



Solomon's Porch: A Christian Suspense Novel

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A prison inmate caught in the crossfire between God and Satan

Peter Carson, a white-collar inmate at a low-level U.S. Federal prison camp, is given a vision by God to be shared with the world. The most unlikely of divine messengers, Peter is prophetically destined to provide the world with hope and miracles and to proclaim the Kingdom of God. Will the prisoner become a prophet?

Backed up by divine intervention, Peter is surprisingly supported by inmates, as well as the warden and famous theologians. Astounding supernatural events begin to take place all around the world, involving even the president of the United States. But Satan is quick to strike back, doing everything in his power to stop Peter from executing God's plan. The world holds its breath as the unbelievable takes place. Will the message be heard?

??? An exciting fast paced read that engages the reader in the essential battle of good vs. evil.

Solomon's Porch brings forward an eternal and universal truth as it is revealed in the most unlikely time and place. An important contemporary message in the form of a breathtaking novel, Solomon's Porch is Christian suspense fiction at its best.

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Solomon's Porch: A Christian Suspense Novel Details

Date : Published October 6th 2012 by Genius Media (first published November 1st 2008)

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Author : Wid Bastian

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From Reader Review Solomon's Porch: A Christian Suspense Novel for online ebook

Ruth Scaife Scaife says

Good

I gave a 4 star rather than a 5 because of the language in the book. I think the cursing was not needed and it would have been just as good. There were e also a couple doctrinal differences in the book I did not agree with. Over all good plot but unfortunately I do not think it is for tween reading due to language. It is a shame I won't let my children read it.

Nicole Lynn Dean says

Couldn't put it down

Just finished this book in a few days. Amazing! Never highlighted a book so much before. Can't recommend it enough.

Sandi says

Couldn't finish it.

Jim says

The cover declares this to be a "Christian suspense" novel. I suppose that describes a portion of the story, but the suspense was not very intense, and unfortunately it never resolved! If this was book one of a trilogy, I could at least accept the leave-you-hanging ending, but I have seen no such claim.

The story is of a white-collar embezzler who was caught, and while serving time receives a vision from the Archangel Gabriel. This starts a personal ministry, and brings together a collection of "apostles" that begin to change the lives of many, and culminates in a world-wide demonstration of God's power.

There are some interesting theological conversations, and lots of feel-good moments, but the novel ends just as Satan is starting to build his resistance forces.

The writing is good, although there are some very abrupt scene changes in the middle of chapters. The characters are varied, and mostly interesting, but I find it hard to recommend this book since we don't find the ends to so many story lines.

Faith Stanfill says

T.

This book is written for a younger audience than I expected , moving in some ways . There should be a follow up coming along , don't leave the tale half told.

Ed says

"Solomon's Porch: A Christian Suspense Novel" wasn't quite -- that is, it was very Christian, but not very suspenseful. At ~450 pages, the suspense sorta got buried in the long pauses where the characters examine and re-examine their lives and their conversions.

The story: Peter Carson is an embezzler who basically stole from his circle of friends and acquaintances to please his wife and impress her with his "worth". Imprisoned (sort of) in a Federal prison camp, the somewhat atheistic Peter suddenly meets the Archangel Gabriel, who shows him that God still loves him, and in fact has a plan for his life -- to become a modern messenger for God. After his conversion, he meets a few more converted prisoners who also met Gabriel and who then become Peter's "disciples". Together, this motley crew begin to demonstrate God's power to an ever-widening audience, via a series of supernatural events. Eventually, the warden, a powerful reporter, a Marine General, a former FBI agent, and others get involved.

Satan and his demons are not amused. Nor are certain politicians and business leaders who unwittingly listen to their personal demons or are otherwise under the influence of the Dark.

There are a LOT of theological discussions among the characters, as various Biblical passages and references get hashed and re-hashed. That's basically my main problem with the book: it's OK (I guess) to hit me over the head with a 2-by-4 to make a point, but hauling out a railroad tie to make a further impression is not really necessary. Great story, but too long. (Like this review.) 3 stars.

Kathy Phelan-delauro says

Superior read

Not a story I'd issue pick, but Thank God I did!! So well written, with characters that jump off the page! The storyline is both fascinating and fearful as it could happen in this time as it is written. Seriously- read this book! Will be looking out for Wid Bastian books in the future.

Ross Lucas says

Do not buy this book. This book teaches that God's word is not perfectly accurate.

The main character says, "Those pastors who insist that the Bible, especially the Old Testament, must be interpreted literally, meaning it does not contain spiritual truths presented as parables, well, they just miss it" (p. 139).

This author has bought in to the postmodern assertion that there is no absolute, ultimate truth. The Bible ("especially the Old Testament) must be interpreted by those who are smarter than the average Christian. This is heresy!

Do NOT buy this book!

