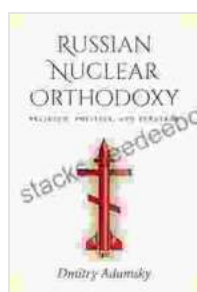


# Russian Nuclear Orthodoxy: Religion, Politics, and Strategy

The Russian Orthodox Church has played a significant role in shaping Russian identity and foreign policy for centuries. In the 20th century, the Church's relationship with the state became even more complex, as the Soviet Union developed nuclear weapons.



## Russian Nuclear Orthodoxy: Religion, Politics, and Strategy by Sherrilyn Kenyon

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
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Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 378 pages



The development of nuclear weapons raised profound theological and ethical questions for the Russian Orthodox Church. Some theologians argued that nuclear weapons were a necessary evil, while others condemned them as immoral. The Church's official position has evolved over time, but it has generally supported the Russian government's nuclear policy.

The Russian Orthodox Church has also played a role in promoting nuclear disarmament. In 1982, the Church issued a pastoral letter calling for an end to the nuclear arms race. The Church has also been involved in a number

of peace initiatives, including the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs.

The relationship between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Russian government is complex and evolving. The Church has both supported and criticized the government's nuclear policy. However, the Church has also played a role in promoting nuclear disarmament.

### **Theological and Ethical Implications of Nuclear Weapons**

The development of nuclear weapons raised profound theological and ethical questions for the Russian Orthodox Church. Some theologians argued that nuclear weapons were a necessary evil, while others condemned them as immoral.

Those who argued that nuclear weapons were a necessary evil pointed to the threat posed by the United States. They argued that nuclear weapons were necessary to deter the United States from attacking the Soviet Union.

Those who condemned nuclear weapons as immoral argued that they were a violation of Christian ethics. They argued that nuclear weapons were indiscriminate and that they would cause immense suffering.

The Russian Orthodox Church's official position on nuclear weapons has evolved over time. In 1948, the Church issued a statement condemning nuclear weapons as immoral. However, in 1958, the Church issued a statement supporting the Soviet government's nuclear policy.

The Church's current position on nuclear weapons is that they are a necessary evil. However, the Church also supports nuclear disarmament.

## **The Russian Orthodox Church and Nuclear Disarmament**

The Russian Orthodox Church has played a role in promoting nuclear disarmament. In 1982, the Church issued a pastoral letter calling for an end to the nuclear arms race. The Church has also been involved in a number of peace initiatives, including the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs.

The Church's support for nuclear disarmament is based on its belief that nuclear weapons are immoral. The Church also believes that nuclear weapons pose a threat to the survival of humanity.

The Church's support for nuclear disarmament has been welcomed by many peace activists. However, the Church's position has also been criticized by some who believe that the Church is too close to the Russian government.

## **The Relationship Between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Russian Government**

The relationship between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Russian government is complex and evolving. The Church has both supported and criticized the government's nuclear policy. However, the Church has also played a role in promoting nuclear disarmament.

The Church's support for the government's nuclear policy is based on its belief that nuclear weapons are necessary to deter the United States. The Church also believes that the government has a responsibility to protect the Russian people.

The Church's criticism of the government's nuclear policy is based on its belief that nuclear weapons are immoral. The Church also believes that the government's nuclear policy is too aggressive.

The Church's role in promoting nuclear disarmament is based on its belief that nuclear weapons are a threat to the survival of humanity. The Church also believes that the government has a responsibility to work towards nuclear disarmament.

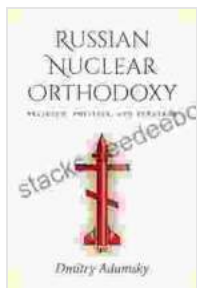
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