

christianity before christ by john g jackson

Christianity Before Christ by John G Jackson: Exploring the Roots of Faith

christianity before christ by john g jackson offers a fascinating journey into the origins and influences that shaped Christianity long before the advent of Jesus Christ. This insightful work delves into the historical, cultural, and religious contexts that laid the foundation for what would become one of the world's major religions. For anyone interested in understanding Christianity from a broader perspective, Jackson's exploration sheds light on the rich tapestry of beliefs and traditions that predate the New Testament narratives.

The Premise of Christianity Before Christ by John G Jackson

John G Jackson's book challenges the conventional view that Christianity began solely with Jesus of Nazareth. Instead, it argues that many elements of Christian doctrine and symbolism find their roots in earlier civilizations and spiritual systems. By examining ancient Egyptian, Mesopotamian, and other Mediterranean religious traditions, Jackson reveals striking parallels that suggest Christianity was influenced by a long history of religious thought and myth.

Jackson's approach is both scholarly and accessible, making complex historical and theological concepts understandable to a wide audience. His work encourages readers to reconsider the origins of Christian beliefs, emphasizing a continuity of spiritual ideas that evolved over centuries.

Key Themes in Christianity Before Christ by John G Jackson

Ancient Religious Influences on Christianity

One of the central themes in Jackson's book is the significant influence of ancient religions on early Christian thought. He explores how Egyptian mythology, particularly the stories surrounding Osiris and Isis, shares motifs with the life and resurrection of Jesus. These parallels include themes of death and rebirth, divine incarnation, and salvation.

Jackson also examines how Mesopotamian and Greco-Roman religious ideas contributed to Christian theology. For example, the concept of a dying and rising god, prevalent in several ancient religions, appears in Christian narratives of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Understanding these connections helps readers appreciate Christianity as part of a broader spiritual heritage.

The Role of Mystery Religions and Philosophical Schools

Christianity Before Christ by John G Jackson further investigates the impact of mystery religions and Hellenistic philosophies on early Christian communities. Mystery cults, such as those dedicated to Dionysus or Mithras, offered initiatory rites and promises of eternal life, elements that resonated with early Christian teachings.

Philosophical traditions like Stoicism and Platonism also shaped Christian doctrine, especially in terms of ethics and the nature of the soul. Jackson highlights how early Christian thinkers borrowed and adapted these ideas to articulate their faith in a way that appealed to the Greco-Roman world.

Historical Context and the Evolution of Religious Thought

Jackson's work situates Christianity within the broader historical currents of the ancient world. He emphasizes that religious ideas did not emerge in isolation but were part of ongoing dialogues between cultures. For instance, the Jewish faith, from which Christianity directly arose, was itself influenced by Babylonian exile and Persian religious concepts.

By tracing the evolution of religious thought over centuries, Christianity Before Christ by John G Jackson demonstrates how the figure of Jesus and the Christian message can be seen as the culmination of diverse spiritual streams. This perspective enriches our understanding of Christianity's place in history and its universal themes.

Understanding the Syncretism in Early Christianity

Syncretism, or the blending of different religious beliefs, is a key topic in Jackson's analysis. Early Christian communities were often multicultural and exposed to various religious traditions. This environment led to the incorporation of symbols, rituals, and theological ideas from neighboring faiths.

For example, the use of the cross as a symbol has pre-Christian origins, and the concept of a savior figure is found in multiple ancient myths. Recognizing this syncretism helps demystify some of the unique aspects of Christianity and highlights its adaptive nature.

Why Christianity Before Christ by John G Jackson Matters Today

Exploring the roots of Christianity before Jesus provides valuable insights not only for historians and theologians but also for anyone curious about the development of religious beliefs. Jackson's work encourages readers to see Christianity as part of a larger human quest for meaning, morality, and transcendence.

This broader understanding fosters interfaith respect by showing common threads between Christianity and other spiritual traditions. It also invites a more nuanced appreciation of religious history that goes beyond simple origin stories.

Tips for Readers Diving into Christianity Before Christ by John G Jackson

- Approach the book with an open mind, ready to explore unconventional viewpoints.
- Take notes on the various ancient religions and philosophies discussed to track their influence on Christian ideas.
- Reflect on how historical context shapes religious beliefs and practices.
- Use supplementary resources on ancient history and mythology to deepen your understanding.
- Engage in discussions or reading groups to explore different interpretations of Jackson's findings.

