

## Yeshua Ancient Mysteries Retold

This work argues that the author of the Gospel of Matthew structures his work as a Bios or biography of Jesus, so as to encapsulate, in narrative form, the essence of his theological understanding of God's Basileia (sovereign rule), as proclaimed and taught in the teaching and healing mission of Jesus. Evidence for this is found in Matthew's careful use of structural markers to divide his story of Jesus into significant thematic sub-sections in which he uses a series of Basileia logia at incisive points to highlight aspects of Jesus' teaching and healing mission. In this way, Matthew is able to portray Jesus, as God's promised Messiah, who instructs his disciples through discourse and narrative, hence in word and example, in the nature and demands of God's sovereign rule. By structuring his Gospel as a story, Matthew depicts Jesus giving instructions to his disciples and also instructs the readers of the text. Hence, Matthew's Gospel becomes a manual of instruction on the nature and demands of God's sovereignty. Its purpose is to ensure that not only the members of the Matthean community, but all future disciples of Jesus are competently trained to carry out Jesus' commission: "Go therefore and disciple all the nations ..." (28:19-20). In this way, the good news of God's saving presence is proclaimed to all the nations until God's eschatological reign is finally established. LNTS 308

When world-class biblical scholar Bart Ehrman first began to study the texts of the Bible in their original languages he was startled to discover the multitude of mistakes and intentional alterations that had been made by earlier translators. In *Misquoting Jesus*, Ehrman tells the story behind the mistakes and changes that ancient scribes made to the New Testament and shows the great impact they had upon the Bible we use today. He frames his account with personal reflections on how his study of the Greek manuscripts made him abandon his once ultraconservative views of the Bible. Since the advent of the printing press and the accurate reproduction of texts, most people have assumed that when they read the New Testament they are reading an exact copy of Jesus's words or Saint Paul's writings. And yet, for almost fifteen hundred years these manuscripts were hand copied by scribes who were deeply influenced by the cultural, theological, and political disputes of their day. Both mistakes and intentional changes abound in the surviving manuscripts, making the original words difficult to reconstruct. For the first time, Ehrman reveals where and why these changes were made and how scholars go about reconstructing the original words of the New Testament as closely as possible. Ehrman makes the provocative case that many of our cherished biblical stories and widely held beliefs concerning the divinity of Jesus, the Trinity, and the divine origins of the Bible itself stem from both intentional and accidental alterations by scribes -- alterations that dramatically affected all subsequent versions of the Bible.

A stunning story of Holy Week through the eyes of a Roman centurion Watch the triumphal entry of the donkey-riding king through the eyes of Marcus Longinus, the centurion charged with keeping the streets from erupting into open rebellion. Look behind the scenes at the political plotting of King Herod, known as the scheming Fox for his ruthless shrewdness. Get a front-row seat to the confrontation between the Jewish high priest Caiaphas and the Roman governor Pontius Pilate. Understand as never before the horror of the decision to save a brutal terrorist in order to condemn the peaceful Jew to death. If you've heard the story of Passion Week so often it's become stale, now is the time to rediscover the terrible events leading from Jesus's humble ride into the city to his crucifixion. *The Soldier Who Killed a King* will stun you afresh with how completely Christ's resurrection changed history, one life at a time.

Israel's story is the church's story. In this integrative introduction to the New Testament, G. K. Beale and Benjamin L. Gladd explore each New Testament book in light of the broad history of redemption, emphasizing the biblical-theological themes of each New Testament book. Their distinctive approach encourages readers to read the New Testament in light of the Old, not as a new story but as a story retold.

Throughout the history of Christianity, there have been theological disputes that caused fissures among the faithful. There were the major ruptures of the Great Schism of 1054 and the Protestant Reformation. Since the Reformation, though, there has been an eruption of new denominations. The World Christian Database now list over 9000 worldwide. And new denominations are created every day, often when a group splits off from an established church because of a dispute over doctrine or leadership. With such a proliferation of denominations, could there possibly be one core Christian message that all churches share? That's the question that Ted Campbell sets out to answer in this book. He begins his examination of Christian doctrine where it started: in the gospels. He then shows how the gospel has been received and professed by Christian communities through the centuries, from the first "proto-Orthodox" Christian communities right through the modern evangelical, Pentecostal, and ecumenical movements. Campbell shows that, despite all the divisions, there is indeed a single unifying core of the faith that all Christians share. In the process, he offers a brief, well-written, and acceptable history of Christian doctrine that will be ideal for courses in the history of Christian thought.

