



## Book News

By Rodney Eivers

From time to time people ask me to supply a book title which has come to their attention as something worth reading. So in this, what might be called the BOOK Section, let me list some of those books which are now available and may be of interest to other readers:

Author	Title	First published	Price - \$	Comment
Cupitt, Don	Taking Leave of God	1980	20	This was the book which first garnered international celebrity and notoriety for its author and which fire-started a debate about the supernatural claims of Christianity. Rejecting Christian doctrines and metaphysics in favour of the religious consciousness which characterises human identity Cupitt "takes leave of God" by abandoning objective theism.
Cannold, Lesley	Book of Rachel	2011	15	By the most talked-about speaker at the 2013 SOFIA conference at Toowoomba. A fictional account around a supposed sister of Jesus.
Baigent, Michael	Jesus Papers	2007	20	Not sure about this one! "Exposing the greatest cover-up in history". Would appreciate a review.
Borg, Marcus	The Heart of Christianity			This is another old one. I have included it here since reading "New Life" compiled by John Smith and Rex Hunt. "New Life" comprises the stories written by Australians who have "come out" and adopted a "progressive" approach to their Christian faith. John Shelby Spong may get the headlines but the author and book which come to the fore are Marcus Borg and The Heart of Christianity. Over and over again in "New Life" is this book quoted as the one which led people to review and update their views on their religious faith.

Rollins, Peter	Idolatry of God	2012	25	Arguing that God has traditionally been thought of as a type of product that will make you whole, remove your suffering and give you the truth, Rollins contrasts this with an approach to faith that invites us to embrace suffering, face up to our unknowing and fully accept the difficulties of existence.
Robinson, John	Honest to God	1963	20	This title probably requires no introduction. It hit the international headlines in 1963 leading ordinary people to read “theology” There were a number of events in 2013 to celebrate the 50 years since publication and this has sparked interest in what John Robinson actually did write. Hence its listing here.

[Mediacom](#) the main supplier of religious literature to the mainstream Christian denominations in Australia, have recently gathered a wide range of titles under their category of “Pushing the Boundaries”. Other excellent sources of titles in this exploratory area are [Rainbow Books](#) and [Mosaic Books](#). If you have problems obtaining these books from the commercial suppliers you are invited to contact Rodney Eivers at [eiversrh@telstra.com](mailto:eiversrh@telstra.com) who will probably be able to help you out.

And to let you all know that a few 'progressive' books are about to come off the Australian printing presses in the first half of 2014.

(Working title listed below):

Gregory Jenks. **Jesus Then and Jesus Now.**

Nigel Leaves. (ed). **Encountering God.**

Rex A. Hunt & Gregory Jenks. (ed). **Wisdom and Imagination: Religious Progressives and the Search for Meaning.**

John W. Smith. **Honest to Go(o)d.**