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Saving the Holy Sepulchre: How Rival Christians Came Together to Rescue their Holiest Shrine

Raymond Cohen

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The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is the mother of all the churches, erected on the spot where Jesus Christ was crucified and rose from the dead and where every Christian was born. In 1927, Jerusalem was struck by a powerful earthquake, and for decades this venerable structure stood perilously close to collapse.

In *Saving the Holy Sepulchre*, Raymond Cohen tells the engaging story of how three major Christian traditions--Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Armenian Orthodox--each with jealously guarded claims to the church, struggled to restore one of the great shrines of civilization. It almost didn't happen. For centuries the communities had lived together in an atmosphere of tension and mistrust based on differences of theology, language, and culture--differences so sharp that fistfights were not uncommon. And the project of restoration became embroiled in interchurch disputes and great power politics. Cohen shows how the repair of the dilapidated basilica was the result of unprecedented cooperation among the three churches. It was tortuous at times--one French monk involved in the restoration exclaimed: "I can't take any more of it. Latins--Armenians--Greeks--it is too much. I am bent over double." But thanks to the dedicated efforts of a cast of kings, popes, patriarchs, governors, monks, and architects, the deadlock was eventually broken on the eve of Pope Paul VI's historic pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 1964.

Today, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre is in better shape than it has been for five hundred years. Light and space have returned to its ancient halls, and its walls and pillars stand sound and true. *Saving the Holy Sepulchre* is the riveting story of how Christians put aside centuries of division to make this dream a reality.

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Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book can be option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the guide untitled Saving the Holy Sepulchre: How Rival Christians Came Together to Rescue their Holiest Shrine can be fine book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

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