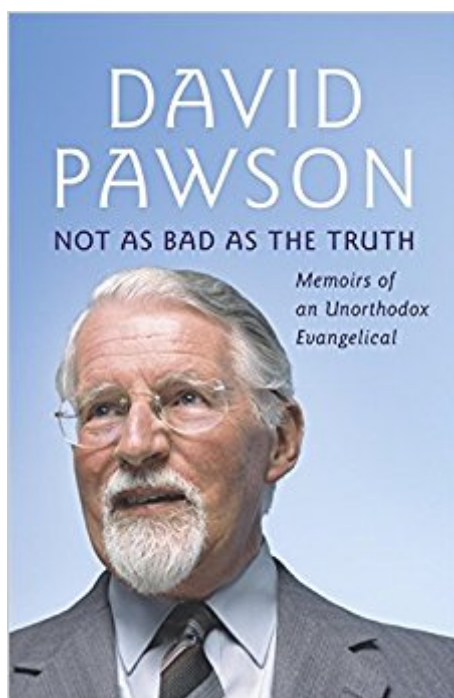


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# Not As Bad As The Truth: Memoirs Of An Unorthodox Evangelical



## Synopsis

David Pawson is one of the most fascinating characters and sharpest thinkers in the evangelical church. *Not As Bad As The Truth* is Pawson's written legacy to the Church. It will summarise the essence of his "unorthodox evangelical" theology, including his beliefs on baptism, Israel, salvation, the End Times, male leadership, and divorce and remarriage. It will also discuss with honesty and insight the most significant events of his personal life, childhood and formative years, his failing health, and the blessings and challenges of family life.

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## Customer Reviews

David Pawson has an itinerant ministry to church leaders in the UK and overseas. He is the author of numerous books, and has never been afraid to speak out for biblical truth even when his teaching has gone against the tide of popular opinion.

Reading David Pawson's "Not as Bad as the Truth" is like taking a modern "Pilgrim's Progress" journey with the well known evangelical pastor and teacher. Understanding Mr. Pawson's spiritual experiences helps to explain the authenticity and integrity of his many Bible teaching books. A list of well known "names dropped" --people like Billy Graham and Joni Erickson Tada--is not bragging on Pawson's part. It simply helps the reader to understand how broad the author's spiritual interests and acquaintances have been. I liked that the book did not put Pawson on a pedestal. He says that he does have some feelings of regret about his life, and does "suffer inwardly from a lack of

self-esteem." Like the rest of us, he admits to "a constant need of reassurance." In short, this is a very human document, with constant reminders of how God can take one person's life and use it amazingly. The book is apparently not available in Kindle format, but it's a nicely produced paperback which came very speedily from the UK.

I can see why he is one of the best teachers in the last 100 years.

What a wonderful book. Faith E

He is so good at laying out his arguments. I used to believe OSAS, not any more. The bible is so clear about this. Read his book, it will open your eyes like none other. You can listen to his recordings at [...]. He is one of the best bible teachers I have known. Reading his books is even better. The whole "Unlocking the bible" can be digitally downloaded to iBOOK. Wonderful godly man who really searched the truth and found it. So many others are just copy cats.

A lifetime of experience shared with honesty and intelligence. Anyone looking for reality in an age of froth would not be disappointed

Not as bad as the truth, indeed.

If you read First Covenant Scripture you will see that genuine servants of the living God are boat-rockers with uncomfortable messages; false prophets on the other hand, were status-quoers with cozy messages that strengthened hands to CONTINUE in filth (Jeremiah 23:14-17). The same TRUTH or TICKLE situation is with us during this New-Covenant period of world history - note the words of Messiah Yeshua in Matthew 5:11-12 and Luke 6:26. Given 2 Timothy 4:3-4, can we ever expect a man of David's scriptural integrity to feature near the top of a 'Christian' best-seller list? Though a TICKLING teacher can find himself exalted into a 'megachurch' 'pulpit,' Jeremiah found himself lowered into a cistern; and Yeshua (who is TRUTH personified), was nailed to a cross at Golgotha. (Little wonder David is looking forward to meeting Jeremiah.) That said, to humble, authentic cross-carriers who are willing to be nourished by a stellar Bible teacher (and also be rid of any wineskin teaching that they've picked up along the Way), David's teaching is as a banquet to a starving man. In fact, David is what I would call a New-Covenant EZRAMIAH: he is an Ezra and Jeremiah rolled into one! Ezra-wise, he is STEEPED in Holy Scripture; Jeremiah-wise, he stands

