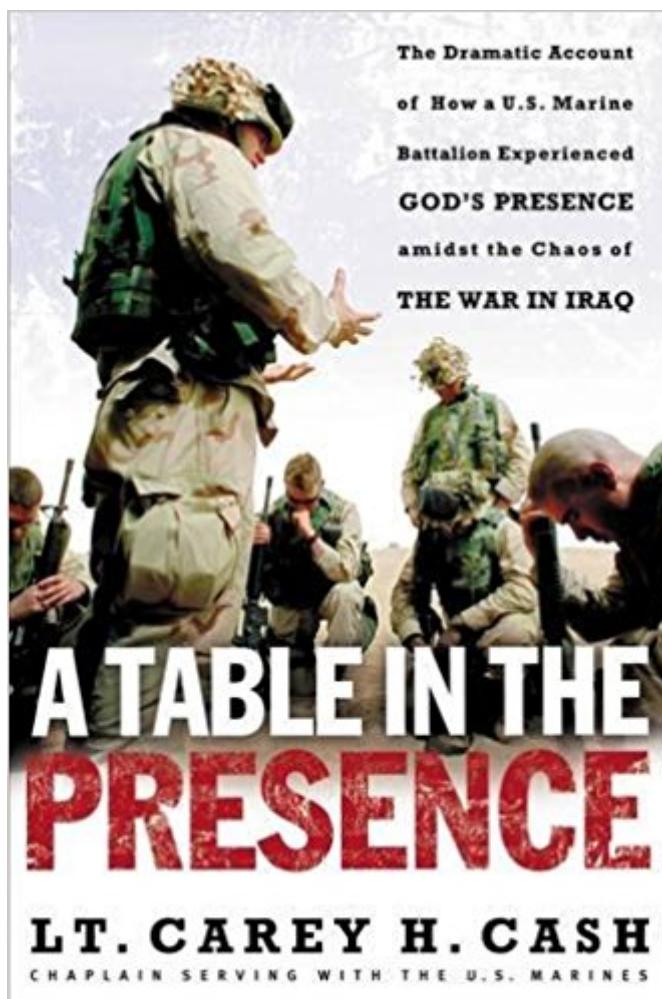


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# **A Table In The Presence: The Dramatic Account Of How A U.S. Marine Battalion Experienced God's Presence Amidst The Chaos Of The War In Iraq**





## **Synopsis**

On April 10th, 2003, the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, faced with the task of seizing the presidential palace in downtown Baghdad, ran headlong into what Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North called, "the worst day of fighting for U.S. Marines." Hiding in buildings and mosques, wearing civilian clothes, and spread out for over a mile, Saddam Hussein's militants rained down bullets and rocket propelled grenades on the 1st Battalion. But when the smoke of the eight-hour battle cleared, only one Marine had lost his life. Some said the 1st Battalion was incredibly lucky. But in the hearts and minds of the Marines who were there, there was no question. God had brought them miraculously through that battle. As the 1st Battalion's chaplain, Lieutenant Carey Cash had the unique privilege of seeing firsthand, from the beginning of the war to the end, how God miraculously delivered, and even transformed, the lives of the men of the 1st Battalion. Their regiment, the most highly decorated regiment in the history of the Marines, was the first ground force to cross the border into Iraq, the first to see one of their own killed in battle, and they were the unit to fight what most believe to have been the decisive battle of the war-April 10th in downtown Baghdad. Through it all, Carey Cash says, the presence of God was undeniable. Cash even had the privilege of baptizing fifty-seven new Christians-Marines and Sailors-during the war in Iraq. The men of the 1st Battalion came to discover what King David had discovered long ago--that God's presence could be richly experienced even in the presence of enemies. Here is the amazing story of their experience.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 242 pages

Publisher: W. Publishing Group; 1st edition (April 7, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0849918235

ISBN-13: 978-0849918230

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 6.4 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 179 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #447,751 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #205 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Military > Afghan & Iraq Wars > Iraq War #422 in Books > History > Military > United States > Veterans #431 in Books > History > Military > Iraq War

## **Customer Reviews**

Ã¢ "A dramatic chronicle of courage and a testament of faith under fire that is as stirring as it is eloquent.Ã¢ "Oliver North --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

**AUTHOR:** Lieutenant Carey H. Cash, Chaplain, United States Navy, is a battalion chaplain to infantry Marines based at Camp Pendleton, California. In Operation Iraqi Freedom, his unit was the first ground combat element to cross the border into Iraq. He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and was commissioned as a chaplain in 1999. Carey and his wife, Charity, have five children, and live in Southern California.

