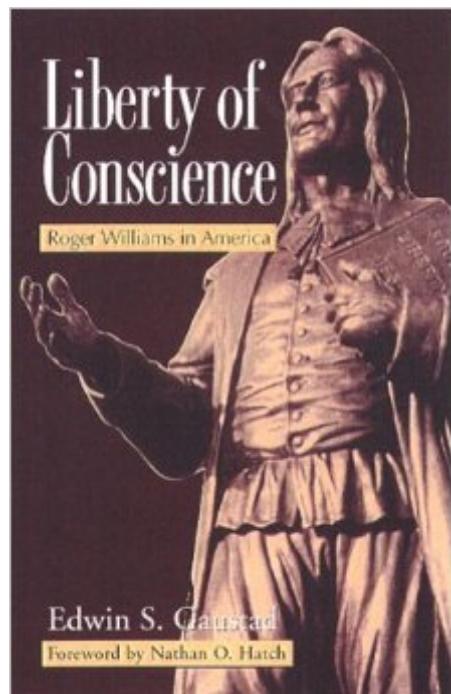


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Liberty Of Conscience: Roger Williams In America



Synopsis

Gaustad skillfully tells the story of Roger Williams: founder of Rhode Island, a defender of religious liberty, and a man of deep religious and political convictions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...the divines who enjoined the Puritans not to covet their neighbor's wives taught otherwise about the Indian hunting grounds. These religious and political leaders insisted that all land not actually occupied and cultivated belonged, not to the Indians, but to the Massachusetts Bay Colony, which they controlled. Roger Williams was tried and banished from Massachusetts in 1635 because he declared that 'the Natives are the true owners' of the land. His heretical views on the land question were condemned as no less dangerous than his unorthodox religious opinions."--George Novack in Americas Revolutionary Heritage. Among the present rantings against Islam, those who try to sound intelligent proclaim that unlike other religions, Islam has never accepted separation of church and state. The problem with this argument is that it assumes that other religions simply accepted it. But separation of church and state is primarily a product of the bourgeois-democratic revolutions. The reformation was the opening shot in this, and it was quite bloody. That wasn't the end of it. So one might as well say that the Islamic countries have not had deep-going (if any) bourgeois-democratic revolutions, and then you have to leave the field of ranting and examine history and politics to find out why. (Algeria under Ahmed Ben Bella was in the opening stages of a socialist revolution, but with his imprisonment this was cut off). A few highly developed (imperialist) countries dominate the

world.

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