

Jesus *in the* ***World's Faiths***

**Leading Thinkers
from Five Religions
Reflect on His Meaning**

Edited by Gregory A. Barker

ORBIS  BOOKS
Maryknoll, New York 10545

Founded in 1970, Orbis Books endeavors to publish works that enlighten the mind, nourish the spirit, and challenge the conscience. The publishing arm of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Orbis seeks to explore the global dimensions of the Christian faith and mission, to invite dialogue with diverse cultures and religious traditions, and to serve the cause of reconciliation and peace. The books published reflect the views of their authors and do not represent the official position of the Maryknoll Society. To learn more about Maryknoll and Orbis Books, please visit our website at www.maryknoll.org.

Copyright © 2005 by Gregory A. Barker

Published by Orbis Books, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0308

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the publisher.

Queries regarding rights and permissions should be addressed to:
Orbis Books, P.O. Box 308, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0308

Manufactured in the United States of America

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Jesus in the world's faiths : leading thinkers from five religions
reflect on his meaning / edited by Gregory A. Barker.

p. cm.

ISBN 1-57075-573-6 (pbk.)

1. Jesus Christ. 2. Christianity and other religions. I. Barker,
Gregory A.

BT304.9.J47 2005

232—dc22

2004024763

Contents

Foreword	ix
DAN COHN-SHERBOK	
Introduction	1
Part One: JESUS IN BUDDHISM	13
1. Buddhist Views of Jesus	15
JOSÉ IGNACIO CABEZÓN	
2. Jesus: A Theravadan Perspective	25
SISTER AJAHN CANDASIRI	
3. Jesus in the Pure Land	31
ALFRED BLOOM	
4. Jesus and Buddha as Brothers	38
THICH NHAT HANH	
Part Two: JESUS IN CHRISTIANITY	47
5. Christian Views of Jesus	49
MARY C. GREY	
6. A Jesus-Centered Community?	61
RAYMOND L. SCHULTZ	
7. “Why Do We Need Jesus? Isn’t God Enough?”	66
MARY C. BOYS	
8. Jesus and the Status Quo	75
PAUL BADHAM	
Part Three: JESUS IN HINDUISM	79
9. Hindu Views of Jesus	81
CHAKRAVARTHI RAM-PRASAD	
10. Jesus Is Not an Idol	92
RAVI RAVINDRA	

11. Jesus: Emissary of Divine Love AMANDA MILLS	100
12. Jesus Goes to Delhi MAYA WARRIER	108
Part Four: JESUS IN ISLAM	113
13. Islamic Views of Jesus MUSTANSIR MIR	115
14. Jesus in Popular Muslim Thought MONA SIDDIQUI	125
15. Which Islam? Which Jesus? NEAL ROBINSON	132
16. The Real Presence of Jesus in Islam HASAN ASKARI	142
Part Five: JESUS IN JUDAISM	147
17. Jewish Views of Jesus SUSANNAH HESCHEL	149
18. Celluloid Saviors and the Gospels ADELE REINHARTZ	161
19. Why Jesus Has No Meaning to Judaism JACOB NEUSNER	166
20. The Jesuses of My Poetry STEPHEN BERER	174
Brief Guide to Further Reading	183
Contributors	187
Index	194