

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
"RELIGION AND POLITICS IN CURRENT FUNDAMENTALIST
MOVEMENTS"

HDS 2511
Professor Harvey Cox
Andover, Rm. 103

Fall Term 2006

Tuesdays 1-3 p.m.
(Discussion Section to be scheduled)

(This course will also be transmitted by the Harvard Distant Learning Project)

Schedule of Class Sessions

19 Sept. Introduction, Definitions, Objectives, Requirements
Four Traditions:
Protestant: Colleges; TV Ministries; Christian Zionism
Jewish: Messianic Zionism (Settlers); Chabad Lubavitch
Catholic: Opus Dei, Marian Apparitions
Muslim: Muslim Brotherhood, Hamas

Requirements:

- 1) Regular attendance at class sessions and discussion sections
- 2) Midterm Take Home Exam due October 24.
- 3) Books Review due 14 November 2006.
- 4) Term paper or project due 12 January 2007.

SECTION ONE PROTESTANT FUNDAMENTALISM

26 Sept. Historical and Theological Sources of Protestant Fundamentalism
Fundamentalist vs. Evangelical Colleges
Bob Jones, Regent, Liberty Universities
Fundamentalism as a Cultural-Linguistic System

Reading Assignments for next two sessions

- * Karen Armstrong, The Battle for God (Assigned portions)
Bruce Lawrence (Chapt. 1 and 7)
- * Martin Marty & Scott Appleby The Glory and the Power (Chapts. 1 & 2)

Gabriel Almond & Scott Appleby & Emmanuel Sivan, *Strong Religion*, pp.90-115

Recommended: George Mansden, Fundamentalism & American Culture

3 Oct. TV Ministries and Megachurches
Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker; James Dodson and “Focus on the Family;”
Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson

10 Oct. “End Time Theology,” Dispensationalism and Christian Zionism

Reading Assignment:

*Tom LeHaye & Jerry Jenkins, *Left Behind*, or

Tom LeHaye & Jerry Jenkins, *Armageddon*

Yaakov Ariel, “American Fundamentalism and the Emergence of the Jewish State” in *New Dimensions in American Religious History* ed. by Jay Dolan & James Wind, pp.288-309

Donald Wagner, “*Marching to Zion*” to be distributed

Craig Nelson, “Christian Zionists Heralded in Israel”, see
<http://www.patroberson.com/Speeches/speechreaction.asp>

Pat Robertson, “Why Evangelical Christians Support Israel”, see
<http://www.patroberson.com/Speeches/IsraellAuder.asp>

Robert Wuthnow and Matthew P. Lawson, "Sources of Christian Fundamentalism in the United States" in *Accounting for Fundamentalisms (Fundamentalisms Project) in Marty and Appleby*

SECTION TWO JEWISH FUNDAMENTALISM

17 Oct. History and Background of Jewish Fundamentalism
Messianic Zionism (“Settler Theology”)
Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook

Reading Assignment:

A selection from Rabbi Kook’s writings to be determined

Jacob Abadi, “Religious Zionism and Israeli Politics” in *Religious Fundamentalism in Developing Countries*, pp. 67-89

David Schnall, “Gush Emunim: Messianic Dissent and Israeli Politics”, pp.148-160

Gideon Aran, "Jewish Zionist Fundamentalism: The Block of the Faithful in Israel" (in Fundamentalism Observed--The Fundamentalisms Project Appleby & Marty)

24 Oct. Chabad Lubavitch
Rabbi Menachem Schneerson
(Possible visit to Chabad in Cambridge)

Reading Assignment:

* Sue Fishkoff, *The Rebbe's Army* (assigned portions)

Menachem Friedman, "Habad as Messianic Fundamentalism: From Local Particularism to Universal Jewish Mission" by (in Marty & Appleby *Accounting for Fundamentalisms*)

Aviezer Ravitzky, "The Contemporary Lubavitch Hasidic Movement: Between Conservatism and Messianism" by (in Marty & Appleby *Accounting for Fundamentalisms*)

SECTION THREE CATHOLIC FUNDAMENTALISM

31 Oct. Roman Catholic "Traditionalism" Marian Appearances;
Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ"

Reading Assignment:

*M.H.Brown: The Final Hour (Assigned parts)

William D. Dinges and James Hitchcock, "Roman Catholic Traditionalism and activist Conservatism (in Marty & Appleby, *Fundamentalism Observed*)

7 Nov Opus Dei

Reading Assignment:

Father Escriva de Balaguer: *The Way* (Selected parts)

*John Allen, Jr. Opus Dei (assigned portions)

(Possible visit to Opus Dei Center in Cambridge)

www.josemariaescriva.info

www.seattlecatholic.com/article_20011221_A_Brief_Defence_of_Traditionalism.html

SECTION FOUR MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALISM

14 Nov The Muslim Brotherhood, Hassan al-Banna and Sayyid Qutb

Reading Assignment:

* R. Euben Enemy in the Mirror (Assigned parts)

S. Qutb, *Milestones* (Assigned parts)

* Shaull Mikhal & Avraham Sela The Palestinian Hamas (Assigned Parts)

Recommended

Gehad Auda, "The 'normalization' of the Islamic Movement in Egypt from the 1970s to the Early 1990s"

Abdel Azim Ramadan, "Fundamentalist Influence in Egypt: The Strategies of the Muslim Brotherhood and the Takfir Groups" (both in *Fundamentalisms Observed*)
Kepel, *Muslim Extremism in Egypt*

21 Nov [*Two page prospectus for term paper due*]

Palestinian Hamas

Reading Bruce Lawrence, Defenders of God (Assigned portions)

Recommended: Ajami, *The Arab Predicament*

28 Nov Pentecostalism versus Fundamentalism: The Future of World Christianity

Reading Assignment:

* H. Cox, Fire From Heaven (Assigned parts)

5 Dec The Future of Fundamentalisms

12 Dec Preliminary Reports on Term Papers in Class

19 Dec Last Class and Comparisons and Conclusions

*Reading – Charles Kimball When Religion Becomes Evil

Term Papers (about 15 pages) due 12 January 2007

A Note on Bibliography

Books on syllabus marked with an asterik (*) are the key texts, and are available in the HDS bookstore and on reserve in the HDS library.

The four volumes of Martin Marty and Scott Appleby's **Fundamentalism Project** are also a key resource and are also on reserve.

Main Books to be Used in this Course

Fundamentalism Observed, by Marty, Martin & Appleby Scot

*Glory and the Power by Marty, Martin & Appleby Scot

Final Hour, by Brown, Michael H.

Smoke of Satan: Conservative & Traditional Dissent in Contemporary American Catholicism, by Cuneo, Michael

*Rebbe's Army – Inside the World of Chabad Lubavitch, by Fishkoff, Sue

*Left Behind, by LeHaye, Tom & Jerry Jenkins

Armageddon, by LeHaye, Tom & Jerry Jenkins

Way (The), by Escriva, Jose

*Milestones, by Qutb, Seyyid

*Abraham Isaac Kook: The Lights of Penitence, Lights of Holiness, by Bokser (CWS)

*Opus Dei, by John L. Allen,

*Enemy in the Mirror, by Roxanne L. Euben

*The Palestinian Hamas, by Shaull Mishal & Avraham Sela