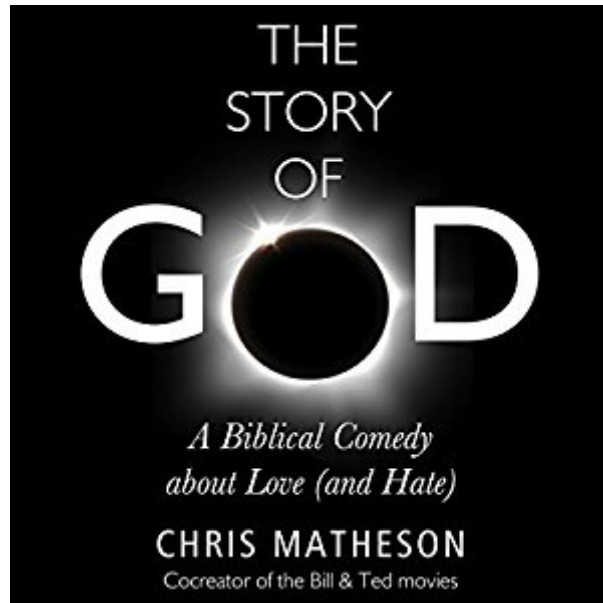


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The Story Of God: A Biblical Comedy About Love (and Hate)



Synopsis

The Bible offers some clues to God's personality - he's alternately been called vindictive and just, bloodthirsty and caring, all-powerful and impotent, capricious and foresighted, and loving and hateful. But no one has ever fully explored why God might be such a figure of contrasts. Nor has anyone ever satisfactorily explained what guides his relationship not just with angels, the devil, and his son, but also with all of creation. Might he be completely misunderstood, a mystery even to himself? Might his behavior and actions toward humankind tell us much more about him than it does about us? Enter the mind of the creator of the universe, travel with him through the heavenly highs and hellish lows of his story, from Genesis to Revelation, to better understand his burdensome journey: being God isn't easy. After hearing his story - at times troubling and tragic but always hilarious in its absurdity and divine in its comedy - you'll never look at a miracle or catastrophe - or at our place in the universe, or God's - the same way again.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For the first time an author gets deep into the psyche of God. At times hilarious, sad and always thought provoking Chris takes us into the mind of an omnipotent being that isn't quite as omnipotent as He thinks He is. Going from Genesis through the Old Testament, we get insight into what God was thinking when he created Adam then Eve. He never ever really understands women, and then messes up by giving her two sons, now realizing "How are they going to procreate? With Mom? Ew. Fortunately there are women across the way, where did they come from? Did I make them? And

why is Satan always looking at me like that! Why did I create him to hate me? Do I hate myself? " An honest examination of what it must be like to be the Big Guy. God is part senile, part repressed homosexual, part sadomasochist. Fire up the grill and sacrifice some animals to the Almighty, because even God didn't see this one coming.

Not for the pious, the orthodox, or the easily offended. For the rest of us, however, this is one of the most delightful satires I've read in a while. The perspective is creative and well executed, and Matheson's pacing makes for a real page-turner. Well-researched, deftly incisive, and wickedly funny.

This book is not for people who are serious about religion. I believe the target audience is atheists, agnostics and those of who identify their religious affiliation as "none". People who are devout may become very upset with this irreverent and hilarious take on the Bible. The author managed a very well written and interesting god monologue around familiar bible stories. It is a funny and irreverent take. The book is thoughtful and thought provoking. At times pointing out the obvious cognitive dissonance so prevalent in the Bible that most atheists are aware of, and others making connections that are new, at least to me. I highly recommend this book for those who enjoyed The god delusion and God is not great and are interested in reading a bit of thoughtful comedy. I believe this book may become part of the basic atheist library in years to come.

Great re-interpretation. I especially like the chapters on Job (this seemed to really be the climax of the book). I won't spoil it here, so if you are interested in a dubious interpretation of the Bible that is more plausible than the ones Christians, Jews, and Muslims have traditionally put forward, read it for yourself.

Very funny book. Nice, light, quick read. After having just finished "A Universe from Nothing", "Brief Candle in the Dark", and "God is Not Great ", it was a nice change of pace and funny from beginning to end.

Clever and hilarious. The Bible is interesting but it's a super boring read. This book puts you on the shoulder of the same insane god of Abraham in an exciting way. Once I started I had to binge on this book cover to (digital) cover.

Spoiler Alert: If the reader is Christian, this book will not get more than a star. This is clearly a blasphemous book mocking God himself. If the reader is not a believer, the book may receive 5 stars. Hence, a midway, 3-star rating is probably a Solomonâ™s way of judgment. The book traces Godâ™s activities from Genesis to revelation, but the wit and humour (only a non-believer will appreciate) is biting. For example, when describing the laws God imposes on his people in Leviticus, Matheson writes: â€ˆGod moved on to birds. â€œYou may eat any bird you want!â€• He told Moses, then quickly added, â€œother than eagles, vultures, hawks, ravens, and bats.â€• (Lev.11:19) There was an awkward pause. Had he just called bats birds? He had, yes. That was embarrassingâ™. And then, â€ˆHe moved on to insects, most of which he regarded as abominations. He made a lot of them (especially beetles for some unknown reason), but he mainly thought they were repulsive. None of them were good to eat, God proclaimed â€ˆ before remembering a few exceptions. â€œYou may eat locusts, crickets, and grasshoppersâ€•â™. Jokes aside, Matheson seems to understand Revelations better than most. His synopsis of revelations is not only lucid but made sense of this immensely dense and convoluted part of the Bible. This book is best appreciated by non-believers who are familiar with the Biblical tales â€ˆ the Creation, Abraham and his wife, Moses, the Ten Commandments, Lot, and Job, but if not, having a copy of the Bible by your side is advised because many of the stories seem too incredible â€ˆ but they are all there. In the Bible. This is the 2015 edition. There is a 2016 paperback with a lengthy and interesting postscript added.

The genius of this story creeps up on you. Yahweh continuously smothers doubts in his never-ending crusade for unconditional love from creations he knows are deeply flawed. What kind of deity would do that? This author answers that question.

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