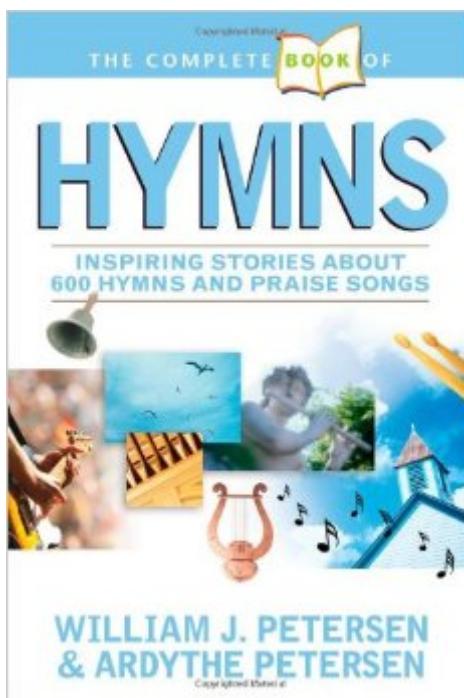


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The Complete Book Of Hymns



Synopsis

The Complete Book of Hymns brings to life the stories behind more than 600 hymns and worship songs. With background on the composer, the inspiration behind the lyrics, scriptural references for devotional consideration, and a sampling of the song lyrics, this book brings forth the message of these great songs of the faith like never before!

Book Information

Series: Complete Book

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Customer Reviews

This book is a hefty volume at almost 700 pages, but, of course, it covers 600 hymns and praise songs. Each entry averages just over 1 page in length. All the old standards are covered, as well as many less commonly-known ones, including many that I do not know. By far, most of the entries are hymns. Off hand, I'd probably say that around 90% or more of the songs referenced were written before 1950. This book is well-organized. The songs are organized by topic, and there are indexes by title, author, and theme. Here is a sample entry that I opened to randomly: I Need Thee Every Hour. We learn the hymn was written by a 37-year-old Brooklyn housewife while she was busy with her household chores. She could closely feel the nearness of God, and she sat by an open window and wrote out all the verses. When she gave them to her pastor, he wrote the chorus and the music. Evangelist Dwight L. Moody discovered the hymn and began using it in his meetings, which led to it becoming famous. After that background information, we are given several Bible verse references (not the text of the verses themselves) related to the hymn's topic (Psalm 86:1-4, Psalm 109:22,

Philippians 4:19), the themes of the hymn (prayer, meditation), and then the lyrics of the hymn. I have a few small gripes with the book. There are several newer praise songs that do not have lyrics included, presumably because they are under copyright and permission was not granted for their use. And, there are a few of these newer praise songs that are rather short that I would have left out, but that's a small gripe. Overall, this is a valuable resource for any Christian. This book is nice for looking up a particular hymn, but also for just browsing through.

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