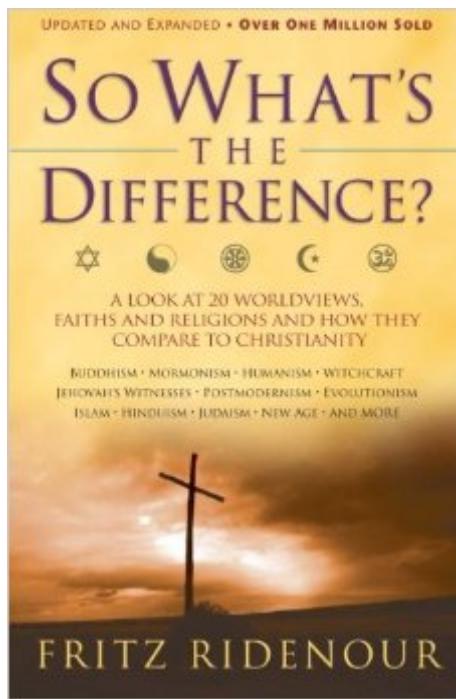


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So What's The Difference



Synopsis

How does orthodox Christianity differ from other faiths? In a straightforward, noncritical comparison, Ridenour explores the basic tenets of twenty worldviews, religions, and faiths.

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

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Customer Reviews

A very good book if you're looking for an introduction to religions with a basic comparison to the teachings found in the Bible. I'm always amused by comments on Christian books written by Christian authors. Non-Christians complain that the book is biased and the author actually had the nerve to believe that his faith is correct. What did you expect? Should this Christian author have to change his beliefs and tell the reader that the Bible's claim that no one can come to the father but through Jesus Christ is a lie, even though he believes that? Muslims believe you only get to heaven by being Muslim, Catholics believe you need the Catholic sacraments, and hundreds of other religions believe they are correct in their beliefs. It seems only Christian claims to exclusive knowledge are unacceptable to these people though. My favorite was the person who whined that the book was filled with the author's opinions. Don't most non-fiction books contain the author's opinions? I'm guessing, if the book had been written by someone he agreed with, it would have been fine for the author to include his opinions. The problem is not the book in these cases. The problem is that many readers believe any book that does not present the world view they prefer is poorly written and the writer should have consulted them before writing his ideas on paper. These commenters are the ones who are narrow minded. Unless people believe that all paths lead to God,

and humanism is the correct world view, they don't believe you should be allowed to express your opinions and beliefs. Then there are those who claim the book is intolerant. Intolerance is believing that if someone doesn't agree with you they shouldn't be allowed to express their views and opinions.

I read this book back in the 1970s in high school Sunday school and am now back to buy a copy for someone else who needs to know exactly what the description says, "The aim of this book is to compare orthodox Biblical Christianity with other faiths in order to help Christians better understand their own beliefs." and I add, "...and the beliefs of religions on the same pivotal points of being a follower of Jesus." It gives concise reference to the crucial beliefs of orthodox Christianity on Who is God, Who is Jesus, Who is the Holy Spirit, What is the Bible, How are we saved, etc. This is a book written by a Christian for Christians (those who follow Jesus as God and are saved alone by His death and resurrection). Those commenters below who couldn't stand the book of course didn't like what it said because it was not written from their particular non-Christian point of view. Jesus Himself said the way is narrow. I'd suggest those people get over their own intolerance. You are free to hate every word that this author, the Bible, and Jesus say about the narrow way, that you must come to God through Himself (Jesus), that He is God, that Jesus will save us from our sins, etc. Fortunately we still live in a society where we are free to disagree on these issues, but we can never forget that being tolerant is a two-way street and it is paved with love. I've used this book to start conversations with those of other faiths to show them where our views are different and in most cases they are mutually exclusive of each other. It doesn't mean we can't be friends or care about one another, it just means we're banking our reality and eternity on different things, such as either Jesus is God as He said He was, or He isn't.

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