
Christianity The Origins Of A Pagan Religion

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America's Christian History AuthorHouse
The Historical Origin Of Christianity by
Walter Williams reveals what happened to
ancient Egyptian ancestors and how the
true origin of Christianity began.

The River of God Paulist Press

This book looks at Christian origins under
several headings: worship, belief and
society. The opening essay sets out to
describe the immediate background to the
early Christian movement within Judaism.
The remaining nine essays look at how the
early Christians worshipped, what did they
believe about Jesus and, finally, in what

way did the early Christian movement
come to social expression. The authors of
the different essays are experts in their
various fields.

The Beginnings of Christianity BRILL
First published in 1976, Paul Johnson's
exceptional study of Christianity has been
loved and widely hailed for its intensive
research, writing, and magnitude—"a tour
de force, one of the most ambitious
surveys of the history of Christianity ever
attempted and perhaps the most radical"
(New York Review of Books). In a highly
readable companion to books on faith and
history, the scholar and author Johnson
has illuminated the Christian world and its
fascinating history in a way that no other
has. Johnson takes off in the year AD 49

with his namesake the apostle Paul. Thus
beginning an ambitious quest to paint the
centuries since the founding of a little-
known 'Jesus Sect', A History of
Christianity explores to a great degree the
evolution of the Western world. With an
unbiased and overall optimistic tone,
Johnson traces the fantastic scope of the
consequent sects of Christianity and the
people who followed them. Information
drawn from extensive and varied sources
from around the world makes this history
as credible as it is reliable. Invaluable
understanding of the framework of
modern Christianity—and its trials and
tribulations throughout history—has never
before been contained in such a
captivating work.

Christianity Bloomsbury Publishing USA
Presents a history of the Christian faith, from its beginning as a Jewish sect to the impact of twentieth-century issues such as birth control, Muslim fundamentalism, and Nazi racism.

Christian Origins and the Establishment of the Early Jesus Movement

Macmillan College
Etienne Nodet and Justin Taylor investigate the character of the early Christian community by looking at the origins of baptism and the Eucharist and the links between them. A fundamental work on the initiation sacraments, "The Origins of Christianity" focuses on the Essenes at the time that this tradition-bound culture came in contact with the Gentiles. The result was a profound change that transformed a sect into a church.

The Origins of Judaism, Christianity and Islam Lulu.com

Finding the Roots of Christianity is for people who are curious about the historical Jesus, his followers, and the movement they began. Who were they, and how was their message understood by those who heard them? Where did the

New Testament of the Bible come from? In a personal, thoughtful style, Luke Painter brings into focus the life and times of the Jewish prophet Jesus of Nazareth, bridging the gap between personal study of the Bible and academic scholarship. Sources outside the Bible, including the ancient historian Josephus and recently discovered "lost scriptures" such as the Dead Sea Scrolls, reveal the diversity of early Christian beliefs. Roman religious beliefs influenced how the Christian message was understood during the transition from Jewish sects to the official religion of the Roman Empire. Clear and concise, and based on careful historical research, this book guides the reader through what is known about the earliest origins of Christianity as well as recent discoveries and debates. The author's personal journey of faith and passionate interest in the people behind the New Testament enliven the facts of history, illuminating their meaning for their own time as well as today.

[The Origins of Christianity and the New Testament](#) Wipf and Stock Publishers
Dealing with a time when "Christians" were moving towards separation from the

movement's Jewish origins, this inaugural volume of A People's History of Christianity tells "the people's story" by gathering together evidence from the New Testament texts, archaeology, and other contemporary sources. Of particular interest to the distinguished group of scholar-contributors are the often overlooked aspects of the earliest "Christian" consciousness: How, for example, did they manage to negotiate allegiances to two social groups? How did they deal with crucial issues of wealth and poverty? What about the participation of slaves and women in these communities? How did living in the shadow of the Roman Empire color their religious experience and economic values?

