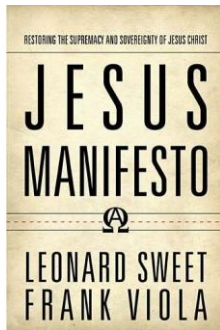


The essay “A Jesus Manifesto” by Leonard Sweet and Frank Viola has been expanded into a 200-page book, published by Thomas Nelson.

It releases Tuesday, June 1st at a discount from Amazon.com. “Unite the Tribe” and [pick up a copy that day from Amazon.](#)



Here are some endorsements:

What Others Are Saying About JESUS MANIFESTO ...

This is a really exhilarating reintroduction to a Jesus who seems sometimes to have become a stranger to the Church; a passionate and joyful celebration of God with us, which cuts right through churchy quarrelling and brings us back to wonder, love and praise - and the urgent desire to make Him known to all.

Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury

Jesus Manifesto is the most powerful work on Christ I have read in recent years. The Christ of the Empty Tomb is back among us. Sweet and Viola have beckoned us to return back to Olivet and renew our souls. I was hushed by its welcome authority. I found a lump in my throat as I read through page after page of Biblical witness to the one and only, incomparable Christ in whom alone is our Salvation. You must read this book. All of us must, and then we must believe in this book, rise and advance on our culture with the truth we have lately backed away from in our faulty attempt to play fair at the cost of our God-given mission.

Calvin Miller, Author, *The Singer*

Brilliant, refreshing, soaring – and that's just the first chapter! This book is destined to be a classic devotional volume that will inspire generations of Jesus-followers. The line from the song goes, "you can have all this world, but give me Jesus." This book does just that.

Reggie McNeal, Missional Leadership Specialist, Leadership Network; Author, *The Present Future and Missional Renaissance*

There cannot be enough books written about the majesties and excellencies of Christ. To see Jesus as He is will transform us from one degree or glory to the next. Everything is about Him, for Him and to Him. I am grateful that Frank and Leonard did the work and are putting this in the lap of so many.

Matt Chandler, Lead Pastor, The Village Church

One more sign of a Christianity that is beginning to look like Jesus again. Our great challenge over the past few decades has not been one of right believing but of right living. Viola and Sweet create a harmony here that invites you to give the world a Christianity worth believing in. After all, they will know we are Christians, not by our bumper stickers and t-shirts, but by our love.

Shane Claiborne, author, activist, and recovering sinner, thesimpleway.org

Whether you are a seminary professor or someone seeking answers about Christ for the first time, *Jesus Manifesto* promises to illuminate the truth about the greatest personality to ever walk the earth. And along the way you will rediscover, or experience for the first time, the power, prestige and primacy of Jesus Christ.

Ed Young, Pastor, Fellowship Church; Author, *Outrageous, Contagious Joy*

I look for books that call us to love Jesus and make His name more widely known. In *Jesus Manifesto*, Sweet and Viola ask us to step away out of the "Youniverse" (their word) of narcissistic religion and away from the pop-culture Jesus who is just a nice man. Throughout the book, they exalt Jesus as the divine Savior and ask the church to do the same. I believe this book will spark a renewed love for Christ by pointing us to the deep mystery of His person. You will be motivated to love and serve more deeply as your life is focused on Jesus the Messiah.

Ed Stetzer, President of LifeWay Research

Today's Church desperately needs that trumpet-like "certain sound" heard when Jesus' own voice is heard—just as He spoke in The Revelation. Our hour is similar to that; one of doctrinal drift, double-entendre and deepening deception, both in the Church as in the world. *Jesus Manifesto* calls us to Jesus' Person and position as Lord of the Church, to hear Him call us to truth's clarity, power's purity and obedience's reward, to restore that "saltiness" that will keep *His* Church alive and penetrating in its impact.

Jack W. Hayford, Founding Pastor, The Church On The Way, Chancellor, The King's Seminary

From beginning to end, authentic Christianity is all about Jesus and, ultimately, nothing but Jesus. No one has proclaimed this more clearly and persuasively than Viola and Sweet. *Jesus Manifesto* is an important and powerful prophetic call for the Martha-like Church to get back to doing "the one thing that is needful."

