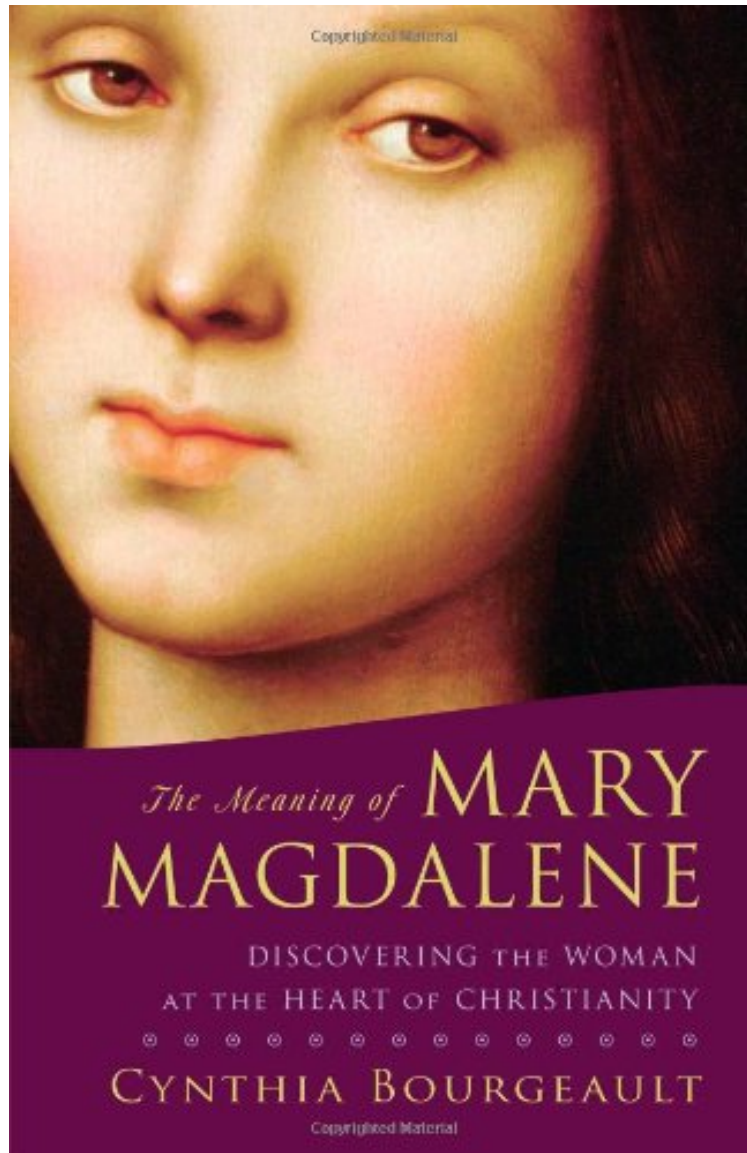


(Free) The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity

The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity

Cynthia Bourgeault

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Cynthia Bourgeault : The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Meaning of Mary Magdalene: Discovering the Woman at the Heart of Christianity:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very Worthwhile. I enjoyed it. By William J. Fallon I enjoyed this.

Lots of information, well sourced, nice conversational style. The concentration is on Mary's role as one of Christ's disciplines, not as a lover or a reformed whore. My only complaint would be the cover portrait looks more like the Mona Lisa than what I imagine Mary Magdalene actually looked like. Maybe she WAS a babe, but that's not what this book is about. Bring forth what is in you and it will save you. Got it. Read the book, methinks you'll enjoy it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting even if you can't swallow her conclusions. By Silver Spring Dave She has an interesting perspective that is worthy of consideration and reflection. Her style appeals to different readers in our church's small group found. However, at times she uses one scholar's interpretation and then proceeds to base her argument upon it as if the matter was definitively settled among all biblical and religious history scholars. This gave the impression that she was trying too hard to be convincing rather than let the reader draw his or her own conclusions. Moreover, her emphasis on the role of Mary Magdalene had the unfortunate effect of minimizing the importance of other women in the formation of the early Church. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A bright morning star for a new age of the Christian faith. By John C. Earp I've found a spiritual home in the writing and research of this sainted woman. She writes for the more advanced student, one who is not necessarily looking for the salacious or the scandalous, but the one who is nourished by the search and who is comforted by the still, deep waters. Her hermeneutic is certainly not one that they present in seminary, but her intuitive gift for deftly connecting the almost-connected dots, and for knowing exactly where to scratch the most itchy of curiosities has endeared her to both my heart and spirit.

Mary Magdalene is one of the most influential symbols in the history of Christianity, yet, if you look in the Bible, you'll find only a handful of verses that speak of her. How did she become such a compelling saint in the face of such paltry evidence? In her effort to answer that question, Cynthia Bourgeault examines the Bible, church tradition, art, legend, and newly discovered texts to see what's there. She then applies her own reasoning and intuition, informed by the wisdom of the ages-old Christian contemplative tradition. What emerges is a radical view of Mary Magdalene as Jesus's most important disciple, the one he considered to understand his teaching best. That teaching was characterized by a nondualistic approach to the world and by a deep understanding of the value of the feminine. Cynthia shows how an understanding of Mary Magdalene can revitalize contemporary Christianity, how Christians and others can, through her, find their way to Jesus's original teachings and apply them to their modern lives.

A spiritual masterpiece, and by far the wisest and most profound book ever written on Mary Magdalene. Andrew Harvey, author of *Son of Man and Hope: A Guide to Sacred Action* A remarkable invitation into the origins and wisdom of Christianity, through the apostolic witness of Mary Magdalene. Expect a challenge, perhaps more than you're ready for. This book should change something, as it invites you to deepen your capacity for love, through the witness of Jesus's beloved disciple. The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schiori, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church It takes courage, intelligence, maturity, but mostly Christian intuitive wisdom to write a book such as this. Cynthia Bourgeault succeeds grandly! Richard Rohr, OFM, author of *The Naked Now: Learning to See as the Mystics See* Pastor, scholar, mystic . . . Cynthia Bourgeault is all of these, but never before has she combined them so compellingly and persuasively, and dare one say it? so efficaciously as here in this work that lives so close to the center of her own being. Phillis Tickle, author of *The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why* Bourgeault masterfully takes the best of tradition, history, and recent scholarship, sums it up with clarity, and then respectfully and artfully flings open new doors of insight, wisdom, and possibility. She offers completely unique and stirring insights about Mary Magdalene. *Presence: An International Journal of Spiritual Direction* This is not simply another book on Mary Magdalene along the lines of Dan Brown or the Holy Blood/Holy Grail authors. Yes, Cynthia Bourgeault, an Episcopal priest, is making an argument about the relationship between Magdalene and Jesus, an argument that is certainly controversial, and in lesser hands has been badly distorted. However, Bourgeault does it in a way that is grounded both spiritually and academically. *Parabola* About the Author Cynthia Bourgeault, PhD, is an Episcopal priest, teacher, and retreat and conference leader. She is the author of several books, including *Chanting the Psalms* and *Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening*.