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Confessions Of An Autistic Theologian: A Contextual, Liberation Theology



Synopsis

In Salomon's long awaited autism story, he addresses directly how his autistic Christian ecological identity informs his activism, scholarship, method of theological reflection and spirituality. Salomon bases his "serious and radical" critique of neurotypical society on the reality of the socio-planetary crisis and institutional animal cruelty, attempting to reconcile disability justice with the socio-planetary agenda, in the process. Salomon demonstrates that in the long-run, including neurodiversity and disability justice on the socio-planetary agenda will help accelerate non-disabled efforts towards sustainability, justice and nonviolence. Salomon offers a practical framework with concrete guidance to disability and faith communities alike from a Christian liberation theology perspective, which will help realize a world worth living in, for everyone.

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Customer Reviews

Salomon's latest book, *Confessions of an Autistic Theologian: A Contextual, Liberation theology*, confronts all faith based communities, asking them what, if anything, they have done to embrace and support those persons on the Autism spectrum scale. Portions of the early part of Salomon's book are palpably painful, but he shows in words and deeds what can be accomplished if people do not give up, on themselves as well as others including faith based communities. Salomon also

shows that individuals and groups do make a difference and how he has been able to find happiness in Portland, Oregon particularly because of the acts of its residents. Frances S. Steinberg

In his fourth solo-authored book, Daniel Salomon describes his journey from his deeply Jewish roots to the Christian faith by way of several conversion experiences. Ironically, Salomon is excluded from many facets of the faith he chooses as his own, including the Franciscan order to which he aspires. In response, he forges a unique and empowering path. Declaring, "Autism is my unifying theory," Salomon combines personal history, theology, feminist critique, ecology and an abiding love of the natural world with an Aspie flair in order to challenge the neurotypical imperatives of western civilization: human predominance over other animals, overspecialization, global overdevelopment, and violence. Salomon develops twelve pillars of an "autistic hermeneutics," the foundation of perceiving, knowing, and translating the world around him. This hermeneutics not only enables Salomon's self-acceptance but a unique and immediate relationship to God, to other species, and to the natural world. One of Salomon's twelve pillars is "functional holistic living and thinking." This principle is certainly in evidence both within the treatise and in the integrity of Salomon's spiritual and intellectual journey.

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