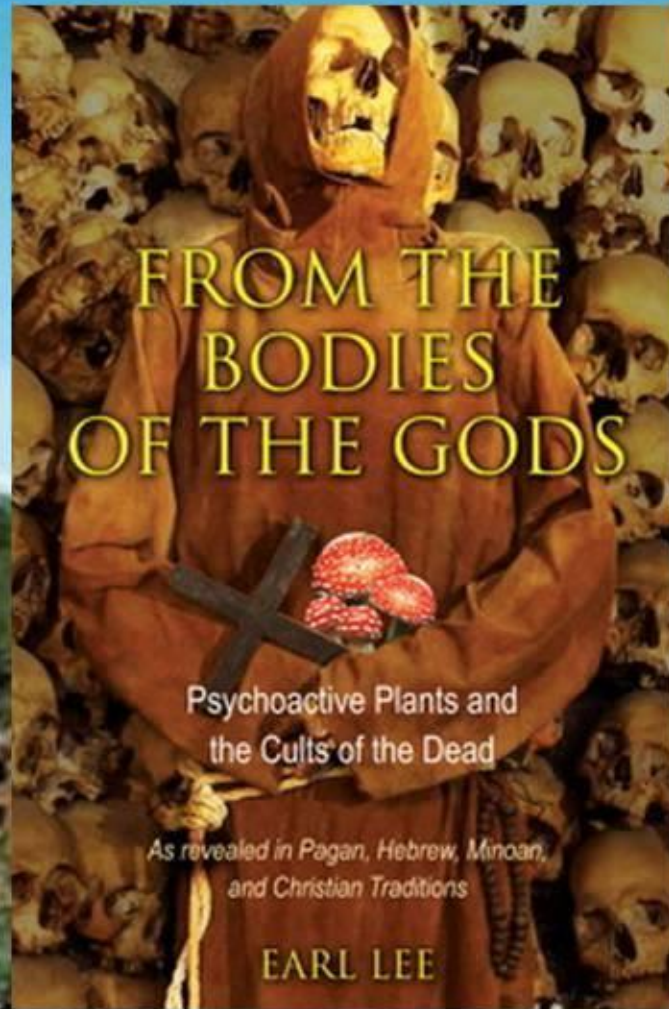


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HALLUCINOGENIC MUSHROOMS & CHRISTIAN BURIAL RITES

EARL LEE #213



1
00:00:14,440 --> 00:00:12,100
on this episode of skeptic Oh Alex talks

2
00:00:17,170 --> 00:00:14,450
with Pittsburg State professor early

3
00:00:19,929 --> 00:00:17,180
about his book from the bodies of the

4
00:00:23,710 --> 00:00:19,939
gods psychoactive plants and the cults

5
00:00:25,630 --> 00:00:23,720
of the Dead you connect in your book the

6
00:00:30,130 --> 00:00:25,640
use of mushrooms in prehistoric times

7
00:00:32,470 --> 00:00:30,140
with some rather shocking ideas about

8
00:00:35,470 --> 00:00:32,480
how mushrooms might have been cultivated

9
00:00:37,810 --> 00:00:35,480
and used in early Christian times my

10
00:00:40,209 --> 00:00:37,820
theory is that in ancient times there

11
00:00:43,390 --> 00:00:40,219
were people who were identified as

12
00:00:46,570 --> 00:00:43,400
shaymin either male or female who was

13
00:00:50,050 --> 00:00:46,580

the person who would consume the

14

00:00:52,690 --> 00:00:50,060

mushrooms and that over time as a shame

15

00:00:55,270 --> 00:00:52,700

and a shameless uses the mushrooms they

16

00:00:57,670 --> 00:00:55,280

tend to get the little mushroom bores on

17

00:01:00,010 --> 00:00:57,680

their clothing and that later when that

18

00:01:02,260 --> 00:01:00,020

person dies and is buried I think is a

19

00:01:04,060 --> 00:01:02,270

very strong likelihood especially if

20

00:01:06,160 --> 00:01:04,070

they're in a shallow grave and a moist

21

00:01:08,620 --> 00:01:06,170

grave for those things those mushrooms

22

00:01:12,120 --> 00:01:08,630

actually Grove living off of the mixture

23

00:01:14,640 --> 00:01:12,130

of the natural fibers plus whatever

24

00:01:18,219 --> 00:01:14,650

liquids or viscid liquids might be

25

00:01:19,960 --> 00:01:18,229

whipped up from the decaying body and

26

00:01:22,210 --> 00:01:19,970

that link there in people's minds

27

00:01:25,030 --> 00:01:22,220

psychologically that this is what we use

28

00:01:27,100 --> 00:01:25,040

to communicate with the dead with the

29

00:01:29,410 --> 00:01:27,110

with the gods who listen to the dead and

30

00:01:43,230 --> 00:01:29,420

with the end how we have visions of the

31

00:01:47,140 --> 00:01:45,520

welcome to skeptic aware we explore

32

00:01:49,630 --> 00:01:47,150

controversial science with leading

33

00:01:51,850 --> 00:01:49,640

researchers thinkers and their critics

34

00:01:53,620 --> 00:01:51,860

