

In the World, Yet Not of the World: Social and Global Initiatives of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew (Orthodox Christianity and Contemporary Thought)

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew



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In the World, Yet Not of the World: Social and Global Initiatives of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew (Orthodox Christianity and Contemporary Thought) Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew speaks to a contemporary world about, human rights, religious tolerance, international peace, environmental protection, and more.In the World, Yet Not of the World represents a selection of major addresses and significant messages as well as public statements by His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, first among equalsand spiritual leader of the world's 300 million Orthodox Christians. The Patriarch is as comfortable preaching about the spiritual legacy of the Orthodox Church as he is promoting sociopolitical issues of his immediate cultural environment and praying for respect toward Islam or for global peace. As the documents reveal, the tenure of the Ecumenical Patriarch has been characterized by inter-Orthodox cooperation, inter-Christian dialogue and interreligious understanding. He has traveled more extensively than any other Orthodox Patriarch in history, exchanging official visitations with numerous ecclesiastical and state dignitaries. In particular, because he is a citizen of Turkey and the leader of a Christian minority in a predominantly Muslim nation, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew's personal experience endows him with a unique perspective on religious tolerance and interfaith dialogue. These documents are drawn from his prominent leadership roles as primary spiritual leader of the Orthodox Christian world and transnational figure of global significance - influential roles that become more vital each day. Published together here for the first time, the writings reveal the Ecumenical Patriarch as a bridge builder and peacemaker. One of his catchphrases is War in the name of religion is war against religion. Over the past eighteen years, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew's inclination and intention have been to address the most difficult issues facing the world-the deep and increasing mistrust between East and West, the decay and widening destruction of the natural environment, as well as the sharp divisions among the various Christian confessions and diverse faith communities-whether on religious, racial, or cultural levels. He regards being a servant of reconciliation as a primary obligation of his spiritual ministry to. This book reveals the powerful influence of a spiritual institution from the unique perspective of a Christian leader in the world, and yet not of the world.Some of the topics covered:o Faith and freedomo Racism and fundamentalismo Mutual respect and toleranceo Ecology and povertyo Human rights and freedomo Racial and religious discriminationo Church and stateo Terrorism and corruptiono Freedom of conscienceo Europe, Turkey and the worldo Religion and politicso Christians and Muslimso Christians and Jews

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