

The Divine Feminine In Biblical Wisdom Literature Selections Annotated Explained Skylight Illuminations

The twentieth anniversary edition of a transformative blueprint for ancestral healing—featuring new material and gateways, from the renowned herbalist, natural health expert, and healer of women’s bodies and souls “This book was one of the first that helped me start practices as a young woman that focused on my body and spirit as one.”—Jada Pinkett Smith Through extraordinary meditations, affirmations, holistic healing plant-based medicine, KMT temple teachings, and The Rites of Passage guidance, Queen Afua teaches us how to love and rejoice in our bodies by spiritualizing the words we speak, the foods we eat, the relationships we attract, the spaces we live and work in, and the transcendent woman spirit we manifest. With love, wisdom, and passion, Queen Afua guides us to accept our mission and our mantle as Sacred Women—to heal ourselves, the generations of women in our families, our communities, and our world.

Almighty Goddess: Presenting the Long-Suppressed Biblical Proof that The Holy Spirit of the Divine Trinity Is a Feminine Person / A Woman's Place Is in God's Plan: How the Bible Promotes Female Equality By: Dennis Keith Klopp Are you ready to know the truth of the Trinity and live a better and more hopeful spiritual life? For too long Christian religious texts have been misread and misunderstood. The Christian God is made up of the God the Father, God the Son – and Goddess the Holy Spirit, the Divine Mother and Wife, the All-Wise Counselor. Dennis Keith Klopp brings to light the powerful female divine that has always been a part of the Christian faith. Using the Bible, Apocrypha, and detailed Hebrew translations, Klopp proves how feminine Holy Spirit has been with us since the beginning. She is Solomon’s female Wisdom, the true Mother of Jesus, and our eternal advocate and comforter. She is in our hearts and will guide you to peace and individual righteousness. Worshipping the Trinity as a Holy Family will change how you see God and your role in the world. Klopp shares how this new view of the inclusive family of God will reveal information about Heaven, angels, and the Divine Plan for humankind. The feminine Holy Spirit is not a new idea – She has been with us always and has and now you can see her role and yours in the world.

Insightful commentary explains Sophia's way of wisdom through the Wisdom literature of the Hebrew Bible and illustrates the countless opportunities to experience Her creative energy through which God fashions all things.

Contemporary translations and powerful commentaries clarify who Wisdom is, what she teaches, and how her words can help you live justly, wisely, and with compassion. Original. \$25,000 ad/promo.

Endorsements: "A calm, well-balanced, carefully prepared book. . . . Excellent for adult Bible discussion groups, for occasional sermons, for suggesting ways of inclusive language. This book teaches and directs without antagonizing." --The Bible Today "A persuasive book, useful for personal reflection and group discussion, and ideal for gift-giving." --Daughters of Sarah "This is no dry erudite volume. It rubs salve in personal wounds inflicted by centuries of biblical misreading." --Sojourners "The book reflects careful research; it is written in a style that will appeal to those interested in the implications of biblical research but without the time or inclination to follow the involved discussions of biblical scholarship." --National Catholic Reporter

An exploration of the repressed, esoteric feminine mysteries in the Bible through the lives of four women, all archetypes of the sacred prostitute • Shows how these four archetypal women represent the four stages of development of soul consciousness • Reveals how the fear of the power of the sacred prostitute led to a rejection of female sexuality and a destructive dualistic notion of men and women • Explains how the dogma of the Immaculate Conception represents the repression of the divine feminine in Christianity In *Feminine Mysteries in the Bible*, Ruth Rusca unveils sacred mysteries of the feminine and the alchemical relationship of the male and female forces at the heart of the Judeo-Christian tradition. Drawing on over 30 years of research, she explores four archetypal women in the Bible: Tamar, the sacred prostitute; Rahab, the meretrix; Ruth, who redeems the soul; and Bathsheba, the daughter of the Goddess. These women--sacred prostitutes one and all--represent the indestructible feminine life force, the wisdom of the Goddess, and the transformative power of the soul, and they symbolize the four stages of the development of soul consciousness. Mary, mother of Jesus, is the quintessence of these four women, but Rusca shows that the dogma of the Immaculate Conception has repressed the significance of Mary and subverted the divine feminine in Christianity due to the church’s fear of women and their life-giving energy. These women pass an imperishable feminine life force from generation to generation, and understanding their lives creates a path to overcoming the destructive tendencies of dualistic “male-female” thinking--a duality that profanes feminine sexuality and mysteries rather than revering and celebrating them.

