of sources, including biblical texts, historical documents, and contemporary scholarship, to build a compelling case that the Bible has been a major force in the history of violence.

Serwer begins by examining the Bible's role in the Crusades, a series of religious wars that were fought between Christians and Muslims in the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries. The Crusades were justified by the belief that it was God's will to reclaim the Holy Land from the Muslims. Serwer shows how this belief led to the slaughter of countless innocent people, both Christian and Muslim.

Serwer then turns his attention to the American Civil War, a conflict that was fought over the issue of slavery. The Bible was used by both sides to

justify their positions, with the North arguing that slavery was a sin and the South arguing that it was a necessary evil. Serwer shows how this debate led to a deep division within American Christianity, a division that continues to this day.

Serwer's book is a powerful and disturbing indictment of the Bible's role in the history of violence. He argues that the Bible has been used to justify some of the most horrific acts of violence in human history, and he calls on Christians to confront this history and to work to create a more just and peaceful world.

*Sacred Scripture, Sacred War* is a must-read for anyone interested in the intersection of religion and violence. It is a powerful and disturbing book, but it is also an essential one. Serwer's work sheds new light on the Bible's role in the history of warfare, and it challenges us to think critically about the ways in which we use religious texts to justify violence.

## **About the Author**

Adam Serwer is a staff writer at *The Atlantic*. He is the author of the book *The Cruelty Is the Point: The History of a Culture of Lynching from the Slave Trade to the Present*.

## **Reviews**

"*Sacred Scripture, Sacred War* is a tour de force. Serwer has written a sweeping and ambitious book that will change the way we think about the Bible and its role in the history of violence." - **Ibram X. Kendi, author of *How to Be an Antiracist***

"Serwer's book is a must-read for anyone interested in the intersection of religion and violence. It is a powerful and disturbing book, but it is also an essential one." - **The New York Times Book Review**

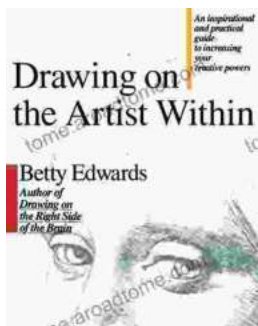
"*Sacred Scripture, Sacred War* is a devastating indictment of the Bible's role in the history of violence. Serwer's work is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the roots of our current conflicts." - **The Washington Post**



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