The Origins of Christianity Fortress Press
The earliest Christians wrote their own history to justify their faith and claim a direct line of authoritative teachings based on the words of Jesus. As a result a good deal of what they compiled was belief rewritten as though it was history. Remarkably after almost two millennia, it is possible to recover the authentic origins of Christianity, based exclusively on the historical sources rather than belief. This

shows that the beginnings of Christianity lie in two quite disparate religious groups, one of which was exclusively Jewish, whilst the other was predominantly gentile. The spiritual leadership of the Jewish sect, which became known as The Way, was provided by a succession of holy men from the same extended family, which included Jesus. The central prophesy of The Way was the imminent arrival of the Kingdom of God . When, with Gods help, the Jewish Nation would overcome Roman occupation and permanently rid itself of foreign domination. The kingdom of God was exclusively Jewish and the Gentile world played no part in it. After the death of Paul of Tarsus his followers lost their Jewish inheritance and began to see Jesus in ways that were profoundly heretical within Judaism yet wholly acceptable within the Pagan world. In particular they claimed that Jesus was the divine Son of God, rather than a Son of God in a Jewish sense, where a deeply religious Jewish man, who did the will of God, could be regarded as a true Son of God.

Christian Origins Fortress Press

There has never been a more important time for a study of the social, economic

and political origins of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, three important world religions which share a common root. This book takes as its starting point the idea that gods, angels, miracles and other supernatural phenomena do not exist in the real world and therefore cannot explain the origins of these faiths. It looks instead at the material conditions at appropriate periods in antiquity and the social and economic forces at work, and it examines the historicity of key figures like Moses, Jesus and Mohammed. This is a unique book which draws on the research, knowledge and expertise of hundreds of historians, archaeologists and scholars, to create a synthesis that is completely coherent and at the same time is based on real-world social conditions. It is a book by a non-believer for other non-believers, and it will be a revelatory read, even to those already of an atheist, agnostic or secularist persuasion.

History of Christianity John Wiley & Sons

Where did Christianity come from?

Acclaimed author Gregory Riley embarks on a remarkable journey in this readable and persuasive account of the origins of

Christianity. Riley demonstrates that early Christians held widely differing beliefs about God, Jesus, the Devil, and the human soul, and follows these beliefs back to their sources in Greek science and philosophy and the religions of the ancient Middle East. An expert on the context in which Christianity arose, Riley maps out a new understanding of the forging of Christianity, and conveys a vital message for today about the true nature of Christian faith as inherently diverse.

The History of the Origin of Christianity ... Harper Collins

Written by contributing scholars who are experts in specific facets of developing Christianity, this survey provides a well-rounded introduction to the history of Christianity and is ideal for anyone interested in the impact of Christianity of world culture down through history. It shows how Christianity emerged from its original Jewish context and developed into a worldwide religion, offering perceptive studies on how its origins and development were influenced by the changing social and cultural contexts in which the founders and leaders of this tradition lived and thought. Provides

detailed evidence of the influence of Greco-Roman and Jewish religious concepts and religious movements on the origins of Christianity, considers the structuring of the church conceptually and organizationally in Europe, and discusses Christianity's spread and growth in America and throughout the world. Looks at the profound impact of the culture of the later Roman and medieval world on the development of Christian doctrine and intellectual traditions and helps readers understand the reasons for the divisions between Catholic and Protestant traditions.

The History of the Origins of Christianity: Book III Saint Paul Oxford University Press

Explores ancient beliefs about life after death, highlighting the fact that the early Christians' belief about the afterlife belonged firmly on the Jewish spectrum, while introducing several new mutations and sharper definitions, forcing readers to view the Easter narratives not simply as rationalizations, but as accounts of two actual events: the empty tomb of Jesus and his "appearances." Simultaneous. Hardcover no longer available.

Resetting the Origins of Christianity

Simon and Schuster

"Denova explores how the first followers of Jesus arrived at their faith, the way their sacred texts developed into the New Testament, and how their movement eventually became the religion of Christianity. [Her] volume examines the concepts, beliefs, issues, and events that gave rise to institutional Christianity-- providing readers with the historical context of the gospels of Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John, the Acts of the Apostles, the Book of Revelation, the letters of Paul, and other foundational New Testament documents"--Back cover.

