

Jesus A Story Of Enlightenment Enlightenment Series

The EnlightenmentHeart of the EnlightenedZen : The
Art Of EnlightenmentJesus in an Age of
EnlightenmentThe Life of Jesus of NazarethA Knickel's
WorthJESUS - THE MISSING YEARS, NEW TEACHINGS
& THE AFTERLIFE: BASED ON THE URANTIA
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The Enlightenment

Discover the teachings of Jesus and Buddha with over 100 examples presented side by side to reveal striking similarities. A perfect book for anyone interested in Christianity, Buddhism, mindfulness,

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meditation, and all ways of seeking enlightenment. This stunning collection is perfect for those curious about the influential teachers, Jesus and Buddha, and their lessons of peace, love, patience, and kindness. Witness as two of the most holy beings meet in a thought-provoking encounter of the spirit. Compare the Bible verse: "Jesus knew all people and needed no one to testify about anyone; for he himself knew what was in everyone" (John 2.24-25) to the Buddhist scripture: "He was expert in knowing the thoughts and actions of living beings" (Vimalakirtinirdesha Sutra 2). Jesus and Buddha is a timeless testament to what makes us similar rather than different. This enlightening book also makes a great gift.

Heart of the Enlightened

"Who do you say that I am" (Mark 8:29) is the question of Christology. By asking this question, Jesus invites his followers to interpret him from within their own contexts-history, experience, and social location. Therefore, all responses to Jesus's invitation are contextual. But for too long, many theologians particularly in the West have continued to see Christology as a universal endeavor that is devoid of any contextual influences. This understanding of Christology undermines Jesus's expectations from us to imagine and appropriate him from within our own contexts. In *Re-imagining African Christologies*, Victor I. Ezigbo presents a constructive exposition of the unique ways that many African theologians and lay Christians from various church denominations have interpreted and appropriated Jesus Christ in their own

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contexts. He also articulates the constructive contributions that these African Christologies can make to the development of Christological discourse in non-African Christian communities.

Zen : The Art Of Enlightenment

The Enlightenment of Jason Albrecht is a fictional story that speaks to the intrinsic need for spiritual orientation in the human experience. The central character, Jason Albrecht, spends a lifetime of struggle to reconcile religious codification and conventional thinking with the purity of intrinsic desires and realizations. The story follows the life of a carpenter who is intensely interested in philosophy and religion. During the course of Jason's life, he discovers and then teaches a meditation technique that leads to a unique philosophy in contemplating the wonders of the universe while being sustained by enduring friendships-during and, perhaps, continuing beyond his lifetime. Coming to terms in his final years, Jason Albrecht completes a memoir that tells a story of pain, exhilaration and spiritual realization before finding peace in that final hour that comes for each of us. From the precious idealism of youth to the challenges of adulthood, Jason learns that the material world informs an intrinsic Self and that the experiences of the world and human intuition are necessary companions on an individual journey to maturity in Spirit. The Enlightenment of Jason Albrecht is the inspirational tale of one man's journey to find spiritual identity in a world of circumstance and allegiance.

Jesus in an Age of Enlightenment

“Deepak Chopra’s story is an inspiring gift for those who truly care and have the courage to seek.”

—Michael Baigent, author of *The Jesus Papers* The founder of The Chopra Center and the preeminent teacher of Eastern philosophy to the Western World, Deepak Chopra gives us the story of the man who became Messiah in his phenomenal New York Times bestseller *Jesus*. The author who illuminated the life of Buddha now offers readers an unparalleled portrait of Jesus Christ, from carpenter’s son to revolutionary leader, that is fresh and inspiring—a remarkable retelling of the greatest story ever told.

The Life of Jesus of Nazareth

A Knickel's Worth is a dose of truth for the Black American community. As described by Cecil Alan Gill, author of the book's Foreword, it is "like a 12 Step Program in 10 chapters rehabilitation for those addicted to poverty, strife and ignorance." No subject is left untouched - everything from the "War on Drugs" to the unnecessary death of Trayvon Martin to the problems with education, health and lack of self respect in the Black Community is detailed and provided a firm and concrete resolution.

