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A Comprehensive Study Written
About Jewish Roots and Christian
Believers Rapidly growing

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worldwide, the Hebrew Roots Movement promises to help believers (especially non-Jewish believers) discover the Hebrew (Jewish) roots of their faith. However, while promising to bring followers to their Jewish

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roots, they instead bring them into Old Testament law-keeping and rabbinic tradition. This denies the truth of the gospel and its life-giving power to set captives free. The fifth book written by Bible teacher Neil Silverberg, *Shadows*

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and Substance, carefully examines this movement in both its theological and practical aspects covering such topics as: - Did Emperor Constantine make changes to the Hebrew roots of the faith? - What did the Jerusalem

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Conference establish regarding
believers and the Law? - Does
God expect believers to keep the
Sabbath and the Hebrew feasts? -
What is the difference between
reconciliation to Old Testament
Hebraic roots of the faith and

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those of rabbinic Judaism? The end result is not only a helpful guide to understanding the Hebrew Roots Movement but also a powerful unfolding of the gospel of grace to keep believers free from any form of legalism. This

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book was written for three audiences: those already deeply involved in the Movement, those interested in learning about the Jewish roots of their faith, and leaders who are charged with the responsibility of protecting God's

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people from error.

Millions of American Christians see U.S. support for the State of Israel as a God-ordained responsibility. Robert O. Smith provides an in-depth look at the English Protestant tradition of

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Judeo-centric prophecy interpretation at the heart of this popular affinity.

This book investigates the problem of esoteric traditions in early Christianity, their origin and their transformation in

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Patristic hermeneutics, in the West as well as in the East. It argues that these traditions eventually formed the basis of nascent Christian mysticism in Late Antiquity. These esoteric traditions do not reflect the

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influence of Greek Mystery religions, as has often been claimed, but rather seem to stem from the Jewish background of Christianity. They were adopted by various Gnostic teachings, a fact which helps explaining their

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eventual disappearance from Patristic literature. The eleven chapters study each a different aspect of the problem, including the questions of Gnostic and Manichaeian esotericism. This book will be of interest to all

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students of religious history in
Late Antiquity. Revised and
extended paperback edition.
Originally published in 1996.
Please click here for details.
This volume delineates the link
between Judaism and Christianity,

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between Old and the New Testaments, and calls Christians to reexamine their Hebrew roots so as to effect a more authentically biblical lifestyle.

Christianity in an Age of Ecology
and Dialogue

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Humble Roots

With Roots and Wings

The Roots of Egyptian
Christianity

Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the
Eucharist

Esoteric Traditions and the Roots

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of Christian Mysticism. Second,
Revised and Enlarged paperback
edition

The Secret Roots of Christianity

***This book investigates the
problem of esoteric
traditions in early***

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Christianity, their origin and their transformation in Patristic hermeneutics, in the West as well as in the East. It argues that these traditions eventually formed the basis of nascent

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Christian mysticism in Late Antiquity. This publication is a revised edition of the original hardback publication, please click here for details.

Revised version of the

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***author's
dissertation--Claremont
Graduate University, 2008.
This book, first published in
1992, demonstrates that
American sociology has deep
religious roots which***

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continue, both directly and indirectly, to influence the discipline today. Early American sociology was closely aligned with the social gospel movement in Protestantism, which hope

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***to make use of the new
science of sociology to help
solve social problems and,
ultimately, prepare America
for the establishment of
Christ's kingdom on earth.
Although American***

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sociology became secularized after 1920, it retained its ameliorative outlook, hoping to 'save' mankind through positivistic analysis and technocratic societal planning.

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***Silent Roots - Orthodox
Perspectives on Christian
Spirituality
God's Message to the
Christian Church
The Religious Roots of Free
Societies***

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***Bishop C.H. Mason and the
Roots of the Church of God
in Christ***

***Decoding Religious History
with Symbols on Ancient
Coins***

Ancient Egyptian Roots of

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***Christianity, Expanded 2nd
Edition***

***Finding the Roots of
Christianity***

***Revealing the Jewish Roots
of Christianity***

A major new work on the Dead Sea

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Scrolls, the oldest sacred documents of Judaism, which reveals their surprising connections to early Christianity.

“ A luminous treatment of a fascinating subject! Highly recommended! ” —Scott Hahn,

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author of The Fourth Cup From award-winning scholar John Bergsma comes an intriguing book that reveals new insights on the Essenes, a radical Jewish community predating Christianity, whose existence, beliefs, and

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practices are often overlooked in the annals of history. Bergsma reveals how this Jewish sect directly influenced the beliefs, sacraments, and practices of early Christianity and offers new information on how Christians

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lived their lives, worshipped, and eventually went on to influence the Roman Empire and Western civilization. Looking to Hebrew scripture and Jewish tradition, Bergsma helps to further explain how a simple Jewish peasant could

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go on to inspire a religion and a philosophy that still resonates 2,000 years later. In this enriching and exciting exploration, Bergsma demonstrates how the Dead Sea Scrolls—the world's greatest modern archaeological

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discovery—can shed light on the Church as a sacred society that offered hope, redemption, and salvation to its member.

