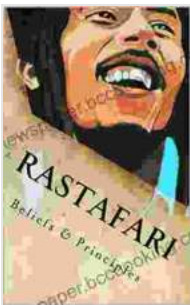


Rasta Beliefs: Zion, Babylon, and the Bible

The Rastafari movement, rooted in the teachings of Marcus Garvey and the coronation of Haile Selassie I as the King of Ethiopia, is a unique and multifaceted spiritual and cultural phenomenon. Central to Rasta beliefs are the concepts of Zion, Babylon, and the Bible, which form the bedrock of their worldview and provide guidance for their way of life.

Zion: The Promised Land



Rastafari; Beliefs & Principles: Rasta beliefs & Principles about Zion and Babylon and the Bible

by Lionel Cruzille

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

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Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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For Rastafari, Zion represents the promised land, a spiritual and physical haven where the righteous will dwell in peace and harmony. It is often equated with Ethiopia, the ancient African kingdom believed to be the birthplace of Rastafarianism. Zion is a symbol of hope and a longing for a better world, free from oppression and injustice.

Babylon: The City of Oppression

RASTAFARIAN SYMBOLS

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The Rastafari religion and culture are full of unique concepts and symbols. From their music, hair, clothing styles, and diet, all the way to the unique dialect, phrases, and written symbols, the Rastafarian people have some of the most fascinating symbols and metaphors in the world.



Rastafari Flag: Features the colors of the Ethiopian flag and the Lion of Judah.

Star of David: Symbolizes the belief that Rastafarians are descendants of the Hebrew.



Marijuana/Ganja: Believed to help believers get closer to Jah.

Dreadlocks: Considered a sacred hairstyle, as well as a form of rebellion against Western standards.



Reggae: A form of music whereby the Rastafarian tenets have been spread.



Jah Rastafari: The name of God in Rastafarian religion.

Babylon, on the other hand, represents the oppressive and corrupt system that governs the world. It symbolizes the forces that perpetuate poverty, racism, and injustice. Rastafari see Babylon as a metaphor for any oppressive system that seeks to control and exploit the people.

The Bible: A Sacred Text

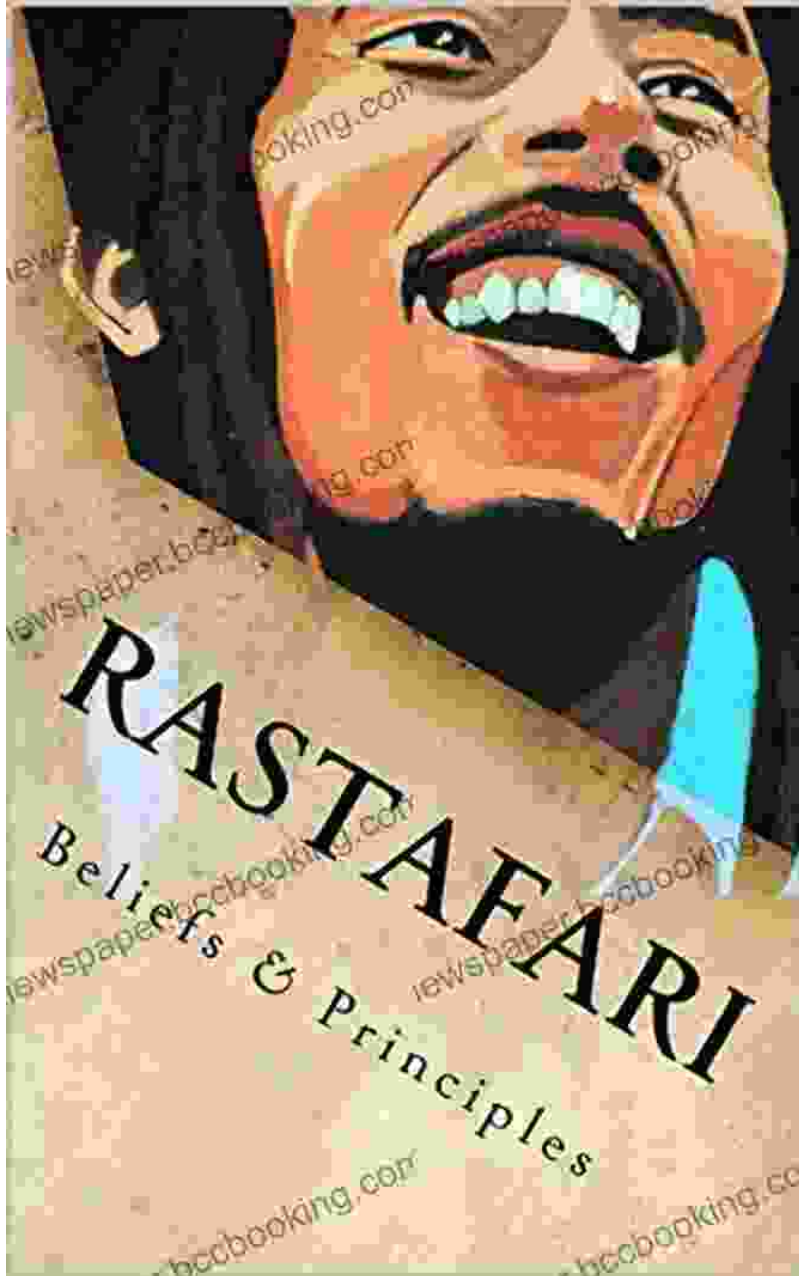
The Bible holds a central place in Rasta beliefs. Rastafari consider the Bible to be a sacred text, but they interpret it through their own unique lens. They see the stories and teachings of the Bible as allegories that reveal the true nature of reality and the path to liberation.

