

Religions of the Stars

✖ By Richard Abanes | Bethany House Publishers | softcover | 224 pages | \$

Richard Abanes—whose recent *A New Earth, an Old Deception* tackled the errors of Eckhart Tolle’s New Age manifesto, *A New Earth*—broadens his focus on the religious influences espoused by Hollywood’s elite with his latest book, *Religions of the Stars: What Hollywood Believes and How It Affects You*.

Abanes still devotes a portion of the book to Tolle and the New Age leanings of Tolle’s student Oprah Winfrey, but he also discusses other trendy religious worldviews such as Scientology, Kabbalah and even Mormonism, which are on the rise among celebrities, including the likes of Tom Cruise, Madonna and Gladys Knight.

The book is fair but forceful, giving Scripture-based rebuttals to contrast how each worldview opposes the central theology of Christianity, while also giving Cliffs Notes-type summaries for readers unfamiliar with various religions. It also documents when and which celebrities infuse their belief systems into their work or personal lives.

Going against the notion that celebrities don’t believe in anything, *Religions of the Stars* is somewhat eye-opening, revealing beliefs and faith tenets of marquee names that may surprise some readers. It’s an easy read and well-researched, although it may not appeal to those not interested in the trappings of Tinseltown.

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