Ultimately, these mysterious writings are a time machine that can transport us back to the

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ancient world, deepen our appreciation of Scripture, and strengthen our understanding of the Christian faith. “ An accessible introduction . . . This is a handy entry point for readers unfamiliar with Essenes or those interested in

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the Dead Sea

Scrolls. ” —Publishers Weekly

Egyptian roots of Christianity, both historically and spiritually. This book reveals the Ancient Egyptian roots of Christianity, both historically and spiritually. This

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Expanded Version of the book consists of three parts to coincide with the terms of trinity. The first part demonstrates that the major biblical ancestors of the biblical Jesus are all Ancient Egyptian prominent characters. The second

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part demonstrates that the accounts of the “ historical Jesus ” are based entirely on the life and death of the Egyptian Pharaoh, Twt/Tut-Ankh-Amen. The third part demonstrates that the “ Jesus of Faith ” and the

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Christian tenets are all Egyptian in origin—such as the essence of the teachings/message, the creation of the universe and man (according to the Book of Genesis), as well as the religious holidays. The very thing that is now called the

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Christian religion was already in existence in Ancient Egypt, long before the adoption of the New Testament. The British Egyptologist, Sir E. A. Wallis Budge, wrote in his book, *The Gods of the Egyptians* [1969], The new religion

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(Christianity) which was preached there by St. Mark and his immediate followers, in all essentials so closely resembled that which was the outcome of the worship of Osiris, Isis, and Horus. The similarities, noted by Budge

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and everyone who has compared the Egyptian Osiris/Isis/ Horus allegory to the Gospel story, are striking. Both accounts are practically the same, e.g. the supernatural conception, the divine birth, the struggles against

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the enemy in the wilderness, and the resurrection from the dead to eternal life. The main difference between the “ two versions ” , is that the Gospel tale is considered historical and the Osiris/Isis/Horus cycle is an allegory. The spiritual

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message of the Ancient Egyptian Osiris/Isis/Horus allegory and the Christian revelation is exactly the same. The British scholar A.N. Wilson pointed out in his book, *Jesus: The Jesus of History and the Christ of Faith* are two separate

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beings, with very different stories. It is difficult enough to reconstruct the first, and in the attempt we are likely to do irreparable harm to the second. This book will demonstrate that the “ Jesus of History ” , the ” Jesus of Faith ” ,

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and the tenets of Christianity are all Ancient Egyptian. This will be done without causing any “ irreparable harm ” as per A.N. Wilson ’ s concern, for two main reasons: Firstly, the truth must be told. Secondly, explaining

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Christian tenets via their original Ancient Egyptian contexts will enhance the idealism of Christianity. This Expanded Version of the book consists of three parts to coincide with the terms of trinity—the Three that are

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Two that are One. The first part demonstrates that the major biblical ancestors of the biblical Jesus are all Ancient Egyptian prominent individuals. The second part demonstrates that the accounts of the “ historical

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Jesus ” are based entirely on the life and death of the Egyptian Pharaoh, Twt/Tut- Ankh-Amen. The third part demonstrates that the “ Jesus of Faith ” and the Christian tenets are all Egyptian in origin—such as the essence of the

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teachings/message, the creation of the universe and man (according to the Book of Genesis), as well as the religious holidays. There is an undeniable irony and a profound, deep, undeniable truth in Hosea ' s prophetic saying, Out of

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Egypt have I called my Son. A deep irony indeed. Let us open our minds and review the available evidence. For the truth is a composite of different and complementary pieces of a puzzle. Let us put the pieces in the right

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location, time and order.

"Why should I invest myself in something that I'm not sure does any good?" This is a question many people today are asking about the church. Data shows young people are leaving the church, especially

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in urban contexts. Yet as Jon Tyson will show you in this Barna Frame, the church has much to offer cities—and individuals—in the 21st century. Whether you come with an open-mind, skeptical, or already committed to your local

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church, join Jon Tyson, lead pastor of Trinity Grace Church in New York City, as he makes the case for why church matters.

David Self outlines not the theology, but the social, folkloric and historic roots, customs and

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development of the major Christian festivals, as well as some religious traditional observances, showing how the sacred and secular have often fed upon one another.

The Roots of Nubian Christianity

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Uncovered

A Handbook on the Jewish Roots
of the Christian Faith

Our Father Abraham

Shadows and Substance: The Truth
About Jewish Roots and Christian
Believers

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Exploring the Roots of Our Church
Practices

The Roots of Christian Anti-
Semitism

Biblical, Theological, and Historical
Essays on the Relationship
Between Christianity and Judaism

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By linking together a series of brilliantly chosen texts from the early centuries of the Church, the author lays bare the roots of the deeply mystical spirituality that has flourished among Christians throughout the

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ages. This book will appeal to anyone who is interested in the field of spirituality. It is a masterly contribution to Christian scholarship, and this second edition includes an extraordinarily useful

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Index.

Some evangelical churches appear to be uninterested in their historical roots, and so can be liturgically and doctrinally unstable.

Perceiving this disconnection between their

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Protestant faith and ancient Christianity, a number of evangelicals have abandoned Protestantism for traditions that seem to be clearly rooted in the early church. Ken Stewart argues that the evangelical tradition's

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track record of interaction with Christian antiquity is far healthier than is often assumed. He surveys five centuries of Protestant engagement with the ancient church, showing that Christians belonging to the

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evangelical churches of the Reformation consistently see their faith as connected to early Christianity. Stewart explores areas of positive engagement, including the Lord's Supper and biblical interpretation, as well as

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areas that raise concerns, such as monasticism. In Search of Ancient Roots shows that Christian antiquity is the heritage of all orthodox Christians, and that evangelicals have the resources in their history

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to claim their place at the ecumenical table. 'A must-read for every person struggling with the question, "What does evangelicalism have to do with history?"' Leonardo De Chirico, Director of

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Reformanda Initiative

This is a comprehensive handbook that serves as an introduction to the Jewish roots of the Christian Faith. It includes Old Testament background, Second Temple Judaism, the life of

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Jesus, the New Testament,
and the early Jewish
followers of Jesus. It is no
longer a novelty to say that
Jesus was a Jew. In fact,
the term "Jewish roots" has
become something of a
buzzword in books, articles,

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and especially on the internet. But what does the Jewishness of Jesus actually mean, and why is it important? This collection of articles aims to address those questions and serve as a comprehensive yet concise

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primer on the Jewish roots of the Christian faith. It consists of thirteen chapters, most of which are divided into four or five articles. It is in the "handbook" format, meaning that each article is brief

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but informative. The thirteen chapters are grouped into four major sections: (1) The Soil, (2) The Roots, (3) The Trunk, and (4) The Branches. Craig A. Evans, PhD, DHabil, is the Hohn Bisagno

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Distinguished Professor of Christian Origins at Houston Baptist University in Texas. He is a frequent contributor to scholarly journals and the author or editor of over seventy books. Editor resides in Houston, TX.

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David Mishkin, PhD, serves on the faculty of Israel College of the Bible in Netanya, Israel. He is the author of *The Wisdom of Alfred Edersheim and Jewish Scholarship on the Resurrection of Jesus*.

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Editor resides in Fort
Wayne, Indiana.

Traditional religious
history preserves a rarely
acknowledged secret that
Christianity developed from
at least three ancient
roots: a Western structural

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root derived from
Mediterranean Greek culture,
an Eastern spiritual root
from Anatolia and Persia,
and a literary Jewish
historical root, which
masked the other roots and
supported the idea that

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Christians had taken the place of Jews in relationship with God by entering a new covenant with Jesus. Each root contributed something special to the development of Christianity as follows: Supported by

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pagan iconography and rhetoric, the Western root imprinted Christianity with Greek spirit in a Hellenistic universe. The Eastern root filled the Greek construct with magic, focused humanity on a divine

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mission, and infused popular reverence for goddesses into Christian beliefs about the Virgin Mary. The literary Jewish root played two contradictory roles: Jewish scripture served as the reliable witness that proved

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Jesus to be both God and savior; and double-edged moral lessons in the Old Testament explained catastrophic events in the first century A.D. as divine judgment against Jews, supporting beliefs by early

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pagan converts to Christianity that Romans were good, Jews were bad, and God abandoned Jews for treacherously murdering Jesus. Two thousand years ago, Mediterranean cults included practices and

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beliefs that modern
Christians associate
exclusively with
Christianity. People
worshipped divine mothers
who gave birth to dying and
resurrecting gods on
December 25. Saviors

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miraculously healed faithful followers and guided them to lead moral lives. Some cults baptized their followers, some passed their sins and inner demons to pigs, and some waited for a complete destruction of evil during

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the imminent End of Days. Then, as now, people argued whether the end would come by fire or water and whether many or few souls would be saved. Numerous symbols and beliefs associated in modern times with Christianity

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already existed in pre-Christian Hellenistic cults: Madonna and child images, angels, God the Father, the cross as a symbol of life after death, and the gift of eternal life through the shedding of immortal blood.

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On temple walls, wise men offered gifts of incense and gold to newborn gods; and merciful mothers granted salvation to the poor in spirit who confessed, repented, and begged forgiveness for their sins.

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However, Jews generally rejected all these practices, symbols, and beliefs. Some Jews believed in physical resurrection, and some did not. Some believed in eternal life, and some did not. For most

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Jews, however, a righteous life required the following of God's laws. If a Jew sinned against another man, no automatic forgiveness from God was possible. Forgiveness required acknowledgement of

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wrongdoing, restitution, and then forgiveness from the wronged party. Applying Jewish ethics to problems at the Jerusalem Temple meant recognizing the corruption within the priesthood, refusing to tolerate the

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evil rule of Rome, and giving one's life if necessary to precipitate the Kingdom of God. Just as God always had responded to the prayers of suffering Jews in the Bible, he would do so again. Soon he would send a

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messiah to deliver Jerusalem from the evil power of Rome and to cleanse Judea from the polluting practices of pagan cults. Drawing from both visible and secret roots, Christians freed themselves from paying for

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salvation from mystery cults while preserving the ability to worship a virgin-born hero with all the trappings of a pagan solar deity. This book explores the roots of Christianity in seven parts. The first three parts

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provide an overview of religious beliefs, practices, and iconography in the ancient Greek world that influenced Western culture and religion. The fourth, fifth, and sixth parts describe how the West

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developed under Roman influence. Then the seventh part focuses on the life of Jesus and the emergence of Christian cults in the first century A.D.

The Ancestry of Churches of Christ

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Hidden Wisdom

A Spiritual and Historical
Journey

Text and Commentary

Orthodox Perspectives on
Christian Spirituality

Esoteric Traditions And The
Roots Of Christian Mysticism

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Jewish Roots of Christian
Worship

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." Martin Luther King, Jr. Every follower of Jesus needs to be established in the

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7 Basics to develop deep roots and a strong foundation of faith. The short chapters include these basic topics: Get to Know God, Get Comfortable in Prayer, Get Excited and Telling Somebody, Get Your

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Head on Straight, Get to Know Your Bible and more! The 7 Basics was written to help believers connects-the-dots on what it means to be a Christian and how to live out the joy-filled adventure of faith!

