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The Dove, the Fig Leaf and the Sword: Why Christianity Changes its Mind About War (Paperback)

By Alan Billings

SPCK Publishing, United Kingdom, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 214 x 136 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Why does the pacifist movement of the first few centuries so quickly become an organization that supports emperors and finds reasons for fighting? What leads the Church to formulate just war principles only to abandon them when in pursuit of heretics and infidels? What is the relationship between Christianity and the idea of chivalry? Did just war principles ever stay the hand of Christian rulers? How could religious wars ever be fought? Why did the churches capitulate so easily to nationalist sentiment? What impact did two world wars have on Christian thinking? Why have the churches in more recent years and a more secular age apparently taken a more cautious approach to war? These are the sort of questions this book sets out to answer. Its essential argument is that the movement begun by Jesus was never committed to pacifism in any absolute sense.



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