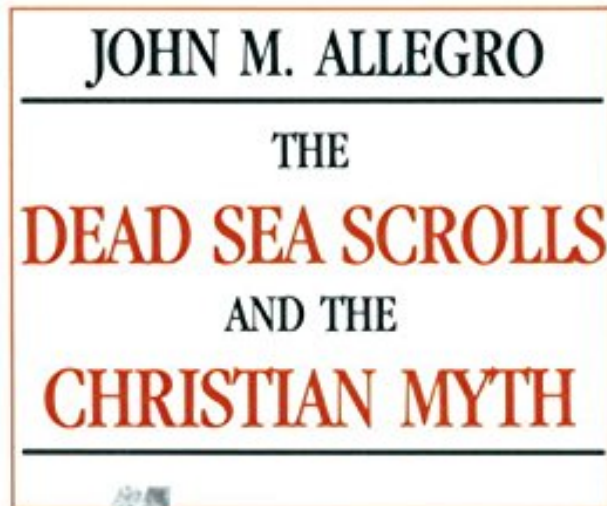


(Read free ebook) The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Christian Myth

The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Christian Myth

John Allegro

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



 Download

 Read Online

#718229 in Books Prometheus Books 1992-03-01 1992-03-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.25 x .60 x 5.381, 1.00 #File Name: 0879757574278 pages | File size: 33.Mb

John Allegro : The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Christian Myth before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Christian Myth:

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. an initial effort to draw a line from the dead sea scrolls to the New Testament By flashgordonEisenman in his "James, brother of Jesus" hypothesizes that James the Just is the righteous teacher in the dead sea scrolls and that Paul is the wicked priest. John Allegro before him hypothesized a bit

differently; He says the wicked priest is some former Greek ruler and Jesus was the righteous teacher; only, this Jesus was crucified long before the Jesus Christ of the New Testament - like around 88 B.C. I haven't read Eisenman's work yet. I've read Finkelstein's "The Bible Unearthed", Earl Doherty's "The Jesus Puzzle", and Acharya S's "Christ in Egypt." I think I'm making good time! Well, now, I've read John Allegro's little book here. I feel like I've read maybe the inspiration for Eisenman's work; the question is who's right about who the righteous teacher and the wicked priest is? The above issue is probably what would stop most people from reading this great, well written book today. I don't know about all his details; he sometimes doesn't give a reference to some of his points; but, more often than not, he gives references to primary sources; you do that in this business and you've got to take it somewhat seriously. The only thing that mythology can point to is printed words and ruins; so, how seriously can you ever take anything about this Bible stuff? If you can get a reference to a primary source . . . ; He of course cannot talk about all aspects of the dead sea scrolls since they were not released in his lifetime; but, what he does is show the culture of the dead sea scrolls writers, and he makes key connections. I mean if your new to this stuff as I was you'll look at the chapter headings and feel like your diving into some meaningless culture; but, each chapter points to the next; what's said in one chapter often makes sense of the chapter heading coming right up. It was something I found in the way he structured the book. I mean what he did in this book was to just give a bare outline hint that the essenes could indeed have evolved into proto-christianity. He could do no more during the time he lived! He just seems to find little threads based on primary references and shows connections all the way to the New Testament. In the end, he mentions that the New Testament notes all kinds of slang and code words for spells and so on; but, he does not begin to show those. Maybe those are in his Jesus is a Mushroom book (oh boy, I have read yet another thousand page tomb!) All in all, I'm thinking this book may have been the inspiration for Eisenman's works. Also, his last chapter is more about philosophy and suggesting that maybe we shouldn't be so harsh on the writers of the New Testament; he notes that they seemed to be torn between keeping their religion pure and for the individual and making one religion to rule the world. He notes that some of the pro-roman tax paying appears to be more of a compromise; that they seemed to be reluctant to put that in there. I myself have found that there are things to appreciate about this whole Judao-Christian religion; that it is solar-theology personified (the Bible starts out with saying god is for controlling the stars and signs . . . astrotheology right there!). I've spent a lot of my life trying to understand the nature and origin of mathematical concepts. And abstraction is certainly a major feature. Abstraction is the common form that many similar structures can take on. The quick and easy example is that two apples and two oranges are just to concrete structures of the abstraction number two. Jesus Christ is just the common form of the solar theology of the mediterranean back then. It's nice that Jesus Christ can be viewed this way; but, I don't like how Jesus Christ and God are ultimately used; they are ultimately just vague words used to explain away everything without explaining anything. Jesus Christ is the Alpha and Omega; he's everything he needs to be. Whether good or bad happens, god (and even Jesus Christ) did it; if it's something that is perceived at one time to be bad, the common mental trick is to say "god works in mysterious ways." See, In 1931, Kurt Godel proved these 'incompleteness' theorems about logic in general. He said that a finite set of axioms cannot prove an infinity of truths. This is assuming those axioms are consistent. If they are inconsistent, then they can prove an infinity of truths! They can prove everything including all inconsistent statements. This is what God is ultimately, an algebraic X standing for I don't know and I don't want to know. The trinity of gods but one god anyway is more proof of the inconsistent statements that christianity for one uses to sweep all problems under the rug. I point out because people want to find silver linings in all this disproof of the Bible and religion in general. I mean you can show all this to bibliophiles all you want; it's not what they're in it for. And also, that trying to get closure on this is almost impossible; this is the only closure; that it is a vagueness trick. You, they did, could spend the rest of eternity going through textual interpretation; it's a kind of inconsistent pseudo-mathematics that can absorb the energies of humanity. Humanity is obviously the technologically dependent species; we need to learn the universe to survive. Spending forever in this inconsistent statements trying to get every nuance out of it is futile; it is an infinite bottomless pit; it's a trap that you can get addicted to. Mathematics, the exploration of the universe is the real purpose of humanity. This is what's wrong with the bible then and now. After reading John Allegro's book, do you really want to read Eisenman's stuff? Maybe you could be disciplined and find time when you get stuck on some mathematical problem; or, maybe you're waiting for some experimental results to come in, you could dabble some more in this bible. But, this book is a trap; it's like quicksand. It's like being addicted to gambling. You'll think you'll find Jesus Christ or lay the thing to rest - finally. But, no, you won't; it's an inconsistent statement that can prove every contradictory statement forever; it's just literary commentary on top of literary commentary; that's what the bible is; Joseph of Genesis, then Joseph who goes around conquering canaan, and then Joseph of the New Testament, or in greek, Jesus. It's just literary commentary on top of . . . forever; 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Phil Haydn-myer Cumbbersome, but couldn't be written otherwise and demonstrate "proof" of the conclusion.

