

# Sworn on the Altar of God: A Religious Biography of Thomas Jefferson / 9780802801562 / Edwin S. Gaustad, Gaustad, Edwin Scott Gaustad / 246 pages / Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1996 / 1996

Jefferson's autobiography was so like Franklin's in so many ways, and it had the ingredients of an imperishable success besides. Why was it, and why has it remained, so obscure? Why have we not treasured it as our indispensable testimony of the Revolutionary era? Why has it faded from sight, while Franklin's memoir has served us steadily as our instruction manual on the use of the republic? Consider the episode on which the memoir concludes, his visit to Franklin as the Philadelphian lay on the bed of sickness from which he never rose. The two men talk of mutual friends in Paris and the parts they played in the revolution there. Then Jefferson congratulates Franklin on the report that the old man was writing the history of his own life. This acclaimed biography explores the religious life of Thomas Jefferson and the contribution his strident commitment to religious liberty made to the formation of the nation. Renowned historian Edwin Gaustad chronicles Jefferson's intellectual growth, paying particular attention both to Jefferson's private struggle to come to grips with his own faith and to his public role as champion of religious liberty. This volume is must reading for anyone interested in the religious life of one of America's most significant figures. This acclaimed biography explores the religious life of Thomas Jefferson, and the contribution his strident commitment to religious liberty made to the formation of the nation. Renowned historian, Edwin Gaustad, chronicles Jefferson's intellectual growth. In the Logos edition, Sworn on the Altar of God is enhanced by amazing functionality. Scripture citations link directly to English translations, and important terms link to dictionaries, encyclopedias, and a wealth of other resources in your digital library. Powerful searches help you find exactly what you're looking for. Take the discussion with you using tablet and mobile apps. With Logos Bible Software, the most efficient and comprehensive research tools are in one place, so you get the most out of your study. Key Features. The book's title is based on the quote from Thomas Jefferson "I have sworn upon the altar of God, eternal hostility against every form of tyranny of the mind of man" [189]. He goes on to explain Jefferson's life from childhood to death and how he was very Anglican in his birth but went astray from his roots when he got older during The Enlightenment. What my main quarrel is with this book, is the fact that only a portion of this book actually is actually a religious biography of Thomas Jefferson. The only chapters I found interesting and valuable (that actually pertained to the title) were chapters: 1, 2, 5, and 8. The other 4 chapters were a complete bore and filled with clutter that has nothing to do with religion and never built up to anything associated with religion. Part of the Politics series on. Republicanism. Politics portal. v. t. e. Thomas Jefferson (April 13, 1743 – July 4, 1826) was an American statesman, diplomat, lawyer, architect, philosopher, and Founding Father who served as the third president of the United States from 1801 to 1809. He had previously served as the second vice president of the United States between 1797 and 1801. The principal author of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson was a proponent of democracy, republicanism, and