i'm your host Aleksic harrison on this

35

00:01:55,690 --> 00:01:53,630

episode of skeptic oh I have an

36

00:01:58,149 --> 00:01:55,700

interview with a professor from

37

00:02:01,480 --> 00:01:58,159

Pittsburg State University where we

38

00:02:03,219 --> 00:02:01,490

explore his interesting theory that the

39

00:02:05,740 --> 00:02:03,229

origins of many of our religions

40

00:02:09,059 --> 00:02:05,750

including Christianity Judaism and Islam

41

00:02:11,740 --> 00:02:09,069

can be traced back to the use of

42

00:02:14,920 --> 00:02:11,750

hallucinogenic drugs he even has some

43

00:02:18,100 --> 00:02:14,930

startling evidence about the cultivation

44

00:02:20,650 --> 00:02:18,110

of those mushrooms but we'll leave that

45

00:02:23,340 --> 00:02:20,660

for the interview what I wanted to do

46

00:02:27,130 --> 00:02:23,350

before the interview was at a little

47

00:02:29,710 --> 00:02:27,140

context to this dialogue particularly

48

00:02:33,070 --> 00:02:29,720

since early is an atheist rather

49

00:02:35,979 --> 00:02:33,080

outspoken atheist and as much as I

50

00:02:38,350 --> 00:02:35,989

appreciate his scholarship on this topic

51
00:02:40,479 --> 00:02:38,360
and the information that he's brought

52
00:02:42,910 --> 00:02:40,489
forth which is really important for

53
00:02:44,920 --> 00:02:42,920
understanding these traditions that are

54
00:02:46,690 --> 00:02:44,930
so much a part of our culture and I

55
00:02:48,970 --> 00:02:46,700
don't care whether you live in europe

56
00:02:51,670 --> 00:02:48,980
and you think you've shed yourself from

57
00:02:54,190 --> 00:02:51,680
all religious trappings and all the rest

58
00:02:56,650 --> 00:02:54,200
of that hey these a BRI attic traditions

59
00:02:59,410 --> 00:02:56,660
are woven deep deep deep into our

60
00:03:02,160 --> 00:02:59,420
culture and there's no escaping that so

61
00:03:05,319 --> 00:03:02,170
this kind of work that aims it seriously

62
00:03:08,620 --> 00:03:05,329
rewriting or rectifying that history I

63
00:03:11,860 --> 00:03:08,630

think is important to all of us at the

64

00:03:15,099 --> 00:03:11,870

same time I'm amazed how academics in

65

00:03:17,349 --> 00:03:15,109

general and atheists in particular can't

66

00:03:19,990 --> 00:03:17,359

look deeper into the psychedelic

67

00:03:23,289 --> 00:03:20,000

experience and what it points to in

68

00:03:25,810 --> 00:03:23,299

terms of extended human consciousness I

69

00:03:28,150 --> 00:03:25,820

mean all the current research we have

70

