This study examines the role of history in the writings of the English deists, a group of heterodox religious controversialists who were active from the last quarter of the seventeenth century until the middle of the eighteenth century. Its main sources are the published works of the deists and their opponents, but it also draws, where possible, on manuscript sources. Not all of the deists were English (one was Irish and another was of Welsh extraction), but the term 'English Deists' has b...

He is now the Deputy Director of the World Union of Deists. Jayson takes the position that Jesus was probably a real person but definitely NOT the Son of God. The second article takes the position that Jesus never existed and is nothing but pure ancient myth. This article is written by long time freethinker and Deist writer Stephen Van Eck. Both articles give readers interesting facts and insight to ponder. If you’d like to contribute an article addressing the question, Did Jesus Really Exist?, please email it in the body of an email to deism@deism.com.)

Because of the individualistic standpoint of independent criticism which they adopt, it is difficult, if not impossible, to class together the representative writers who contributed to the literature of English deism as forming any one definite school, or to group together the positive teachings contained in their writings as any one systematic expression of a concordant philosophy. With most of the arguments of the deists we are nowadays quite familiar, thanks to the efforts of modern freethought and rationalism to keep them before the public. Though caustic, often clever, and sometimes extraordinarily blasphemous, we open the shabby little books to find them for the most part out-of-date, commonplace, and dull. Deism is considered to exist in the classical and modern forms,[8] where the classical view takes what is called a “cold” approach by asserting the non-intervention of a deity in the natural behavior of the created universe, while the modern deist formulation can be either “warm” (citing an involved deity) or “cold” (citing an uninvolved deity). These lead to many subdivisions of modern deism, which serves as an overall category of belief.[9]. Overview. Deism is a theological theory concerning the relationship between a creator and the natural world. Deistic viewp
He is now the Deputy Director of the World Union of Deists. Jayson takes the position that Jesus was probably a real person but definitely NOT the Son of God. The second article takes the position that Jesus never existed and is nothing but pure ancient myth. This article is written by long time freethinker and Deist writer Stephen Van Eck. Both articles give readers interesting facts and insight to ponder. If you’d like to contribute an article addressing the question, Did Jesus Really Exist?, please email it in the body of an email to deism@deism.com.) Because of the individualistic standpoint of independent criticism which they adopt, it is difficult, if not impossible, to class together the representative writers who contributed to the literature of English deism as forming any one definite school, or to group together the positive teachings contained in their writings as any one systematic expression of a concordant philosophy. With most of the arguments of the deists we are nowadays quite familiar, thanks to the efforts of modern freethought and rationalism to keep them before the public. Though caustic, often clever, and sometimes extraordinarily blasphemous, we open the shabby little books to find them for the most part out-of-date, commonplace, and dull. Deism is considered to exist in the classical and modern forms,[8] where the classical view takes what is called a “cold” approach by asserting the non-intervention of a deity in the natural behavior of the created universe, while the modern deist formulation can be either “warm” (citing an involved deity) or “cold” (citing an uninvolved deity). These lead to many subdivisions of modern deism, which serves as an overall category of belief.[9]. Overview. Deism is a theological theory concerning the relationship between a creator and the natural world. Deistic viewp