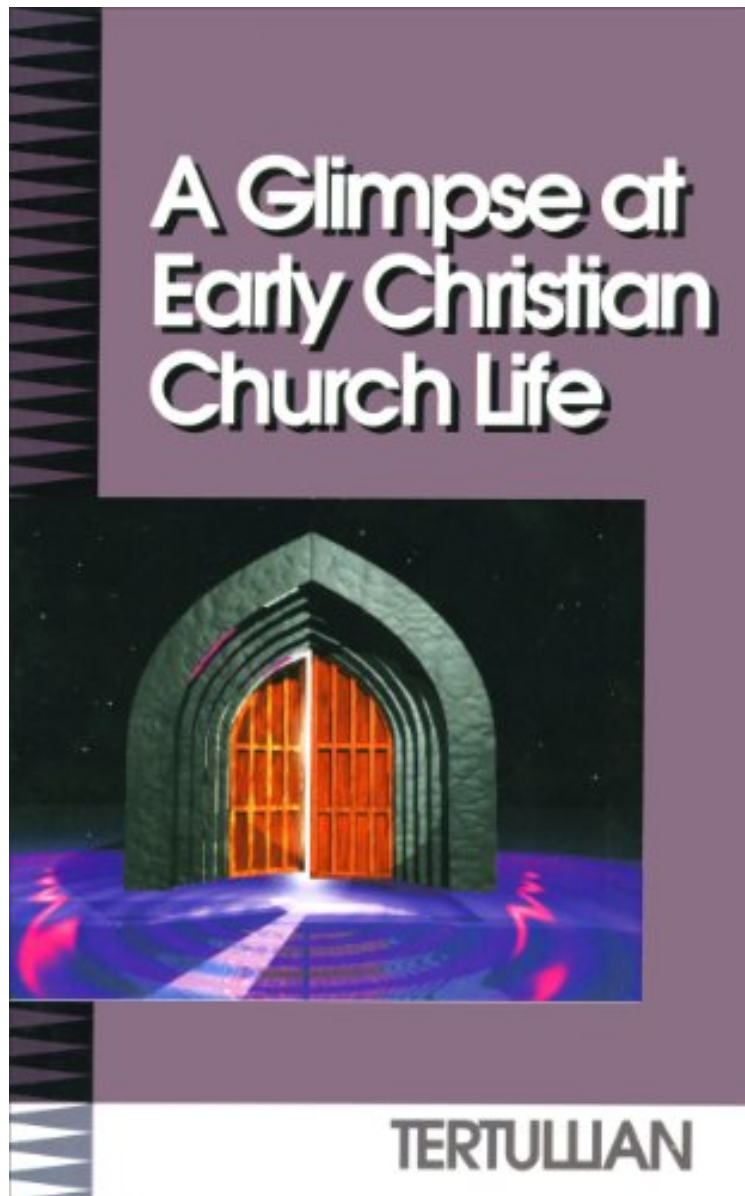


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A Glimpse at Early Christian Church Life (English Edition)

Von Tertullian

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Von Tertullian : A Glimpse at Early Christian Church Life (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Glimpse at Early Christian Church Life (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Christian Ethics On TrialVon Andrew K. WongFrom A.D. 200 to A.D. 2000, everything has changed about the

Church, yet nothing really has. This book is a window into the life of the Christian in the era of the early Church Fathers and reveals the controversial issues, trials and temptations of the day. There is no better scribe of these issues than Tertullian, a lawyer by profession and Christian by faith. Tertullian does not teach; he rants, raves, foams at the mouth and pleads. In the case of People v. Christianity, Christianity is the defendant, Tertullian defense counsel and 21st century Christians the jury. Everything he writes provokes some extreme emotion from shock and anger to laughter. Thus, this collection of his writings from 195 to 210 A.D. can also serve as a window into Tertullian rhetoric as well as his convictions. It is hard not hear Tertullian thundering at us, the jury, and hear our gasps, snickers and even hisses as he purposely stomps on our toes . . . albeit for a good reason. While Tertullian's manner is alternately caustic and entertaining, the subject matter is extremely apropos to the 21st century. 3rd century Christians apparently struggled with the same issues or their mutations modern believers do. What makes countering Tertullian from the jury box interesting is that he argues almost strictly from the Bible--of which his knowledge is seemingly boundless, rendering him a formidable advocate. Tertullian attacks the erotic and violent entertainment (theater, athletics, gladiator fights) of the Romans, which did not offend the sensibilities of some Christians. He does not, however, stop there. Tertullian even goes after lifting weights and playing sports to win. No joke! Other objects of Tertullian's wrath include shaving, actors and celebrity groupies. Modern readers will surely find Tertullian's choice words about women using cosmetics, dyeing their hair blond, wearing jewelry and "immodest" clothing intriguing, to say the least. Not even plucking out eyebrows escapes Tertullian's scrutiny. Tertullian's less polemical works are discussions of the Lord's Prayer; prayer customs (including an argument that raising the hands during praying and singing is immodest); baptism; and veiling. These writings are valuable also for their detailed treatment of how these customs originated. This volume contains ample footnotes. The editor took the liberty of omitting several passages from the text and putting the excised prose in small font in the Appendix. This is a good, quick read in large font helped because Tertullian uses his words sparingly in making unsparing judgments. His arguments are extremely thought-provoking whether the reader agrees or disagrees with them. Controversial or not, Tertullian was a passionate and eloquent apologist. In a time when Christianity was under siege, Tertullian stood as a bulwark against persecution from without and apostasy from within. He challenged Christians in the 3rd century A.D. and will do the same for Christians today.

Kurzbeschreibung This book is a collection of five of Tertullian's works that shed considerable light on what Christian church life was like around the year A. D. 200. Topics covered are entertainment, modest dress, baptism, prayer customs, and the Christian woman's head covering. This volume renders Tertullian's writings into living, contemporary English. Kurzbeschreibung This book is a collection of five of Tertullian's works that shed considerable light on what Christian church life was like around the year A. D. 200. Topics covered are entertainment, modest dress, baptism, prayer customs, and the Christian woman's head covering. This volume renders Tertullian's writings into living, contemporary English.