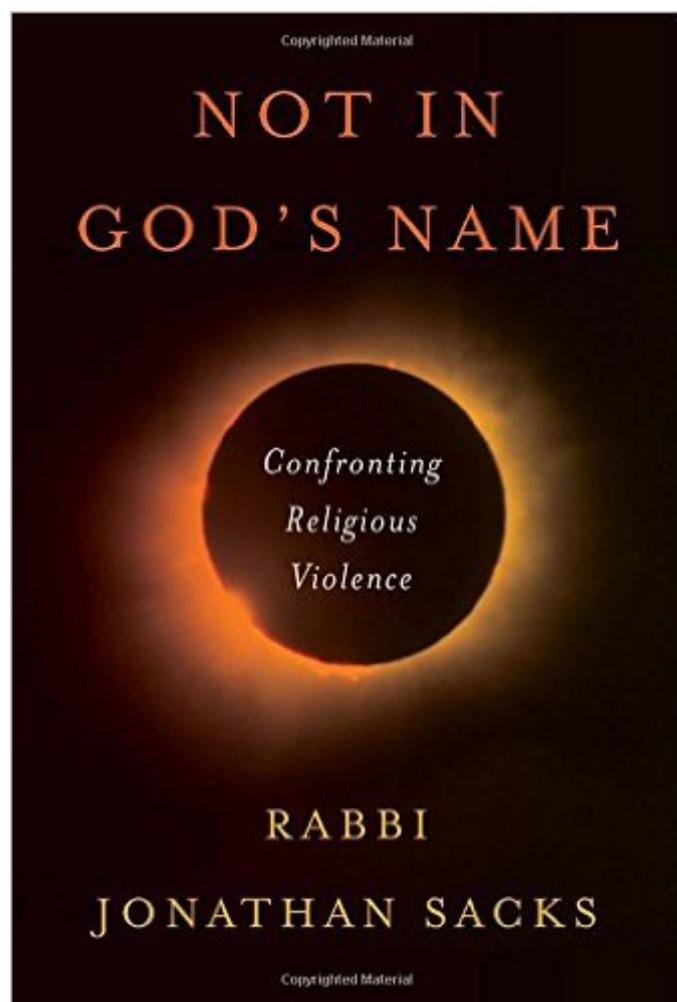


The book was found

Not In God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence



Synopsis

2015 National Jewish Book Award WinnerIn this powerful and timely book, one of the most admired and authoritative religious leaders of our time tackles the phenomenon of religious extremism and violence committed in the name of God. If religion is perceived as being part of the problem, Rabbi Sacks argues, then it must also form part of the solution. When religion becomes a zero-sum conceitâ "that is, my religion is the only right path to God, therefore your religion is by definition wrongâ "and individuals are motivated by what Rabbi Sacks calls â œaltruistic evil,â • violence between peoples of different beliefs appears to be the only natural outcome. Â But through an exploration of the roots of violence and its relationship to religion, and employing groundbreaking biblical analysis and interpretation, Rabbi Sacks shows that religiously inspired violence has as its source misreadings of biblical texts at the heart of all three Abrahamic faiths. By looking anew at the book of Genesis, with its foundational stories of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, Rabbi Sacks offers a radical rereading of many of the Bibleâ ™s seminal stories of sibling rivalry: Cain and Abel, Isaac and Ishmael, Jacob and Esau, Joseph and his brothers, Rachel and Leah. Â â œAbraham himself,â • writes Rabbi Sacks, â œsought to be a blessing to others regardless of their faith. That idea, ignored for many of the intervening centuries, remains the simplest definition of Abrahamic faith. It is not our task to conquer or convert the world or enforce uniformity of belief. It is our task to be a blessing to the world. The use of religion for political ends is not righteousness but idolatry . . . To invoke God to justify violence against the innocent is not an act of sanctity but of sacrilege.â • Here is an eloquent call for people of goodwill from all faiths and none to stand together, confront the religious extremism that threatens to destroy us, and declare: Not in Godâ ™s Name.

Book Information

Hardcover: 320 pages

Publisher: Schocken; First American Edition edition (October 13, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805243348

ISBN-13: 978-0805243345

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 1.1 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (181 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #17,243 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Religious Intolerance & Persecution #44 inÂ Books > Religion &

Customer Reviews

This is a brilliant book and absolutely worth reading. Rabbi Sacks is a model of what a religious leader should be- a seeker of truth rather than a purveyor of dogma. The *œpluses* of this book are :1. Very insightful, original, and useful biblical commentary. This alone is worth the price of admission.2. Ditto for his remarks on politics. That being said, the book fails to accomplish the purpose for which it was written.1. The book offers commentary solely on the Hebrew Bible. However, Rabbi Sacks can offer no examples of religiously motivated large scale Jewish violence since the fall of the 2nd Temple or the Bar Kochba revolt. The religiously motivated violence by Christianity and Islam through the centuries dwarfs anything ever attributed to the Jews. Rabbi Sacks makes an oblique reference to Christian figures dealing with the former and makes no reference to anyone dealing with the latter. The sources of this religious violence are most assuredly not the Hebrew Bible (with one exception- see below), but the New Testament and the Koran. However, he *œwill* not go there *œ* and address these texts. Both of these texts imply that Jews will be enemies forever. The Hebrew Bible (e.g. the Book of Joshua) refers only to nations long gone. It is understandable that a man of Rabbi Sack's stature dare not address the problems with these texts regarding religious violence, but it is near impossible to do anything effective about religious violence without addressing them.2. He attempts to discuss Islam as if Ishmael was the original Muslim. It is highly unlikely that the Hebrew Bible can serve as the historical justification for such a wild speculation.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Not in God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence Female Genital Cutting (Confronting Violence Against Women) Terror in the Mind of God: The Global Rise of Religious Violence (Comparative Studies in Religion and Society) Domestic Violence (Violence and Society) Violence in Irish history: Overcoming Violence A Hindu Theology of Liberation: Not-Two Is Not One (SUNY Series in Religious Studies) Zoroastrians: Their Religious Beliefs and Practices (The Library of Religious Beliefs and Practices) Relax, It's Just God: How and Why to Talk to Your Kids About Religion When You're Not Religious The Baby Name Wizard, Revised 3rd Edition: A Magical Method for Finding the Perfect Name for Your Baby My Name Is Child of God...Not "Those People": A First Person Look at Poverty ARE YOU RIGHT WITH GOD?: Discover how to be saved and right with God is not as hard as you think! (Walking With God, Walking With Jesus Book 1) The Ghosts of Berlin:

Confronting German History in the Urban Landscape Respectable Sins: Confronting the Sins We Tolerate The Curse: Confronting the Last Unmentionable Taboo: Menstruation Healing Painful Sex: A Woman's Guide to Confronting, Diagnosing, and Treating Sexual Pain Now What? Confronting and Resolving Ethical Questions: A Handbook for Teachers Water, Peace, and War: Confronting the Global Water Crisis (Globalization) Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care (with CD) Home Truths: Confronting New Zealand's Housing Crisis (BWB Texts Book 37) Confronting Silence: Selected Writings (Fallen Leaf Monographs on Contemporary Composers)

[Dmca](#)