Deb says

The book had a really interesting premise, but sometimes the "preachy" part got in the way of the story. It did make me wonder how the world will react when the Lord is resurrected. Would we recognize a prophet? How would the present-day world react if Jesus was among us. We're all so cynical now. Anyway, it gave me a lot to think about, and overall I liked it.

Kathryn LaCoss says

Amazing Divinely inspired writing.

This is God's call to our world and this book calls to us to be more mindful of what Jesus called us to do. We are at war with powers and principalities in dark high places and not with flesh and blood. A call is out to return to Apostolic faith and this book mirrors that.

billy says

Riveting!

Great book with only a couple of complaints. I take the complete bible as truth. The author looks at the old testament stories as parables. He also considers all faiths to worship the same God. There is only one true GOD. The story itself was good though.

Graham Downs says

This is a difficult book to review. I liked the story, but it wasn't anything like any Christian fiction I've read before.

In most Christian fiction, the protagonist believes in God (or comes to believe in God) as a given. He's there,

in the background, and characters make their big life decisions prayerfully, trying to discern what God wants in a given situation.

In this book, it's almost as if God Himself is the protagonist, and there isn't a single scene, or practically a single line of dialogue, that doesn't mention Him. It's cool, don't get me wrong, but it took a bit of getting used to at first.

The writing's not great, and the style is often inconsistent. In some places, when a character speaks over multiple paragraphs, the author doesn't close the quotes at the end of each paragraph. In other such cases, he does. All speech is in double quotes, but sometimes, quotes within quotes ALSO use double quotes, and other times, they use single quotes. It makes it difficult sometimes to figure out who is speaking.

There are also some incorrectly used words, or even non-existent words ("alright" is a bugbear of mine - there's no such word).

But what bothered me the most was the author's treatment of swearing. Now, it's plain to me that the author believes that using certain words, in and of themselves, constitutes sinful behaviour. I don't agree with that view by any means, but I can respect it.

The problem is, that these words that the author considers sinful are "starred out", so you see for example, "s***" written in the text. It feels to me as if I'm watching a movie with the audio channel set to "Family". I don't know if you've ever done that, but I find it incredibly distracting, and after a while I just cannot concentrate on the story anymore.

There are plenty of wonderful books out there that don't contain any swear words, and I don't miss them at all. When they're there, but censored, you'd better believe I miss them! Honestly, if you're going to include something in your writing, don't censor it. If you're not comfortable including it uncensored, then don't include it at all.

The other problem with this approach is the subjective way in which the author chooses which words to censor. "Crap" is acceptable, but "shit" is not. "Ass" is censored, but "bitch" and "whore" are apparently quite okay to use, as is the word "nigger".

Seriously, nigger? Last I checked, Amazon refuses to publish reviews containing that word. Maybe Goodreads will too. We'll see after I hit Save.

Now as a Christian, I personally have a big problem with using the Lord's name in vain. I find it far, far worse than the odd "fuck" or "shit", but here, characters spout out "Oh my God" with impunity; even the non-Christians, and nobody rebukes anybody for that.

Other than that language rant, I enjoyed the story. I thought the theology was quite sound, and the ending was brilliant. It wouldn't at all surprise me if things actually did play out exactly that way, when the time comes.

But then, I'm a Christian, and I also take the existence of God as a given. As to a non-Christian? Well, I hope that God moves them to read this book, but I doubt many will. For those that do, I hope they can get past their prejudices, and that it will help bring them to salvation in Christ Jesus.

No, scratch that. I pray that it will. I pray that in all earnest.

Edit: I tried to paste this same review into Amazon, and it wouldn't post. Probably because of the word "nigger".

J.E. Grace says

I found Solomon's Porch to be an exciting and fast paced read. This was a modern day tale of men, who like the ones Jesus chose to do great things in the Bible, were very flawed and filled with sin. The angel Gabriel comes to each person to remind them of their sordid past and provide hope for their future.

I found the main character very interesting, filled with the Holy Spirit, and it was plain that he took no credit for the good things or miracles performed, but gave all the credit to God. His complete role was evolved through the storyline and I found this book easy to follow.

I looked up several verses in the Bible while I was reading and feel that the author did his research well. I think the reader has to remember that this is a work of fiction and not get caught up in whether or not the author portrayed the readers personal interpretations of scripture. I found myself being emotionally engaged throughout the story and felt it was a very worth while and entertaining read.

Ginger L Levan says

Awesome read. This book will lead you to re-examine the way you see the world and want to become more Christ-like.

Although I disagreed on a few Biblical points such as taking the Bible as is, this book will make you think about how very lacking we as Christians really are when striving to be more Christ-like.

Clare Crosswell says

Loved this book. It's a complete change to what I normally read but I simply couldn't put it down. Would definitely recommend.