Exploring the Legacy of John G Jackson's Research

John G Jackson was a pioneering African-American historian and scholar whose work challenged mainstream narratives about history and religion. Christianity Before Christ by John G Jackson is one of his notable contributions, revealing overlooked connections and promoting a more inclusive view of religious development.

His research continues to inspire scholars and curious readers alike to question assumptions and explore the rich, interconnected histories that

underpin modern faiths. Jackson's dedication to uncovering hidden histories enriches our collective understanding of spirituality and culture.

In sum, *Christianity Before Christ* by John G. Jackson invites us on a compelling exploration of faith's origins, reminding us that the spiritual journey is a deeply human story shaped by centuries of shared ideas and experiences.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is John G. Jackson, the author of 'Christianity Before Christ'?

John G. Jackson was a historian, scholar, and author known for his works on African and African-American history, religion, and culture. He wrote *'Christianity Before Christ'* to explore the origins and influences on Christianity.

What is the main thesis of 'Christianity Before Christ' by John G. Jackson?

The main thesis of the book is that Christianity has roots and parallels in earlier religious traditions and philosophies, and that many elements attributed uniquely to Christianity actually existed before Christ.

Does 'Christianity Before Christ' discuss the influence of Egyptian religion on Christianity?

Yes, John G. Jackson examines how ancient Egyptian religious beliefs and practices may have influenced early Christian theology and symbolism.

How does John G. Jackson support his arguments in 'Christianity Before Christ'?

Jackson uses historical, archaeological, and textual analysis of ancient religious traditions, comparing myths, rituals, and teachings to highlight similarities with Christianity.

Is 'Christianity Before Christ' considered controversial?

Yes, the book challenges traditional Christian narratives by suggesting Christianity borrowed heavily from earlier religions, which has sparked debate among scholars and religious communities.

What religious traditions does John G. Jackson compare to Christianity in his book?

Jackson compares Christianity to various ancient traditions including Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Greek, and other Near Eastern religions.

Where can I find a copy of 'Christianity Before Christ' by John G. Jackson?

The book is available in many libraries, bookstores, and online platforms such as Amazon and Google Books, and sometimes as a free PDF from websites dedicated to historical religious studies.

Additional Resources

Christianity Before Christ by John G. Jackson: An Analytical Review

christianity before christ by john g jackson is a provocative and enlightening work that challenges conventional understandings of Christian origins. John G. Jackson, an influential historian and scholar, delves into the antecedents of Christianity, arguing that many of its central themes and narratives predate the historical figure of Jesus Christ. This book is positioned as a critical text for anyone interested in religious history, comparative mythology, and the evolution of spiritual thought.

In this article, we explore the key arguments and historical insights presented in *Christianity Before Christ* by John G. Jackson, examining how the text sheds light on the syncretic origins of Christianity and its connections to earlier religious traditions. We will also assess the book's scholarly impact, its use of evidence, and its relevance to contemporary discussions about the historical Jesus and Christian theology.

Contextualizing Christianity Before Christ by John G. Jackson

The premise of *Christianity Before Christ* by John G. Jackson is rooted in the examination of religious motifs and doctrines that appear in various ancient cultures well before the emergence of Christianity in the first century CE. Jackson investigates Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Greco-Roman, and other Near Eastern religious traditions to trace common spiritual themes such as resurrection, virgin birth, and divine incarnation.

Jackson's approach is comparative and interdisciplinary, combining historical records, mythological texts, and theological analysis. By doing so, he situates Christianity within a broader tapestry of religious ideas that were circulating in the Mediterranean and Near Eastern world. This perspective

encourages readers to reconsider the notion of Christianity as an entirely novel faith, instead viewing it as an evolution of existing spiritual paradigms.

Key Themes Explored in the Book

One of the central themes in *Christianity Before Christ* by John G. Jackson is the concept of the "dying and rising god." Jackson identifies numerous deities from ancient mythologies who embody this archetype, including Osiris from Egyptian beliefs and Dionysus from Greek tradition. These figures share narratives of death, descent into the underworld, and subsequent resurrection, which Jackson argues are foundational to the story of Jesus Christ.

