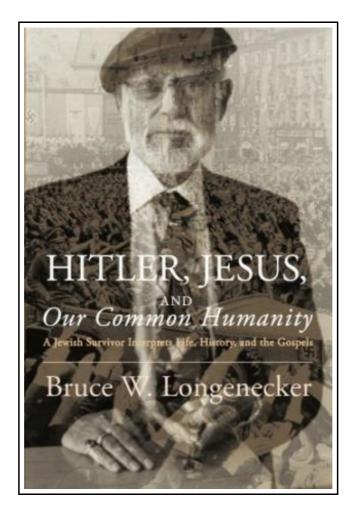
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Reviews

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(Prof. Loyce Runolfsson Jr.)

HITLER, JESUS, AND OUR COMMON HUMANITY: A JEWISH SURVIVOR INTERPRETS LIFE, HISTORY, AND THE GOSPELS



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CASCADE BOOKS, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 226 x 150 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. This book follows the journey of a Jew who fled Nazi Germany but could not exorcise its evils from his theological and literary imagination. Having spent his early years trying to escape from his encounters with Nazism, Rolf Gompertz spent his later years trying to interpret the contours of evil that he had experienced in Hitler's Germany. The spiritual journey of Rolf Gompertz offers intrigue, instruction, and challenge. It is the story of how a small Jewish boy, cowering under the talons of prejudice and protected only by the love of his parents, emerged to craft a life that directly refuted the ideology that propped up the power structures of Nazi Germany. Along the way, Gompertz came to recognize in the folds of the Christian Gospels the story of another Jew who had stood in opposition to a similar configuration of ideology and power. In retelling that story as a committed Jew, Gompertz offered a robust response to Hitler --a refutation of the malevolent forces that seek to dismantle our common humanity. Rolf Gompertz, German-American Jewish author of A Jewish Novel about Jesus, may be an unusual subject for a non-Jewish New Testament scholar. Longenecker s fascinating book, however, demonstrates both the possibility and value of studying the other by bringing us into the experience of a frightened child in the aftermath of Kristallnacht and making us care about the compassionate, outward-looking adult who seeks harmony between Jews and Christians. A compelling and important book. --Adele Reinhartz, Department of Classics and Religious Studies, University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Bruce Longenecker offers a moving and insightful account of the life and literary work of Rolf Gompertz...

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