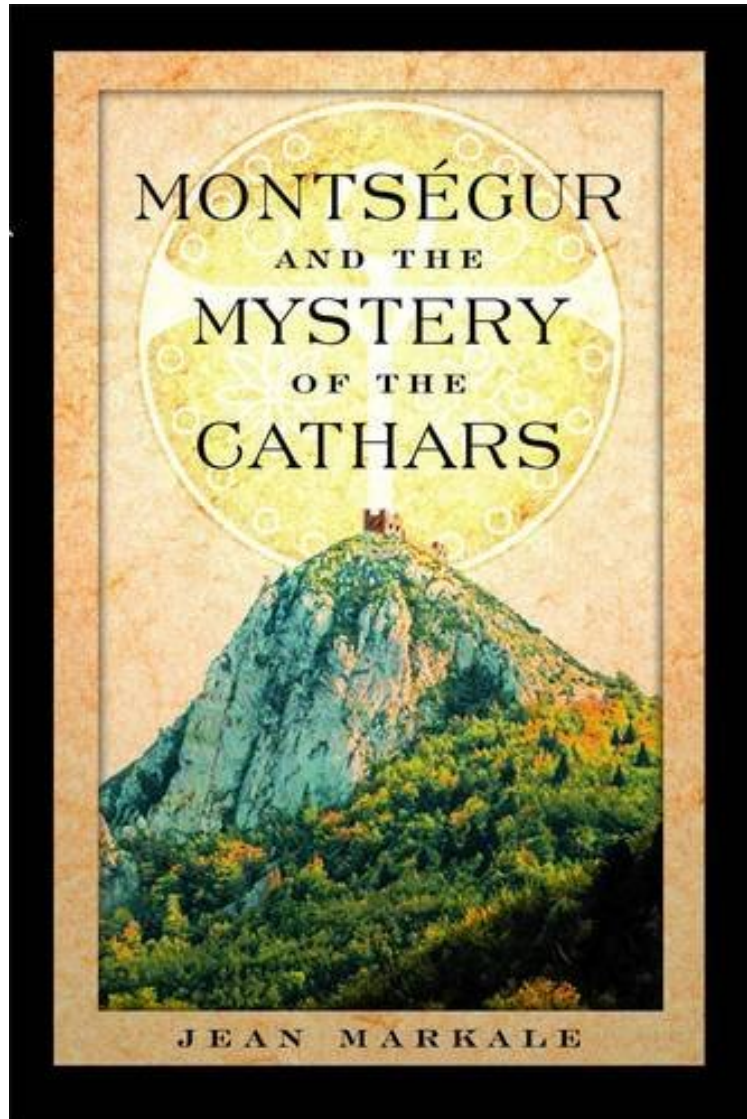


(Mobile book) Montsgur and the Mystery of the Cathars

## Montsgur and the Mystery of the Cathars

*Jean Markale*

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**Jean Markale : Montsgur and the Mystery of the Cathars** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Montsgur and the Mystery of the Cathars:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Flawed researchBy StaciaMarkale's research reveals some glaring flaws and ignorance. On page 127, referring to the messianic tradition, he writes: "There is nothing of this in the Hebrew tradition." When in fact, the Old Testament contains many passages relating to what will come to pass when the Messiah arrives.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. goodBy Melvin R GreeneInteresting and arrived as stated0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love itBy writereadloveI really enjoyed reading this. The

information and the way the story/history was told was very captivating. Worth purchasing if your interested in this part of history.

The history and philosophy of the mysterious Cathar religion and its lost treasure Demonstrates that Catharism is not simply a heretical Christian cult as it is often portrayed Examines the evidence for the existence of a lost Cathar treasure and its possible connection to the Holy Grail On March 16, 1244, over 200 Cathars were captured in their fortress stronghold of Montsgur and were burned alive by troops of the Inquisition. While some Cathar enclaves survived into the next century, this was the death blow to a religion that had been a powerful symbol of Occitain sovereignty against the designs of the French monarchy and the papacy. History has recorded that four high-ranking Cathar perfecti carried a great treasure out of Montsgur the night before its fall, a fact that led rebel Huguenots of the 17th century and members of Hitlers S.S. to believe that an enormous treasure or weapon of awesome spiritual power lay hidden somewhere nearby the ruins of the former Cathar stronghold. Seeking to untangle the true from the false, Celtic and medieval scholar Jean Markale meticulously searches through the obscure history of the Cathars, tracing their roots back to the ancient Zoroastrian religion of Persia. He examines what earned the Cathars--who practiced vegetarianism, non-violence, and tolerance--the ruthless persecution of both the Church and the state. He explores their doctrine, their place in medieval Occitain culture, and their secret pact with the Knights Templar. Most important, he uses all available documentation to reveal the nature of the treasure the Cathars spirited away from their fortress at Montsgur the night before its surrender to French troops.

"Readers are certain to find Markale's answer revealing, if not altogether disturbing." (Frank Joseph, Fate, March 2004, Vol 57 No 3 Issue 647.) "Presents a very focused and fascinating treatise with enough detail to satisfy even the most knowledgeable Cathar scholar." (Robert Buratti, New Dawn, July/August 2004, No.85) "The amount of information in this book is astounding. . . and it is written in a highly intelligent manner." (Kerri Connor, Circle of Stones, Fall 2004, Vol.1 Issue 6) Combining impeccable scholarship with an imaginative insight, Markale illuminates a critical nexus in the development of Western religious history--one that has long been shrouded in darkness. The relevance of the Cathar doctrine to modern spiritual development is also confirmed by his analysis. (James Wasserman, author of The Templars and the Assassins and Art and Symbols of the Occult) In this remarkable book, poet-historian Jean Markale evokes the spirit of the land where the Cathars walked in the light of their faith and were martyred by the Inquisition. Deftly navigating eddies of fact, fiction, and folklore concerning their treasure, he debunks frivolous speculation and rumor while allowing those theories supported by evidence to survive. (Margaret Starbird, author of The Woman with the Alabaster Jar) "Thankfully, [Markale's] Montsegur and the Mystery of the Cathars is a solidly and scholarly work which depels the most egregious of myths." (Mysteries Magazine, Vol. 2, #4, Issue #7) "[Markale's] descriptions of the wild Breton moors and the inaccessible peaks of the Pyrenees are described with a bardic grandeur that is befitting of his poetic roots." (Mysteries Magazine, Vol. 2, #4, Issue #7) "Markale's book strips away the mythology and nonsense of the Cathar legend to reveal their true courage and honor. . ." (Mysteries Magazine, Vol. 2, #4, Issue #7) "If you are looking for a scholarly read that explores the Cathars and untangles myth from fact with many Celtic and Druid references, [this book] is highly recommended." (Tony Taylor, Henge Happenings, Issue 69, Feb 2006) ". . . enjoyable, filled with interesting information. . . . The final chapter in Montsegur and the Mystery of the Cathars will be particularly interesting to those awaiting the release of Otto Rahn's work on the Cathars later this year." (Institute for Hermetic Studies, Aug 2006) **HISTORY / RELIGION** Combining impeccable scholarship with an imaginative insight, Markale illuminates a critical nexus in the development of Western religious history--one that has long been shrouded in darkness. The relevance of the Cathar doctrine to modern spiritual development is also confirmed by his analysis. James Wasserman, author of The Templars and the Assassins and Art and Symbols of the Occult In this remarkable book, poet-historian Jean Markale evokes the spirit of the land where the Cathars walked in the light of their faith and were martyred by the Inquisition. Deftly navigating eddies of fact, fiction, and folklore concerning their treasure, he debunks frivolous speculation and rumor while allowing those theories supported by evidence to survive. Margaret Starbird, author of The Woman with the Alabaster Jar On March 16, 1244, after a year-long siege, more than two hundred Cathars were captured in their fortress stronghold of Montsr in the Pyrenees and burned alive by troops of the Inquisition. While some Cathar enclaves survived into the next century, this was the death blow to a religion that had been a powerful symbol of Occitain sovereignty despite the designs of the French monarchy and the papacy. History has recorded that, on the night before the fall of the fortress, four high-ranking Cathar perfecti carried away a great treasure from Montsr, a fact that led rebel Huguenots of the seventeenth century and members of Hitlers S.S. to believe that something of awesome spiritual power lay hidden somewhere near the ruins of the Cathar stronghold. Seeking to untangle the true from the false, Celtic and medieval scholar Jean Markale meticulously searches through the obscure history and dualist theology of the Cathars, tracing their roots to the ancient Zoroastrian religion of Persia. He examines what earned the Cathars--who practiced vegetarianism, nonviolence, and tolerance--the ruthless persecution of the Church and the state, and he explores both their place in medieval Occitain culture and their secret pact with the Knights Templar.

Above all, Markale uses all available documentation to reveal the remarkable nature of the treasure spirited away by the Cathars on that fateful night in 1244. Poet, philosopher, historian, and storyteller, JEAN MARKALE has spent a lifetime researching pre-Christian and medieval culture and spirituality. He is the author of more than forty books, including *The Templar Treasure at Gisors*, *The Druids*, *The Celts*, *Merlin*, and *Women of the Celts*. He is a specialist in Celtic studies at the Sorbonne and lives in the Brittany region of France.

About the Author Poet, philosopher, historian, and storyteller, Jean Markale has spent a lifetime researching pre-Christian and medieval culture and spirituality. He is the author of more than 40 books, including *The Templar Treasure at Gisors*, *The Druids*, *The Celts*, *Merlin*, and *Women of the Celts*. He is a specialist in Celtic studies at the Sorbonne and lives in the Brittany region of France.