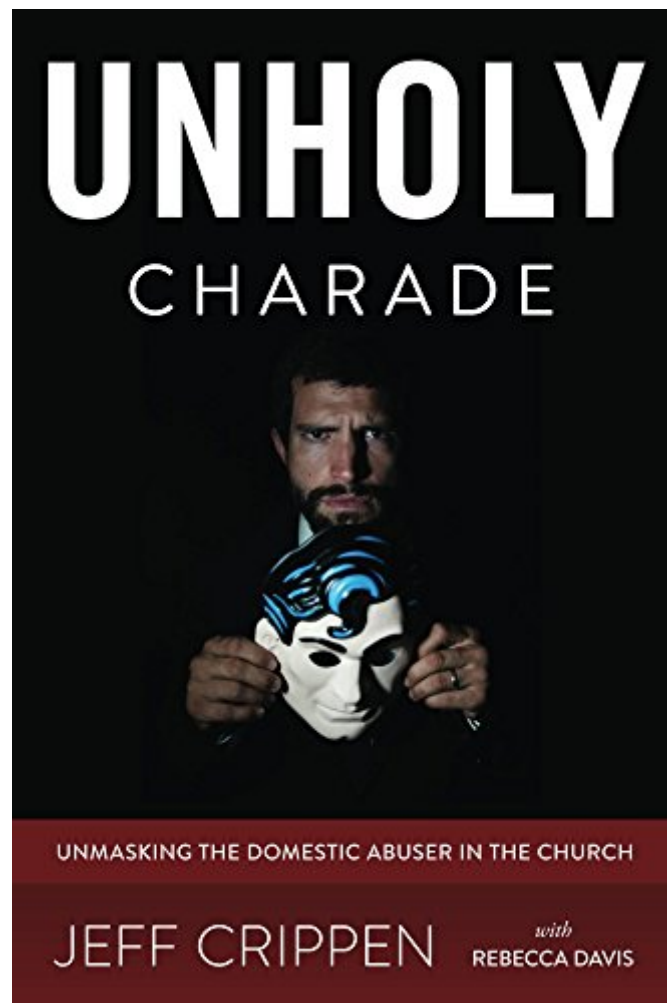




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Unholy Charade: Unmasking The Domestic Abuser In The Church



Synopsis

Could it be that the one who is smiling at you as he hands you the offering plate is abusing his wife at home? What if your Sunday school teacher, who knows so much about the Bible, is abusing his family behind closed doors? Is it possible that one of the elders or even the pastor of your church is practicing an unholy charade? If the spouse of one of these abusers comes to you for help, would you even be able to recognize the signs? How will you understand the dynamics of this deceiving evil? Pastor and author Jeff Crippen presents Christ's body with a work steeped in Scripture that lays before us a map of the abusive mind, the tactics of abuse, the effects abuse has on its victims, and the tragic way our churches have failed the victims of this sin. He issues a clarion call for those who love Christ to answer the call to love the oppressed and speak for the victims, as Proverbs 31:9 says: "Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy." Together we can root out the wolves in the midst of the flock and unmask the domestic abuser in the church hiding in our pews.

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Customer Reviews

I found Pastor Crippen's first book shortly after I separated from my now ex-husband almost 3 years ago. I had been married for 16 years to an verbally abusive sex addict. The first book gave me such closure from 16 years worth of unanswered questions, it was literally like a balm for a gaping wound. I often refer to his first book when I have questions in my life about my ex. But...this book -- Wow. I bought it a few days before what would have been my 18th wedding anniversary and waited to read it on that very day. I read it in one sitting, along with a highlighter that I literally used up highlighting verses and wisdom. This book saved me from another day, another hour, another moment of despair. The wisdom that I gleaned in this book is so powerful, so liberating, it has allowed me to stop feeling guilty for the divorce and start the healthy process of healing and moving on. After being ostracized from the church I had attended for many years due to the lies my ex spread about me before, during, and after the divorce process, I now understand my ex-husband's evil and unholy charade. Thank you, Pastor Crippen, from the bottom of my heart. Your work and ministry are God's gift to the world.

If I could give this book 100 stars, I would. It's about time the issue of abuse was addressed by the 'church'. We are the ones who are supposed to be addressing these issues, not hiding from them. Thank God for people like these authors who have the guts to speak up for victims of abuse, exposing the tactics and mindset of the abuser, and backing it up with scripture the right way instead of twisting it as some very well known pastors have done. If you have been a victim of abuse, or know a victim of abuse, I HIGHLY recommend this book as a valuable resource.

A healing balm of understanding for abuse victims. A plainly written, using life examples, book about what abuse is like in its many ugly forms and what life is like after a victim leaves. This book is like reading an abuse victim's biography. If you are a pastor, counselor, etc, or care about someone who you believe has experienced abuse, read this book. Buy this book and give copies to your pastor. Share this book with victims of abuse.

This is the book that should be required reading in every seminary. For too many years the church has covered up abuse of the worse kind while enabling the abusers to continue their evil work. Jesus hates that. In fact, Jesus said it was better that a millstone be tied around the person and

them thrown into the sea than to hurt one of God's little children, but today far too many church leaders have forgotten that. This book is such a timely message that needs to be read and reread and fully absorbed. Jeff Crippen does a powerful job of ripping off the cover of the ways that manipulators work to expose the hidden works of darkness. This is a very easy to absorb, fascinating and well-written manual on how to recognize the good from the bad. Jesus told us that we would know them by their fruit---Jeff really helps us understand how to recognize the fruit in practical ways. God forgive us for allowing this to go on for far too long because the ministry was more important than the people-----if Jesus would have died for even just one person then how can the church keep allowing abusers into positions of leadership where they can access way too many people? Since abusers are highly skilled at pulling the wool over everyone----this is the book that helps you see clearly what's really happening. Thank you Jeff for writing what everyone else is afraid to say.

This book fills a great need for both our churches and for those suffering from domestic abuse. Pastor Crippen provides heartfelt support and validation for abuse victims and issues a call to our churches to wake up and support those so oppressed. He discusses the sinful, unregenerate nature of the abuser, as well as the bi-lateral nature of the marriage covenant, which the abuser willfully and repeatedly breaks. He provides suggestions for churches to minister to victims of abuse, and how the church should respond to the abuser. This book includes extensive scriptural references, which form the basis for the recommendations and suggestions offered. I wish every church book library had a copy of this book, and that pastors and church members would read it. There may very well be someone next to you in the church pew who is currently being abused- this book opens up the heart of the congregants to support the abused and use church discipline to deal appropriately with the offender. Pastor Crippen also has a website www.cryingoutforjustice.com, which is a safe place for abuse victims to find support and scriptural nourishment. Pastor Crippen was a police officer for many years and has been a pastor for 20+ years and knows this subject thoroughly. I believe his ministry is a blessing from God and I thank him for writing this book.

This book gave me comfort as I ended up divorcing my abusive 'Christian' husband. I really wanted to make the marriage work, but when your spouse is abusive and just exploits your Christian beliefs to continue his actions, something's gotta give. This book opened my eyes to the fact that he was willfully sinning by continuing to be verbally and psychologically abusive to me and that he decimated our marriage vows.

This is the first and only book I have found dealing head-on with this insidious problem. Its insights are spot on. If read and applied by pastors and concerned parishioners, countless heartaches will be reduced and terrible injustices avoided.--LM

I found this book to be eye-opening! I would recommend that every Christian read it and gain understanding of this important subject as presented so thoroughly by Jeff Crippen. I plan to order several more to share.

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