A Knickel's Worth

Who is Jesus Christ? In *The Third Jesus*, bestselling author and spiritual leader Deepak Chopra provides an answer to this question that is both a challenge to

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current systems of belief and a fresh perspective on what Jesus can teach us all, regardless of our religious background. There is not one Jesus, Chopra writes, but three. First, there is the historical Jesus, the man who lived more than two thousand years ago and whose teachings are the foundation of Christian theology and thought. Next there is Jesus the Son of God, who has come to embody an institutional religion with specific dogma, a priesthood, and devout believers. And finally, there is the third Jesus, the cosmic Christ, the spiritual guide whose teaching embraces all humanity, not just the church built in his name. He speaks to the individual who wants to find God as a personal experience, to attain what some might call grace, or God-consciousness, or enlightenment. When we take Jesus literally, we are faced with the impossible. How can we truly “love thy neighbor as thyself”? But when we see the exhortations of Jesus as invitations to join him on a higher spiritual plane, his words suddenly make sense. Ultimately, Chopra argues, Christianity needs to overcome its tendency to be exclusionary and refocus on being a religion of personal insight and spiritual growth. In this way Jesus can be seen for the universal teacher he truly is—someone whose teachings of compassion, tolerance, and understanding can embrace and be embraced by all of us. From the Hardcover edition.

JESUS - THE MISSING YEARS, NEW TEACHINGS & THE AFTERLIFE: BASED ON THE URANTIA BOOK

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In Evolutionary Enlightenment, Andrew Cohen redefines spiritual awakening for our contemporary world—a world characterized by exponential change and an ever-expanding appreciation for the processes of evolution. Cohen's message is simple, yet profound: Life is evolution, and enlightenment is about waking up to this fundamentally creative impulse as your own deepest, most authentic self. Through five tenets for living an enlightened life, Cohen will empower you to wholeheartedly participate in the process of change as your own spiritual practice. Evolutionary Enlightenment not only makes deep sense of life today; it will show you how to play an active role in shaping the world of tomorrow.

Jesus Remembered

The Visionary Window

Every 3rd issue is a quarterly cumulation.

The Enlightenment of Jason Albrecht

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it." But it's no secret that the Christian church is "broke," and does need fixing. Despite great effort, things are going badly for us. We've tried trendy and tech-savvy, entrepreneurial and coffee-house gritty. They're not helping. Our problem is deeper than that. Our problem is our instincts--instincts informed by our story. There was a time when the Christian church was a powerfully

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transformative presence in society. It can be again--but it will require radical rethinking of the story that informs our instincts. And it's time! It's been five hundred years since the Reformation, our last major update. Today is a pivotal moment in history. With our worldview upended by quantum physics, history is demanding we renew the Christian story for our times. Rethinking Our Story reframes the elements of the Christian narrative for the new era. It explores "quantum" ways of thinking about God, human nature, Jesus, salvation, and the afterlife. The future of the church and the health of our society depend on our willingness to rethink, retell, and live out a better story. We will either update our instincts and contribute to the earth's well-being--or disappear into oblivion.

Re-imagining African Christologies

"Said the river to the seeker: 'Does one really have to fret about enlightenment? No matter which way I turn, I'm homeward bound.'" --Anthony de Mello We are like bears pacing in a cage, Anthony de Mello says. Even if the cage is removed, we keep pacing in the same timid limits. We are afraid to get out. And we think that the only way out is by endless striving and thinking. But this profound healer and spiritual master shows us another way. The Heart of the Enlightened, the sequel to the highly successful Taking Flight, contains more than two hundred of de Mello's favorite stories. Whether Buddhist tales, Hindu fables, Islamic sayings, or Christian parables, the stories de Mello has chosen are sure to seep through

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to the heart. They touch on relationships, human nature, service, spirituality, and enlightenment. These are stories to be read slowly and savored. They are the key to liberating us from all that would pen us in.

