

Why Faith Matters David J Wolpe

Our world is growing increasingly complex and confused—a unique and urgent context that calls for a grounded and fresh approach to Christian higher education. Christian higher education involves a distinctive way of thinking about teaching, learning, scholarship, curriculum, student life, administration, and governance that is rooted in the historic Christian faith. In this volume, twenty-nine experts from a variety of fields, including theology, the humanities, science, mathematics, social science, philosophy, the arts, and professional programs, explore how the foundational beliefs of Christianity influence higher education and its disciplines. Aimed at equipping the next generation to better engage the shifting cultural context, this book calls students, professors, trustees, administrators, and church leaders to a renewed commitment to the distinctive work of Christian higher education—for the good of the society, the good of the church, and the glory of God.

"Join former NBC newsman and Meet the Press moderator David Gregory as he probes various religious traditions to better understand his own faith and answer life's most important questions: who do we want to be and what do we believe? While David was covering the White House, he had the unusual experience of being asked by President George W. Bush "How's your faith?" David's answer was just emerging. Raised by a Catholic mother and a Jewish dad, he had a strong sense of Jewish cultural and ethnic identity, but no real belief--until his marriage to a Protestant woman of strong faith inspired him to explore his spirituality for himself and his growing family. David's journey has taken him inside Christian mega-churches and into the heart of Orthodox Judaism. He's gone deep into Bible study and asked tough questions of America's most thoughtful religious leaders, including evangelical preacher Joel Osteen and Cardinal Timothy Dolan, the Catholic Archbishop of New York. It has brought him back to his childhood, where belief in God might have helped him through his mother's struggle with alcoholism, and through a difficult period of public scrutiny and his departure from NBC News, which saw his faith tested like never before. David approaches his faith with the curiosity and dedication you would expect from a journalist accustomed to holding politicians and Presidents accountable. But he also comes as a seeker, one just discovering why spiritual journeys are always worthwhile"--

"A profoundly inspiring yet practical guide to well-being from one of modern Judaism's most beloved sages. As a congregational rabbi for half a century and the bestselling author of *When Bad Things Happen to Good People* and twelve other books on faith, ethics, and how to translate the timeless wisdom of religious thought into dealing with everyday challenges, Harold Kushner knows a thing or two about living a good life. In this compassionate new work, Kushner distills nine essential lessons from the sum of his teaching, study and experience, offering a lifetime's worth of spiritual food for thought, pragmatic advice, inspiration for better living, and strength for trying times. With vital, original insights into everything from belief ("there is no commandment in Judaism to believe in God"), to conscience (the Garden of Eden story as you've never heard it), to mercy ("forgiveness is a favor you do yourself, not a favor to the person who offended you"), grounded in Kushner's brilliant readings of Scripture, history and popular culture, *Nine Essential Things I've Learned About Life* is a capstone addition to Kushner's oeuvre"--

A cold-case homicide detective helps Christians understand why it's important to develop a "forensic faith" and provides a unique template to help them become effective "Christian Case Makers." *Forensic Faith* will help readers: understand why they have a duty to defend the truth develop a training strategy to master the evidence for Christianity learn how to employ the techniques of a detective to discover new insights from God's Word become better communicators by learning the skills of professional case makers With real-life detective stories, fascinating strategies, and biblical insights, Wallace teaches readers cold-case investigative disciplines they can apply to their Christian faith. *Forensic Faith* is an engaging, fresh look at what it means to be a Christian.

Of all the figures in the Bible, David arguably stands out as the most perplexing and enigmatic. He was many things: a warrior who subdued Goliath and the Philistines; a king who united a nation; a poet who created beautiful, sensitive verse; a loyal servant of God who proposed the great Temple and founded the Messianic line; a schemer, deceiver, and adulterer who freely indulged his very human appetites. David Wolpe, whom *Newsweek* called "the most influential rabbi in America," takes a fresh look at biblical David in an attempt to find coherence in his seemingly contradictory actions and impulses. The author questions why David holds such an exalted place in history and legend, and then proceeds to unravel his complex character based on information found in the book of Samuel and later literature. What emerges is a fascinating portrait of an exceptional human being who, despite his many flaws, was truly beloved by God.

