How Religion Shapes America in the World

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, SHIELD OF FAITH:
RELIGION IN AMERICAN WAR AND DIPLOMACY

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Andrew Preston is a senior lecturer in American history at the University of Cambridge, where he is a fellow of Clare College. Preston previously taught history and international studies at Yale University, where he has twice been an Olin Fellow, at universities in Canada and Switzerland, and he has been a fellow at the Cold War Studies Program at the London School of Economics. In addition to Sword of the Spirit, Shield of Faith: Religion in American War and Diplomacy, which won the 2012 Cundhill “Recognition of Excellence” award from McGill University, he is the author of the War Council: McGeorge Bundy, the NSC, and Vietnam. Preston received a BA with honors in history and political Science from the University of Toronto, an MSc in international history from the London School of Economics, and a PhD in history from Cambridge, where he worked under the direction of John A. Thompson.

Jon Meacham, author of Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power and American Gospel writes: “Faith is one of the most influential factors in our national life, and Preston's excellent book gives religion its due as a force that shapes who we are, what wars we fight, and which causes we make our own.”