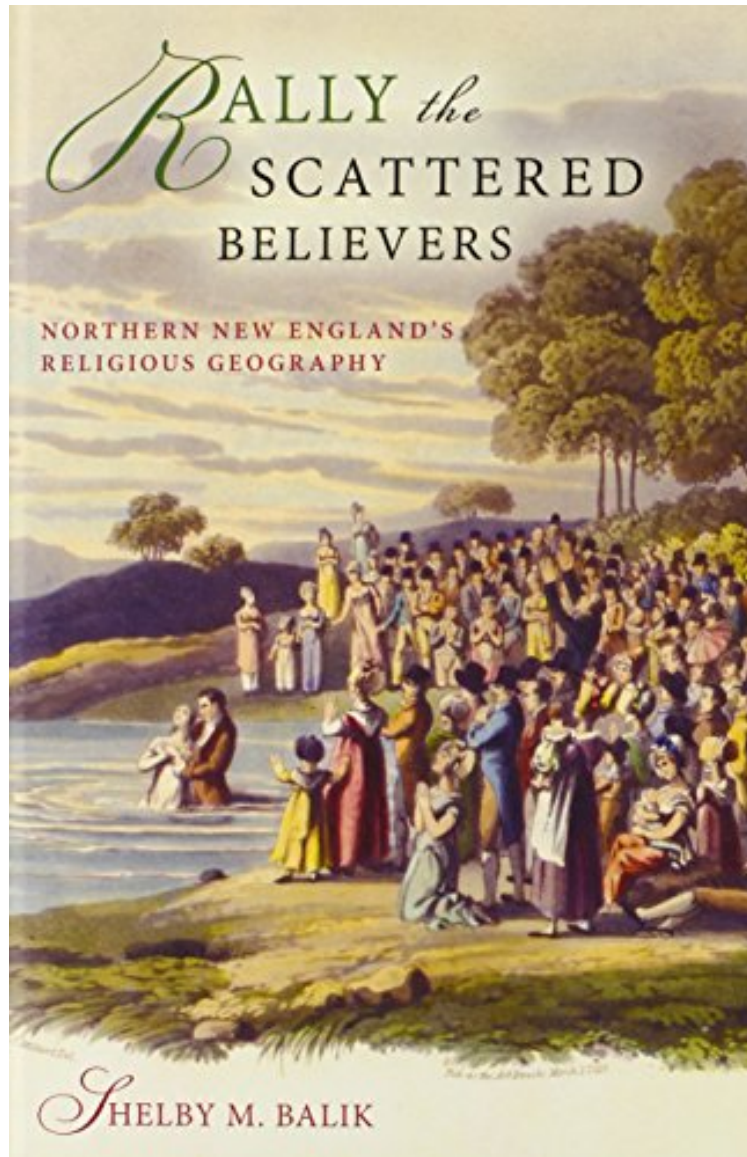


(Download pdf ebook) Rally the Scattered Believers: Northern New Englands Religious Geography
(Religion in North America)

Rally the Scattered Believers: Northern New Englands Religious Geography (Religion in North America)

Shelby M. Balik

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#2117045 in Books Shelby M Balik 2014-05-30 2014-04-30Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.29 x 1.15 x 6.37l, 1.37 #File Name: 0253012104316 pagesRally the Scattered Believers | File size: 40.Mb

Shelby M. Balik : Rally the Scattered Believers: Northern New Englands Religious Geography (Religion in North America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rally the Scattered Believers: Northern New Englands Religious Geography (Religion in North America):

