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## A Little History of Religion (Little Histories)

*Richard Holloway*

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RICHARD HOLLOWAY

# A LITTLE HISTORY



# RELIGION



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**Richard Holloway : A Little History of Religion (Little Histories)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Little History of Religion (Little Histories):

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Illuminating and beautifully written!By T GhallabOne of those books that are illuminating and beautifully written. I was looking for introduction to the history of religion that maps the scene and to give an all over view, it delivers that in an intriguing way ! The structure is not exactly linear nor by a

separate treatment of each religion, but like the author put it is more of a "zigzag" one. This structure succeeded in integrating a complex subject into one coherent and encompassing overview. The audio format is well narrated and has a soothing effect. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A millennia of religion under 300 pages By Fernando A brief and objective look at religion and its developments over millennia. Richard not only describes the different religions across the globe, he develops a timeline that maps events and occurrences that brings them all together. Demonstrates how religion adapted and evolved and in my opinion read similarly to Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germs, and Steel* and that is a good thing. It lacked a little in my opinion since it seemed like it was confined to Abrahamic religions. Five stars because it is one of those books that taught about a subject while keeping my full attention. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Loved it By Jason D. Sands This was an enjoyable read. I'm not a religious person, but as the author suggests, one must understand religion to understand the world. This book changed the way I think about a few things, and I always find that to be the mark of a great book.

For curious readers young and old, a rich and colorful history of religion from humanity's earliest days to our own contentious times. In an era of hardening religious attitudes and explosive religious violence, this book offers a welcome antidote. Richard Holloway retells the entire history of religion from the dawn of religious belief to the twenty-first century with deepest respect and a keen commitment to accuracy. Writing for those with faith and those without, and especially for young readers, he encourages curiosity and tolerance, accentuates nuance and mystery, and calmly restores a sense of the value of faith. Ranging far beyond the major world religions of Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, and Hinduism, Holloway also examines where religious belief comes from, the search for meaning throughout history, today's fascinations with Scientology and creationism, religiously motivated violence, hostilities between religious people and secularists, and more. Holloway proves an empathic yet discerning guide to the enduring significance of faith and its power from ancient times to our own.

"This is a well-written book, from which most of us will come away knowing more about the religions of the world than we knew before. . . . In its own way this engaging book might be seen as a period piece." John Charmley, *Times*