Was Jesus of Nazareth a real historical person or a fictional character in a religious legend? What do the Dead Sea Scrolls reveal about the origins of Christianity? Has there been a conspiracy to suppress information in the Scrolls that

contradicts traditional church teaching? John Allegro addresses these and many other intriguing questions in this fascinating account of what may be the most significant archaeological discovery of the twentieth century. As one of the original scholars entrusted with the task of deciphering these ancient documents, Allegro worked on some of the most important texts, including the Biblical commentaries. In 1961, King Hussein of Jordan appointed him to be honorary advisor to the Jordanian government on the Dead Sea Scrolls. In his engaging and highly readable style, Allegro conveys the excitement of the initial archaeological find and takes the reader on a journey of intellectual discovery that goes to the heart of Western culture. Allegro suggests that Christianity evolved out of the Messianic theology of the Essenes, the Jewish sect that wrote the Dead Sea Scrolls. This new edition of Allegro's book also contains an essay in which he describes the in-fighting among the scholars assigned to study the scrolls and his thirty-year battle to release all of the texts to the public. Allegro was one of the first scholars to protest the long delay in publishing the Scrolls and to criticize his colleagues for their secretive and possessive attitudes. This issue has recently been the focus of national media coverage, with the result that after forty years, open access to all of the Dead Sea Scrolls has finally been permitted. If he had lived to see it, John Allegro would have been very pleased by this resolution of the controversy. In the same spirit of free inquiry that Allegro championed, Prometheus is reissuing his book in paperback to encourage open discussion of these important ancient texts.

About the Author John Allegro (1923-1988) was an archaeologist and religious scholar. After serving as a naval officer during World War II, he earned his degree from the University of Manchester. Allegro is the author of *The Dead Sea Scrolls*, *The People of the Dead Sea Scrolls*, and *The Treasure of the Copper Scroll*.