Based on groundbreaking Barna Group research, *unChristian* uncovers the negative perceptions young people have of Christianity and explores what can be done to reverse them.

"Throughout history, scientific discovery has interacted with religious belief, creating comment, controversy, and sometimes violent dispute. In this enlightening and accessible volume, distinguished historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Edward Larson joins forces with Michael Ruse, philosopher of science and Gifford Lecturer, to offer distinctive perspectives on the sometimes contentious, sometimes conciliatory, and always complex relationship between science and religion. The authors explore how scientists, philosophers, and theologians through time approached vitally important topics, including cosmology, geology, evolution, genetics, neurobiology, gender, and the environment. Broaching their subjects from both historical and philosophical perspectives and taking a global, cross-cultural approach, Larson and Ruse avoid rancor and polemic as they address many of the core issues currently under debate by the adherents of science and the advocates of faith. In so doing, they shed new light on the richly diverse field of ideas at the crossroads where science meets spiritual belief"--Jacket.

Is historical accuracy an indispensable part of the Bible's storyline, or is Scripture only concerned with theological truths? As progressive evangelicals threaten to reduce the Bible's jurisdiction by undermining its historical claims, every Christian who cares about the integrity of Scripture must be prepared to answer this question. *Do Historical Matters Matter to Faith?* offers a firm defense of Scripture's legitimacy and the theological implications of modern and postmodern approaches that teach otherwise. In this timely and timeless collection of essays, scholars from diverse areas of expertise lend strong arguments in support of the doctrine of inerrancy. Contributors explore how the specific challenges of history, authenticity, and authority are answered in the text of the Old and New Testaments as well as how the Bible is corroborated by philosophy and archaeology. With contributions from respected scholars—including Allan Millard, Craig Blomberg, Graham Cole, Michael Haykin, Robert Yarbrough, and Darrell Bock—*Do Historical Matters Matter to Faith?* arms Christians with fresh insight, arguments, and language with which to defend Scripture's historical accuracy against a culture and academy skeptical of those claims.

We are taught to study, to learn, and to let ourselves grow Jewishly. But where does being the people of the book get us

in the real world? David Wolpe's collection of essays responds to this question by exploring how Jewish values, such as scholarship and compassion, together with Jewish practice, enhance an individual's private and public life. How does Shabbat help deflect us from the pressures of the societal rat-race? How can Jewish learning subdue political unrest? Rabbi Wolpe draws the lessons of this collection from a variety of religious and historical sources, finding the importance of Israel in a Robert Frost poem, the nature of God in the words of Beowulf, and parenting lessons in the fatherly techniques of King David. The essays address diverse topics ranging from assimilation to Zionism to Jewish concepts of life and death. Rabbi Wolpe asks the questions, sometimes profound, sometimes light-hearted, that challenge us to consider how we live as Jews, how our Jewish lives are influenced by our secular surroundings, and how we can develop our Jewish souls by continuing to learn from new sources while remaining open to spiritual growth. Some of these questions include: Is it wrong to admire Kant, Voltaire, and Roald Dahl if they were anti-Semitic? How can we reconcile our American family traditions with our Jewish family traditions? In an evolutionary debate, do God and Steven Pinker stand behind opposite podiums? Do we need such a thing as a Jewish home? A Jewish homeland? Why does Walt Whitman think we should stay awake during the rabbi's sermon? What lessons of aging gracefully can we learn from Rabbi Akiba and Grandma Moses? An ideal gift for teachers, Confirmation students, grads, and new families that join the congregation.

