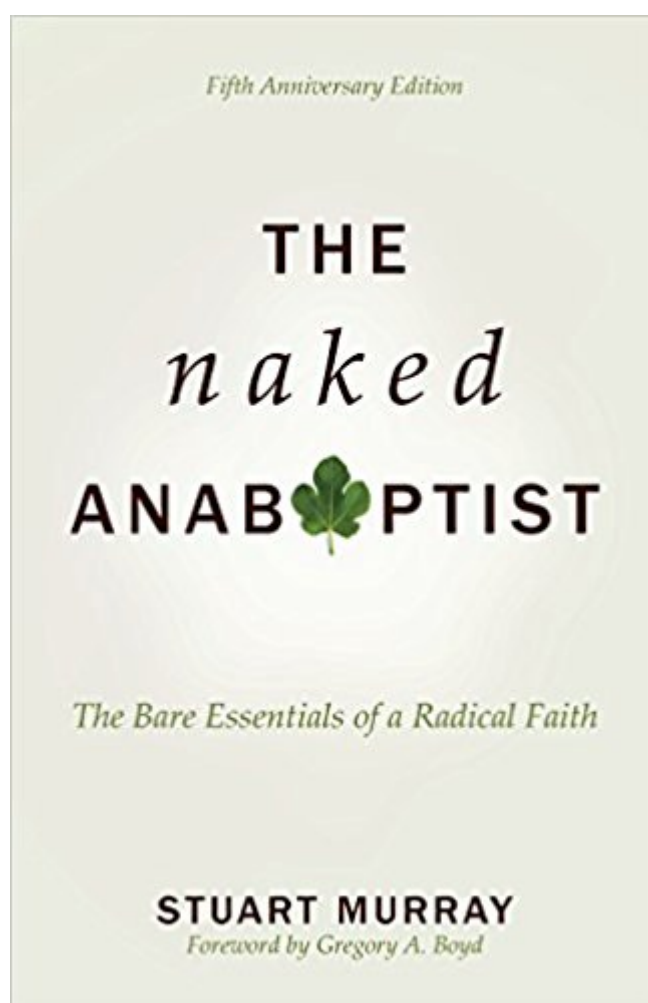


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# The Naked Anabaptist: The Bare Essentials Of A Radical Faith, Fifth Anniversary Edition



## Synopsis

Anabaptist Christians have been around for almost 500 years. But what does Anabaptism look like when not clothed in Mennonite or Amish traditions? Writing from Great Britain, Stuart Murray peels back the layers to reveal the core components of Anabaptism and what they mean for faith in his context and ours. It's a way of following Jesus that challenges, disturbs, and inspires us, summoning us to wholehearted discipleship and worship. Read this book, and catch a vision for living a life of radical faith!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Naked Anabaptist needed to be written, and I can't imagine anyone better than Stuart Murray to write it. I fully share Stuart's enthusiasm for what the Christian community at large can learn from the Anabaptist way of being Christian, and I hope you'll share my enthusiasm for this book. Please read it and encourage others to do the same! --Brian D. McLaren, author/speaker/activist

The Anabaptists are beginning to make more and more sense to a world that is increasingly aware of the emptiness of materialism and the ugliness of militarism. Anabaptist logic is rooted in the wisdom of the cross of Jesus, which Scripture says confounds the wisdom of this world. It seems the world is poised for a new Anabaptist movement, and The Naked Anabaptist may well be the spark that lights the fire.--Shane Claiborne, author of The Irresistible Revolution

I am finding a growing hunger for a more authentic whole-life faith that makes a difference in the lives of others. Many are discovering their answer in the Anabaptist witness, as I did 30 years ago. The Naked Anabaptist is a treasure for those who want to become more faithful followers of Jesus in our troubled world. Stuart Murray

compellingly explains how the Anabaptist witness calls us to take Jesus seriously in every area of our lives and in response to the urgent issues of peace and justice that fill our world. --Tom Sine, author of *The New Conspirators*

