



# Jesus Through Pagan Eyes: Bridging Neopagan Perspectives with a Progressive Vision of Christ

By Rev Mark Townsend, Matthew Fox, Barbara Erskine

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For Pagans and Christians alike, *Jesus Through Pagan Eyes* offers a provocative portrait of Jesus as a compassionate, life-affirming, nature-inspired spiritual teacher, freed from the limiting ideology of the Church. Rev. Mark Townsend sets the stage by exploring the historical evidence of who Jesus was as a human being before delving into the realm of metaphor and mythology, the notion of Christ, and the Church's conception of Jesus as Christ.

The heart of this unique book lies in the thoughtful and deeply moving collection of stories, essays, and interviews about Jesus from today's most respected Pagan, Wiccan, and Druidic leaders. Contributors such as Maxine Sanders, Christopher Penczak, Janet Farrar, Diana Paxson, Philip Carr-Gomm, Oberon Zell-Ravenheart, John Michael Greer, Selena Fox, and Raven Grimassi explore the historical figure of Jesus in relation to Witchcraft, the tarot, goddess worship, and shamanism while illustrating how this god of the Christian church blesses and inspires those who embrace non-traditional spiritual paths.

Whether you envision Jesus as an ascended master, a human teacher, or a mythic god-man, this remarkable book will introduce you to a Jesus who fits fully into the Pagan imagination.

### Praise:

"Townsend uses Jesus to initiate dialogue, and he does so in a way that is accepting and inclusive of many understandings and interpretations of Jesus, his purpose, and his relevance (or irrelevance) in the religious practices of contemporary Pagans." **Huffington Post**

"This work admirably promotes understanding between belief systems that have a sometimes uneasy relationship." **Publishers Weekly**

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- Sales Rank: #652796 in Books
- Published on: 2012-06-08
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.01" h x 1.01" w x 6.10" l, 1.17 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 408 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### About the Author

A former clergyman in the Church of England, **Reverend Mark Townsend** now leads his own inclusive and ecumenical ministry that nourishes a strong appreciation for the diversity of faith beyond Christianity, and which strives to honor the divine in all people, regardless of their faith, culture, sexuality or background.

A priest of the Open Episcopal Church and member of the Progressive Christian Alliance, in addition to being a member of the Order of Bards, Ovates and Druids, the author has been featured on the BBC and several other news programs throughout Britain. He is the author of *The Gospel of Falling Down*, and *Jesus Outside the Box* (O Books). He lives in Hereford, England.

Find out more at: <http://www.marktownsendministry.co.uk>.

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