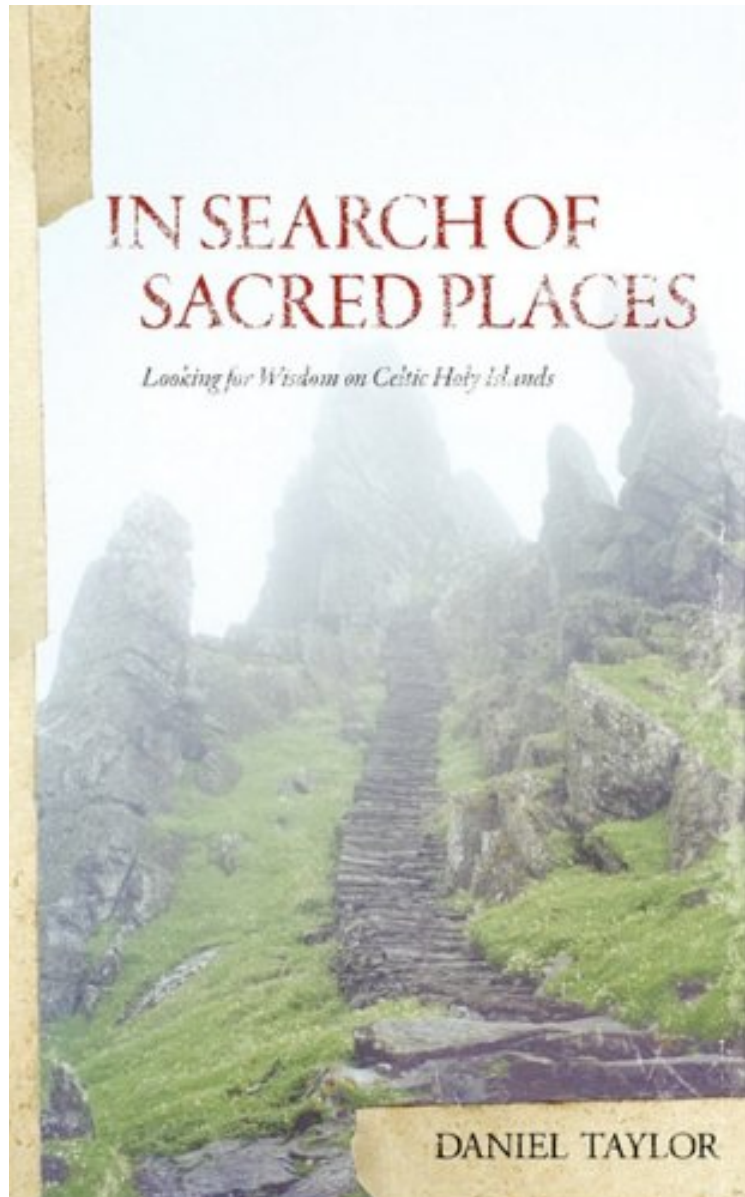


[Download pdf] In Search of Sacred Places: Looking for Wisdom on Celtic Holy Islands

In Search of Sacred Places: Looking for Wisdom on Celtic Holy Islands

Daniel William Taylor
audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



 Download

 Read Online

#745859 in Books Bog Walk Press 2011-04-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.99 x .39 x 5.001, .41
#File Name: 0970651147168 pages | File size: 44.Mb

Daniel William Taylor : In Search of Sacred Places: Looking for Wisdom on Celtic Holy Islands before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Search of Sacred Places: Looking for Wisdom on Celtic Holy Islands:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Prepare to be blessed!By CustomerIt spoke to my heart. Daniel is a spiritual guy with his feet firmly planted on the ground of everyday life.8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Readable, interesting, and inspiringBy Roy M. PitkinI've visited all three of these places and, at least for me, Taylor has captured a good bit of their magic. His writing is easy to read and entertaining and leavened with just the right touch of humor.7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Read and RereadBy Florence JohnsonLet Dan Taylor take you to unplanned destinations, traveling with a family grouping of seven in an unreliable Toyota van over forbidding roads and through staggering vistas. Perhaps not your idea of a relaxing vacation; but Dan (an English literature professor friend) in his "...Search of Sacred Places" doesn't intend to make the reader comfortable. However, his sense of humor is evident in facing unscheduled, difficult obstacles as is his awe at the devotion of Celtic extremists and frustration over his own frailties along with those of spoiled 21st century Christians. He smoothly blends Celtic biographies and historic Christianity along with insights from loved English poets, leaving the reader - and himself - with more questions to answer than when the Taylor clan first set out on pilgrimage. A thoughtful book to reread and give to others.

Why do they still come? Fourteen hundred years after a handful of Celtic monks withdrew to tiny islands in the sea, and almost a thousand years after the last of them disappeared, a steady streams of modern men and women make the difficult trek to these isolated places. Why? What did the ancient monks know that we have forgotten, or remember only dimly? What are we looking for when we journey to such sacred places? We are looking, among other things, for wisdom-for clues about how to live in a frantic, materialistic, care-worn world that is, in many ways, hostile to life. And we sense that those who lived here so long ago, though they have left very little behind, have something to teach us. In *Search of Sacred Places: Looking for Wisdom on Celtic Holy Islands* is the story of a reluctant pilgrimage, taken by a man with no great faith in sacred places. He is a man filled with modern questions and suspicions, who nonetheless returns home from these thin places with a better understanding of how to live. This book interweaves spiritual quest, travel, memoir, history, theological reflection, cultural analysis, and personal introspection-all conveyed in an engaging, probing, and honest voice. It is a book for those on the hunt for meaning who share the hope that God has sown it throughout this world-perhaps more thickly in certain sacred places.

From Publishers WeeklyTaylor, a literature professor from Minnesota's Bethel University, meant to go to London to study Sir Thomas More, but first he followed a friend's recommendation to visit the Iona community in Scotland. Then, having seen one ancient sacred site, he wanted to see others. Over the next six weeks, he gave himself a whirlwind tour of Lindisfarne, Norwich and Durham in England; St. Brigid's well, Glendalough and Skellig Michael in Ireland; St. David's in Wales and various museums in Dublin and Londonall either pilgrimage sites or sources of information about Celtic Christians. As he describes what he saw, he ruminates on the nature of holiness, bristles at the easy faith of modern Christians and relentlessly examines his own mixed feelings. Taylor, author of *The Myth of Certainty*, does not consider himself a model pilgrim: "I go to Iona and Lindisfarne and Skellig Michael to get a tangible taste of an intangible and fearful reality. But I want only a taste." Nevertheless, he feels changed by his experience: "I am working my way toward seeing all of life as simply different manifestations of worship, and taking these saints as my guide." Though too short on detail to be a pilgrim's only guide, Taylor's book provokes the kinds of reflections that make pilgrimages worthwhile. (Feb.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.