# Foundations of Freedom: Uncovering the Enduring Principles that Shaped America

Paul Preston's latest book, *Foundations of Freedom*, is a sweeping history of the American Revolution and the founding of the United States. Preston argues that the American Revolution was not simply a political or military conflict, but a profound moral and intellectual struggle over the meaning of freedom.

Preston begins his book by tracing the origins of American freedom back to the Protestant Reformation and the Enlightenment. He shows how the Protestant reformers challenged the authority of the Catholic Church and emphasized the importance of individual conscience. The Enlightenment thinkers, in turn, developed a new understanding of human nature and government that emphasized the rights of individuals.



### Foundations of Freedom by Paul Preston

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.4 out of 5 Language : English File size : 5821 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 372 pages : Enabled Lending



These ideas found fertile ground in the American colonies, where the colonists were increasingly frustrated by British rule. The colonists believed that they were entitled to the same rights and liberties as Englishmen, but the British government refused to recognize their claims. The colonists eventually took up arms against the British in a war for independence.

The American Revolution was a long and bloody conflict, but the colonists eventually prevailed. In 1783, the United States of America was born. The new nation was founded on the principles of freedom, democracy, and equality. These principles were enshrined in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Preston argues that the American Revolution was a watershed moment in world history. It was the first time that a nation had been founded on the principle of popular sovereignty. The American Revolution also inspired other revolutions around the world, including the French Revolution and the Haitian Revolution.

Foundations of Freedom is a timely and important book. It reminds us of the principles that shaped our nation and the challenges that we face in defending those principles today. Preston's book is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the history of the United States and the enduring principles that have shaped our world.

### Praise for *Foundations of Freedom*

"Paul Preston has written a masterful history of the American Revolution. Foundations of Freedom is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the origins of our nation and the enduring principles that have

### shaped our world." —Jon Meacham, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power

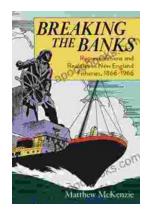
"Preston provides a fresh and insightful perspective on the American Revolution. *Foundations of Freedom* is a major work that will change the way we think about the founding of our nation." — **Annette Gordon-Reed**, **Pulitzer Prize-winning author of** *The Hemingses of Monticello* 



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