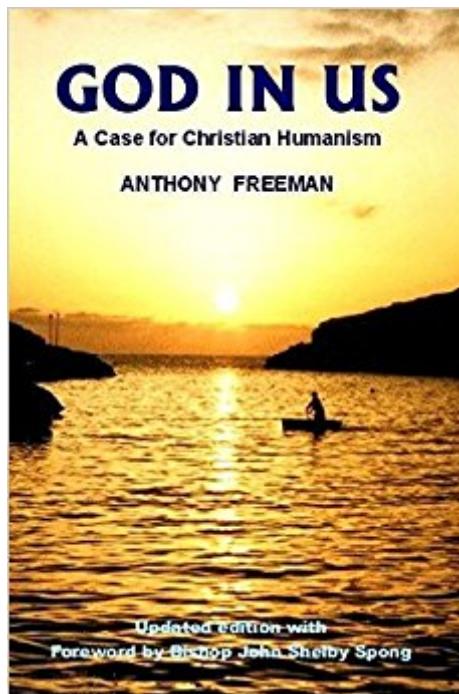


The book was found

God In Us: A Case For Christian Humanism (Societas)



Synopsis

God In Us is a radical representation of the Christian faith for the 21st century. Following the example of the Old Testament prophets and the first-century Christians it overturns received ideas about God. God is not an invisible person 'out there' somewhere, but lives in the human heart and mind as 'the sum of all our values and ideals' guiding and inspiring our lives. This new updated edition includes a foreword by Bishop John Shelby Spong and an afterword from the author.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Anthony Freeman is a de-frocked Anglican priest. Why did he get the boot? Maybe it's because he dared to say what many people already suspect, that God is not "out there," in heaven, outside of history, distant, aloof, and silent, but "in here," alive and present. Does Anthony believe in God or doesn't he? The church said no, and he had to go. He says yes. It depends how you understand God. He presents his reasoning in this brief, but provocative gem.

GOD IN US is a fascinating little book which presents a fairly radical view of God and the current state of Christianity. Actually it contains two contrasting viewpoints counting the interesting Foreword provided by John Shelby Spong. Anthony Freeman does not believe in the traditional God of Christianity as described in the Bible and the Creeds. He does not put faith in an objective God out there somewhere but instead chooses to construct a God from his own most cherished values.

Freeman's ideas of God are very similar to those expressed by Don Cupitt who places great emphasis on embracing the Void. Freeman regards the Bible and the Creeds as purely human inventions. In fact, he considers all religions to be made entirely by humans. Spong, on the other hand, talks about God as if it actually exists in the depths of being. He believes that he experiences God although he is not able to explain God. Freeman and Spong are at their best when describing what is wrong with Christianity. They are much less convincing when they try to offer solutions for fixing it.

Throughout history, there have been many concepts of the supernatural. In ancient times, the Gods and Goddesses resembled humans with special powers. More recently, they were all-powerful beings in charge of a defined geographical area. Still more recently, God has been visualized as an omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent, omnibenevolent spirit, in spite of the logical contradictions that these attributes generate. Freeman has taken the next step, towards a God who is not "an invisible person 'out there' somewhere, but lives in the human heart and mind as 'the sum of all our values and ideals' guiding and inspiring our lives." Unfortunately, the Church of England was not willing to tolerate one of their priests taking this step.

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