Cotton Mather

Biblia Americana

America's First Bible Commentary. A Synoptic Commentary on the Old and New Testaments. Volume 3: Joshua – 2 Chronicles Ed., with an Introduction and Annotations, by Kenneth P. Minkema

[Biblia Americana. Der älteste amerikanische Bibelkommentar. Band 3: Josua – 2. Chronik.]



BIBLIA AMERICANA
Cotton Mather
Volume 3: JOSHUA - 2 CHRONICLES

Edited, with an Introduction and Annotations, by Kenneth P. Minkemo

CoHon Malasr.

2013. XVII, 893 pages.

ISBN 978-3-16-152437-0 cloth 194,00 € ISBN 978-3-16-163500-7

eBook PDF 194,00 €

Published in English.

Scheduled to appear in 10 volumes, the scholarly edition of Cotton Mather's *Biblia Americana* (1693–1728) makes available for the first time the oldest comprehensive commentary on the Bible composed in British North America. Combining encyclopaedic discussions of biblical scholarship with scientific speculations and pietistic concerns, the *Biblia* represents one of the most significant untapped sources in American religious and intellectual history. Mather's commentary not only reflects the growing influence of Enlightenment thought (Descartes, Hobbes, Spinoza, and Newton) and the rise of the transatlantic evangelical awakening; it also marks the beginnings of historical criticism of the Bible as text in New England. The third volume of the *Biblia Americana* contains some 1250 of Mather's »illustrations,« as he called them, on the books of Joshua, Judges, Ruth, Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles. It follows volumes presenting Mather's extensive commentaries on Genesis (vol. 1) and on Exodus through Deuteronomy (vol. 2, will be published in 2016), both edited by Reiner Smolinski. These entries reveal Mather as a sacred historian, marshaling an array of approaches and disciplines to illuminate and defend the Scripture accounts. He revisits certain themes throughout such as idols and idolatry, parallels between the Hebrew Bible and the history and mythology of »pagan« cultures, and typological significations of events and characters. Other topics warranted sustained attention in a long entry or a series of entries, such as accounts of when the sun stood still, human sacrifice, as instanced in Jephthah's vow, the building, running, and destruction of Solomon's Temple, the nature of prophecy, the dispersion of the Israelites in captivity, and the timing of their eventual return.

Cotton Mather (1663–1728) The leading New England theologian of his period, Mather was both a defender of Reformed orthodoxy and an intellectual innovator, who propagated the Pietist renewal of Protestantism and embraced ideas of the Early Enlightenment. Best known for his Magnalia Christi Americana (1702), he published more than 400 works in various fields including church history, natural theology, and medicine.

Kenneth P. Minkema Born 1958; Executive Editor and Director, Jonathan Edwards Center, Yale University; Research Faculty, Yale University Divinity School; Research Associate, University of the Free State, South Africa.

Order now:

 $https://www.mohrsiebeck.com/en/book/biblia-americana-9783161524370?no_cache=1\\ order@mohrsiebeck.com$

Phone: +49 (0)7071-923-17 Fax: +49 (0)7071-51104