Undressing Into Faith is a memoir of a woman finding the only true security we can in this ever-changing world an eternal home within ourselves. At the age of thirty-one, after twelve years living abroad, she returns to Israel as an affluent housewife and a mother of three small children. Bewilderment intertwined with deep loneliness and sadness pushes her to begin an inward journey through body and mind that strips her emotional and physical defences and opens her to faith and love. With candid and sometimes raw intimacy, the book describes the twists and turns her life takes over the course of three years. Subjects such as marriage, divorce, motherhood, female sexuality, freedom, independence, love, faith, and being true to oneself are all contemplated and acted upon throughout the book. By reconnecting to her feminine qualities of surrender, acceptance, and receptivity, she discovers life's magic.

In FROM DAVID WALKER TO BARACK OBAMA, Dr. Emma S. Etuk contends that well-known Ethiopianists have offered the inspiration for black freedom and must not be forgotten. Ethiopianists and Ethiopianism have little or nothing to do with the government or the country known today as Ethiopia in East Africa. Ethiopianists shared the common belief, hope, and faith in Africa as the land of their ancestors to which, by the grace of God, they would return as free people. They based their hope and faith in Africa upon a biblical text found in Psalm 68:31: Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God. Ethiopianism was the ideology, and Ethiopianists were the apostles of the ideology. In this study, Etuk offers studies of well-known Ethiopianists W. E. B. Du Bois, Marcus Garvey, Edward Blyden, Henry Garnet, Alexander Crummell, Bishop Henry Turner, Martin R. Delany, David Walker, and Frances E. W. Harper, the famed African American poet. Etuk, a professional historian, resurrects these names with a new perspective and argues that these men and women were the keepers of the African Dream. He provides an exhaustive record of their speeches, writings, and actions to provide a solid foundation for his thesis that Ethiopianists are the keepers of the African Dream.

Sharing a message of hope in difficult times, a rabbi explains how the inevitable appearance of loss in our lives can become a source of strength, faith, hope, meaning, and purpose rather than of despair.

On Faith is an inspiring collection of the late Supreme Court justice Antonin Scalia's reflections on his own faith, on the challenges that religious believers face in modern America, and on the religious freedoms protected by the Constitution. Featuring a personal introduction by Justice Scalia's son Father Paul Scalia, this volume will enrich every reader's understanding of the legendary justice. Antonin Scalia reflected deeply on matters of religion and shared his insights with many audiences over the course of his remarkable career. As a Supreme Court justice for three decades, he vigorously defended the American constitutional tradition of allowing religion a prominent place in the public square. As a man of faith, he recognized the special challenges of living a distinctively religious life in modern America, and he inspired other believers to meet those challenges. This volume contains Justice Scalia's incisive thoughts on these matters, laced with his characteristic wit. It includes outstanding speeches featured in Scalia Speaks and also draws from his Supreme Court opinions and his articles. In addition to the introduction by Fr. Scalia, other highlights include Fr. Scalia's beautiful homily at his father's funeral Mass and reminiscences from various friends and law clerks whose lives were influenced by Antonin Scalia's faith.

Provides the seven questions asked in the afterlife, for both believers and non-believers, that will help readers shape a life of purpose and meaning on Earth.

A perfect introduction to the connection between religious faith and physical and mental health! Faith, Medicine, and Science: A Festschrift in Honor of Dr. David B. Larson is a comprehensive collection of groundbreaking work from one of the principal figures in the establishment, expansion, and acceptance of scientific research at the interface of religion, spirituality, and health. Dr. Jeff Levin and Dr. Harold G. Koenig honor their late colleague with a retrospective of his writings on the impact of religious faith and identity on physical and mental health and on a variety of social issues, including criminal behavior, substance abuse, mental illness, juvenile delinquency, reproductive decisions, marital satisfaction, family functioning, and the quality of life. The book also features a concise history of the religion and health field, a biography of Dr. Larson, and tributes, essays, and remembrances from the leading figures in the field. Faith, Medicine, and Science honors Dr. Larson's role in raising awareness of the health effects of religious faith and his vision and efforts in establishing coursework on religion and spirituality within undergraduate and graduate medical education programs. His body of theoretical and empirical writings serves as a permanent record of the powerful role played by religion and spirituality, and his work stands as a lasting contribution to science, medicine, and society. These articles

