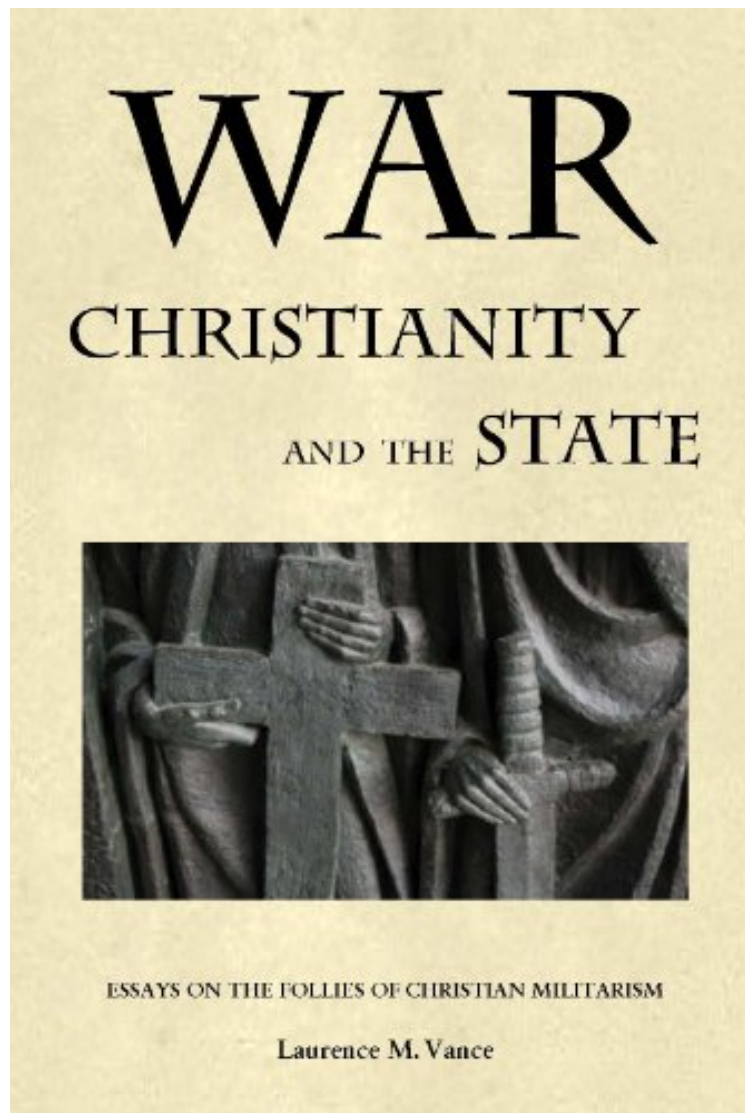


(Mobile pdf) War, Christianity, and the State: Essays on the Follies of Christian Militarism

War, Christianity, and the State: Essays on the Follies of Christian Militarism

Laurence M. Vance

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Laurence M. Vance : War, Christianity, and the State: Essays on the Follies of Christian Militarism before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised War, Christianity, and the State: Essays on the Follies of Christian Militarism:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Evangelical Critique of American MilitarismBy Frances C. FowlerIf you've ever wondered how so many of America's Evangelicals can be "pro-life" when it comes to abortion and "pro-

death" when it comes to war and militarism, you'll enjoy "War, Christianity, and the State." In it Laurence Vance (himself an Evangelical) lambastes contemporary Evangelicals who idolize the state and the military. It wasn't always so; he provides interesting essays on nineteenth century Evangelicals who strongly opposed war. In addition, he critiques the problematic interpretation of Scripture that leads many Evangelicals to believe that America is God's chosen nation and that God is "a God of War." Vance isn't a pacifist--he believes that every country has a right to fight a defensive war when it is actually invaded or clearly threatened by an invasion. However, in his view most (all?) of the military adventures in which the U.S. has become involved in the last 60 years or so have been unjust wars, at least on the American side. One major flaw in this book is that since it incorporates dozens of short essays that originally appeared on blogs, it is often repetitive and disconnected. It would have been worth Vance's effort to edit this book in order to produce a shorter, more closely argued discussion. Nevertheless, it is thought-provoking and sometimes even amusing. I recommend it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It is an insightful work and will irritate to no end those who claim to follow the teachings of Christ but are actually more comfortable following the teachings of Mars. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Relatively informative. By M. Kramarczyk. Quite interesting perspective on what a Christian's attitude and response should be regarding the combative instincts of us all. The only negative with this volume is that there is a lot of repetition. Well written though.

These seventy-six essays, organized under the headings of Christianity and War, Christianity and the Military, Christianity and the Warfare State, and Christianity and Torture, have one underlying theme: the relation of Christianity to war, the military, and the warfare state. If there is any group of people that should be opposed to war, torture, militarism, and the warfare state with its suppression of civil liberties, imperial presidency, government propaganda, and interventionist foreign policy it is Christians, and especially conservative, evangelical, and fundamentalist Christians who claim to strictly follow the dictates of Scripture and worship the Prince of Peace.

About the Author Laurence M. Vance is an author, a publisher, a lecturer, a freelance writer, the editor of the Classic Reprints series, and the director of the Francis Wayland Institute. He holds degrees in history, theology, accounting, and economics. The author of twenty-five books, he has contributed over 800 articles and book reviews to both secular and religious periodicals. Vance's writings have appeared in a diverse group of publications including the Ancient Baptist Journal, Bible Editions Versions, Campaign for Liberty, LewRockwell.com, the Independent, the Free Market, Liberty, Chronicles, the Journal of Libertarian Studies, the Journal of the Grace Evangelical Society, the of Biblical Literature, Freedom Daily, and the New American. His writing interests include economics, taxation, politics, government spending and corruption, theology, English Bible history, Greek grammar, and the folly of war. He is a regular columnist, blogger, and book reviewer for LewRockwell.com, and writes a column for the Future of Freedom Foundation. Vance is a member of the Society of Biblical Literature, the Grace Evangelical Society, and the International Society of Bible Collectors, and is a policy adviser of the Future of Freedom Foundation and an associated scholar of the Ludwig von Mises Institute.