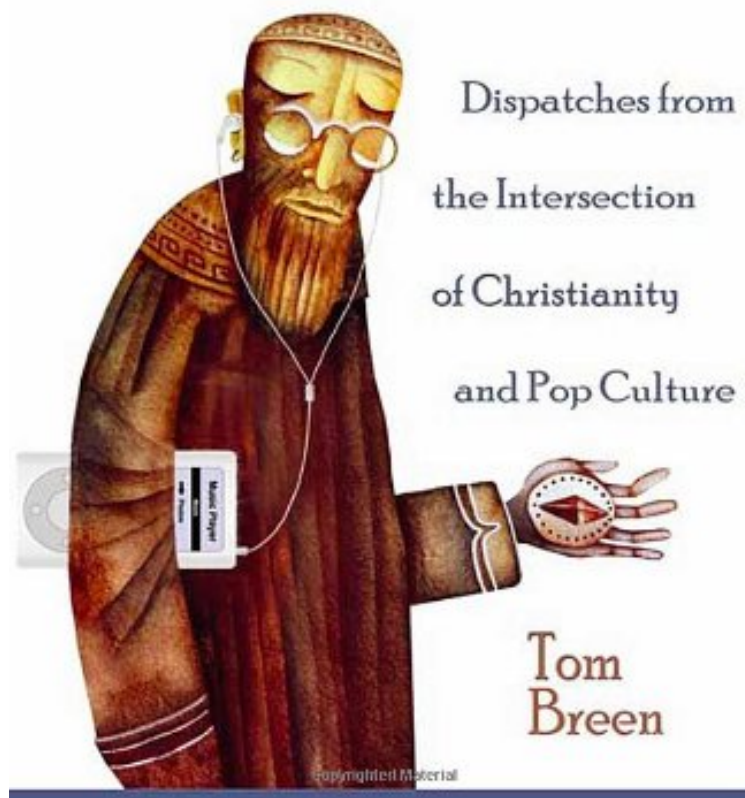
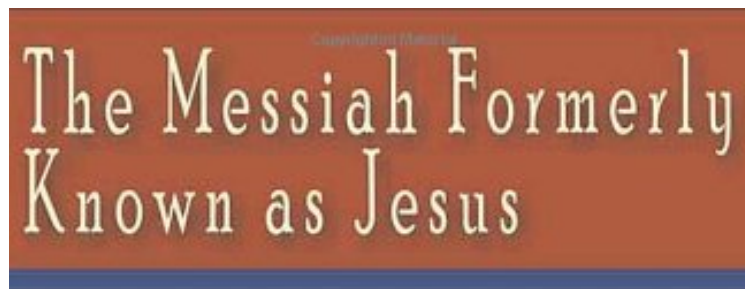


[FREE] The Messiah Formerly Known as Jesus: Dispatches from the Intersection of Christianity and Pop Culture

## The Messiah Formerly Known as Jesus: Dispatches from the Intersection of Christianity and Pop Culture

*Tom Breen*

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**Tom Breen : The Messiah Formerly Known as Jesus: Dispatches from the Intersection of Christianity and Pop Culture** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Messiah Formerly Known as Jesus: Dispatches from the Intersection of Christianity and Pop Culture:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. What You Should Really Read in SeminaryBy Josh GribbleIn TmfKaj the Internet Theologian shares with us his many insights gathered from browsing the internet (Google Wikipedia), occasionally researching books (yeah, he knows that's boring too) and just as frequently making stuff up. If you are pretty familiar with both Christianity and pop culture you will undoubtedly find this book hilarious and insightful. If you haven't attended seminary or studied theology, church history etc. it may be hard to pick up on some jokes. Likewise if you haven't seen the "Baby got book" video there is a good chance some of the pop-culture humor will fly over your dull, monotonous, boring head. At least for its target audience this is a book that will have you laughing out loud while taking a fresh look at how Christianity culture relate. The humor stays funny and ends up being uplifting without really degrading various peoples points of view (except of course scholars who really do deserve it).0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Oddly EnjoyableBy JerryThis book has some valid insights and they are offered in a humorous style. The sarcasm is generally light in tone and easy to enjoy. For pastors with a sense of humor, this book will be a bit of fun.0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. witty book about modern ChristianityBy Carlos M.The author made me wonder about my own religious values, learned through the Old and New Testament, in a new way that is applicable while not in conflict with popular cultural activities. He answers many blind questions about the practicality of Christianity in secular life. Are our general beliefs about holidays, sports, and music aligned with true Christian values? And if not how do we demonstrate right alignment with secular culture as Christian believers? Is this even possible to accomplish? The author teaches the ignorant believer, without resorting to hard facts and persuasion, the not-so-evident intersection of mainstream culture with Christian pop culture exists.

Acclaimed "Internet Theologian" Tom Breen has written a satirical, tongue-in-cheek exploration of pop Christianity. Whether pondering why there are so many Christian rock bands but so few good Christian rock songs or providing helpful tips on writing hip translations of the Bible (hint: lose the boring parts and constantly mention celebrities), Breen offers whip-smart, non-stop fun, along with a side-splitting send-up of our contemporary obsessions.

"The landscape of contemporary evangelical Christianity is a complex one, but in Tom Breen it has an excellent, entertaining tour guide, especially if you find concepts like 'humility' and 'facts' and 'necessary footnotes' to be mere annoyances in the way of good writing. Swat those gnats aside, put on a Christian t-shirt, and enjoy the brilliance."?Jason Boyett, author of Pocket Guide to the Bible and Pocket Guide to the Apocalypse"In this entertaining gem of religious satire, Breen, an AP journalist, skewers American Christianity from every imaginable angle. Calling himself the 'Internet Theologian,' Breen romps through the Bible, religious history, denominational differences, Halloween, contemporary Christian music and spectator sports, among other topics. Some of the book is pure silliness, but other sections achieve that elusive 'perfect storm' where humor is sharpened by raw intelligence and a keen knowledge of history and theology. Even Breen's glossary of terms is hilarious. Heck, even his endnotes are funny and not to be missed. (One says merely, 'Seriously. Wasn't Calvin a nut?') Readers seeking irreverent, laugh-out-loud musings on the sometimes ludicrous intersections between faith and pop culture will want to read this insouciant guide."?Publisher's WeeklyAbout the AuthorTom Breen currently works as a reporter for The Associated Press. As "The Internet Theologian," his online musings about faith have been read by literally dozens of people, or, possibly, by one person with dozens of LiveJournal accounts. He lives in West Virginia.