

*Praise for*  
**WITHOUT PRECEDENT**

**By Joel Richard Paul**

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Biography & Autobiography/Historical BIO006000

“A highly entertaining and educational biography that should be on a lawyer’s reading list.” -  
*Iowa Lawyer Magazine*

“Joel Richard Paul capably draws the reader into the factual and legal complexities involved in dozens of court cases without resorting to legalese... This comprehensive and insightful biography is mostly homage to this often-overlooked founder of our nation. But Paul does not ignore Marshall’s ‘blind spots’, his occasional faulty reasoning or compromised ethics. As a biographer, Paul exceptionally balances Marshall’s character development with his historic achievements in a very human story.” -*The Missourian*

“Paul capably frames the facts and the importance of the issues, as well as Marshall’s big picture thinking about the outcome. ... This biography lives up to its title in that it provides the reader with a clear picture of who John Marshall was, how he grew as a leader and as a jurist, in a time when his nation was going through some growing pains of its own.” -*Potus Geeks*

“An examination of the life and work of John Marshall masterfully put into the context of his times. The echoes of his decisions as chief justice still reverberate in our era.” -  
“**Recommendations from Kepler’s Books,**” *San Francisco Chronicle*

“Joel Richard Paul offers an engaging study of Marshall, both the man and the jurist. ... Anyone interested in the American founding and the man who, perhaps more than any other, guided the republic through its most formative years, will appreciate this book.” -*Law360*

“Paul offers an impressive biography on John Marshall, a politician and judge who became known as the nation’s most powerful Supreme Court justice during his run in the 1800s.” -  
*Houston Chronicle*

“In his engrossing biography of John Marshall, the fourth chief justice of the United States, Paul ... makes a compelling case for Marshall’s enduring impact on the Constitution. With the verve that distinguished his previous book, [*Unlikely Allies*,] ... Paul deftly evokes Marshall as a leader who imagined a dynamic interpretation of the Constitution.” -*The National Book Review*

“Paul...has added a well-written and admiring biography to the long line of Marshall scholarship.” -*San Francisco Chronicle*

“[Without Precedent] offers an accessible portrait of a giant from the third branch of government.” -*Harvard Magazine*

“Engrossing ... Paul brings to life Marshall’s seminal cases.” -*The Weekly Standard*

“A scholarly but highly readable and often entertaining chronicle ... [John Marshall’s] lasting achievements are ably served by Mr. Paul’s deeply felt and penetrating biography.” -*Wall Street Journal*

“Law professor Joel Richard Paul brings exactly the kind of perspective that a legal scholar can best provide to this engaging biography of US Supreme Court Justice John Marshall.” -*Christian Science Monitor*

“Paul ... compellingly details the path that brought Marshall to the Supreme Court and how he was able to achieve so much while there in the absorbing and aptly titled *Without Precedent*. ... This engrossing account of a key figure in our early history makes for excellent reading.” -*BookPage, “Top Pick in Nonfiction, March 2018”*

“[A] comprehensive and insightful biography. ... Paul has produced an excellent treatment of an unquestionably impressive life.” -*Publishers Weekly, STARRED review*

“This very human story should be of great interest to almost all readers. Well written and drawing on rich primary sources, *Without Precedent* lives up to its title and will be an excellent addition to American-history collections.” -*Booklist*

“Much of the story necessarily focuses on abstruse issues in constitutional law, but the author turns this potential narrative problem into a strength by emphasizing the politics and personal stories underlying the court's landmark cases. He cheerfully draws readers into the factual and legal complexities involved, employing an easygoing prose style that neither condescends nor bogs down in legalese. As much as Paul admires Marshall, he doesn't shrink from exposing holes in his reasoning, occasional ethically dodgy procedure, and a sometimes dismayingly amoral approach to the law. A well-informed, perceptive, and absorbing biography of a titan of American history.” -*Kirkus, STARRED review*