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The Desert Fathers

Sayings of the Early Christian Monks

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From imusti : The Desert Fathers: Sayings of the Early Christian Monks (Penguin Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Desert Fathers: Sayings of the Early Christian Monks (Penguin Classics):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must have for all Christians. By Kyle D. Mietzner The spirituality of

the Desert Fathers is really something to behold. On one hand, they are brilliant, and on the other, they're absolutely insane. I do wonder about the mental health of some of them, but at the same time, they are perhaps more grounded than I am. The sayings overflow with grace, but never permit evil or sin. Alone, they are still oriented towards community. Every Christian would do well to have a copy of this book. You will find ancient wisdom inaccessible in most modern churches. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating read! By Trent I'm loving this book! Very interesting and captivating. The introduction lays out the background needed to understand the context. Then with that context you can jump in and read the little sayings and stories and just glean so much perspective from the monks and brothers. Each story captures a real life issue people still live with today and give you then the insight from the monks on how to treat the issue. I'm really enjoying this book! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Spiritual Gold By Jo Madden I have read many articles and books by Benedicta Ward. In fact, I used portions of this text when I was researching my doctoral dissertation; however, it is a great read for anyone who wants to know what the Abbots and Ammas had to say and how their words should be applied to our spiritual journey. I will read and reread this book!

The Desert Fathers were the first Christian monks, living in solitude in the deserts of Egypt, Palestine, and Syria. In contrast to the formalized and official theology of the "founding fathers" of the Church, they were ordinary Christians who chose to renounce the world and live lives of celibacy, fasting, vigil, prayer, and poverty in direct and simple response to the gospel. First recorded in the fourth century, their Sayings consisting of spiritual advice, anecdotes, parables, and reflections on life influenced the rule of St. Benedict, set the pattern for Western monasticism, and have inspired centuries of poetry, opera, and art. Organized around key themes: Charity, Fortitude, Lust, Patience, Prayer, Self-control, and Vision this edition of the Sayings is fresh, accessible, and authoritative. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

About the Author Benedicta Ward is a reader in the history of early Christian spirituality at the Theology Faculty in Oxford. She has translated *The Prayers and Meditations of St. Anselm* for Penguin Classics.