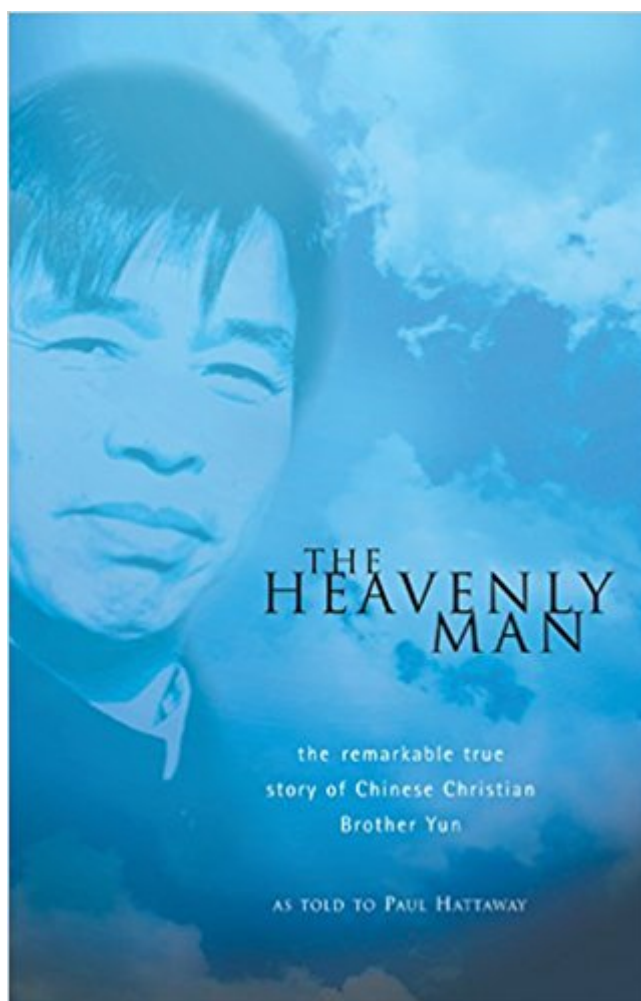


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The Heavenly Man: The Remarkable True Story Of Chinese Christian Brother Yun



Synopsis

The dramatic autobiography of one of China's dedicated, courageous, and intensely persecuted house church leaders. This is the gripping story of how God took a young, half-starved boy from a poor village in Henan province and placed him on the front line for Jesus, in the face of impossible odds. Instead of focusing on the many miracles or experiences of suffering, however, Yun prefers to focus on the character and beauty of Jesus. Interspersed with his personal account are contributions from his wife, Deling, made mostly during her husband's frequent periods of imprisonment. You will remember where you were the first time you read this life story. It's a watershed book that will turn the reader to prayer and praise. It deserves comparison with past classics such as *Tortured for Christ* by Richard Wurmbrand, or the *Life of Watchman Nee*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Amazing story and highly recommended for church libraries. (Church Libraries 2004-06-03)

Brother Yun travels widely from his current base in Germany. Paul Hattaway is the international director of Asia Harvest, an organization committed to serving the church throughout Asia. He is an expert on the Chinese church and author of the bestselling titles *The Heavenly Man*, which has sold more than 500,000 in English alone, and *Back to Jerusalem*.

I don't get these people doubting his truthfulness. When you walk closely with the Lord to a degree, the Lord doesn't let you get away with ANY SMALL THING. You might miss some things you are

not aware of, but not anything intentional. I get one of the strengths of America is its "checks and balances," ie. reserved skepticism toward anything. Just based on my personal walk with the Lord I don't get how people would suspect he's embellishing, just because when I intentionally do something wrong when I had declared myself His, I know how heavy His hand of discipline can be.