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Margaret Barker has been researching and writing about the Jerusalem temple for over twenty years. Many of her studies have remained unpublished. Here for the first time her work on the roots of

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Christian liturgy has been brought together. Whereas most scholarship has concentrated upon the synagogue, Margaret Barker's work on the Jerusalem temple contributes significantly to our

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understanding of the meaning and importance of many elements of Christian liturgy which have hitherto remained obscure. This book opens up a new field of research. The many subjects addressed include the

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roots of the Eucharist in various temple rituals and offerings other than Passover, the meaning of the holy of holies and the Christian sanctuary, the cosmology of temple and church, the

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significance of the Veil of the Temple for understanding priesthood and Incarnation, the Holy Wisdom and the Mother of God, angels and priesthood, the concept of unity, the high priestly tradition in the early

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church and evidence that Christianity was a conscious continuation of the temple. All scholars and students whose interest encompasses the origins of Christian (and Orthodox) liturgy, the Old

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Testament, early Christianity, Jewish Christian relations, Platonism and the origins of Islam will find this book a hugely rewarding source of information and new ideas. This rich and challenging book

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explores the roots or ancestry of the Churches of Christ and others who stand as heirs to the Stone-Campbell movement of the early nineteenth century. It asks, Where did we come from? How did we get

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this way? Why do we read the Bible the way we do? What has been the heart of our movement? And it asks further, What can we learn from those who have viewed restoration of apostolic Christianity in ways

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quite different from our own?
The authors begin their story in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries - the age of Renaissance and Reformation. They isolate the stream of restorationist thought that

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arose in that age and then follow that stream through the Puritans, the early Baptists in America, the frenzy of pure beginnings in the early decades of American nationhood, and down to the

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Stone-Campbell movement. The Church of God in Christ (COGIC), the first major denomination to spring from the fires of the Azusa Street revival, profoundly affected the history of the black church. Its

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tremendous influence can be traced to the dynamic spiritual life of its founder, Charles Harrison Mason. The son of a slave and a leader in the holiness movement of his day, Mason traveled to Azusa Street

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in 1907 where he received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Returning home, he discovered that visions, spontaneous healing and deliverance followed him. A new power accompanied his preaching,

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and he experienced freedom from former limitations.

Mason's vibrant spiritual life enabled him to lead a fledgling movement from its infancy to a powerful, prophetic community over the next fifty years.

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Beginning in the rural South in the decades following the Reconstruction Era, the denomination gradually moved into urban areas during the 1900's. No matter where its ministers, however, the COGIC

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Church holds in tension the dynamics of holiness, spiritual encounter and prophetic Christian social consciousness. Facing the challenges of our generation, the COGIC Church desires to maintain the legacy

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of its founder as it prepares for another century of work and witness. "Our younger generations need to know the rich legacy bequeathed to them by the pioneers of the Church of God in Christ."

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Presiding Bishop Chandler D. Owens "Every pastor in our denomination and beyond should have a worn and well read copy of this book." Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr. "This valuable book should be in the

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hands of every member of the
Church of God in Christ."

Bishop C. L. Anderson "God
gave Bishop C. H. Mason an
anointing to preach powerfully,
to heal the sick, and to sing out
in spontaneous worship. May

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we covet the same anointing that transformed thousands in his day." Bishop J. Neaul Haynes "We are the descendants of a mighty move of God that began at Azusa Street. This book will help us to

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pass on an equally dynamic spiritual life to our successors, taking the Church of God in Christ into the next century." Bishop P. A. Brooks "Church leaders would do well to emulate the dynamic spiritual

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life of our founder; Bishop C. H. Mason." Bishop O. T. Jones, Jr. "Bishop Clemmons reminds us that our denomination was forged in the fires of a pentecostal revival that continues to impact our society

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today." Bishop Gilbert E. Patterson "Our roots establish our legacy and provide the springboard for the future. This documentation is a must for this generation and the generations to come." Mother

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Emma F. Crouch, Supervisor,
Women's Department, Church
of God in Christ, President,
International Women's
Convention "This is must
reading for every seminary
student preparing to minister

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in the Church of God in Christ.
This will be extremely valuable
to students of church history
regardless of denomination."
Dr. H. Vinson Synan, Ph.D.,
Dean of the School of Divinity,
Regent University "Finally, a

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documentary written by a black historian/theologian and a lifelong member of the Church of God in Christ. Bishop Clemmons' perspective is insightful, informative, and refreshing." Dr. William C.

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Turner, Ph.D., Professor of Theology, Duke Divinity School, Duke University "Allow Bishop C. H. Mason's vision to grip you, to challenge you, and to change you." Raymond C. Pierce, J.D., Deputy Assistant

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The Temple Roots of Christian
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Why the Church Still Matters

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At the Roots of Christian
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Why We Should Call Ourselves
Christians

Pagan Christianity?

Back to the Roots of the
Christian Faith

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In recent years, Christians everywhere are rediscovering the Jewish roots of their faith. Every year at Easter time, many believers now celebrate Passover meals (known as Seders) seeking to understand exactly what happened at Jesus' final Passover, the night before he was crucified. Jesus

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and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist shines fresh light on the Last Supper by looking at it through Jewish eyes. Using his in-depth knowledge of the Bible and ancient Judaism, Dr. Brant Pitre answers questions such as: What was the Passover like at the time of Jesus? What were the Jewish hopes

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for the Messiah? What was Jesus' purpose in instituting the Eucharist during the feast of Passover? And, most important of all, what did Jesus mean when he said, "This is my body... This is my blood"? To answer these questions, Pitre explores ancient Jewish beliefs about the Passover of

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the Messiah, the miraculous Manna from heaven, and the mysterious Bread of the Presence. As he shows, these three keys—the Passover, the Manna, and the Bread of the Presence—have the power to unlock the original meaning of the Eucharistic words of Jesus. Along the way, Pitre

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also explains how Jesus united the Last Supper to his death on Good Friday and his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Inspiring and informative, *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist* is a groundbreaking work that is sure to illuminate one of the greatest mysteries of the Christian

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faith: the mystery of Jesus' presence in "the breaking of the bread." From the Hardcover edition.

At the Roots of Christian Bioethics explores Professor H. Tristram Engelhardt, Jr.'s pursuit for the decisive ground of the meaning of human existence and knowledge of

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appropriate moral choice. Engelhardt has been the most influential, cogent, but critical voice within bioethics of the past several decades. The essays in this volume compass epistemological, methodological and topical contributions to bioethics, political theory, and Christian theology. Each

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explores Engelhardt's diagnosis of the contemporary social and cultural crisis, seeking to make sense of the decidedly post-Christian and often openly anti-Christian ethics that dominates public morality and political policy. Each author investigates Engelhardt's personal and tireless

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enquiry to secure ultimate moral foundations as well as to recognize the full implications of the results of his investigations: that Christian bioethics does not originate in human reason but in the command of God.

Life and times of the 14th century
German spiritual leader Meister

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Eckhart, whose theory of a personal path to the divine inspired thinkers from Jean Paul Sartre to Thomas Merton, and most recently, Eckhart Tolle Meister Eckhart was a medieval Christian mystic whose wisdom powerfully appeals to seekers seven centuries after his death. In the

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modern era, Eckhart's writings have struck a chord with thinkers as diverse as Heidegger, Merton, Sartre, John Paul II, and the current Dalai Lama. He is the inspiration for the bestselling New Age author Eckhart Tolle's pen name, and his fourteenth-century quotes have become an online

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sensation. Today a variety of Christians, as well as many Zen Buddhists, Sufi Muslims, Jewish Cabbalists, and various spiritual seekers, all claim Eckhart as their own. Meister Eckhart preached a personal, internal path to God at a time when the Church could not have

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been more hierarchical and ritualistic. Then and now, Eckhart's revolutionary method of direct access to ultimate reality offers a profoundly subjective approach that is at once intuitive and pragmatic, philosophical yet non-rational, and, above all, universally accessible. This "dangerous mystic's"

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teachings challenge the very nature of religion, yet the man himself never directly challenged the Church.

Eckhart was one of the most learned theologians of his day, but he was also a man of the world who had worked as an administrator for his religious order and taught for years at the University

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of Paris. His personal path from conventional friar to professor to lay preacher culminated in a spiritual philosophy that combined the teachings of an array of pagan and Christian writers, as well as Muslim and Jewish philosophers. His revolutionary decision to take his

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approach to the common people garnered him many enthusiastic followers as well as powerful enemies. After Eckhart's death and papal censure, many religious women and clerical supporters, known as the Friends of God, kept his legacy alive through the centuries, albeit

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underground until the master's dramatic rediscovery by modern Protestants and Catholics. Dangerous Mystic grounds Meister Eckhart in a world that is simultaneously familiar and alien. In the midst of this medieval society, a few decades before the Black Death, Eckhart boldly preached

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to captivated crowds a timeless method, a “wayless way,” of directly experiencing the divine.

Have you ever wondered why we Christians do what we do for church every Sunday morning? Why do we “dress up” for church? Why does the pastor preach a sermon each week?

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Why do we have pews, steeples, and choirs? This ground-breaking book, now in affordable softcover, makes an unsettling proposal: most of what Christians do in present-day churches is rooted, not in the New Testament, but in pagan culture and rituals developed long after the death of the

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apostles. Coauthors Frank Viola and George Barna support their thesis with compelling historical evidence and extensive footnotes that document the origins of modern Christian church practices. In the process, the authors uncover the problems that emerge when the church functions more like a

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business organization than the living organism it was created to be. As you reconsider Christ's revolutionary plan for his church—to be the head of a fully functioning body in which all believers play an active role—you'll be challenged to decide whether you can ever do church the same way again.

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The Roots of Christian Mysticism

The Silent Roots

Unlocking the Secrets of the Last
Supper

The Roots of Christian Festivals

Roots of Haiti's Vodou-Christian Faith:
African and Catholic Origins

Understanding the Jewish Roots of

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Christianity

The Triumph of the Last Pharaoh :
Religious Encounters in Late Antique
Africa

Finding the Roots of Christianity is
for people who are curious about the
historical Jesus, his followers, and the

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movement they began. Who were they, and how was their message understood by those who heard them? Where did the New Testament of the Bible come from? In a personal, thoughtful style, Luke Painter brings into focus the life and times of the

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Jewish prophet Jesus of Nazareth, bridging the gap between personal study of the Bible and academic scholarship. Sources outside the Bible, including the ancient historian Josephus and recently discovered "lost scriptures" such as the Dead Sea

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Scrolls, reveal the diversity of early Christian beliefs. Roman religious beliefs influenced how the Christian message was understood during the transition from Jewish sects to the official religion of the Roman Empire. Clear and concise, and based on

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careful historical research, this book guides the reader through what is known about the earliest origins of Christianity as well as recent discoveries and debates. The author's personal journey of faith and passionate interest in the people

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behind the New Testament enliven the facts of history, illuminating their meaning for their own time as well as today.

Feeling worn thin? Come find rest. The Blue Ridge Parkway meanders through miles of rolling Virginia

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mountains. It ' s a route made famous by natural beauty and the simple rhythms of rural life. And it ' s in this setting that Hannah Anderson began her exploration of what it means to pursue a life of peace and humility. Fighting back her own sense

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of restlessness and anxiety, she finds herself immersed in the world outside, discovering a classroom full of forsythia, milkweed, and a failed herb garden. Lessons about soil preparation, sour mulch, and grapevine blights reveal the truth

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about our dependence on God,
finding rest, and fighting
discontentment. Humble Roots is
part theology of incarnation and part
stroll through the fields and forest.
Anchored in the teaching of Jesus,
Anderson explores how cultivating

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humility—not scheduling, strict boundaries, or increased productivity—leads to peace.

“ Come unto me, all who labor and are heavy laden, ” Jesus invites us, “ and you will find rest for your souls. ” So come. Learn humility

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from the lilies of the field and from the
One who is humility Himself.

Remember who you are and Who
you are not, and rediscover the rest
that comes from belonging to Him.

This book traces the development of
Haiti's combined Vodou-Christian

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religion from 1500 to the present and explains how this combination of distinct faiths coalesces in a coherent belief system. • Provides a history of Haiti's unique religious tradition that explains how Spanish and French colonizers established Catholicism in

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Haiti and identifies how the connections between Vodou and African indigenous religions formed over the past five centuries • Proposes seven "principles of accommodation" that enable Vodou-Catholicism to be regarded as a

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cohesive, rational system by the vast majority of Haitians • Presents information culled from hundreds of references from the professional literature as well as interviews with two university professors who are both authorities on Haitian Vodou-

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Christianity and practitioners of the faith

How Jewish is Christianity? The question of how Jesus' followers relate to Judaism has been a matter of debate since Jesus first sparred with the Pharisees. The controversy has

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not abated, taking many forms over the centuries. In the decades following the Holocaust, scholars and theologians reconsidered the Jewish origins and character of Christianity, finding points of continuity.

Understanding the Jewish Roots of

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Christianity advances this discussion by freshly reassessing the issues. Did Jesus intend to form a new religion? Did Paul abrogate the Jewish law? Does the New Testament condemn Judaism? How and when did Christianity split from Judaism? How

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should Jewish believers in Jesus relate to a largely gentile church? What meaning do the Jewish origins of Christianity have for theology and practice today? In this volume, a variety of leading scholars and theologians explore the relationship of

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Judaism and Christianity through biblical, historical, theological, and ecclesiological angles. This cutting-edge scholarship will enrich readers' understanding of this centuries-old debate.

Dangerous Mystic

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In Search Of Ancient Roots

In Search of Ancient Roots

Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith

Sacred Roots (Frames Series), eBook

African and Catholic Origins

Why is There a Menorah on the
Altar?

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The intellectual and political elite of the West is nowadays taking for granted that religion, in particular Christianity, is a cultural vestige, a

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primitive form of
knowledge, a consolation
for the poor minded, an
obstacle to coexistence.
In all influential
environments, the
widespread watchword is

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"We are all secular" or
"We are all post-
religious." As a
consequence, we are told
that states must be
independent of religious
creed, politics must

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take a neutral stance regarding religious values, and societies must hold together without any reference to religious bonds.

Liberalism, which in

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some form or another is the prevailing view in the West, is considered to be "free-standing," and the Western, liberal, open society is taken to be "self-

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sufficient." Not only is anti-Christian secularism wrong, it is also risky. It's wrong because the very ideas on which liberal societies are based and

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in terms of which they can be justified—the concept of the dignity of the human person, the moral priority of the individual, the view that man is a “crooked

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timber” inclined to prevarication, the limited confidence in the power of the state to render him virtuous—are typical Christian or, more

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precisely, Judeo-Christian ideas. Take them away and the open society will collapse. Anti-Christian secularism is risky because it jeopardizes

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the identity of the West, leaves it with no self-conscience, and deprives people of their sense of belonging. The Founding Fathers of America, as well as

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major intellectual
European figures such as
Locke, Kant, and
Tocqueville, knew how
much our civilization
depends on Christianity.
Today, American and

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European culture is shaking the pillars of that civilization.

Written from a secular and liberal, but not anti-Christian, point of view, this book explains

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why the Christian culture is still the best antidote to the crisis and decline of the West. Pera proposes that we should call ourselves Christians if

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we want to maintain our liberal freedoms, to embark on such projects as the political unification of Europe as well as the special relationship between

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Europe and America, and to avoid the relativistic trend that affects our public ethics. "The challenges of our particular historical moment", as

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Pope Benedict XVI calls them in the Preface to the book, can be faced only if we stress the historical and conceptual link between Christianity and free

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society.

A desire and demand to know more about the Jewish legacy of Christian identity is growing among laity. A similar desire to foster

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interfaith understanding and dialogue is growing among leaders of local churches. Why Is There a Menorah on the Altar? seeks to meet these demands by providing

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information and insight about Judaism's legacy as it is revealed in Christian rites, rituals, and traditions. Drawing upon scripture and historical sources,

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this book explains how
Judaism has influenced
the structure of
liturgical worship; the
design and décor of
church sanctuaries; and
how Baptism, Eucharist,

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and Confirmation find their roots in Judaism. This book invites readers to develop a deeper understanding of Judaism, one that will enrich their

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Christianity and appreciation for their enduring Jewish heritage. Includes: questions for reflection; activities for individuals or

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groups; and easy-to-follow timelines.

ABOUT THE BOOK: God appeared to Moses as a burning bush. He appeared to the Jews as a pillar of cloud by day

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and a pillar of fire by night. But His most important appearance was as a human being, Jesus the Christ. It is important to know that Jesus is none other than

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God Himself, the One of whom the prophets of old wrote, and the One who appeared to them in various forms and ways. It was while He was in the form of a man

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(Jesus) that God went to the cross and thus provided for our salvation. In God's Message to the Christian Church, Reverend W. Lewis Autrey shares a

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clear message concerning
who God is, how He
speaks to His people,
how He redeems man from
the grip of sin and
death, and His promise
to come back and take us

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to heaven to be with
Him. This is God's
eternal message. ****

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Reverend W. Lewis Autrey
lives in South Florida
and is a husband,

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father, U.S. military
veteran, and
preacher/speaker. Robert
S. Autrey, son of
Reverend W. Lewis
Autrey, graduated from
Alabama State University

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with a BS degree in social work. He was called to preach in 2006 and has been active in the study of God's Word ever since.

A Handbook on the Jewish

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Roots of the Christian Faith is a comprehensive handbook that serves as an introduction to the Jewish roots of the Christian Faith. It includes Old Testament

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background, Second Temple Judaism, the life of Jesus, the New Testament, and the early Jewish followers of Jesus. It is intended as a resource for college

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and/or higher education.
It is no longer a
novelty to say that
Jesus was a Jew. In
fact, the term Jewish
roots has become
something of a buzzword

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in books, articles, and especially on the internet. But what does the Jewishness of Jesus actually mean, and why is it important? This collection of articles

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aims to address those questions and serve as a comprehensive yet concise primer on the Jewish roots of the Christian faith. It consists of thirteen

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chapters, most of which are divided into four or five articles. It is in a handbook format, meaning that each article is brief but informative. The

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thirteen chapters are grouped into four major sections: (1) The Soil, (2) The Roots, (3) The Trunk, and (4) The Branches. Craig A. Evans, PhD, DHabil, is

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the John Bisagno
Distinguished Professor
of Christian Origins at
Houston Baptist
University in Texas. He
is a frequent
contributor to scholarly

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journals and the author
or editor of over
seventy books. Evans
resides in Houston, TX.
David Mishkin, PhD,
serves on the faculty of
Israel College of the

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Bible in Netanya,
Israel. He is the author
of The Wisdom of Alfred
Edersheim and Jewish
Scholarship on the
Resurrection of Jesus.
Mishkin resides in Fort

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Wayne, Indiana.

The Religious Roots of
American Sociology

Jesus and the Dead Sea
Scrolls

The Jewish Roots of

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Christianity

Texts from the Patristic

Era with Commentary

Discovering Our Roots

Meister Eckhart's Path

to the God Within

In With Roots & Wing, Jay

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McDaniel brings together insights from the natural sciences, Christian theology, and interreligious dialogue, breaking new ground in the search for a wholistic spirituality for our time. Taking this title from the Jewish proverb--that we must

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give our children both roots and wings--McDaniel shows how this applies to our spiritual lives as well. With *Roots and Wings* offers an alternative to the contemporary dilemmas of empty consumerism and rigid fundamentalism,

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consisting of three basic, interrelated approaches to being: to be rooted in the Earth and religious tradition; to be open to the insights of people of other faiths as well as to share our own; and to become centered on God. McDaniel shows where the

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new universe story of Thomas Berry
and Brian Swimme and the
Christian story meet and differ,
where they complement, and where
they supplement one another. With
Roots & Wings shows how to
experience both green grace that

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comes from opening one's self to the rhythms of the cosmos, and red grace symbolized in the crucifixion of Christ--both of which are vital to a Christian ecological spirituality and praxis. Most impressive is McDaniel's ability to absorb and

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reflect important lessons Christians can learn from Native Americans, from Buddhists and Hindus, from Muslims and Jews. The complexity of the issues he addresses and his ability to explain them simply and clearly makes *With Roots and*

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Wings must-reading for the general reader as well as ecological activists, clergy, and laity alike. Nothing else comes near it in depth, power, and insight.

The Roots of Christian
Mysticism Text and Commentary

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Some books on mysticism offer New Age syncretism. Others propose simplistic methods of producing spiritual experiences. Still others deconstruct religious experience. The Roots of Christian Mysticism by Oliver Clement,

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however, avoids these pitfalls.