00:03:32,190 --> 00:03:28,160

with hallucinogenics Rick Strassman

71

00:03:34,509 --> 00:03:32,200

David Nutt all the rest suggests that

72

00:03:37,360 --> 00:03:34,519

hallucinogenics are pointing us not

73

00:03:40,840 --> 00:03:37,370

towards the same old mind equals brain

74

00:03:43,750 --> 00:03:40,850

paradigm but to this idea of extended

75

00:03:46,360 --> 00:03:43,760

human consciousness not to earls credit

76

00:03:48,759 --> 00:03:46,370

I think he's willing to go there more

77

00:03:51,550 --> 00:03:48,769

than most people are but it still amazes

78

00:03:54,699 --> 00:03:51,560

me that more can't see how this little

79

00:03:55,780 --> 00:03:54,709

twist in the story from tripping early

80

00:03:57,929 --> 00:03:55,790

Christians to

81

00:04:01,270 --> 00:03:57,939

early Christians that are achieving

82

00:04:04,599 --> 00:04:01,280

transformative spiritual experiences

83

00:04:07,089 --> 00:04:04,609

through the aid of psychedelic drugs why

84

00:04:09,640 --> 00:04:07,099

that little twist in the road is it more

85

00:04:12,009 --> 00:04:09,650

obvious this was a fascinating

86

00:04:15,520 --> 00:04:12,019

discussion for me I really appreciate

87

00:04:18,759 --> 00:04:15,530

the scholarship of early whose work

88

00:04:21,520 --> 00:04:18,769

continues to fly under the radar despite

89

00:04:24,219 --> 00:04:21,530

its massive implications I hope you

90

00:04:27,400 --> 00:04:24,229

enjoy this dialogue with early from

91

00:04:30,730 --> 00:04:27,410

Pittsburg State University today we

92

00:04:33,040 --> 00:04:30,740

welcome early to skeptic 0 as a faculty

93

00:04:35,379 --> 00:04:33,050

member and honorary professor at

94

00:04:37,810 --> 00:04:35,389

Pittsburg State University now that's in

95

00:04:39,999 --> 00:04:37,820

Kansas folks but it is called Pittsburg

96

00:04:43,360 --> 00:04:40,009

State Earl is the author of a

97

00:04:46,839 --> 00:04:43,370

fascinating book titled from the body of

98

00:04:50,740 --> 00:04:46,849

the Gods psychoactive plants and the

99

00:04:52,330 --> 00:04:50,750

cults of the Dead fascinating stuff Earl

100

00:04:55,210 --> 00:04:52,340

thanks so much for joining me and

101
00:04:57,490 --> 00:04:55,220
welcome to skeptic oh oh right here well

102
00:04:58,839 --> 00:04:57,500
you've written quite a book here and I

103
00:05:02,680 --> 00:04:58,849
have to say the first thing that really

104
00:05:04,960 --> 00:05:02,690
caught my eye is a review a blurb on the

105
00:05:07,390 --> 00:05:04,970
back of it from none other than dr.