As a Freshman in college I was but a young child when the 9/11 attacks assaulted United States Soil. Therefore for a majority of my life our country has been at war. Because of this, I have only seen the Middle East, its people and the war as terrible and barbaric. This is why I greatly appreciate how Cash focused on Christ and emphasized on how Our Lord loves people of all ages, races, genders and religion. This book helped soften my heart towards the war and the people. This book is a fantastic reminder that we as Christians must love and respect every person we meet, even if that person has different beliefs than we do. The other aspect that touched me was all the times God appeared and performed many miracles. As a person young in my walk with Christ, I find myself doubting and questioning my walk and my Lord at times. Reading about the moments God worked miracles for the men eased my worries and doubts. I would recommend this book to anyone who is doubting that the Lord is at work in the world today. It is easy to see the Lord's hand on every page of the narrative, whether it is keeping the men alive in extremely dangerous situations, or through the way the men's hearts changed and turned toward God. If it can settle my doubts, it will settle others.

A Table in the Presence by Carey Cash is an autobiography of his time as a Marine Chaplin during the invasion of Iraqi. It is a story starting from the days leading to the invasion. Beginning in Kuwait following the journey from desert warzone into the battles of bloody neighborhood streets Baghdad. Cash describes that God protects the righteous and just from their enemies yet God does not look down on people of other religions. Cash has to help soldiers be able to cope with deaths of friends and comrades such as team leaders. More importantly he is able to aid the soldiers in his unit in finding their faith during wartime by providing them with the view that they it is their duty to fight and God is all right with it. This it a great book for anyone that is struggling to find his or her faith

especially military members trying to find where they stand on God and religion during wartime. It is great for that reason because it has viewpoints and examples about faith from various viewpoints during the expedition from Kuwait to Baghdad.

I read this book before I deployed to Iraq as a Navy chaplain in 2005. While it "freaked me out" a bit at that time, it prepared me well for ministry to Marines. Chaplain Cash's unapologetic approach to God's protection was difficult to reconcile when, for whatever reason, some don't seem to be as protected. However, he does not shy away from this dilemma toward the end of the book. He readily admits his own theological questions regarding this, but also speaks of God's comfort in the midst of confusion and pain. 10 years later: I am honored to be serving with him at the Naval Academy. Without a doubt, he is the real deal. This book receives my highest recommendation, particularly for those who are interested in military ministry.

I was greatly moved by this account of American Marines, and their faith in Jesus Christ. God miraculously protected hundreds of His faithful followers in the midst of fiery battles, and we have His promise to do the same for you and I as well as all who love and serve Him. If He has called you, He also has a place of service only you can fill. He will cover you with His protection until your job is done. Never fear!

I recommend this book to all of our military & their families! My 18 year old son wants to follow in his father's footsteps & serve in the United States Marine Corp & as his mother I wanted to know what it would be like if he was ever sent to war. As a follower of Christ I also wanted to know how God works to protect & deliver our soldiers from the enemy in supernatural ways! This book gives us an understanding of what our soldiers endured throughout Operation Iraqi Freedom but also how they were never alone! Thank you to all of our brave men and women who have served & are serving to grant us our freedoms! I pray we never take them for granted & always remember that the Lord is our refuge & strength! God Bless America!

This is a great book to give friends who don't know how much God cares about them. I was totally impressed and read this book in 3 days. I then ordered 3 copies to give as gifts to my military friends who are doubtful of God's love for them.

Many people both here in the United States and all over the world have family and loved ones in the

military and armed services. They do not, however, know necessarily what it is like to serve in a fight where death is a common occurrence and tomorrow is definitely not a guarantee. This book, written by Lt. Carey H. Cash does a very good job of portraying what the life of a soldier is like. Compared to the media and news stories we hear so often, this book tells quite a different story. The happenings that occur in this book are not only an example of miracles happening in a foreign country during wartime, but also spiritual journey that shows the power, grace, and mercy of God. A Table in the Presence is an eye-opening experience that is inspiring to anyone, regardless of their faith. I definitely recommend this book; it is worth the read and will keep you glued to the pages until the very end.

Lt. Cash must be a gentle man because he's gentle with me, the reader. It's as if we're visiting and I ask him about his work with the Marines. I can almost see him shaking his head at some of his memories or pausing and looking down at his hands before going on with his description of scenes. He's aware of my facial expressions and the tension I feel so he backs off and takes a more gentle route. I hear a little about his personal life to soothe my emotions and then he goes back to the story where he left off. I can tell he cares for every one of our Marines. He knows them, he's talked with them and reveals to me some of what he has learned about the individual Marine. He respects the men and their society and knows what they went through in training. He loves them and is the human touch of God's love for them. Doing all he can to encourage and uplift our men over there. Lt Cash helps those tough men, our Marines find God over there in Iraq. A very good book.

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