

Revelations – Personal Responses to the Books of the Bible, with an introduction
by Richard Holloway.

The Bible, as is widely known, is the best-selling book in history, but while this fact may be true it is not so widely known what people think about its books or how they respond to their contents.

Revelations is an inspired idea and Canongate must be congratulated for it: to ask a number of prominent individuals, many but by no means all of them secular, to write introductions to individual biblical books, and rather than exhaustively detailing their contents to reflect on the meaning of the books to them. Contributors include David Grossman, Joanna Trollope and Louis de Bernières, AN Wilson, PD James and the Dalai Lama.

The insights and reflections are by and large of the highest possible calibre, and cover some but not all of the books in the Hebrew and Christian bibles. They are often powerful, at times highly provocative, and always deeply thought-provoking. All of us for whom the Bible is not just a book but a repository of histories and truths that shape our lives will find great treasures within these pages as well as the source of endless debates and arguments for years to come.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh