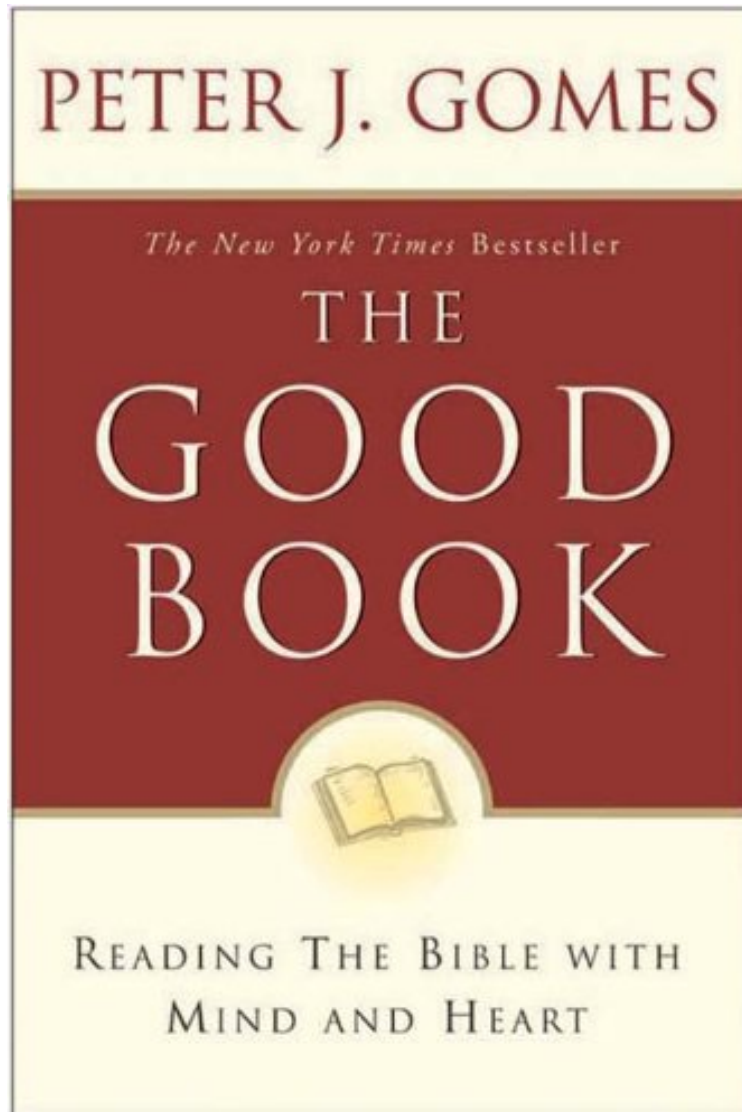


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Good Book: Discovering The Bible's Place In Our Liv

Von Peter J. Gomes

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Von Peter J. Gomes : Good Book: Discovering The Bible's Place In Our Liv before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Good Book: Discovering The Bible's Place In Our Liv:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. You will appreciate Rev. Gomes' fresh new look at Scipture. Von M. BurgessThis work by the preacher to Harvard University would have been unnecessary if he was not gay, black, and a Republican. These credentials alone suggest that he might have something different to say about how Americans interpret the Bible. And, in this regard, Rev. Gomes' book