In the spirit of Ludolph of Saxony (c. 1295–1378) and Ignatius of Loyola (1491–1556), *The Fourfold Gospel* invites the reader into the mystery of God's redemption in Jesus Christ. All the parallel passages in the Gospels are glossed together, along with the unique material, using a medieval interpretive approach called the Quadriga or the acronym PaRDeS in Hebrew. Meditating on the literal, canonical, moral, and theological senses of Scripture offers a scaffolding for the spiritual formation of the reader. This volume focuses on the summoning and purgative stage of discipleship—the Sermon on the Mount—as well as participating in Christ's healing of creation.

'Our contemporaries – who wish to keep to a narrow-minded and superficial outlook, are annoyed to find that spiritual science continually seeks the whole picture – that it has to create a bridge between the body and the soul, and truly explores how the psyche becomes corporeal and the body becomes psychological.' How do the soul and the spirit live in human physical bodies? In our materialistic age, in which the very existence of the metaphysical is widely rejected, such questions are rarely posed let alone addressed. In this exceptional series of lectures, Rudolf Steiner speaks in scientific detail about the connection of the subtle aspects of human nature – our soul and spirit – to our physical constitution. At the heart of this course are the well-loved 'Bridge' lectures, which appear in English for the first time in their wider context. Steiner discusses the solid, fluid, air and warmth bodies, and how these are connected with the various ethers, the 'I' and human blood. He goes on to describe how ideals and ideas impact the various aspects of the human constitution – how morality is a source of 'world creativity'– with moral thinking imbuing life into substance and will. Moral ideas have a positive effect, he says, whereas theoretical ones have a negative impact. In the realm of the moral, a new natural world comes into being, and thus the moral order and the natural order are intertwined. This volume also features Steiner's classic lecture on the Isis legend and its renewal today as divine wisdom – Sophia. Other themes

include the mystery of Christ as the connection between the spiritual and physical sun; the permeation of the life of thought with will (love) and permeation of the life of will with thoughts (wisdom); the path to freedom and love and their importance in the universe; the metamorphosis of head and limbs through successive lives on earth; the threefold nature of the human form (head, thorax, limbs), the threefold nature of the soul (thinking, feeling, will) and the threefold nature of the spirit (waking, dreaming, sleeping).

The earliest of the four Gospels, the book portrays Jesus as an enigmatic figure, struggling with enemies, his inner and external demons, and with his devoted but disconcerted disciples. Unlike other gospels, his parables are obscure, to be explained secretly to his followers. With an introduction by Nick Cave

The earliest substantive sources available for historical Jesus research are in the Gospels themselves; when interpreted in their early Jewish setting, their picture of Jesus is more coherent and plausible than are the competing theories offered by many modern scholars. So argues Craig Keener in *The Historical Jesus of the Gospels*. In exploring the depth and riches of the material found in the Synoptic Gospels, Keener shows how many works on the historical Jesus emphasize just one aspect of the Jesus tradition against others, but a much wider range of material in the Jesus tradition makes sense in an ancient Jewish setting. Keener masterfully uses a broad range of evidence from the early Jesus traditions and early Judaism to reconstruct a fuller portrait of the Jesus who lived in history.

