

NICK PAGE

Speaking, Teaching,
Applied Ranting



'OCCUPY THE BIBLE' EDITION

NOW BOOKING



Writer's Retreat: Spain June 11-15

I'm thrilled to be leading a retreat for writers in Spain at the rather lovely El Palmeral retreat centre. It runs from June 11th-15th and will be a chance for you to relax, recharge and refocus on your writing. So if you need time and space (and warmth) to write, this is perfect for you. There will be a mix of structured workshops and informal feedback. For more info, go to their website



Le Pas Opton July 23-30

I'm back at Le Pas Opton this summer – the Spring Harvest holiday venue in France – one of my favourite places to go. I'll be leading Bible studies, preaching in the evening and drinking Hoegaarden. Although not necessarily in that order. [Go to website.](#)

NICK PAGE: OCCUPY THE BIBLE

Hope you like the new publicity picture! Personally I think it's subtle and not at all over the top. This stuff is for churches/conferences/organisations/deluded people who are interested in inviting me to speak. I hope it doesn't feel too corporate, but it covers the kind of questions I usually get asked. And one of the most frequent is, 'can you send some blurb about yourself?' So, here you go...

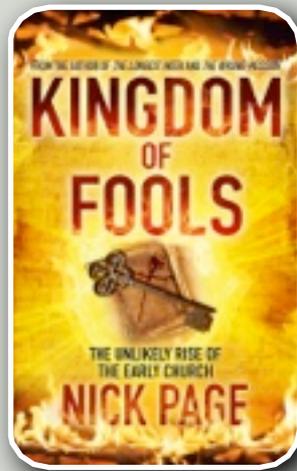
ABOUT NICK... THE OFFICIAL BLURB

Nick Page is the author of over seventy books for adults and children, including *The Bible Book*, *The Longest Week*, and *The Wrong Messiah*. A popular speaker and teacher, he describes himself as an 'unlicensed historian'. His new book – *Kingdom of Fools: The unlikely rise of the Early Church* – will be published in May. When he grows up he wants to be George Orwell.

"Nick Page is a real gift, not just to the church, but to all who enjoy the combination of profound thought and a genuinely funny sense of humour. He makes learning a pleasure, and being able to do that is a great talent."

Adrian Plass

COMING SOON...



In May 2012 (Pentecost, appropriately) Hodder will be publishing my latest book – *Kingdom of Fools: The Unlikely Rise of the Early Church*. This is the next in *The Longest Week/Wrong Messiah* series and will tell the history behind the New Testament letters and the book of Acts. It's the result of a long period of research – and those who have heard me speak on Acts will have an inkling of the kind of things I will be exploring in the book.

Creative Writing Week: Letton Hall, Norfolk

Sept 17-20

Claire and I will be leading a week of workshops and teaching in the lovely setting of north Norfolk. For more info, [visit their website](#)



SINGLE TALKS (OR TWO-PARTERS)



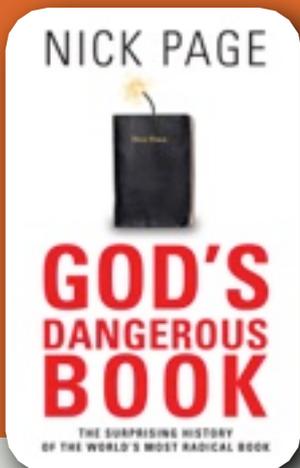
FOURTH CENTURY BAPTISTRY
FROM EPHESUS



'GOD WITH US' GERMAN NAZI
MILITARY BELT



DEAD MAN WALKING: THE
RESURRECTION OF JESUS



How to Join the Early Church

A look at discipleship in the Early Church. Joining the Early Church was demanding. From the start, converts had to be prepared to be marginalised, ostracised, even to die. So how did the Early Church recruit people? What made it an attractive option? How were the first Christians expected to demonstrate their faith? This is an exploration of Early Church discipleship and what it means for us today. It's pre-Christendom discipleship for a post-Christendom world.

