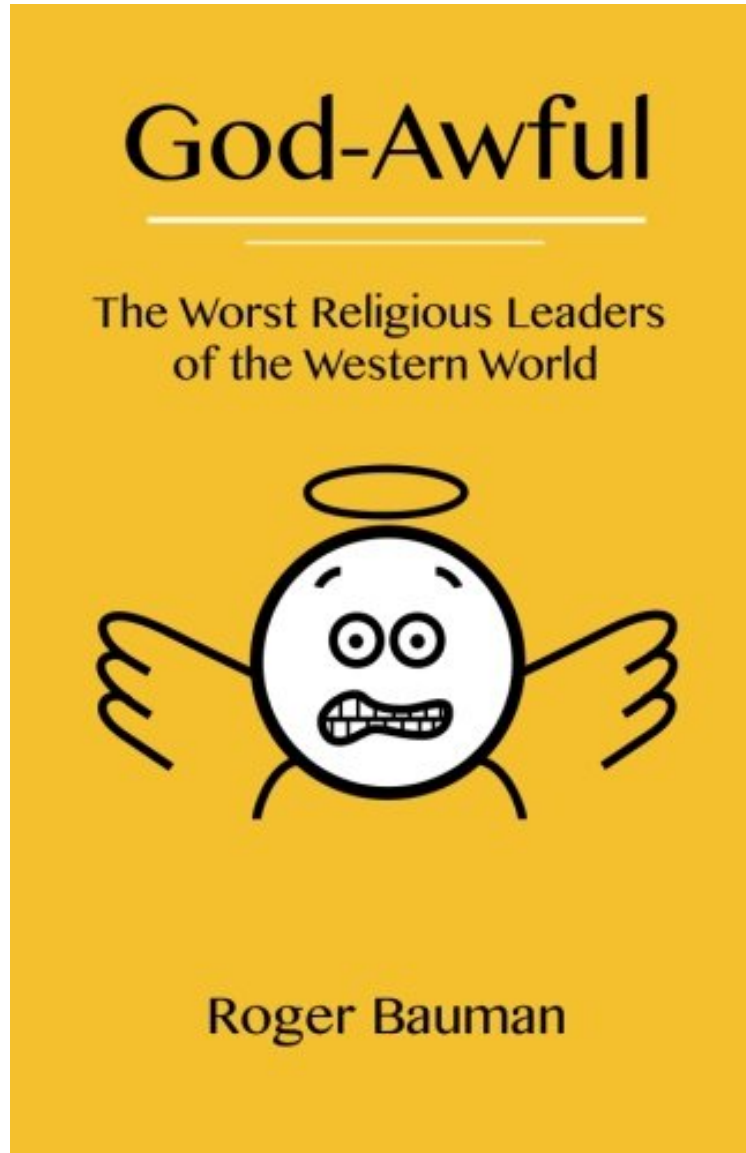


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God-Awful: The Worst Religious Leaders of the Western World

Roger Bauman

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Roger Bauman : God-Awful: The Worst Religious Leaders of the Western World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised God-Awful: The Worst Religious Leaders of the Western World:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. L. Ron Hubbard Was a Great Man?By Alan NaldrettThis book was going along okay until I read what he said about L. Ron Hubbard. He seems to be the ultimate fan, defending his craziness in a way I've never even seen Scientologists do. He even goes so far to call the movie "Battlefield Earth"

great! I can't understand, because the rest of the book is more critical, such as the Mormon section. I wanted to give this "two stars" because I really have to wonder about this guy after reading his Hubbard chapter, but I really liked most of the rest of it and didn't want to totally poison his rating. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must reading on evil committed in the name of god

By Alex Tafarrodi

First, I was relieved that the author confined his writing to the worst western religious leaders and did not include Middle Eastern ones. The author is my brother-in-law and would hate to see the father of my two favorite nephews become the target of a radical revenge seeker. The book is written well and flows easily and covers tremendous territory. I found myself grabbing my kindle reader at every opportunity to read more. The author's dry humor is a special bonus. The level of atrocities committed in the name God is to such an extent that several times I found myself doubting the facts stated and did my own research on Wikipedia. I didn't find any errors. However, complete references would be helpful, especially on claims made by specific publications, such as the Agence France Presse article that "an estimated 70,000 to 80,000 people worldwide have been put to death for witchcraft since the end of World War II." Also I found myself wanting to know more about the motives behind the atrocities committed. For example, while some of the medieval popes seemed to have been motivated purely by greed, other leaders, such as Oliver Cromwell, truly believed they were doing God's work, even as they committed genocide. I would be interested in reading more about how human beings reach such states of delusion. Perhaps in his next book Roger Bauman could go beyond just stating the facts and explore the psyche of the mad men who kill and maim in the name of God and then congratulate themselves for the fine work accomplished.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Interesting History Lesson

By Matthew L. Dittmer

The author did their best to lighten this depressing subject with humor. I would not recommend this for children. You may also wish to have a happy book in mind after you finish this one.

Everyone knows there have been terrible popes, but who were they and what did they do that was so bad? Likewise, everyone knows that the ranks of televangelists have been decimated by scandals, but who were these men and what led to their downfalls? These are the kinds of questions that are answered in *God-Awful: The Worst Religious Leaders of the Western World*. This book is crammed full of history, facts, oddities, and stupefying tales. Naturally, there is some pretty grim stuff on these pages. Inquisitions, holy wars, avarice, terrorism, and the like are not subjects that can be lightly glossed over. This book takes an unflinching look into all these dark areas, but there is also a light-hearted feel to much of the book that prevents things from getting too gloomy. Chapters on subjects such as satan-worshipping rock stars and "Snake Handlers" for instance, lend some levity to the proceedings. Then there is the surreal, mind-bending saga of history's most unmentionable holy relic. This is a fascinating look at the unseemly side of religion that will captivate readers of all religious backgrounds.