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There's a movement afoot . . . In churches and kitchens and neighborhood centers across the world, communities of Jesus-followers are crafting a commitment to peace and a vision of radical service. Disillusioned with churches wedded to wealth and conquest, many are finding a home in a Christian tradition almost five centuries old: Anabaptism. But who are the Anabaptists? What do they believe? What makes them different from other Christians? And can you become an Anabaptist without leaving your own church? Follow Stuart Murray as he peels back the layers to reveal the core convictions of Anabaptist Christianity. Glimpse an alternative to the nationalism and materialism embedded in contemporary Christianity. With new stories from young Anabaptists and expanded reflections on the loss of Christian influence in wider culture, the fifth anniversary edition of *The Naked Anabaptist* will strengthen readers' allegiance to the way of Jesus that disturbs and inspires. If you seek a community of authentic discipleship and heartfelt worship, of simple living and radical peacemaking, consider this your invitation.

The book *The Naked Anabaptist*, was recommended by a friend and Christian minister when I lamented feeling pretty much alone in my beliefs about the sin of war and the materialism that so dominates the American psyche in these modern times. Stuart Murray shockingly uses the term "post Christendom" and then proceeds to show that the new Christian is finding new truths in Jesus' "sermon on the mount". That, simply believing, is WAY different than actually following the example of unconditional love and peace/justice as demonstrated when He walked and spoke while on

Earth. Sometimes the book's a little deep in theology but there's no law that prevents me from skipping pages to find the more understandable parts and then going back. I think the author is right on target with this book and it turns out I'm far from being alone. Thank you for making it available.

The Naked Anabaptist is indeed a great book that lifts the veil of modern day perceptions about the Anabaptist tradition and see what the Anabaptists truly believe. It allows its reader to look past the Amish family riding a horse-drawn carriage in Pennsylvania and see why they live the way they do based on Biblical principles. The same can be said for the Mennonites and Hutterites too. In principle, the Anabaptist tradition is in my view perhaps the closest thing we have to true Biblical and Kingdom Christianity; and the closest thing to the teachings of Christ. I don't agree with all of the Anabaptist tradition and theology for some of the reasons the author addresses in the last chapter of this book. However, in most part the Anabaptist tradition is what Christ taught and something I want to be a part of. Although this book is addressed to anyone interested in learning more about the allusive Anabaptist traditions, it is clearly written primarily to those in Great Britain and Ireland. As an American I would have loved it if the author addressed some issues relating to contemporary Anabaptist traditions and communities in America besides the Amish communities of Pennsylvania. It seems our only choices are the Amish and the Mennonites. If only there are more progressive and contemporary versions of Anabaptist thought in America. It saddens me that the author takes liberty in joining the Emerging Church with Anabaptist tradition even though they are diametrically opposed on major theological issues. The Emerging Church certainly has a lot to offer to Christianity, especially in light of the dismantling of institutional Christendom. But, the Emerging Church also has a lot of red flags that need to be weeded through before Christians truly embrace it. When all is said and done, The Naked Anabaptist is a wonderful book that offers a lot of great insight into Anabaptist traditions and beliefs both in the past, present, and what it may look like in the future. Great book that I recommend to anyone who sees what Anabaptist thinking can offer to a failing Christendom.

This book is a great introduction into the rich history and life of anabaptists. Thankful for this and thankful for them!

Stuart Murray has written a book not just for those who are traditionally and denominationally Anabaptist, but for those of us seeking to be Christ-followers in a post-modern, post-Christendom age. Though the characteristics of Anabaptist Christianity have always been appropriate, Murray

helps us move into a way of being Christian that particularly meets the times.

Murray provides a good overview of the most important and unifying values of Anabaptism. He is enthusiastic about the voice of the contemporary Anabaptist movement and what it has to offer the wider Church. He is a bit wordy, even redundant, at times and one may gain a reasonable understanding of his material with a more cursory reading.

This book has much truth that many in today's world are afraid to look in the face.

If you don't feel like you fit in anywhere in the current landscape of Christianity, read this book!

Great insight

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