

Between the 1890s and the Vietnam era, many thousands of American Protestant missionaries were sent to live throughout the non-European world. Their experience abroad made many of these missionaries and their children critical of racism, imperialism, and religious orthodoxy. When they returned home, they brought new liberal values back to their own society. David Hollinger reveals the untold story of how these missionary-connected individuals left an enduring mark on American public life as writers, diplomats, academics, church officials, publishers, foundation executives, and social activists. *Protestants Abroad* reveals the crucial role they played in the development of modern American liberalism, and shows how they helped other Americans reimagine their nation's place in the world.

"*Protestants Abroad* is one of those rare books that slices American society in a way that hardly anyone—certainly no one of Hollinger's intellectual breadth—has thought to cut the cake before."

—Adam Hochschild, author of *King Leopold's Ghost*

"Elegant and original. . . . Hollinger's book is a comprehensive history of American Protestant missionaries abroad, but it is also the more important story of how a religious and cultural movement overcame its own provincialism." —John Kaag, *Wall Street Journal*

"The eminent intellectual historian David Hollinger restores liberal Protestants to their rightful place at the center of the history of struggles for rights, self-determination, and dignity at home and abroad."

—Thomas J. Sugrue, author of *Sweet Land of Liberty*

"No one has done more than Hollinger to put mainline American Protestantism on the map of 20th-century American cultural and intellectual history, and this book adds an important chapter to that impressive legacy." —Robert Westbrook, *Christian Century*

"Between the end of the Civil War and the beginning of the Second World War, thousands of American missionaries, many animated by the social gospel, spread across the world. Their children came back to the United States, where they exerted an outsized influence on American foreign policy and shaped new forms of cosmopolitanism. Hollinger's illuminating study offers a fascinating account of an overlooked legacy." —Jill Lepore, author of *The Secret History of Wonder Woman*

"One of the most important books about religion in twentieth-century America to appear in the last decade—a book that will reshape the way we think about the historical arc of American Protestantism."

—Joe Creech, *The Cresset*

DAVID A. HOLLINGER is the Preston Hotchkis Professor of American History Emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley. His many books include *After Cloven Tongues of Fire: Protestant Liberalism in Modern American History* (Princeton).

Cover photograph: Missionary son John Paton Davies Jr., in 1944 in the company of Zhou Enlai, Mao Zedong, and other Communist leaders. Courtesy of Tiki Davies