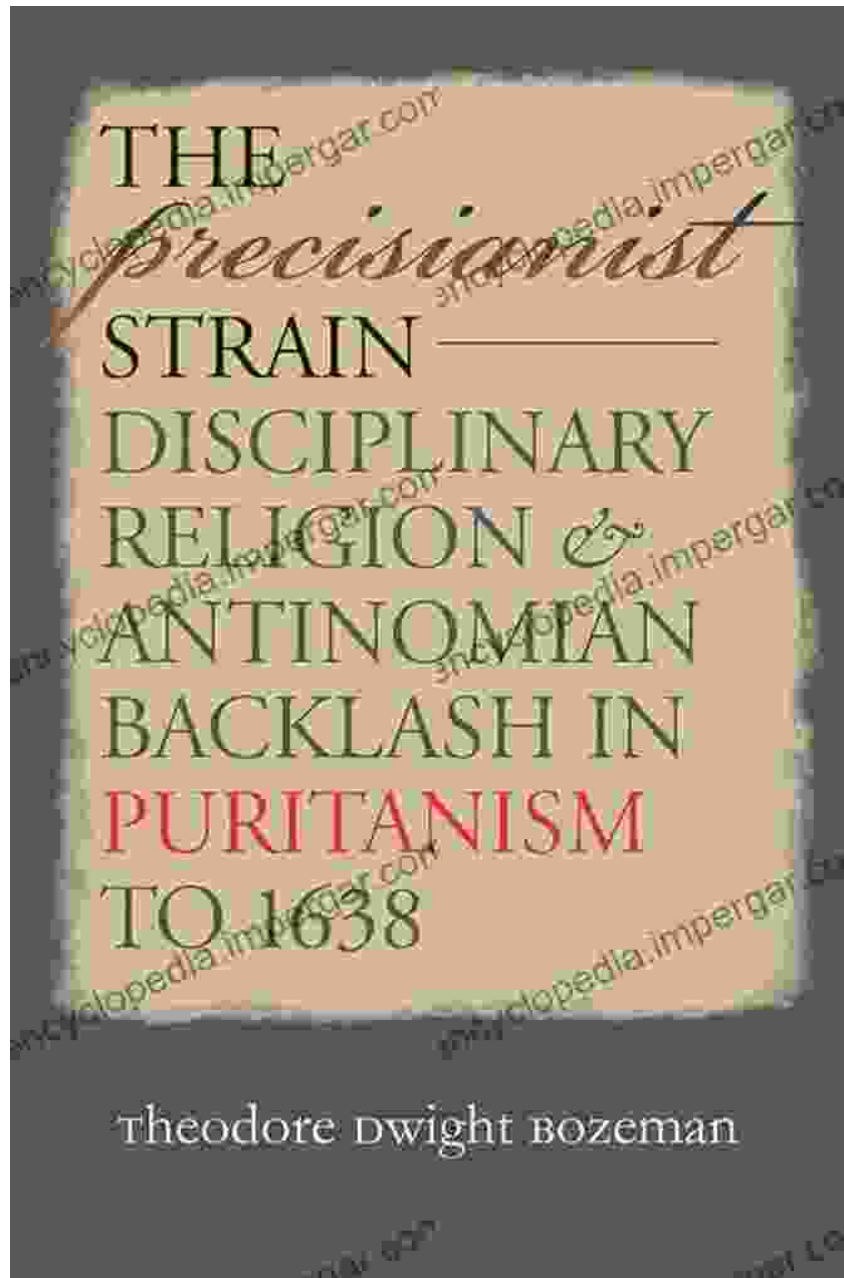


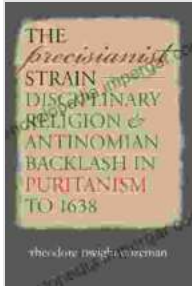
Disciplinary Religion and Antinomian Backlash: Unraveling Puritanism's Dark Side



An In-Depth Examination of Puritan Society's Religious Turmoil

In the annals of religious history, Puritanism stands out as a movement marked by both extraordinary devotion and internal divisions. *Disciplinary*

Religion and Antinomian Backlash in Puritanism to 1638 delves deep into this tumultuous period, shedding light on the complex interplay of religious discipline and the challenges posed by the Antinomian heresy.



