

Margaret Hutchens

The Truth about Muhammad: Founder of the World's Most Intolerant Religion

By, Robert Spencer

Robert Spencer, in his book The Truth about Muhammad: Founder of the World's Most Intolerant Religion, uses historical documents, including Muhammad's own writings, to create a portrait of a man who furthered his own political agenda by invoking Divine Command. Spencer shows how Muhammad's teachings can be contradictory.

This is nothing unique. Throughout history, religious and political leaders have used obedience to a Divine Command to sell a particular course of action for example: Joan of Arc leading the troops into battle, burning witches at the stake and Manifest Destiny. Lest we fall into the trap of thinking only these two groups reveal intolerances, we need only study histories of any of the world's religions or listen to current news reports to know there are and have always been clashes between religious groups, probably since the first time they encountered each other.

Spencer sacrifices objectivity and a truth-in-advertising when he labels Islam "the world's most intolerant religion". There are no comparison studies done to back up such a claim. While the book gives the reader food for thought, it is one man's point of view.

Read it knowing all of us, including the author and this reviewer, interpret events through our own life experiences.

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