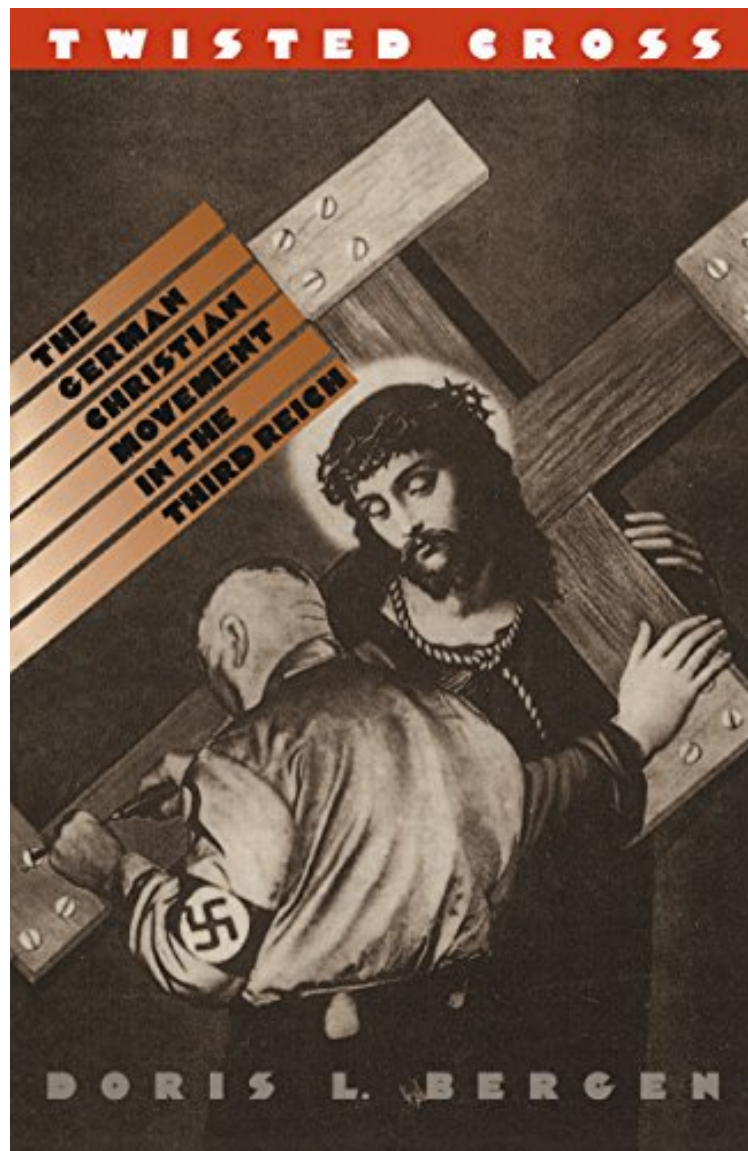


(Mobile library) Twisted Cross: The German Christian Movement in the Third Reich

Twisted Cross: The German Christian Movement in the Third Reich

Von Doris L. Bergen

ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

Produktinformation - Verkaufsrang: #1350234 in eBooks Veröffentlicht am: 2000-11-09 Erscheinungsdatum: 2000-11-09 File Name: B009RUQU9E | File size: 58.Mb

Von Doris L. Bergen : Twisted Cross: The German Christian Movement in the Third Reich before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Twisted Cross: The German Christian Movement in the Third Reich:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An

