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Ben-Hur (Illustrated): A Tale Of The Christ



Synopsis

Called "the most influential Christian book of the nineteenth century," Ben-Hur A Tale of the Christ was a best-seller in the 1880s, eclipsing the sales of Uncle Tom's Cabin and, later, Gone With the Wind to become the best-selling American novel of all time. The story recounts the adventures of Judah Ben-Hur, a fictional Jewish prince from Jerusalem, who is enslaved by the Romans at the beginning of the 1st century and becomes a charioteer and a Christian. Parallel with Judah's narrative is the unfolding story of Jesus, who comes from the same region and is a similar age. The novel reflects themes of betrayal, conviction, and redemption, with a revenge plot that leads to a story of love and compassion. This new digital edition of Ben-Hur A Tale of the Christ includes an image gallery and links to a free unabridged audio recording of the novel.

Book Information

File Size: 2095 KB

Print Length: 445 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1533185514

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publication Date: May 9, 2016

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01FFYCMMO

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #71,607 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #18 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Religious & Inspirational Fiction > Christian > Classics & Allegories #54 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Literature & Fiction > Classics & Allegories #542 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Religious

Customer Reviews

I sort of cheated. This is by no means the first time I read this book. I've read it about once a year since I was in middle school, and I'm almost 73. It's as good as ever, although the pictures are more

modern than I like in Ben-Hur. I prefer illustrations that look like woodcuts. But nevertheless, this is still a terrific book. I warn you: don't expect it to be just like the movie. It isn't. But I think you'll still love it. It was written a hundred years ago, by the governor of New Mexico at that time.

I choice 4 stars because some it was so hard to read. The King James/Shakespearian style takes much brain power to fully appreciate. My brain was certainly exercised which is healthy to do. Four stars because the author took 30 words to say something that could be said in 5. I know that is the style. But it annoyed me. The story is still epic in that it covers much more than a story; it describes cultures like no other book Ive read does. The great detail immerses the reader into the story if the reader has the patience to read it all. The book also describes and discusses humans' relationship w God as well as w other humans and the earth. Philosophy and faith converge in many characters' soliloquies. I liked the passion with which the author wrote this epic story. The Resurrection isnt discussed which is a shame but the fact of Christ's Deity and salvation and Christianity is all over and throughout the book.It's a loooooong book. But much of it is worthy of reading. If u like details details details, read it all. Our 21st century brains arent wired for such a long book as this, written in this manner. So patience is the word for reading this book! Worth reading!

This epic book does in words on the printed page what Hollywood film-makers have attempted to do on the wide screen with color and special-effects. Yes, the book is lengthy and descriptive, but it is so well-written that discriminating readers will notice neither its length nor (by today's standards) its wordiness as they become engrossed in its magnificent story. This is storytelling at its best. In Roman times Judah Ben-Hur, a young man from an aristocratic Jewish family, is sentenced to serve as a rower in the galleys after having been falsely accused of planning to murder the Roman governor of Palestine. He escapes and eventually -- in conjunction with the now-iconic chariot race -- manages to confront the man who had falsely accused him. While all this takes place, at strategic points in his life he comes into contact with a contemporary of his, one Jesus of Nazareth. How does the life and death of Jesus Christ impact Ben-Hur and his family? Given the obvious Christian theme of this novel, in today's diverse and often religiously-intolerant society there will likely be as many people predisposed to dislike BEN-HUR as like it. Purely on the basis of its literary merits, however, it is an outstanding work that not only deserves its classic status but deserves to be read by those willing and able to do so.

I enjoy books that stretch my literary skills. The vocabulary was mostly understandable by me, but I

did have to look up several words. Also, I enjoyed the fiction story interwoven with the truths in the Bible. A grand story!

The basic story is excellent. Movies have recreated the story, and the chariot race has even become a part of the Star Wars movie action. However, the reader should be warned that the book is written in the late 1800's style of flowery description that constantly interrupts character interactions and story movement. In other words, more is written of the surroundings than is written of the story and characters themselves. It is such an interruption that I could not give it the five star rating that the story should have garnered.

The book is a full version, great pictures, and the price was right.

I finally got around to reading the novel. It is a Victorian historical novel. It is a pleasant read. It is unlikely that I will read it again, unless I need to teach a course where this is one of the assigned materials.

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