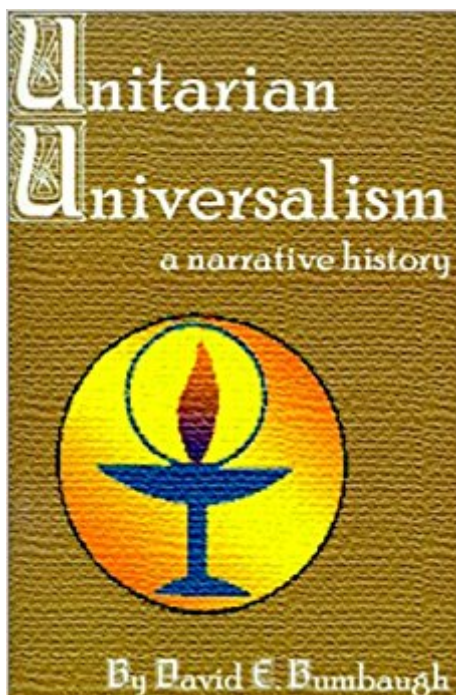


The book was found

Unitarian Universalism: A Narrative History



Synopsis

Unitarian Universalism: A Narrative History

Book Information

Paperback: 236 pages

Publisher: Meadville Lombard Press; 1st edition (March 9, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0970247907

ISBN-13: 978-0970247902

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #198,827 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) [#20 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Religions, Practices & Sacred Texts > Unitarian Universalism](#) [#480 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Religious Studies > Christianity](#) [#1080 in Books > History > World > Religious > Christianity](#)

Customer Reviews

On the first page of this book, author David Bumbaugh explains that the UU denomination is peculiar in that it is bound together by a shared history, rather than a shared theology or set of doctrines. He then spends the next 200 pages outlining the histories of the two foundational denominations, the Unitarians and Universalists, from their beginnings in formative Christian discourse to their merger in 1961 to the new challenges facing the secular humanism that has dominated UU since the mid-20th century. This book should be on the bookshelf of every UU, since it provides an easy-to-read overview of our denominational history. Because Bumbaugh does such a thorough job of discussing the various theological actions and reactions of the Reformation, this book is also recommended reading for Christians of all denominations who want to know more about the formation of their faith. After all, as Bob Marley pointed out, "if you knew your history, then you would know where you're coming from." That said, my sole criticism of this history is that it provides much more information on Unitarianism than it does on Universalism. As the author notes in his section on the May 1961 merger of the two liberal post-Christian denominations, the Universalists often feared being subsumed into the larger Unitarian milieu, and this history suggests that those fears were justified. While the author acknowledges that Universalism as a denomination did not really exist in Europe, he also does not go into a detailed exploration of the roots that it

DOES have, whereas he spends scores of pages describing proto-Unitarian trends in European Christendom. Perhaps there really is a paucity of information available on pre-18th century proto-Universalist ideas, and that dearth explains its under-representation in the book. All in all, a good book for historians of Christianity and UU and also for those interested in liberal religion in general.

The book is easy reading and will help you understand how Unitarianism and Universalism evolved. I was raised as a Unitarian and I know more about other religions than I do my own. And certainly if you are not a Unitarian Universalist, but want to understand what it's all about, this book explains the specific ideas behind UUism and where they came from. I should have read this book a long time ago, but I'm glad I read it now!

This relatively short book provides an amazingly in-depth overview of Unitarian and Universalist history. Spending more time on Unitarian history, famous Universalists and their backgrounds are also discussed. This book is unusual in that it is not divided by chapters, and there are typos scattered throughout the text. One that I found particularly humorous was where Ballou's birth year was given as 1771, but then a paragraph later it states he may have held universalist views as early as 1773. Remarkable childhood, if it were true! All in all, this is a very good book for people to read who love religious history and/or want to get a feel for the history of Unitarian Universalism.

This "narrative history" is essentially a short textbook, not the sort of book one would read for pleasure, unless one finds pleasure in being bored. While it is a good overview of the historical development of the UU religion, it is written in a dry, workmanlike prose that doesn't engage the imagination at all. As other reviewers have noted, the book dwells on the Unitarian strand and gives the universalists a briefer treatment. The final piece, on the creation of the Unitarian Universalist Association in 1961 and its evolution since then, is also cursory. I will keep this on my shelf as a reference, but I doubt I would ever feel a desire to read it again without it being to look something up. *A Chosen Faith: An Introduction to Unitarian Universalism* is a much better introduction to UU.

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

Unitarian Universalism: A Narrative History
Maglipay Universalist: A History of the Unitarian
Universalist Church of the Philippines
All the World: Universalism, Particularism and the High Holy
Days (Prayers of Awe)
Waiting 'Til the Midnight Hour: A Narrative History of Black Power in America
The Chinese in America: A Narrative History
The Shape of Inca History: Narrative and Architecture

in an Andean Empire The Classic Slave Narratives: The Life of Olaudah Equiano / The History of Mary Prince / Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass Unclaimed Experience: Trauma, Narrative and History The Rise and Fall of Popular Music: A Narrative History from the Renaissance to Rock 'n' Roll Man Called Intrepid: The Incredible WWII Narrative Of The Hero Whose Spy Network And Secret Diplomacy Changed The Course Of History Graphic Storytelling and Visual Narrative (Will Eisner Instructional Books) Expressive Anatomy for Comics and Narrative: Principles and Practices from the Legendary Cartoonist (Will Eisner Instructional Books) Narrative of the captivity and restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson Personal Narrative of a Journey to the Equinoctial Regions of the New Continent: Abridged Edition (Penguin Classics) The Prime Ministers: An Intimate Narrative of Israeli Leadership Saved by the Boats: The Heroic Sea Evacuation of September 11 (Encounter: Narrative Nonfiction Picture Books) For the Right to Learn: Malala Yousafzai's Story (Encounter: Narrative Nonfiction Picture Books) Jars of Hope: How One Woman Helped Save 2,500 Children During the Holocaust (Encounter: Narrative Nonfiction Picture Books) Apples to Oregon: Being the (Slightly) True Narrative of How a Brave Pioneer Father Brought Apples, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Grapes, and Cherries (and Children) Across the Plains The Story of God: Wesleyan Theology & Biblical Narrative

[Dmca](#)