The Precisianist Strain: Disciplinary Religion and Antinomian Backlash in Puritanism to 1638 (Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History ... and the University of North Carolina Press)

by Theodore Dwight Bozeman

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1579 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 365 pages



Puritanism: A Regime of Discipline and Control

Puritanism emerged in England in the 16th century as a response to the perceived corruption of the established Church. Puritans believed in strict adherence to biblical precepts and sought to purify their lives and the lives of others according to these principles. This zeal for religious purity manifested itself in a rigorous system of discipline, enforced by both the church and the state.

Puritan leaders exercised strict control over their congregations, scrutinizing every aspect of behavior. Activities such as dancing, playing cards, and attending the theater were considered sinful and could result in

severe consequences. The authorities also enforced strict Sabbath observance, with violators facing fines or even imprisonment.

The Rise of Antinomianism

Amidst this culture of discipline and control, a countercurrent emerged in the form of Antinomianism. This heresy challenged the Puritan emphasis on external rules and rituals. Antinomians argued that those who were truly saved by God's grace were no longer subject to the Law of Moses or the moral code of the church.

Theological debates over Antinomianism raged through Puritan communities, pitting those who clung to strict discipline against those who embraced a more radical interpretation of grace. The most prominent Antinomian preacher was Anne Hutchinson, whose charismatic sermons attracted a significant following.

Backlash and Suppression

The spread of Antinomianism within Puritanism sent shockwaves through the established Free Church. Puritan leaders viewed this heresy as a threat to their authority and a corruption of true faith. Led by Governor John Winthrop, they took swift action to suppress the movement.

In 1637, Hutchinson and her followers were banished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Other Antinomian preachers were imprisoned or silenced. The colony's leaders used their power to maintain Free Church and ensure that the established discipline of the Puritan faith was upheld.

The Legacy of Puritanism's Internal Conflict

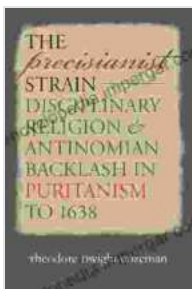
The Antinomian controversy left a lasting impact on Puritan society. It revealed the tensions between the need for religious discipline and the dangers of excessive zeal. The suppression of Antinomianism strengthened the authority of Puritan leaders but also sowed seeds of discontent that would later contribute to the Salem witch trials and other internal divisions.

About the Book

Disciplinary Religion and Antinomian Backlash in Puritanism to 1638 is a comprehensive and meticulously researched examination of this pivotal period in religious history. Drawing on extensive archival material, the author provides a nuanced analysis of the Puritan mindset, the rise of Antinomianism, and the backlash that ensued.

This book is essential reading for anyone interested in Puritanism, religious history, or the dynamics of religious extremism. It offers a compelling narrative that sheds new light on the complexities and contradictions of one of the most influential religious movements in Western history.

Free Download your copy of *Disciplinary Religion and Antinomian Backlash in Puritanism to 1638* today and delve into this fascinating chapter of religious history.



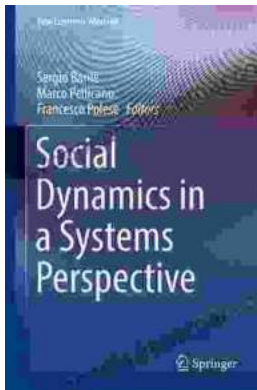
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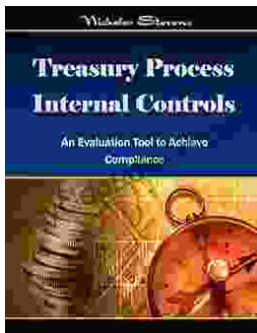
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