



Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time

Sarah Ruden

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time

Sarah Ruden

Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time Sarah Ruden

It is a common—and fundamental—misconception that Paul told people how to live. Apart from forbidding certain abusive practices, he never gives any precise instructions for living. It would have violated his two main social principles: human freedom and dignity, and the need for people to love one another.

Paul was a Hellenistic Jew, originally named Saul, from the tribe of Benjamin, who made a living from tent making or leatherworking. He called himself the “Apostle to the Gentiles” and was the most important of the early Christian evangelists.

Paul is not easy to understand. The Greeks and Romans themselves probably misunderstood him or skimmed the surface of his arguments when he used terms such as “law” (referring to the complex system of Jewish religious law in which he himself was trained). But they did share a language—Greek—and a cosmopolitan urban culture, that of the Roman Empire. Paul considered evangelizing the Greeks and Romans to be his special mission.

“For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

The idea of love as the only rule was current among Jewish thinkers of his time, but the idea of freedom being available to anyone was revolutionary.

Paul, regarded by Christians as the greatest interpreter of Jesus’ mission, was the first person to explain how Christ’s life and death fit into the larger scheme of salvation, from the creation of Adam to the end of time. Preaching spiritual equality and God’s infinite love, he crusaded for the Jewish Messiah to be accepted as the friend and deliverer of all humankind.

In *Paul Among the People*, Sarah Ruden explores the meanings of his words and shows how they might have affected readers in his own time and culture. She describes as well how his writings represented the new church as an alternative to old ways of thinking, feeling, and living.

Ruden translates passages from ancient Greek and Roman literature, from Aristophanes to Seneca, setting them beside famous and controversial passages of Paul and their key modern interpretations. She writes about Augustine; about George Bernard Shaw’s misguided notion of Paul as “the eternal enemy of Women”; and about the misuse of Paul in the English Puritan Richard Baxter’s strictures against “flesh-pleasing.” Ruden makes clear that Paul’s ethics, in contrast to later distortions, were humane, open, and responsible.

Paul Among the People is a remarkable work of scholarship, synthesis, and understanding; a revelation of the founder of Christianity.

From the Hardcover edition.

 [Download Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted a ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time Sarah Ruden

From reader reviews:

Kathy Wilson:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a walk, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or perhaps read a book eligible Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have various other opinion?

Johnna Chapin:

The book Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Exactly why must we leave the good thing like a book Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time? A number of you have a different opinion about book. But one aim that will book can give many information for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer together with your book. Knowledge or data that you take for that, you can give for each other; you are able to share all of these. Book Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time has simple shape but you know: it has great and large function for you. You can appearance the enormous world by available and read a guide. So it is very wonderful.

Eric Sanders:

This Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time are generally reliable for you who want to be a successful person, why. The reason why of this Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time can be one of the great books you must have is giving you more than just simple reading through food but feed you with information that perhaps will shock your previous knowledge. This book will be handy, you can bring it everywhere you go and whenever your conditions at e-book and printed people. Beside that this Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time forcing you to have an enormous of experience including rich vocabulary, giving you tryout of critical thinking that could it useful in your day pastime. So , let's have it and enjoy reading.

Donna Kerns:

Reading a book being new life style in this 12 months; every people loves to learn a book. When you learn a book you can get a wide range of benefit. When you read guides, you can improve your knowledge, since book has a lot of information into it. The information that you will get depend on what kinds of book that you have read. If you want to get information about your examine, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you can read a fiction books, this kind of us novel, comics, and also soon. The

Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time will give you a new experience in reading a book.

Download and Read Online Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time Sarah Ruden #IQNVE9M13X8

Read Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time by Sarah Ruden for online ebook

Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time by Sarah Ruden Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time by Sarah Ruden books to read online.

Online Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time by Sarah Ruden ebook PDF download

Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time by Sarah Ruden Doc

Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time by Sarah Ruden Mobipocket

Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time by Sarah Ruden EPub