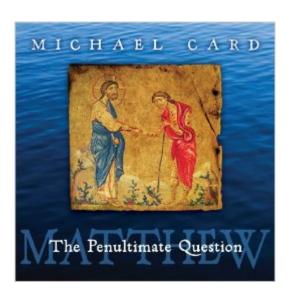
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Matthew: The Penultimate Question (Biblical Imagination)





Synopsis

In this new collection of songs inspired by the Gospel of Matthew, Michael Card provides an extended musical meditation on the identity of Jesus. Revolving around Jesus' momentous question to his disciples "Who do you say that I am?", the songs reflect on the person of Jesus as God's ultimate response to the "penultimate" question that has plagued humanity for agesâ "Who am I?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Leave it to cerebral Michael Card to title his latest recording, Matthew: The Penultimate Question. For the group of Christ's followers addressed in Matthew's gospel, the penultimate (the next to the most significant question) as stated by Card, is "Who Am I?" The ultimate question is "Who is Jesus?""This is Who You Are" beautifully answers the former while being carried by a gorgeous piano melody. Listeners may see themselves in the opening lines: "Misunderstood and undefined, a stranger to myself / Incarnate contradiction, I am poverty and wealth / I can believe and disbelieve / I can bless and damn / I'm dying in the darkness / Of not knowing who I am." This is classic Card in every sense. The chorus puts attributes drawn from the Beatitudes into positive affirmation: "You possess the kingdom / You're the sorrowful, the meek / The gentle starving ones / Who are the strongest when you're weak."It's these scholarly but devotional ruminations, which highlight themes in Matthew's gospel that make me a lifetime admirer of Card's work. In a world where the visual holds sway, Card remains word-oriented, concerned more with substance than style. The production is a model of restraint. Those looking for something that rocks might be disappointed. Simple and

uncluttered instrumentation leave room for words to breathe. Once again Card demonstrates that we are better together. Our work can be more than just the sum of individuals. Like the loaves and fishes freely offered, God can multiply our combined talents. It's indicative of Card's humility that he shares the spotlight with friends that include Phil Keaggy, Ashley Cleveland, Steve Green, Kirk Whalum and John Catchings. These contributions expand on Card's talents and become highlights.

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