A thought-provoking retelling of the Gospel story from an atheist perspective. Upon its hardcover publication, renowned author Philip Pullman's *The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ* provoked heated debates and stirred a frenzy of controversy throughout the clerical and literary worlds alike with its bold retelling of the life of Jesus Christ. In this remarkable piece of fiction, famously atheistic author Philip Pullman challenges the events of the Gospels and puts forward his own compelling and plausible version of the life of Jesus. Written with unstinting authority, *The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ* is a pithy, erudite, subtle, and powerful book by a beloved author, a text to be read and reread, studied and unpacked, much like the *Good Book* itself. "The erudite fantasy author, Philip Pullman, makes explicit his complaint against Christian dogma with [this] challenging deconstruction of the Gospels." —*Entertainment Weekly* "Inspiring . . . Again and again, [Pullman] displays a marvelous sense of the elemental power of Jesus's instructions and parables." —*The Washington Post*

In this book, Catherine Sider Hamilton introduces a new lens through which to view the death of Jesus in Matthew. Using the concept of 'innocent blood', she situates the death of Jesus within a paradigm of purity and pollution, one that was central in the Hebrew Scriptures and early Judaism from the Second Temple to the rabbis. Hamilton traces the theme of innocent blood in Matthew's narrative in relation to two Jewish traditions of interpretation, one (in Second Temple literature) reflecting on the story of Cain and Abel; the other (chiefly in rabbinic literature) on the blood of Zechariah. 'Innocent blood' yields a vision that resists the dichotomies (intra muros vs extra muros, rejection vs redemption) that have characterized the debate, a vision in which both judgment and redemption - an end of exile - may be true. 'Innocent blood' offers a new approach not only to the meaning of Jesus' death in Matthew but also to the vexed question of the Gospel's attitude toward contemporary Judaism.

YeshuaThe King, The Demon and the TraitorAuthentic Media Inc

In a world where children are probably more familiar with Harry Potter than Jesus, it's often hard to encourage them to read the Bible in its traditional form. YHWH introduces the wonderful Bible stories to them in a way that captures their imagination. YHWH is based on Scripture but adds description and allegory to make the stories come alive. The project is supported by Walk Through the Bible Ministries who teach the Bible to over 40,000 school children each year. It makes an great evangelism tool and gift for young people unfamiliar with the classic Bible narratives.

The Dictionary of the Bible and Ancient Media is a convenient and authoritative reference tool, introducing specific terms and concepts helpful to the study of the Bible and related literature in ancient communications culture. Since the early 1980s, biblical scholars have begun to explore the potentials of interdisciplinary theories of oral tradition, oral performance, personal and collective memory, ancient literacy and scribality, visual culture and ritual. Over time these theories have been combined with considerations of critical and exegetical problems in the study of the Bible, the history of Israel, Christian origins, and rabbinics. The Dictionary of the Bible and Ancient Media responds to the rapid growth of the field by providing a source of reference that offers clear definitions, and in-depth discussions of relevant terms and concepts, and the relationships between them. The volume begins with an overview of 'ancient media studies' and a brief history of research to orient the reader to the field and the broader research context of the book, with individual entries on terms and topics commonly encountered in studies of the Bible in ancient media culture. Each entry defines the term/ concept under consideration, then offers more sustained discussion of the topic, paying particular attention to its relevance for the study of the Bible and related literature

New York Times Best Seller! Over 2,700 5-Star Reviews From the author that brought you NEW YORK TIMES best sellers *The Book of Mysteries*, *The Harbinger*, and *The Paradigm* with over 3 MILLION copies sold "Rabbi Jonathan Cahn is a Jewish prophet who has been chosen to reveal end-time mysteries—vital material to put the last-days puzzle together!" —Sid Roth | Host, *It's Supernatural!* "The Mystery of the Shemitah is a detailed, compelling, and provocative book for anyone seeking answers to the future of America and the world." —Marcus D. Lamb | Founder, president, Daystar Television Network "The Mystery of the Shemitah is the most amazing thing I have ever read! Brilliant and stunning . . . sobering . . . humbling . . . it is undeniable truth. It is one of the most important books of our lifetime!" —Joseph Farah | Founder, WND ? The Shemitah occurs every seven years. Has God already given us clues as to WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

In this fascinating "CSI-style" investigation, Murdock, author of the controversial book "The Christ Conspiracy," examines evidence for the life of Jesus Christ, revealing that with Christianity what is seen is not always what one gets. (Christian)

Yeshua - The King, The Demon & The Traitor takes readers back to witness the life of one man whose birth changed the course of history forever. With vivid descriptions and historic details, these stories clothe the characters with flesh and bone, laughter and tears, love and pain, excitement and anger. The scenes and settings paint the ancient world with the grit and dust of Palestine alongside the opulence and decadence of the Roman Empire. Throughout it all, these stories honour the truth of the ancient book from which the narratives were drawn. Yeshua will captivate the imagination of a generation that is perhaps more familiar with Hogwarts and Mt Olympus than Galilee and Jerusalem with these retellings of stories from the world's all-time bestselling book.

