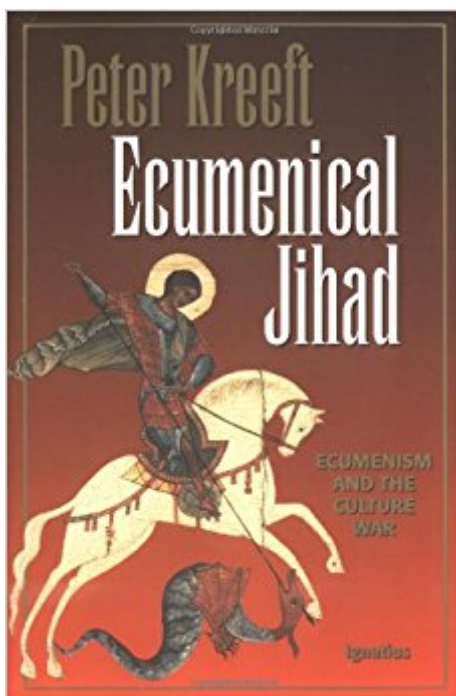


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# Ecumenical Jihad: Ecumenism And The Culture War



## Synopsis

"With his usual brilliance and wit, Peter Kreeft offers us a combat manual for the culture wars. Ecumen-ical Jihad is a reasoned defense of the rights of God and the duties of man, and a bold exhortation to spiritual warfare".....Michael O'Brien, Editor N.J.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Personal experience of the value of Roman Catholic views from a convert. Good points on the value of the Eucharist for Catholics

great service and great prices. I highly recommend any book by Peter Kreeft but if you really want to understand what is happening in our society today this book is a must read.

Peter Kreeft is a succinct and insightful teacher and author. He is also prophetic. In 'Ecumenical Jihad' he binds and discusses the commonalities of faith and culture that exist between Muslims and Christians, Christians and Confucius, and Protestants and Catholics. He shows Christians how they build an affinity and understanding from other religions without compromising their own beliefs. His great desire and goal is not only to build an understanding but also an alliance. It is amazing that this book was written five years before 9/11. In his text, he looks to the devil and secularism as the enemy. To live through the moral squalor and decay of current Western Civilization is the ailment whose remedy is to embrace faith in all its consequences with people of other creeds. He cites historical evidence that parallels our own predicament and offers an interesting solution:

sainthood and martyrdom. (I guess both are the antecedent to uncompromising faith.) While some may find his exegesis to be that of an intellectual "Henny Penny," one can't argue too strongly after the ramifications of 9/11 that he was right all along. Uncompromising, unflinching, sometimes infuriating, Peter Kreeft brings it all back home with an alchemy that is well backed by articulate scholarship.

As I read from this book, I saw how anti-Biblical and Heretical this foolish man's teachings were! He misinterprets Scripture to create a wonderful utopian world where all religions are ONE.... In other words, the One World religion that the book of Revelation warns about in chapter seventeen!

I'm left with two senses after reading this book: (1) sadness licked with fear -- the world as we know and love it is disappearing, almost gone. At least in the West. (2) Resolve renewed and steeled that we can and MUST join the jihad against the Great Satan by embracing God's cause most earnestly in our personal lives (metanoia, charity) and in the public square. A particularly brilliant summary of what Christians can and must find in common with Confucianism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism. A delightful dialogue with Confucius, Buddha, Mohammed and Moses, as well as a trialogue with Martin Luther, Thomas Aquinas, and CS Lewis. Nothing is more urgent or more important, and Kreeft makes the case convincingly.

Peter Kreeft's "Ecumenical Jihad" is at once highly intriguing and well argued. The book is based on the quite reasonable (even obvious) fact that Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy, evangelical Protestantism and Islam share a strong and uncompromising rejection of the tenants of the sexual revolution of the 1960s. All these religions have been extremely strong in demanding traditional roles for women (no religious authority), no permission for extramarital sex or homosexuality, and a strong tendency to demand fidelity of loving partners. In addition, these religions share a general rejection of such countercultural trends as illicit drug use, freedom in artistic expression, and "new age" spirituality. Kreeft is most effective in the manner in which he shows some very obvious facts, such as how the media and arts which influence our children are extremely biased against traditional religions. He indeed does this in a manner that ought to be capable of impressing anybody with an interest in religion. However, the whole problem with every thesis done by any Catholic apologist like Peter Kreeft is the way in which they assume that the laws of the Church over the centuries are in any way natural. A look at secular sources, especially those of Marx or anarchist theorists, will show clearly how the laws that have governed and continue to govern the Catholic

and Orthodox churches served to protect the power of the ruling classes. This was seen in the way the Church defended ruling classes in countries like Russia and Spain throughout the twentieth century, and may have contributed to their demise through the West (except in Australia and Red America where religion remains strong). The societal changes brought about by industrialisation were bound in most places to lead to such events as the sexual revolution, whose ideas were spread long before the 1960s. Increasing violence in society, whatever one interprets its cause, is most likely what leads many people into forms of music like metal or rap or grunge. No matter how distasteful they really are, these forms of music have little to do with the increasing violence, though this book will make one think it self-evident that they do - when poverty and lack of opportunities are probably leading many into these forms of music. Though well-argued, the assumption in "Ecumenical Jihad" (or any other book of religious apologetics) are dubious. Maybe worth one or two reads, but be careful.

Generally speaking, I'm not one for polemic language or rallying war-cries, but Peter Kreeft's "Ecumenical Jihad" is the exception (and quite infectious so excuse my exuberance). This book is a wake-up call to the sleeping masses. It *must* be polemic in nature, because it *is* a war-cry. Through several chapters, Kreeft lays out the battlelines - good and evil, to be precise - as well as Christ's plan for triumph: Ecuminism. The message is as clear as it should be obvious: this is not the time to bicker amongst ourselves, but to fight the common enemy of evil. "Ecumenical Jihad" is a book of bleak realism and divine hope. We have met the enemy, but he needn't be us.

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