Courage to Bear Witness

Why Were the Teachings of the Original Christians Brutally Suppressed by the Roman Church? • Because they portray Jesus and Mary Magdalene as mythic figures based on the Pagan Godman and Goddess • Because they show that the gospel story is a spiritual allegory encapsulating a profound philosophy that leads to mythical enlightenment • Because they have the power to turn the world inside out and transform life into an exploration of consciousness Drawing on modern scholarship, the authors of the international bestseller *The Jesus Mysteries* decode the secret teachings of the original Christians for the first time in almost two millennia and theorize about who the original Christians really were and what they actually taught. In addition, the book explores the many myths of Jesus and the Goddess and unlocks the lost secret teachings of Christian mysticism, which promise happiness and immortality to those who attain the state of Gnosis, or enlightenment. This daring and controversial book recovers the ancient wisdom of the original Christians and demonstrates its relevance to us today. From the Trade Paperback edition.

Big Jesus

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This may be the most honest book ever written about Jesus. As a veteran pastor in the United Church of Christ, Dr. Watson shares his thoughts on the timeless topic of Christology--the doctrine of Christ--with new and creative insights, informative and accessible theology, personal anecdotes, and lively wit. Nothing is off-limits in this no-holds-barred contribution to the Jesus genre. Big Jesus is not another theological "spin" on the identity and nature of Jesus of Nazareth, nor is it a sentimental fairytale for those who prefer their Christology to be served up on Sunday mornings with fluffy sheep, little children, and footprints in the sand. This book is for Christian adults with a sense of humor.

Evolutionary Enlightenment

This book explores the religious concerns of Enlightenment thinkers from Thomas Hobbes to Thomas Jefferson. Using an innovative method, the study illuminates the intellectual history of the age through interpretations of Jesus between c.1650 and c.1826. The book demonstrates the persistence of theology in modern philosophy and the projects of social reform and amelioration associated with the Enlightenment. At the core of many of these projects was a robust moral-theological realism, sometimes manifest in a natural law ethic, but always associated with Jesus and a commitment to the sovereign goodness of God. This ethical orientation in Enlightenment discourse is found in a range of different metaphysical and political identities (dualist and monist; progressive and radical) which intersect

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with earlier 'heretical' tendencies in Christian thought (Arianism, Pelagianism, and Marcionism). This intellectual matrix helped to produce the discourses of irenic toleration which are a legacy of the Enlightenment at its best.

Grace beyond the Grave

One of the urgent tasks of modern philosophy is to find a path between the rationalism of the Enlightenment and the relativism of postmodernism. Rationalism alone cannot suffice to solve today's problems, but neither can we dispense with reasonable critique. The task is to find ways to broaden the scope of rational thought without losing its critical power. The first part of this volume explores the ideas of Enlightenment philosophers and shows nuances often absent from the common view of the Enlightenment. The second part deals with some of the modern heirs of Enlightenment, such as Durkheim, Habermas, and Derrida. In the third part this volume looks at alternatives to Enlightenment thought in West European, Russian and Buddhist philosophy. Part four provides, over against the Enlightenment, a new starting point for the philosophy of religion in thinking about human beings, God, and the description of phenomena.

Sources of the Western Tradition: From ancient times to the Enlightenment

The author of the Anna Pigeon mystery series recounts her spiritual quest for meaning in her life,

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describing her experiences as an actor, writer, and adventure-seeker, and sharing her transition from atheism toward a sense of being part of something greater than herself. Reprint.

The Story of Jesus

What if Jesus showed up at your house one night, tapped you on the shoulder, and told you to wake up? And what if he not only wants you to wake up from your bed but wake up to your life? Each chapter begins with an encounter with Jesus followed by simple steps to living life awake. In a style similar to "Conversations with God" and the works of Anthony De Mello, David Jones, the author of "The Psychology of Jesus," offers helpful ways to find enlightenment in every day activities.

