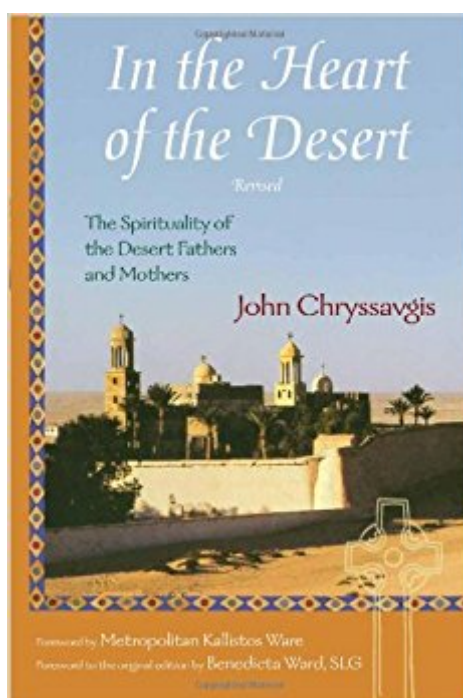


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In The Heart Of The Desert: The Spirituality Of The Desert Fathers And Mothers (Treasures Of The World's Religions)



Synopsis

Father John's inspiring introduction to the spirituality of the Desert Fathers and Mothers brings their words to life for the modern reader. These key figures of the early church chose lives of hardship and solitude, where they could point their hearts away from the outward world and toward an introspective path of God's calling in a deliberate and individual way. Contains a Foreword by Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, the second highest ranking Orthodox Bishop in England.

Book Information

Series: Treasures of the World's Religions

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Customer Reviews

In 2007, my spiritual director, a Jesuit, invited me to read this book. I kept his copy for several months. I enjoyed very much the book during my "desert" time - 21 days of praying and fasting. I used some of the stories for my personal meditation and they helped me to surrender to God. My nakedness in the desert allowed me to rely more on the divine providence and to let the spirit guide me, instruct me and be with me (Psalm 32, 8). Re-reading my journal notes from November 2007, I decided to buy my own copy of "in the heart of the desert". I shared this book with a dear friend of mine. It is very well written and reminded me of all of my years of monastic life. I keep reading it and re-reading it.

Well researched; extraordinary clarity; well written

I love this book. It is a power house of insight into the writings of the Desert Fathers and Mothers written with wisdom and grace. -Amos Smith (author of Healing The Divide: Recovering Christianity's Mystic Roots)

OK, the content is very good. I agree with the other reviewers. Fr Chryssavgis does an excellent job opening up desert spirituality. Unfortunately the book has been done a disservice in its transition to the Kindle format. First of all, no interactive table of contents -- in fact no table of contents at all. Not even the one from the printed edition. Once you find the index you can get to specific topics using Go to... function but no table of contents. To make the text useful I've had to go through it using the table of contents from the "Look Inside!" for the print edition and create bookmarks.

Inexcusable. Second: a large part of the body of the text is center aligned which makes reading difficult and paragraphs very difficult to distinguish. This is just sloppy work. Third: given the lack of interactive toc this should not surprise you but the footnotes are not interactive either. If you want to check the source in the course of your reading you have to page to the end of the chapter and then back to where you left off. Fourth: a niggling point given the previous but Greek words do not show up as Greek. In summation: buy the print version -- not the Kindle version.

Highly recommend it.

Very good read. The desert fathers are men of few words that speak to the heart!

IF you love Keatings writings you will like this also.

If you ever wanted to get as close as you can to feeling the people in that time, read it.

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