combine with the book's supplemental features to provide social and behavioral scientists, medical researchers, and clinicians with an essential resource for clinical research and education. Topics examined in Faith, Medicine, and Science include: the religious life of alcoholics religion, spirituality, and mortality the impact of religion on men's blood pressure the systematic analysis of research on religious variables a systematic review of nursing home research religious affiliations in mental health research samples as compared with national samples the associations between dimensions of religious commitment and mental health and much more! Faith, Medicine, and Science: A Festschrift in Honor of Dr. David B. Larson documents the work of one of the most important writers on the interface of the human spirit and the healing arts. His death in 2002 at the age of 54 remains a profound loss, but through this book, his pioneering research will continue to serve as a thorough and accessible introduction to the religion and health field.

Book is accompanied by a Leader guide and DVD.

In this groundbreaking volume, J. Anderson Thomson, Jr., MD, with Clare Aukofer, offers a succinct yet comprehensive study of how and why the human mind generates religious belief. Dr. Thomson, a highly respected practicing psychiatrist with credentials in forensic psychiatry and evolutionary psychology, methodically investigates the components and causes of religious belief in the same way any scientist would investigate the movement of astronomical bodies or the evolution of life over time—that is, as a purely natural phenomenon. Providing compelling evidence from psychology, the cognitive neurosciences, and related fields, he, with Ms. Aukofer, presents an easily accessible and exceptionally convincing case that god(s) were created by man—not vice versa. With this slim volume, Dr. Thomson establishes himself as a must-read thinker and leading voice on the primacy of reason and science over superstition and religion.

In a work of remarkable clarity and wisdom, Rabbi Wolpe confronts a central dilemma of modern Judaism, combining his deep knowledge of ancient tradition with modern sensibilities to show contemporary Jews that God still speaks to them—to their daily struggles, angers, fears, and needs, offering comfort and inspiration.

The university world can be a confusing place, filled with many competing worldviews and perspectives. Beliefs and values are challenged at every turn. But Christians need not slip into the morass of easy relativism. David Horner restores sanity to the collegiate experience with this guide to thinking and flourishing as a Christian. Carefully exploring how ideas work, he gives you essential tools for thinking contextually, thinking logically and thinking worldviewishly. Here Horner meets you where faith and reason intersect and explores how to handle doubts, with an eye toward not just thinking clearly but also living faithfully. This is the book every college freshman needs to read. Don't leave home without it.

Addresses modern-world questions about the Christian religion and its tenets, drawing on historical events and present-day anecdotes to illustrate its joyful aspects while explaining the faith's embrace of the example and message of Jesus.

Why Faith MattersHarperOne

A renowned scientist and author combines decades of scientific research and biblical study to present a groundbreaking new paradigm of how to understand God.

In an interview with Christianity Today in 2012, Ed Stetzer shared that according to LifeWay research among young adults who had attended church regularly for at least a year in high school, 70% stop attending regularly for at least a year between ages 18-22. However, 35% of these had returned to attending twice a month or more by the time they were surveyed for the study. This means that about 4 out of 10 kids leave the church and NEVER RETURN. Here is how leading experts describe our church kids today: They are unarmed and incapable of defending their faith. They possess a faith that cannot withstand the scrutiny of trials or intellectual questions. They have a shallow belief system. They lack a robust faith. They haven't learned how to think. They are embarrassingly ignorant of our faith. Truth Matters is written directly to this audience, arming them with well-reasoned responses to the accusations that are most likely to appear in their lives, either as upcoming lecture notes and test questions or as inner qualms and questions. Things like: What gives the Bible any authority or credibility? Where is God in a world full of suffering? Why should Christianity be any more believable than any other religious system? And many, many more. Easy to read yet loaded with meat and substance, this book is a level-headed reaction to those who equate Christian faith with "blind faith," even those whose subtle or stated goal is to separate students from their religious traditions. Readers will discover the kind of historical information and thinking skills that build a sturdy backbone of confidence in high schoolers and young adults, making them able to defend by "reasoned faith" what the Bible claims as truth. Loosely organized around the theological skepticism of New York Times bestselling author (and southern college educator) Bart Ehrman, this jam-packed counterclaim is a book that parents will want to buy for their kids, a book that youth and student leaders will want to work through one-on-one and in discipleship groups—a book that could prove a lifesaver for young minds and hearts everywhere.