Johann's Awakening

The Plan (Revised; 2nd Edition) As a young child, Rachel Parody has a very special relationship with Jesus. By his side, she explores a magical place, is comforted, and encouraged to not live in fear. Over time, Rachel and Jesus lose contact and evil demons use their time of separation to steer her into the ways of the world. Not until her heart is completely broken and her mind is convinced she is headed for hell will she seek a face-to-face encounter again with her Savior. At the age of thirty-four, Rachel learns to rely and depend on her childhood friend once again. He teaches her the truth and then introduces her to the love of her life. Because of her horrific past, many

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years later, Rachel's need to be a good example for young women in her church drives her to worry over their romantic influences. When she notices a series of books and movies enslaving them with lustful desires, her interest gets piqued. After investigating the books, these stories don't repulse her but become a catalysis for Rachel to share the love of Jesus with these girls. But the fantasy appeal of the characters enthralls the girls more than helping them see there is a true immortal named, Jesus. She tried many ways to share how this love story between a mortal and a vampire was written from references out of the Bible's 'Song of Solomon.' but no one would listen. Once Rachel realizes her efforts were futile, she asks Jesus to calm her obsession and send someone who could reach the younger generation with His loving nature. Instead of sending Rachel help, Jesus convinces her to write her own story. Exposing her past was not in Rachel's plan, but giving her life away as an example was His. Will Rachel tell everything?

Jesus

Journey To Enlightenment is a book for the truly sincere individual in search of spiritual progression. It comes from a true source remembered from counselors on a higher level who are interested in teaching mankind to not get so attached with the illusions on this plane. That we are only living in a shadow of a shadow of reality. That we can come to truths not by listening to others, but by going within our own God Self for the answers and getting in tune with our intuition. The journey into enlightenment is

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magical, but not gained by magic. It takes hard work and a deep commitment towards that aim. It takes the understanding that the hardest thing to overcome is also within. The ego is the part of us that wants control and we freely give it full reign. It is not until we can control our thoughts, learn to live in the silence and accept what is our life that we will come to our true selves.

Christ Enlightened

The remarkable story of Christ and Christianity from the historical perspective that reveals Christ's teachings on enlightenment, practiced by the earliest Jewish disciples only recently revealed.

Jesus and Buddha

The Third Jesus

Intertwined with Luke's story of Jesus are two other story lines □ the story of the authorities, who come into conflict with Jesus over the crucial issue of whom God has chosen to rule Israel, and the story of the disciples, who are both loyal and uncomprehending. Kingsbury leads the reader into the dramatic narrative of Luke's Gospel by tracing and interpreting all three stories. An introductory chapter provides orientation to basic features of literary analysis.

Jesus and the Lost Goddess

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Grace beyond the Grave explores the possibility of the opportunity for repentance and salvation on the other side of the grave. Stephen Jonathan, pastor and theologian, explores posthumous salvation as a viable evangelical alternative to the traditional view that death ends all possibility of salvation, doing so with humanity, integrity, and devotion to Scripture. Jonathan is not dissuaded from asking provocative questions for fear of being thought unorthodox. While scholarly, Grace beyond the Grave will be of benefit to pastors, theological students, and lay people alike. During nearly three decades of a teaching ministry, Jonathan became increasingly conscious that the common, mechanical answers to the more pressing questions are often inadequate and need revisiting. Grace beyond the Grave will both unsettle the "theologically comfortable" and reassure the open-minded in equal measure.