Nonviolence: The Inconvenient Message of Jesus

Of all the statements that Jesus made, perhaps his most radical was, 'love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you' (Matt 5.44). This was the most repeated statement in the writings of the church fathers. And for the first three centuries of its life Christianity refused to have anything to do with militarism. Once Christianity became the religion of empire, all that changed. So have we lost this ideal? Is it impossible in today's world? When is warfare justified? And why isn't anyone in the mainstream church talking about it?

The Birth of the King; the Death of the King

A look at the two ends of Jesus' life. First part looks at his birth and strips away the myths and misconceptions around our views of Christmas. The second part looks at his death and why the authorities thought he was so dangerous that they had to kill him. Or attempt to kill him, at any rate...

Occupy the Bible: Bible reading for the rest of us

Reading the Bible is crucial to the life of a Christian. But, if we're honest, it's a bit like going to the dentist. We know that we should do it, we know that it's supposed to do us good, but we don't expect to enjoy it. So how do we approach the book? What tools can help? And does anyone *really* enjoy reading Numbers?

Dead Man Walking

A look at the idea of resurrection. For the Early Church the resurrection of Jesus was the most important, life-changing event. For their opponents it was the claim that angered them the most. What happened? Was it all just a myth? And why is resurrection still such a threat to the powers today?

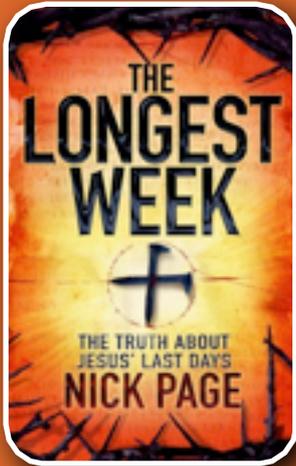
God's Dangerous Book: the History of the Bible

An actually quite interesting history of the Bible. Based on my book this is a one or two-part series looking at how we got the Bible and why some people would rather we didn't have it in the first place.

WEEKENDS/CONFERENCES

The Beatitudes

A series on the beatitudes, looking at their history and cultural background and why they are radical statements of the upside-down kingdom. This can be done as five talks or ten.

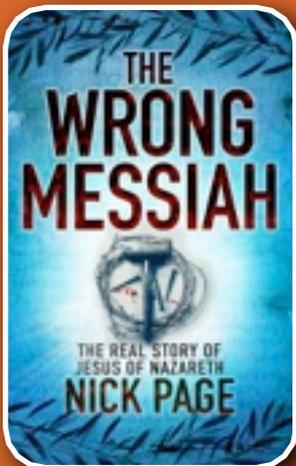


Once Upon a Time in the Kingdom: The Parables of Jesus

We all know the tales of the prodigal son, the good Samaritan, the wise and foolish builder... but maybe we know them a little *too* well. This series takes a look at the historical background to the parables of Jesus. Just what was a Samaritan doing near Jerusalem in the first place? Why were all those men hanging around in the marketplace? We'll find out just how much the prodigal son should have got, why the wise builder was working in the summer, and how the dogs who licked the sores of Lazarus were actually trying to help.

The Kingdom of Fools

A four-part series looking at the Early Church. How it operated, where it met, what it was like. Includes a general introduction to the Early Church; Resurrection People; Slaves and Free; A Beautiful Life; Speaking their Language, Doing Church in Troas.



The Wrong Messiah

A series looking at the life of Jesus, based on the best-selling, multi-award winning book.* A look at who Jesus was, where he came from, the ways in which he challenged and transformed the society around him. Starting with his birth, we look at his background and upbringing, his apprenticeship with John the Baptist, his radical teaching and the events of the last week of his life.

