

THE MANY AND THE ONE: RELIGION AND PLURALISM IN AMERICAN HISTORY

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PROJECT: SELECTED PRIMARY SOURCE READINGS IN THE 20TH CENTURY

This listing includes some examples of the interaction of religion and American society and culture in the 20th century. This listing is incomplete and also is not a balanced set of readings.

1900-1920

Jane Addams – 20 Years at Hull House (1910)
Chapter 4 (pp.120-126) – Christian Humanitarianism
Chapter 6 – the necessity of settlement houses and the motives of its workers

Walter Rauschenbusch – Christianity and the Social Crisis (1913)
Excerpts from Chapter 7 – “What to do- Social Evangelization and the Pulpit and the Social Question”

Woodrow Wilson – 1912 Campaign Speech – “America was born a Christian nation”

Chicago New World - editorials and news articles on the loyalty and Americanism of Chicago Catholic immigrants and their families (1915-1920)

1920-1940

The Scopes Trial

- 1) William Jennings Bryan – “Who Shall Control our Schools?” June, 1925
- 2) W.E.B. DuBois – “Scopes” – Crisis, September, 1925
- 3) Clarence Darrow – Autobiography, pp.244-255 – Chapter 29 – “The Evolution Case”

Bruce Barton - The Man Nobody Knows (1925) – “Jesus as a Business Executive”

Presidential Election of 1928:

Alfred E. Smith – Campaign Addresses (1929)

Herbert Hoover - Memoirs

Father Charles Coughlin:

Radio Speech for the National Union for Social Justice, November 11, 1934

Radio Speech – “President Roosevelt and Social Justice” Jan. 9, 1934

Detroit News excerpts and quotes of Father Charles Coughlin (1934-1943)

Frances Perkins and Episcopalians

1940-1960

Dorothy Day – The Catholic Worker, June, 1942 - “Love is the Measure”

Harry S. Truman – Letter to Pope Pius XII and Speech to the Attorney Generals
Conference (1950) – U.S. as a Christian nation vs. totalitarianism

Billy Graham – Speech at Madison Square Garden, May 1957 – “The Scourge of
Communism

1960-1980

John F. Kennedy – Address to the Greater Houston Ministerial Association, September
12, 1960
“I believe in an America where the separation of church and state is
Absolute.”

Martin Luther King, Jr. – “I Have a Dream” speech at the Washington Monument, 1963
Letter from the Birmingham Jail – April, 1963

Daniel Berrigan – Fire and Faith: Trial of the Catonsville Nine (excerpts) Protest at a
draft board from a conscience-based witness
David Darst

Martin Luther King, Jr. – Speech – “Beyond Vietnam” – April 4, 1967

Malcolm X – Speech – “Black Revolution”, 1963

Carl McIntire – Sermon – “Peace by Victory” by the founder of the American Council of
Christian Churches (February 20, 1972) – a protest of President
Nixon’s visit to Red China

Jimmy Carter – televised speech, (July 15, 1979) – “Malaise” or “Crisis of Confidence”
Speech

1980-2000

Ronald Reagan - “Evil Empire” Speech (March 8, 1963) to the National Association of
Evangelists

Ronald Reagan - Radio Speech to the Nation on Prayer in Schools (February 25, 1984)
in support of a constitutional amendment

Jerry Farwell – Sermon – “A True Memorial Day” – How the Declaration of Independence holds solid Biblical truths and how they affect our nation.

Phyllis Schlafly – Newspaper Column (December 18, 2002) – “Are the Ten Commandments Unconstitutional?”