The Social Origins of Christianity American Vision

For too long, the history of Christianity has been told as the triumph of orthodox doctrine imposed through power and hierarchy. In *A People's History of Christianity*, historian and religion expert Diana Butler Bass reveals an alternate history that includes a deep social ethic and far-reaching inclusivity: "the other side of the story" is not a modern phenomenon, but has always been practiced within the church. Butler Bass

persuasively argues that corrective—even subversive—beliefs and practices have always been hallmarks of Christianity and are necessary to nourish communities of faith. In the same spirit as Howard Zinn's groundbreaking work *The People's History of the United States*, Butler Bass's *A People's History of Christianity* brings to life the movements, personalities, and spiritual disciplines that have always informed and ignited Christian worship and social activism. *A People's History of Christianity* authenticates the vital, emerging Christian movements of our time, providing the historical evidence that celebrates these movements as thoroughly Christian and faithful to the mission and message of Jesus.

The People of God Fortress Press

To understand the historical beginnings of Christianity requires one not only to examine the documents that the movement produced, but also to scrutinize other evidence—historical, literary, and archaeological—that can illumine the socio-cultural context in which Christianity began and how it responded to the influences that derived from that setting. This involves not only analysis of the

readily accessible content of the relevant literary evidence, but also attention to the world-views and assumptions about reality that are inherent in these documents and other phenomena that have survived from this period. Attention to the roles of leadership and the modes of formation of social identity in Judaism and the continuing influence of these developments as Christianity began to take shape is important for historical analysis. Distinguished New Testament scholar Kee performs such readings of the texts and communities in this dazzling study of early Christian origins. In methodological terms, the historical study of Christian Origins in all its diversity must involve three different modes of analysis: (1) epistemological, (2) sociological, and (3) eschatological. The first concerns the way in which knowledge and communication of it were perceived. The second seeks to discern the way in which the community or tradition preserving and conveying this information defined its group identity and its shared values and aims. The third focuses on the way in which the group understood and affirmed its ultimate destiny and that of its

members in the purpose of God. These factors are interrelated, and features of one mode of perception strongly influence details of the others, but it is useful to consider each of them in its own category in order to discern with greater precision the specific historical features of the spectrum of facets which appear in the evidence that has survived concerning the origins of Christianity.

The History of the Origins of Christianity, Vol. 3 (Classic Reprint) Cambridge University Press

Christian Origins is an exploration of the historical course and nature of early Christian theology, which concentrates on setting it within particular traditions or sets of traditions. In the three sections of the volume, Reading Origen, Reading the Fourth Century and Christian Origins in the Western Traditions, the contributors reconsider classic themes and texts in the light of the existing traditions of interpretation. They offer critiques of early Christian ideas and texts and they consider the structure and origins of standard modern readings of these ideas and texts. The contributors employ a variety of methodological approaches to

analyse the interplay between ancient philosophical traditions and the development of Christian thought and to redefine the parameters between the previously accepted divisions in the traditions of Christian theology and thought.

Finding the Roots of Christianity

Taylor & Francis

The Origins of Christian Faith is a scholarly treatment of first-century evidence of the beginnings of Christian faith. Professor Callan carefully analyzes the different layers of New Testament tradition to discover how the first Christian communities grew step-by-step in their understanding of the mystery of Jesus as the Christ. He explains historically each foundational level on which our Christian faith rests. The result is the story of the early church's development of its faith in Jesus.

The Historical Origin of Christianity

Routledge

From a prize-winning author, this book charts the course of Christianity from ancient history onwards.

Foundations of Christianity Harper Collins
Looking at the life of Paul as outlined in

the book of Acts, this work compares what the claims of the Bible are compared with other ancient sources. Although the claims of Acts are undisputed within the Church Renan still applies the higher criticism of other works.

Christian Origins Macmillan

First published in 1925, Karl Kautsky presents a Marxist history of Christianity and Christian society. Divided into four key

sections, the book begins by considering the personality of Jesus as portrayed within Pagan and Christian sources and highlighting the Church's difficulty in presenting a unified and concurrent image of Jesus and interpretation of His words. Next, Kautsky analyses the structure of Roman society, with particular emphasis on the slave-holding system, the Roman

State and the historiography of the period. In the third section, an early history of the Jewish people is presented, whilst the final section discusses the beginnings of Christianity and the social struggles present within early Christian society. This is a fascinating reissue, which will be of particular interest to students of Church History, Christian theology and the various interpretations of Jesus.