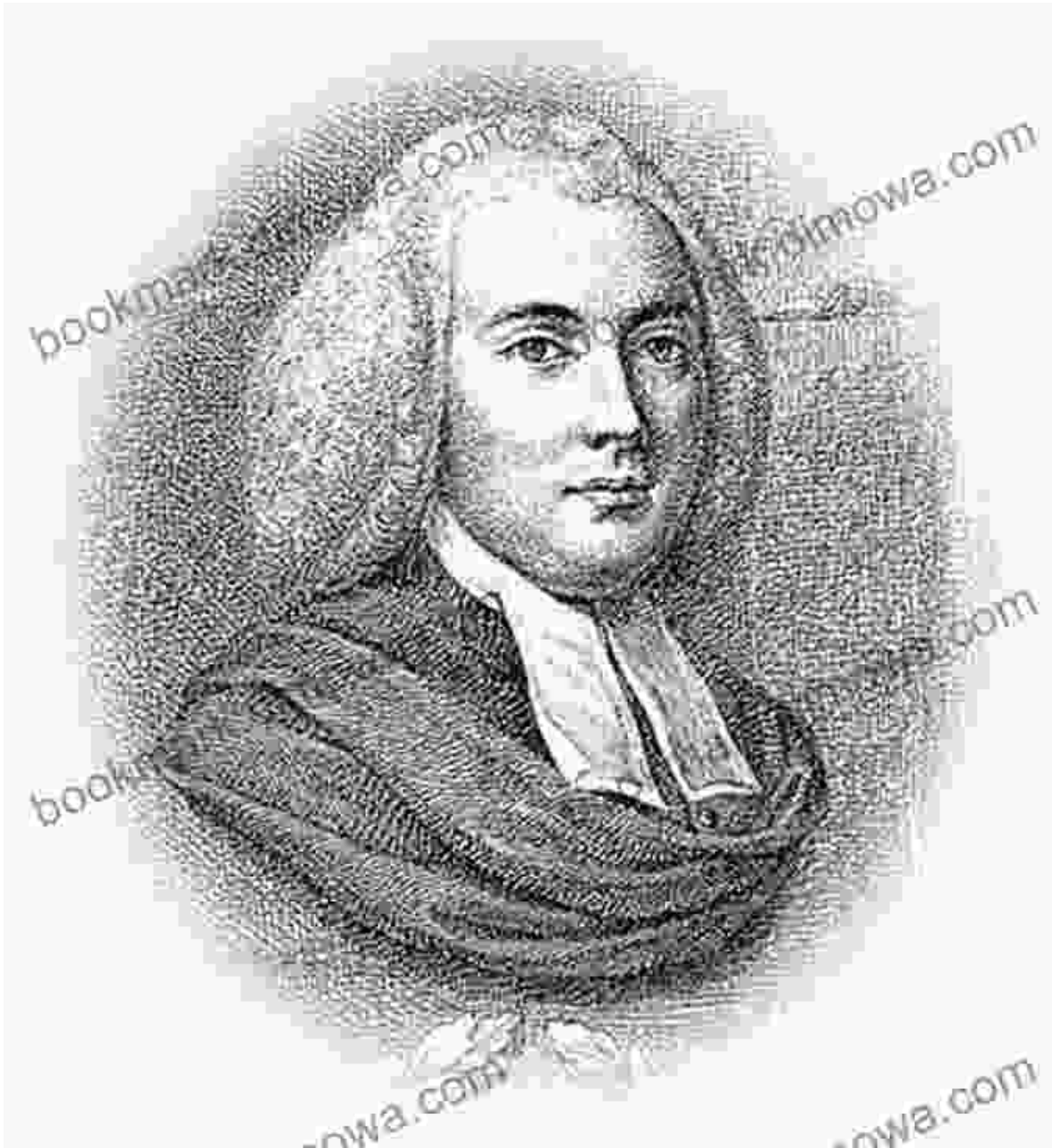
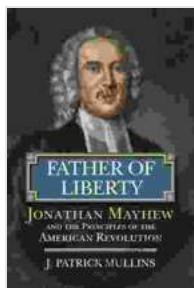


