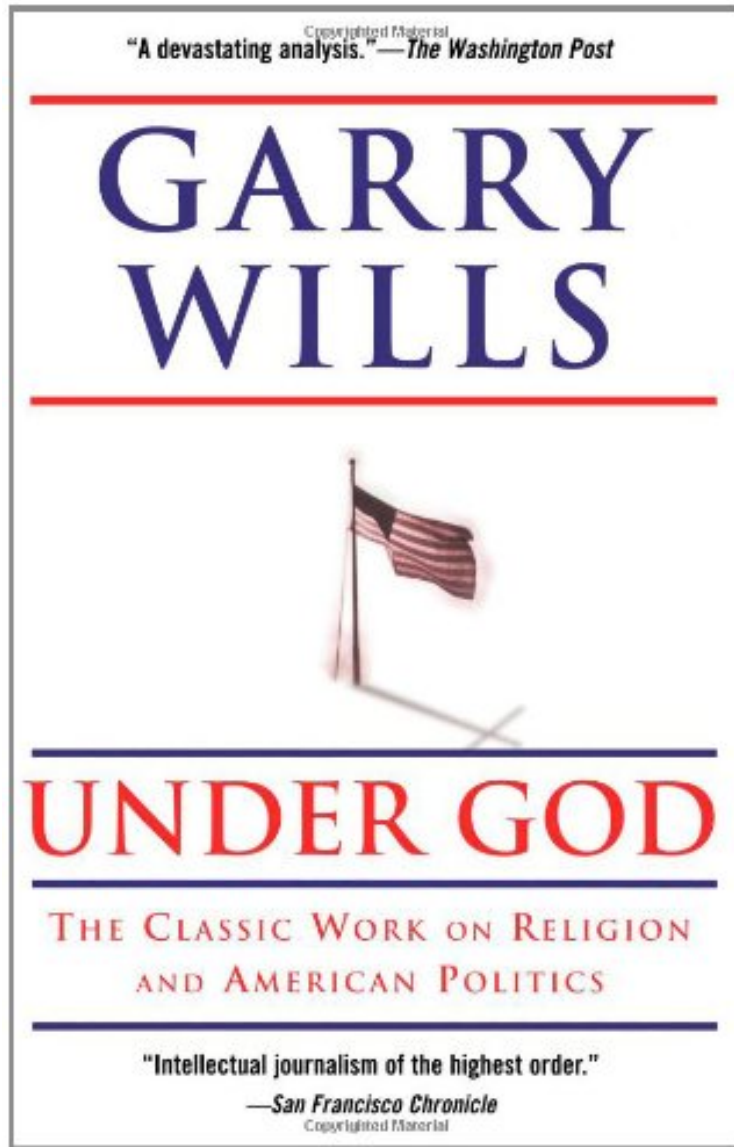


Under God: Religion and American Politics

Garry Wills

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churches, but of evangelism as the mainstream religion in the nation. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. essential book
By Jack Alan Robbins I teach American Government under the Constitution and the area in which I feel I am weakest is on the role of religion in American political life, which I am now endeavoring to research. Garry Wills' book is a key to understanding this entire area of American history and political life and to a far better understanding of the Founding Fathers and what they were attempting to do. I have also found Wills' other books such as *Inventing America* and *Explaining America* to be most valuable, along with the books of Wood, Bailyn, Ferling, Morgan and others. It is also just a great read!
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By Jay Noell I am a big fan of Garry Wills. This is an older book but covers a time I well remember. Anyone studying religion and politics in America will profit from Wills' work. Are we repeating history today because we failed to learn from the recent past? I will definitely share this book among my friends.

In *Under God*, Garry Wills, one of our liveliest and most eminent political observers, moves through the tapestry of American history, illuminating the instances where American politics and American religion have collided. Beginning with the 1988 presidential contest, an election that included two ministers and a senator accused of sin, Wills surveys our history to show the continuity of present controversies with past religious struggles and argues that the secular standards of the Founding Fathers have been misunderstood. He shows that despite reactionary fire-breathers and fanatics, religion has often been a progressive force in American politics and explains why the policy of a separate church and state has, ironically, made the position of the church stronger. Marked by the extraordinary quality of observation that has defined the work of Garry Wills, *Under God* is a rich, original look at why religion and politics will never be separate in the United States.

"Easily the most engrossing and informative -- and far and away the best written -- book on American politics in many, many moons." -- *Booklist*
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