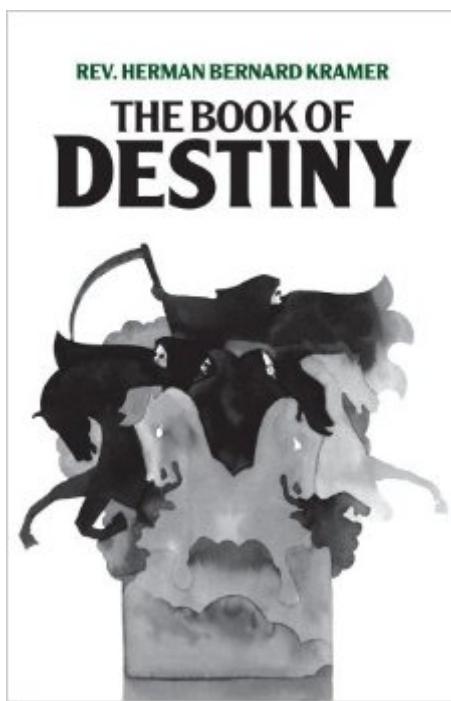


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The Book Of Destiny



Synopsis

An in-depth analysis of the Apocalypse that really makes sense. Proves it is a prophetic history of the Catholic Church. Proceeds chapter by chapter and verse by verse, explaining everything in terms of the language and symbolic meaning of Scripture itself. Gives the keys to understanding the Apocalypse. Shows we are on the verge of dramatic events! A masterpiece! 526 Pp. PB. Impr.

Book Information

Paperback: 526 pages

Publisher: TAN Books (January 1, 1955)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0895550466

ISBN-13: 978-0895550460

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.1 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Best Sellers Rank: #734,209 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #503 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Mysticism #898 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Salvation Theory #948 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Religions, Practices & Sacred Texts > Mysticism

Customer Reviews

Fr. Herman B. Kramer (1884-1976) was a priest in the diocese of Sioux City for 40 years, including 37 years as pastor. He wrote in the Foreword to this 1955 book, "The title chosen for this book sets forth the contents of the inspired message revealed to St. John, the Apostle. It is a summing up of the prophetic work in the Bible by the Holy Spirit and a revelation of the Great Causes shaping future history which will constitute the destiny of mankind. This destiny will be created and developed by man's free will. It is 'The Book of Destiny' because it shows forth the destiny of the whole human race. It is building up now and will grow until the Day of Judgment." He says, "The Apocalypse seems to point obscurely and guardedly to Domitian as the present embodiment of the beast. St. Paul does not in his epistles take this view of either the empire or the emperor. Although in the epistles of St. John, the Docetae are antichrists, in the Apocalypse, the reigning emperor is the persecutor of the Church [Apoc 6:2]. Still, the Seer does not identify him with Antichrist, although he desired to be called 'Lord and God.' This blasphemy made Domitian in his own time the representative or type of Antichrist but not Antichrist himself, because the numbers 666 or 616 do

not fit his name." (Pg. 20) Commenting on Apoc. 1:20, he says, "the language must be considered metaphorical unless the context argues for the literal sense. According to our Lord's words, 'angel' means a bishop or priest throughout the Apocalypse, unless the context clearly shows him to be a celestial or evil spirit. Protestant interpreters do not like to admit that the 'angels' are bishops of the churches, because they contend that there were no monarchical bishops over the churches at this time.

There are numerous interpretations to the various chapters in the book of the apocalypse, but surely none is more convincing than is Father Kramer's. The reason for Kramer's success in deciphering and unlocking the mysteries of the book is his own enormous knowledge of sacred scripture, especially of the old testament, his knowledge of both hebrew and greek, and his knowledge of the teaching of the fathers of the church. He specially refers to the interpretations of some spiritual descendants of St John who lived within a century after his death and were in a better position to know the teaching of the apostle with regards some of the mysteries of the book. Father Kramer is able to decipher the meaning of many of the symbols and prophecies used in the apocalypse by direct inference to various passages of the old testament which contain these same symbols and prophecies. He shows how the apocalypse is like a summary of Church history since the first coming of Christ and, since the Church carries the world on its shoulders, whatever happens in the Church has direct bearing for the rest of the world. Interestingly, the author suggest we may be living through the events described in the 9th chapter, after the apostasy of Luther and the protestant revolution described earlier in the chapter, "And the fifth angel sounded the trumpet, and I saw a star [Martin Luther] fall from heaven upon the earth, and there was given to him the key of the bottomless pit." (Apocalypse 9:1) In this same chapter is described the advent of the third world war: "And the sixth angel sounded the trumpet: and I heard a voice from the four horns of the great altar, which is before the eyes of God, saying to the sixth angel, who had the trumpet: Loose the four angels, who are bound in the great river Euphrates.

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