Put aside all you preconceptions about the Bible and pick up this book. Lynne Bundesen imagines what it means to breathe a women's spirit into sacred narrative. She enriches our understanding and nourishes our souls. -Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, author of *Midrash: Reading the Bible with Question Marks* and many children's books, including *Noah's Wife* and *But God Remembered: Stories for Women from Creation to the Promised Land* In an accessible and comprehensive way, Lynne Bundesen weaves together linguistic knowledge, insightful exegesis, history of interpretation, and feminist biblical scholarship to reveal feminine spirit-the female divine and the divine female-from Genesis to Revelation. *Feminine Spirit at the Heart of the Bible* is a book that Christians hungry for God the Mother will read with pleasure and share with enthusiasm. -Mary Ann Beavis, professor of Religious Studies, author of *Christian Goddess Spirituality: Enchanting Christianity*, editor of *She Rises*, and founding editor of *The Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* Lynne Bundesen's *The Feminine Spirit at the Heart of the Bible* is an insightful reading of the Jewish and Christian scriptures focusing on the feminine, nurturing side of the divine. It calls out misinterpretations, mistranslations, and biased readings that have held women down and back for centuries. Accessible to the general reader, it is nonetheless based on sound scholarship. It is ideal for individual study or group sessions. -Alice Ogden Bellis, Hebrew Bible professor and author of *Helpmates, Harlots, and Heroes: Women's Stories in the Hebrew Bible* and *Proverbs* Bundesen's knowledge of the Bible is clear throughout, as is her agenda: to offer a new way to read the Bible with women in the limelight. -Publishers Weekly

A Guide to Navigate Evangelical Feminism In a society where gender roles are a hot-button topic, the church is not immune to the controversy. In fact, the church has wrestled with varying degrees of evangelical feminism for decades. As evangelical feminism has crept into the church, time-trusted resources like *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood* help remind

Christians of what the Bible has to say. In this new edition of the award-winning best seller, more than 20 influential men and women such as John Piper, Wayne Grudem, D. A. Carson, and Elisabeth Elliot offer thought-provoking essays responding to the challenge egalitarianism poses to life in the church and in the home. Covering topics like role distinctions in the church, how biblical manhood and womanhood should work out in practice, and women in the history of the church, this helpful resource will help readers learn to orient their beliefs with God's unchanging word in an ever-changing culture.

"A masterpiece of women's wisdom."—Christiane Northrup, M.D. "The journey to capture her feminine soul and live authentically . . . makes a fascinating, well-researched and well-written story."—Publishers Weekly In celebration of the twentieth anniversary of its publication, a newly reissued edition of the bestselling author's classic work of feminine spiritual discovery, with a new introduction by the author. "I was amazed to find that I had no idea how to unfold my spiritual life in a feminine way. I was surprised, and, in fact, a little terrified, when I found myself in the middle of a feminist spiritual reawakening."—Sue Monk Kidd For years, Sue Monk Kidd was a conventionally religious woman. Then, in the late 1980s, she experienced an unexpected awakening, and began a journey toward a feminine spirituality. With the exceptional storytelling skills that have helped make her name, Kidd tells her very personal story of the fear, anger, healing, and freedom she experienced on the path toward the wholeness that many women have lost in the church. From a jarring encounter with sexism in a suburban drugstore, to monastery retreats and to rituals in the caves of Crete, she reveals a new level of feminine spiritual consciousness for all women—one that retains a meaningful connection with the "deep song of Christianity," embraces the sacredness of ordinary women's experience, and has the power to transform in the most positive ways every fundamental relationship in a woman's life—her marriage, her career, and her religion.

A "bible" for the religiously unaffiliated, weaving sacred texts from the world's major religions into a coherent exploration of the core questions at the heart of every religion's search, with insightful commentary on using these texts in our daily lives.

