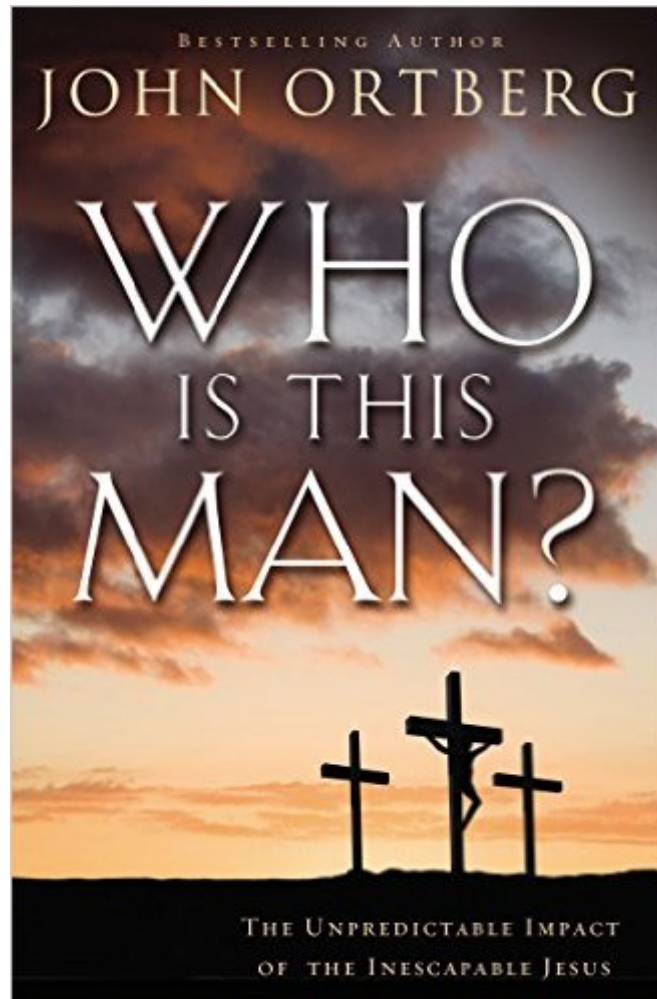


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# Who Is This Man?: The Unpredictable Impact Of The Inescapable Jesus



## Synopsis

Jesus' impact on our world is highly unlikely, widely inescapable, largely unknown, and decidedly double-edged. It is unlikely in light of the severe limitations of his earthly life; it is inescapable because of the range of impact; it is unknown because history doesn't connect dots; and it is doubled-edged because his followers have wreaked so much havoc, often in his name. He is history's most familiar figure, yet he is the man no one knows. His impact on the world is immense and non-accidental. From the Dark Ages to Post-Modernity he is the Man who won't go away. And yet . . . you can miss him in historical lists for many reasons, maybe the most obvious being the way he lived his life. He did not loudly and demonstrably defend his movement in the spirit of a rising political or military leader. He did not lay out a case that history would judge his brand of belief superior in all future books. His life and teaching simply drew people to follow him. He made history by starting in a humble place, in a spirit of love and acceptance, and allowing each person space to respond. His vision of life continues to haunt and challenge humanity. His influence has swept over history bringing inspiration to what has happened in art, science, government, medicine, and education; he has taught humans about dignity, compassion, forgiveness, and hope.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I ordered a copy of this book, *Who Is This Man?*, online, and when it arrived, one of the first things I noticed was the litany of blurbs about the book. Many authors and theologians who I deeply respect and appreciate had written a snippet about the value they saw in what Ortberg's book had to say. People as diverse as Dallas Willard, N. T. Wright, and Shaine Claiborne had good things to say

about this book, and remarkably, former US Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice wrote the foreword to the book. But the book didn't stop being quality at the end of the foreword. In fact, the array of comments had served the author and the book well by building a solid foundation from which to build and move forward. The book is not an apologetic for Jesus being God. It is not a book that lays out steps to salvation or anything like that. It is more of an examination of the truly unpredictable impact that Jesus has had in the twenty centuries since his life. Chapter after chapter, Ortberg sets the stage for what was considered normative at the time of Jesus, and how Jesus' life has shaped for generations from then to now what values we tend to admire, how we treat others, and even how we have arrived at some of the systems we have today, like our education system. I am really tempted to go into detail regarding some of the key insights of each chapter, but I don't want to give too much away for you. I will say this. John Ortberg lifts up historical context around many of Jesus' stories told in the gospels that allow us to see how truly profound his statements and teachings were.

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