Many parents find it easier to talk to their children about sex and other intimate matters than to answer questions about God, prayer, good, and evil. In fact, parents may feel they don't know the answers to such questions for themselves, much less for their young children. In Teaching Your Children About God, Rabbi David Wolpe shows Jewish parents how to openly explore the idea of God with their children. Through poignant anecdotes and practical exercises, Wolpe teaches how parents can guide children in the practice of prayer and create an atmosphere in which children feel comfortable questioning and wondering about God, life, and death. Wolpe also offers invaluable insights into children's spiritual needs, reveals the powerful effect faith can have on a child's self-esteem, and enables parents to understand their children's fears, dreams, and hopes. Perhaps most important, this wise and potentially life-changing book shows parents who may feel something missing in their own spiritual lives that it is possible to nourish their own souls even as they nurture their children's.

Based on extensive inside sources, including exclusive interviews with the President and Vice President, The Faith of Donald J. Trump explores his rarely discussed, but deeply important, religious beliefs and relationships with leading Evangelicals. The Chief Political Correspondent for the Christian Broadcasting Network and the "Jesus in the Public Square" columnist for the Washington Times explore the rarely discussed, but deeply important, religious beliefs and worldview of Donald J. Trump and his advisors. Donald J. Trump was raised as a Presbyterian and has praised both Christianity and the primacy of the Bible. In the Oval Office, he has surrounded himself with close advisors who share his deep faith. In this deeply reported book, David Brody and Scott Lamb draw on unparalleled access to the White House to explain President Trump's connection to the Christian faith, the evangelical right, the prosperity gospel, and the pressing

moral and ethical issues of our day. In part, the authors argue, President Trump won over evangelicals not by pandering to them, but by supporting them and all their most important issues without pretending to be something he's not. Though the forty-fifth president is far from the perfect vessel—he has been married three times—his supporters argue that Donald Trump may be just what America needs. This book reveals how he has surrounded himself with believers who think he is the one guiding figure who can return us to the traditional values—hard work, discipline, duty, respect, and faith—that have long been the foundation of American life, and truly make America great again in all ways.

Do you have a real relationship with God, or do you just have a religion? Do you know God, or do you just know about God? In *How Big Is Your God?* Paul Coutinho, SJ, challenges us to grow stronger and deeper in our faith and in our relationship with God—a God whose love knows no bounds. To help us on our way, Coutinho introduces us to people in various world religions—from Hindu friends to Buddhist teachers to St. Ignatius of Loyola—who have shaped his spiritual life and made possible his deep, personal relationship with God.

An In-Depth, Theologically-Rich Study of the Book of Jude In a culture of subjectivity and "speaking your truth," we need to know how to lovingly fight for our biblically-based, truth-filled faith. That's where Jude comes in. With a striking combination of humility, genuine love, doctrinal faithfulness, and directness, the biblical writer Jude teaches you how to treasure the gifts of salvation, the faith, the Church, and—most of all—Jesus Christ. By unpacking Jude's meaning-laden words, we can learn to keep ourselves for Christ, even as Christ is ably keeping us for Himself. You'll be amazed at how much you can learn as you walk verse-by-verse through this small epistle. You'll learn: Why Jude uses metaphors like waterless clouds and wild waves What was going on in Jude's time theologically and why it matters Why the warning passages can be a deep comfort to the believer To appreciate new dimensions of your belonging in Christ Get to know the oft-neglected voice of Jude, be comforted and challenged in your faith, and build community as you gather friends and study His Word together in *Keeping the Faith*.