Brother Yun tells the story of his life and conversion and ministry for Christ in mainland China. His mother is a Christian, but all the missionaries and Bibles were sent out of China before Brother Yun was born, so he only knew what his mother could remember. When he was sixteen years old, he asked his mother for a Bible. She said that it was against the law to own a Bible in China. When he asked a local pastor, he said that Yun should pray and weep for a Bible and God will answer his request (Yun 2002, 26-31). So Brother Yun fasts and prays to God for a Bible for sixty days. On the sixtieth evening, he has a dream that two men visit him in the middle night and hand him a loaf of bread. When he breaks open the bread, a Bible pops out (Yun 2002, 27-31). Four hours later, there's a knock on the door. Two men are there with a loaf of bread, and a Bible! He reads the whole Bible in a few short weeks and commits his life to Christ. Christ speaks to him in a dream saying, "You will be my witness in the west and in the south" (Yun 2002, 26-45). The rest of the book reads like it is the book of Acts happening all over again in mainland China. There are a couple of prison breaks in the book, just like in the book of Acts. There are amazing miracles and healings, just like in the book of Acts. There are beatings and tortures just like in the book of Acts. There are confrontations with governing authorities just like in the book of Acts. Some of the supernatural details seemed to consciously mimic the book of Acts, which later raised some suspicions in the researcher's mind about the historical integrity of the book. God has done tremendous things in Brother Yun's life to establish the evangelical underground Chinese church, and the researcher has already used the story of Yun's conversion in a recent sermon. There is also little doubt that Yun has suffered a great deal for the cause of Christ. Yet there are still some lingering concerns about the reliability of some of the more sensational aspects of the story. The researcher checked online and discovered a Charisma magazine article about how book sales continue to be strong even though some have charged Brother Yun with fraud (Butcher 2006, under "Fraud Claims Fail to Slow Sales of Controversial Book"). The book is loaded with stories and lessons that could be utilized in sermons, but they probably won't be used until the researcher is convinced of the author's integrity.

This is one of the best biographies that I have read. It was captivating, riveting and occasionally difficult because of what he went through. But a book that will show you what it is like to live a life

dedicated to Christ. Must read!

An interesting window on what Chinese Christians who choose not to be silent are experiencing,

Inspiring, my dad who desires to get a closer walk with the Lord Jesus Christ after reading this. My dad went thru a spiritual rollercoaster with this book. In the end he thought it a read and a must read for anyone.

This is now in the top 3 books I recommend (outside the Bible). I strongly recommend this book for all believers in Christ Jesus, especially those going on mission trips. Brother Yun gives detailed accounts of: God's miracles through his ministry, persecutions he and others have suffered, and how trusting in Jesus alone is an absolute necessity. He shares much wisdom through his experiences when he obeyed the Lord, and reflecting back to when he disobeyed the Lord. You won't have dry eyes reading this book!

This is probably the most profound bio of "suffering for the gospel" that I have ever read - and I've read a few. This book will awaken anew in your heart - go and make disciples - in every circumstance. It will encourage you to be bold to reach out to everyone you meet - to introduce them to Jesus and His saving grace - putting aside all fear and reaching out with love for the lost. Most of us live in a "comfy" Christianity that I don't think the Lord intended. This book will give you a humbling perspective of what it means to give all for the gospel of Jesus Christ. Of all the bios I have read of Christians who have truly suffered for the gospel - this man has gone the absolute limit in using every harrowing circumstance to reach out in Christ's love to everyone he came in touch with - fellow prisoners - jailers - those who tortured him - his whole life is consumed with reaching the lost. This man will walk you thru New Testament living - like Paul and Peter - who suffered much for the Gospel. But it is not all about suffering - but also about miracles. How God gave revelation to Yun and to his wife repeatedly. How, after being beaten so severely that both his legs were shattered and fellow prisoners had to carry him to his many beatings - yet was able to walk out of prison in front of all the guards thru gates that opened for him to walk out of that prison - and many other miracles and God's grace and protection were manifested over and over again. It is also about a man who walked humbly before the Lord and with every heartbeat, in every trial, looking to be obedient to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As always where Christians are persecuted - how precious even one page of the Bible can be - how out of such love for the Word of God, many books

and passages were memorized so that even in the darkest prison, Brother Yun carried much of the Bible with him to share with others. I labeled this "Required reading for every Christian" and so should it be. Even though we may not be called to suffer as Brother Yun - it encourages us to look at our lives and to assess our part in "go and make disciples" in our part of this world wherever we live - to "suffer" to move from the pew, from the couch - into living the passion and focus (and probably with miracles) of the New Testament. Give yourself a blessing "read it." And this from my husband - a total NON-reader: Once you pick it up you will not be able to put it down. I was encouraged by my wife to "just read one chapter" and I have to say I have never been so absorbed in a book and at every chance continued reading for the next 3 days until I finished. An amazing testimony of God's amazing workings in one humble man given to do all for Christ.

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