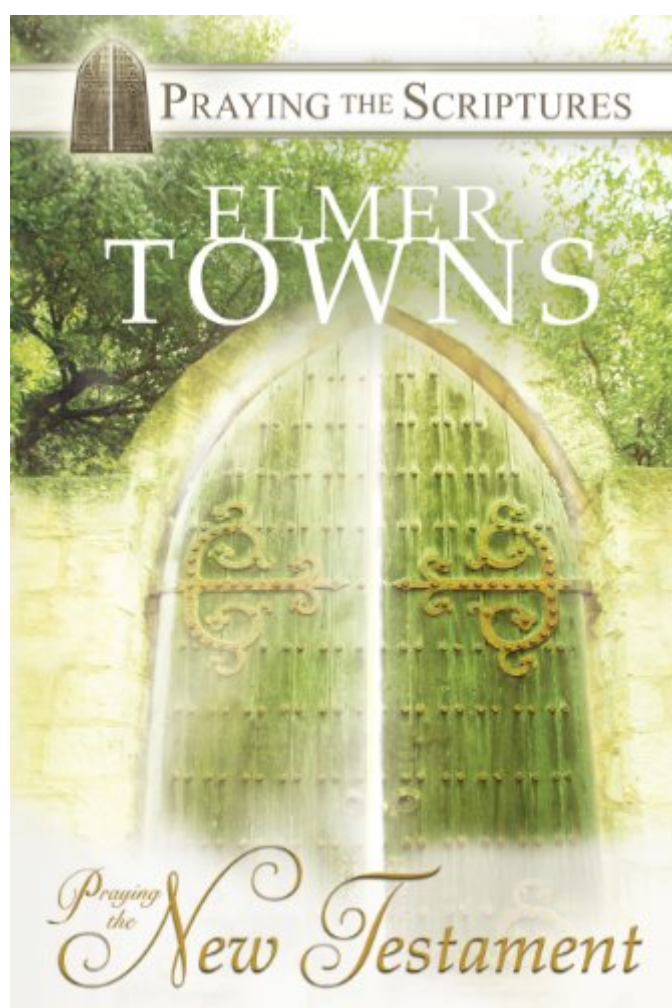


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Praying The New Testament: Praying The Scriptures With Elmer Towns (Praying The Scriptures (Destiny Images))



Synopsis

Enter the exciting world of the New Testament! Award-winning author and college professor Elmer Towns brings a unique perspective to the New Testament, translating it directly from the Greek and combining the books into one glorious whole. Infused with life and color, *Praying the New Testament* includes portraits of the authors, culture, and religious practices of the day. Meticulously researched and written, this is the story of the greatest life ever lived. The New Testament comes alive as you pray through the: Gospels. Book of Acts. Letters of apostle Paul. Epistles. Book of Revelation. You will be amazed how the Word of God can permeate your spirit and transform your mind one exciting page after another!

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Customer Reviews

I was so disappointed in this book, I didn't finish it. In order to be compelling, it is too fictionalized. For example, it told of Joseph having a dream of a table that wasn't level, and he couldn't fix it just

before the angel told him to take Jesus to Egypt to avoid Herod. When it was time to go back to Israel, he had the same dream, but this time Jesus fixed it. And, Zechariah would not have used a slate and chalk to write when he couldn't talk. The book also had unnecessary commas and incomplete pairs of quotation marks. I was looking forward to reading an account of the New Testament woven together, so the repeated stories only occurred once, but there is too many events added in this account that's not in the Bible. It should be listed in the fiction category, not the non-fiction.

This book does three things. It contains most or all of the New Testament, as paraphrased or translated by Towns, but written as prayers. It also contains stories of how the books were written. It has devotional meditations. Towns is, or has been, on the faculty of Liberty University. First, the very good. The devotional ideas were splendid. Towns wants the reader to reflect on a passage of scripture, and his ideas for reflection were very thought-provoking, and, well, devotional. Any Christian could use these with profit. Next, the OK. Towns attempts to rewrite the New Testament as prayers. Some parts of the NT come off very well as prayers, but, in many cases, it doesn't work, or Towns doesn't make it work. He just sticks a "Lord," in front of sections of scripture, as if the reader were telling God what that particular passage of the NT says. It's always good to read the NT, but saying, for example, "Lord, the angel told Zechariah . . ." isn't what most people would think of as a prayer. Then there are events that Towns just makes up, with no firm Biblical basis, such as his descriptions, a lot of them, of John on the isle of Patmos, writing Revelation, and what circumstances he was in. Towns also makes Barnabas be the Rich Young Ruler. There are honest disputes among Christian scholars, but you'd never know about them by reading the book, and surely Towns left these matters out on purpose, even though he knew of their existence. One of them is the author of Hebrews. Towns describes how and why Paul wrote it, when we are far from certain that he did. Another such problem is his view of End Times. You'd never know there was another view by reading this book. Towns uses the word "Antichrist" several times in his version of Revelation, when none of several widely used Bible translations do that. I'm glad I read this, but uninformed Christians could be easily misled by the book.

Haven't finished it yet as it's very long. I find myself continually tearing up. As a Christian for over 40 years and huge reader I have to say there aren't many books of a devotional nature that really move me the way this one does. He includes the scripture passage as well as his commentary in a way that flows naturally without being overtly preachy. Nice since we've had plenty of preaching. But the

best part is that his commentary literally makes the scripture come to life in new ways which isn't easy to do for a heavy Bible reader like me. I highly recommend this and especially for those of you who've lapsed into the doldrums.

The bulk of this text is NOT from Scripture. There are a lot of highly-embellished stories for the sake of dramatization but very little actual Scripture. Even the prayers are embellished to match the speculation of the stories. Sure, the Bible doesn't tell us every, single detail and we must use common sense and our own human experience to imagine the details. But some of the "details" in this book are so made-up that they run the risk of adding "facts" to the Holy Word of God that are simply not recorded there. I would strongly caution anyone reading this to find another prayer help that is actually "praying the scriptures" instead of "praying some author's tale of fiction".

Great concept, but I had difficulty putting it into practice. The author literally took the Scripture and turned it around into prayers, which is a good thing, but I began to feel I was just reciting, rather than experiencing. I need to work with this a little more.

I really like the concept of this book. I have tried various avenues in the past on this subject, but I find this one very clear and reasonable. That makes it usable and that is what I am always looking for. It is certainly worth a try if you are interested in enhancing your prayer life.

good product

books were in very good condition

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