strong against the tide. No man is infallible. That said, if infallibility was represented as a perfect sphere, I know no one as well-rounded as David Pawson; he has fewer doctrinal bumps than any other teacher I've found! To give you some idea of his pedigree, Corrie Ten Boom used to listen to his tapes in her final years; Elisabeth Elliot (no less) wrote the foreword to his book on leadership; and, he has counted among his friends, such outstanding disciples as Richard Wurmbrand. Above soundness in the basics (like the Trinity), his specialist areas of expertise are as follows: truly trinitarian (vs - in effect - binitarian) evangelism; gender roles; and marriage. He is also a formidable voice on the (LAST of the) Last Days; and, I'm glad to say he loves Israel (people and place). David knows how to skillfully convey his understanding to his listeners/readers. Consequence? Well, I think there may be umpteen folk around the globe, who would tell you they've learned more from David in a few weeks, than in years and years of [sincere but somewhat inept] Sunday "sermons."\*\*\*\*\*Note this intriguing quote: 'My father liked to claim direct descent from John Pawson, one of John Wesley's earliest and best-known colleagues ...' (Chapter 1: 'Family Trees.')

Life and teaching are interwoven in this book; this is a HYBRID autobiography: David's autobiography is an engaging read - not only does he take us through his pilgrimage to date, he also discusses the array of burdens on his heart. In fact, David has packed discussion of the narrow Way into his personal story to such an extent, that this book is perhaps best thought of as a HYBRID; chapters 8, 9, 10, 16 and 17 for instance, offer more practical insight on Body-life, than you might find in most books dedicated to the subject. In chapter 8 we have David (who is one of Messiah's finest ever Body-CHEFS, so to speak), discussing the paramount importance of making sure disciples are fed nutritious teaching of excellent and easily digestible quality (something David indeed provides). In chapter 9 we have David discussing a period of his life he describes as 'binitarian' (not in CREED, but in day-to-day EFFECT). David Pawson was converted around 1947, aged 17, but it was not until 1964 that he understood what it was to RECEIVE and be BAPTISED in the Holy Spirit in a manner consistent with Acts 2:4/8:18/10:44-47/19:6 - he does not want anyone else to have to wait that long. His own inadequate initiation perhaps explains why making sure responders have been PROPERLY evangelized is one of the biggest burdens of his life. In chapter 10 we have David discussing the fact that the physical descendents of Jacob (that is, the Jewish people; known in Old AND New-Covenant Scripture as Israel) have not been somehow shelved (as advocates of 'Replacement/Fulfillment' Theology may not say, but seem to think). In chapters 16 and 17 we have David discussing an array of scriptural square-peg views that simply will not fit into any (denominational; wineskin) round-hole. Yes indeed, there is more rudder-hits-the-road nutrition in these chapters alone, than you are likely to find in many dedicated teaching books.\*\*\*\*\*The

teacher who dares to RIDE the ELEPHANTS many teachers IGNORE: There seem so few Bible teachers of his CALIBER in the West. Have you ever counted the ELEPHANTS on the mount?! Out of sheer integrity, David not only points them out, he actually dares to ride them; and sat on top of one elephant or another, he says 'Hey guys, look what Jesus actually said!' Indeed (and as he relates in this book), when a faithful elephant-riding servant of Yeshua like David goes home to his wife (after teaching at a new location), Enid asks him if it was another 'DOUBLE VISIT'; meaning, did it turn out to be his first and last rolled into one! David's regular 'double visits' are actually a rather reassuring sign of his integrity. Messiah's message is both SWEET and SOUR. If one could represent Messiah's message as A, B, C and D, in David Pawson you have someone who will indeed echo A, B, C and D. Sadly (and noting 2 Timothy 4:3-4), many Bible teachers today will echo A and B, but C and D go unmentioned. David is an all-too-rare FAITHFUL and TRUE REPRESENTATIVE of his Master. Western believers are accustomed to one-sided, unchallenging (A and B) Sunday messages (that are completely void of serious Gehenna warnings). How many congregations in the West would invite Yeshua back (with His A, B, C and D message) for a SECOND time?! Dear me, 'evangelicals' like hearing about forgiveness and Messiah's PROMISES; but just don't mention the elephants; just don't mention the OTHER SIDE of the coin (i.e. some of Messiah's toughest teaching and WARNINGS)! May the living God give the Body umpteen men like David Pawson; men who are willing to bear the reproach of Messiah and stand shoulder to shoulder with Him - even on the most inconvenient and ostracizing of issues; men who are willing to contend for the faith - in love (note Galatians 4:16 and Proverbs 28:23).\*\*\*\*\*David's superb '2 Kings 7' INFORMATION Banquet: Above soundness in the fundamentals (like the Trinity), David's key areas of expertise are as follows: evangelism; gender roles; and marriage. He is also a key teacher on the End Times. This autobiography is the ideal introduction to the teacher behind the stellar teaching. The TWO most important books he's ever written, are these (ideally bought as a pair): The Normal Christian Birth: How to Give New Believers a Proper Start in Life - David's MOST IMPORTANT book. Remarriage is Adultery Unless - On marriage. His other key teaching books are as follows: Jesus Baptises in one Holy Spirit - On evangelism; specifically on RECEIVING the Holy Spirit. Practising the Principles of Prayer - An UNSUNG and practical look at prayer. Leadership is Male: What does the Bible say? - On gender roles. Word and Spirit Together: Uniting Charismatics and Evangelicals - On the need for BALANCE. Once Saved, Always Saved?: A Study in Perseverance and Inheritance - On the falsity of "Eternal Security." David has his own YouTube channel; do go see. Note: This autobiography is now out on Kindle. At the least, do download a free sample.\*\*\*\*\*General Comment: I've read dozens of

books ABOUT Scripture: autobiographies; accounts of so-called "Church History

IF you have not heard of David Pawson, in the USA he is one of England's secrets. I only began reading and listening to David Pawson recently. This was the second book that I read by him. I have since read 5-6 other books, and also listened to 15-20 of his teachings on DVD and MP3. I like and agree with almost everything that he teaches, which is saying something for me. I often find things that I disagree with what others are teaching. I loved his autobiography here. He shares his life, the ups and downs, and how he came to where he is today. Not only where he is in his life, but also in what he believes and how he came to believe what he does. It is very relevant of HOW we come to believe what we do. Is it by listening to OTHERS teach or through personal experience, with God leading and teaching us? Some today like to criticize "experience" oriented Christians! My observation is that IF you have true faith then you SHOULD experience 'something'. If we do not experience ANYTHING then I would think that our faith is dead. We need to be RAISED from dead theories, dead doctrines, and dead religion - to NEW LIFE in Jesus. If we are then we WILL experience something. :-)

I both laughed and cried as I read about David's life. I usually read heavy stuff, the deeper life, the cross, problems with the Church, etc. I always enjoy reading about someone's life and their testimony to God's faithfulness. Did you know that MOST revivals start with or are maintained by peoples testimonies? NOT testimonies of what they have done or who THEY are but testimonies of what God has done, of His love, His faithfulness and HIS POWER. We do serve a God of POWER. You who deny that BEWARE and READ II Tim. 3:5. You won't be disappointed here with David Pawson's autobiography, a testimony to God's faithfulness to his servant...

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