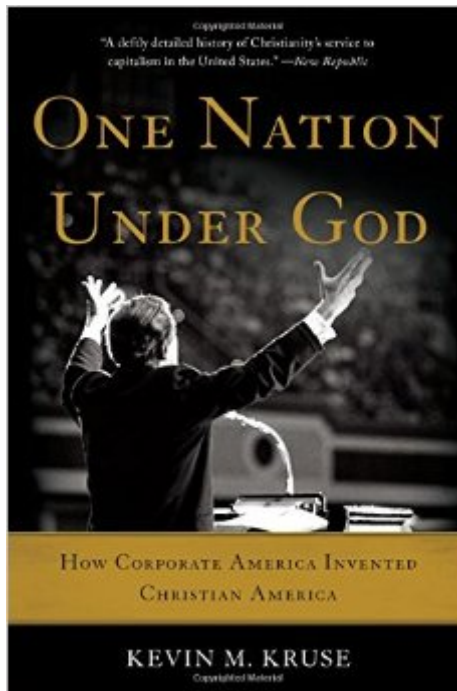


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One Nation Under God: How Corporate America Invented Christian America



Synopsis

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.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Excellent analysis and history of how Christian fundamentalism and the capitalist system became conflated in the attempt to erode the divide between church and state, rewrite history, re-cast progressive political struggles as not only "Un-American", but "anti-Christian", and to justify the ruling class ideology and economic system as having been ordained by god... this dangerous union limits the range of acceptable debate, bolsters American exceptionalism, has waged a multi-decade

propaganda/public relations war to coincide with the class warfare of the elites, uses churches to propagate ruling class ideology, and will continue to have undue influence in years to come, as a full third of the republican party self-identify as religious fundamentalists who push for the destruction of all the social gains won since the 30s/ 60s and who, in concert with corporate power and government power, seek to eradicate any notions of church-state separation, seek to control the culture, and seek to use faith in the service of reprehensible and genuinely un-American ideals that leave no room for social programs, no room for diversity, no room for science, no room for any ideas that contradict or challenge the myth of America as a Christian-capitalist Godly ordained empire. I would also recommend the book American Taliban, about the grave threat religious fundamentalism poses to this country and the ideals on which it was actually founded.

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