"This book is a "tour de force." It is simply magnificent" witty, scholarly, profoundly persuasive, blunt, prophetic, and convicting this slow-to-believe disciple all over the place." " Brennan Manning, Author of "The Ragamuffin Gospel" "I'm not sure what to make of it all, but Paul Smith gives the best arguments I have ever come across for calling God Mother. For anyone struggling with how far we should go in using inclusive language, this is "must" reading. " Tony Campolo, Eastern College "With tender power and wit, Paul Smith challenges the church to biblical fidelity and justice in its worship language. How encouraging it is to hear an evangelical male voice affirm the necessity of feminine images of God! This outstanding book so clearly and convincingly demonstrates the biblical imperative for inclusive God-language that the Christian community can no longer ignore it." " Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Ph.D., Chaplain, Baylor University Medical Center, Author of "God and Gender" and "God: A Word for Girls and Boys"

Through the fascinating stories of pioneering ministers, this book reveals a unique picture of progressive changes occurring in the Christian tradition. Meeting challenges and overcoming obstacles, these twelve diverse ministers are changing the church as they take prophetic stands on gender, race, interfaith cooperation, ecology, sexual orientation, economic opportunity, and other social justice issues. Believing in the power of sacred symbolism to shape social reality and to provide a foundation for justice and freedom for all people, these ministers lead worship with inclusive language and imagery for humanity and divinity. They include multicultural female and male images of the Divine. Their stories affirm the connection between this expansive theology and an ethic of justice and equality in human relationships. In working from within to change the church, these ministers have risked censure by denominational authorities, loss of opportunities for promotion to larger congregations or to prestigious denominational positions, and even loss of their jobs. They have found creative ways to balance advocating for change and working to support the church, using their positions as ordained clergy to bring liberating change to the church and the wider culture.

Teilhard de Chardin, twentieth-century paleontologist and Jesuit, envisioned an explosion in global communication that could expand human consciousness to the point of universal empathy. In the process, he joined his scientific knowledge to his religious faith. Exploring Teilhard's ideas in biblical texts, Marie Sabin discovers that his vision has ancient seeds. In the book of Job, the Gospel of John, and in Proverbs' feminine Wisdom, as well as in the gospels' Christ, she finds a persistent theme of evolving human consciousness. The texts ground Teilhard's futuristic thought in ancient wisdom, while Teilhard's evolutionary insights give these ancient voices contemporary relevance.

"The spiritual needs and interests of both men and women have changed enough to merit a new edition of this superbly crafted, scholarly study of Sophia". -- Janet Forsythe Fishburn This fresh translation renders the Song of Songs as Lady Wisdom offering seekers physical and spiritual intimacy with her so that they might awaken to the unity of God, woman, man and nature. Facing-page commentary provides historical, religious and spiritual insights from Christianity and Judaism as well as comparisons to other translations.

The pure and penetrating message of the Divine Feminine - Wisdom - can become a companion for your own spiritual journey The first of God's creations and God's endless delight, Wisdom (also known as Chochma and Sophia) is the Mother of all life, the guide to right living - She is God manifest in the world you encounter moment to moment. Her teachings, embedded in the Holy Scriptures of Jews and Christians, are passionate, powerful calls to live in harmony, love with integrity and act joyously. Through the Hebrew books of Psalms, Proverbs, Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes and Job, and the Wisdom literature books of Sirach and the Wisdom of Solomon, the Divine Feminine speaks to you directly, and Her only desire is to teach you to become wise. Rami Shapiro's contemporary translations and powerful commentaries clarify who Wisdom is, what She teaches, and how Her words can help you live justly, wisely and with compassion. This is not a book about Wisdom but the voice of Wisdom Herself, liberating, uplifting and compelling. Now you can experience the Divine Feminine and understand Her teachings with no previous knowledge of Wisdom literature. This SkyLight Illuminations edition presents insightful commentary that explains Sophia's way of wisdom and illustrates the countless opportunities to experience Her creative energy through which God fashions all things.

