

INFO and REVIEWS: Man Made God

Man Made God

Barbara Walker, Foreword by D.M. Murdock

378 pages | 6 x 9 | 120 illustrations | ISBN-13 978-0-9799631-4-8 | \$21.95

U.S. ORDERS ONLY!

International/Amazon/Barnes & Noble orders

Man Made God comprises a series of fascinating articles from the author of the classic best-seller *The Woman's Encyclopedia of Myths and Secrets*. Extraordinary independent scholar of comparative religion and mythology Barbara G. Walker takes us through a riveting journey back in time to when the Goddess and her consort/son ruled supreme, into the era when the patriarchy usurped Her worship, right up to Barbara's own personal experience being raised a Christian.

In this remarkable collection, Walker turns a critical eye towards:

- Religion as big business
- Religion's effects on children
- The Bible as a "moral guide" and "history"
- Biblical infallibility
- The doctrine of "original sin"
- The biblical attitude towards sexuality
- God as "Father"
- Church doctrine regarding women
- Church history vis-à-vis the Dark Ages, Inquisition, and book- and witch-burning
- Christian afterlife traditions
- Traditional Christian origins
- And much more...

A brilliant exposé of the long lost history of religious ideology, including goddess worship, and a scathing indictment of the male-dominated cultus, this frank and exceptional analysis unveils mysteries that have perplexed mankind for millennia and unravels detrimental religious ideologies that have been plaguing humanity for equally long.

Barbara G. Walker is also the author of *The Woman's Dictionary of Symbols and Sacred Objects*, *The Crone*, *Feminist Fairy Tales*, *The Book of Sacred Stones*, and other fine works.

Collected Reviews

"A magnificent and important work!"

"D.M. Murdock/Acharya S have been a fan of Barbara's for many years, and I knew immediately that what she had gathered in these well-written essays was valuable not only for women but also for the world at large. If everyone on the planet knew the facts and possessed this perspective of reality, we would all be much better off. Although she is tackling extremely contentious and difficult issues, Walker is always measured and steady in steering us through this journey from antiquity to her own experience being raised a Christian....

"Of course, Walker speaks the truth here, in a way only she can do, as she also does in recounting the disturbing history of the rise of male-dominated religions/cults such as the three Abrahamic faiths, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The destruction of the ancient goddess-worshipping religions as Barbara narrates it is frankly appalling and infuriating, because it has served to cause so much horror and trauma on this small planet....

"In the final analysis, Man Made God represents a vitally important voice in the rational and skeptical community, motivated by both a passion for the truth about religious origins and history, and a sense of duty in preserving our personal freedoms and human rights.
-- D.M. Murdock/Acharya S, author of Christ in Egypt

"It's truly amazing how enlightening this book is."

Great education of religious history from a woman's perspective. As a man, I take for granted that many of the religious beliefs in western culture are the product of male-conceived beliefs. For that alone, I thank Ms. Walker for the education.

It's truly amazing how enlightening this book is. I had very little knowledge of the depths that men suppressed women through religion. Eye opening indeed.

The best book bar none regarding Goddess worship and its evolution.

Critical thinkers will love this book. It's a great book for all levels of scholarship.
-- J. Gomez, Maryland, USA

"Incredible research!"

Barbara Walker is absolutely thorough in her research before she starts writing. When you read this fantastic expose of how women have been put down and suppressed by religion, you will be impressed forever. Our male dominated world is really screwed up. Wars, debt, hate and division--all because of religions dominated by men. My mother was a woman, and I would not let anyone put her down. I admire the courage, insight and honesty of Barbara G. Walker. If you want the truth about this world, buy and read this book.

James A. Worrell, Oklahoma City

"One of the greatest scholars and erudite communicators about the origin and the global domination of the Christian mythology!"

Barbara Walker is an enigmatic person. She is a religious historian with an incisive understanding of the origin of Christianity and of the various pre-Christian mythologies that have been cobbled together to form the basis of one of the world's most pervasive religions. She is also the author of *The Woman's Encyclopaedia of Myths and Secrets*; she has written books on the Tarot and the I Ching and has a wide range of texts on Knitting and Knitwear Design!

But this is the book that establishes her as one of the greatest scholars and erudite communicators about the origin and the global domination of the Christian mythology. It is essentially a collection of previously published essays, so there is a small amount of repetition in some chapters, but it is easy to choose a topic and selectively read the appropriate chapter.

"The book is astounding in its coverage, detailed in its analysis, comprehensive in its expose of the many recurrent religious themes and dogmas promoted since antiquity."

The book is astounding in its coverage, detailed in its analysis, comprehensive in its expose of the many recurrent religious themes and dogmas promoted since antiquity. Walker is not a militant atheist. She is methodical, measured and entertaining in progressively dealing with and dismissing as fiction the majority of Christian beliefs including whether Christ actually ever existed. The reader has to concentrate through several chapters because of the extensive amount of factual and historical evidence that Walker can draw upon as she systematically de-mystifies Christianity. But it is well worth the effort. I have a library of some one hundred and sixty similar texts, but this one is the standout!

"I have a library of some one hundred and sixty similar texts, but this one is the standout!"

There have certainly been many recent publications about atheism, rationality, concepts of god, the history of Jesus, the errors, contradictions and fabrications in the Bible. But Walker's book rises well above all of these because of its evidence base and its comprehensive and informed coverage. It is effectively the objective and defensible encyclopaedia for anyone who seriously wants to understand Christianity. Walker's book should be mandatory reading in schools and for believers and non-believers alike. There is no need for anger or militantism...the facts speak for themselves.

Man Made God will go down in history as the turning point for a rational understanding of humanity and how humans have developed and hybridised fanciful and often oppressive religious dogma over time. It has happened in a continuum from antiquity through to modern day Christian fundamentalism. Keep this book handy for when the biblical fundamentalists next come knocking at your door!

Peter Bycroft, Noosa, Australia

"Powerfully Enlightening and Useful!"

I finished reading Man Made God a few weeks ago and found it powerfully helpful in understanding how human behavior fundamentally transitions from a mother-child-focused culture based on cooperation and kindness to a male-focused culture based on competition and fear. This collection of essays provides valuable insight on how ancient observation of natural events as well as their practices, symbols, languages, and rituals are reformed or suppressed through time.

Man Made God lays out convincing motive for why secrets are kept and why symbols/ words/phrases are violently protected. It explains the significance of blood and words, their origins and meanings, and how these concepts were used and still being used to associate real things with supernatural power to persuade human behavior.

"Man Made God untangles a great deal of confusion for those asking how an all-powerful god could allow such sadistic behavior towards innocent woman and children through the ages."

This book is especially enlightening for those who struggle to understand and attempt to reconcile the mysteriously illogical textual conflicts spread throughout the canonical Bible. It untangles a great deal of confusion for those asking how an all-powerful god could allow such sadistic behavior towards innocent woman and children through the ages and still expect to be worshipped as an all loving and all caring god. It helps those asking why god would create something and call it good just to encourage its suffering, and wondering how god can be both supreme and good....

Anyone seriously interested in repairing our relationships with ourselves, who genuinely cares about all others with whom we share this planet, who has an honest reverence for all living things in cooperation with our environment, or who intends to actually help move our species toward preserving our future existence, should consider viewing this work and honestly think about the current path we are all on, especially before we nuke ourselves to dust simply because a man needs to show off he has a bigger missile than his fellow man, sanctioned by his bigger god.

Angel of California

Outstanding Review from Embiggen Books, Melbourne (Star Rating)

Walker, Barbara G. (2010) *Man Made God*; Stellar House Publishing, Seattle, USA.

Barbara Walker is an enigmatic person. She is a religious historian with an incisive understanding of the origin of Christianity and of the various pre-Christian mythologies that have been cobbled together to form the basis of one of the world's most pervasive religions. She is also the author of *The Woman's Encyclopaedia of Myths and Secrets*; she has written books on the Tarot and the I Ching and has a wide range of texts on Knitting and Knitwear Design!

But this is the book that establishes her as one of the greatest scholars and erudite communicators about the origin and the global domination of the Christian mythology. It is essentially a collection of previously published essays, so there is a small amount of repetition in some chapters but it is easy to choose a topic and selectively read the appropriate chapter.

The book is astounding in its coverage, detailed in its analysis, comprehensive in its expose of the many recurrent religious themes and dogmas promoted since antiquity. Walker is not a militant atheist. She is methodical, measured and entertaining in progressively dealing with and dismissing as fiction the majority of Christian beliefs including whether Christ actually ever existed. The reader has to concentrate through several chapters because of the extensive amount of factual and historical evidence that Walker can draw upon as she systematically de-mystifies Christianity. But it is well worth the effort. I have a library of some one hundred and sixty similar texts, but this one is the standout!

There have certainly been many recent publications about atheism, rationality, concepts of god, the history of Jesus, the errors, contradictions and fabrications in the Bible. But Walker's book rises well above all of these because of its evidence base and its comprehensive and informed coverage. It is effectively the objective and defensible encyclopaedia for anyone who seriously wants to understand Christianity. Walker's book should be mandatory reading in schools and for believers and non-believers alike. There is no need for anger or militantism.....the facts speak for themselves.

Man Made God will go down in history as the turning point for a rational understanding of humanity and how humans have developed and hybridised fanciful and often oppressive religious dogma over time. It has happened in a continuum from antiquity through to modern day Christian fundamentalism. Keep this book handy for when the biblical fundamentalists next come knocking at your door!

By Peter Bycroft – Peter is a Secular Humanist based in Noosa who specialises in the history of Christianity and the origin of Biblical myths.