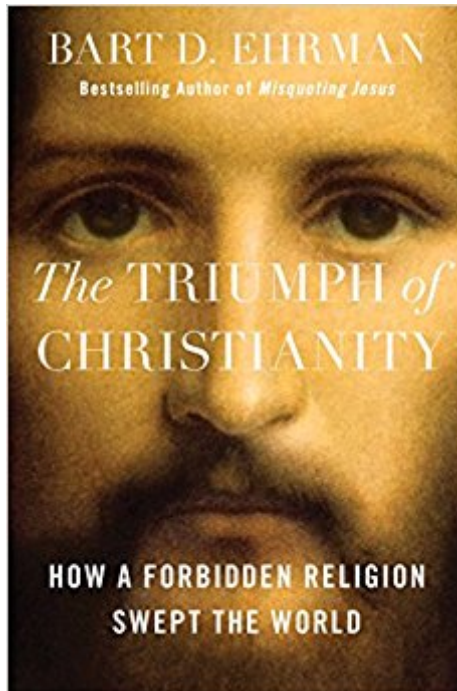




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The Triumph Of Christianity: How A Forbidden Religion Swept The World



Synopsis

From the New York Times bestselling authority on early Christianity, the story of how Christianity grew from a religion of twenty or so peasants in rural Galilee to the dominant religion in the West in less than four hundred years. Christianity didn't have to become the dominant religion in the West. It easily could have remained a sect of Judaism fated to have the historical importance of the Sadducees or the Essenes. In *The Triumph of Christianity*, Bart Ehrman, a master explainer of Christian history, texts, and traditions, shows how a religion whose first believers were twenty or so illiterate day laborers in a remote part of the empire became the official religion of Rome, converting some thirty million people in just four centuries. *The Triumph of Christianity* combines deep knowledge and meticulous research in an eye-opening, immensely readable narrative that upends the way we think about the single most important cultural transformation our world has ever seen—one that revolutionized art, music, literature, philosophy, ethics, economics, and law.

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“Drawing on a wealth of ancient sources and contemporary historical research, Bart Ehrman weaves complex questions into a vivid, nuanced, and enormously readable narrative.” • (Elaine Pagels, National Book Award-winning author of *The Gnostic Gospels*) “One of Christian history’s greatest puzzles after the age of the apostles is how a tiny band of mostly-illiterate outsiders converted the proud and massive Roman Empire in just three centuries—a historical blink of an eye. In *The Triumph of Christianity*, Ehrman brings impressive research, intellectual rigor, and an instinct for storytelling to this extraordinary dynamic.” • (David Van Biema, former religion writer at *Time* and author of the forthcoming *Speaking to God*)

Bart D. Ehrman is the author or editor of more than thirty books, including the New York Times bestsellers *Misquoting Jesus* and *How Jesus Became God*. Ehrman is a professor of religious studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and a leading authority on the New Testament and the history of early Christianity. He has been featured in *Time*, *The New Yorker*, and *The Washington Post*, and has appeared on NBC, CNN, *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart, The History Channel, National Geographic, BBC, major NPR shows, and other top print and broadcast media outlets. His most recent book is *The Triumph of Christianity*.

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