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A long-needed well-documented key to understanding northern New England!By W M WochnaMost people don't know that Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire were as much of a frontier in the early 19th century as the western territories were. And if they do know that, they probably don't know that the eastern states in those days were a seething caldron when it came to religion. The Second Great Awakening was in full swing, with ordinary housewives, farmers, teamsters and loggers enthusiastically debating the fine points of religious dogma. Those settling the great northeastern frontier mostly came from more highly populated areas where the town you lived in and the church you attended were almost a single entity. As far as they were concerned, their new towns would be incomplete without an active religious component. They relied on organized religion to maintain public order and morality. But the northeastern frontier lacked the churches and the ministers to meet the demand. The established churches of southern New England perceived this as an opportunity and a holy commission.Shelby Balik has tracked, and documented with an impressive body of research, the myriad religious currents found in the 19th century northeastern frontier, and the various ways in which churches strove to meet the settlers' needs. I know of no better book to help you understand the religious geography of this fascinating period and place.5 of 9 people found the following review helpful. The Zenith of Human AchievementBy Blueberry BagelsIt is not often in the course of human history that one individual delivers such a magnificent addition to the wealth of mankind's knowledge as is encompassed in this sagacious tome by Shelby Balik. The audacious genius of the author and her acute prose made this an absolutely riveting work which brought me to both tears and laughter. After I finished reading this book I felt as if I had partaken in a transcendent spiritual experience that allowed me a glimpse of the Almighty and lovingly swaddled me in the the very fabric of existence.This book should be required reading at every grade level. It should be the only gift you give anyone ever again. It should be read to children time and time again, as it is sure to become an instant classic beloved by all ages. A room should be dedicated in your domicile solely for the veneration of this academic and artistic masterwork.0 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Horrible and predictableBy FrederickAnother revisionist history book by non Christians in order to reframe who we were. Then of course, lauded by more non Christians. Horrible and predictable.

Northern New England, a rugged landscape dotted with transient settlements, posed challenges to the traditional town church in the wake of the American Revolution. Using the methods of spatial geography, Shelby M. Balik examines how migrants adapted their understanding of religious community and spiritual space to survive in the harsh physical surroundings of the region. The notions of boundaries, place, and identity they developed became the basis for spreading New England's deeply rooted spiritual culture, even as it opened the way to a new evangelical age.

[A] deeply researched and meticulously sourced book. . . [R]eading Rally the Scattered Believers helped me to consider anew the centrality of place and the differing ways that religious organizations organize space in understanding religious history.9/22/14 (Religion in American History)Balik's exhaustively researched book represents the most comprehensive and important study of northern New England's religious history published to date. It is also a significant contribution to a small body of scholarship on the spatial study of religion. . . . In sum, this is a major work of extraordinary scholarship. (Church History)Using church and town records, the personal writings and correspondence of laity and clergy, books, pamphlets, and religious periodicals, Balik has written an engaging, ground-level religious history with larger implications. (Journal of the Early Republic)Shelby Balik's deeply researched 'Rally the Scattered Believers: Northern New England's Religious Geography' offers a finely grained picture of that era of burgeoning development. . . . Balik's book delivers one of the best histories of precisely what the 'Second Great Awakening' amounted to in northern New England. Dec 2015 (American Historical)Rally the Scattered Believers is an important new interpretation of how religious change shaped American cultural identity in the early republic. (Journal of American History)I strongly recommend Balik's book for those studying colonial religious landscapes and heritages not only in New England, but in the nineteenth-century religious diasporas that swept the continent with varying mixes of European colonials and also African and Asian heritages. (Stanley D. Brunn University of Kentucky)[A]n ambitious and engaging piece of scholarship. . . Rally the Scattered Believers promises to complement classic and much-respected works on Vermont's religious communities during this period. . . More significant than the book's engagement with that earlier scholarship is its contribution to recent and ongoing scholarly discussion about the place of religion in early American life. Balik's New England is a religious place. . . [H]er interesting new book provides an alternative to other recent books that see more of the secular than the sacred in America's past.83.1 Winter/Spring 2015 (Vermont History)The book's meticulous coverage of the spread of these faiths and its interpretation through the lens of geography is a strength. . . . Recommended. (Choice) In this beautifully written and richly researched work, Shelby Balik shows how the travels of early nineteenth century Methodists, Universalists and freewill Baptist itinerant missionaries and congregations recreated the geography of New England Protestantism, setting in motion (literally) a tension between religious rootedness and religious uprootedness, center and periphery, that endures to today. Early American religious history in Balik's retelling of it is one of bodies in constant movement in and out and around the city on the hill. The delight Balik takes in maps and journeys is infectious. This is a

wonderful addition to American religious historiography. (Robert Orsi Northwestern University)About the AuthorShelby M. Balik is Assistant Professor of American History at Metropolitan State University of Denver.