excellent book on a dark chapter in christian history Von Ein Kunde Adherents of the German Christian movement of the 1930's and 1940's saw Nazism and Christianity as movements with shared values and a common agenda. They were given official support by the Nazi party for a time and the first and only Protestant Reich Bishop, Ludwig Mueller, was nominated from among their ranks. While traditional church historians have sought to minimize this movement as an aberration, Bergen provides evidence to support the thesis that it remained a popular mass movement throughout the years of Nazi rule. The evidence she presents further demonstrates that this Protestant sect blended together Nazi and Christian doctrine not out of expediency but out of faith. She analyzes the views not only of the leaders of the movement but also of its rank and file in order to capture a sense of their religious as well as psychological and political motivations. For most of the book, her focus is on understanding how the at once nationalist and anti-doctrinal theology of the church evolved under the pressures of the Nazi regime. In this regard, her account of their escalating struggle to purge Christianity of its Jewish roots is of particular interest. The last chapter, Postwar Echoes, gives an interesting account of the way in which German Christians tried to reconcile their old allegiances in the post war period and the way in which other Protestant sects used the high-visibility collaboration of the German Christians to avoid thorough de-Nazification at the end of the war. Hard to find documentary photographs showing the widespread blending of Christian and Nazi symbolism in church life enhance the overall value of the work. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Must reading for theological cognoscenti Von Ein Kunde Bergen's well researched and tightly written account of one German sect, the _The German Christians_, offers a sobering account of the political consequences of a Christianity turned anti-doctrinal, anti-hierarchical, anti-Roman, people-centered, and focused on "feelings" rather than objective reality. This movement, self-designated as "The People's Church," celebrated its uniquely German form of Christianity in emotion-charged liturgies cleansed of traditional rituals and language. Stripped of long-established ritual, rules, tradition, theology, and foreign co-religionists, this wholly-German sect pressed its reconfigured notions of Christianity into the service of Nazism. Trend spotters will note ominous parallels to developments in contemporary (increasingly horizontal forms of) American Christianity. Bergen offers evidence that tinkering with religious language, liturgy, rules and doctrine can have profound socio-political consequences. Must read for all German history buffs as well as readers interested in Christian liturgy and theology. A complete copy of my review of _Twisted Cross_ appears in the September 1998 issue of Adoremus Bulletin.

Kurzbeschreibung How did Germany's Christians respond to Nazism? In Twisted Cross, Doris Bergen addresses one important element of this response by focusing on the 600,000 self-described 'German Christians,' who sought to expunge all Jewish elements from the Christian church. In a process that became more daring as Nazi plans for genocide unfolded, this group of Protestant lay people and clergy rejected the Old Testament, ousted people defined as non-Aryans from their congregations, denied the Jewish ancestry of Jesus, and removed Hebrew words like 'Hallelujah' from hymns. Bergen refutes the notion that the German Christians were a marginal group and demonstrates that members occupied key positions within the Protestant church even after their agenda was rejected by the Nazi leadership. Extending her analysis into the postwar period, Bergen shows how the German Christians were relatively easily reincorporated into mainstream church life after 1945. Throughout Twisted Cross, Bergen reveals the important role played by women and by the ideology of spiritual motherhood amid the German Christians' glorification of a 'manly' church. Pressestimmen "Bergen is to be congratulated for this scholarly, well-balanced account." Theological Studies "An outstanding, stylish, and timely assessment . . . of the German Christian Movement which tried to fuse Christianity with National Socialism." German History "This is a disturbing and an important book, highly relevant for many contemporary discussions concerning theology, religion and modern culture." Studies in Religion "Bergen is to be congratulated for this scholarly, well-balanced account." Theological Studies "An outstanding, stylish, and timely assessment . . . of the German Christian Movement which tried to fuse Christianity with National Socialism." German History "This is a disturbing and an important book, highly relevant for many contemporary discussions concerning theology, religion and modern culture." Studies in Religion "A superb book." Choice "Kurzbeschreibung How did Germany's Christians respond to Nazism? In Twisted Cross, Doris Bergen addresses one important element of this response by focusing on the 600,000 self-described 'German Christians,' who sought to expunge all Jewish elements from the Christian church. In a process that became more daring as Nazi plans for genocide unfolded, this group of Protestant lay people and clergy rejected the Old Testament, ousted people defined as non-Aryans from their congregations, denied the Jewish ancestry of Jesus, and removed Hebrew words like 'Hallelujah' from hymns. Bergen refutes the notion that the German Christians were a marginal group and demonstrates that members occupied key positions within the Protestant church even after their agenda was rejected by the Nazi leadership. Extending her analysis into the postwar period, Bergen shows how the German Christians were relatively easily reincorporated into mainstream church life after 1945. Throughout Twisted Cross, Bergen reveals the important role played by women and by the ideology of spiritual motherhood amid the German Christians'

glorification of a 'manly' church.