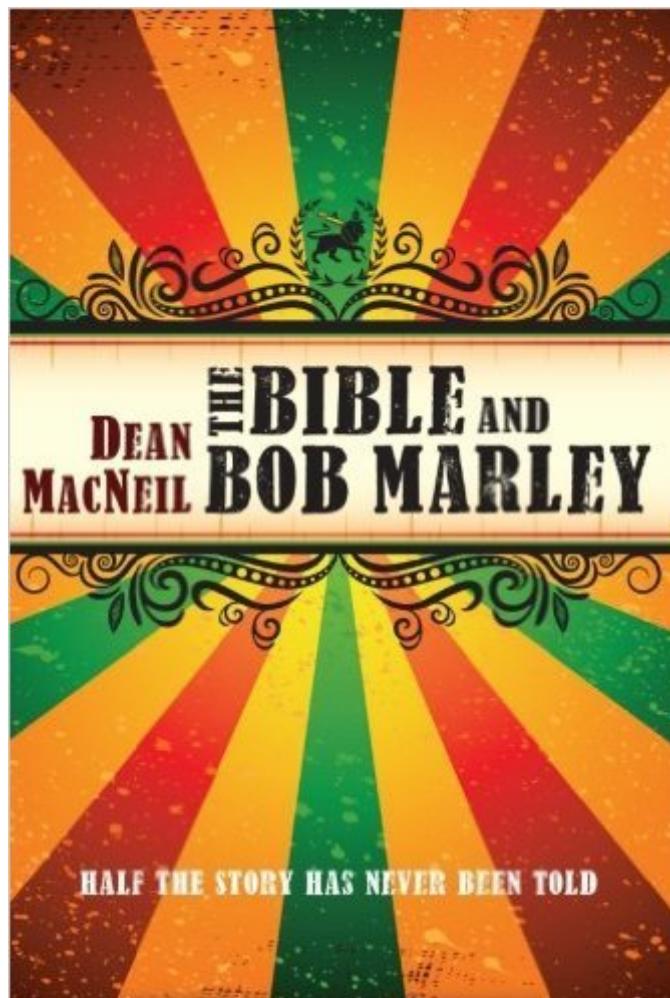


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# The Bible And Bob Marley: Half The Story Has Never Been Told



## Synopsis

With a Bible and guitar, Bob Marley set out to conquer the world of popular music. Rising from humble origins to international stardom, he worked tirelessly to spread a dual message of resistance and redemption-a message inspired by his reading of scripture. Marley's constant reliance on the Bible throughout the stages of his artistic and spiritual paths is an integral part of his story that has not been sufficiently told-until now. This is the first book written on Bob Marley as biblical interpreter. It answers the question, What light does biblical scholarship shed on Marley's interpretation, and what can Marley teach biblical scholars? Focusing on the parts of the Bible that Marley quotes most often in his lyrics, MacNeil provides a close analysis of Marley's interpretation. For students of Marley, this affords a deeper appreciation and understanding of his thought and his art. For students of scripture, it demonstrates the nature of Marley's unique contribution to the field of biblical interpretation, which can be appreciated as an excellent example of what R. S. Sugirtharajah calls "vernacular interpretation" of scripture.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you're a fan of Marley, this is the book you know has been missing. It illuminates a whole other dimension of Marley's life that most people have no idea about. It gives Bob's lyrics the true biblical context that they deserve. While other books provide only a glimpse of Bob's theological underpinnings, this book is essential to those who seek a more complete picture of Marley's use of, and connection to, the Bible. The way MacNeil so thoroughly analyzes the lyrics will likely open

## many more minds to the appreciation of Marley's message.The Bible and Bob Marley: Half the Story Has Never Been Told

Often it takes an artist or musician to explain the relevance of the Bible to everyday life. Bob Marley was obviously one of those guys. But so is Dean MacNeil! As a musician and theologian, he deftly and comprehensively explores the depths of wisdom and insight that Bob Marley found and communicated to a hungry audience. This book acts as a bridge between the worlds of biblical scholarship and creative expression. Seminarians need to read this book. Creative people need to read this book. Bob Marley fans definitely need to read this book. Well written, well thought, well done, Dean! Thank you for endeavoring such a project!

"The Bible and Bob Marley" by Dean MacNeil is the first book written on the King of Reggae as biblical interpreter ("one of the few to take Bob Marley's use of the Bible seriously" writes Stephen C.A. Jennings in the foreword) MacNeil limited the analysis to songs composed during the Island period from 1973 to 1980: in a total of 83 songs, he identified 137 biblical references, mostly from Psalms, Proverbs, Gospels, Pauline Literature, and Major Prophets. There are 5 interesting chapters (Introduction, Review of the Literature, The Wisdom Songs of Bob Marley, The Mission Songs of Bob Marley, Conclusion) and 2 useful appendices. In Appendix A there are 7 tables: Psalm, Wisdom, Apocalypse, and biblical references by album, category, book type and testament. In Appendix B there are 4 figures: biblical references and non-biblical proverbs per album, Wisdom and Pauline references per album, and Wisdom and Apocalypse references per album. "Why should you read this book on Bob Marley when ever so often every year, another article, another book or another film comes out on the King of Reggae?" asks Pastor Stephen Jennings. Because, in my opinion, it's a well-researched and well written book, unique, original, the one and the only about this topic. I like MacNeil's song-by-song analysis (Small Axe, So Jah Seh, Guiltiness, Running Away, Africa Unite, Zion Train, Forever Loving Jah, Stiff Necked Fools, Johnny Was, Rat Race, So Much Things To Say, The Heathen) and I hope he will plan a book about the Pre-Island Records era.

Hi Dean, Was so impressed wth your book. Had to have dictionary at my side many times. Learned so much about Bob Marley & was so very impressed with your amazing knowledge about the bible. We can all use it as regular applications to our current personal & world situations. I am so excited to pass it on to my daughter Annie who has been a big fan of Bob Marleyâ™s music. With deep gratitude, Maiu

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