

Spiritual Destiny of America and the West: Session 1 Suggested Readings /Weblinks

1. Bahá'í Writings on Jesus Christ, Christian Faith

Jesus Christ – <http://www.bahai.org/library/authoritative-texts/search#collection=bahauallah&query=Jesus+Christ>
<http://www.bahai.org/library/authoritative-texts/search#q=Jesus%20Christ>

Christian Faith - <http://www.bahai.org/library/authoritative-texts/search#q=christian%20faith>

Bahá'u'lláh and Christian Faith - <http://www.bahai.org/library/authoritative-texts/search#collection=bahauallah&query=christian+faith>

The Báb and Christian Faith- <http://www.bahai.org/library/authoritative-texts/search#collection=the-bab&query=christian+faith>

Abdu'l-Bahá on Christ and Christianity: An interview with Pasteur Monnier on the relationship between the Bahá'í Faith and Christianity, Paris https://bahai-library.com/abdulbaha_christ_christianity_monnier

Return of Christ - <http://reference.bahai.org/en/t/o/BNE/bne-177.html>

Some Answered Questions - <http://reference.bahai.org/en/t/ab/SAQ/>

2. Martin Luther and Protestant Reformation

<http://www.history.com/topics/martin-luther-and-the-95-theses>
<http://www.history.com/topics/reformation>

How Martin Luther Led to Martin Luther King Jr.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-faith/wp/2017/10/31/how-the-protestant-reformation-led-to-martin-luther-king-jr/?utm_term=.6132fcc5f370

3. George Washington and Creation of United States of America: Christian Faith, Religious Freedom, Universal Principles for Oneness of Mankind

Mount Vernon.org <http://www.mountvernon.org>

<http://www.mountvernon.org/george-washington/the-man-the-myth/george-washington-and-religion/>
<http://www.mountvernon.org/digital-encyclopedia/article/george-washington-and-religion/>

Thanksgiving to God - 1789

<http://www.mountvernon.org/education/primary-sources-2/article/thanksgiving-proclamation-of-1789/>

George Washington Farewell Address – Circular to Thirteen Governors

<http://www.mountvernon.org/education/primary-sources-2/article/washingtons-farewell-address-1796/>
<http://www.mountvernon.org/digital-encyclopedia/article/george-washingtons-farewell-address/>

4. Christianity, the West and Emerging World Society

Timothy Samuel Shah and Allen D. Hertzke, Eds., (2016), **Christianity and Freedom: Volume I – Historical Perspectives**, Cambridge University Press, New York, Chapters 1 -3, 7 – 11 and 13.

“In Volume 1 of Christianity and Freedom, leading historians uncover the unappreciated role of Christianity in the development of basic human rights and freedoms from antiquity through today. These include radical notions of dignity and equality, religious freedom, liberty of conscience, limited government, consent of the governed, economic liberty, autonomous civil society, and church-state separation, as well as more recent advances in democracy, human rights, and human development. Acknowledging that the record is mixed, scholars document how the seeds of freedom in Christianity antedate and ultimately undermine later Christian justifications and practices of persecution. Drawing from history, political science, and sociology, this volume will become a standard reference work for historians, political scientists, theologians, students, journalists, business leaders, opinion shapers, and policymakers.”

Read more at <http://www.cambridge.org/gb/academic/subjects/law/socio-legal-studies/christianity-and-freedom-volume-1#c0pSCoMM3wGku2S9.99>

Allen D. Hertzke and Timothy Samuel Shah, Eds. (2016), **Christianity and Freedom: Volume II – Contemporary Perspectives**, Cambridge University Press, New York, Chapters 1 – 3 and 14 – 16.

“Volume 2 of Christianity and Freedom illuminates how Christian minorities and transnational Christian networks contribute to the freedom and flourishing of societies across the globe, even amidst pressure and violent persecution. Featuring unprecedented field research by some of the world's most distinguished scholars, it documents the outsized role of Christians in promoting human rights and religious freedom; fighting injustice; stimulating economic equality; providing education, social services, and health care; and nurturing democratic civil society. Readers will come away surprised and sobered to learn how this very Christian link to freedom often invites persecution. What are the dimensions of persecution and how are Christians responding to that pressure? What resources - theological, social, or transnational - do they marshal in leavening their societies? What will be lost if the Christian presence is marginalized? The answers to these questions are of crucial relevance in a world awash with religious extremism and deepening instability.”

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/christianity-and-freedom/30C417942529E7EC18FECA7E02F65305#fndtn-information>