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## Prothero Discusses the Importance of Religious Literacy

Nicole Travis  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

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**Contact:** Nicole Travis '11, (309) 556-3181

### **Prothero Discusses the Importance of Religious Literacy**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Author of *American Jesus: How the Son of God Became a National Icon* and *The New York Times* bestseller *Religious Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know—And Doesn't*, Stephen Prothero will speak at Illinois Wesleyan University on Tuesday, May 27 at 7 p.m. in the Hansen Student Center (300 E. Beecher St., Bloomington).

The event is free and open to the public.

Prothero, chair of Boston University's Department of Religion, will discuss the issue of religious illiteracy in America. He will also examine society's perspective of religion based on its concepts of the embodiment of Jesus Christ throughout various time periods.

Drawing from his latest book, Prothero argues that public schools should reinstate the study of the Bible as well as various world religions. He contends that without a thorough education of the principles of religion, Americans cannot understand essential aspects of the Iraqi war, current social concerns, or political debate and conduct.

In addition to appearances on CNN, NBC, MSNBC, FOX, PBS, "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart, "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and several National Public Radio programs, Prothero's work has been published in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *Slate*, *Salon*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe* and *Los Angeles Times*.

For more information on Prothero, visit his Web site at [www.stephenprothero.com](http://www.stephenprothero.com), and to learn more about his speeches, visit [www.thelavinagency.com](http://www.thelavinagency.com).

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