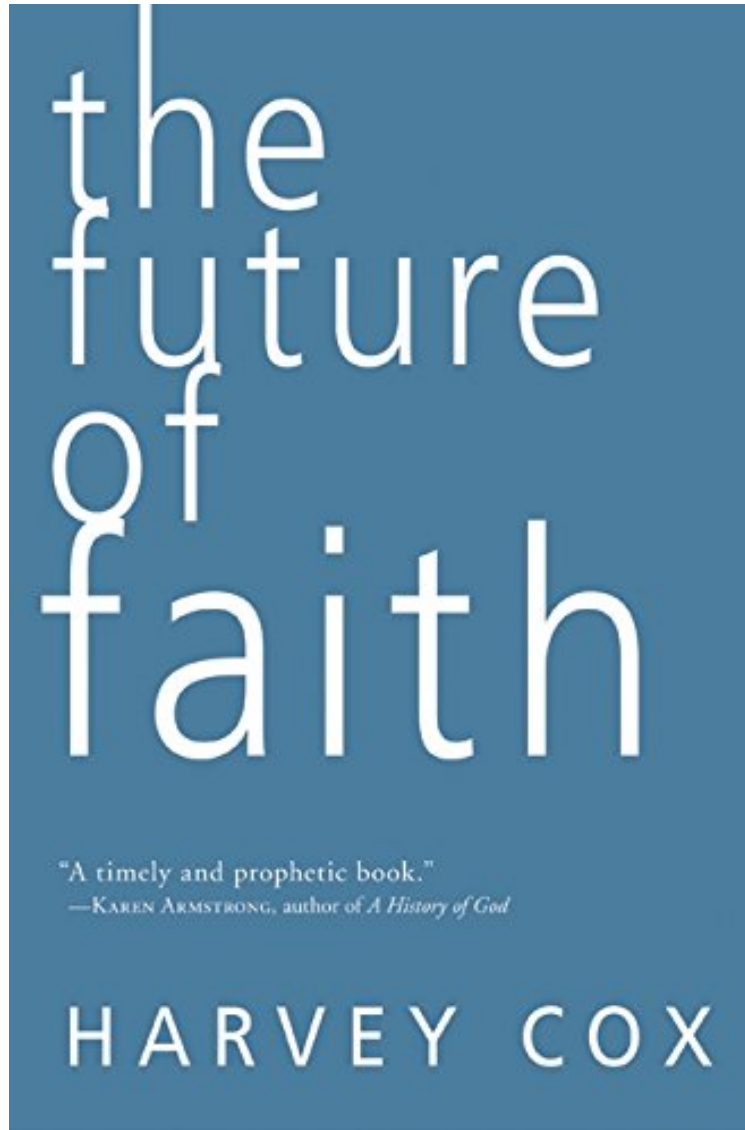


(Mobile book) The Future of Faith

## The Future of Faith

Harvey Cox

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**Harvey Cox : The Future of Faith** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Future of Faith:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not religious but spiritual?? Me too!!!By Beth A. SmallI really liked this book. I thought it was insightful and extremely thought-provoking. I bought the kindle version, and then the hard copy so that I could lend it out. It has some interesting predictions about the direction that faith is heading. Basically the early church began as a religion of faith but then, as the church became more powerful, it began to take the shape

of the Roman government--the villains of the early church. This is when it became a religion of belief or creeds, and if you couldn't profess your faith within the guidelines of the creed, you were considered a heretic. This happened after Constantine made Christianity the official religion of the state and the Council of Nicaea occurred. As for the future, because of the influence of Buddhism and just Spirituality in general and the obvious damage that rigid, fundamental belief systems have had, the future of faith appears to be moving in a more spiritual direction. So it's gone from a religion of faith to a religion of belief and now is moving toward a religion of spirit--and that's a good thing!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Evolution of Christianity By Elizabeth Warren Harvey Cox is a well-known scholar of the Harvard Divinity School who has written a number of books on Christianity and American society. In this book he talks about what he perceives as the current revival of original Christianity, religious behavior as taught by Jesus, without the structure of a hierarchy and without a prescribed belief system. It is as if people can enjoy life free of the burdens imposed by clergy of whatever persuasion. I would like to know how Cox's philosophy relates to those of modern atheists or non-believers. I think there are elements of his thinking that fit comfortably within the non-believer's book: the freeing of the soul from hierarchies and creeds and the symbols that accompany them. He points out that Christianity thrives authentically in Africa today. I recommend this book to anyone who wants to see an interpretation of the religion preached by Jesus in the first three centuries after his life, and how it can be practiced today and tomorrow.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very interesting--looking forward to reading more by Harvey Cox! By Hannah Armstrong I really enjoyed this book! If you're interested in looking at Christianity from a "big picture" perspective, this will probably be an enjoyable read. I felt inspired and challenged on a personal level, too, more so than I do with most books about Christianity (especially those in the more individual-oriented vein.) It's sad that "Christianity" can be so focused on belief-questions that distract from the faith, the heart of Christ. The Christian movement is such a complex and interesting thing, and I thought Harvey Cox conveyed a very clear version of its story! I really wish more people would read books like this!

