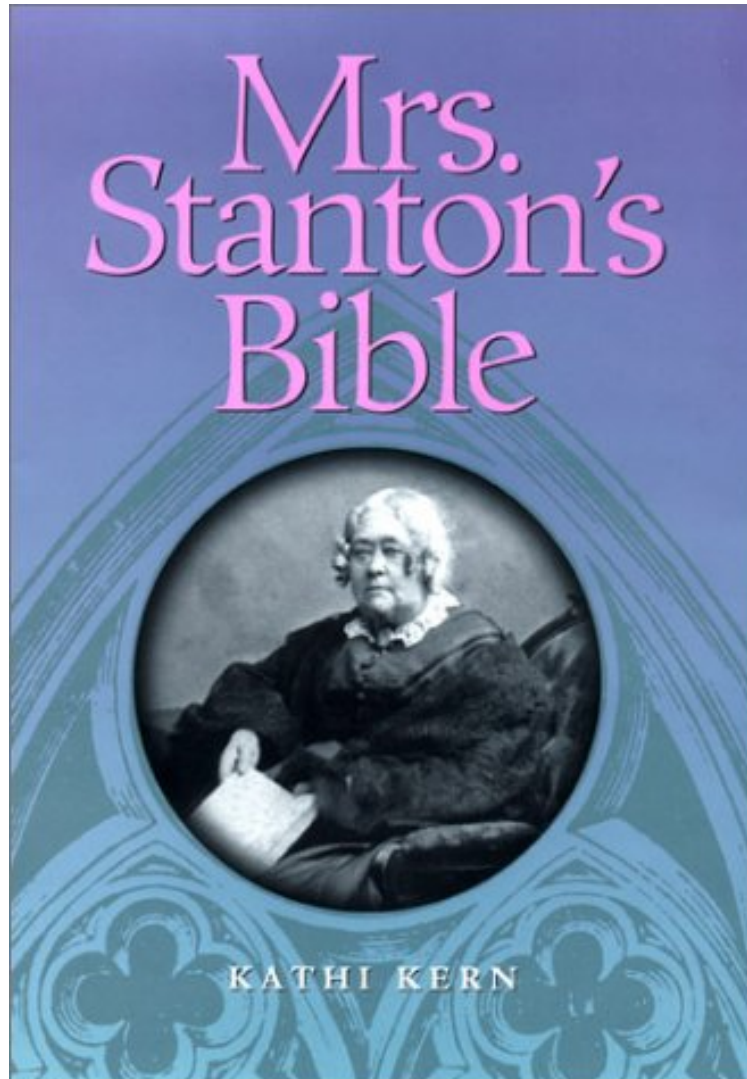


(Get free) Mrs. Stanton's Bible

Mrs. Stanton's Bible

Kathi Kern

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Kathi Kern : Mrs. Stanton's Bible before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mrs. Stanton's Bible:

Mrs. Stanton's Bible traces the impact of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's religious dissent on the suffrage movement at the turn of the century and presents the first book-length reading of her radical text, the Woman's Bible. Stanton is best remembered for organizing the Seneca Falls convention at which she first called for women's right to vote. Yet she spent the last two decades of her life working for another cause: women's liberation from religious oppression. Stanton

came to believe that political enfranchisement was meaningless without the systematic dismantling of the church's stifling authority over women's lives. In 1895, she collaboratively authored this biblical exegesis, just as the women's movement was becoming more conservative. Stanton found herself arguing not only against male clergy members but also against devout female suffragists. Kathi Kern demonstrates that the *Woman's Bible* itself played a fundamental role in the movement's new conservatism because it sparked Stanton's censure and the elimination of her fellow radicals from the National American Woman Suffrage Association. Mrs. Stanton's Bible dramatically portrays this crucial chapter of women's history and facilitates the understanding of one of the movement's most controversial texts.