Blue Collar Resistance and the Politics of Jesus

"I have come at this time, in this place, and through this being to speak my truth, to speak the story of my life — the true story of my life." The purpose of this book is to clarify, to tell the truth, and to share my energies with you so that you can begin the transformation of your mind and, therefore, the transformation of your heart and your world. It is in the misteachings that have been associated with my name that much death and pain has been caused and that much guilt and self-recrimination has been expressed. That was not my purpose; that was not my

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lesson. This story will begin the change. It will not make the change. It will facilitate turning the key in the lock, but you must open the door and walk through it into a new realm that is opened by this information. That is your responsibility. We can only bring you the message, this channel and I. We can only work together to transmit the information, but it is through your actions and your transformation that you will see a change in your world, a change in the subjective world that is manufactured from your beliefs, your thoughts, and your feelings. I talk about the truth of my birth and the truth of my life. I cover some stories that are recounted in the Bible and tell you the true story of those events. I describe some of my personal traits, my human traits, and I define what I am, who I am, and why these things happened. You will be able to understand the truth, and you will begin this reconditioning, this retooling of your mind — of your thoughts and beliefs — on this subject of my life, my meaning, and my purpose, for it is a long process. The time is ripe. The need for a spiritual revolution is here. — Jesus

Rethinking Our Story

The afterlife is open to all persons, religious or non-religious, from all over the world. Our destiny, after this short life is over, is conditioned only by our “spiritual longings and purposes.” It is not determined by believing in a correct creed or dogma or by saying the correct words. Rather, we will pass on to the afterlife if we have the faintest desire to know more of God, more of truth, beauty, and goodness. This is a

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teaching found in The Urantia Book that purports to be a revelation to Earth, which the authors call Urantia. The present book is a brief introduction to The Urantia Book, a complex tome of over 2,000 pages. The Urantia Book claims to have answers to such timeless questions as: What happens to us when we die? Is there a heaven; if so, what is it like? Is God really love? Has God really set aside a hell in which people who reject him are punished? How do we get to heaven? How did Earth become such a confused and troubled planet? How do we move forward? What is the origin of human life? Many, many more teachings are found in The Urantia Book, including teachings by Jesus that we've never heard before. In this book, you will find explanations from The Urantia Book that clear up misconceptions of God, some of Jesus' teachings, the nature of the universe and the afterlife; misconceptions which have often caused confusion, heartache, and irrational fear in people all over the world.

Faith in the Enlightenment?

In the weeks since Tori and Ben first arrived at the FBI training academy, Tori has encountered many challenges forcing her to learn new things about herself beyond her ability to communicate with spirits. Just when she believes she has everything under control, fate throws Tori a new twist when she picks up a piece of evidence from an unsolved murder and is instantly bombarded with images of a woman being brutally murdered. Tori struggles desperately to control her new-found ability but when the images

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from her visions begin haunting her dreams, she turns to one of her instructors for guidance. He immediately recognizes the symbolism of her dreams from an ancient prophecy during a time when demons and fallen angels walked the earth. Tori realizes that she must learn to overcome her fears, in order to fulfill her destiny. If she doesn't, innocent lives will be lost for eternity. It will be the biggest challenge Tori has ever faced.

Jesus Our Salvation

Iconoclastic and fiercely rational, the European Enlightenment witnessed the birth of modern Western society and thought. Charting the history of Qur'anic translations in Europe during the 18th and early 19th Centuries, this book shows that a number of key enlightenment figures drew both inspiration and ideas from the Qur'an.

The Gospel of Thomas

THE STORY OF JESUS: AN INTUITIVE ANTHOLOGY

Many contemporary Christians suspect that there is more to Jesus and his enduring message than the little that has survived in historical writings and the legendary Christian tradition. This book offers a narrative account of Jesus' life from the perspective of twenty contemporary writers who have developed their natural intuitive abilities to an unusually high level. They are therefore able to bring forth new and detailed information not ordinarily accessible by historical or literary means. Some of them had

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demonstrated their unusual skill by probing deeply into the personal lives and minds of historical individuals other than Jesus, while some had provided important and detailed technical information which was then verified scientifically. They apply their intuitive skills here to uncover fresh information about the man Jesus, his contemporaries and his extensive teachings which never found their way into the New Testament Gospels and related historical documents. These new findings offer a much richer view of the man himself than that available from traditional Christian sources. They also provide illuminating insights and a deep spiritual understanding of Jesus' original and hidden teachings. The Story of Jesus is essential reading for all inquirers and seekers into these hidden and previously lost portions of Christian spiritual history.

