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April 25th, 2023

Professor Garcia

Reading Report

David Flusser's *The Sage from Galilee: Rediscovering Jesus' Genius* is a scholarly work that seeks to examine Jesus of Nazareth within the context of Jewish thought and culture during the Second Temple period. Flusser was a Jewish scholar of the New Testament and his book provides a unique perspective on Jesus as a Jewish teacher and philosopher.

The book is divided into three main sections. The first section examines Jesus' life and teachings in light of his Jewish cultural and religious background. Flusser argues that Jesus was a Jewish sage who sought to reform Judaism and teach his followers a way of life that was consistent with Jewish values.

My personal reflection on this was that it was very interesting to deep dive in the culture of the Jewish people. Seeing and tapping into the background of our Lord and Savior has opened my eyes further to someone I have heard so much about. As a Christian it helps to connect with Jesus on a relationship level. Since it it helps humanize him even making his Sacrifice more visible.

In the second section, Flusser analyzes Jesus' parables and teachings and highlights their Jewish roots. He shows how Jesus drew upon Jewish sources such as the Hebrew Bible, rabbinic literature, and apocalyptic literature to convey his message.

My personal reflection on section two intrigued my desire to learn. Since it gave us insight on what our guide got his information and teachings from. Also teaching us how he used it to speak to certain people or highlight the needed foundation. Connecting me to Jesus as student to teacher.

The final section of the book explores Jesus' death and resurrection and their significance within the Jewish context. Flusser argues that Jesus' death and resurrection were not a rejection of Judaism, but rather a continuation of Jewish tradition in a new form.

My personal reflection on section three leads me to believe in his word more. Since with this information it shows Jesus desire for clarity and not confusion. Also showing how hard the heart of his people truly got not accepting him while filling their prophecies. And I'm grateful for historical side proving the physical things were real cancel out that it was all just made up.

Throughout the book, Flusser draws upon his extensive knowledge of Jewish history and culture to provide a rich and nuanced understanding of Jesus' life and teachings. He challenges traditional Christian interpretations of Jesus and argues that Jesus was a Jewish teacher who sought to reform Judaism rather than establish a new religion.

Overall, *The Sage from Galilee* is a fascinating book that offers a new perspective on Jesus and his teachings. Helping people like me to know and connect with our Lord better. It is a valuable resource for anyone interested in Jewish-Christian relations, the historical Jesus, or Jewish

thought and culture during the Second Temple period. Im thankful for this book for letting me meet a new way of life and time period. Something I didn't think before reading I would want to read and have interest in.