A beautiful book and a Cox classic. Readers will be grateful that they joined him on his journey. E.J. Dionne Jr., author of *Souled Out* Insightful, provocative, and inspiring I even found myself uttering a hearty evangelical Amen! Richard Mouw, President, Fuller Theological Seminary, and author of *Calvinism in the Las Vegas Airport* The Future of Faith is Harvard religion scholar Harvey Cox's landmark exploration of why Christian dogmatism is giving way to a grassroots Christianity rooted in social justice and spirituality. Cox laid the groundwork for modern religious writing with his 1965 classic, *The Secular City*, paving the way for writers like Diana Butler Bass, Karen Armstrong, Stephen Prothero, and Deepak Chopra, who calls *The Future of Faith* a fresh vision for the resurrection of a new global Christianity.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . What shape will the Christian faith take in the 21st century? In the midst of fast-paced global changes and in the face of an apparent resurgence of fundamentalism, can Christianity survive as a living and vital faith? With his typical brilliance and lively insight, Cox explores these and other questions in a dazzling blend of memoir, church history and theological commentary. He divides Christian history into three periods: the Age of Faith, during the first Christian centuries, when the earliest followers of Jesus lived in his Spirit, embraced his hope and followed him in the work he had begun; the Age of Belief, from the Council of Nicaea to the late 20th century, during which the church replaced faith in Jesus with dogma about him; and the Age of the Spirit, in which we're now living, in which Christians are rediscovering the awe and wonder of faith in the tremendous mystery of God. According to Cox, the return to the Spirit that so enlivened the Age of Faith is now enlivening a global Christianity, through movements like Pentecostalism and liberation theology, yearning for the dawning of God's reign of shalom. Cox remains our most thoughtful commentator on the religious scene, and his spirited portrait of our religious landscape challenges us to think in new ways about faith. (Oct.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. At this crucial turning point in history, Harvey Cox reminds us of essential religious values and imperatives . . . A timely and prophetic book (Karen Armstrong, author of *A History of God*) For the last four decades, Harvey Cox has been the leading trend spotter in American religion. (Stephen Prothero, author of *Religious Literacy*) The Future of Faith is insightful, provocative, and inspiring I even found myself uttering a hearty evangelical Amen at many points! (Richard Mouw, President of Fuller Theological Seminary and author of *Calvinism in the Las Vegas Airport*) This important book has not only helped me understand the past, present, and future of this amazing phenomenon called Christianity ... it has also motivated me to keep working to help make actual the possible future Cox envisions. (Brian McLaren, author of *A New Kind of Christian*) Harvey Cox has been a voice of both reason and faith in our cynical times. Now, he offers a fresh vision for the resurrection of a new global Christianity that will restore our faith both in ourselves and the divine. (Deepak Chopra, author of *Jesus: A Story of Enlightenment*) The Future of Faith is a tour de force. As passionate and challenging as his classic, *The Secular City*, Cox's new book invites the faithful, the skeptical, and the fearful into a spirit-filled vision of Christianity that can renew a hurting world. (Diana Butler Bass, author of *A People's History of Christianity*) With typical brilliance and lively insight, Cox explores questions in a dazzling blend of memoir, church history and theological commentary . . .

Cox remains our most thoughtful commentator on the religious scene, and his spirited portrait of our religious landscape challenges us to think in new ways about faith. (Publishers Weekly) Celebrated religious scholar Cox argues that we are witnessing the dawn of a third epoch in Christian history . . . Cox's work is intriguing, and there is certainly truth in his observations about global Christianity and the rise of Pentecostalism and liberation theology. (Kirkus s) A lucid and congenial book . . . [Cox] is not alone, but he is most cogent, in thinking that the content of Christian faith is becoming more like that of the early church . . . A book full of good news. (Kirkus s (starred review)) With its overarching themes, Cox's new book can be viewed as the culmination of his life's scholarship. (Boston Globe) From the Back Cover The Rise and Fall of Belief and the Coming Age of the Spirit There is an essential change taking place in what it means to be religious today. As religious people shift their focus to ethical guidelines and spiritual disciplines not doctrine we are seeing a universal trend away from hierarchical, regional, patriarchal, and institutional religion. Now, legendary Harvard scholar Harvey Cox offers a new interpretation of the history and future of religion, revealing how doctrines and dogma are giving way to new grassroots movements based in community, social justice, and spiritual experience. The Future of Faith is a major statement and a hopeful vision from one of the most revered theologians today.