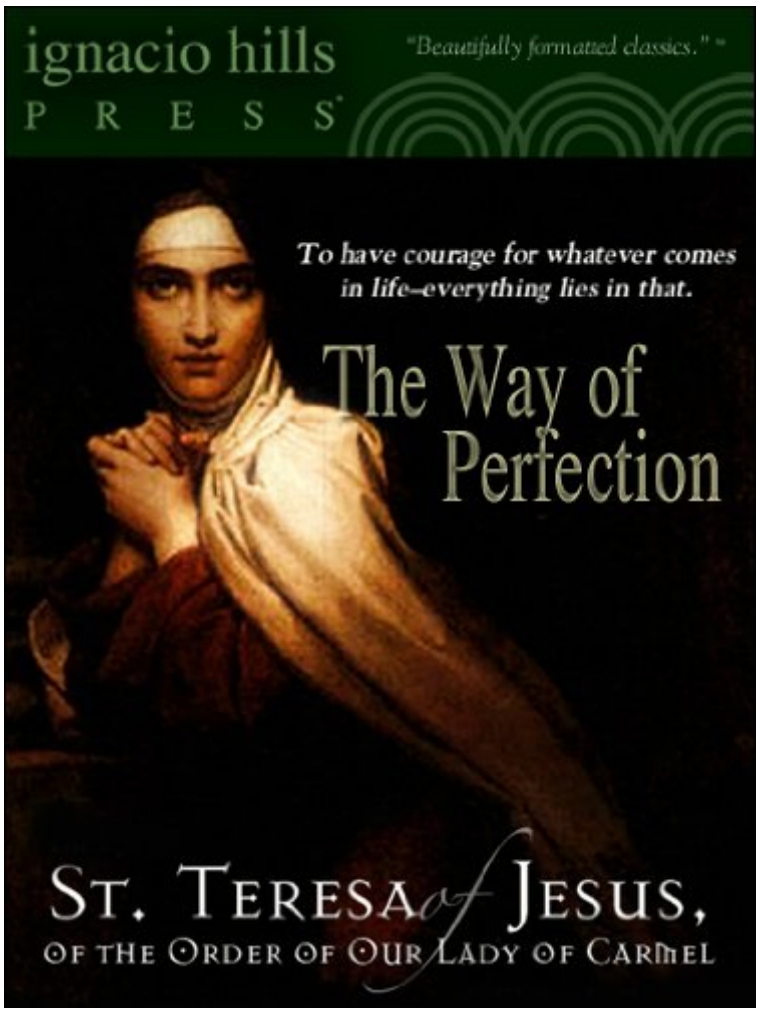
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The Way Of Perfection By Saint Teresa Of Avila (A Christian Classic!)



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Synopsis

NOTE: This edition has a linked "Table of Contents" and has been beautifully formatted (searchable and interlinked) to work on your e-book reader or iPod e-book reader.Teresa of Avila, Saint: The Way of Perfection is about making progress in the contemplative life written by St. Teresa of ÃƒÂ•vila for the sisters of her reformed convent of the Carmelite Order (Discalced). St. Teresa was a major figure of the Catholic Reformation in 16th Century Spain. Forty years after her death, she was canonized, in 1622 by Pope Gregory XV. The Cortes exalted her to patroness of Spain in 1617, and the University of Salamanca previously conferred the title Doctor ecclesiae with a diploma. The title is Latin for Doctor of the Church, but is distinct from the papal honour of Doctor of the Church, which is always conferred posthumously and was finally bestowed upon her by Pope Paul VI in 1970 along with Saint Catherine of Siena making them the first women to be awarded the distinction.Teresa is revered as the Doctor of Prayer. The mysticism in her works exerted a formative influence upon many theologians of the following centuries, such as Francis of Sales, FÃƒÂ©nelon, and the Port-Royalists.A great example of life in a simpler time.

Book Information

File Size: 530 KB

Print Length: 168 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: ignacio hills press (TM) IgnacioHillsPress.com and e-Pulp Adventures (TM); 1st edition (July 29, 2009)

Publication Date: July 29, 2009

Sold by:Ã Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B002JM2C4E

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #65,085 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #2 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Religion & Spirituality > Christian Books & Bibles > Worship &

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Customer Reviews

This woman has guided me for years and years. If you follow her system, you will be very pleasantly surprised. This book is good for beginners and Interior Castle is more for the more advanced, but try both, because you could very well be smarter than I am at figuring things out.

St. Teresa's "Way of Perfection" is a classic for very good reason--it is a powerful work on prayer--written for 16th century nuns, but applicable to anyone. The author offers solid, practical ideas for going deeper into prayer, even if the reader has experience with only the simplest prayer forms. I was particularly moved by her humility: she very often points out how poorly organized the work is (true), and how little qualified she is to write it ("blaming" the repeated requests of the Sisters in her Community for convincing her Confessors to require her to do so). She even makes a point of openly accusing herself of lacking the very virtues she states are important, and that she encourages her readers to acquire.I held off giving the book five stars because modern readers may have difficulty with the author's 16th century theology and worldview, and with her horror of Lutheranism and other religious paths. I encourage such readers to remember that St. Teresa was a woman of her time, and was subject to the ideas, beliefs and understanding of the world taught by the "Church Fathers" at that point in history. While some of her ideas about the Trinity and the Incarnation may seem backward to readers accustomed to more recent writers, her "nuts and bolts" approach to teaching prayer is still profoundly useful. For this reason, St. Teresa has been named a Doctor of the Church--a designation indicating that the Catholic Church recommends the study of her life and her teachings to those who seek a deeper union with God.

Teresa of Avila, Saint: The Way of Perfection is about making progress in the contemplative life of prayer and contemplation written by St. Teresa of ÃƒÂ•vila for the sisters of her reformed convent of the Carmelite Order (Discalced). St. Teresa was a major figure of the Catholic Reformation in 16th Century Spain. This is a beautiful book, difficult to read in some instances, but a truly spiritual book as she journeyed towards Christ.

I ascribe to St. Teresa’s methods of meditation/prayer. I am Catholic, but you don’t have to be Catholic to appreciate a way to focus on prayer. It is a very good read, but one must be spiritually disposed, I think, to get the full benefit of her writing.

St Teresa is a Doctor of the Church for solid reasons. She is a guide that will take you on a trustworthy path into the unfiltered Love of God that is offered to every soul! She writes eloquently, simply, and well. Her humility is very real and is the door through which she passed and that she shows to us so clearly. God desires to dwell within us and in our awareness, if only we will clear the dross and overgrowth away so as to see Him...

Any reader interested in spirituality (Christian or non-Christian) should read this. It is of course a "must read" for Christians, not inspired scripture, but full of devotional insights that are helpful to every Christian.

I enjoyed being taught by this saint as she explained the various parts of the Paternoster. Well worth the time spent reading and contemplating the meaning of the words and the Word.

For anyone interested in Carmelite spirituality, St. Teresa of Avila’s book is required reading. In a disarmingly chatty manner, she clarifies true spirituality, pitfalls and delusions, the purpose of the Carmelite charism and most importantly how to have a friendly relationship with Jesus through prayer.

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