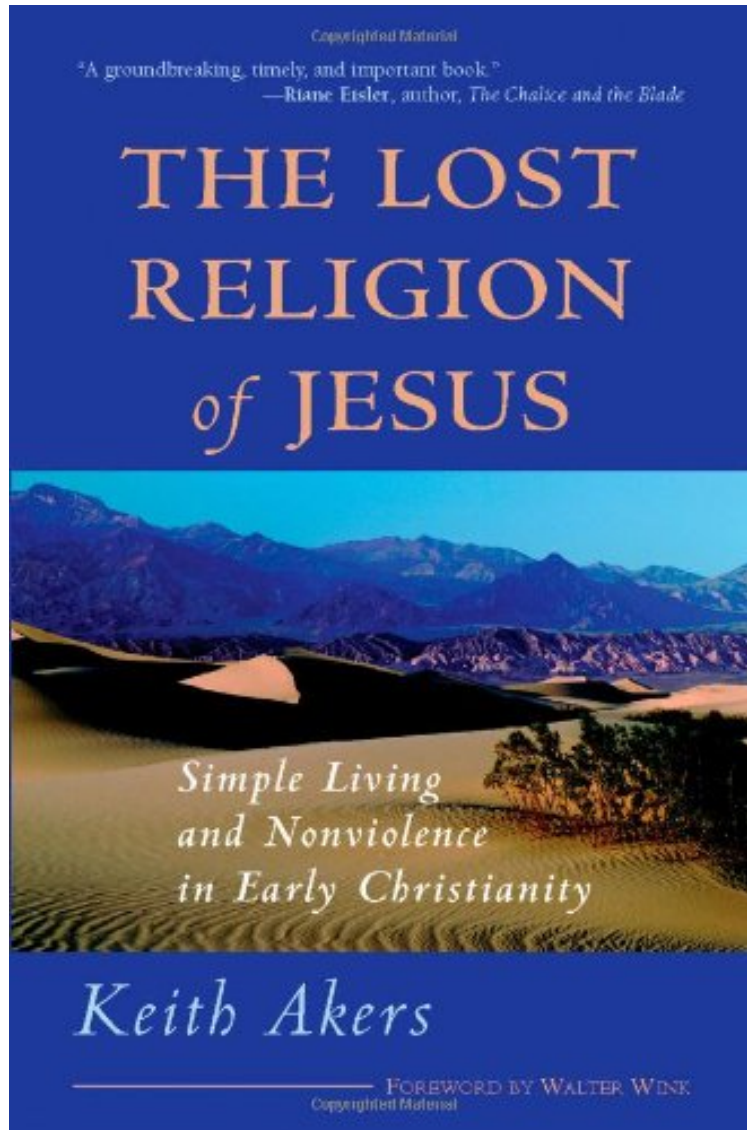


(Free download) The Lost Religion of Jesus: Simple Living and Nonviolence in Early Christianity

The Lost Religion of Jesus: Simple Living and Nonviolence in Early Christianity

Keith Akers

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Keith Akers : The Lost Religion of Jesus: Simple Living and Nonviolence in Early Christianity before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Lost Religion of Jesus: Simple Living and Nonviolence in Early Christianity:

11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. A compelling book providing a challenging perspectiveBy Richard JonesThis book shows a more than acceptable level of scholarship from an author outside the field and is a

well written easy read. The essential premise is logically, progressively and compellingly advanced if perhaps coming across as something of an oversimplification: I was left with a sense that while wanting to accept the arguments of the book, a comfortable secure western twenty first century perspective might be imposing a lens on actual causes and motivations back in the first. In drawing attention to a wrong turn taken by the evolving Christian religion away from the actual teachings and nature of Jesus, the author does come across as having his own agenda to push - the avocation of a vegetarian lifestyle. I had a sense of the book being used to justify and advance this from a historical religious perspective, not too surprisingly perhaps given the authors position as displayed by his other work. This feeling appeared to be born out by the authors closing words. I support and endorse his sentiments, but can't help feeling that a little optimistic wishful thinking might have hung over the analysis. With the rise of right wing religious conservatism and the larger picture of global problems such as climate change, the widening gap between rich and poor etc. I recommend this book for providing easy access to valid alternate perspectives in the secular/religious debate and for raising the suggestion of a historical justification for other paths and personal choices. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The original teachings of Jesus Christ By Srikanth A book that every minister, priest and also Pope Francis should read. A return to the original teachings of Jesus, mentioned in "The lost religion of Jesus", would solve many problems in the world today: Climate change, pollution, cruelty against animals and people, deforestation, health issues, poverty, addictions, world hunger, you name it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Must Read Book for Those Looking for Better Answers By P. J. Miller I love this book! It's full of so many new insights and makes so much sense to me. The author has definitely done his homework as far as references are concerned. I enjoyed reading the references that were left out of the Christian Bible. I didn't even know some of these texts existed until I read the book. I consider it a must read for anyone who is ready to update and move out of the programming we received when we arrived on the planet.

Jesus' preaching was first and foremost about simple living, pacifism, and vegetarianism; he never intended to create a new religion separate from Judaism. Moreover, Jesus' radical Jewish ethics, rather than a new theology, distinguished him and his followers from other Jews. It was the earliest followers of Jesus, the Jewish Christians, who understood Jesus better than any of the gentile Christian groups, which are the spiritual ancestors of modern Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox churches. In this detailed and accessible study, Keith Akers uncovers the history of Jewish Christianity from its origins in the Essenes and John the Baptist, through Jesus, until its disappearance into Islamic mysticism sometime in the seventh or eighth century. Akers argues that only by really understanding this mysterious and much misunderstood strand of early Christianity can we get to the heart of the radical message of Jesus of Nazareth.

"An accessible and wide-ranging treatment of the issues, biblical and otherwise, that surround the question of Ebionite Christianity and the role vegetarianism may have had in the early church." --Clay Testament About the Author Keith Akers is the author of A Vegetarian Sourcebook: The Nutrition, Ecology, and Ethics of a Natural Foods Diet. He has been involved with various vegetarian groups for over a quarter of a century, and currently runs the group Denver Vegans. He lives in Denver, Colorado with his wife, author Kate Lawrence.