Conflict in Luke

To be a follower of Jesus means to bear witness to the truth of God. In an age when so many contemporary voices portray faith as a form of personal therapy, Gene L. Davenport, Professor Emeritus of Religion at Lambuth University, has consistently reminded us in his own witness that the truth of the Gospel entails confrontation with the world that dwells in darkness. These essays in honor of Davenport address the meaning of witness in the face of racism, sexism, and religious bigotry, to name but some of the forms this darkness takes. The topics range from emerging forms of prayer to religious themes in cowboy music, from the work of white pastors in Mississippi during

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the growing Civil Rights Movement to the meaning of the Righteous Gentile in Jewish-Christian friendship. Contributors: D. Brent Laytham Randy Cooper Stanley Hauerwas Billy Vaughan James T. Laney Kenneth L. Carder M. Douglas Meeks Phyllis Tickle L. Edward Phillips Tex Sample Cindy Wesley Joseph T. Reiff Margaret J. Meyer Charles Mayo

Jesus

The writers known as the English deists were not simply religious controversialists, but agents of reform who contributed to the emergence of modernity. This title claims that these writers advocated a failed ideology which itself declined after 1730. It argues for an evolution of their ideas into a more modern form.

Seeking Enlightenment-- Hat by Hat

If Jesus, like the Buddha and the ancient Indian Vedas before him, taught the radical oneness of all things—an unorthodox singularity between self and the divine—where is the record of such pronouncements by Jesus? It's not in the New Testament. In 1945, a discovery in an Egyptian desert may have revealed such a document: The Gospel of Thomas.

The Enlightenment Qur'an

Book Review Index

Jesus: My Autobiography

Does God exist? Can spirituality be integrated with science? Is happiness possible? Do miracles really happen? Not only does The Visionary Window answer " yes" to all of these questions, but it skillfully combines the fields of philosophy, cosmology, religion, and psychology to form a new way of thinking about science and spirituality. Stepping beyond the classic work of prominent seventies physicist Fritjof Capra, Goswami details his own pioneering exploration of science and spirit, revealing the complete integration between modern science and spiritual traditions. Using stories and colorful examples from pop culture, Goswami addresses complex issues in language and terminology easily accessible to the lay reader. He provides quantum physics-based theory and new experimental data verifying the metaphysical truth that exists when employed in the context of a new science, science within the primacy of consciousness. With a new holistic worldview, Goswami also discusses the creativity of the body to self heal; the power of spiritual practice and how to choose a meditative path; and the five stages of spiritual growth, culminating in the ability to transcend the physical laws of nature. Readers, scientists and spiritual leaders alike will find answers to many of life's deepest mysteries.

Enlightenment and Modernity

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In Taking Jesus Seriously, the words of Jesus become clearer when matched with the practices and insights of Buddhist meditation. This book presents a Christian way to implement the words of Jesus by looking inside to see what stands between the reader and God's kingdom. Cowan connects everyday examples and Jesus' words to the method of Buddhist vipassana or insight meditation by offering instruction, perception, and guidance. With practice, readers can begin to notice what is actual, leave anxiety to the Father, accept pain, and see the world as a child would. This book is designed to be read over twelve weeks while practicing 20-30 minutes of daily meditations. Each chapter includes questions and answers. Chapters in Prelude are "The Reign of God, Escaping Delusion," "The Practice: Observing Delusion and Reality," "Replacing Delusions with Material Reality," and "Escaping the Delusion that We Are Our Feelings and Thoughts." Chapters in First Interlude: What Am I Doing Here? are "The Delusion that Happiness Results from Fulfilling Desires," "Distinguishing the Reality of Pain from the Delusion of Suffering," "The Delusion of Permanence," and "The Delusion of Person." Chapters in Second Interlude: The Delusion of Two are "Empty of Delusion," and "Now? as Reality, Past? and Future? as Delusion." The chapter in Third Interlude: Intention, is "Evolution and the Reign of God." Also includes Postlude on the Christian Life, My Book Shelf, and an index. Cowan's work contributes a perspective of radical Christianity to the growing number of books dealing with the interaction of Buddhism and Christianity. . . . This book could help some Christians get beyond preconceptions about Buddhism and Jesus. Publishers Weekly Thank you

