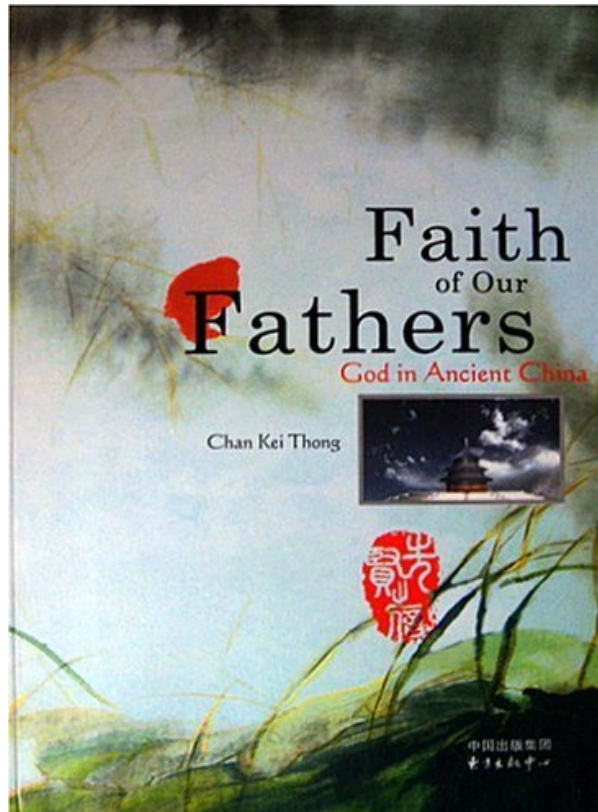
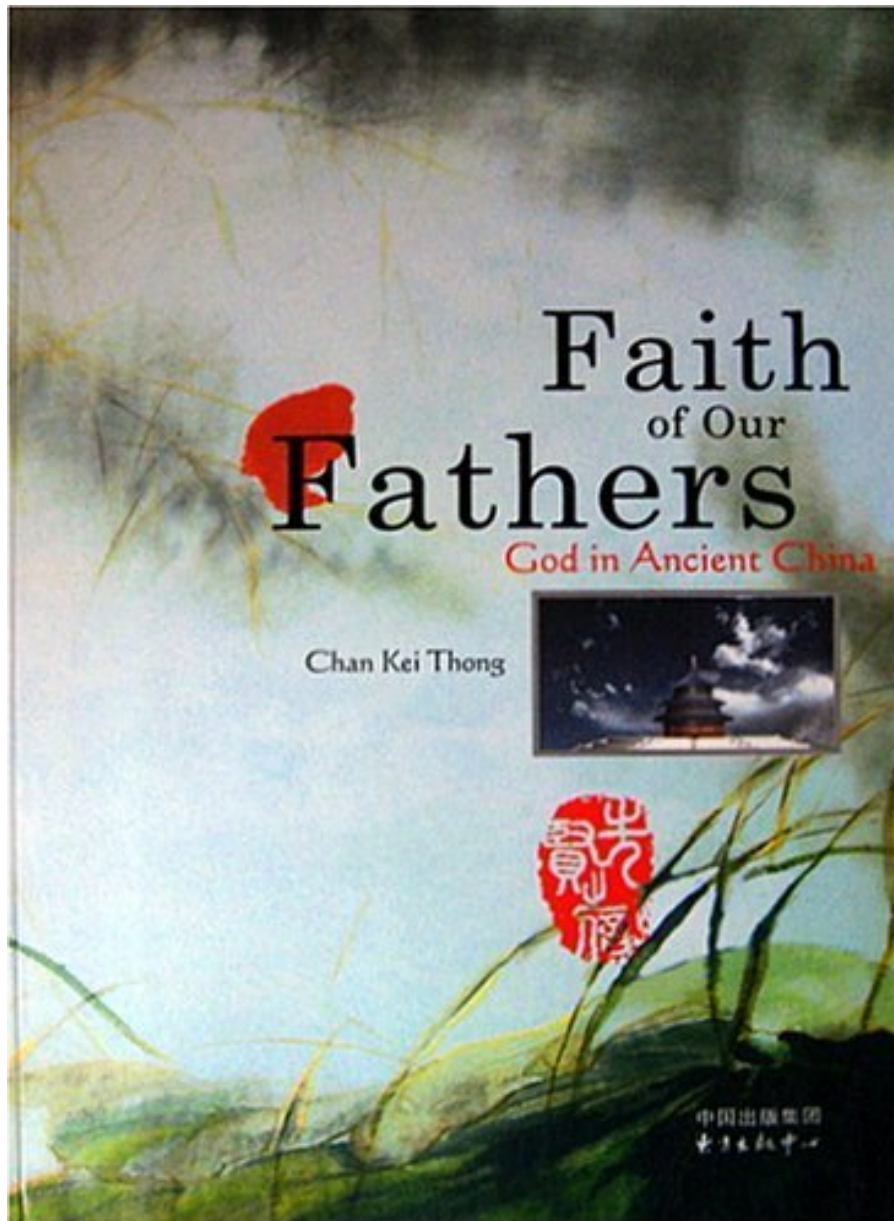


