Record Nr. UNINA9910792358003321 Autore Ebel Jonathan H. <1970-> Titolo Faith in the fight: religion and the American solider in the Great War / / Jonathan H. Ebel Pubbl/distr/stampa Princeton, NJ,: Princeton University Press, 2010 **ISBN** 1-4008-3500-3 1-282-93624-7 9786612936241 1-282-47314-X 9786612473142 0-691-13992-X Edizione [Core Textbook] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xi, 253 pages) Disciplina 200 940.478 Soggetti Soldiers - Religious life World War, 1914-1918 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Introduction -- Redemption through war -- Chance the man-angel and Nota di contenuto the combat numinous -- Suffering, death, and salvation -- Christ's cause. Pharoah's army -- Ideal women in an ideal war -- "There are no dead" -- "The same cross in peace": the American Legion, the ongoing war, and American reillusionment. Sommario/riassunto Faith in the Fight tells a story of religion, soldiering, suffering, and death in the Great War. Recovering the thoughts and experiences of American troops, nurses, and aid workers through their letters, diaries, and memoirs, Jonathan Ebel describes how religion--primarily Christianity--encouraged these young men and women to fight and die, sustained them through war's chaos, and shaped their responses to the war's aftermath. The book reveals the surprising frequency with which Americans who fought viewed the war as a religious challenge that could lead to individual and national redemption. Believing in a

"Christianity of the sword," these Americans responded to the war by reasserting their religious faith and proclaiming America God-chosen

and righteous in its mission. And while the war sometimes challenged these beliefs, it did not fundamentally alter them. Revising the conventional view that the war was universally disillusioning, Faith in the Fight argues that the war in fact strengthened the religious beliefs of the Americans who fought, and that it helped spark a religiously charged revival of many prewar orthodoxies during a postwar period marked by race riots, labor wars, communist witch hunts, and gender struggles. For many Americans, Ebel argues, the postwar period was actually one of "reillusionment." Demonstrating the deep connections between Christianity and Americans' experience of the First World War, Faith in the Fight encourages us to examine the religious dimensions of America's wars, past and present, and to work toward a deeper understanding of religion and violence in American history.