



## Reading the Bible Again for the First Time: Taking the Bible Seriously But Not Literally

By Marcus J. Borg

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Bible again for the first time, with the subtitle Taking the Bible seriously but not literally, deserves more than just a review and it is therefore the aim of this article to put the book on the table and to engage in conversation with it. Part one which he called Foundations and part three The New Testament will be discussed. For the purpose of this article, part two on The Hebrew Bible will not be included. A church that adores the Bible but ignores biblical scholarship is a house built on sand. The church must take seriously what scholars today are saying, especially about the Jesus tradition. (Patterson 1998:xiii). One must take the mythological character of the Bible seriously, and as Mack (1995:309) pointed out, we must also remember that myth making never. The author argues that the conventional way of seeing the Bible's origin, authority, and interpretation has become unpersuasive to millions of people in our time, and that we need a fresh way of encountering the Bible that takes the texts seriously but not literally, even as it takes seriously who we have become. His books have sold over a million copies, including the bestselling Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time, Reading the Bible Again for the First Time, Jesus, The Heart of Christianity, Evolution of the Word, Speaking Christian, and Convictions. Read more. Related authors. His theme of taking the Bible seriously but not literally is right on. By getting to the real meaning I am able to get by the incredible parts of the Bible and to let the deeper truth inform my life. I would suggest that you read the Epilogue first. Borg confirms in this his deep belief in God and Christ. He hears and shares three primary convictions with the major voices of the Bible. 1. A deep sense of the sacred. If you are new to Borg's work, I would suggest starting with Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time. It will give you an excellent grounding in the central tenets of the faith. And you may find some surprises there. Reading the Bible then expands the beachhead to cover the core text of the faith. This is a marvelous book, a breath of fresh air.