Clement presents the mysticism of the early fathers themselves, from whose writings he offers exceptionally rich selections that are not readily available. In so doing, he introduces the reader to Christian

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mysticism through the words of those who were “drunk with God,” but whose religious experience was firmly rooted in Christ. Most importantly, given the modern propensity for bogus spirituality, Clement shows the

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indissoluble unity between mysticism and doctrine. The Fathers speak doctrine in voices radiant with the dark vision of God and their doctrine is both the fruit of prayer and the form of spirituality. From this perspective, the Church's

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teachings about God, Christ, Church, Sacrament and Christian vocation become the objects of contemplation and the personal quest for God finds its way within, not apart from the Church, ecclesia. Christian mysticism, therefore,

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always occurs within the womb of the Church, particularly within the locus of the liturgy and thus, is prevented at the outset from becoming merely a freewheeling and self-authenticating form of emotional exuberance. Mysticism,

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thus firmly rooted, is considered the normal spiritual life of all Christians. All the faithful are called to realize fully the grace of their baptism, that is, to fulfill their humanity by being divinized through grace. These words might

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be disconcerting or raise the specter of “enthusiasm,” but some proper understanding of this calling, however embryonic, is indispensable to spiritual growth, to the life of the Church and to the transformation of culture. Why, for

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example, when so many Americans claim to be Christian does their faith have so little impact on our culture? Or why are the Church's moral teachings found to be so excessively burdensome? Perhaps Christians have seldom been directed toward a

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spirituality that would open them to a fuller vision of their true destiny in Christ. A recent classroom experience illustrates the point. A young Christian father of two vigorously proposed many practical reasons for using contraception. His

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understanding of fatherhood operated on a purely naturalistic level; his concern to provide for his children likewise revolved around material goods. But once he glimpsed the ultimate destiny in Christ to which he and his children

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were called, he saw his fatherhood as a participation in a sacred mission and trust. Only then did the Church's teaching and the sacrifices it entails make sense enough to follow. Such illumination is an essential component in the

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birth of mystical life from which, for the fathers, the moral life flows. To use Clement's terms, "only when the beauty-goodness of the truth captures the spirit-heart is the person able to engage in Christian praxis and to make the sacrifices

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necessary not merely to be good but to be transformed into Christ.Â”

This transformation entails strenuous spiritual combat with a fallen human nature that the Fathers understand with exquisite perception. But even here the

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patristic thrust is basically positive, an attraction to the beauty and goodness of God that calls forth virtue, rather than an emphasis on the direct destruction of sin.

Clement aptly describes asceticism as \hat{A} “an awakening from the sleep-

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walking of daily life. It enables the Word to clear the silt away in the depth of the soul, freeing the spring of living waters.... It is the Word who acts but we have to co-operate with him, not so much by exertion of will-power as by loving

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attentiveness.Â” Although spiritual growth naturally encompasses the activities of prayer, fasting and so forth. Clement never discusses this apart from Christ and Trinity.

Salvation is not achieved through Pelagian self-development but in

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Christ and through his Church. The Fathers' theological center prevents their mysticism from collapsing into self-centered or naturalistic forms. The beauty that attracts is never separated from her sisters truth and goodness. The

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Roots of Christian Mysticism needs to be read by Christians seeking spiritual depth and by anyone wanting to taste doctrine as a living word. It is an excellent introduction to patristic thought and offers not only extensive selections of their

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writings but an appendix of about seventy pages of biographical material. Only one criticism of the book is offered: references to modern writers need to be noted so the reader can pursue them. Otherwise, this book is a gem.

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Jerrilyn Szelle Crisis April, 1996
Christianity is Jewish? The
rediscovery of the Jewish roots of
Christianity raises lots of questions:
Why were these roots forgotten for
so long? And how do they affect us
today? Do Gentile Christians need

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to obey the Jewish Law? What about Messianic Jews? Does God have a plan for Gentile Christians? And what about modern Israel? To answer these questions, we need to dive back into history to find out what happened: how Christianity

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was separated from so many of its Jewish roots, why Christians persecuted the Jewish people, and how this changed the Church and the way it understood its basic doctrines. Then we'll be ready to understand how God is changing

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hearts, leading so many to repent of these actions in the past, and how he is restoring Christianity's Jewish roots again. In this seminar, now in book form, you will learn a different kind of Church history, starting with God's plan for Jews and Gentiles in

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the body of Messiah, then learning how the Church turned away from and rejected that plan, and finally how God is now reconnecting the Church to its Jewish roots. This is itself a fulfillment of prophecy. And there is much more yet to come. The

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restoration of Christianity to its
Jewish roots has only just begun!

More Desired than Our Own
Salvation

7 Basics

The Christian Past And The
Evangelical Identity Crisis

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How the Church Was Uprooted,
Strayed from the Truth, and How
God Is Pointing the Way Home
Critical Essays on the Thought of H.
Tristram Engelhardt, Jr
How Humility Grounds and
Nourishes Your Soul

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Out of Egypt

**Texts from the Patristic Era with
Commentary displaying the roots
of the deeply mystical spirituality
that has flourished among
Christians throughout the ages.
By linking together a series of**

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brilliantly chosen texts from the early centuries of the Church, the author lays bare the roots of the deeply mystical spirituality that has flourished among Christians throughout the ages. This book will appeal to anyone who is

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**interested in the field of
spirituality. It is a masterly
contribution to Christian
scholarship, and this second
edition includes an
extraordinarily useful Index.
Great High Priest**