Jesus: A Beginner's Guide introduces Jesus, the man and his enduring legacy. Separating fact from fiction, Professor Le

Donne places Jesus within the context of first-century Judaism, and explores the debate about his status as 'Son of God' among the early Christians. He then follows his legacy through medieval Europe, and compares the various cultural Jesuses in enlightenment and post-enlightenment thought.

The Essenes, the Kahunas of Hawaii, Pan and the nature kingdom, the angelic kingdom, the Vedas and Upanishads, the Kabbalah, the Yoga sutras of Patanjali, the Egyptian mysteries, and The Keys of Enoch: These profound spiritual teachings, unknown to so many on our planet, are a valuable resource to anyone wishing to move further along the path to enlightenment and ascension. This book contains a wealth of information on esoteric teachings, from the ancient mystery schools to the recently founded religions. More than a mere retelling of well-known facts, the story begins with what may be the most elusive knowledge of our time—that of the extraterrestrial presence on Earth.

The author of *The Time Falling Bodies Take to Light* provides an incisive analysis on the evolution of human consciousness, from early stone carvings to the writings of Proust and the art of Christo, to renewed interest in the Taoist philosophy of Lao Tzu.

In today's conversation about marriage and sexuality, both inside and outside the church, most people know what the Bible says. But do they know why it says what it does? Why the restrictions? What's the purpose? Don't we have freedom . . . to do with our bodies what we will . . . to love whomever we choose to love? In *The Mystery and the Masterpiece*, Randy Blankenship, Sr. shows a Biblical portrait of marriage. From cover to cover the Bible presents marriage as a masterpiece. Even in the church, it seems to have been a mystery. But it is a beautiful portrait painted by God for the purpose of revealing the kind of relationship He desires with mankind. If we only have information, but don't see the picture, we miss the beauty of the masterpiece. We miss the message marriage was designed to teach us. *The Mystery and the Masterpiece* will not only help existing and future marriages, it will help people to be able to talk about marriage and sexuality presenting a viewpoint not with anger or acrimony, but speaking the truth in love.

Jesus is not who you think he is. The year is 75 CE. Joseph ben Jude, the nephew of Yeshua, is frail and ailing, but he gathers together stacks of goat-skin parchment and picks up a reed pen. He has a prophecy to fulfill before his death: that he will record the story of his uncle Yeshua. A former Essene and now an Ebionite—the first generation of non-Gentile Christians—Joseph grieves over the destruction of the Temple. He fears the End Times are near. He is also troubled by the accounts already being told of his uncle. His grandmother—a virgin? His uncle—the son of god? Simon Peter—head of the early Church and not his uncle James? Follow Joseph as the suppressed story of Yeshua and the early Church unfolds, revealing a message of hope that resounds throughout the ages and speaks to us even more urgently today. Only a handful of souls know the true story of Jesus of Nazareth. Those who know the truth must fight to expose it, and a war started in Judea two thousand years ago culminates in a final battle in the twenty-first century. If you enjoy the works of Dan Brown and Stephen King, then you'll love this dark, action-packed conspiracy thriller.

The purpose of these lectures is to consider the origin and nature of the Ancient Mysteries and Modern Masonry and to show the relation which they bear one to the other. Freemasonry deals largely with the morals and symbols of the Mysteries of Antiquity, and originally was one of the channels of Ancient Wisdom. There were a few among the founders of Modern Masonry who possessed the Royal Secret, or, at least, had a knowledge of its existence, and, if the key has been lost, the Mason, as Heir-apparent of the Old Wisdom, should be foremost in the search for its recovery. All agree that the Masonic symbols and traditions are of the greatest antiquity, and can be traced to the far East--to the earliest civilization, from which time and place they have spoken in nature's language to all peoples of the earth. We are more and more convinced that this picture language of our ritual contains a most complete philosophy--a knowledge embracing the eternal verities of the universe, and that these symbols were designed by the Initiates of old to preserve and convey that Ancient Wisdom to the present and future generations. Though empires and dynastic continents have appeared and passed away, these ancient symbols, hewn in rock-cut temples and monuments, have served to convey the Great Secret from ages past and will continue its record as long as this part of the universe remains.

A deadly political rivalry that ended in two brutal executions...An intricate love triangle that altered the course of history...A religious revolution that changed the world... THE TREASURE... For two thousand years, an undiscovered treasure rested in the rocky wilds of the French Pyrenees. A series of scrolls written in the first century by Mary Magdalene, these startling documents hold the power to redefine the events and characters of the New Testament. Protected by supernatural forces, the priceless cache can only be uncovered by a special seeker, one who has been chosen for the task by divine providence - The Expected One. THE CHOSEN ONE... When journalist Maureen Paschal begins the research for a new book, she has no idea that she is stepping into an ancient mystery so complex and dangerous that thousands of people have killed and died for it. As a long buried family scandal comes to light, she can no longer deny her own role in a deadly drama of epic international consequences.

In front of eight million TV viewers, "The Greatest Mystery Writer in the World" bragged he could prove Christ was actually stolen from the tomb and never really rose from the dead . . . if he were given just one week back in ancient Jerusalem. That night author Matt Lawrence got his wish. A knock-out punch took him right out of this world and landed him in Biblical Judea in 26 A.D., just six years after the execution of Jesus at Golgotha. In relentless pursuit of his investigation, Lawrence walked the same streets Jesus walked, visited the same places . . . and found himself facing the same dangers. Eyewitness reports might lead him to a discovery that would shake the world--but will he live long enough to tell the 30th century that he just solved the greatest mystery of all time? This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. To ensure a quality reading experience, this work has been proofread and republished using a format that seamlessly blends the original graphical elements with text in an easy-to-read typeface. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

Instant New York Times Bestseller Rob Bell, the beloved author of *Love Wins* and *What We Talk About When We Talk About God*, goes deep into the Bible to show how it is more revelatory, revolutionary, and relevant than we ever imagined—and offers a cogent argument for why we need to look at it in a fresh, new way. In *Love Wins*, Rob Bell confronted the troubling questions that many people of faith were afraid to ask about heaven, hell, fate, and faith. Using the same inspired, inquisitive approach, he now turns to our most sacred book, the Bible. *What Is the Bible?* provides insights and answers that make clear why the Bible is so revered and what makes it truly inspiring and essential to our lives. Rob takes us deep into actual passages to reveal the humanity behind the Scriptures. You cannot get to the holy without going through the human, Rob tells us. When considering a passage, we shouldn't ask "Why did God say . . .?" To get to the heart of the Bible's meaning, we should be asking: "What's the story that's unfolding here and why did people find it important to tell it? What was it that moved them to record these words? What was happening in the world at that time? What does this passage/story/poem/verse/book tell us about how people understood who they were and who God was at that time?" In asking these questions, Rob goes beyond the one-dimensional question of "is it true?" to reveal the Bible's authentic transformative power. Rob addresses the concerns of all those who see the Bible as God's Word but are troubled by the ethical dilemmas, errors, and inconsistencies in Scripture. With *What Is the Bible?*, he recaptures the Good Book's magic and reaffirms its power and inspiration to shape and inspire our lives today.

An invaluable companion which enables the reader to acquire and understand a vocabulary for discussion and critical thinking on all aspects of the subject. The clear explanations of the concepts support students in their practical and theoretical explorations of the subjects and offer insights for research and reflective writing.