This is a memoir presented in an anthological - like format; in other words, a collection of short stories, on the life of the author. It starts when he was growing up in the Philippine countryside of Ilocos Sur province. Just like a normal kid, he played with his friends, did crazy things, went to school and moved to Manila, for his college education. He got married while in fifth year college, but still graduated on time. This book relates his struggles, failures, as well as successes, including his coming to America. Searching for the American Dream was no picnic either, but with perseverance, he achieved some of them in modest ways. Foreigners planning to immigrate to the great ol' USA could get glimpses, on what it takes, to come and live in America.

In a series of moving meditations, the author of *The Jewish Spectator* probes the spiritual uses of prayer and looks at a subject as ancient as the tradition that embraces it and as modern as the universal need to connect. "Eloquent and impassioned".--Harold S. Kushner.

Heartfelt stories of everyday people that inspire us to challenge life's peaks and pitfalls--and begin our own journeys of spiritual and personal growth.

Why Faith Matters is an articulate defense of religion in America. It makes the case for faith and shows its relationship to history and science. Refuting the cold reason of atheists and the hatred of fanatics with a vision of religion informed by faith, love, and understanding, Rabbi David J. Wolpe follows in a literary tradition that stretches from Cardinal Newman to C. S. Lewis to Thomas Merton—individuals of faith who brought religion and culture together in their own works. Wolpe takes readers through the origins and nature of faith, the role of the Bible in modern life, and the compatibility of God and science, concluding with a powerful argument for the place of God, faith, and religion in today's world.

A powerful and challenging examination of what Jews believe today; by a new generation; a dynamic and innovative thinkers. New in Paperback! At every critical juncture in Jewish history, Jews have understood a dynamic theology to be essential for a vital Jewish community. This important collection sets the next stage of Jewish theological thought, bringing together a cross section of interesting new voices from all movements in Judaism to inspire and stimulate discussion now and in the years to come. Provocative and wide-ranging, these invigorating and creative insights from a new generation; a thought leaders provide a coherent and inspiring picture of Jewish belief in our time. The passionate voices of a new generation of Jewish thinkers continue the dialogue with God, examining the dynamics of what Jews can believe today. They explore: ; A dynamic God in process ; The canon of Jewish literature and its potential to be both contemporary and authentic to tradition ; Critical terms and categories for discussing Jewish theology ; The ongoing nature of the Jewish search for God ; Ruptures within the modern Jewish condition ; And much more

"All beginnings require that you unlock new doors."--Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav In this short and inspiring text, Rabbi David J. Wolpe addresses all who seek to enlarge the spiritual side of their lives. For those considering a return to the faith of their forebears, for those drawn to conversion, *Why Be Jewish?* is a learned, graceful, and welcoming introduction beckoning readers into the heart of this venerable and enduring religion.

In this bestselling work of spiritual advice, the beloved author shows how even our smallest daily actions can become stepping steps toward integrity. Drawing on the stories of his own congregants, on literature, current events and, above all, on the Biblical story of Jacob (the worldly trickster who evolves into a man of God), Rabbi Harold S. Kushner—author of *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*—addresses some of the most persistent dilemmas of the human condition: Why do decent people so often violate their moral standards? How can we pursue justice without giving in to the lure of revenge? How can we turn our relationships with family and friends into genuine sources of meaning? Persuasive and sympathetic, filled with humanity and warmth, *Living a Life That Matters* is a deeply rewarding book.