Another significant focus is the motif of the virgin birth, a narrative element that Jackson traces back to earlier mythologies. The book highlights parallels between the Christian nativity story and pre-Christian myths where divine or semi-divine figures are born under miraculous circumstances, suggesting that early Christian writers may have adopted these motifs to resonate with existing religious audiences.

Jackson also scrutinizes the ethical and philosophical teachings attributed to Jesus, comparing them with wisdom literature and moral codes from earlier traditions, including Egyptian Book of the Dead maxims and Greco-Roman philosophical schools. This comparative analysis offers a nuanced understanding of how Christian ethics might reflect a synthesis of diverse cultural influences.

Historical Evidence and Methodology

Christianity Before Christ by John G. Jackson relies heavily on ancient texts, archaeological findings, and scholarly interpretations to build its case. The author draws from sources such as the Egyptian Pyramid Texts, Greek mythology, Dead Sea Scrolls, and Roman historical accounts. This wide-ranging evidence base allows Jackson to present a compelling argument for the syncretic nature of Christianity.

However, the methodology employed by Jackson has been subject to scrutiny. Critics point out that some of the parallels drawn between Christian and pre-Christian myths may be coincidental or the result of selective interpretation. The challenge in comparative religious studies lies in distinguishing between genuine historical influence and superficial similarities that arise independently in different cultures.

Despite these debates, Jackson's work remains valuable for its thorough documentation and its encouragement of critical inquiry. By highlighting the shared motifs and religious ideas across cultures, *Christianity Before Christ*

by John G. Jackson invites readers to approach Christian origins with an open and investigative mindset.

Pros and Cons of the Book's Approach

- **Pros:**

- Comprehensive exploration of ancient religious traditions that predate Christianity.
- Encourages critical thinking about the origins of Christian doctrines.
- Well-researched with references to a wide variety of historical and mythological sources.
- Accessible writing style that appeals to both scholars and general readers.

- **Cons:**

- Some arguments may appear speculative due to the interpretative nature of comparative mythology.
- Occasional overemphasis on similarities without fully addressing cultural and temporal distinctions.
- Limited engagement with contemporary biblical scholarship and archaeological debates.

Impact on Scholarship and Popular Understanding

Christianity Before Christ by John G. Jackson has contributed to a broader conversation about the historical roots of Christianity. It challenges the traditional view that the Christian faith emerged solely from Jewish religious traditions, instead proposing that it is a product of cultural and religious exchanges across the ancient world.

This perspective has influenced both academic and popular discourses, encouraging scholars to explore the complex interplay between various

religious traditions. In popular culture, the book has resonated with readers interested in alternative histories and the origins of spirituality, often cited in discussions about mythicist theories and the historicity of Jesus.

While mainstream biblical scholarship tends to approach these topics with more caution, Jackson's work remains a notable reference point. It serves as a reminder of the importance of examining religious history through a broad, comparative lens to fully appreciate the multifaceted nature of belief systems like Christianity.

Relevant LSI Keywords Integrated

Throughout this review, terms such as "origins of Christianity," "ancient religious traditions," "dying and rising god," "virgin birth myths," "comparative mythology," and "historical Jesus" have been woven naturally into the analysis. These keywords not only enhance the SEO value of the article but also reflect the diverse topics that *Christianity Before Christ* by John G. Jackson covers, making it a rich source for those researching early Christian history and its antecedents.

The book's exploration of "syncretism in religious history" and "pre-Christian spiritual beliefs" further situates it within ongoing academic inquiries into how religions transform and adapt over time. Such terms help contextualize the book's arguments in broader scholarly debates.

Christianity Before Christ by John G. Jackson invites readers to reconsider established narratives and to appreciate the complex cultural mosaic from which Christianity emerged. Its detailed examination of ancient myths, religious practices, and ethical teachings provides a valuable framework for understanding how early Christianity was shaped long before the historical figure of Jesus walked the earth.

