



Cries of The Heart

Ravi Zacharias , Max Lucado (Foreword)

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In this profound message from one of the great thinkers of our generation, Zacharias explores the inner feeling of futility that can overwhelm a human heart and helps us to see a reason for our suffering, be comforted in loneliness, and experience an abiding faith in our daily lives. *Cries of the Heart* is a book that both inspires and reassures...a search that uncovers our hidden sentiments and reveals God's continual inescapable presence in every moment of our lives.

Cries of The Heart Details

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David says

I would highly recommend this for any believer to read as Ravi explains, in some amount of paraphrasing, how we should legitimately respond from our heart a desire to understand ourselves and our identity in Christ as we experience pain, suffering, guilt, and loneliness.

Cheryl Minekime says

I wanted to love this book, really, and judging from the many favorable reviews of it many people do love it. However I found myself lost and bogged down by long chapters that frequently read like a dissertation. Personally I think the author could have made each of his points more succinctly in fewer pages. That being said, this book is not without merit and worth reading for anyone seeking God in the various trials and joys in life.

Jenny says

This book navigates you through your own tragedies or teaches you how best to support someone going through tragedies you can't even begin to imagine. Overall, the insight given here can prepare you for pain or help you heal afterwards. But if you don't expect life to be painful, well, maybe you should read more Shakespeare...

Greg says

Read the Bible... then read this.

Dorothy Timmerman says

Zacharies is rated a bit below C.S. Lewis, personally, but a fair bit higher than anyone else. His ideas were probing, and many things that I did not have the ability to draw reason from for myself were illuminated by him, and especially by his gracious explanation of the story of Job, as well as Job's three philosophical friends. The more I am accustomed to the modern-philosophical style of Zacharias, the more I predict I will like him, and he's very worth liking. My favorite bits of the book were what he termed the purely philosophical bits - though I suggest the whole thing as a necessary experience.

Georgia Herod says

Because both my heart and my mind say YES in response to whatever Zacharias has written or presented orally since I first heard him in the late 1980's, I have eagerly read his books. I agree wholeheartedly with Max Lucado, who wrote the forward to this volume: "What others do with the golf club or operas or chemistry, Ravi does with Christian thought. He presents lucid answers to tough questions and makes the problems look simple."

In this book he addresses the emptiness and ennui that can often overwhelm us emotionally as he addresses the BIG cries of our hearts: to know God, to feel in relation to faith, to see and understand a reason for suffering, to break through the guilty conscience, and to experience pleasure. He also addresses the "cry of a lonely heart" before he presents the cry of the heart of God as He longs for His people to turn to Him—a cry that is revealed from Genesis through Revelation. God is the God who sees, who inclines toward us—and responds. RZ says, "When God speaks there are no ploys, no gimmicks. Only life-defining truth. When He speaks we will be soothed by His touch, and we will rest in His comfort, knowing that He has heard our cries and has come near in our need."

One of RZ's goals is to help believers think and questioners to believe. He writes with clarity and coherence, helping his readers think logically, "without thinking for us." And he does so with respect, allowing dignity and grace to prevail.

This book challenged me to assess the cries of my heart—and to seek answers from the One who is Truth. Once again my heart and my mind said YES to what I read.

BJ says

This is a good book. I'm consistently fascinated by the mind of Ravi Zacharias. I was particularly intrigued with his take on the Christian church's loss of reverence for God. He shared a story about how in the Hindi language the words for Mom and Dad are Mata and Pita but you would never call your Mom or Dad just Mata or Pita because it doesn't reflect the respect that they deserve. In Hindi you add the suffix -jee to those names to reflect that respect (so those become Matajee and Pitajee). He reflects that the closest thing in English would be "Yes, Sir." His extrapolation was that since we've made our relationship with God so informal and personal that God might ask, "What about the, Sir?" (Obviously I'm not saying this as eloquently as Dr. Zacharias and I don't have the book in front of me to copy it exactly.) While this was a strong word for me personally, I thought instantly about the verses, "Come just as you are..." and "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted...". The closeness of God the relational aspect of our interaction are so incredibly important to me...but they do not negate the fact that He is God and He is holy. I'm realizing that I know God as approachable, someone I can be myself with, and someone I have regular conversation with. I know so much less about how His holiness needs to pervade my life and my respect for who He is. This one point alone would be cause for much healthy conversation in the church today. It is a healthy dialogue that this book, though written a good number of years ago now, resurfaced for me this week.

Sameh Maher says

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Rachel says

A very, very good book. It's deep--I actually read it through twice in a row, because I knew I didn't get much out of it the first time. My favorite of the Ravi Zacharias ones I've read so far.

3rd reading: fall 2011

Renee Ramos says

Books by this author are usually wonderful - I use them to keep myself sharp and grounded in a society where truth is blurred and absolute values are frowned upon. When I chose this book, though, I was looking for something soothing and devotional, and this book disappointed me.

Chon Rumthao says

This book was first recommended to me by one of my spiritual mentors, at a turbulent time when my entire world came crumbling down. A time when I began to wrestle with God with serious questions day and night, and night and day. The Bible before me would be wet with my tears in my attempt to unearth answers.

I began this book, with the hope that all my queries would be answered 'specifically'. In fact it did. This book led me to the discovery of God's own heart - not mine!! All the while, I had been foolishly focusing on my bitter and battered life. Not for one second had my heart rested on God or His opinion. It dawned to me that the cries of God's own heart must be allowed to echo through in my life, believing that He knows me too well to jeopardize my life!! Every child He loves must be chiselled and bent for a purpose, far too wonderful for the human mind to comprehend at the spur of the moment. I must say, that God's thoughts and ways are so much higher than ours! Profoundly humbled by this heart-opening piece of work.

Today, I have received all the answers I needed to know then. Thank you for this book. Be blessed...

Carl Herriott says

Ravi does an impressive job of taking this book in a direction I did not foresee. Looking into the heart of our pain and turning our eyes to our creator, Ravi shows what all of our hearts long for.

Ravi Zacharias is an extremely intelligent man; I just prefer different subject matter I guess.