

# Adin Ballou

## Radical American Pastor and Advocate of Pacifism, Socialism, and Abolitionism

(1803 - 1890)

**Description :** Based upon devout religious faith, temperance, abolitionist ideals, and anti-government sentiment, Ballou would lead the Hopedale community until his death in 1890. While Ballou refused to be labeled as an anarchist, he upheld many anarchist ideals... (From : Anarchy Archives)

**Tags :** american, minister, universalist, unitarian, christian, socialist, abolitionist, hopedale, pacifism, social reformer.

### Quotes :

*"...it is the object of this Society neither to purify nor subvert human governments, but to advance in the earth that kingdom of peace and righteousness, which supersedes all such governments."* (From : "Nonresistance in relation to human governments," by Adin Ballou.)

*"What is human government? It is the will of man -- whether of one, few, many or all, in a state or nation -- exercising absolute authority over man, by means of cunning and physical force."* (From : "Nonresistance in relation to human governments," by Adin Ballou.)

*"Let the power of love and forbearance be faithfully exemplified, and it will remove mountains."* (From : "Nonresistance in relation to human governments," by Adin Ballou.)

### Biography :

## Abin Ballou

Adin Ballou was born in Cumberland, Rhode Island. From a very early age Ballou was a strongly religious man. At the age of ten he converted his entire family to the Restorationist religion during the Christian Connection. Nine years later Ballou married Abigail Sayles. He eventually decided to pursue a career as a Universalist preacher. In 1829, Abigail died after giving birth, prompting Adin Ballou to remarry the following year to Lucy Hunt.

After preaching for several years, the preacher began to get involved in social and political issues, specifically temperance, abolition, and government resistance. Ballou became a major player in the abolitionist scene, working with prominent figures such as William Lloyd Garrison. Ballou, however, practiced Christian nonresistance and refused to take up violent means to support any of his beliefs.

When working against the practice of slavery, Ballou also began to develop strong anti-government feelings based upon the belief that government violated individual sovereignty given by God. Based upon devout religious faith, temperance, abolitionist ideals, and anti-government sentiment, Ballou would lead the Hopedale community until his death in 1890. While Ballou refused to be labeled as an anarchist, he upheld many anarchist ideals and, in the last years of his life, communicated with the famed Russian anarchist Leo Tolstoy.

From : Anarchy Archives.

### **Chronology :**

**April 23, 1803** : Adin Ballou's Birth Day.

**August 05, 1890** : Adin Ballou's Death Day.

**November 15, 2016** : Adin Ballou's Added to  
<http://www.RevoltLib.com>.

**April 21, 2019** : Adin Ballou's Last Updated on  
<http://www.RevoltLib.com>.

### **Links :**

- **Anarchy Archives: Adin Ballou Archive**

[http://dwardmac.pitzer.edu/Anarchist\\_Archives/bright/ballou/index.html](http://dwardmac.pitzer.edu/Anarchist_Archives/bright/ballou/index.html)

- **Wikipedia: Adin Ballou**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adin\\_Ballou](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adin_Ballou)

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