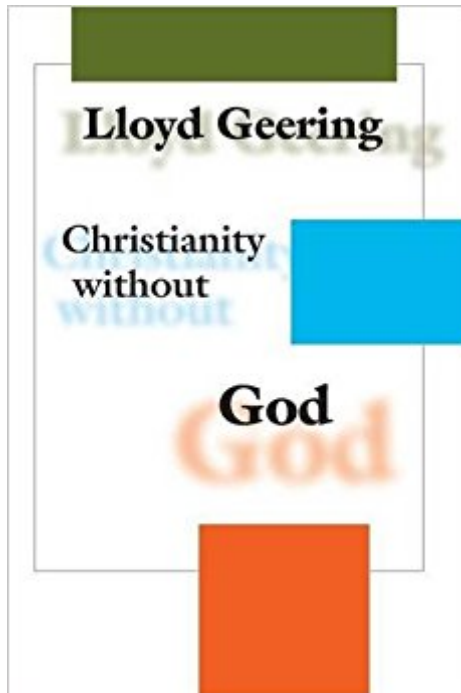




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# Christianity Without God



## Synopsis

Just as the bible ceased, in the nineteenth century, to be convincing as the repository of divinely revealed knowledge, so the twentieth century witnessed the death of the conventional image of God. Lloyd Geering asks whether this death of God spells the imminent death of the whole Christian tradition or simply means the end of conventional Christian doctrine.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lloyd Geering refuses to let faith stagnate. He speaks eloquently for a Christianity vital to a rapidly changing world. -- Phyllis Tribble, Baldwin Professor of Sacred Literature, Emerita, Union Theological Seminary, New York

Lloyd Geering was made Principal Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit topping New Zealand's new year's honors list for 2001. This is the first time the strictly New Zealand honors have been given. Previously New Zealand granted Imperial Honors, under which Lloyd Geering would have been made a knight commander. Previously honored in 1988 as a Companion of the British Empire, Lloyd Geering is a public figure of considerable renown in New Zealand where he is in constant demand as a lecturer and as a commentator on religion and related matters on both television and radio. In 1966, he published an article on "The Resurrection of Jesus" and, in 1967, another on "The Immortality of the Soul," which together sparked a two-year public, theological controversy that culminated in charges by the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand of which

he is an ordained minister of doctrinal error and disturbing the peace of the church. After a dramatic, two-day televised trial, the Assembly judged that no doctrinal error had been proved, dismissed the charges and declared the case closed.

I was raised as a fundamentalist. I was told of the finality of the world, of how unworthy we are as humans, and also how everything is made just for us. Humans are the masters of the earth and should do as they please to the land, animals and sea creatures. Since God has chosen humans to be his representatives on earth, and the Church is the Body of Christ, and so every life should be subjected to it. Life is worthless and full of dread until the end. This God language is dead, I found little or no meaning in this theistic God. I see how humans justify annulling the earth and each other. But Sir Geering opens a new door for me! That our focus should be less heavenly, but earth-ward, and by removing the dead language on God who no longer exists, we can plan a better future for all of us and all the creatures on earth. The downward, limited, and immediate focus is to be on the world we all live in, and also to humbly admit that we have created God/Gods after our likeness and in our own images, we should be better off focusing on God that does not exist as a being, but as a poetic expression of human efforts to point out the highest good. In this way, we live in the world, and move about in this world. I no longer seek the sweet pie in the sky, and now freed. I thank God for this man for his words of wisdom, and see him as a God for me!

Wonderful, short, readable review of the essentials of Post-Modern, non-theistic Christianity. I'm sure that the title scares most Christians. Although I think the title is exceptionally appropriate and insightful, I'm sure it hurt the book's sales and limited its influence among those interested in the doubts surrounding Christianity in the 21st century. This title would be an excellent choice for any religious study group.

This is a work for believers who are not theists and non-believers who understand the importance of staying aware of progressive developments in Theology. With his well known elegant simplicity of expression, Geering provides insights that astound any thinking person.

Excellent, thought provoking concepts. This author is intimately aware of the Jesus Seminar. I discovered Geering just as I sent my own book to press with Createspace, but many thoughts are parallel.

This is a very interesting book in this day and time.

Straight scoop about what is happening in religion today. Fine history of use of word God!!!!

Geering's challenging title should not dissuade Christians from picking up this book. Geering is a clear headed writer and a wonderful Bible scholar who brings it all together in this little book for an exciting vision of spiritual (Christian) maturity. The old notion of the external authoritative God in the clouds interacting on an arbitrary basis with the world needs to set free of it's cage. Geering's vision of secularity challenges us to take more responsibility for our earth and our lives and sets forth a divinized future for all life. This is the best religious book I have read in quite some time! (and I have a library full of them).

This morning in front of a warm fire on the first day of 2003 while rain pelted down outside, I read this book from cover to cover. Professor Geering has given us a page-turner as he step-by-step builds his case for why Christianity must take leave of God in order to be suitable for the global age we are entering. With just enough explanation for the average lay person he describes the progression from the belief in a personal, all-powerful God to the need for humans to take leave of that God so they can take full responsibility for their lives. In showing how Christianity has been changing through the ages to arrive at this point, Geering references many theologians. One I would especially like to read more about is Ludwig Feuerbach who is quoted as saying, "The real essence of Christianity.. is not that Jesus became God but that God became human."

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