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Atallah and Van Tils' "From Cairo to Christ" (book review)

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Book Reviews



Atallah, A., & Van Til, K. A. (2017). *From Cairo to Christ*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books. 212 pp. \$16.00. ISBN 9780830845095

Spanning Abu Atallah's childhood through current life-stage, this book makes the reader feel that he/she is sitting at the dining room table listening to him describe his life's journey. Sometimes the topics are jumbled and tangents are followed before rounding back to the original story. Written in first person, much of the book follows Atallah's travels, necessitated by his conversion to Christianity. He found Christ, through the witness of other believers and the power of the Bible, as a high school student and was forced to leave Egypt and his family to remain alive. The power of God's love (shown through redemption and his people) is a thread that is woven through the entire book.

The last part of the book incorporates his views and historical accounts of the cultural interactions of Muslims with Christians and Jews, as well as the different locations these connections can take place in. This section provides a deep focus on the best methods for ministering to Muslims, not focusing solely on their conversion, but forging a relationship based on love with them.

This memoir is not scholarly nor textbook material, but it does provide a cultural context of the Islamic faith. For students or interested parties in intercultural studies, this book will provide a personal account and many ideas to consider when interacting with Muslims. This book intends to provide methods for ministering to Muslims in Christ's name and succeeds in providing examples and insights that will help Christians as they increasingly interact with Muslims.

Reviewer

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