



In the Footsteps of Jesus: A Chronicle of His Life and the Origins of Christianity

By Jean-Pierre Isbouts



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“Stunning illustrations, photographs, and maps...a vivid and thorough picture of the life and times of Jesus.” –*War Cry* (the Salvation Army's biweekly magazine)

The Gospels of the New Testament describe the life of Jesus of Nazareth, from his birth in Bethlehem and his travels through Galilee, to his trial and death in Jerusalem. *In the Footsteps of Jesus* goes even deeper into the story of Jesus' life by following his path through the Holy Land on richly detailed maps and bringing each pivotal place to life through the latest archaeological and historical discoveries. Breathtaking photography and unique period artifacts complement fascinating text and specially created maps by National Geographic cartographers.

In the Footsteps of Jesus not only illustrates the stories of Jesus's life, but also the characters and events that shaped his journey and ultimately made him one of the most famous figures the world has ever known. This compelling and beautiful book traces Jesus's path from Bethlehem to Nazareth; throughout his "mission triangle" of Lower Galilee and into the Decapolis; and ultimately on his journey to Jerusalem, the Garden of Gethsemane and Golgotha.

Expertly crafted text describes what is known and speculated about Jesus's youth, life and work, while showing the larger events that combined to shape the world in which He lived. Both the text and sidebars describe the places in Jesus' world that can still be experienced by visitors, as well as key sites that have since disappeared but can be reconstructed by forensic means; what life was like in an agricultural society in 1st century Lower Galilee before the Jewish War; the omnipresent tension between Greco-Roman urban lifestyles and observant Jewish communities, which because of its geographic location was particularly acute in Lower Galilee; the devastating impact of Herodian tax regimes and subsequent Roman census-based taxation in Lower Galilee, and the wholesale displacement of the Jewish peasantry; modern religious practices that can be traced to Jesus' teaching and experiences, and other compelling historical figures of the era. Captivating elements include quotes attributed to Jesus; historical data derived from Jewish sources such as the Mishnah, and Roman sources such as Josephus; census data and other documents; key facts, and insightful main text. Newcomers to biblical history as well as the devoted will find this an invaluable reference and a gorgeous book for the home library.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

A Look Inside *In the Footsteps of Jesus*



The main cardo or boulevard of the Hellenistic city of Gerasa (today's Jerash, Jordan) led to the main forum, where the religious, civic, and commercial facilities of the city could be found. Pantheon Studios, Inc. ([Click to enlarge](#))



Dutch artist Gerard van Honthorst (1592-1656) cast this Nativity scene of 1620 in a romantic light, which was made popular during the Baroque era. Pantheon Studios, Inc. ([Click to enlarge](#))



The walls of today's old city of Jerusalem were built by the Ottoman Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent around 1535. Pantheon Studios, Inc. ([Click to enlarge](#))

From [Booklist](#)

Using new archaeological discoveries, Isbouts takes readers on a trip back in time to uncover Jesus and the places where he lived, preached, and died. The first part of the book, *The World of Jesus*, looks at the larger Roman world as well as the locales that nurtured Jesus and his work. The text then goes on to trace the life of Jesus as he moved through Galilee, ending up in Jerusalem for his final days. The book concludes with a look at the Christian communities that sprang up throughout the Roman Empire. An epilogue tracks various pilgrimage routes. Though this volume has the look and feel of a coffee-table book, some of the photos are disappointing (for example, a generic full-page picture of an olive tree with a caption about the importance of oil in the ancient world). In addition, some images are not crisply reproduced. That said, there is a wealth of information here. The book covers all the key topics—the Temple, the travels, the teachings—and several minor ones as well (Fish Species in Jesus' Time). Good for browsers and students of the period alike. --Ilene Cooper

Review

"Takes readers on a visual journey with Jesus, presenting concepts of faith, history, archeology, and geography, in a gift format for history lovers and faithful alike." —*Publisher's Weekly*

"The location photography, artwork, ancient artifacts, and scores of specially commissioned maps would help anyone comprehend Jesus as a dynamic teacher, leader, and man." —*Christian Science Sentinel*

"This worthy book could be read alongside the Gospels or could stand alone as a historical work." —*Bookpage*

"Offers a fresh and often moving encounter with a fully realized human being; a social and spiritual activist who still resonates with the great issues of our day." —*Santa Barbara Independent*

"Stunning illustrations, photographs, and maps...a vivid and thorough picture of the life and times of Jesus." —*War Cry* (the Salvation Army's biweekly magazine)

"Part coffee-table book and part reference work, this title offers plenty of illustrations...and a plethora of interesting facts." —*Library Journal*

"A good read, it arrives just in time for giving as a gift this Christmas." —*St. Anthony Messenger*

Users Review

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Jena Alvarez:

What do you about book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material if you want something to explain what you problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to do others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. The doctor has to answer that question due to the fact just their can do this. It said that about e-book. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this In the Footsteps of Jesus: A Chronicle of His Life and the Origins of Christianity to read.

Susan Tokarz:

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Curt Stewart:

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