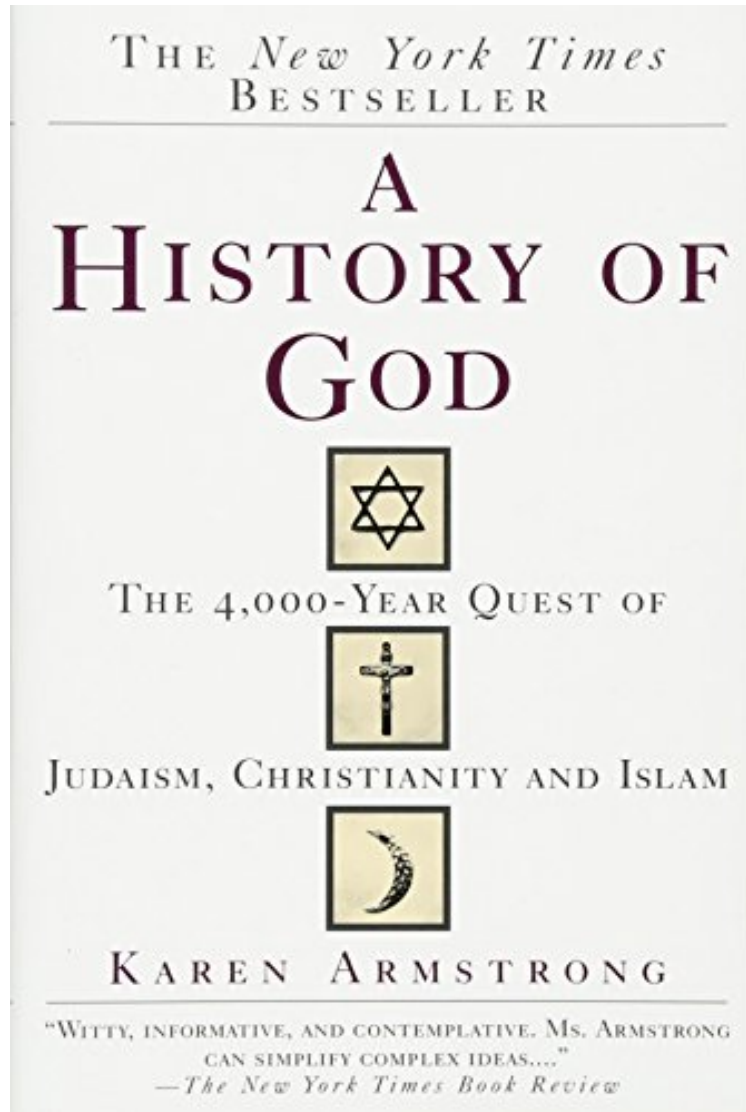


(Mobile ebook) A History of God: The 4,000-Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity and Islam

A History of God: The 4,000-Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity and Islam

Karen Armstrong

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Karen Armstrong : A History of God: The 4,000-Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity and Islam before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A History of God: The 4,000-Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity and Islam:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. which is not a bad idea anyway By pbqueen The book, as others have

noted, is an overview of complicated topics. As such, it does not give as much detail as one might prefer. I find myself questioning the author's assertions because they seem conclusory and not necessarily based on factual information. However, this is not unexpected given the amount of material she is attempting to cover. I will need to seek out secondary sources, which is not a bad idea anyway.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. Thanks for this book
By Brigid F. Dunn
Excellent and surprisingly funny in many places. Professor Armstrong reveals a great deal of the human story that we should not forget as we search for God. This book encourages honesty and humor, essential elements in scholarship and storytelling.⁰ of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
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"An admirable and impressive work of synthesis that will give insight and satisfaction to thousands of lay readers."
THE WASHINGTON POST BOOK WORLD
In this stunningly intelligent book, Karen Armstrong, one of Britain's foremost commentators on religious affairs, traces the history of how men and women have perceived and experienced God, from the time of Abraham to the present. From classical philosophy and medieval mysticism to the Reformation, the Enlightenment, and the modern age of skepticism, Karen Armstrong performs the near miracle of distilling the intellectual history of monotheism into one superbly readable volume, destined to take its place as a classic.

.com
Armstrong, a British journalist and former nun, guides us along one of the most elusive and fascinating quests of all time--the search for God. Like all beloved historians, Armstrong entertains us with deft storytelling, astounding research, and makes us feel a greater appreciation for the present because we better understand our past. Be warned: A History of God is not a tidy linear history. Rather, we learn that the definition of God is constantly being repeated, altered, discarded, and resurrected through the ages, responding to its followers' practical concerns rather than to mystical mandates. Armstrong also shows us how Judaism, Christianity, and Islam have overlapped and influenced one another, gently challenging the secularist history of each of these religions. --Gail Hudson
From Publishers Weekly
This searching, profound comparative history of the three major monotheistic faiths fearlessly illuminates the sociopolitical ground in which religious ideas take root, blossom and mutate. Armstrong, a British broadcaster, commentator on religious affairs and former Roman Catholic nun, argues that Judaism, Christianity and Islam each developed the idea of a personal God, which has helped believers to mature as full human beings. Yet Armstrong also acknowledges that the idea of a personal God can be dangerous, encouraging us to judge, condemn and marginalize others. Recognizing this, each of the three monotheisms, in their different ways, developed a mystical tradition grounded in a realization that our human idea of God is merely a symbol of an ineffable reality. To Armstrong, modern, aggressively righteous fundamentalists of all three faiths represent "a retreat from God." She views as inevitable a move away from the idea of a personal God who behaves like a larger version of ourselves, and welcomes the grouping of believers toward a notion of God that "works for us in the empirical age." 25,000 first printing; BOMC alternate. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Library Journal
Armstrong (Muhammad , LJ 4/15/92; The Crusades and Their Impact on Today's World , LJ 2/15/91) presents a well-written overview of the changing idea of God as understood by the three great religions of the West. Besides providing a great deal of religious history, she discusses the various philosophers, mystics, and reformers associated with these religions. The author suggests that "God" is primarily a "focus of meaning" created by humanity. If He survives at all, it will be in a much-altered form. Public librarians should be aware that conservative readers may be offended by this book, and even religious scholars may find Armstrong's rather one-sided "death of God" optimism about humanity a bit passe. Otherwise, this is an excellent and informative book. Recommended for academic and public libraries.- C. Robert Nixon, MLS, Lafayette, Ind.
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