Dr. Gregory A. Boyd, Senior Pastor, Woodland Hills Church, Maplewood, MN. Author, *Present Perfect, The Myth of a Christian Nation, and The Jesus Legend*.

Amidst the many voices calling the church to the work of justice, Leonard Sweet and Frank Viola call us first to Jesus from which all justice flows. Together they help us see how the vision of Christ's supremacy makes possible any and all faithful engagement with the world. There are times when a profound and significant truth needs to be said simply. The *Jesus Manifesto* does just that with an intensity appropriate to the message! I applaud it and I recommend it.

David Fitch, Author, pastor, professor, Northern Seminary, Reclaimingthemission.com

Like the passionate preachers I grew up hearing at revival meetings, Sweet and Viola point us to Jesus, only Jesus. In a time when the church has such ready access to so many strategies to "change the world" and "make a difference," here is an invitation to return to the heart of evangelical faith--the conviction that God has already given us all we need in Jesus Christ.

Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, author of *God's Economy & The Wisdom of Stability*

The beauty of this book is that it not only deals with the identity of Christ, but the ways that we are made to relate to this Living and Liberating King. I will be buying this book by the caseload to invite others to contemplate the question that has the power to change everything.

Chris Seay, Pastor of Ecclesia Houston; Author, *The Gospel According to Lost* and *The Gospel According to Jesus*; President of Ecclesia Bible Society

From now on my friend Frank Viola will not be known solely by his proposals regarding the church. Len Sweet, my teacher, will not merely be known as a brilliant and original professor. With the writing of *Jesus Manifesto*, they will now be known as followers, broadcasters, ambassadors and articulators of Jesus. There is no higher role in life. I can offer no higher complement. Best yet, this role can be taken on by us all: doctors and nurses, policewomen and firemen, teachers and counselors—you name it. In the *Jesus Manifesto* there is room for everyone.

Todd Hunter, Author, *Christianity Beyond Belief* and *Giving Church Another Chance*, Anglican Bishop

Jesus Manifesto is a passionate invitation to fall head over heels in love with the Son of God. Prepare to be shaken. Prepare to be awakened. And prepare to answer the call to follow Jesus with wholehearted abandon. After reading this book, you'll never be the same.

Margaret Feinberg, Author, *Scouting the Divine*

Whenever Len Sweet writes something, I am challenged and learn so incredibly much. Whenever Frank Viola writes something, I am challenged and learn so incredibly much. So with both Len and Frank writing together here - you are reading an exponential Jesus-focused challenge and learning experience. They write not just words and sentences, but this is seriously a Spirit-shaped breath of fresh air for the church at large in all her beautiful and messy forms and shapes and for Christians of every age and diversity.

Dan Kimball, author of *They Like Jesus, But Not the Church*

The unrelenting purpose of the Holy Spirit is to lead us into the living presence of Jesus Christ. If we follow the Spirit, Christ can become as real to us as the world was when we were sinners. The "Jesus Manifesto" is a compass pointing toward this holy pursuit.

Francis Frangipane, pastor, Author, *And I Will Be Found By You*

Jesus Manifesto is a milestone in Christian literature - a spiritual masterpiece. It is both timeless and timely. The book contains a breathtaking unveiling of the beauty, glory, and wonder of Christ that speaks to both the head and the heart (something that few books combine today). The style of writing blends poetry with prose and is brilliantly sprinkled with metaphor. The content is illuminating, compelling, and even prophetic. Epic, true to Scripture, faithful to the testimony of the historic church, filled with seminal insights and written with exceptional prose, this little volume is a clarion call to return to the supremacy of Jesus Christ. For all of these reasons, *Jesus Manifesto* has come along "for such a time as this."

Searching Together/Baptist Reformation Review

I love this book simply because I love Jesus. It will deepen, widen, and heighten your love for Christ, and few books can make that claim.

Mark Batterson, Lead Pastor, National Community Church; Author, *Primal: A Quest for the Lost Soul of Christianity*

Do you ever feel that "Jesus has left the building"? The Christian religion promises so much in terms of power, forgiveness, joy and intimacy but sometimes it feels that those promises are just words. Leonard Sweet and Frank Viola have a radical and Biblical solution, to wit, Jesus. Read this book and you'll find your heart "strangely warmed." That warmth is Him ... Jesus. This book could change your life and the lives of everyone who cares about the church. I rise up and call the authors blessed!

Steve Brown, Seminary professor at Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando, author and the host of the syndicated talk show, *Steve Brown, Etc.*

If the Christian church is to fulfill its missional vocation in the world, its life and witness must be bound at every point to the self-revelation of God in Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. While this certainly means wrestling with perennial questions concerning the person and work of Jesus, it also means taking ourselves less seriously and remembering that the answers we give to these questions are not the foundation on which the church stands or falls. In this book Sweet and Viola powerfully remind us that the gospel is not ultimately about doctrines, methods, and programs, but the living presence of Jesus Christ. In calling on Christians of all traditions to refocus our attention on the supremacy of Jesus Christ they have provided a clarion call to the most central aspect of faithful witness -- He must become greater and we must become less.

John R. Franke, Clemens Professor of Missional Theology, Biblical Seminary; author, *Manifold Witness: The Plurality of Truth*

As many are defecting the ranks of the faithful for a gospel of their own making, we are indebted to Leonard Sweet and Frank Viola for unhesitatingly issuing a call for the recovery of the true testimony of Scripture, that Jesus indeed is Sovereign Lord, and that He reigns supreme over all the universe, and there is no other God but Him.

Mark J. Chironna, M.A. Ph.D., The Master's Touch International Church, Orlando, Florida

Jesus Manifesto is a priceless treasury revealing the riches of Christ in unique depths yet written with simple language. Prophetic and poignant, Sweet and Viola's words soar high as they glorify the greatest Person in the universe -- our Jesus Christ.

Anne Jackson, Speaker and Author, *Permission to Speak Freely: Essays and Art on Fear, Confession and Grace*

In a day when much of Christianity seems to have missed the main point of our faith, *Jesus Manifesto* brings us back to center. Sweet and Viola have given us a matchless presentation of Jesus - one that combines poetic artistry, gripping metaphor, and profound insight. The book masterfully reflects what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

Dr. Kenneth C. Ulmer, President; The King's College and Seminary, Los Angeles, CA

Evangelicals have tended to focus on the work of Christ to the exclusion of valuing the life and model of Jesus as archetypal Christian. By helping us realign ourselves around the magnificent Person at the heart of our faith, this book goes a long way towards correcting that imbalance. Devout, intelligent, challenging, Len and Frank deliver. I sign the manifesto!

Alan Hirsch, Author, *ReJesus: A Wild Messiah for a Missional Church* and *Untamed: Reactivating a Missional Form of Discipleship*

This little book is a fresh and elegant portrayal of Jesus Christ that's epic and timely. It puts a pulse on the main problem in the church today and uniquely stirs both heart and head as it points us to the only solution, Jesus.

Pastor Tommy Barnett, Phoenix First Assembly, Dream Centers: Phoenix, LA, NY

Gandhi once said, "Your Christians are so unlike your Christ." Maybe if we actually knew Christ, we would reflect Him more. Sweet and Viola's *Jesus Manifesto* is the quintessential re-introduction.

Sally Morgenthaler, Worship Evangelism

Wow! What a message, what a word, what a masterful work. My friends Leonard Sweet and Frank Viola have again challenged us to think deeper and go higher in our commitment to the call to genuine and authentic Christian ministry. *Jesus Manifesto* is a must read for all serious students, teachers and leaders in the Lord's church. In this post-modern, high-tech age, where we talk on iPhones, listen to iPods, write on iPads, but have lost the power of the great "I Am". . . we are called through this book to come back home, to indeed return to our first love. I believe that this book will cause more than a ripple in the Body of Christ.

Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr., Senior Pastor, Cathedral International

While I may not agree with every detail, the central thrust of this book is vitally important. Its reminder about Christ living in us and seeing our identity in Him is marvelous, as is its recognition that the historical Jesus of the Gospels is the Christ we worship. I fear that liberals (and often conservatives!) read Christ too much through the lens of their culture. Many conservatives read Christ too much through the lens of their church's tradition. Some Pentecostals and charismatics (whose Pentecostal spiritual experience I share) subordinate Christ to their own experience (or traditions developed from others' experiences). But we all need to return to Jesus as our Lord, as this book emphatically reminds us.

Craig Keener, Professor of New Testament at Palmer Seminary of Eastern University; Author, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary*