



Catholics, Slaveholders, and the Dilemma of American Evangelicalism, 1835-1860 (Paperback)

By W. Jason Wallace

University of Notre Dame Press, United States, 2010. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Although slaveholding southerners and Catholics in general had little in common, both groups found themselves relentlessly attacked in the northern evangelical press during the decades leading up to the Civil War. In *Catholics, Slaveholders, and the Dilemma of American Evangelicalism, 1835-1860*, W. Jason Wallace skillfully examines sermons, books, newspaper articles, and private correspondence of members of three antebellum groups--northern evangelicals, southern evangelicals, and Catholics--and argues that the divisions among them stemmed, at least in part, from disagreements over the role that religious convictions played in a free society. Focusing on journals such as *The Downfall of Babylon*, *Zion's Herald*, *The New York Evangelist*, and *The New York Observer*, Wallace argues that northern evangelicals constructed a national narrative after their own image and, in the course of vigorous promotion of that narrative, attacked what they believed was the immoral authoritarianism of both the Catholic and the slaveholder. He then examines the response of both southerners and Catholics to northern evangelical attacks. As Wallace shows, leading Catholic intellectuals interpreted and defended the contributions made by the Catholic Church to American principles such as religious liberty...



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