



The Passionate Jesus: What We Can Learn from Jesus about Love, Fear, Grief, Joy and Living Authentically

The Rev. Peter Wallace

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A fresh and moving portrait of Jesus as a model for how to live more authentic, honest and meaningful lives by fully experiencing our emotions in the love of God.

Many depictions of Jesus show him as a character who coolly and calmly floats above the grit and grime of human existence. He doesn't hurt, he doesn't fear, he doesn't laugh, and most tragically, he doesn't love very passionately. He seems not to feel at all. But a closer look at the Bible reveals something surprisingly different.

In this eye-opening spiritual study, Peter Wallace examines Jesus's *actions* rather than just his *teachings* to uncover a passionate figure who was involved, present, connected, honest and direct with others. He was one who was deeply moved, as the writer of John's gospel put it--one who knew and embodied the emotions he felt and expressed them in honest, clear and life-giving ways.

Through Wallace's deeply personal insights and compelling stories and examples, you will be encouraged to model this passionate Jesus by building personal authenticity in every area of your own life, particularly in your self-acceptance and self-expression, your relationships with others and, above all, your relationship with God.

PRAISE FOR THE PASSIONATE JESUS:

"To read this book is to experience the 'off-kilter sense of deep familiarity juxtaposed by newness' which Peter Wallace winsomely finds in the Gospel accounts--and in his real, embodied, Gospel-informed life. This is a kind of Christian midrash for 21st Century people looking for a whole-body, whole-spirit faithfulness between the lines and within the words of the Bible."

--KRISTA TIPPETT, "On Being," American Public Media (onbeing.org/)

"In *The Passionate Jesus* Peter Wallace helps open our eyes and expand our hearts to experience a new Jesus--one who feels as passionately as we do. You will not read the Gospels the same way after allowing Wallace's finely-tuned reflections to seep into your consciousness."

--Father EDWARD L. BECK, author of *God Underneath: Spiritual Memoirs of A Catholic Priest*, and Religion and Faith Contributor for CBS News

"In Jesus Christ, God Almighty has passionately, unreservedly loved us. In this eloquent book, Peter Wallace encourages us passionately to embrace the God who has so lovingly embraced us. Jesus called us to do more than to calmly think about him, consider him, or argue the merits of his way. In loving us, he called upon us to passionately love him. Peter's book helps us to do just that."

--WILL WILLIMON, author and professor, Duke University Divinity School

"With Dorothy Sayers, Peter Wallace looks at common, emotionless portrayals of Jesus and laments that 'We have very efficiently pared the claws of the Lion of Judah, certified him "meek and mild," and recommended him as a fitting household pet for pale curates and pious old ladies.' Through this masterful

look at Jesus and his emotions, Wallace not only puts the claws back on the Lion, but adds a passionate--and compassionate--heart and soul along with it. From page to page, you find Jesus becoming more three-dimensional, more real, and frankly, more like someone you'd throw your heart and soul into following."
--The Rev. ERIC ELNES, Ph.D., minister, author, and host, "Darkwood Brew"

"With style and grace, Peter Wallace takes us on a journey into a spiritual practice that is passionate, compassionate, and courageous. The Passionate Jesus reminds us that a Jesus who feels deeply is our model to do the same and our truest guide to authentic life."
--GREG GARRETT, author of Faithful Citizenship and The Other Jesus

"Peter Wallace is a beautiful thinker and a deep, humane soul."
--MICHAEL CHABON, Pulitzer Prize winning author of The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay and Telegraph Avenue

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From reader reviews:

Alfred Wolff:

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Patricia Sax:

Spent a free time and energy to be a fun activity to complete! A lot of people spend their spare time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they do activities like watching television, going to the beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually do ditto every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to do something different to fill your personal free time/holiday? Could possibly be reading a book is usually an option to fill your totally free time/holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to try to look for a book, maybe the publication entitled *The Passionate Jesus: What We Can Learn from Jesus about Love, Fear, Grief, Joy and Living Authentically* can be a great book to read. Maybe it is usually the best activity to you.

Brain West:

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Phillip Hicks:

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