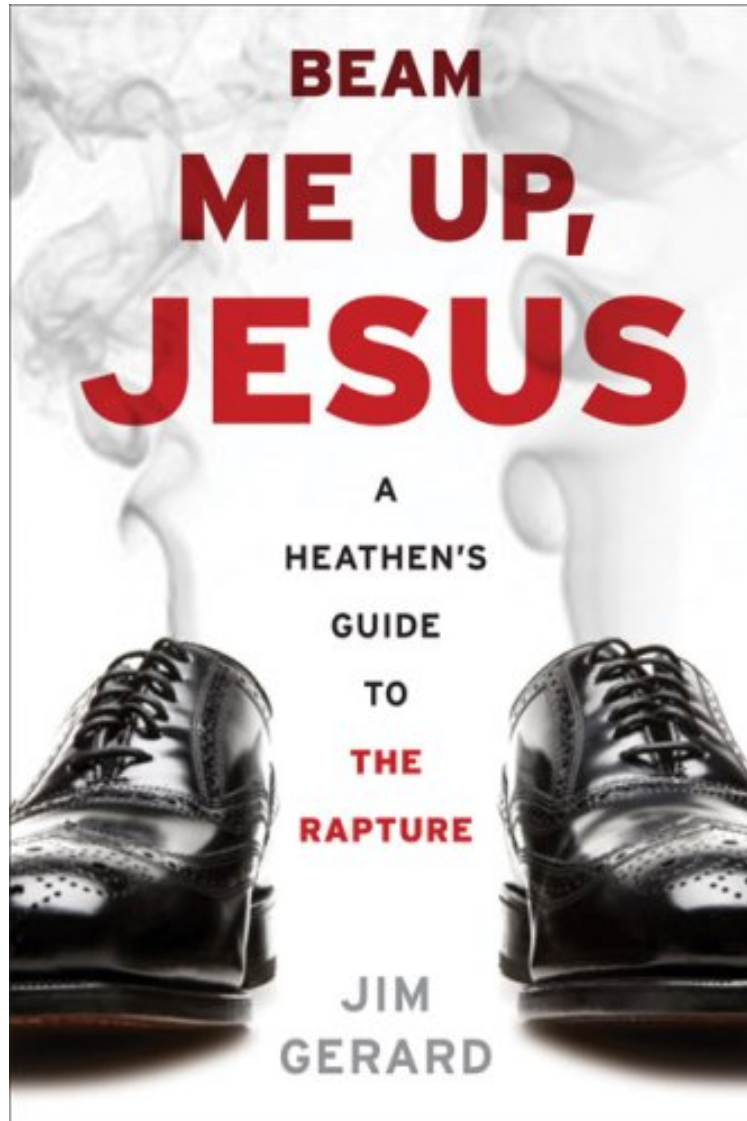


[Free and download] Beam Me Up, Jesus: A Heathen's Guide to the Rapture

Beam Me Up, Jesus: A Heathen's Guide to the Rapture

Jim Gerard

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Jim Gerard : Beam Me Up, Jesus: A Heathen's Guide to the Rapture before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beam Me Up, Jesus: A Heathen's Guide to the Rapture:

5 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A very poor attempt at humor. By MafunzaloI should have read the description of the author: "Jim Gerrard is (a)...stand-up comic." Reading it is almost like listening to a bad comic tell bad jokes and not being smart enough to know that the shtick is over. This book is half-informative, half stupid jokes and all bad. Many times, a paragraph will start out serious and I think I'm going to learn something but then it turns

