

Clarion Review ★★★

RELIGION

The Gospel According to Alex Jones

Jay L. Hall True Truth Productions (202pp) 979-821835523-4

Calling its ideal audience of one to task for deviating from his earlier Christian principles, The Gospel According to Alex Jones is a caustic and esoteric text.

Jay L. Hall makes a case against Alex Jones in his political science book *The Gospel According to Alex Jones*.

Arguing that Alex Jones, the conspiracy theorist and founder of InfoWars, has lost his way by basing his theories on other, more violent, and less empathetic belief systems than Christianity, including Scientology and atheism, this is a text with a quite specific audience in mind. It urges Jones to reevaluate his agenda, abandon the "idol" of politics, and return to the Christian fold. Such arguments are based on distasteful remarks that Jones has made, here said to betray his original public intentions. Little is done to invite outside audiences into this exchange, though: the book's personal suppositions about Jones's worldview are shared without sufficient context, including its suggestions regarding Jones's earlier views and religious perspective.

Through rambling, taunting prose that depends on lengthy quotations of Jones and others, the book builds a disorganized series of arguments, moving between topics that do not always have an obvious connection to each other or to Jones. For example, in the middle of the unsubstantiated claim that Jones predicted the events of September 11, 2001, the book pauses to discuss a rap album cover that Jones does not appear to have been involved in. Further, several of its sources, including BitChute, are untrustworthy. The book also sometimes misrepresents what its sources say; for example, it claims that a CBS article proved that the French knew about 9/11 in advance, though the article itself states that French knowledge was much less thorough than the book implies.

While the book is critical of Jones's perceived lack of Christian principles, it also promotes many of the same conspiracy theories that Jones does, including the idea that the 2020 US presidential election was fraudulent. Offputting praise is directed to Jones for promoting unregulated health supplements and for attracting a multitude of celebrities to his radio show. And the book's gestures to a satanic deep state at play, as well as to a new world order, have antisemitic undertones.

Grammatical and formatting errors are present throughout. Hashtags, links, needless initials, and self-promotional blurbs often interrupt the flow of the book's arguments. In uplifting its own brand of Christianity as the only true religion, the book denigrates other faiths and their adherents as "evil" and "morally disabled." All of these factors contribute to the general judgmental, mocking tone that undermines the book's positions and credibility.

With traditional religious principles in mind, *The Gospel According to Alex Jones* issues a stern exhortation to the eponymous radio host.

EILEEN GONZALEZ (March 15, 2024)