106
00:05:09,760 --> 00:05:07,400
Larry Dossey someone I've interviewed

107
00:05:12,760 --> 00:05:09,770
before and who I really respect a lot

108
00:05:15,580 --> 00:05:12,770
let me read what he writes from time to

109
00:05:18,670 --> 00:05:15,590
time a book comes along that stops you

110
00:05:20,740 --> 00:05:18,680
in your track and stuns your mind from

111
00:05:23,350 --> 00:05:20,750
the bodies of the gods is such a book it

112
00:05:25,480 --> 00:05:23,360
will and should provoke intense

113
00:05:28,629 --> 00:05:25,490

discussion about some of the most

114

00:05:32,770 --> 00:05:28,639

fundamental underpinnings of Western

115

00:05:34,870 --> 00:05:32,780

religions Wow powerful stuff so congrats

116

00:05:36,990 --> 00:05:34,880

on that and you don't have to say in

117

00:05:40,870 --> 00:05:37,000

reading it it's packed with a lot of

118

00:05:44,070 --> 00:05:40,880

historical references but it's also very

119

00:05:46,450 --> 00:05:44,080

readable so congratulations on this book

120

00:05:48,790 --> 00:05:46,460

well thanks very much I appreciate it

121

00:05:51,219 --> 00:05:48,800

okay well you know I'm doing a lot of

122

00:05:54,879 --> 00:05:51,229

talking here before I dig into all this

123

00:05:57,219 --> 00:05:54,889

other stuff tell us at a high level what

124

00:06:00,580 --> 00:05:57,229

kind of picture this book paints about

125

00:06:03,580 --> 00:06:00,590

these cults of the Dead and the

126
00:06:05,500 --> 00:06:03,590
connection to hallucinogenics and also

127
00:06:08,500 --> 00:06:05,510
obviously the connection to the

128
00:06:09,460 --> 00:06:08,510
modern-day religious movements that we

129
00:06:11,590 --> 00:06:09,470
know about

130
00:06:15,070 --> 00:06:11,600
what I did was I collect the material

131
00:06:17,800 --> 00:06:15,080
going back Oh 30 years I first began

132
00:06:20,440 --> 00:06:17,810
work on this in the late 70s early 80s

133
00:06:24,220 --> 00:06:20,450
and at that time I really hadn't

134
00:06:26,830 --> 00:06:24,230
connected with the the hallucinogenic

135
00:06:28,870 --> 00:06:26,840
mushroom side of it but over time they

136
00:06:31,360 --> 00:06:28,880
kept putting pieces together and that

137
00:06:33,970 --> 00:06:31,370
finally come up but I think of Africa's

138
00:06:36,670 --> 00:06:33,980

theory about where modern religion comes

139

00:06:40,300 --> 00:06:36,680

from because i believe particularly in

140

00:06:43,390 --> 00:06:40,310

the mediterranean era area and in the

141

00:06:45,790 --> 00:06:43,400

near East that we have little religions

142

00:06:48,520 --> 00:06:45,800

all over the place that are essentially

143

00:06:50,560 --> 00:06:48,530

cults of the Dead now they're called

144

00:06:53,830 --> 00:06:50,570

cult of the dead is kind of a generic

145

00:06:57,460 --> 00:06:53,840

term for religious they're based around

146

00:07:00,070 --> 00:06:57,470

the idea of worshiping our ancestors or

147

00:07:02,409 --> 00:07:00,080

our ancestors who have sort of

148

00:07:04,810 --> 00:07:02,419

transition to being almost godlike or

149

00:07:06,790 --> 00:07:04,820

supernatural figures and this kind of

150

00:07:08,680 --> 00:07:06,800

worship is really common all over the

151
00:07:10,570 --> 00:07:08,690
world right if I could just interject

152
00:07:12,540 --> 00:07:10,580
you know one of the first things that I

153
00:07:15,370 --> 00:07:12,550
I encounter when I read the book is like

154
00:07:18,190 --> 00:07:15,380
yeah so what and then I had to really

155
00:07:21,310 --> 00:07:18,200
think about it go wait a minute why is

156
00:07:23,200 --> 00:07:21,320
there this obsession with death and

157
00:07:25,690 --> 00:07:23,210
moreover as you point out in the book

158
00:07:28,659 --> 00:07:25,700
not just an obsession with death but a

159
00:07:30,909 --> 00:07:28,669
series of very elaborate rituals that

160
00:07:33,280 --> 00:07:30,919
get even more elaborate as time goes on

161
00:07:35,380 --> 00:07:33,290
and you do a nice job of kind of tracing

162
00:07:38,409 --> 00:07:35,390
how it just gets more and more elaborate

163
00:07:40,480 --> 00:07:38,419

these cultish rituals around death right

164

00:07:43,090 --> 00:07:40,490

well that's especially true with the

165

00:07:45,040 --> 00:07:43,100

Egyptians because they had a really

166

00:07:47,620 --> 00:07:45,050

rather strange i dunno if i should call

167

00:07:51,310 --> 00:07:47,630

strange but they had an unusual way they

168

00:07:53,080 --> 00:07:51,320

kind of built a religion in layers and i

169

00:07:55,150 --> 00:07:53,090

believe in one of his books Sir Wallace

170

00:07:58,180 --> 00:07:55,160

buzz she was written all these many

171

00:08:00,850 --> 00:07:58,190

books on on Egyptology points this out

172

00:08:03,219 --> 00:08:00,860

he said apparently the Egyptians would

173

00:08:05,500 --> 00:08:03,229

try this right and try that right and

174

00:08:07,870 --> 00:08:05,510

try one spell and try another spell and

175

00:08:09,850 --> 00:08:07,880

if it worked they kept it and if it

176

00:08:11,469 --> 00:08:09,860

didn't work they tossed it out but they

177

00:08:14,320 --> 00:08:11,479

never seem to actually gone back and

178

00:08:16,300 --> 00:08:14,330

gotten rid of anything so you have this

179

00:08:18,190 --> 00:08:16,310

like a pearl being created layer after

180

00:08:20,290 --> 00:08:18,200

layer after layer more and more spells

181

00:08:22,330 --> 00:08:20,300

began until five you end up with this

182

00:08:23,080 --> 00:08:22,340

thing the size of the well actually that

183

00:08:27,879 --> 00:08:23,090

the

184

00:08:29,590 --> 00:08:27,889

cumulation of spells and rights that

185

00:08:31,840 --> 00:08:29,600

have that have at some point worked

186

00:08:33,640 --> 00:08:31,850

whether they stop working out at that

187

00:08:35,230 --> 00:08:33,650

apparently didn't they didn't know or

188

00:08:36,459 --> 00:08:35,240

care but it kind of it worked once and

189

00:08:39,250 --> 00:08:36,469

so they ended up with this very

190

00:08:42,399 --> 00:08:39,260

elaborate religion based on spells that

191

00:08:44,800 --> 00:08:42,409

and rites and rituals that at one time

192

00:08:46,870 --> 00:08:44,810

seemed to have worked for what they were

193

00:08:49,660 --> 00:08:46,880

trying to accomplish as you point out in

194

00:08:52,210 --> 00:08:49,670

the book the Egyptian religion and some

195

00:08:54,730 --> 00:08:52,220

of these other religions particularly in

196

00:08:57,280 --> 00:08:54,740

Crete stay with us if you will in

197

00:08:59,860 --> 00:08:57,290

influence the religions that were more

198

00:09:01,420 --> 00:08:59,870

accustomed to well yeah that I think

199

00:09:04,570 --> 00:09:01,430

it's especially interesting to study

200

00:09:06,250 --> 00:09:04,580

that the religion on Crete because of

201
00:09:09,010 --> 00:09:06,260
its influence to some extent on the

202
00:09:11,650 --> 00:09:09,020
Greeks because the big there's no Crete

203
00:09:13,960 --> 00:09:11,660
was very strong influence on the Greeks

204
00:09:17,710 --> 00:09:13,970
