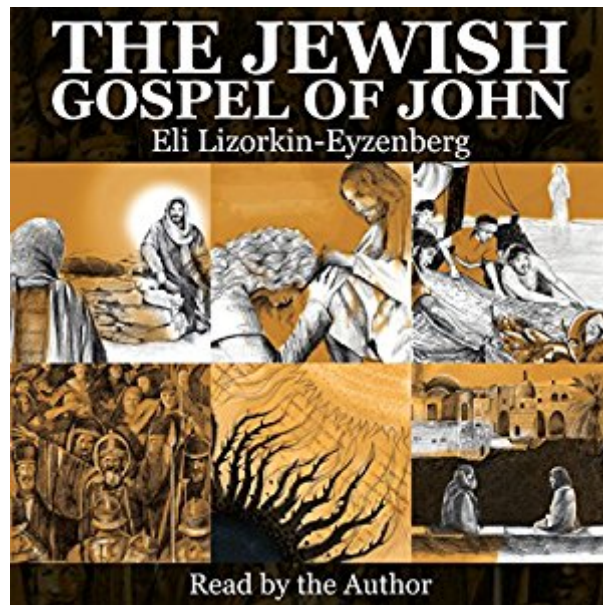


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The Jewish Gospel Of John: Discovering Jesus, King Of All Israel



Synopsis

The Jewish Gospel of John is not, by any standard, another book on Jesus of Nazareth written from a Jewish perspective. It is an invitation to the listener to put aside their traditional understanding of the Gospel of John and to replace it with another one more faithful to the original text perspective. The Jesus that will emerge will provoke you to rethink most of what you knew about this gospel. The book is a well-rounded, verse-by-verse rethinking of the fourth gospel. Here is the catch: Instead of treating it as if it was written for 21st-century Gentile Christians, the book interprets it as if it was written for the first-century peoples of ancient Israel. The book proves what Krister Stendahl stated long time ago: "Our vision is often more abstracted by what we think we know than by our lack of knowledge." Other than challenging the long-held interpretations of well-known stories, the author, with the skill of an experienced tour guide, puts us in the place of those who most probably heard this gospel read in the late first century. Such exploration of a variety of important contexts allows us to recover for our generation the true riches of this marvelous Judean gospel.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I've been a Bible student for most of my life. For that reason I read many commentaries and translations of The Book in order to understand it better and how it informs my life. I had the good fortune to have discovered Eli Lizorkin-Eyzenberg's blog a couple of years ago, and in it was a series on the Book of John. It answered quite a few questions I had about that somewhat puzzling Gospel. Now, those blogs and much more have been included in Dr. Eli's latest book, entitled, The Jewish Gospel of John: Discovering Jesus, King of All Israel. It's written in easy-flowing prose, and

reads like having a conversation with a friend. Verse by verse and story by story Dr Eli leads the reader through the historical and cultural roots and word-root meanings. Most of all, it creates an understanding of the Jewish political and social thought at the time, separating the few Jews who held tenuous power under the Roman structure, therefore felt threatened by this man, Jesus, who was an anathema and had such a popular following among the people. Many readers throughout time came to take John's categorical reference to "the Jews" to understand that the whole Jewish population was responsible for Jesus' crucifixion and death. This idea is strongly refuted by Dr. Eli, as he argues that the small group of Pharisees who actually agitated for Jesus' death were most threatened by his growing popularity and abilities. My favorite part from the book is Jesus' interview with the Samaritan Woman at Jacob's well.

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