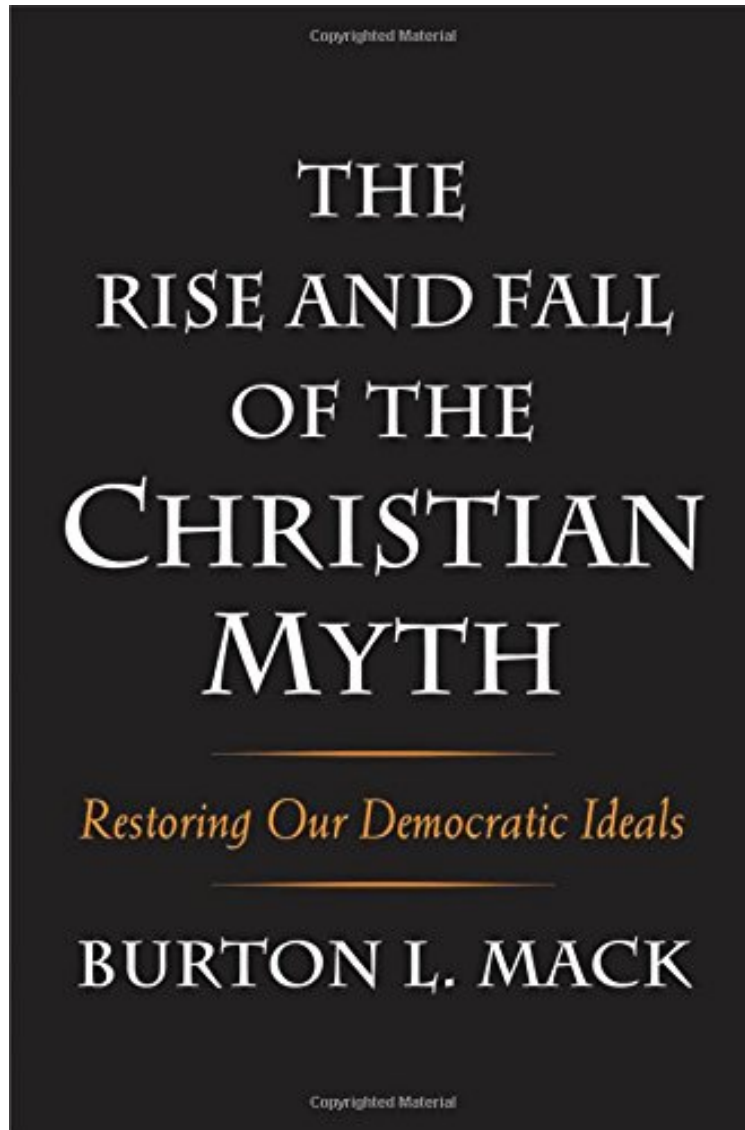


# The Rise and Fall of the Christian Myth: Restoring Our Democratic Ideals

Burton L. Mack

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**Burton L. Mack : The Rise and Fall of the Christian Myth: Restoring Our Democratic Ideals** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rise and Fall of the Christian Myth: Restoring Our Democratic Ideals:

0 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy NYCHaving read "Who Wrote The New Testament"

and having enjoyed that one a lot, I found this one disappointing

A preeminent scholar explores the evolution of the Christian worldview and argues that it no longer offers a satisfactory vision for our democratic, multicultural society. This book is the culmination of a lifelong scholarly inquiry into Christian history, religion as a social institution, and the role of myth in the history of religions. Mack shows that religions are essentially mythological and that Christianity in particular has been an ever-changing mythological engine of social formation, from Roman times to its distinct American expression in our time. The author traces the cultural influence of the Christian myth that has persisted for sixteen hundred years but now should be much less consequential in our social and cultural life, since it runs counter to our democratic ideals. We stand at a critical impasse: badly splintered by conflicting groups pursuing their own social interests, a binding common myth needs to be established by renewing a truly cohesive national and international story rooted in our democratic and egalitarian origins, committed to freedom, equality, and vital human values.

"Intellectually exciting and socially important, full of energy and exceedingly generative on one of the most important issues of our time." Jennifer Michael Hecht, author of *Doubt: A History*