Marcus Garvey and the Rastafari Movement



Marcus Garvey played a pivotal role in shaping the development of Rastafari beliefs. Garvey, a Jamaican-born activist, advocated for the empowerment of the African diaspora and the establishment of a united African nation. His teachings resonated strongly with Rastafari, who saw him as a prophet and a symbol of resistance against oppression.

Haile Selassie I: The Living God

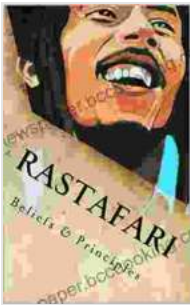


The coronation of Haile Selassie I as Emperor of Ethiopia in 1930 was a defining moment for the Rastafari movement. Rastafari believe that Selassie I was the second coming of Jesus Christ, the living incarnation of God on Earth. They revere Selassie I as a spiritual leader and a guide on their path towards Zion.

Rasta Culture and Practices

Rasta beliefs have also influenced the unique culture and practices associated with the movement. Rastafari often wear dreadlocks, which symbolize their connection to their African roots and their spiritual journey. They adhere to a strict diet known as Ital, which emphasizes natural and unprocessed foods.

Rasta beliefs are a complex and dynamic system that provides a framework for understanding the world and living a righteous life. The concepts of Zion, Babylon, and the Bible are central to their worldview, guiding their spiritual practices and their pursuit of a just and harmonious society. By exploring these beliefs, we gain deeper insights into the rich tapestry of the Rastafari movement and its enduring legacy.



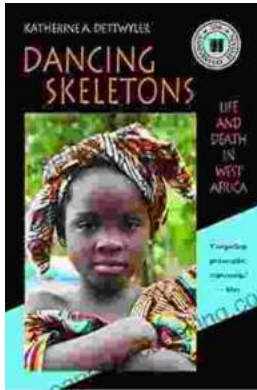
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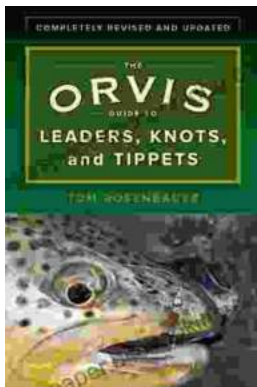
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