

Religion/Philosophy

**Many continue the search for the 'real' historical Jesus** in the archeological ruins while others take a leap of faith in the DaVinci Code. The real Jesus of history is to be found in the Gospels as we have them and not in some secret code in the Dead Sea Scrolls. The real Jesus is revealed by the historical process of the living Gospel, fully allowing for the many legends and elaborations of the underlying events. Ernest Werner's new book ROD OF JESSE advances our understanding of how and why the four Gospels were written about a real man named Jesus.

ROD OF JESSE takes up the question of Jesus as myth and without advocacy or iconoclasm treats the question fairly. Confessing Jesus to be a mythic archetype is not heresy. In so doing one finds more rational evidence for a historical Jesus than blind faith alone. Taking Christian thinking to another level in the reader may provoke changes in relation to 'church' without destroying faith, but this book does not make claims to solving problems for the churches.

– Jill Swenson, Ph.D.

**The Book offers the Reader:**

*Comparisons of the Gospels to myths in the Hellenistic environment & Illustrations of 'prophecy' as satisfied by 'chiming' of ancient texts*

*The Story of Jesus found in John compared to the earlier (Synoptic) Gospels & a defense of the original & old-fashioned Sign of Jonah*

*An extended Protestant Midrash on the Resurrection of Lazarus while introducing the conception of the 'Phallic god' in refutation of John Allegro's Sacred Mushroom*

*Exposition of Mark's melodramatic Tale of the Dance of Salome (Baptist's beheading) establishing legend as a vehicle of historical fact*

*Through careful examination of Passion & Resurrection scenes shows how history is conveyed while also revealing how easily Gospel accounts pass into legend*

*& Overall: An intellectual & independent assessment of the Gospels, taken in their original religious sense, for a distinct & persuasive evidence of a historical Jesus.*

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ROD OF JESSE  
Ernest Werner



# ROD OF JESSE

*On the Jesus of the Gospels  
& Doubt of his Existence*



Ernest Werner