

Clarion Review ★★★★

RELIGION

Crossruption

Jacob WilliamWest Bow (Sep 22, 2017) Hardcover \$25.95 (234pp) 978-1-5127-8736-8

Crossruption issues an invitation to forget what religion teaches, and instead become saturated with the transformative word of God.

"The next decade will see a radical transformation in every area of life on a scale unmatched throughout the last century," writes businessman and serial entrepreneur Jacob William in his book, *Crossruption*. But while it's exciting to live in a time of rapid, unprecedented progress, it is also disorienting.

William writes that humanity is suffering from "a systematic personal identity problem." People know themselves by what they do and what they have, but do not know who they are; they lack a greater sense of meaning. Unfulfilled inner longings are the result. In *Crossruption*, William, who grew up in India in a Christian home, makes a clear case for his assertion that humanity's inner longing can only be satisfied by a relationship with God.

The book is an eloquent and powerful declaration that it is through the cross, a symbol of death that brought new life into the world, that this lost relationship with God can be restored, and that studying the Bible with an open mind is the path to inner transformation. *Crossruption* argues that rather than restoring that lost relationship and leading the way to transformation, religions fool people into thinking that their needs will be met through obeying certain rules, going to special places, acting in certain ways, and acquiring intellectual understanding of God.

Based on William's own journey to a renewed relationship with God through intense, personal, transformative study of the Bible, *Crossruption* follows the path of humanity from creation in God's image to the events leading to the loss of intimate communion, communication, and companionship with God. Along the way, it identifies the enemy: Satan. It also explores the work of Jesus, whose sacrifice opened the way to restoring humanity's true identity as children of God.

The book asserts that, while the entry of Jesus into human history was the greatest disruption of the status quo of all time, contemporary Christianity no longer offers transformational life disruption; rather, it distorts Jesus's message and the work he came to do. As a result, people are turning to drugs, sex, and excessive consumption of food, drink, and material goods to fill an inner void. The book effectively counters this by encouraging personal experience of the disruptive message of Jesus and the spiritual rebirth it offers, and issues a call to take up one's place in the world as a child of a loving God.

The arguments presented are logical, clear, and compelling. The text is precise yet conversational, flowing well and sustaining interest even when discussing complex topics. It asks pointed questions and gives evidence for its answers, supporting them with scriptural and historical references. Clear, crisp graphics add to understanding and reading pleasure.

Crossruption makes a crucial distinction between religion and biblical Christianity. It issues an invitation to forget what religion teaches and instead become saturated with the transformative word of God. It makes experiencing spiritual

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rebirth and claiming the identity of children of God sound like an exciting adventure that opens the door to a whole new way of living and being.

KRISTINE MORRIS (November 28, 2017)

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