



## The Thomas Paine Reader

*Thomas Paine , Michael Foot (Editor, Introduction) , Isaac Kramnick (Editor, Introduction)*

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**The Thomas Paine Reader** Thomas Paine , Michael Foot (Editor, Introduction) , Isaac Kramnick (Editor, Introduction)

This major collection demonstrates the extent to which Thomas Paine (1737—1809) was an inspiration to the Americans in their struggle for independence, a passionate supporter of the French Revolution and perhaps the outstanding English radical writer of his age. It contains all of Paine's key works including 'The Rights of Man', his groundbreaking defence of the revolutionary cause in France, 'Common Sense', which won thousands over to the side of the American rebels, and the first part of 'The Age of Reason', a ferocious attack on Christianity. The shorter pieces — on capital punishment, social reform and the abolition of slavery — also confirm the great versatility and power of this master of democratic prose.

In their informative introduction, Michael Foot and Isaac Kramnick explore the life, work and influence of Thomas Paine, placing his work in its historical context and illustrating the force and clarity of his literary style.

## The Thomas Paine Reader Details

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Author : Thomas Paine , Michael Foot (Editor, Introduction) , Isaac Kramnick (Editor, Introduction)

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## From Reader Review The Thomas Paine Reader for online ebook

### **Bernard M. says**

I reread chapter 5 Part II in which he throws out lots of ideas, many ahead of his time (in no particular order): universal civilization, mutual benefits of free trade, progressive taxes, war as a political distraction, provisions for the aged, universal education, anti-slavery, wastefulness of colonies and the wars which keep them, demilitarization, and much else. I don't agree with all of these, but his arguments should still be a great inspiration to contemporary leaders. He also gets his hands dirty with some fiscal math which, whether correct or not, is sometimes nice to see instead of pure abstract reasoning.

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### **R.K. Cowles says**

3 1/2 stars

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### **Alex Winston says**

Perhaps the best classical liberal political writer ever. Rights of Man and Common Sense stand on their own reputations, but there is some very good commentary about money, banking, religion, war and freedom in this collections as well.

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### **Rebecca Hill says**

Very interesting and educational read. The writing is a little wordy and dry at times, but is bearable due to the slight humor throughout the works. Very interesting to read and see first hand how horribly the book is being represented by most political groups in the media. All works are subject to interpretation, however I know first hand of blatant examples of Paine's works being taken out of context to suit whatever party is quoting or ripping of his works. I have a lot more respect and patience with the founding of our nation after reading this. Highly recommend for anyone curious about the start of our country.

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### **Stacy Crandall says**

Thomas Paine was an inspiration to Americans as they struggled for independence, and a supporter of the French Revolution, and obviously a brilliant and talented writer.

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