into a bad joke. For instance, "To boil down Revelation, it's God going postal on the unrepentant and an awful wicked beast ruling the whole world while flipping God the bird." All of the jokes are bad. At least all of the jokes in the first two chapters were bad. That's all I could take. Every once in a while you find a book that makes you think, How did the author find a publisher to put up the money to print this book." This is one of those books. 1 of 9 people found the following review helpful. TONGUE IN CHEEK LEFT WING SARCASTIC ESSAY ON ESCHATOLOGY By Paul R. Edie A CONTEMPORARY TOPIC (RAPTURE) DESCRIBING RIGHT WING CONSERVATIVES WHO 'WILL NOT' MAKE THE RAPTURE A TONGUE IN CHEEK OR SARCASTIC ESSAY ON MATTERS OF ESCHATOLOGY FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATION IN THE BIBLE BORDERS ON HERETICAL DEFINITIONS OF STANDARD OLD AND CURRENT INTERPRETATIONS OF 'WHEN WILL THE RAPTURE OCCUR AND WHAT WILL IT BE LIKE ?' of 1 people found the following review helpful. Low beam By Jean E. Pouliot I am a Christian who loves to laugh at my foibles as well as those of my church. After all, we follow a Lord who told stories of pious people walking around with logs sticking out of their eyes, and of blind guides tumbling into ditches. Not exactly Jon Stewart, but the "funny" really is there in the gospels. Not so with Jim Gerard's "Beam Me Up, Jesus," which is a slapdash hatchet job on what is admittedly one of the weirder aspects of some people's Christianity. The book starts out well enough, with a discussion of the origins of the idea of the rapture - that the saved would, at the end of time, literally rise to meet Jesus in the air. Gerard also does a creditable job of providing a synopsis of the acid-trippy Book of Revelation, with its beasts and horns and fiery pits, edible scrolls and talking lambs. The book is weird enough, but reading Gerard's 2-page summary condenses the strangeness way past the event horizon of crazy-scariness. Gerard does the same service to the first of the "Left Behind" books, in which an airline pilot and a hot stewardess are confronted with the otherworldly experience of having half their passengers disappear while in mid-flight. Pretty good stuff. Also, Gerard does a decent job of sketching the various beliefs of the pre-, post- and middle-tribulationists, who argue about whether the 7-year gore-fest called the Tribulation will occur before, after or during the 1000-year reign of millennial peace. But Gerard is less interested in imparting data than in taking potshots and laying turds on the sacred. His facts aren't always right and he misses opportunities to teach as well as to mock. He doesn't note, for instance, that Revelation does not include anything about the Rapture. That comes only from a passage in 1 Thessalonians 4 in which Paul describes the saved as floating up to meet Jesus in the air when he (Jesus) returns. It might also have been fun to trace the twisted, self-serving logic of rapturists as they read their ideas into obscure Bible verses. And I wonder why Gerard didn't bother to synopsize the other fifteen Left Behind books. That would at least have been an impressive sacrifice, as the series gets less readable, more preposterous and more unchristian with every volume. Love your neighbor? No way! Tear him to pieces, spill his blood and then plunge him into a fiery pit for all eternity. Boo-yeah! Having spent the first third of the book in a snarky bit of religious education, Gerard uses the last 2/3 of the book to write "comedy." We get rapture-themed cookbooks, screenplays, and so on. Gerard writes mock interviews with Satan and rapture-related consumer goods, like a recliner that lets the rapturee rise to the Lord in comfort. None of this semi-sacrilegious material is funny, but it does fill lots of pages. I bet you'll find yourself flipping through it by the three-quarters mark. I know there's an author out there who could make mincemeat out of the millennials and entertain the faithful to boot. It's just not Jim Gerard. Pick this up at the local Library and save the 15 bucks.

The wildly funny response to the Left Behind series, Beam Me Up, Jesus will help the reader navigate their way through born-again America, with tips on how to avoid being Left Behind, how to protect oneself against demonic locusts, and how to find a guide to class-action suits and post-Rapture therapy.

About the Author Jim Gerard is an author, journalist, and playwright. His book, Celebrity Skin, was published by Avalon in 2002, and his book, Yankees S**K, was published by Chamberlain Bros./Penguin in 2005. Mr. Gerard has written humor for The New Republic, Travel Leisure, Playboy, Maxim, and Cosmopolitan; features for The Washington Post, Salon, Details, New York Observer; and many other magazines, and has published fiction in The Boston and elsewhere. He has performed stand-up comedy in New York clubs such as The Comic Strip, the Duplex, and the Village Gate.