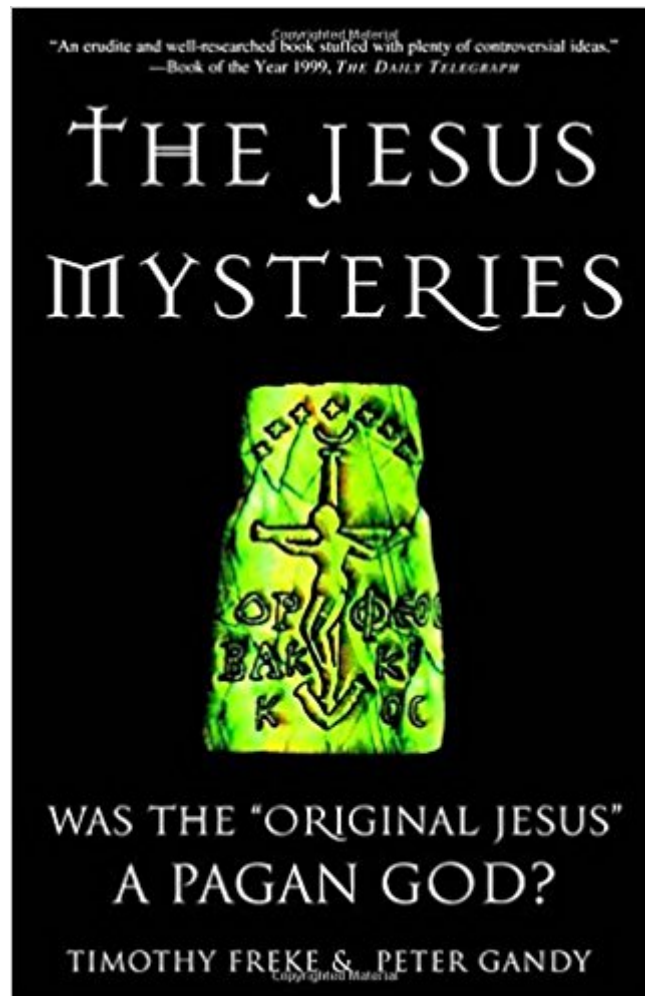




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The Jesus Mysteries: Was The "Original Jesus" A Pagan God?



Synopsis

“Whether you conclude that this book is the most alarming heresy of the millennium or the mother of all revelations, The Jesus Mysteries deserves to be read.” -- Fort Worth Star-Telegram

What if . . . * there were absolutely no evidence for the existence of a historical Jesus? * for thousands of years Pagans had also followed a Son of God? * this Pagan savior was also born of a virgin on the twenty-fifth of December before three shepherds, turned water into wine at a wedding, died and was resurrected, and offered his body and blood as a Holy Communion? * these Pagan myths had been rewritten as the gospel of Jesus Christ? * the earliest Gnostic Christians knew that the Jesus story was a myth? * Christianity turned out to be a continuation of Paganism by another name?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Freke (a philosopher and author of books on spirituality) and Gandy (who is studying classical civilization) believe that first century Jewish mystics adapted the potent symbolism of the Osiris-Dionysus myths into a myth of their own, the hero of which was the Jewish dying and resurrecting godman Jesus. Therefore, the story of Jesus is a consciously crafted vehicle for encoded spiritual teachings created by Jewish Gnostics. We are unaware of this, they claim, because the Roman Catholic Church destroyed evidence of the connection between Christianity and the pagan mysteries. They make their case by offering an examination of mystery religions, especially Greek, pointing out the many parallels between them and what they see as the Gospels!

message about Jesus. Freke and Gandy are familiar with a significant amount of recent biblical scholarship, though they rely mostly on Elaine Pagels's work on the Gnostics. This book will obviously be controversial, but the authors are quite informed, as demonstrated by their extensive notes and bibliography. A list of related web sites, a Who's Who, and an index add to the book's usefulness. Recommended as an important book in the debate on the historical Jesus."David Bourquin, California State Univ., San Bernardino Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