Dr. James Fowler has asked these questions, and others like them, of nearly six hundred people. He has talked with men, women, and children of all ages, from four to eighty-eight, including Jews, Catholics, Protestants, agnostics, and atheists. In many cases, the interviews became in-depth conversations that provided rare, intimate glimpses into the various ways our lives have meaning and purpose, windows into what this books calls faith. Faith, as approached here, is not necessarily religious, nor is it to be

equated with belief. Rather, faith is a person's way of leaning into and making sense of life. More verb than noun, faith is the dynamic system of images, values, and commitments that guide one's life. It is thus universal: everyone who chooses to go on living operated by some basic faith. Building on the contributions of such key thinkers as Piaget, Erikson, and Kohlberg, Fowler draws on a wide range of scholarship, literature, and firsthand research to present expertly and engagingly the six stages that emerge in working out the meaning of our lives--from the intuitive, imitative faith of childhood through conventional and then more independent faith to the universalizing, self-transcending faith of full maturity. *Stages of Faith* helps us to understand our own pilgrimage of faith, the passages of our own quest for meaning and value.

What does a Christianity constructed upon and pervaded by a theology of God's unconditional love look like? Aimed at a wide audience, *A Faith Worth Living* provides one portrait. Chuck Queen weaves together biblical interpretations, theological reflections, and spiritual observations drawn from stories, movies, literature, and common life experiences in his argument for an inclusive Christianity. In a simple, though scholarly informed style, he addresses Christians, students of religion, and spiritual seekers. Key elements of the presentation include: a transformative faith (holistic and non-dualistic), God's dream for the world (kingdom theology), Jesus' nonviolent atonement, the church as a kingdom community, universal salvation (judgment and the cosmic Christ), acceptance of other religious traditions, and the dynamics of a radical discipleship to the way of Jesus.

Christopher Hitchens, described in the *London Observer* as "one of the most prolific, as well as brilliant, journalists of our time" takes on his biggest subject yet--the increasingly dangerous role of religion in the world. In the tradition of Bertrand Russell's *Why I Am Not a Christian* and Sam Harris's recent bestseller, *The End Of Faith*, Christopher Hitchens makes the ultimate case against religion. With a close and erudite reading of the major religious texts, he documents the ways in which religion is a man-made wish, a cause of dangerous sexual repression, and a distortion of our origins in the cosmos. With eloquent clarity, Hitchens frames the argument for a more secular life based on science and reason, in which hell is replaced by the Hubble Telescope's awesome view of the universe, and Moses and the burning bush give way to the beauty and symmetry of the double helix.

Draws on three national surveys on religion, as well as research conducted by congregations across the United States, to examine the profound impact it has had on American life and how religious attitudes have changed in recent decades.

From earliest times humanity has sought to understand its place and role in the world, has sought for meaning. Wherever human beings are to be found myth, and extra-historical record of who we are, has always played a vital role in this regard. Traditional religion, by comparison, has only emerged in the last 2,500 years. This book summarizes the history of man's religious endeavors, and shows how much of religion, over time, has anything but aided its followers in their journey through life. Because traditional religion is failing to meet our spiritual needs, people are moving from heteronomy to autonomy as they assume responsibility for their own journeys. A continuing survey, begun at the turn of the century, reveals that 36 percent of the participants believe that the American dream is achieved through spiritual fulfillment. A never ending stream of articles, in a variety of journals, bear witness to the this trend, as well as to the many new means now exercised in order to nourish one's spirituality. The relevance of myth has been renewed while that of religion is in decline in the West. Martin Luther's pronouncement, "Every man is a priest," is becoming a fact.

A thought-provoking, original appraisal of the meaning of religion by the host of public radio's *On Being* Krista Tippett, widely becoming known as the Bill Moyers of radio, is one of the country's most intelligent and insightful commentators on religion, ethics, and the human spirit. With this book, she draws on her own life story and her intimate conversations with both ordinary and famous figures, including Elie Wiesel, Karen Armstrong, and Thich Nhat Hanh, to explore complex subjects like science, love, virtue, and violence within the context of spirituality and everyday life. Her way of speaking about the mysteries of life--and of listening with care to those who endeavor to understand those mysteries--is nothing short of revolutionary.

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