Death by Love: Letters from the Cross (Re:Lit) by Gerry Breshears

Great Book

Real people. Real sin. Transformed lives. A compilation of heartfelt letters written from a pastor to his people that explains Jesus work on the cross.

Death by Love is a unique book on the cross of Jesus Christ. While many books debate the finer points of the doctrine of the atonement, what is often lost are the real-life implications of Jesus death on the cross for those who have sinned and have been sinned against. Written in the form of pastoral letters, Death by Love outlines the twelve primary effects of Jesus death on the cross and connects each to the life of a different individual.

Driscoll, one of Americas most influential pastors, and Breshears, a respected theologian, help readers understand, appreciate, and trust in Jesus work on the cross in a way that will transform their lives. Both
deeply theological and intensely practical, this book shows how everyone can find hope through the death of Jesus Christ.

**Personal Review: Death by Love: Letters from the Cross (Re:Lit)**
by Gerry Breshears

Death By Love: Letters from the Cross is the second book that Pastor Mark Driscoll and Western Seminary Professor Gerry Breshears have teamed up to write. Without a hint of his trademark irreverence or humor, Driscoll presents one of the most pastoral books written on the cross this decade.

The central symbol of Christianity is the cross, the place where our God died, the "crux of both the Christian faith and human history." The meaning of Jesus' death on the cross has been belittled and attacked throughout the centuries, with a current scholar going so far as to describe it as an act of divine child abuse. Driscoll, rather than sanitize the tragic details of the most important death the world has seen, highlights the glory of the cross as an act of God's love. Rather than a rejection, the cross reveals God's love like nothing ever has or will.

Death By Love presents the cross as a "multi-faceted" jewel and focuses in on twelve applications of the cross. The applications include redemption, propitiation, expiation, the gift of righteousness, ransom, and revelation. The meanings of these theological terms and their real world implications are thoughtfully and faithfully expounded.

Not only is this a great book for someone who wants a deeper understanding of the cross, it serves as an excellent reference for Christian counseling. The cross is central to life as a Christian, and often the extent of our misery or depression can be a result of not putting the cross and Christ in its proper place. This book offers examples for many facets of the cross, and it is a great starting point to help others appreciate how Christ's death on the cross atoned for our many sins.

The bottom line is that this is an excellent book that should be read by anyone interested in Christ's work on the cross. I have read everything that Mark Driscoll has written and I have found all of his books to be Christ-centered and worthwhile. Death By Love is the most heartfelt of these, and the power of the cross is conveyed so vividly that it will humble a believer and bring him to his knees.

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