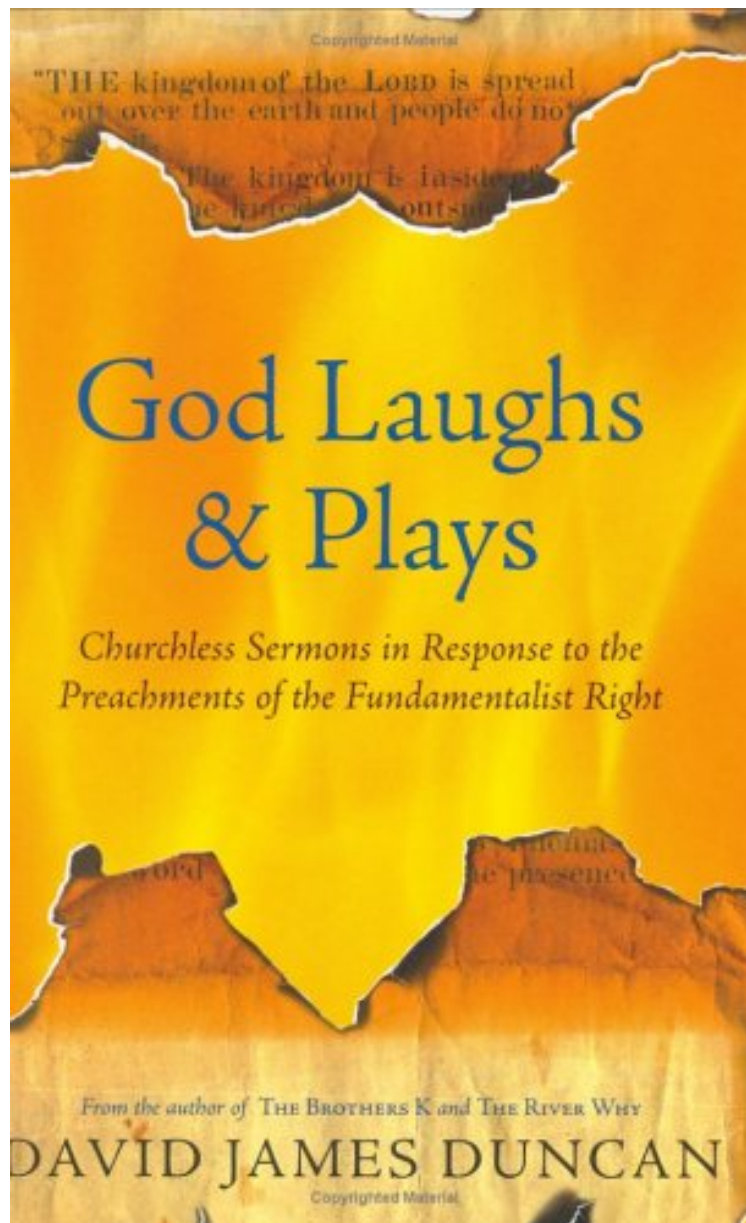


(Mobile book) God Laughs Plays: Churchless Sermons in Response to the Preachments of the Fundamentalist Right

God Laughs Plays: Churchless Sermons in Response to the Preachments of the Fundamentalist Right

David James Duncan

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David James Duncan : God Laughs Plays: Churchless Sermons in Response to the Preachments of the Fundamentalist Right before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all

praised God Laughs Plays: Churchless Sermons in Response to the Preachments of the Fundamentalist Right:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. DJD is my favorite writer...By BILL NIEMANN...and has yet to let me down. With honesty like this, how can he? This collection is similar along the lines of *My Story...* but you gotta know that the teachings of Christ and ALL the rest have been hijacked over time to serve the few and to rake in the dough. Duncan does not hold back his punches one bit and in particular explains the hypocrisy handily w/ his lively debate with the woman in "Agony Hilarity." "They" will only defend what they can invent to serve their perspective be it antiabortionism, antihomosexualism or bombing the hell out of indigenous folks who worship Allah (the same God as theirs, by the way). Anyway the example concerns a debate with an animal rights whack-job over catching and releasing fish. Sheesh...Rodney King is very useful here with his plea. I've read all of Duncan starting with "Why"...have given "Teeth" out as gifts to 20 people and this book is no exception. If you are happy with your church politicizing your religion then read this book (he he) Bill 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Wonderful By endlessstream Full disclosure: 1) David James Duncan's fiction makes him among my favorite authors; 2) I'm agnostic, and have never been a Christian. Therefore, I was poised to like this book by a great writer, but I was a little skeptical of his religious viewpoints. I shouldn't have been - It turns out that, although Jesus is fundamental to Duncan's cosmology, his spiritual and philosophical views are accessible from those of diverse faiths (i.e., me). Duncan speaks honestly and passionately about his personal faith life - about his doubts, about eschewing the religious tradition he was raised in, and about creating a meaningful relationship between his God and the world around him. And, as always, he does it with a great sense of humor. As in his other fiction and non-fiction works, Duncan espouses a love of nature and ecology, especially of the Pacific Northwest salmon streams. His passion for the world of God's creation, and for all living things, drives his faith and the two together drive his life's decisions. I, too, could be considered "an environmentalist" - I work in the field of natural resources - but I lack the fervor that David James Duncan has, both personally and professionally. Whether I read this book all the way through, or pick it up to read an essay here and there, Duncan's intensity inspires me to think anew about my own actions and beliefs. These essays make me question and examine my own (dis-)beliefs, and help to guide my ethical decision-making. I wholeheartedly recommend this book for anyone who likes God, fish, trees, humanity, clean air and water, or funny stories. I also recommend it for anyone who isn't sure if they like any of those - D.J. Duncan provides compelling arguments without seeming to argue, and even if he hasn't completely convinced me, he's at least made me think about things in a new light. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating and engaging work! By Peter R. Riani This is such a unique book as to defy comparison. Duncan is a courageous writer who is not afraid to express his opinions no matter how problematic they may be. However, his voice is well worth hearing. The very personal parts toward the end of the book are worth the entire book. I was left with the strong desire to meet the author and engage in a face-to-face conversation with him. A thought-provoking work. well worth your time and modest price.

In *God Laughs Plays*, Duncan argues that the de facto political party embodied by the so-called "Christian Right" has turned worship into a self-righteous betrayal of the words and example of the very Jesus it claims to praise. In opposition, Duncan offers a thought-provoking collection of "churchless sermons," stories, memoir, and conversations--all united by the contention that the way of life preached and embodied by Jesus is apolitical and should be free of media machinery. While reminding us that the true Christian ethos scorns riches and embraces the poor; blesses peacemakers, not war-makers; and asks us to love and serve neighbors and "do good" even unto enemies, Duncan also goes a step further: he offers a poignant and inspiring glimpse into a profound new cosmology that can help humanity manage the epochal challenges of a fast globalizing and ecologically challenged world.