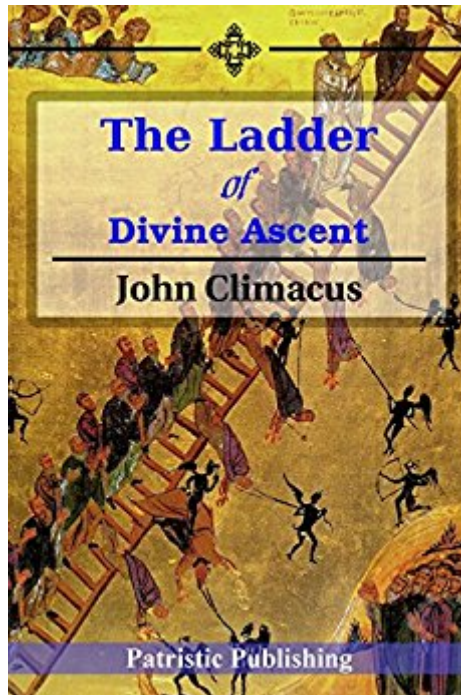




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The Ladder Of Divine Ascent



Synopsis

The Ladder of Divine Ascent, is an ascetic work written for monastics by John Climacus around 600 AD for John, the Abbot of Raithu, a monastery located on the shores of the Red Sea. The work proved to be popular in the Eastern Orthodox church and is still widely read today, often during the period of Lent, before Easter. The book examines the means of ascending to the highest degree of religious perfection by a series of thirty steps, which recall the thirty years of the life of Christ, the most holy example of religious perfection.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The Ladder of Divine Ascent" is a timeless classic of the Christian spiritual life, central to both the Eastern and Western traditions. While written primarily for monks, it played a role in lay spirituality as well, particularly among the Russian Orthodox. This edition is fresh and accessible, and it has an lengthy and insightful introduction by Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, one of the foremost interpreters of Orthodoxy to Western Christians. It's like getting two outstanding books for the price of one!

This book was one that I somehow decided upon--seemed like divine providence. For the book ended up being quite pivotal for this point in my spiritual journey. I found it very readable, loved Climacus' to-the-point style but with yet eloquent presentation. A friend who is 87 and reads books with me, across the miles, loved this book, also. It is a kind of a guidebook for the soul, step by step. The translation is excellent; the introduction quite helpful, too. I bought the book used online, and rather than resell it, this book is definitely staying in my possession so that I can refer back to it. Excellent!

I don't know whether to review the book or the type of book...First I give a 5 star to Classics of Western Spirituality of which this book is published. EVERY SAINT OR MANY I SHOULD SAY CAN BE FOUND under this Title,.John Climacus Ladder of Divine Ascent is out of print through monasteries' and this is the simpler version and of modest expense. Written for Monks to live by long ago as many things of spirituality were and are. You must decide or have already before even reading this beautiful Book of life how to live, this book only reinforces it.. I believe this is a work of all Christians not just of the Eastern Beliefs. beautiful written and put together.. This Book is a definite Keeper..I read a comparison between this and Imitation of Christ...there is no comparison hands down ..

The wisdom from our father among the saints, John Climacus is helpful in forming a good conscience. I started reading this book during the Great Fast of 2017. It is very integral to understand such Holy words in a world filled with sins, passions, and corruption. It acts as a good antidote to spiritual lethargy. Christ is Risen!

It reveals, as I hoped it would, the spiritual Eastern Orthodox way of revealing to us, as individuals, all our weaknesses and passions, all of our non-reflection of God Himself, though we are directed to imitate Him. I only read part of it for E. Orthodox Lent, but as I read the rest, my weakness and passions are revealed; I know I will return to it again and again for the rest of my life, as I do John of Kronstadt, as I do the Bible itself, the Word of God

This is a heavy read. On time at the right price.

This book is rich with so many beautiful lines and great sayings that you will want to keep constantly

in your mind. I personally recommend reading this along side the book "Thirty Steps To Heaven", since if I didn't have that book for reference I would have been discouraged by some of the saint's sayings.

This a wonderful book in so many ways. I gave it 5 stars. There are 2 versions of it in English that I know of. This one is the more accessible in modern English. My only two complaints are that it should be offered in a nice cloth hardback edition, so that it can be read over and over again without falling apart and to lose the funky artwork on it. A solid color cover would be a much improvement.

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