



When Life and Beliefs Collide

By Carolyn Custis James

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In Praise of When Life and Beliefs Collide. Sooner or later, life's difficulties bring every Christian woman to God's doorstep with questions too personal to ignore. "Why does God let me go through such painful circumstances?" "Why does he seem indifferent to my prayers?" We're tired of spiritual pie in the sky. We want authentic, God-as-he-really-is faith—the kind that holds us together when our world is falling apart and equips us to offer strength and hope to others. When Life and Beliefs Collide raises a long-overdue call for us to think seriously about what we believe about God. With passion, brilliance, and eloquence, Carolyn Custis James weaves stories of contemporary women with episodes from the life of Mary of Bethany to illustrate the practical benefits of knowing God deeply. Examining the misperceptions and abuses that discourage women from pursuing a deeper understanding of God, this insightful book demonstrates how practical and down to earth knowing God can be. "This outstanding book offers the best demonstration that everyone needs theology, the best expository account of Mary and Martha, and the best trajectory for women's ministry in modern North America that I have yet read." —James I. Packer "Thoughtful, scholarly, and motivating . . . should inspire and encourage women for years to come." —Joni Eareckson Tada "You will not think the same way, nor hopefully be the same, after reading this thought-provoking book." —Vonette Zachary Bright ". . . affirms women in their calling, chosen-ness, and gifting, and makes us know we are cherished and planned for." —Jill Briscoe

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

"You know, there have never been any great women theologians." So said a professor to James, a writer and speaker with a master's degree in biblical studies. She begs to differ, and backs up her stance with strong arguments. Spurred on by the professor's inane comment, James started on a journey to understand exactly how Christian theology fits into women's lives. Very nicely, thank you. James asserts that when life's problems come calling, women will rely on their knowledge of God to carry them through. If their understanding of God's unchangeable character is sound, these hurting women have solid resources to draw on and emerge from difficulties as stronger and more resilient Christians. On the flip side, she cautions, those whose theology is weak will quaver when the storms hit. The author cites Mary of Bethany as the quintessential biblical female theologian, who discarded current social stigmas and sat at Jesus' feet right along with the men. Mary looked to Jesus to solve life's problems and sought to learn from him at every opportunity. As she did, her theology was strengthened, making her one of the few who understood and ministered to Jesus before his crucifixion. Says James, all women need theology for themselves, each other, their families and the church at large because theologically strong women make it their business to shore up and encourage those within their sphere of influence. This thoughtful text, admonishing every woman to embrace theology, should be classed as required reading in basic Christian doctrine.

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From the Back Cover

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About the Author

Carolyn Custis James (MA, Biblical Studies) travels extensively as a popular speaker for women's conferences, churches, colleges, seminaries, and other Christian organizations. Her ministry organization, WhitbyForum, promotes thoughtful biblical discussion to help men and women serve God together. Carolyn founded and is president of the Synergy Women's Network. She is a consulting editor for Zondervan's Exegetical Commentary Series on the New Testament and author of *When Life and Beliefs Collide* and *Lost Women of the Bible*. Carolyn and her husband live in Sellersville, Pennsylvania. They have one grown daughter.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carol Castaneda:

Exactly why? Because this *When Life and Beliefs Collide* is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap that but latter it will jolt you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such wonderful way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book possess such as help improving your skill and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I were you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

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Chris Henderson:

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