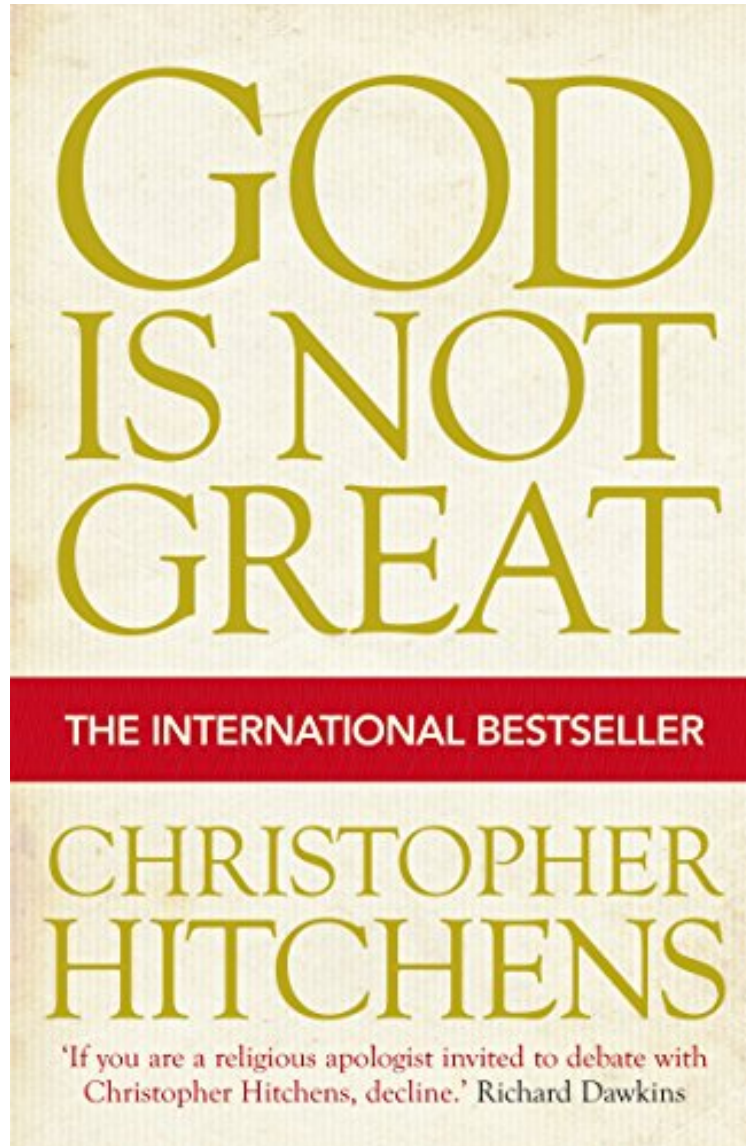


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## God Is Not Great (English Edition)

*Von Christopher Hitchens*

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**Von Christopher Hitchens : God Is Not Great (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised God Is Not Great (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Why are we still even discussing this? Gods are even less probable, than the Easter bunny, and no one seriously believes in her. Von BurnHardHitchens, of course, is right: god is not great. Made up, mythological fantasy stories and creature can be great, as proof of human creativity and for sheer entertainment value. Gods don't fall in that category, as less

intellectually endowed Homo Not-Really-Sapiens tend to take them seriously - and then it gets really ugly. This is what Hitchens describes in detail and at length in this book. What's truly sad is that there are still people out there, who need such a book to finally do away with their superstitions and free their minds to turn sapient. And even worse is the fact that there are so many who oppose it with harebrained non arguments and violent threats. Religion and the belief in god(s) is, simply put, like an alternative brand of mathematics. While most sapient beings are very confident, that there is enough proof to support the hypothesis that  $1+1=2$ , there remain legions of devout, who believe that  $1+1$  equals -20 or 7 or 5 or -6 or 99 or +/- infinity or 0 or any other absurd result, to be found in one or the other part of some scripture (claiming mutually exclusive results in the same book). Or worse, they believe in made up results proclaimed by some priest, imam, rabbi, shaman, prophet, or other exploitationist, who clearly has a distinct advantage if the gullible believe him (or occasionally her). I don't get, why something so absurd needs such an elaborate book to argue against it. Probably because religion conclusively proves one thing: there is no limit to human stupidity (or call it irrationality, when you care to be polite).

