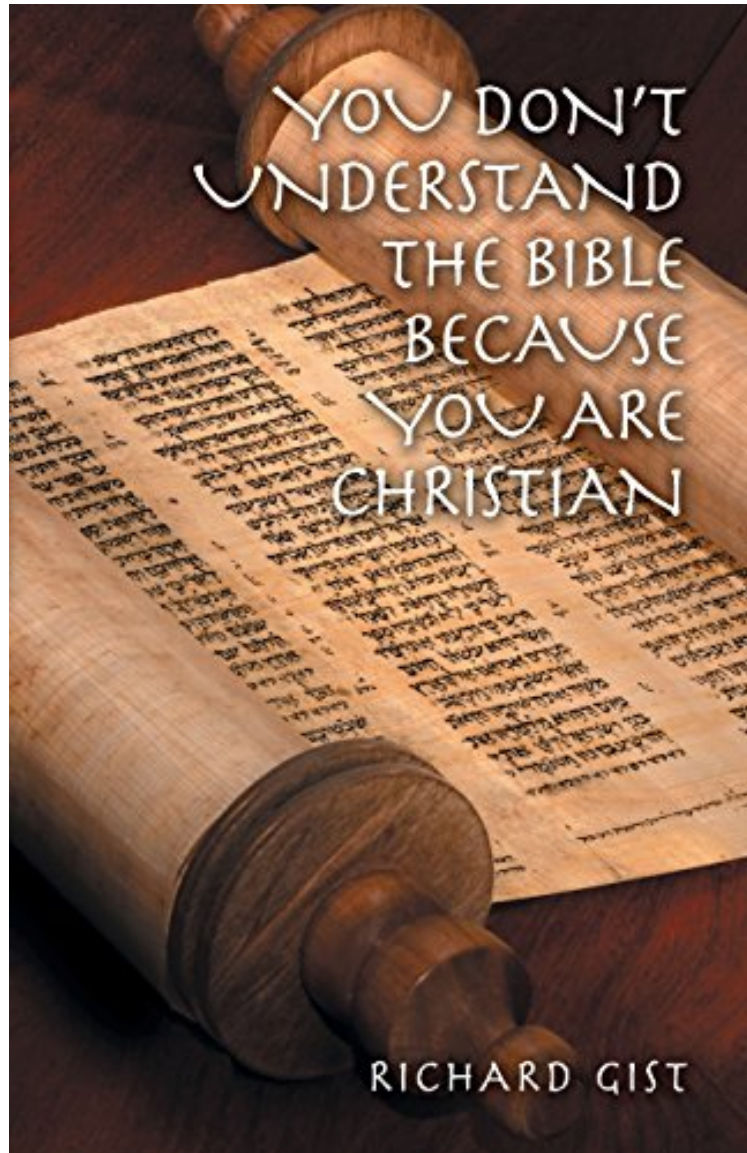


(Download free ebook) You Don't Understand the Bible Because You Are Christian

You Don't Understand the Bible Because You Are Christian

Richard Gist

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Richard Gist : You Don't Understand the Bible Because You Are Christian before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised You Don't Understand the Bible Because You Are Christian:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I'm glad I foundBy Lois West DuffyAn interesting little book, one that is stimulating and well written. I keep finding myself giving it away to others I know will be interested. Then I have to order another one! I'm glad I found it0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It might be beneficial to

someone else, its just not for me to purchase. By D. Peter Humphrys I read the free preview for over an hour and decided not to buy this book. It is not that its a terrible book, as it is not poorly written, but it's a bit too biographical and uncritical of the bible (and other) critics in my opinion. Others may enjoy it much more than myself,; I am highly sceptical of scholarly reconstructions of the ancient world (they are often exceedingly problematic filling in way more gaps than they let on and Gist by his own admission does not have the (language or critical history) tools to do his own original work and is essentially summing up his readings and giving us some of his own insights. This can make for some interesting reading, but when he makes the claim that a text means what the reader deems it to mean (reader response criticism), I am left thinking if language, in at least some cases, really does not have specific meaning then why do we have spy agencies out to get very specific documents from the other side (they could contain very specific information which other people want to know), or perhaps for a better example why not get a group of reader response critics together and have them build a bomb and let each reader of the directions put her own interpretation to the text, and see how many of them are left to tell others that yes texts really can have specific meanings that you had better pay attention to if you want to come out alive! 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Do you think you understand the Bible? By David Kenney I bet you didn't know this but the Bible wasn't written in English... (gasp!) That's right, it's a book from the Middle East and many of it's original languages are no longer spoken. So that's why when you hear Christians say, "well, the Bible says...." it's kind of funny because unless that person has studied the text in the original languages, they are actually quoting an interpretation or a paraphrase. What does the Bible actually say? It's been the discussion of publishers, editors and theologians for decades. This is why there are so many English translations of the Bible in print, because everyone thinks "their" elucidation is the best. But there is also more to translating a language than just the words on the page. There is also inflection, nuance, subtlety, artistic style, meter and so much more. How does all of that get translated into the pages of the Bible? Answer... a lot of times... it doesn't. It's like being the only person in a room that doesn't get the joke. You heard the words, you understand how the words came together to form a sentence, but... you have no idea why the joke was funny? What are you missing? Context. The Bible wasn't written in a bubble. It was written in a specific time, from a specific culture in a specific corner of the world. For instance, the Bible often talks about Jesus being in Jerusalem for specific festivals. What do you think of when you read that? People dancing in the streets? Banners? Decorated trees? Long lines at the super markets? Wrapped gifts? The truth is, most of us have no clue what the significance of these Jewish celebrations were, but... the truth is... they were instrumental in why Jesus was in Jerusalem, and they often play a HUGE role in understanding the teachings that Jesus gives. Maybe "You don't understand the Bible because you are Christian." Author Richard Gist has written a very humorous and down to earth book that explains a lot of the Jewish writings and traditions of the Bible. "... much was going on behind the scenes of our Gospel accounts, events about which the ancients were familiar, but of which we remain ignorant....we do not know all of what they knew, and so we speculate. There remains so much that we Christians will never know." This is a wonderful book, sure to grab the seasoned Bible reader and spin them in all sorts of new - and eye opening - directions. Thank you to the author and Friesen Press for this advanced copy for a unbiased and honest review.

By the early second century the Christian Church was predominantly Gentile, having separated from its Jewish roots and base. It lost most all understanding of Jewish culture. Very few in the church could read Hebrew, and as significantly, its Scriptures were in Greek, which contributed to its growing ignorance of the intricacies of Jewish word play. They could not and did not retain the richness, the interconnectedness, and the brilliance of the Hebrew writing, and thereby misinterpreted much of what they cherished. Today, many, if not most, Christians also lack the basic knowhow needed to adequately appreciate our Jewish-written Scriptures. This little 150 page book will not heal what ails us, but in a light, sometimes fun, other times serious way, it will help, and that is needed. It may even erase a few of the lines that separate our two great communities-Jewish and Christian-and remind us of our shared humanity and Faith. Creative, insightful, humorous, sensitive, challenging, thought provoking What other words are used to describe this book and its author? See pages iv and v.