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FAITH OF OUR FATHERS BY CHAN KEI THONG PDF

Chan Kei Thong has brought up an interesting discussion about the relationship between God, China and its language. He thinks that China and Israel both share a long history with rich cultures. Due to the many similarities and belief in God as the only Creator, the author points out in detail how Chinese characters manifest historical evidences and many aspects recorded in the Bible. He claims China's 4000 years of history as proof to support that God has never left this country. Like New: Pages are clean and are not marred by notes or folds.

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- 323 pages

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12 of 12 people found the following review helpful.

Interesting, but with Flaws

By April Knapp

Chan definitely brings up an interesting discussion in Faith of Our Fathers. The meat of the book (and most compelling evidence) is his section on the meaning of Chinese characters (writing) and how they reflect Biblical accounts and ideas. This is an idea I've noticed and have been intrigued by since I studied abroad in China. For example, the character for "righteousness" is a pictograph of a lamb being slain over a person, indicating that the Ancient Chinese recognized a need for a sacrifice in order to be made righteous. And there are tons like this that Chan points out.

Another compelling section is his citing of Ancient Chinese writings which show the Ancient Chinese peoples' view and understanding of God. It is interesting just of similar their religious practices and views of God were to the Ancient Hebrews.

I also enjoyed his section about Ancient Chinese astronomy and their interpretations of the stars. It sounds crazy, but it's really interesting how their recordings actually match up with biblical text.

However, I had some major problems with this book. Chan seems to stretch his historical interpretation a bit in order to make things fit his hypothesis. While the above mentioned sections were great, there are other parts of this book that were not stable. For example, he claims that the Ancient Chinese practice of ancestral worship is actually NOT worship or idolatry, but just paying respects. I have never heard this from any other historian and it is a known fact that ancestor worship is practiced today, especially amongst Chinese minority groups, and it is indeed worship. Some of his stretched historical interpretations made me question the book's validity.

I also was skeptical with Chan's interpretation of the Dao De Jing, the book from which Taoists base their beliefs., because he is not an expert nor is his interpretation like any other scholars who've studied the Dao

De Jing.

I believe the Bible is Truth, so it is hard for me to suspend that belief while reviewing a book about God and truth in text. I was uncomfortable with Chan holding Dao text and Ancient Chinese text at the same truth level as the Bible, especially because Chan is a Christian and this book is unashamedly evangelical. Yes, all Truth is God's Truth and there may be some truth in other texts, but to hold it at the same level as the authority of the Bible is a dangerous step for a Christian. It seemed like another stretch of Chan's to convince Chinese readers that their ancestors were actually Bible-believers.

While I agree that there is compelling evidence that the Ancient Chinese had some biblical influence, I cannot fully grasp Chan's argument that the god they worshiped was the same exact God of the Old Testament. My personal opinion is that a more accurate conclusion would be that God preserved ideas about Himself in the Chinese culture, but their idea of God was not completely biblical.

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful.

Deeply Moving

By Gregory Simkins

I was deeply moved by reading Faith of Our Fathers: God in Ancient China by Chan Kei Thong. The book is both beautifully written and beautifully illustrated. This story is quite satisfying because it substantiates the view that the God who is worshipped by Christians is truly the God of all the earth and of all peoples and is not just a Western construct. Each chapter provides a new evidence that the God worshipped by the ancient Chinese is indeed the same God who sent his son Jesus Christ to be the Savior of all mankind. Each chapter concludes with the author's appeal to the reader to accept Jesus as his own personal savior. The author adds his own testimony that the evidence of which he writes moved him from a position to atheism to faith. I found that I was moved to handle this book with reverence as if it were the Bible itself. I recommend this book to all Christians and to all who would like to know God. This book tells not only the story of China, but of the Gospel itself.

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful.

A Fascinating Linkage

By J. Bullard

Faith of Our Fathers is an incisive, well researched document that needs to be read by every American who tends to think of the Chinese as "them" versus "us." While some of the early chapters were a tough read when they explained the meanings and interpretations of Chinese characters, any reader who has ever stood on the "emperor's disc" at the Temple of Heaven in Beijing can draw a comparison to the annual ritual in the Holy of Holies practiced once a year by the Jewish high priest.

Some of the author's conclusions were a bit of a stretch based on available evidence; yet, many of his conclusions are acceptable to the degree they support the beliefs of the individual reader.

For any thoughtful reader seeking one more bridge of commonality with the Chinese, Faith of Our Fathers is an excellent and thought-provoking read.

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