'Rarely have the roots of Christianity been disentangled to such disturbing effect. I shall never be able to read the gospels in the same way again.'ROGER BOULTON, presenter of Radio 4's The Sunday Programme`A provocative, exciting and challenging book.'The Rt Revd JOHN SHELBY SPONG, Bishop of Newark --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I have read and studied at various times during the last 40 plus years of my life the subjects of theology, the perennial philosophy and non dualistic metaphysics. I have just completed reading the Jesus Mysteries. I have already started reading Jesus and the Lost Goddess and plan to read The Laughing Jesus next. After having already read a number of good books about Gnosticism this book and Jesus and the Lost Goddess fills in much of the lost story of the origins of the early church in a concise yet in depth manner, style and context not found in most books on gnosticism even in the best ones. I find that this both does not overlook the mysticism of the first century while focusing on the mythological content of the early church movements. This is a vast subject and while one book may not completely satisfy it will be found to be, in my opinion both more than satisfactory for its intended purpose and satisfying enough that you may want to read the other two books by the same authors that I have listed above or even research some of the many books that the authors have identified as their source and/or reference books. These three books while they may have common threads to the books by DM Murdoch, a mythologist but not a mystic, will examine both sides of that proverbial and provocative coin of inexplicable and lost knowledge that was apparently prevalent during the formative years of the Christian church and contemporary movements. All three books are thoroughly foot noted and referenced in detail. Even so, the text of the book flows in a relatively easy to read yet educational and informative style. I can easily see why this book was so popular and so widely read following its initial publication.

This book proves Christianity is created by political purposes (Roman Catholic) and religious

purpose people. I gave up faith of Christianity that I believed all my life (74 yrs old) feels like a prisoner who freed out .of a life sentence. Appreciate to the writers.

Very informative. I was impressed by the amount of research that went into this. It seemed a bit biased by the end of the book but all in all it was a very interesting and enlightening read.

The Jesus Mysteries is a well-researched, well-written book comparing the stories of Jesus in the New Testament to Egyptian mystical teachings and other ancient teachings. For the open minded reader, it brings new insight into the Bible and the sayings and life of Jesus.

I had decided on my own long ago that Jesus was pure mythology, but it was refreshing to read a very well argued case, all the negative posters notwithstanding, showing exactly where this myth came from. I always found it humorous that all the ancient Greek & Roman "gods" were learned about in mythology classes, and yet our own mythology was somehow embraced as truth. Am I the only one who sees this readily apparent hypocrisy? Are there factual errors in the book? Probably... we're dealing with events that took place 2,000 years ago, so there is gonna be dispute among modern scholars. Is this the final book on the subject with all questions finally answered... no need to look further? No, that would be ridiculous... knowledge is a continuous journey; this book simply provides some keen insights into a history of Christianity probably much closer to the truth than the commonly accepted history. Are there kernels of truth scattered within these pages? Absolutely, to those who are concerned with truth, and not just seeing what they want to see. This is a life-changing book for those on the fence who read it with an open mind. Some people will never admit to what is readily obvious to others. History will ultimately show them in their self-deceptions. As to the negative reviews... well, what can you say.... some of the posters obviously didn't even read the book, others had their mind made up about it before they even read the book, and others make ample use of the 2,000 years of forged & specious evidence created by the church to shore up their arguments. None of the negative reviews have any real substance to their arguments; the only one that caught my eye before I read the book was part of "a reader from UK"'s post, as follows, QUOTE: "They explain how only seven of Paul's letters in the New Testament are genuine (arguable but reasonable) and that Acts is written too late to be reliable (ditto). But they then quote from some of the spurious letters (Ephesians and Colossians) and Acts to help make their own point that Paul was a gnostic! This is invalid and quite possibly dishonest." END QUOTE It's the Pastoral letters which are "universally regarded as fakes" and which they do NOT quote from, other than

showing the anti-gnosticism of them. 7 of the 13 are regarded as largely authentic, which leaves the other 6 which includes Ephesians and Colosians. The author of these letters is open to debate, but they are not considered complete fakes. They may very well have been penned in Paul's name by his disciples because they read very much like the original 7, but they could also be a combination of Paul's writings along with his disciples. The point that the authors were making is that ONLY in the Pastoral letters is Paul anti-gnostic and his other writings are very Gnostic-like, and the authors take quotes from all the "authentic" letters, both the 7 considered largely authentic and the 6 which are less authentic but in the same vein.> This is invalid and quite possibly dishonest. You strike me as intelligent, so I say you intentionally misconstrued their scholarship, which I consider dishonest. To those willing to challenge traditional beliefs & not be blinded by the deceptive light of the masses... read on; I think you'll find some of the clues you are looking for contained within these pages. Free your Mind!

This is (for me) an absolutely fascinating book. Extremely well written and cram packed with intriguing arguments ALL well referenced and most germane to Freke's argument. AND all at a great kindle price GO! Freke and well done ciao paul

Thank you; thank you very much

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