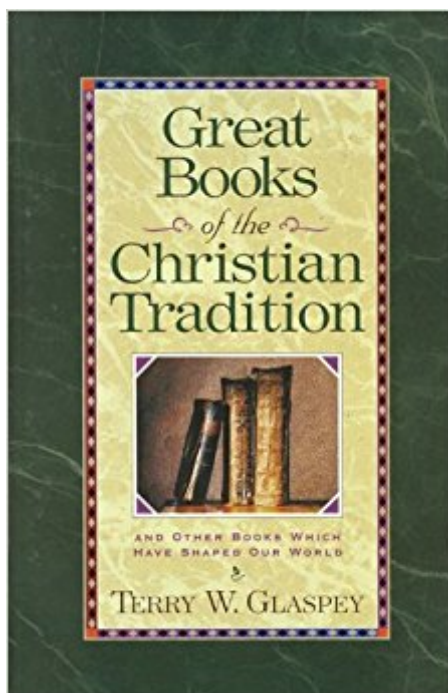


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# Great Books Of The Christian Tradition



## Synopsis

This collection provides brief introductions to more than 500 books. A perfect guide for individuals and families who want a richer understanding of their world and heritage through great literature.

## Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

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## Customer Reviews

Popular Christian writer Glaspey (*Children of a Greater God*, Harvest House, 1995) offers not only a resourceful compilation of an ancient and contemporary Christian reading, but he also provides a rather remarkable defense of the moral values and insights generated by reading both Christian and non-Christian materials. Each of more than 500 books in Glaspey's list is characterized by a brief annotation, and he includes excerpts from the works themselves with many of his own summaries. Glaspey's comments arise out of his personal reading experience, and he is careful to warn readers of this fact at the outset. As with the Peterson book (see review below), Glaspey's list would be even more beneficial if it contained fuller bibliographic data on each book. Even so, since there are so very few books like Glaspey's and Peterson's, each will provide a much needed resource for a wide range of readers. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I have used this book heavily to build my library of classics. It is an annotated book list divided into Christian, non-Christian, and Children's literature and by historical periods: The Ancient World, The Middle Ages, The Early Modern World (The Reformation, Renaissance), The Eighteenth Century, The Nineteenth Century, The Twentieth Century, and Contemporary Candidates for Greatness.

Parents, such as myself, will greatly appreciate the separate chapter and list dedicated solely to Children's literature. I have used this chapter to collect quality books for my children. Glaspey gives you a short commentary on each book (and excerpts from some authors), and tells you how best to make use of the reading lists he provides. He also gives good reasons why Christians should read non-Christian books. Also provided is a list of ten books which he feels every Christian ought to know. Included are books by C.S. Lewis, Dostoevsky, Augustine and Tozer among others. This is a book for Christian bibliophiles to savor. It was through this book that I discovered some of my favorites such as "A Testament of Devotion" by Thomas Kelly, and Christian authors such as Walker Percy, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, and Flannery O'Connor. Many books he names, Christian and non-Christian, I already knew and read and others, such as books by Norman Geisler, I was disappointed to find missing. But overall, this is an excellent resource and one that is unique. Highly recommended.

This book provides an excellent curriculum, if you will, of books every Christian should read in his or her lifetime. Although the focus is on Christian literature throughout the centuries, there is also a list of non-Christian works that have shaped our world which the author rightly advocates reading. There is even a separate list of books for children (although adults could benefit from reading some of these as well). The descriptions of each work are very concise, with excerpts from some works scattered throughout. One can read through this book in a couple of hours; that way, one has plenty of time to start digging into the books themselves, which is the whole point!

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