



The Gospel of Thomas: New Perspectives on Jesus' Message (W/18-Page Supplement)

Elaine Pagels

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Millions of readers have turned to Elaine Pagels for her clear and insightful books about the Gnostic Gospels, the teachings of Jesus that have been lost for centuries. Sounds True is proud to present the first widely available audio recording of this extraordinary scholar as she explores the text that has changed the way many of us think about the message of Christ: The Gospel of Thomas. The stunning archaeological discovery of these lost scriptures of early Christianity in 1945 has revealed exciting new dimensions to the wisdom passed on from Jesus to his disciples. In her analysis of this revived gospel, Dr. Pagels reveals that Thomas was not a doubter of Christ rather, his thoughtful inquiries reflected and brought out the deepest truths that Jesus had to offer. Thomas' account depicts a Jesus who taught us that the Kingdom of Heaven is not a separate realm, but a state of divinity that we all can reach. He is even called the twin of Jesus a metaphor for the possibility that all of us can achieve the same state of divine grace embodied by Jesus. Elaine Pagels has riveted readers and audiences everywhere with her clear and provocative explorations of the testaments of early Christianity. The Gospel of Thomas gives listeners a first opportunity to join her in charting a wider horizon of Christian spirituality.

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From Reader Review The Gospel of Thomas: New Perspectives on Jesus' Message (W/18-Page Supplement) for online ebook

Ed says

This is a short lecture by Pagels about the gospel and one of her upcoming books. If it was a book (it's an audio book) it would be a pamphlet with questions and brisk answers.

Mary says

4/11/13. Good overview.

Karen Potts says

A short volume describing how the Gospel of Thomas fit into that period of history following Jesus' death when a number of gospels were circulating. The book set the writing in its historical context & touched on tenets presented that agreed with or differed from those contained in other gospels.

Susan says

It was ok; couldn't understand what her position was on the readings of st thomas.

Kristine says

Informative lecture and Q & A.

Pagels has been at the forefront of Gospel of Thomas research and Gnostic research. While I am not currently researching the Gospel of Thomas, I still admire the drive and passion she has for it as well as other documents/codices found at the Nag Hammadi sight.

Pagels passion and knowledge allow her to explain this ancient codex with ease and grace.

B. says

Professor Pagels is a fascinating woman...her work is incredibly well researched and very readable. This book, or lecture, is a bit more stream of consciousness than many of her other works, but I enjoyed it because it allowed for her to just speak without worrying about punctuation, etiquette, etc....this is Elaine speaking as Elaine. With this book we get a more personal touch than one that is purely academic.

I recommend listening to this one on Audio.

Kat Robey says

Fascinating discussion-my first steps into the history of Christianity, the Gnostic Gospels, and the politics that molded Christianity by editing those texts out. Knowing self to know the great I Am--and we are all from the light...powerful messages.

Andrea says

Elaine Pagels is an amazing scholar and author. She's an MacArthur Fellow and it's clear by her comments on the Gospel of Thomas and it's place in ancient christian texts that she has an amazing grasp on history and linguistics. I'd recommend this book to anyone who is interested in objectively learning more about the early christian texts and their implications.

David says

Nice for what it is, which is a couple talks, plus Q&A. If you're interested in a really quick intro to what Pagels is up to, this is good.

David says

A delightful discussion of one of the gnostic gospels. This is my first venture in to the works of Prof Pagels, and I'm impressed. She is very fluent in the gospels, and has a very nuanced view of the modern cannons as well as the gnostics. She is careful when she points out various discontinuities within the existing cannon. This is really a public lecture with questions and answers following. I found the questioners and questions to be interesting. Certainly has me more interesting in both Thomas and John. This is a very quick book, so it can be worth your time. I'm also reminded that we've seen a lot of theological and liturgical change in the last 150 years or so. It's good to back to the early roots. I appreciate the comments on when ideas may have entered Christian thought.