The Longest Week

A historical look at the last week of Jesus' life. Based on the oscar-nominated book* *The Longest Week*, this covers the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion. We start with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and its deliberate provocation of the Romans, look at why the various powerful people in Jerusalem hated him; explore the anointing at Bethany; confront the reality of crucifixion and witness the astonishing events of that Sunday morning.

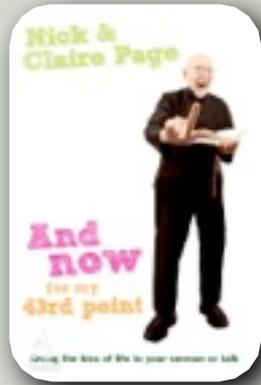
The Big Story

A five-part retelling of the Bible narrative. What actually happens in the Bible. Covers Genesis; Exodus and Conquest; Kings and Prophets; Jesus; the Early Church.

* Technically that bit is not true. But it sounds good doesn't it? It's up for an award at the moment, anyway. [And you can vote for it here.](#)

** That's not true either. I'm afraid. Sorry about that.

WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING



I lead a lot of workshops on various aspects of writing, communication and creativity. Email me for more information.

If you are involved in preaching or speaking, you might be interested in this book. Written with my wife Claire, *And Now for my 43rd Point* is a book designed to put a rocket under the sermon. (Claire teaches Voice and Communication at Wycliffe Hall so the book contains some reliable content for once.)

DETAILS, DETAILS...

This is like those terms and conditions pages which no-one ever reads. Anyway here are a few requirements.

1. Data projector. It's good to have a data projector available if possible. I use an iPad, so the connection to the data projector has to be near me on the stage. (I can't do it remotely because I can never remember which slide is coming next.)

2. Accommodation. If you are putting me up that's very kind of you. But I don't do room sharing with anyone except my wife, dog, or on extreme occasions, other members of my family. So a single room would be lovely, thanks.

3. Travel expenses. They're extra to the fee. I like to travel by train when possible, but mileage is charged at standard rate otherwise.

4. Workload. If I'm speaking over a weekend or week, I will do two sessions each day out of morning, afternoon, evening. So you can have me morning and afternoon, morning and evening or afternoon and evening, but not all three. I'm too old and it would get very boring.

5. Performing. I don't do cabaret or stand up anymore. I try to be entertaining and funny in the talks,

but I would rather not take part in any talent evenings, thanks.

6. Availability. I like meeting people and am always happy to chat and answer questions. (But there may be times when I hide...)

7. Subjects. I try to fit in with what you want, but I have learnt from experience that it's pointless trying to teach on subjects that you know nothing about and don't interest you. If I can't tackle the subject I may be able to recommend someone who can.

8. Numbers. Please don't worry about numbers. I don't care how many people I speak to. I will ~~be~~ speak to numbers from 2 to 2,000.

9. Books. It's good if my books are on sale. If you have a local independent bookshop willing to provide this service that is great. Otherwise I will bring a selection. Please let me know in plenty of time as the books have to be ordered.

10. Interaction. Wherever I can I will try to make space for questions and answers or some kind of discussion. This might take place after the event, during the event, or all around it. At some bigger events this isn't possible. But I do try.

Charges

For a long time I didn't do a set list of charges because I didn't want to make preconditions. But it seems more helpful for people if I have some guidelines. And transparency is a good thing.*

These are guidelines only. I don't want anyone to feel they can't afford me. Please ask.

Generally, the cost depends on how long I have to be away from writing at my desk. It's usually something like this:

One evening: £100 + expenses

One day: £150+ expenses

Weekend: £400+expenses

Week: £600-750. (Everything depends on where it is and whether the local wine/beer/food is any good. We'll need to talk...)

However, everything depends on the distance. If you want me to do an evening's talk ten miles away I will be able to do you a better deal than if you want me to fly to the Hebrides to do it. (Although I'd quite like to go to the Hebrides. I've never been.)

* Except in clothing. Swimwear especially.

CONTACT

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