People in our culture today desperately need explanations for the big questions of life: Who am I? Where did I come from? Why am I here? Where am I going? People in the twentieth century concluded that God did not exist, so the vastness of the universe and the finitude of man came together to create a crisis of existence for them. Their skepticism has been passed on to those of us who live in the twenty-first century, so that crisis is still with us. The great questions still demand answers, but none will be forthcoming until we begin to see our existence in light of the existence of God and His story.

Is the typical didactic sermon still an adequate vehicle for communicating essential biblical truth? In this provocative and enlightening volume, Larry Lange contends that story sermons are a far more effective way to proclaim the Good News in a modern world that largely communicates through narrative-driven multimedia spectacle. The powerful stories in the Bible don't need to be turned into morals or ideas to convey the gospel. But because they were composed in a radically different cultural context, they may require additional explanation or interpretation to make them relevant for contemporary audiences. So how can a preacher add narrative elements to these stories without diminishing their dramatic impact or changing their meaning? *Retelling The Story* outlines an innovative process for retelling biblical stories that utilizes fictional elements and contexts yet remains faithful to the scriptural text. Several creative and homiletical issues are comprehensively examined, and six sample sermons are included to illustrate various aspects of this process at work. Inject exciting new life into the old, old story with this primer for developing dramatic sermons that touch hearts and minds and souls. Lange's book is very well connected to recent homiletical literature, is well researched, deeply biblical, and creatively challenging. Parish pastors will benefit from this clear and brief presentation of biblical retelling. Richard A. Jensen Carlson Professor of Homiletics emeritus Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago Larry Lange and his wife, Julie Wrubbel-Lange, serve as the pastors of Grace Lutheran Church in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Lange is a graduate of Carthage College (B.A.), the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (M.A.), the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (M.Div.), and the Association of Chicago Theological Schools (D.Min.).

Massey was an Egyptologist who wrote a tremendous body of scholarly work. He concluded that much of Christianity and its belief structure was rooted in ancient Egyptian mythology. At first this sounds strange, but a large number of people have agreed, including some scholars and researchers in the field of religious studies. A different and compelling view of Christianity and its roots.

Written by an L. A. County homicide detective and former atheist, *Cold-Case Christianity* examines the claims of the New Testament using the skills and strategies of a hard-to-convince criminal investigator. Christianity could be defined as a "cold case": it makes a claim about an event from the distant past for which there is little forensic evidence. In *Cold-Case Christianity*, J. Warner Wallace uses his nationally recognized skills as a homicide detective to look at the evidence and eyewitnesses behind Christian beliefs. Including gripping stories from his career and the visual techniques he developed in the courtroom, Wallace uses illustration to examine the powerful evidence that validates the claims of Christianity. A unique apologetic that speaks to readers' intense interest in detective stories, *Cold-Case Christianity* inspires readers to have confidence in Christ as it prepares them to articulate the case for Christianity.

Where was Jesus for the first thirty years of his life? Where and what was he taught? Who were his teachers? This fascinating volume offers startling new evidence culled from hard-to-find Vatican texts, theosophical classics, legends and hermetic symbolism to construct radical new picture of Jesus and his times. McCannon postulates that Jesus spent at least seven years in Egypt, a number of years in England, and visited both India and Tibet before beginning his public ministry in Palestine. This is a wide-ranging examination of the direct links and similarities between Jesus' teachings and the teachings of various mystery religions and sects that were popular during his lifetime, including the Essenes, Buddhists, and Druids. McCannon offers compelling evidence that places Jesus' life and mission firmly in the context of the deeper spiritual teachings that came before him.

New York Times Best Seller! 1500 5-Star Reviews! From the author that brought you NEW YORK TIMES best selling books *The Harbinger*, *The Mystery of the Shemitah*, and *The Paradigm* selling over 3 MILLION copies Imagine if you discovered a treasure chest in which were hidden ancient mysteries, revelations from heaven, secrets of the ages, the answers to man's most enduring, age-old questions, and the hidden keys that can transform your life to joy, success, and blessing... This is *The Book of Mysteries*.

A persuasive study presenting the esoteric conception of the life and work of the great Christian Avatara. Includes initiation into the ancient crypts, the Avatara teaching, the crucifixion mystery -- the spear thrust, and the cry on the cross.

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