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for Taking Jesus Seriously. Its practical teaching on meditation is superb. It reminded me of a lot that I had forgotten, and helped me understand some things I'd never understood, and taught me a good deal I never knew.? The Reverend Paul Bayes National Mission & Evangelism Adviser, Archbishops' Council, England?In this world of attractions and delusions, we are blessed when someone finds a way to help us to see ourselves clearly, to learn to be content with who we are, and to be open to new perceptions. Here is the Jesus who encountered life in all its fullness and welcomes us in. John Cowan, with his years of experience in both Eastern and Western forms of meditation, offers a guide for the traveler and a bridge between traditions.? Rt. Rev. James Jelinek Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota

Taking Jesus Seriously

Jesus Our Salvation: An Introduction to Christology is an innovative text designed with the introductory student in mind. The text is written in an engaging style and is enhanced by pedagogical elements which make the complex material accessible to the student reader. Jesus Our Salvation is both sensitive to the challenges of contemporary Christology and well grounded in Catholic identity. The book maintains a positive, though critical, dialogue with many voices in the Christian tradition including those of the classical tradition, historical Jesus research, the evangelical tradition, and contemporary theological thought. It addresses important issues of today such as Christology's capacity to promote social

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transformation and the questions that are raised about Jesus from the perspective of religious pluralism.

Journey to Enlightenment

There is nothing extraordinary or special in this book. All that it contains is a simple reflection of a simple country priest who prays Scripture, whose life is enriched by the people he serves and his own personal experience becomes an instrument of God presence in his life. Nothing extraordinary or special or provoking in this book except the only desire to share one's thirst and consuming desire to give one's "all" to the God who love him immensely and tenderly. That is all things God may be glorified.

The Enlightenment of Jesus

To be faithful to the gospel, all ministry must be indigenous; it must participate in the distinctive practices and perspectives of the people among whom ministry is taking place. Because our society tends to ignore or deny the reality of class divisions and prejudice, too many congregational leaders know too little about the world of working class whites. Continuing his groundbreaking work on class and American religion, Sample opens up the lives and lifestyles of working class whites in order to engage with them in authentic and transformational ministry. From the Circuit Rider review: "Tex Sample has written one of the most fun books to read on ministry that you will ever come across. Weaving philosophy,

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theology, country western lyrics, and stories throughout the book Sample at once delights and provokes us to think about the way in which we live out church in this day and age." (Click here to read the whole review.)

The Plan

An inspirational portrait of Jesus Christ re-examines his transformational odyssey from humble carpenter's son to revolutionary leader whose stirring ministry and teachings would transform the world.

A Heart Full of Desire to Love God

In Christianity in the making, James D.G. Dunn examines in depth the major factors that shaped first-generation Christianity and beyond, exploring the parting of the ways between Christianity and Judaism, the Hellenization of Christianity, and responses to Gnosticism. He mines all the first- and second-century sources, including the New Testament Gospels, New Testament apocrypha, and such church fathers as Ignatius, Justin Martyr, and Irenaeus, showing how the Jesus tradition and the figures of James, Paul, Peter, and John were still esteemed influences but were also the subject of intense controversy as the early church wrestled with its evolving identity.

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