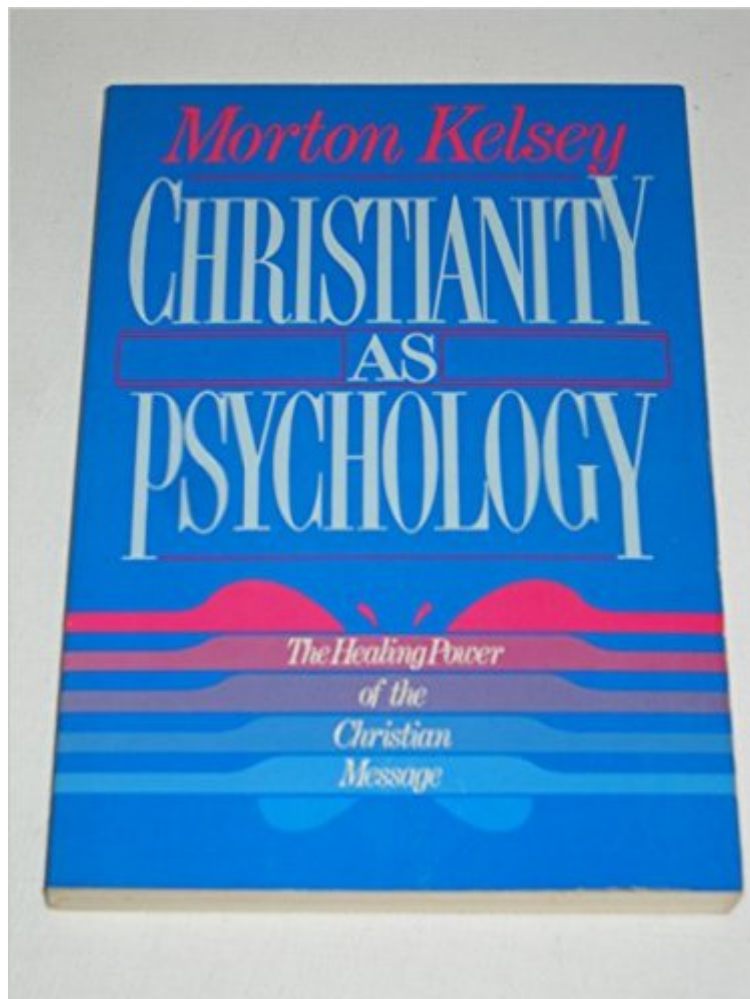


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Christianity As Psychology: The Healing Power Of The Christian Message



Synopsis

Fantastic Book!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kelsey has always been known for his existential approach to Christian spirituality. He doesn't fail us here. When he describes how he came to God in the opening chapters, he tells that a Jew (i.e. non-believer) helped him listen to his "inner voice." Through his spiritual search the Jungian world view became his framework for "Christianity as psychology." Kelsey opens with a survey and evaluation of the various schools of psychology and their relationship to religion. It might be useful to those in general psychology class, but not many others. But when Kelsey comes to existential psychology, specifically Jungian psychology, he labels the chapter "A Place for God in Psychology." Here he accepts the Jungian world view as his Christianity. He acknowledges Stein's work about Jung's essential Satanic paganism, but ignores all of his conclusions. Rather than making the resurrection central to the faith, Kelsey makes it a side issue as does Jung. Sin is equated with being controlled by negative forces, rather than acts of the will. It is the Satan of the unconscious, the dark side of God that drives us into sin. Although Kelsey points out a couple problems with Eastern religion, he replies, "It is, however, certainly a more hopeful and meaningful view of human existence than materialism" (p. 55). He fails to understand the definition, impact, and value of Judeo-Christian materialism, but rather opts for Eastern spirituality, supporting it with modern physics. Objective truth is only discerned by means of human subjective feelings. Kelsey then gives

example after example of paranormal Christian spirituality. (Ah, Jung's paganism loses its disguise here!

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