



This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War

By James M. McPherson

Download now

Read Online ➔

This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson

The author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Battle Cry of Freedom* and the *New York Times* bestsellers *Crossroads of Freedom* and *Tried by War*, among many other award-winning books, James M. McPherson is America's preeminent Civil War historian. In this collection of provocative and illuminating essays, McPherson offers fresh insight into many of the enduring questions about one of the defining moments in our nation's history.

McPherson sheds light on topics large and small, from the average soldier's avid love of newspapers to the postwar creation of the mystique of a Lost Cause in the South. Readers will find insightful pieces on such intriguing figures as Harriet Tubman, John Brown, Jesse James, and William Tecumseh Sherman, and on such vital issues as Confederate military strategy, the failure of peace negotiations to end the war, and the realities and myths of the Confederacy. *This Mighty Scourge* includes several never-before-published essays--pieces on General Robert E. Lee's goals in the Gettysburg campaign, on Lincoln and Grant in the Vicksburg campaign, and on Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief. All of the essays have been updated and revised to give the volume greater thematic coherence and continuity, so that it can be read in sequence as an interpretive history of the war and its meaning for America and the world.

Combining the finest scholarship with luminous prose, and packed with new information and fresh ideas, this book brings together the most recent thinking by the nation's leading authority on the Civil War.

 [Download This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil W ...pdf](#)

This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War

By James M. McPherson

This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson

The author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Battle Cry of Freedom* and the *New York Times* bestsellers *Crossroads of Freedom* and *Tried by War*, among many other award-winning books, James M. McPherson is America's preeminent Civil War historian. In this collection of provocative and illuminating essays, McPherson offers fresh insight into many of the enduring questions about one of the defining moments in our nation's history.

McPherson sheds light on topics large and small, from the average soldier's avid love of newspapers to the postwar creation of the mystique of a Lost Cause in the South. Readers will find insightful pieces on such intriguing figures as Harriet Tubman, John Brown, Jesse James, and William Tecumseh Sherman, and on such vital issues as Confederate military strategy, the failure of peace negotiations to end the war, and the realities and myths of the Confederacy. *This Mighty Scourge* includes several never-before-published essays-pieces on General Robert E. Lee's goals in the Gettysburg campaign, on Lincoln and Grant in the Vicksburg campaign, and on Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief. All of the essays have been updated and revised to give the volume greater thematic coherence and continuity, so that it can be read in sequence as an interpretive history of the war and its meaning for America and the world.

Combining the finest scholarship with luminous prose, and packed with new information and fresh ideas, this book brings together the most recent thinking by the nation's leading authority on the Civil War.

This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #801269 in Books
- Published on: 2009-10-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.10" h x .70" w x 9.20" l, .88 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 272 pages



[Download This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War ...pdf](#)



[Read Online This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil W ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Prolific and much-honored historian McPherson (*Battle Cry of Freedom*, etc.) weighs in on the Civil War in this compilation of 16 essays, most of which have appeared in print before—seven of them in *The New York Review of Books*. Revised and edited for this collection, the essays read like chapters in a smooth narrative that addresses some of the biggest questions of the Civil War: why did it start? why did the South lose? what motivated the men who fought on both sides? how do we evaluate the top leaders—including Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee and Ulysses G. Grant? McPherson goes about answering these and other questions in his usual graceful style, underscored by a thorough grasp of myriad primary and secondary sources on virtually every aspect of the conflict. He forthrightly expresses his opinions while backing them up with well-reasoned arguments, whether challenging the "Lost Cause" argument about why the South lost, or supporting the proposition that it was slavery—and not states' rights—that was the main cause of the war. This strong addition to the massive Civil War canon will appeal to all readers. (Feb.)

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

James M. McPherson has written and edited nearly 30 books, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Battle Cry of Freedom*. Turf battles aren't uncommon in Civil War studies, and McPherson has a wide reputation as a thoughtful, fair, and readable historian whose insight brings fresh perspective to some often-scrutinized topics. Although McPherson intended some of the essays for an academic audience, each is accessible and worthwhile, and "displays an admirable transparency, showing the historian at work" (*Baltimore Sun*). All pieces have been updated and revised, and each bears the stamp of McPherson's keen intellect applied to topics that continue to generate discussion among Civil War historians and buffs.

Copyright © 2004 Phillips & Nelson Media, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

McPherson is one of the most prolific and esteemed of contemporary Civil War historians. In this collection of essays, he examines a broad array of topics; many of them continue to bedevil those who study our nation's seminal conflict. In his opening essay, McPherson takes on revisionist historians who discount slavery as the fundamental cause of the war. McPherson's consideration of the career and "martyrdom" of John Brown is both fascinating and incisive, as he illustrates how imagery can be used to portray a man as a crazed murderer or a secular saint. Other topics of note include Lee's goals during the Gettysburg campaign, Grant's reputation as a "butcher" who lacked strategic insight, and Lincoln's use (or abuse) of executive wartime power. As always, McPherson writes with a sharp, succinct style and displays a willingness to challenge current orthodoxies. This work will be an outstanding addition to every library's Civil War holdings. *Jay Freeman*

Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ramona Johnson:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? E-book is very important thing for

us to understand everything in the world. Each guide has different aim as well as goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their the perfect time to read a book. They are reading whatever they have because their hobby is usually reading a book. What about the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, person feel need book if they found difficult problem or even exercise. Well, probably you will need this This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War.

Jere Araujo:

This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War can be one of your nice books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort that will put every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War nevertheless doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource data that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information may drawn you into brand new stage of crucial contemplating.

Betty Perez:

Do you like reading a book? Confuse to looking for your best book? Or your book was rare? Why so many query for the book? But any kind of people feel that they enjoy regarding reading. Some people likes examining, not only science book but additionally novel and This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War or even others sources were given knowledge for you. After you know how the good a book, you feel wish to read more and more. Science e-book was created for teacher or perhaps students especially. Those publications are helping them to put their knowledge. In various other case, beside science e-book, any other book likes This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War to make your spare time much more colorful. Many types of book like this.

Carl Johnson:

Reading a publication make you to get more knowledge from that. You can take knowledge and information from your book. Book is composed or printed or highlighted from each source which filled update of news. Within this modern era like today, many ways to get information are available for you actually. From media social like newspaper, magazines, science publication, encyclopedia, reference book, story and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Are you hip to spend your spare time to open your book? Or just looking for the This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War when you necessary it?

Download and Read Online This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson #NMB2GXZV9J7

Read This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson for online ebook

This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson books to read online.

Online This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson ebook PDF download

This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson Doc

This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson Mobipocket

This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson EPub

NMB2GXZV9J7: This Mighty Scourge: Perspectives on the Civil War By James M. McPherson