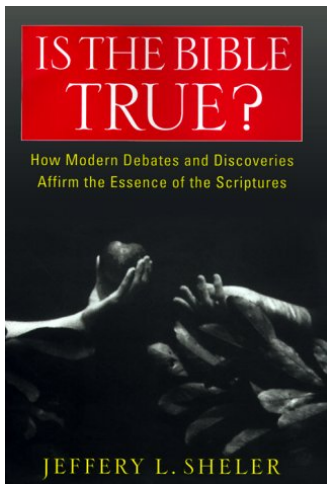


[PDF] Is The Bible True?

Jeffery L. Sheler - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: Is the Bible True?
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Description:

What this book is not: a partisan (Jewish or Christian) account declaring the absolute historical accuracy of the Bible. What it is: a fair-minded exploration of this question of the Bible's historical truth. Author Jeffery Sheler is a journalist (religion correspondent for *U.S. News and World Report*) who relies extensively on interviews, onsite reports from Israel and Egypt, and a lot of library research. Instead of claiming to offer any startling breakthroughs, the book gives the reader an evenhanded treatment of this immensely controversial text. In a style that is clear and conversational, Scheler walks the reader through key moments in the Hebrew Bible and in the New Testament, exploring the grounds for the historical truth behind such figures as Abraham, Moses, and David, and behind such scriptural accounts as the Flood and the Exodus. Sheler retells the astonishing story of the discovery of the Qumran (Dead Sea) scrolls, and explores their significance for our understanding of first-century Judaism and early Christianity. He also discusses at length the work of the controversial Jesus Seminar scholars. His own conclusions, while not evangelical, are also not deconstructive: "After all of the scholarly scrutiny," he writes, "the Bible emerges affirmed but not unscathed, a credible but complex chronicle of humanity's encounter with God." -
-Doug Thorpe

From Publishers Weekly Sheler, the religion correspondent for U.S. News and World Report, offers an even-handed examination and critique of the Bible as a historical document in his first book. Drawing on biblical scholarship, archeology, modern debate and the Scriptures themselves, and relying on his journalistic sense of balance, Sheler proposes that much of the material in the Bible is based on fact. Did Moses really live? The chances of pinpointing a single, desert wanderer who lived 4000 years ago are virtually nil, but archeological evidence points to the likelihood that many biblical persons and events were, at least partially based on reality: a stele fragment uncovered in Galilee describes the House of David, and ancient hieroglyphics suggest that the departure of the Jews from Egypt happened not in a single exodus but in several large migrations. As the book draws heavily on already published scholarly material, there are few surprises here, yet this is a minor quibble because Sheler deftly presents the arguments side by side, allowing lay readers to decide for themselves if the Bible is true. Particularly enlightening is the segment on the search for the historical Jesus, in which Sheler highlights Jesus scholars' ideas and personalities. Sheler's true strength is his ability to maintain a reasonably impartial perspective as he arrives at his conclusions. Mostly favorable. About the Bible's veracity. This is an excellent book for anyone interested in the Bible both as a work of history and a testament of faith. (Nov.)

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They claim that using the Bible to support the Bible is "circular reasoning" (testing the validity of an idea by its own pronouncements). This is not so. We must first remember in discussing the claims of the Bible with anyone, that the Bible is not a single, autonomous work. Rather, it is a collection of 66 different books written over a vast time span in three languages on three continents with authors from every station in life. What we are really interested in, then, is to determine if the Bible is a book that is the true words of God given to men, or is it merely the words of men written about God? If it is the latter, then it should display characteristics like those of other books written by men about God. It really shouldn't be all that different from many other works we possess. Yes, many things in the Bible are true. Obviously, there's a very great deal of myth in there. Beyond the glaring stuff like the gods, ghosts, creation myths, miracles, and other magic, history and archaeology do not support the Exodus story or the invasion of Canaan. The same is true of the New Testament, though its scope is smaller and more interested in a single, heavily mythicised person than with history, so in a sense, there's less meat there. Is the Bible True? New Exhibit. We all struggle with doubts at times. Is the Bible really from God? Does it have errors? Follow Gabriela, Ryo, and Andre around their college campus as they are challenged about their beliefs. The new exhibit "Why the Bible Is True" addresses many common objections to trusting God's Word. Ticket Options. Just Another Religious Text? With all the religions in the world, how can you know what to believe? You'll find out the Bible is worlds apart from any other book in its scope, consistency, and message! Are the Manuscripts Reliable? How do we know the original me