The Hidden Goddess delves into the Bible to uncover the goddesses that have been buried within it. As well as discussing familiar figures such as Eve and Mary, the book also features Asherah, Sophia, Lilith, and others, exploring their histories, their roles in early Judaic Christian belief and their subsequent suppression. '...a readable and accessible antidote to the stereotype that the divine feminine is absent in the biblical traditions. A great resource for women and men seeking the Goddess in unlikely places. Professor Mary Ann Beavis, Ph.D., St. Thomas More College

More than ancient erotic love poetry, this celebration of the human relationship with Wisdom can be a companion for your own spiritual journey. The Song of Songs is the Hebrew Bible's deeply erotic poem of love, sexual yearning and consummation. Holding it sacred yet troubled by its thinly veiled eroticism, Jews and Christians for millennia have read the Song of Songs as an allegory of God's love for

Israel—the classic Jewish understanding—or Jesus's love for his Church—the classic Christian understanding. This fresh translation restores the Song's eroticism and interprets it as a celebration of the love between the Divine Feminine and the contemporary spiritual seeker. Scholar and award-winning teacher Rami Shapiro renders this ancient love song as Lady Wisdom offering seekers physical and spiritual intimacy with her so that they might awaken to and participate wisely in the unity of God, woman, man and nature. His intriguing facing-page commentary provides historical, religious and spiritual insights from Christian and Jewish wisdom traditions as well as clear comparisons to other translations. Now you can understand the poetry, beauty, genius and mystery of the Song of Songs with no previous knowledge of the Hebrew Bible or wisdom literature. Compelling in its novelty and accessible in its presentation, this version of the Song of Songs will beckon you more deeply into Jewish-Christian sacred texts while offering you wisdom teachings and practices rooted in but not limited to religion.

This book is a radical exploration of the mystical teachings in the Gospel of John. It helps the reader to experience these spiritual truths for themselves, and go beyond the everyday mind, which is dominated by the ego and realize their eternal Being, which John's Gospel calls Logos. By approaching the teachings in a meditative state, the symbolism contained within the Greek text opens out and comes alive in the present moment. The Gospel is not a historical document; it speaks directly to each person now and the states of consciousness represented in the stories are accessible now. The book contains guided meditations to help bring this to life for the reader. This awakening concerns our relationship with the whole of life. Spiritual consciousness means that we are aware of the sacredness of our connections to each other as fellow human beings, and to the creatures of the natural world. Christ and the Logos contain both masculine and feminine in balance; at this critical time, our well-being and that of our fellow creatures is dependent on this realization.

"In this wise and deeply nuanced book, beloved spiritual guide Meghan Don masterfully walks us through the light and the darkness of the Holy into the arms of the Divine Feminine...where we are emboldened to step up as a force of healing and hope in the world."—Mirabai Starr, author of *God of Love: A Guide to the Heart of Judaism, Christianity & Islam* Achieve Spiritual Evolution through True Empowerment of Your Feminine Soul Experience an evolutionary journey with this guide to embracing the light and dark of the archetypal stages of womanhood. Bringing forward Gnostic and mystical teachings, Meghan Don shows you how to work with the seven faces of the Divine Feminine: the light and dark aspects of the Daughter, Mother, and Crone, as well as the enlightened being of one's true nature. Using reflections, prayers, meditations, and ancient chants, *The New Divine Feminine* helps you heal your spirit, find liberation, and trust your inner soul voice and vision. No matter your spiritual beliefs, you can access each divine face and gain empowerment from this guide's exploration of powerful, sacred women, including Mary Magdalene, Lilith, the Black Madonna, and Teresa of Avila. Praise: "This may well be the best book written on the Divine Feminine. It is not only a book 'about' spiritual evolution, it is immediate, inwardly felt. These alive words awaken truths already present but covered over for centuries...This is a book of waking up, of becoming our nature. A book everyone should read!"—Robert Sardello, PhD, author of *Silence: The Mystery of Wholeness*

Reveals the tradition of goddess worship in early Judaism and how Jesus attempted to restore the feminine side of the faith • Provides historical and archaeological evidence for an earlier form of Hebrew worship with both male and female gods, including a 20th-century discovery of a Hebrew temple dedicated to both Yahweh and the warrior goddess Anat • Explores the Hebrew pantheon of goddesses, including Yahweh's wife, Asherah, goddess of fertility and childbirth • Shows how both Jesus and his great rival Simon Magus were attempting to restore the ancient, goddess-worshipping religion of the Israelites Despite what Jews and Christians--and indeed most people--believe, the ancient Israelites venerated several deities besides the Old Testament god Yahweh, including the goddess Asherah, Yahweh's wife, who was worshipped openly in the Jerusalem Temple. After the reforms of King Josiah and Prophet Jeremiah, the religion recognized Yahweh alone, and history was rewritten to make it appear that it had always been that way. The worship of Asherah and other goddesses was now heresy, and so the status of women was downgraded and they were blamed for God's wrath. However, as Lynn Picknett and Clive Prince reveal, the spiritual legacy of the Jewish goddesses and the Sacred Feminine lives on. Drawing on historical research, they examine how goddess worship thrived in early Judaism and included a pantheon of goddesses. They share new evidence for an earlier form of Hebrew worship that prayed to both male and female gods, including a 20th-century archaeological discovery of a Hebrew temple dedicated to both Yahweh and the goddess Anat. Uncovering the Sacred Feminine in early Christianity, the authors show how, in the first century AD, both Jesus and his great rival, Simon Magus, were attempting to restore the goddess-worshipping religion of the Israelites. The authors reveal how both men accorded great honor to the women they adored and who traveled with them as priestesses, Jesus's Mary Magdalene and Simon's Helen. But, as had happened centuries before, the Church rewrote history to erase the feminine side of the faith, deliberately ignoring Jesus's real message and again condemning women to marginalization and worse. Providing all the necessary evidence to restore the goddess to both Judaism and Christianity, Picknett and Prince expose the disastrous consequences of the suppression of the feminine from these two great religions and reveal how we have been collectively and instinctively craving the return of the Sacred Feminine for millennia.

Presents a portrait of sacred female and goddess imagery in Western culture, from their creation to the present day.

Nautilus Book Awards 2020 winner! "Put aside all your preconceptions about the Bible and pick up this book. Lynne Bundesen imagines what it means to breathe a woman's spirit into sacred narrative. She enriches our understanding and nourishes our souls." -Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, author of *Midrash: Reading the Bible with Question Marks* and many children's books, including *Noah's Wife* and *But God Remembered: Stories for Women from Creation to the Promised Land* "In an accessible and comprehensive way, Lynne Bundesen weaves together linguistic knowledge, insightful exegesis, history of interpretation, and feminist biblical scholarship to reveal feminine spirit—the female divine and the divine female—from Genesis to Revelation. *Feminine Spirit at the Heart of the Bible* is a book that Christians hungry for God the Mother will read with pleasure and share with enthusiasm." -Mary Ann Beavis, professor of Religious Studies, author of *Christian Goddess Spirituality: Enchanting Christianity*, editor of *She Rises*, and founding editor of *The Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* "Lynne Bundesen's *The Feminine Spirit at the Heart of the Bible* is an insightful reading of the Jewish and Christian scriptures focusing on the feminine, nurturing side of the divine. It calls out misinterpretations, mistranslations, and biased readings that have held women down and back for centuries. Accessible to the general reader, it is nonetheless based on sound scholarship. It is ideal for individual study or group sessions." -Alice Ogden Bellis, Hebrew Bible professor and author of *Helpmates, Harlots, and Heroes: Women's Stories in the Hebrew Bible and Proverbs* "Bundenen's knowledge of the Bible is clear throughout, as is her agenda: to offer a new way to read the Bible with women in the limelight." -Publishers Weekly (Updated 2019 edition!-THIS IS A NEW AND GREATLY EXPANDED VERSION OF AN EARLIER TITLE BY THIS AUTHOR.)

Essay by Donald Kuspit The first monograph by famed actor and director Leonard Nimoy, this eerily beautiful photographic study of the female form reveals Nimoy's intrigue with

Old Testament mythology and ancient spirituality. The Shekhina, described by the Kabbala as God's feminine counterpart, is understood by mystics to be a crucial element of both divine and human spirit, symbolising the creativity and wisdom without which no being is complete. Here, Nimoy uses 50 duotone photos as an exhaustive investigation of his own spirituality.

The pure and penetrating message of the Divine Feminine - Wisdom - can become a companion for your own spiritual journey. The first of God's creations and God's endless delight, Wisdom (also known as Chochma and Sophia) is the Mother of all life, the guide to right living - She is God manifest in the world you encounter moment to moment. Her teachings, embedded in the Holy Scriptures of Jews and Christians, are passionate, powerful calls to live in harmony, love with integrity and act joyously. Through the Hebrew books of Psalms, Proverbs, Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes and Job, and the Wisdom literature books of Sirach and the Wisdom of Solomon, the Divine Feminine speaks to you directly, and Her only desire is to teach you to become wise. Rami Shapiro's contemporary translations and powerful commentaries clarify who Wisdom is, what She teaches, and how Her words can help you live justly, wisely and with compassion. This is not a book about Wisdom but the voice of Wisdom Herself, liberating, uplifting and compelling. Now you can experience the Divine Feminine and understand Her teachings with no previous knowledge of Wisdom literature. This SkyLight Illuminations edition presents insightful commentary that explains Sophia's way of wisdom and illustrates the countless opportunities to experience Her creative energy through which God fashions all things. Harvard-trained theologian Meggan Watterson marched out of her church at age ten. With little-girl clarity, she knew something tremendously crucial was missing...the voices of women. Watterson became a theologian and a pilgrim to the divine feminine to find the missing stories and images of women's spiritual voices. She knew women's voices had never been silenced, just buried. But what she truly sought was her own spiritual voice inside her—the one veiled beneath years of self-doubt. At a sacred site of the Black Madonna in Europe, Watterson had a revelation that changed her. Rather than transcending the body, denying or ignoring it, being spiritual for her meant accepting her body as sacred. Only then, Watterson realized could she hear the voice of unfaltering love inside her- the voice of her soul. With passion, humor, and brutal honesty, Watterson draws on ancient stories and lesser-known texts of the divine feminine, like The Gospel of Mary Magdalene, making them modern and accessible to reveal the spiritual process she went through. She suggests that being spiritual is simply about stripping down to the truth of who we really are. Through her extensive work with women, Watterson found that she was not alone. There are countless women who long for a spirituality that encourages embodiment rather than denies it, that inspires them to abandon their fears but never themselves, and to be led by the audacious and fiercely loving voice of truth inside them. No matter where you rest on the spectrum of spirituality; religious or secular, devout believer or chronic doubter, freelance mystic or borderline agnostic, this story is about the desire in all of us to want to shed everything that holds us back. Reveal provides what religions have left out—the spiritual voice of a woman who has claimed her body as sacred—a woman who has found the divine insider her. In essence, this is a manual for revealing your soul. "I have spent the majority of my life gathering stories of the divine feminine. Each time before getting my masters degrees in theology and divinity, I went on a pilgrimage to sacred sites of the divine feminine throughout Europe. The first one was with a group and the second was on my own... The stories of the divine feminine, of Christianity's Mary Magdalene, Catholicism's Black Madonna, Hinduism's Kali ma, and Buddhism's Green Tara for example, allowed me to begin to see that I wasn't as much of a spiritual misfit as I had thought. There was a red thread that became visible to me that ran through so many of the world religions, especially through their mystics, relating that the way to find the divine is to go within. And, that our potential to be transformed by going inward is exactly the same whether we are a man or a woman. The real barometer of our spiritual potential is not our sex, but the commitment of our desire to want to encounter the divine." Excerpt from Reveal

In Brigid's Footsteps: The Return of the Divine Feminine focuses on the Celtic goddess and Christian saint Brigid as an archetype of the Divine Feminine. Drawing on mythology, history, and transpersonal psychology, the author traces the iconic Brigid's evolution from incarnation as goddess of wisdom, craft, and healing to embodiment as a saint of Celtic Christianity who served as midwife to Mary at the birth of Jesus. Part Two explores the suppression of feminine energies in mainstream western culture and the damaging consequences of living in our masculine-biased civilization. The final essays speculate on how the Divine Feminine may influence our masculine-leaning culture during the shift in consciousness Jung referred to as a "changing of the gods," a time in which Brigid re-emerges as the spirit of liminal times and midwife to the Holy.

Here are the stories about biblical women that are not widely known but remain relevant particularly today for women and men of all faith and backgrounds. As archetypes, biblical women hold the spiritual keys for transforming ourselves and the world.

Drawing on timeless texts from Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism and more, this compendium of wisdom is a new scripture for the spiritual but not religious. Where conventional Bibles and scriptures speak to believers of one religion or another, this is a global spiritual conversation for seekers of every faith and none.

Deepen your appreciation of Judaism as a way of living graciously. Reclaims grace as a core Jewish idea, presenting it as a key for unlocking the spiritual nature of all aspects of Judaism, looking at God, creation, covenant, faith and Jewish practice.

"What was Jesus' relationship with Mary Magdalene? What did he teach about the role of women? Is God only male? Mary Magdalene and the Divine Feminine explores these questions and much more as it unfolds Jesus' liberating teaching on Woman and on the true nature and destiny of the soul—teaching that has been lost for thousands of years. With detailed research and penetrating insight, Elizabeth Clare Prophet shows that Jesus actually broke with the tradition of his time and brought a revolutionary and freeing message for women that was later suppressed. She talks about why early Christian leaders denied Jesus' message on reverence for Woman and on the inner feminine potential

of both man and woman. She also reveals the true relationship of Jesus and Mary Magdalene and why the concept of original sin, which was not part of Jesus' original teachings, was invented. In these pages, you will also explore the principle and role of the Mother and the Divine Feminine in East and West from ancient times through the teachings of the Hindus, Hebrews, Christians, Gnostics and others. And you will come to see how the story of Mary Magdalene is representative of our own soul's journey and holds valuable keys for your personal spiritual growth and awakening."

This book offers a stunningly new interpretation of the role of the women in the Hebrew Testament. Using the Judaic mysticism of the time it represents them as aspects of the Divine Feminine — the Creatrix of the World. The lives of the Matriarchs and Heroines of the Bible viewed through the eyes of mystic and bible historian, Rev. Maggy Whitehouse, outlines the development of the feminine aspect of the human soul. This reveals the women as archetypes as relevant to us today as to the Jews and Christians 2000 years ago. *God is Not Alone* will challenge your views of what you thought you knew about the Bible and Christianity. It is a wide-ranging scholarly exposition of the divine feminine, drawing on numerous ancient Christian and pre-Christian texts to deliver its central message: that throughout Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, God is not alone, but is accompanied by a Mother-Goddess, the Holy Spirit, personified as Wisdom. While examining the roots of the divine feminine, this book tackles many aspects of femininity throughout the Bible, beginning with a new interpretation of the creation story where men are made in the image of God and women of His Wife. It is who She is that this book is ultimately about. The author, Marianne Widmalm, clearly illustrates the original feminine nature of the Holy Spirit, lost in translation from the Hebrew texts. By demonstrating the influence of the early Canaanites, Mary Magdalene, the Shekinah, the Holy Spirit and the role of women in the development of the Church in the first centuries, the author weaves together disparate texts that point us back to the goddess Asherah, and how She is one and the same as the Holy Spirit and Wisdom personified. The survival of the divine feminine is also shown through the Kabbalah and Apocryphal texts that drew from the Wisdom texts in the Hebrew Scriptures. Most significantly, according to numerous early church fathers, Jesus himself called the Holy Spirit as his "Mother" in, what the author argues, could be the first written Gospel. Additionally, the author explores key doctrinal issues faced by the early Church Fathers such as baptism with oil representing the Holy Spirit; the original role of women as deaconesses; as well as the development of the concept of the Trinity. This idea that God is three-in-one provides a key framework for understanding the marginalisation of the divine feminine. Step-by-step, assertions of sexism in the Bible are stripped away and the reader is returned to the original divine balance of the feminine and masculine that was lost through centuries of church doctrine and translations from Hebrew and Aramaic, to Greek and English. This provocative work is essential reading for anyone interested in first century Christianity as well as Judaism, the early Hebrews, Biblical research, Goddess Spirituality, the origins of Gnosticism, and the theological role and true nature of the Holy Spirit.

An enlightening follow-up to the bestselling book *The Case for Christ*, *In Defense of Jesus* follows award-winning journalist Lee Strobel as he explores the most explosive arguments against the identity of Christ as the Messiah. Has modern scholarship debunked the traditional Christ? Has the church suppressed the truth about Jesus to advance its own agenda? What if the real Jesus is far different from the atoning Savior worshiped through the centuries? *In Defense of Jesus* explores such hot-button questions as: Did the church suppress ancient non-biblical documents that paint a more accurate picture of Jesus than the four Gospels? Did the church distort the truth about Jesus by tampering with early New Testament texts? Do new insights and explanations disprove the resurrection? Have fresh arguments disqualified Jesus from being the Messiah? Did Christianity steal its core ideas from earlier mythology? Evaluate the arguments and evidence being advanced by prominent atheists, liberal theologians, Muslim scholars, and others. Sift through expert testimony. Then reach your own verdict with *In Defense of Jesus*. This title is also available in Spanish, *En defensa de Jesús*.

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