

Liberty University DigitalCommons@Liberty University

Faculty Publications and Presentations

Helms School of Government

1-1-2007

James V. Schall: When War Must Be the Answer: Study Guide

Steven Alan Samson *Liberty University*, ssamson@liberty.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/gov_fac_pubs

Part of the Other Social and Behavioral Sciences Commons, Political Science Commons, and the Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration Commons

Recommended Citation

Samson, Steven Alan, "James V. Schall: When War Must Be the Answer: Study Guide" (2007). Faculty Publications and Presentations. Paper 207.

http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/gov_fac_pubs/207

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Helms School of Government at DigitalCommons@Liberty University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Publications and Presentations by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Liberty University. For more information, please contact scholarlycommunication@liberty.edu.

JAMES V. SCHALL: WHEN WAR MUST BE THE ANSWER: STUDY GUIDE, 2007 Steven Alan Samson

http://www.hoover.org/publications/policy-review/article/7146

http://www.lpca.us/When%20War%20Must%20Be%20the%20Answer.pdf

Originally Published in Policy Review, no, 128 (2004)

Study Questions

- 1. What is the fault of pacifism and liberalism, according to the historian **Christopher Dawson**? What about human nature and human institutions makes unwise to believe that measured force is unnecessary? Why does Father Schall call his "a counter-cultural position?" Why did Gen. Douglas MacArthur believe "the problem is basically theological?" Why does Schall believe these words are themselves part of the problem?
- 2. "Justice, Brains, and Strength" What was utopian about MacArthur's assumptions? What else is required besides "more dialogue and peaceful means?" Why does he believe that our main problems are too little force? What does a peaceful world require? What spiritual and philosophical problem must be confronted? Why do justice and force require each other in the actual world?
- 3. **The Failure to Fight** What was Machiavelli's advice? Why ids war sometimes a reasonable answer? What might have prevented 9/11? What evils may follow from the loss of a war? What are the consequences of denying that we commit sins? How have the loss of wars and a lack of preparedness for war changed the course of history? What two victories shaped modern Europe [one in 732 AD and the other in 1683]?
- 4. **A Will to Kill** Why do the "antiwar documents produced during the 1980s by American Catholic bishops decrying nuclear war seem almost irrelevant?" Did deterrence work? Why is **just war theory** in the case of nuclear and conventional weapons, bur relatively useless in dealing with or understanding the "suicide bomber?" How does Schall address the question whether the "current situation constitutes a new war of civilizations?" What is the main neoconservative project? How can the prudential approach be defended? [Here Father Schall addresses the issue of Islamic **voluntarism**, one that Pope Benedict XVI raised in his Regensburg Lecture in September 2006: the idea that the absolute will of God is arbitrary]. What is the view of the Catholic bishop of Rumbek in the Sudan?
- "Something Inhuman" What is the old realist assumption? What is the problem with the "we-have-outgrown-war" position and its theory of the world-state? What are its assumptions? Why are many of the UN's positions so troubling? What is the problem with claiming "to erect a definitive and unalterable order in this world?" [This corresponds to what Thomas Sowell calls "The Quest for Cosmic Justice"]. What bearing does Augustine's view of war have on the idea of the international state? What does Jean Bethke Elshtain believe to be true international justice? Why was C. S. Lewis not a pacifist?

Review

Christopher Dawson just war theory

MacArthur's assumptions theory of the world-state

effects of lost wars Augustine