From *Library Journal* No longer able to accept "the theological view of woman as the author of sin, cursed by God, and all that nonsense," suffragist Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902) published the *Woman's Bible* (1895), a work as tough and uncompromising as Stanton herself. Yet, by veering away from the strictly political agenda of the suffrage movement, she became marginalized. Her *Woman's Bible* became a sort of personal manifesto; thus, her historical, political, and theological reputation has become tied to it rather than to decades of political work. Kerns (history, Univ. of Kentucky) attempts here to redeem Stanton's historical legacy. Arguing for the centrality of religious liberty as the keystone to Stanton's particular theological as well as political and cultural personae, she mounts a concerted case against reducing Stanton's views to mere 19th-century privileged diatribes. Well documented with ample references, this book might not sway readers, but the extensive evidence and thoughtful analysis are worth engaging. Sandra Collins, Duquesne Univ. Lib., Pittsburgh, PA Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From *Publishers Weekly* In 1895, Elizabeth Cady Stanton shocked the nation by releasing the *Woman's Bible*, a commentary on key biblical passages that challenged the notion of women's subordination in any sphere, particularly the church. Yet this incident has been surprisingly understudied by religion scholars and feminists. In *Mrs. Stanton's Bible*, Kathi Kern argues that Stanton's association with the project "had the ironic effect of diminishing her historical stature" among other, less controversial, suffragists. It may also have delayed the 19th Amendment, since Stanton's Bible was quoted by antisuffragists as an example of the inherent dangers of permitting women a public voice. Kern's book about the *Woman's Bible* is incisive, well written and long overdue. Mar. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

"In 1895, Elizabeth Cady Stanton shocked the nation by releasing the *Women's Bible*, a commentary on key biblical passages that challenged the notion of women's subordination in any sphere, particularly the church. Yet this incident has been surprisingly understudied by religion scholars and feminists. . . Kern's book about the *Women's Bible* is incisive, well written and long overdue." *Publishers Weekly*, January 2001 "Well documented with ample references, this book might not sway readers, but the extensive evidence and thoughtful analysis are worth engaging." *Library Journal*, February 2001 "Kathi Kern's new book is more than a study of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's *The Woman's Bible*. It is the first serious examination of the thought of this towering figure in the history of feminist theory. . . Kern brings the tools of intellectual history to this complex legacy and fully appreciates the historical contradictions involved. . . Overall, this book is an impressive achievement." *Ellen Carol DuBois*, UCLA. *American Historical*, February 2002 "This tightly written and well-researched book uncovers in all their complexity the regional, national, and international dynamics of the American women's movement, as well as the diversity of beliefs that facilitated those connections but also contributed to discord." *Lori Williamson*, University of Wolverhampton. *History*, Fall 2001 "Kern demonstrates that the *Women's Bible* itself played a fundamental role in the movement's new conservatism because it sparked Stanton's censure and the elimination of her fellow radicals from the national American Woman Suffrage Association. Mrs. Stanton's Bible dramatically portrays this crucial chapter of women's history and facilitates the understanding of one of the movement's most controversial texts." *Allegheny Magazine*, Fall/Winter 2001 "Kern's enlightening and detailed analysis of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's *Woman's Bible* fills a void in the historiography surrounding the women's suffrage movement. . . Persons with a strong interest in American women's religious history will want to add this book to their personal library." *Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty*, St. Andrews Presbyterian College. *Journal of Scripture and Theology*, January 2002 "This very important book promises a much needed corrective to previous work portraying Elizabeth Cady Stanton as a committed secularist. Through responsible research and a fresh, original perspective, Kathi Kern provides us access to a substantial feminist critique of Christianity by a towering nineteenth-century intellectual." *Ann Braude*, Harvard Divinity School "In *Mrs. Stanton's Bible*, Kathi Kern does not back away from the embarrassing evidence of Elizabeth Stanton's racist and classist prejudices but demonstrates how her subject's religious views helped shape those values. This masterful and timely book will remedy significant deficiencies in our historical knowledge." *John R. McKivigan*, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis