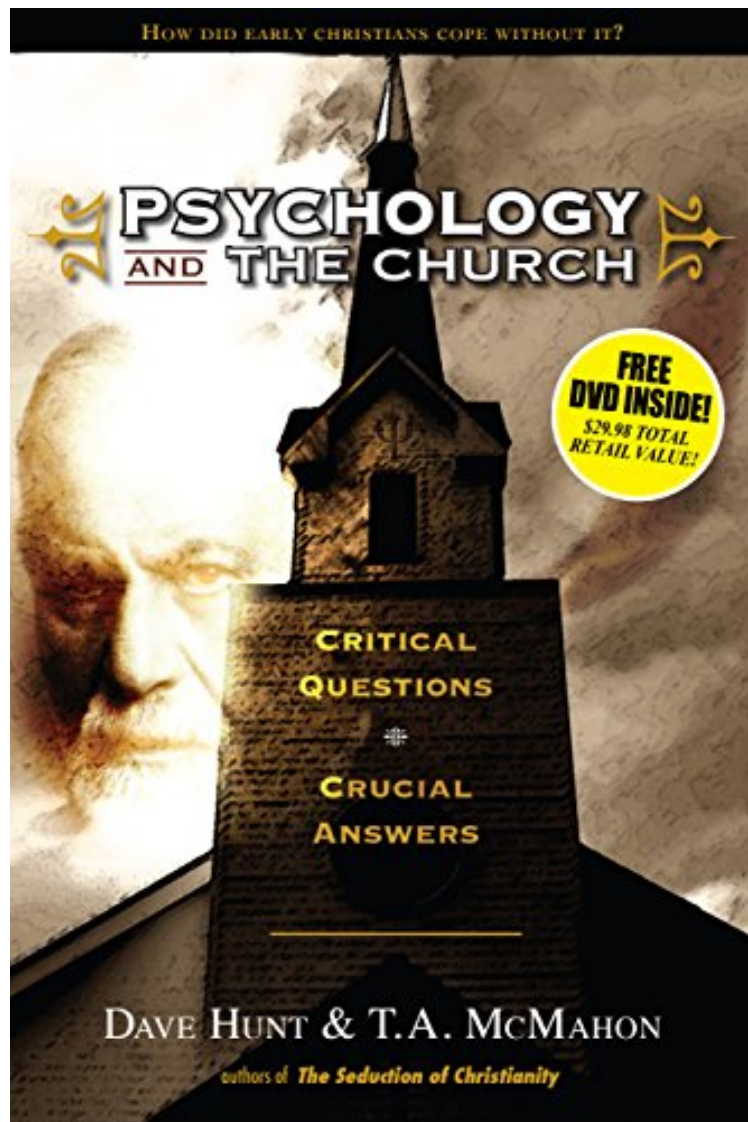


[Mobile book] Psychology and the Church: Critical Questions, Crucial Answers (English Edition)

## Psychology and the Church: Critical Questions, Crucial Answers (English Edition)

Von Dave Hunt, T. A. McMahon  
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**Von Dave Hunt, T. A. McMahon : Psychology and the Church: Critical Questions, Crucial Answers (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Psychology and the Church: Critical Questions, Crucial Answers (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Another interpretation of PsychologyVon Roman NiesThe author states that humanistic psychology especially as championed

in Christian" psychology is to Bible-believing Christians subversive and destructive. He gives for this mainly 5 points. 1. Humanistic psychology's theories came from the atheistic, anti-Christian founders of psychotherapy like Freud or Jung, whose concepts qualify for what the Scriptures condemn as the counsel of the ungodly" (Psalm 1,1). He asks, can from a poisonous well come healthy water? 2. The humanistic emphasis upon loving and esteeming self rejects the biblical commandment to deny self, which Jesus admonished us to do in Matthew 16,24. 3. The increasing focus on esteeming oneself gradually distorts a believer's understanding of the truth regarding the sinful nature of man and hides conviction of sin in a morass of humanistic rationalizations. 4. The subjective feelings orientation of humanistic psychology undermines the absolutes of God's objective truth. 5. As the leaven of humanism grows in the mind of a believer, this interpretation of the Scriptures gradually shifts from what God has indeed said (Genesis 3,1) to "a way which seems right unto a man but in the end it leads to certain death" (Proverbs 14,12). He also says, that the fruits of humanistic psychology are already seen as destructive in the American society where the morale is on the decline everywhere, the criminality rate rising and the families breaking up. Psychology says there is no sin, only hurt feelings and low self-esteem. To set hope in a renewed "Self" is a false gospel, and contradicting God's word which says that one should be "dying to self" (Matthew 16,24), crucifying the self (Galatians 2,20), sacrificing the self (Romans 12,1) and being delivered from one's self (Luke 4,18). He has made the observation that the power to build opinions is in the hands of a few who make a fortune. And the Christian churches play a supporting role to all this, leaving alone the dedication to the only one who can not only save souls but also heal them. Only Jesus Christ is the healer and redeemer, not psychology. Psychology is in its worst forms mythology enriched with theories of sexually and spiritually shipwrecked people like Freud or Jung who even dealt with occultism. "Replacing God with Self leads to the central dogma of the religion of psychology: mankind is innately good." It is true that the Bible teaches that man is innately not good. Therefore the conclusions of the author are right from the standpoint of a Christian who cares for regarding God's Word as faultless. It says in 2 Tim 3,16 about itself, that it is good for reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness, or that it is good for making man a new creation and the old things pass away (1 Cor 15,3-4). But here you have, according to the author, the next problem: many Christians doubt the word of God. Even the Catholic church does not give full credit to the Bible at the price of denying the Bible's inerrancy, sufficiency and authority to erect the own inerrancy, sufficiency and authority. This is indeed a remarkable discovery of Hunt. Psychotherapy is, the author says, also a modern form of shamanism. In so far as E. Fuller Torrey agreed with him when he said that: "The techniques used by western psychiatrists are, with few exceptions, on exactly the same scientific plane as the techniques used by witchdoctors." The great philosopher Karl Popper said: "Though posing as science psychotherapy had in fact more in common with primitive myths than with science and resembled astrology rather than astronomy." He could say so, because Jung and other psychotherapists used astrology within their methods. In psychology, the author warns, virtue is ridiculed, evil is praised as good and liberating, biblical moral standards are mocked as the narrow-minded thinking of a past generation out of touch with today's reality. Maybe the people of Sodom and Gomorrah thought the same. Then seeds of this liberal totalitarianism are sprouting even in evangelical circles, where those who dare to oppose false teachings and the belittlement of sin are accused of division, are denied a voice from pulpits, radio and TV, and their books are refused. Hunt gives also an answer to the question why the world embraces psychology so willingly. He cites 2 Cor. 4,4: "the God of this world has blinded the minds of them which believe not". And why is it that so many Christians join them? Because they love the world more than God, he says. Why should they reject psychology when they do not reject the rest of the world? Although Jesus commanded (1 John 2,15): "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world." Or is it to escape the blame not to be "scientific" and be regarded as backward and inferior? The main concern of the author is that psychology has redefined sin as sickness. So that it could excuse immorality and thereby encouraging it, drive the people further away from Christianity. The sinner is now diagnosed as in need of a therapy rather than being accountable and called upon to repent. Every kind of failure is excused as some kind of addiction. "Psychology has been rightly called the only profession that creates the diseases that it claims to cure." Friends of the doctrine that the Scripture alone is necessary to cure people will find this book as an affirmation. Friends of psychology will have it difficult to sit through the whole book. They have something to digest.

**Kurzbeschreibung** For nearly two thousand years prior to the rise of modern psychiatry and psychotherapy, the church ministered to believers who were experiencing mental, emotional, and behavioral problems by using the teachings of the Scriptures and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Contemporary Christianity's embrace of psychology raises an important question: Was there an insufficiency on the part of God's Word and His Holy Spirit during those two millennia, making it necessary for the church to turn to modern psychotherapy in order to more effectively address a Christian's problems of living? In the history of contemporary Christendom, no secular enterprise has had such a profound influence on Christianity as has psychological counseling. The critical question raised by these developments is: Have they been helpful or harmful to the body of Christ? Dave Hunt and T.A. McMahon, co-authors of The

Seduction of Christianity, unearth the roots and expose the results of Christianity's embrace of the beliefs of Freud, Jung, Rogers, Maslow, and others. Using content compiled from past feature articles in The Berean Call newsletter, the authors also contribute new material and tackle answers to tough questions in a special QA section.

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