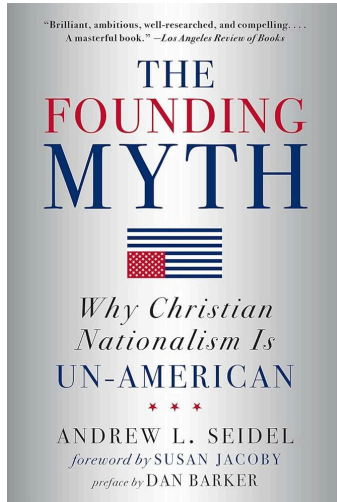


Book of the Month



Title:

The Founding Myth: Why Christian Nationalism Is Un-American

Author:

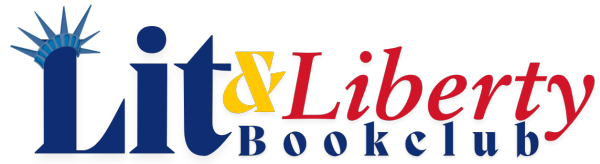
Andrew L. Seidel

Book Summary

In *The Founding Myth*, constitutional attorney Andrew L. Seidel boldly confronts a dangerous and growing narrative: that the United States was founded as a Christian nation. Seidel unpacks the historical, legal, and philosophical contradictions between Christian nationalism and the U.S. Constitution, demonstrating how this myth undermines the very freedoms it claims to defend.

Drawing on the founding documents, writings of key founders, and current legal battles, Seidel argues that the core principles of Christian nationalism—authoritarianism, exclusion, and dogma—stand in direct opposition to the democratic ideals of liberty, equality, and reason. With meticulous research and a lawyer's precision, he dismantles the false historical claims that have fueled religious influence over politics, exposing how this movement endangers American democracy.

This book isn't just a rebuttal—it's a rallying cry for a future where church and state remain truly separate and where pluralism, not theocracy, defines our civic life.



Why This Book Was Chosen for Lit & Liberty

At Lit & Liberty, we believe in exploring bold ideas that challenge assumptions, deepen understanding, and protect democratic values. *The Founding Myth* does exactly that.

In a time when Christian nationalism is influencing courts, legislation, and public policy, this book invites critical, evidence-based dialogue on one of the most urgent threats to American democracy. It's especially important for readers who want to engage with the intersection of history, religion, and civil rights. Whether you're religious, secular, or somewhere in between, this book opens space for respectful, informed conversations about what it *truly* means to uphold liberty and justice for all.

Possible Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most in this book—an idea, a quote, or a moment? Why did it resonate?
2. Seidel argues that Christian nationalism is fundamentally opposed to the Constitution. What examples or evidence did you find most compelling—or most surprising?
3. How does the book challenge the way religion is typically discussed in civic or public spaces? Did it shift your perspective in any way?
4. What role should historical truth play in today's legal and political debates—and how can we better safeguard it?