[Christianity Before Christ By John G Jackson](#)

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christianity before christ by john g jackson: *Christianity Before Christ* John G. Jackson, 1985
Nothing is new or original in Christianity. All features and components of what is now known as Christianity were present in mythologies that flourished before Jesus is alleged to have lived, and this book shows how those myths evolved into today's religion.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: *Dekoloniale Kunstgeschichte* Carolin Overhoff
Ferreira, 2022-12-19 Dieses Buch ist eine bedeutende und längst überfällige Studie der

Kunstwissenschaften aus einer dekolonialen Perspektive. Es stellt zunächst die Dekolonialität als Neudefinition der Moderne vor, bei der die Eroberung Amerikas und des Atlantiks im Mittelpunkt stand. Die Kunstwissenschaften der letzten 2.500 Jahre werden dann als Teil dieses europäischen kolonial-kapitalistischen Projekts der Subalternisierung und Abhängigmachung vermeintlich Anderer dargestellt, deren Methoden und Diskurse in ihrer Kolonialität herausgearbeitet. Indigene, afro-diasporische, lateinamerikanische und afrikanische Künstler und Gelehrte werden hinzugezogen, um unbekannte Perspektiven und einen universellen Kunstbegriff zu entwerfen, der gegen die asymmetrischen Machtverhältnisse der eurozentrischen Kunstwissenschaften anzugehen vermag.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: Erlösungsvorstellungen und Erlösergestalten: Von mythischen Erlösern, Avataren, Gottmenschen, orientalischen Opfertgöttern, aufgestiegenen Meistern zum auferstandenen Christos Holger Karsten Schmid, 2018-03-29 Erlösergestalten, Avatare, Satgurus und Thanatologen bieten Hoffnungsentwürfe für ein Leben nach dem Tod, doch für die Religionen und für die Esoteriker sehen diese unterschiedlich aus und die Frage nach der Wahrheit stellt sich neu. Der Autor untersucht, welche unterschiedlichen Botschaften und Initiationsstufen zur Transformation von diesen außerchristlichen Meistern, Avataren und den Sant Satgurus verkündet werden und ob deren Lehren wirklich eine frohe Botschaft beinhalten oder Halbwahrheiten, eine Erleuchtung oder Verblendung, eine Er- oder vielmehr Auflösung ermöglichen und statt spirituelle Führung eine Irreführung sind. Die Phänomene bei Begegnungen mit Geistwesen (Spirits) während einer Astral- und Seelenreise oder bei einem Channeling werden kritisch hinterfragt und ihre Risiken aufgezeigt. Der Autor geht zudem den Ursprüngen der Mysterienkulten, des Sakralopferituals, des Auferstehungsglaubens und den Mythen nach, die das Christentum und dessen Erlösungsvorstellung prägten. Dabei gewinnt die Auferstehungshoffnung an Bedeutung, weil sie sowohl, wie es der Mathematiker und Physiker BLAISE PASCAL (1623 - 1652) formulierte, die Größe und das Elend des Menschen gleichermaßen umfasst und ihn nicht, wie alle anderen Hoffnungsentwürfe, zu einem gefallenem Gott macht, der vergessen haben sollte, einer zu sein.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: The Genesis of the Bible Shaka Saye Bambata Dolo, 2012-03-06 This book is about Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and how the Arabs and Europeans took these Afrikan Religious Belief Systems from ancient Egypt, North Afrika and used them during The Trans-Sahara Afrikan Slave Trade by the Arabs in the name of Allah, and followed by The Transatlantic Afrikan Slave Trade by the Europeans in the name of Jesus, to enslave the bodies, minds, and souls of the Afrikan Race. This book is about the Jesus Deception that has been passed on down through history by European historians, that is still being taught around the world today. This book takes a provocative intellectual, scholastic, historical, cultural, and sociological look at the Bible. This book identifies the names of the translators of the King James Bible of 1611 A. D., and when the chapters and verses in the Bible were created and who created them. The purpose of this book is to expose the historical, cultural, sociological, religious and theological lies of the Europeans and the Arabs. This book reveals the truth of the origination of The Bible, as There Is No Religion Higher Than The Truth. Join me in an intellectual odyssey through time. Here, I feel like a Lone Warrior standing before a mighty army. Come with me on this perilous pilgrimage as we travel through a parallel universe. I dedicate this book to my mother and father who gave me life. To the rest of my Native Afrikan family for supporting me and encouraging me on this publishing venture. To the Heavenly Father, without whom none of this would be possible. There are others I would also like to thank for being a part of helping me through this journey called Life, such as my professors at the Alabama State University where many a great scholars paths I have crossed. To my American family and friends in Mobile, Alabama who nurtured and taught me from childhood to adulthood. The many friends and colleagues I met in my travels all across America in my intellectual journey, and last but certainly not least, to my publisher for granting me the opportunity to speak to many all around the world in this forum. I am eternally indebted to you all-Thank you.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: 100 African religions before slavery &

colonization Akan Takruri, 2017-02-12 This book list 100 African religions before slavery & colonization. These are the African systems that kept Africans at peace for over 100,000 years.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: *The Black Clergy's Misguided Worship Leadership* Christopher Bell, Jr., Ed.D., 2010-01-28 The Black Clergy's Misguided Worship Leadership, This book is an incisive analysis showing why and how the black community's worship of Jesus Christ, Christianity's White male idol, is a subliminal, underlying cause of the high incarceration rates among young Black males. Citing cogent historical, educational, and behavioral reasons, Dr. Bell explains why the worship of the ancient Roman, Constantine- certified, white male idol Jesus Christ is misguided and afflicts black people with a deleterious white superiority syndrome. Dr Bell explains further how such worship spiritually emasculates and socially demeans black manhood and how many young black men intuitively react in ways that lead to high rates of delinquencies, violence, crime, and incarceration. In this book, Dr. Bell petitions the black clergy to stop this misguided worship and start teaching black people a new Christianity that espouses a "Worship only God, the source and sustainer of life" message and honors but does not worship prophet Jesus. Dr. Bell argues that this new Christianity will liberate black people from the damaging psychological effects of their white-male worshipping folkways. He also argues that the new Christianity will end the spiritual emasculation and disrespect imposed on young black men by the old Constantine-certified Christianity and will thus mediate downward the high rates of delinquencies, violence, and incarceration among young black men. Dr. Bell asserts that unless the black clergy takes the actions requested in his petition, black people will forever think of themselves as inferior to white people and many, angry young Black men will continue their plight and plunge toward incarceration.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: *Philosophy of Religion and the African American Experience* John H. McClendon III, 2017-07-03 Most white philosophers of religion generally presume that philosophy of religion is based on what is a false universality; whereby the white/Western experience is paradigmatic of humanity at-large. The fact remains that Howard Thurman, James H. Cone and William R. Jones, among others, have produced a substantial amount of theological work quite worthy of consideration by philosophers of religion. Yet this corpus of thought is not reflected in the scholarly literature that constitutes the main body of philosophy of religion. Neglect and ignorance of African American Studies is widespread in the academy. By including chapters on Thurman, Cone and Jones, the present book functions as a corrective to this scholarly lacuna.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: *In His Name* E. Christopher Reyes, 2014-08-15 One naturally assumes that when they listen to their Pastor, Reverend, or Priest, that they speak the truth, and takes for granted that when the Pope speaks, he also speaks the truth. Yet few Christians are conscious, much less concerned to hear about the truth, or of how they have been deceived for centuries, and betrayed again by their sacrosanct religious institutions bent upon enriching themselves by their ignorance of the faiths history and gullibility. This book deals with the truth, the truth, which many Christian sects do not wish to convey to their followers. For almost two thousand years Christians have maintained that Jesus was God incarnate, a sinless man, a man born of a virgin mother, a man who was the embodiment of perfection on earth, which is unflinchingly stated in their Christian Bibles, the New Testament, [Jesus] Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth. ~I Peter 2:22, King James Authorized Version. Cf. Luke 2:48, Joseph is Jesus father (?). We are dying today from the fact of not having anyone who knows how to lay down his life for the Truth. ~Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J., quoted in *The Jesuits: The Society of Jesus and the Betrayal of the Roman Catholic Church* by Malachi Martin, author of *Vatican and The Final Conclave*, pg. 286, 1987.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: *The End of Black Studies* Clovis E. Semmes, 2016-08-12 Following a history of racial oppression and segregation, Black Americans were able to move in greater numbers into previously all- or predominantly-White colleges and universities. However, they encountered normative structures that excluded or distorted the Black experience and denied Black perspectives. As a result, Black studies grew up reconstructing the humanity of a

historically oppressed, devalued, and exploited group. Knowledge production in Black studies offers distinct insights into the strength and resiliency of the human spirit and poses exemplary models for enlightened social change. This book examines the foundational parameters and historical mission of the field of African-American Studies, which emerged from a broad-based Black intellectual tradition defined by the metaproblem of cultural hegemony. Semmes seeks to broaden our thinking about the scope and content of Black studies. The End of Black Studies identifies Afrocentric or Black-centered approaches to knowledge production that are distinctly different from, yet inclusive of, a historiographical emphasis on ancient Egypt, but alternative to the claim of a singular African worldview. This book will appeal to students and scholars interested in the field of Black Studies, including African American studies, Africana studies, Africology, and Pan-African studies. It will be a source of critical discussion for graduate seminars examining theory building and/or knowledge production (research and writing) in Black studies. The End of Black Studies has received the 2017 Outstanding Book Award from the National Council for Black Studies. Read the Introduction for free online using our eBook widget "

christianity before christ by john g jackson: Pan-African Education John K. Marah, 2017-08-09 This book makes a critical contribution to the study of pan-Africanism and the education of African people for continental African citizenship. It is a unique endeavor in that it intersects the social history of pan-Africanism and the education of African people at a 'global' level and provides reflections from a multidisciplinary perspective on the urgency for continental pan-Africanism educational system in order to produce a more renascent African for the twenty-first century. Arguing that Pan-African Education is a mass-based educational system that will 'craft' a pan-African African personality, John Marah calls for integrated African school systems and curriculum changes conducive to larger social integration and institutionalized pan-African educational processes. The establishments of pan-African Teachers Colleges; intensive language institutes; pan-African literature courses; the training of African military and police forces; the use of music, sports, media and other extra-curricular activities (the hidden curriculum), etc.; are viewed as essential aspects in the socialization of a pan-African character or personality. Pan-African Education is an essential read for students and scholars of Pan-Africanism, African and Africana Studies, and Black Studies.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: The Holy Black Papyrus Floyd Williams, 2015-04-03 A book about the resurrection of THE BLACK MAN AND THE BLACK WOMAN. We are in a period of history where it seems to be repeating it self and this has provoked many fears and questions for some. The Holy Black Papyrus addresses these concerns and questions, if you are looking for answers, insight, knowledge of self, or just a great read, then this book is for you! Great for the layman and scholar.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: Everything About the Bible That You Never Had Time to Look Up W. Milton Timmons, 2003-02 Visit the author's website at www.miltontimmons.com. Heretofore it has required years of study, access to many rare books, and superhuman effort to cut through the nearly impenetrable prose of these ancient books. Now all the hard work has been done for you in this easy to read summary. The project began during the course of collecting background material for a novel about the origins of Christianity when it soon became apparent that reliable information was very scarce. Perhaps half the books that shaped Western concepts of religion have ceased to exist. Many were destroyed as heretical after the early ecumenical councils closed the biblical canon in the fourth century; others have simply turned to dust. The oldest biblical manuscripts in existence are the Dead Sea Scrolls, which go back to approximately 100 B.C.E. And the oldest Christian manuscripts are those found in the Gnostic library of Nag Hammadi, in Egypt written in the fourth century C.E. But they don't contain any of the canonical books. All other information comes to us via copies of copies. Before invention of the printing press in 1450, all replication was by hand which allowed countless variations to creep into texts. Especially after translation into multiple languages, many stories evolved into a wide spectrum of versions. Which is the true version? It is impossible to say. The aim of this volume is to be concise rather than exhaustive thus making available to general readers the main sources of Judeo-Christian

thought, without the distraction of scholarly disputes. For the benefit of those who may question the interpretation of certain documents, or who wish more information about original sources, a selected bibliography is included. It should be remembered that the books in this volume were written by very primitive people who were trying to make sense of the world with the only information they had. But even in those days, most of these authors were not considered educated by their Greek and Roman contemporaries. Moreover, the Jewish and Christian leaders who created the biblical canon rejected the majority of these documents as products of overheated imagination. So there are times when descriptions necessarily become a bit whimsical. Always, however, the goal has been to cover the author's main points while eliminating only the extraneous. Even though many of these books did not end up in any authorized Bible, they have nevertheless been extremely influential in the evolution of religious traditions. To this day, sermons, theological doctrines, and Sunday school lessons are still based on these extra-canonical sources: Where did medieval artists get the idea for all those paintings about the Assumption of the Virgin? There's nothing in the Bible about any such event. How do Catholics justify their doctrine that Mary remained a virgin all her life even though the Bible says Jesus had several brothers and sisters? Where did Dante Alighieri get his concepts about the levels of hell? Where did John Milton get the plot for his story about Lucifer the fallen angel? The documents contained in this book are where those ideas, and a myriad others, all came from.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: Don't Squander Our Dearly-Bought Freedom J. C. Buthelezi, 2003 Don't Squander Our Dearly-Bought Freedom tells a story of political turmoil in the Post-apartheid era. Vista University campus becomes a site of protest, where demonstrators decry the education of so-called slaves and claim that inferior education should not be allowed.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: Awaken the Mind Sean Liburd, 2008-05-08 These words are the thoughts and offerings inspired by a man's communication and interaction with his community. A Listener's voice reflecting the challenges encountered on the journey of self-knowledge. A fiery truth that beckons to all African people to celebrate their ancestry while continuing the tradition of building upon the foundation for the benefit of unborn generations. Awaken the Mind: Communion with Sean Liburd the Sharing of Thoughts and Emotions, an Intimate Communication Between a People is a revealing collection of experiences and lessons that stimulate critical thinking.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: Foundational Falsehoods of Creationism Aron Ra, 2016-10-01 Religious fundamentalists and biblical literalists present any number of arguments that attempt to disprove evolution. Those with a sympathetic ear often fail to critically examine these creationist claims, leading to an ill-informed public and, perhaps more troubling, ill-advised public policy. As Aron Ra makes clear, however, every single argument deployed by creationists in their attacks on evolution is founded on fundamental scientific, religious, and historical falsehoods—all of them. Among their most popular claims is that evolution is a religion, that there are no transitional species, that there are no beneficial mutations, and that supposedly sacred scripture is the infallible word of God. Yet, as the evidence and data plainly show, each of these claims is demonstrably and unequivocally false. There is simply no truth to creationism whatsoever, and the entire enterprise rests on a foundation of falsehoods. This book explains and exposes the worst of these lies, and should be read by all who honestly care about following the evidence no matter where it might lead in pursuit of the truth.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: Africa Yosef Ben-Jochannan, 1988 In lecture/essay format, Dr. Ben identifies and corrects myths about the inferiority and primitiveness of the indigenous African peoples and their descendants. Order Africa Mother of Western Civilization here.

christianity before christ by john g jackson: God Is Redundant M. Anton Mikicic, 2010 M. Anton Mikicic's god is redundant evolved from a free-thinking dad's letter to his two pre-teen daughters, not to indoctrinate them into a secular worldview, but rather inform them about other

perspectives beyond Christianity. Written in plain language and containing many famous and thought-provoking quotes, it recaps some of the classic arguments for and against theism as well as reviews some of the most recent work of authors like Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris, and Christopher Hitchens. Mikicic dispels common misconceptions about theism and atheism and provides simple and straightforward answers to questions like: - Is the U.S. a Christian nation? - What are the differences between faith and reason? - What are the benefits and drawbacks of religion? - What are the arguments for and against theism? - How accurate is the Bible? Who was Jesus? Was he unique or historical? - Is religion the basis for morality? Born into a Catholic family and educated by Jesuits, M. Anton Mikicic evolved from an a la carte to a recovering Catholic and is now a full-fledged skeptic. Always fascinated by philosophy, theology, science, and religion, god is redundant is the result of his search for intellectual honesty in matters of faith. Professionally, Mikicic has worked in marketing and has a master's degree in advertising. He's a member of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Freedom from Religion Foundation. Mikicic enjoys the arts, especially music, literature, and film. His favorite freethinkers include Thomas Jefferson, Mark Twain, John Lennon, Dan Barker, Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris, Christopher Hitchens, George Carlin, Bill Maher, and Julia Sweeney. But most of all, Mikicic loves just spending time with his family, especially traveling to new places, enjoying nature, or discussing what everyone learned that day over one of his wife's fabulous dinners and a glass of wine.

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