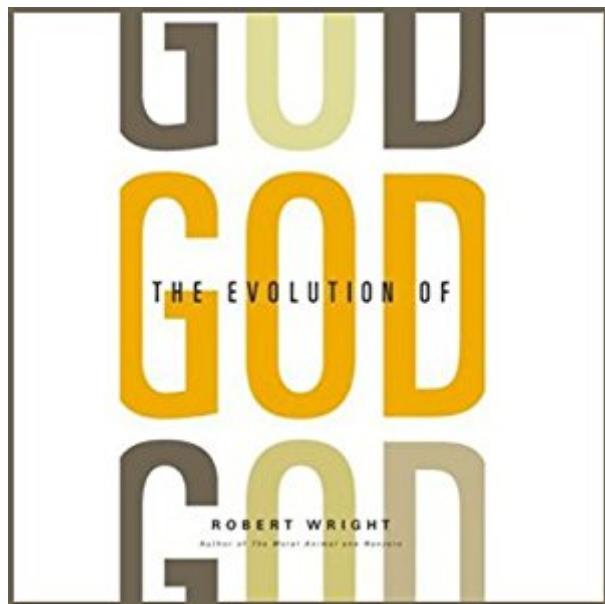


The book was found

The Evolution Of God



Synopsis

In this sweeping, dazzling journey through history, Robert Wright unveils a discovery of crucial importance to the present moment: there is a pattern in the evolution Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and a "hidden code" in their scriptures. Through the prisms of archeology, theology, anthropology, and evolutionary psychology, Wright repeatedly overturns conventional wisdom to show how and why religion can strengthen the social order-even in an age of globalization-and explains why modern science is not only compatible with religion, but actively affirms the validity of the religious quest. Vast in scope and thrilling in ambition, > brilliantly alters our understanding of God and where He came from-and where He and we are going next. --This text refers to the Preloaded Digital Audio Player edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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#32 inÃÂ Books > History > World > Religious > General #50 inÃÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > History

Customer Reviews

I found this to be a very interesting and thought provoking book. Wright covers a huge amount of territory, beginning with a review and possibly some speculations about the nature of religion in primitive societies, followed by a description of (his views of) the development of Abrahamic (Judaism, Christianity, Islam) monotheism, He provides a narrative that helped me place the varying images of God in the old testament into context. It had been clear to me for many years that the picture of God in the old testament changes dramatically from one book to another and sometimes from one verse to another (presumably as different editors added their views), but Wright's description helps make sense of it. Also helpful to me was his description of Islam and its origins and how Muhammad's different situations at different times in his career called for different

emphases especially in dealing with infidels. His message, in a nutshell, is that religion develops in the context of a culture and society and is often a reflection of (or is heavily influenced by) the needs, views and prejudices of that society. There is also a second message that I found to be a bit fuzzy and less well supported. To the extent I understand (and remember) what he is saying - it is something like - societies are getting "better" (i.e. our "tribes" are getting more extensive to the extent that we are including all humans in our "tribe"), and these "better" societies and cultures have more "humane" gods, and therefore this is evidence of some sort of grand God-given design for the development of humanity. I think this is wishful thinking and possibly an attempt to appeal to some who consider faith to be a virtue rather than evidence of irrationality and lack of curiosity, but I encourage all to read the book. I think that most thoughtful people will find it fascinating.

Very interesting and researched history of who created god and why. Definitely agrees with what I have been thinking for some time, and now I have something to which I can compare my thoughts. I would recommend this book to anyone who questions the hypocrisy of the rules and regulations of any religion.

The definitive guide to the origin of religions. It compares the sociopolitical milieu of the time to the theology recorded. Not a resounding endorsement of faith, but a helpful guide to understanding for the seeker.

Excellent and concise book about the evolution of God or gods from various cultures starting from the very earliest hunter and gather clans. Very compelling the arguments that the Abrahamic regions started out as polytheistic, moved to a form of monalitry and onto monotheism for political reasons.

Fabulously detailed and thorough tracing of how the idea of God changed as Man changed. Couldn't ask for a better explanation and factually based proof. The author goes out of his way to be balanced and present alternative theories to account for the changes, then proceeds to analyze them. If you love anthropology, history, philosophy, theology, you will love this book!

If you are really interested in learning about the relationship of man to his God(s) then this book will not disappoint. Using historical academic scripture, and archeology, this book traces from the very first relationship of man to his gods through the tumultuous history of the nations and how the that

relationship has changed over the ages.

I learned a lot from this book. It was well worth the money.

Very well researched and documented by an excellent writer with a fluid and provocative style.

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