Jonathan Mayhew and the Principles of the American Revolution

An Illuminating Journey into the Revolutionary Spirit of a Puritan Minister



Step into the pages of history and uncover the remarkable life and profound influence of Jonathan Mayhew, a Puritan minister who ignited the flames of the American Revolution. This comprehensive article delves into Mayhew's unwavering principles, his eloquent sermons, and his pivotal role in shaping the nation's fight for freedom.



Father of Liberty: Jonathan Mayhew and the Principles of the American Revolution (American Political Thought) by Hans van Swaay

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1705 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 261 pages



Mayhew's Early Life and Education

Jonathan Mayhew was born on October 8, 1720, in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. From a young age, he displayed exceptional intellectual abilities and a deep interest in theology. In 1741, Mayhew graduated from Harvard College with honors and subsequently embarked on a career as a Puritan minister.

A Voice of Dissent in a Puritan Society

Mayhew's appointment to the West Church in Boston in 1747 marked a pivotal moment in his life and in the annals of American history. As a

minister, Mayhew challenged the established religious and political norms, becoming a vocal critic of the British monarchy and its oppressive policies towards the American colonies.

Mayhew's sermons were characterized by their fiery rhetoric and unwavering defense of individual liberty and self-governance. He argued that the British government had violated the natural rights of the colonists and that they had a duty to resist tyranny.

The Seeds of Revolution

Mayhew's bold stance resonated with a growing number of colonists who were weary of British rule. His sermons became a rallying cry for resistance against imperial authority and helped to ignite the spark that would eventually lead to the American Revolution.

In his famous 1750 sermon, "Discourse concerning Unlimited Submission and Non-Resistance to the Higher Powers," Mayhew proclaimed:



“The right of self-defense is a law of nature; and is not to be surrendered to any human power whatever.”

This sentiment became a cornerstone of the American Revolution, inspiring colonists to take up arms against British tyranny.

Mayhew's Influence on the Founding Fathers

Mayhew's ideas and writings had a profound influence on the Founding Fathers of the United States. Samuel Adams, John Hancock, and Thomas

Jefferson were among those who greatly admired Mayhew's courage and his unwavering belief in the principles of liberty and equality.

Jefferson wrote to Mayhew, expressing his admiration for his "great and noble principles" and his "unyielding love of liberty and country."

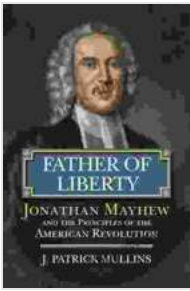
Mayhew's Legacy

Jonathan Mayhew died tragically in 1766 at the age of 46. However, his legacy as one of the most influential figures in the American Revolution lived on. His sermons and writings inspired countless colonists to join the fight for independence.

Mayhew's unwavering commitment to the principles of liberty, self-governance, and individual rights left an enduring mark on American society. His ideas continue to shape the nation's values and institutions to this day.

Jonathan Mayhew stands as a towering figure in American history. As a Puritan minister with a revolutionary spirit, he defied established norms and ignited the flames of independence. His eloquent sermons and unwavering principles became a beacon of hope for colonists seeking freedom from British tyranny.

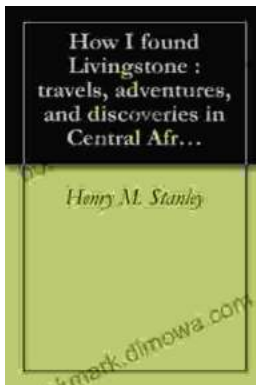
Mayhew's legacy continues to serve as a reminder of the importance of individual liberty, self-governance, and the pursuit of a just and equitable society. His life and teachings remain a testament to the indomitable spirit of the American Revolution.



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