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Excellent, Von Frank Herring

Having read Dawkins' The god delusion, I was curious what Hitchens could add. Hitchens demonstrates how the 'sacred' texts of the bible and koran have been written hundreds of years after the facts they claim to report, and are thus full of inconsistencies. Makes you wonder - as Hitchens does - whether people claiming to adhere to a certain religion really know what they believe in. Fun to read, Hitchens at his best.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Die Gefahren aller Religionen werden anschaulich dargelegt

Von Stefan Goder

Die Aussagen sind klar und logisch. Ich denke der Autor liegt richtig. Fr unreflektiert Glaubende wohl nicht geeignet. Die Aussagen passen zu den erschütternden Ereignissen der letzten Jahre auf der ganzen Welt, und jetzt besonders in Europa !

**Kurzbeschreibung** God Is Not Great is the ultimate case against religion. In a series of acute readings of the major religious texts, Christopher Hitchens demonstrates the ways in which religion is man-made, dangerously sexually repressive and distorts the very origins of the cosmos. Above all, Hitchens argues that the concept of an omniscient God has profoundly damaged humanity, and proposes that the world might be a great deal better off without 'him'. From Publishers Weekly

Hitchens, one of our great political pugilists, delivers the best of the recent rash of atheist manifestos. The same contrarian spirit that makes him delightful reading as a political commentator, even (or especially) when he's completely wrong, makes him an entertaining huckster prosecutor once he has God placed in the dock. And can he turn a phrase!: "monotheistic religion is a plagiarism of a plagiarism of a hearsay of a hearsay, of an illusion of an illusion, extending all the way back to a fabrication of a few nonevents." Hitchens's one-liners bear the marks of considerable sparring practice with believers. Yet few believers will recognize themselves as Hitchens associates all of them for all time with the worst of history's theocratic and inquisitorial moments. All the same, this is salutary reading as a means of culling believers' weaker arguments: that faith offers comfort (false comfort is none at all), or has provided a historical hedge against fascism (it mostly hasn't), or that "Eastern" religions are better (nope). The book's real strength is Hitchens's on-the-ground glimpses of religion's worst face in various war zones and isolated despotic regimes. But its weakness is its almost fanatical insistence that religion poisons "everything," which tips over into barely disguised misanthropy. (May 30) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From Booklist \*Starred \* God is getting bad press lately. Sam Harris' The End of Faith (2005) and Richard Dawkins' The God Delusion (2006) have questioned the existence of any spiritual being and met with enormous success. Now, noted, often acerbic journalist Hitchens enters the fray. As his subtitle indicates, his premise is simple. Not only does religion poison everything, which he argues by explaining several ways in which religion is immoral, but the world would be better off without religion. Replace religious faith with inquiry, open-mindedness, and the pursuit of ideas, he exhorts. Closely reading major religious texts, Hitchens points to numerous examples of atrocities and mayhem in them. Religious faith, he asserts, is both result and cause of dangerous sexual repression. What's more, it is grounded in nothing more than wish fulfillment. Hence, he believes that religion is man-made, and an ethical life can be lived without its stamp of approval. With such chapter titles as "Religion Kills" and "Is Religion Child Abuse?" Hitchens intends to provoke, but he is not mean-spirited and humorless. Indeed, he is effortlessly witty and entertaining as well as utterly rational. Believers will be disturbed and may even charge him with blasphemy (he questions not only the virgin birth but the very existence of Jesus), and he may not change many minds, but he offers the open-minded plenty to think about. June Sawyers Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved