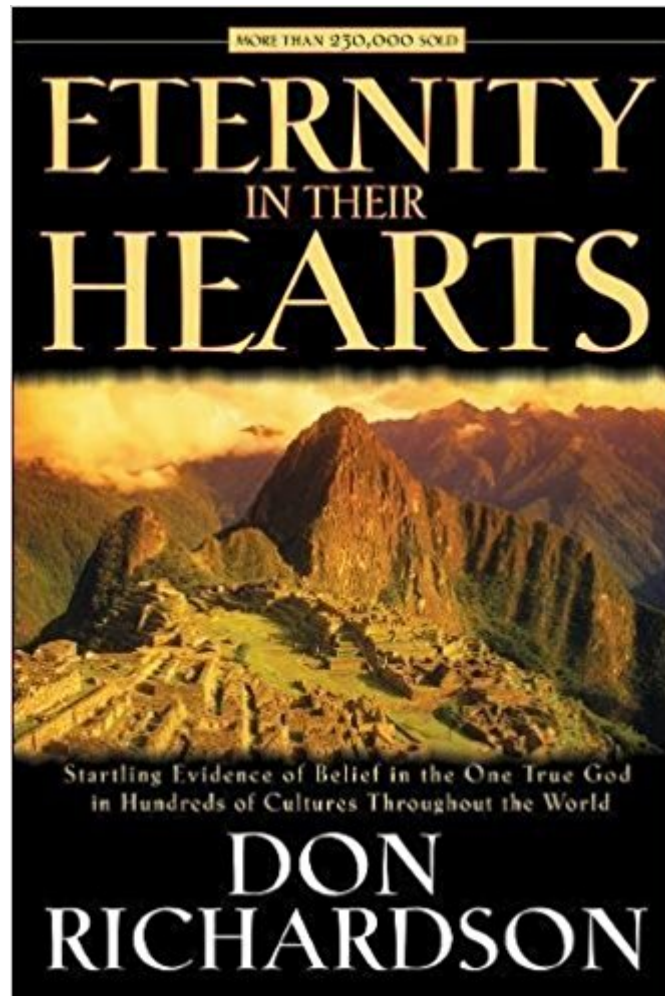




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Eternity In Their Hearts



Synopsis

Don Richardson, author of the bestselling *Peace Child*, demonstrates through compelling stories from many different cultures how the concept of a supreme God has existed for centuries, preparing people worldwide for the gospel.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

DON RICHARDSON, the bestselling author of *Peace Child*, *Eternity in Their Hearts*, and *Heaven Wins*, has been studying the Muslim world for more than 30 years. He and his late wife, Carol, spent 15 years among the Sawi, a Stone Age tribe of Irian Jaya. Don d

Excellent work here. As relevant now as it was upon first publication. A common misconception is that people of tribal nations/areas are totally lost without the Gospel, fumbling around in darkness. Wrong! "He has also set eternity in their heart" (Ecc. 3:11); "God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us" (Acts 17:27). The book presents powerful evidence that monotheism is the first stage of religious development among people groups, not polytheism or animism. Monotheism then degenerates into polytheism etc., due to various reasons, e.g., manipulations of people in ruling positions. Therefore this book runs counter to the evolutionary models such study of religion holds as orthodox. As such, this book is startling to anyone who takes it seriously and grew up in Western public education systems (where we are taught the evolutionary models only). The book is not a "deep theological

treatise." It is rather a thesis predicated on evidence from anthropology, sociology, the study of religion, and Scriptural exegesis. Of course it is richly theological, but it does not get "theologically complex," or dense. As for a criticism: The book does not explore so much about how it is the Spirit of God moving these people to reach out and find God. People are not prepared for the Gospel on their own doing, but rather through the Spirit. However, this theme is in fact found within the book! As a personal opinion, I simply would have liked to see it emphasized. As I said, the book is not a theological treatise; it does not get lost in complex debate—so it is not surprising that we do not find, for example, a chapter on "The Work of the Spirit." Buy it! Buy it! Buy it!

I love and agree with the premise of this book of a general revelation of the Light of the world through the Order of Melchizedek, and a specific revelation of Christ through the Hebrew lineage. The process of the fulfillment of the promise to Abraham to be a blessing to the nations is a beautifully orchestrated concurrence of the broad revelation—that leaves its footprints in the folklore of many tribes—with the specific revelation of the gospel of Christ delivered to these tribes by the sent ones. The stories that divulge the evidence of this are remarkable. They moreover debunk erroneous theories of the development of religion while demonstrating folklore gives evidence of an initial monotheistic concept. Don Richardson presents his case in a wonderfully engaging style that utilizes colorful documented missionary stories. He then sums up by demonstrating the clear occurrences of the focus to the nations throughout the New Testament. There is good reason this book has a broad and enduring audience.

This book is most excellent. It provides a good history of how various cultures have come to one faith. It shows how faith in Jesus Christ was shared and has some very interesting information about the Holy Lands. The sites that are pointed out are directly referenced to verses in the Holy Bible. "Eternity IN Their Hearts" explains how people in different countries search/ed for someone or something to believe in that is more than the gods they have, and how several of these have been led to Christ. They see that Jesus died for them to save them out of love, rather than them trying to please a god.

It is astounding to see the background data added to the inspiring histories. I hear many "supposed" tales of God's actions but to have them so clearly and convincingly authenticated is great. This is a work I shall be referring to many times over. Due to "loaning" it out a few times, I actually think this may be the 5th or 6th copy I have now purchased. It is one that MUST be in our library. When my

wife discovered we no longer have a copy she said, "Get one!". So of course, I did. His work in Peace Child is equally amazing.

This book offers an interesting and thought provoking consideration of the exclusivist and inclusivist arguments for (and against) Christ being the only way to salvation. If you are put off by, or uncomfortable in defending, this fundamental Christian doctrine, Richardson offers answers. He also explains how nineteenth century theories that have been used by atheists to repudiate faith have long been repudiated themselves, a fact that conventional wisdom ignores to this day. A good read.

A paradigm busting premise. It will change the way one religiously sees the world. Could the most ancient religious belief of all cultures, tribes, and tongues have been monotheism, complete with a name for the One True God? If so, then Jesus is a Man for all Seasons, one who points to every culture's most ancient and cherished relationship. I'd heard about the "sky-god" phenomenon in anthropology classes and in anthropological films, but it's usually mentioned in passing. However, the implications are stunning. Turns out that anthropology and archeology's commitment to the idea that man progressed from animism to polytheism to monotheism to atheism may need to be revisited.

It is awesome to see how the Eternal God, Creator of the Universe is gladly has Himself known in so many cultures yet remain consistent in His display of His character. And it does not diminish His love for Israel or His Commandments. Great read!

A very insightful and well documented book... Richardson traces the history of man's search for God going back through the ages. Some incredible stories about ancient peoples who were waiting for someone to "tell them more about God..."

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