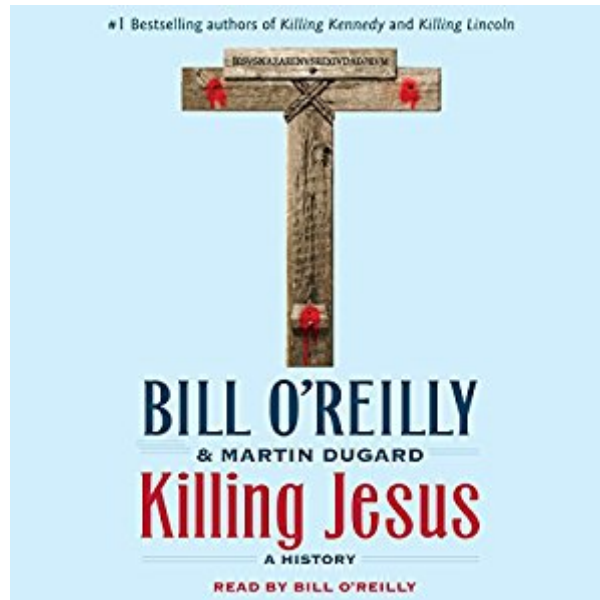




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Killing Jesus: A History



Synopsis

Millions of people have thrilled to best-selling authors Bill O'Reilly and historian Martin Dugard's *Killing Kennedy* and *Killing Lincoln*, works of nonfiction that have changed the way we view history. Now the anchor of *The O'Reilly Factor* details the events leading up to the murder of the most influential man in history: Jesus of Nazareth. Nearly 2,000 years after this beloved and controversial young revolutionary was brutally killed by Roman soldiers, more than 2.2 billion human beings attempt to follow his teachings and believe he is God. *Killing Jesus* will take listeners inside Jesus' life, recounting the seismic political and historical events that made his death inevitable and changed the world forever.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a very difficult book to review, as you can imagine whenever you read and try to write a review concerning a book about a religious figure. I know that the authors say that this is not a religious book, but instead one that focuses on the humanity of Jesus Christ. They have done a good job treading the fine line between straight biography and religious writing. Of course, the main, and possibly only, source for the life of the Nazarene (as the authors term him) are the four gospels with which most readers are familiar. Interspersed with these writings you will find chapters devoted to Julius Caesar, Cleopatra, Tiberius, and other historical characters. There is a brief, but concise, history of Rome, and short biographies of some of the figures, including Pontius Pilate and the several Herods. It appears that the authors accept the gospel account of the birth in Bethlehem and

the visit of the Magi, which led to the slaughter of the infants in Bethlehem at the insistence of Herod. There appears to be no historical record for these events except for the gospels, so the reader either takes it at face value or not, depending on his or her beliefs. Also, the sticky question concerning Jesus' siblings is handled somewhat offhandedly, with a note concerning the various theories about who these people were, depending on your particular religion. I do take exception to the mention of Herod's "castle", a term I don't believe existed at that time, but it's a minor quibble. All things (particularly religious beliefs) considered, the author have done a well thought out job. There is no writing concerning the actual miracles attributed to Jesus, but they are mentioned in the text as news of them spread into the surrounding area, so the authors appear to make no claim to any authenticity. Also, the narrative ends with the crucifixion and burial, and then the discovery of the empty tomb three days later. After that, it's once again news of post death appearances spread by supposed eyewitnesses, with no attempt to state any author belief in whether or not these events actually occurred. Lest I be accused of being some type of sceptic or unbeliever, let me state that, like the authors, I am a practicing Roman Catholic and truly believe that Jesus is who he said he is and that, if I do what is right, he will greet me when I die. Just because I have some doubts about parts of the gospels doesn't mean that my faith is weak. 17 years of Catholic education has kept me strong and will, I trust, lead me to the reward Jesus promised. One last thing. I know that there are many people out there who do not like O'Reilly for his political views and will allow that mind set to lead them to give this book a bad review, even though many of them will not have read it. To those folks I say: read the book and if you don't believe that it's a good book, give it a bad review, but please don't let your political leanings cause you to downgrade the book because of your dislike of the author. There is no politics in this book, and so it shouldn't generate the venom that has accompanied the publication of his other historical works. Bill isn't a historian, but he and his co-author have done their best with a very touchy subject, and I salute their effort

I liked the way the book brought the characters into a more understandable character. I have read the Bible a few times over and I think I do understand it but Killing Jesus puts the story of his life and death into a more understandable perspective if you've ever been confused by the stories of the Bible. They tell personal stories of the people in the Killing Jesus book as well. Things you won't read in the Bible. In some cases, the descriptions of the people for whom they describe are quite vivid. King Herod had all kinds of gross physical/medical problems. For me, it was well worth reading. I can fully recommend it. I bought the audio book which is actually read by Bill O'Reilly.

Was disappointed in the writing.

Great Book! I love it. The best one in his "Killing Series"...couldn't put it down, read all the way through in a couple of days because it was so interesting. I definitely recommend this book for any reader. So excited to pass it on to others. The prices was also perfect. I knew I would love it..so I was not disappointed.

The book started out well and has interesting information on the principle characters that interacted with Jesus and the politics of the day, similar to today (unfortunately). The authors didn't go into detail of Jesus on the cross, what he said and the details of the resurrection and his many interactions with people as recorded in the four gospels. Without that, the book is incomplete. The shared the sexual perversion of the leaders of the day in such detail that it was disturbing to me and I wouldn't let youth read those parts. We don't need those images in our minds.

This was a gift to my husband who is thoroughly enjoying it. In fact, he has recommended it to friends and is loaning his copy out when he is finished with it.

If you ever studied Church History, you need to read this book. You will find out, in a very few pages, just how little you were actually wear taught. However, you will not feel cheated because you will be so very enthralled by all that was not in the books you read, but just how much research was done for this excellent history brought to light. Stop! Right now and pick up a copy, you will not be sorry.

I enjoyed this book. It is factual according to biblical history. All the books I have purchased from Mr. O'Reilly are good reading. I like all of his Legends and Lies series as well as all the Killing books. He is a man that I can trust to search the facts which makes for more interesting reading.

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