does not disappoint. Gomes' aim with this book seems to have been to help recover the original "voice" of the Bible. His concern, as has been the concern of many before him, is to let the Bible speak for itself rather than through the interlocutors of its many and varied readers. Reclaiming this more authentic voice, he contends, is necessary if we are to rescue the Bible from the hands of those who mistakenly use it to advance their own prejudices and agenda. His particular concern is with those who use the Bible to further circumscribe the freedoms of women, blacks, and homosexuals. But in the course of his defense, he also does a creditable job of rescuing the Bible from others who in one way or another have misunderstood its essential nature. You may not agree with his conclusions, but you will appreciate Rev. Gomes' fresh new look at some familiar passages of Scripture. Intended for the layman, *The Good Book* also is worthwhile reading for anyone interested in the Bible and its interpretation.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Dangerous for those seeking God's face
Von Ein Kunde
First of all, understand that I have always been a fully-inclusive, spiritual Democrat. I have many friends of different races, of different sexual preferences and both genders. I love them all. As does God. I now attend a bible-believing, bible-preaching, pentecostal church that believes in and has females in leadership, and has a racially and ethnically mixed congregation. We as humans cannot condemn other humans for their sins, as we are all sinful. However, we ARE obligated to recognize a sin when we see it. I was saddened to learn that homosexuality was in fact an "abomination" to God, and that if my gay friends did not repent, they would not see God. This does NOT mean that I love them any less, as Jesus has commanded us to love each other as He loved us! Rev. Gomes refutes Leviticus 18:22 ("Thou shalt not lie with mankind as with womankind: it is abomination") and Leviticus 20:13 ("If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.") (both KJV) as being outdated. He claims that these and the other laws in those chapters are meant for God's "frontier people", and are meant for the preservation of the people's purity, identity and indeed the propagation of the race. He then states that "[w]e have, however, long since ceased to live as God's frontier folk in the promised land." Therefore, according to Rev. Gomes, since there is no danger of God's people dying out, we are not obligated to obey these laws. By this argument, the following sins would also be permitted: adultery, incest, and bestiality, as these are all forbidden in the same passages. One of the reviews below stated "I feel that Gomes was showing through his writing how we can make the bible fit our lifestyles, no matter what it may be." That is frightening. The bible was not meant to "fit our lifestyles", it was meant to be the yardstick by which we are to judge ourselves (read "not others"). We all agree that theft is wrong, but if we as a society decided that it wasn't, would that mean that God says it's alright? Truth is truth, no matter what mankind says about it. Just because there are so-called "Christians" who torment sinners, that is not a reason to re-interpret the bible! These are Christians who do not understand the tenet of "love the sinner, hate the sin", and believe me, they do not represent the Body of Christ! Because I love the sinner, I am compelled to inform him/her that his/her lifestyle, be it homosexuality, theft, murder, adultery, is a sin according to God and unfortunately will be judged by Him. In conclusion, (I know, finally.. :)) this book by Reverend Gomes is dangerous to those who are seeking to know God and seeking to be justified before Him. Rev. Gomes is leading sinners in the wrong direction.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Imperfect, but how could it not be?
Von Helpful Reviewer
Those who have never had the unique privilege of hearing Rev. Gomes preach will most enjoy and benefit from this book, for the book memorializes the singular virtues of his ministry: his delightful use of language, the great clarity of his thinking, the openness of his mind, and his general resistance to ideology and dogma. As a book targeted to a general audience, it is not as comprehensive nor as successful at handling intellectual complexities and contradictions as a more scholarly tome might be. Too often, Rev. Gomes makes interpretive leaps which are perhaps not supported adequately by his arguments and marshalling of evidence. However, it must be said that any book of this ilk would necessarily be guilty of similar "sins." In any event, Rev. Gomes does not intend for his book to be yet another addition to the library of general Biblical scholarship. Instead, he succeeds at his primary objective, which is to breathe life into the reader's relationship with the book and to rescue the Bible from individuals on points of the political spectrum who brazenly manipulate its complex and elusive message to support their own particular points of view. A thought-provoking and surprisingly easy read.

Kurzbeschreibung "The Bible and the social and moral consequences that derive from its interpretation are all too important to be left in the hands of the pious or the experts, and too significant to be ignored and trivialized by the uninformed and indifferent." Biblical studies have historically been consigned to theological schools and church groups. In *The Good Book*, Peter Gomes, pastor of Harvard University's Memorial Church and a professor of theology, has written a vivid, common sense and wise analysis of what the Bible means for us today. As an African American gay man, Gomes is interested in re-viewing the biblical passages on sexuality and race, but *The Good Book* is much more than a revisionist look at controversial biblical passages. Gomes is interested in rediscovering how the Bible can find a place in our emotional and political lives, as well as in our religious beliefs. *Pressestimmen* "Easily the best contemporary book on the Bible for thoughtful people." (The Right Reverend Lord Runcie, 102nd Archbishop of

Canterbury)"Lively...offers a crash course in biblical literacy in a nuanced but easy-to-understand style." (Atlanta Journal-Constitution)"This is a reading not from the right or the left but from the living, loving heart of scripture." (Bill McKibben, author of *The End of Nature*)...Reflects Gomess great intelligence, open mind, humanity, wisdom, and struggle to understand the meaning of life and Gods word. (Marian Wright Edelman, president, Children's Defense Fund)"...One of America's most compelling preachers ... a writer with flair and eloquence." (Harvey Cox, author of *Fire from Heaven*)"A riveting tour of this holy book with the guide both witty and wise ... great work of scholarship and imagination." (Henry Louis Gates, Jr.)