as was the Egyptian religion the

205
00:09:20,590 --> 00:09:17,720
Egyptians back and very the old days you

206
00:09:22,450 --> 00:09:20,600
to actually send out missionaries to all

207
00:09:24,519 --> 00:09:22,460
over the world including degrees and so

208
00:09:26,410 --> 00:09:24,529
there's a very strong Egyptian influence

209
00:09:29,079 --> 00:09:26,420
in Greece too but the interesting thing

210
00:09:32,560 --> 00:09:29,089
I think in Minoan history is history of

211
00:09:36,610 --> 00:09:32,570
Crete is at one point about a thousand

212
00:09:39,970 --> 00:09:36,620
years before the birth of actually is a

213
00:09:43,630 --> 00:09:39,980

little before the birth of Judaism they

214

00:09:46,510 --> 00:09:43,640

had this disaster where a an island in

215

00:09:49,480 --> 00:09:46,520

the Mediterranean sploded and this shock

216

00:09:52,120 --> 00:09:49,490

wave of water went in all directions to

217

00:09:54,790 --> 00:09:52,130

hit Crete and didn't ormos amount of

218

00:09:56,949 --> 00:09:54,800

damage and from that point on kind of

219

00:09:59,650 --> 00:09:56,959

the Minoans really were never quite

220

00:10:01,630 --> 00:09:59,660

recovered from that disaster and quite a

221

00:10:04,600 --> 00:10:01,640

few people living on Crete actually

222

00:10:07,390 --> 00:10:04,610

migrated to Palestine and Egypt in other

223

00:10:10,269 --> 00:10:07,400

areas and took with them a lot of their

224

00:10:12,190 --> 00:10:10,279

religious ideas so I believe that a lot

225

00:10:16,600 --> 00:10:12,200

of the ideas that were developed on

226

00:10:18,699 --> 00:10:16,610

increase ended up being adopted absorbed

227

00:10:20,380 --> 00:10:18,709

by the people living in Palestine and

228

00:10:23,500 --> 00:10:20,390

the people in Egypt and elsewhere and

229

00:10:26,410 --> 00:10:23,510

some of those ideas I think are still

230

00:10:28,900 --> 00:10:26,420

very alive today in Christianity so

231

00:10:30,519 --> 00:10:28,910

let's switch over and talk about the

232

00:10:32,949 --> 00:10:30,529

part that really is going to fascinate

233

00:10:35,350 --> 00:10:32,959

so many people and that's the use of

234

00:10:36,060 --> 00:10:35,360

these hallucinogenics these mushrooms

235

00:10:40,230 --> 00:10:36,070

and

236

00:10:42,270 --> 00:10:40,240

particular as your book posits where

237

00:10:46,410 --> 00:10:42,280

these mushrooms are being cultivated

238

00:10:48,900 --> 00:10:46,420

because you connect in your book the use

239

00:10:52,220 --> 00:10:48,910

of mushrooms in prehistoric times by

240

00:10:56,490 --> 00:10:52,230

shamans and these cave paintings with

241

00:10:58,770 --> 00:10:56,500

some rather shocking ideas about how

242

00:11:02,820 --> 00:10:58,780

mushrooms might have been cultivated and

243

00:11:05,790 --> 00:11:02,830

used in in ancient times but in in early

244

00:11:08,820 --> 00:11:05,800

Christian times and right around that

245

00:11:11,670 --> 00:11:08,830

period take us through that I guess in

246

00:11:14,070 --> 00:11:11,680

my theory is that in ancient times there

247

00:11:17,880 --> 00:11:14,080

were people who were identified as

248

00:11:21,330 --> 00:11:17,890

shaymin or or either male or female who

249

00:11:25,290 --> 00:11:21,340

was the person who would consume the

250

00:11:27,390 --> 00:11:25,300

mushrooms in order to prof I the future

251
00:11:28,920 --> 00:11:27,400
whether it was good crops or whether

252
00:11:31,200 --> 00:11:28,930
they needed to travel to some other

253
00:11:34,080 --> 00:11:31,210
place and that sort of thing and that

254
00:11:37,140 --> 00:11:34,090
over time as a shame and a shameless

255
00:11:40,980 --> 00:11:37,150
uses the mushrooms they tend to get the

256
00:11:43,710 --> 00:11:40,990
little mushroom us I caught spores on

257
00:11:46,050 --> 00:11:43,720
their clothing and that later when that

258
00:11:48,330 --> 00:11:46,060
person dies and is buried I think is a

259
00:11:50,100 --> 00:11:48,340
very strong likelihood especially if

260
00:11:52,200 --> 00:11:50,110
they're in a shallow grave and a moist

261
00:11:55,590 --> 00:11:52,210
grave for those things those mushrooms

262
00:11:58,650 --> 00:11:55,600
actually growth on a living off of the

263
00:12:01,950 --> 00:11:58,660

mixture of the natural fibers plus

264

00:12:06,720 --> 00:12:01,960

whatever liquids or viscid liquids might

265

00:12:09,870 --> 00:12:06,730

be whipped up from the decaying body and

266

00:12:11,970 --> 00:12:09,880

the reason I think this is probably what

267

00:12:15,960 --> 00:12:11,980

happened is because I think that at some

268

00:12:18,390 --> 00:12:15,970

point the bodies were they accidentally

269

00:12:20,070 --> 00:12:18,400

unearthed and people saw these mushrooms

270

00:12:22,500 --> 00:12:20,080

growing on these bodies and decided that

271

00:12:23,970 --> 00:12:22,510

this person was particularly holy and

272

00:12:27,620 --> 00:12:23,980

that the mushrooms that come from a

273

00:12:30,600 --> 00:12:27,630

corpse are probably particularly

274

00:12:33,240 --> 00:12:30,610

valuable in terms of communicating with

275

00:12:35,490 --> 00:12:33,250

the gods or with the that's the world or

276

00:12:37,740 --> 00:12:35,500

the afterlife and that link there in

277

00:12:39,870 --> 00:12:37,750

people's minds psychologically that this

278

00:12:42,690 --> 00:12:39,880

is what we use to communicate with the

279

00:12:45,000 --> 00:12:42,700

dead with the with the gods who listen

280

00:12:47,370 --> 00:12:45,010

to the dead and with the and how we have

281

00:12:49,620 --> 00:12:47,380

visions of the next world and you can

282

00:12:52,110 --> 00:12:49,630

see that idea reflected

283

00:12:54,840 --> 00:12:52,120

particularly an Egyptian religion but at

284

00:12:57,570 --> 00:12:54,850

other religions too it's a fascinating

285

00:13:00,450 --> 00:12:57,580

fascinating theory and it kind of makes

286

00:13:02,700 --> 00:13:00,460

a lot of sense i mean just anecdotally

287

00:13:05,130 --> 00:13:02,710

as you tell it isn't there some evidence

288

00:13:07,670 --> 00:13:05,140

that you point to in the book of cave

289

00:13:11,040 --> 00:13:07,680

paintings that would support this idea

290

00:13:14,940 --> 00:13:11,050

well they found a series of cain caves

291

00:13:18,320 --> 00:13:14,950

in southern algeria and this area is i

292

00:13:21,090 --> 00:13:18,330

think particularly interesting because

293

00:13:23,460 --> 00:13:21,100

you have these cave paintings that show

294

00:13:25,290 --> 00:13:23,470

people dancing in a circle and the

295

00:13:28,230 --> 00:13:25,300

people have heads it or shaped like

296

00:13:31,320 --> 00:13:28,240

mushrooms but the most interesting pain

297

00:13:33,330 --> 00:13:31,330

they have is a picture of this body or

298

00:13:34,860 --> 00:13:33,340

this man who of course since it's two

299

00:13:38,130 --> 00:13:34,870

dimension can't tell whether he's lying

300

00:13:39,900 --> 00:13:38,140

down or standing up but he has his whole

301

00:13:41,520 --> 00:13:39,910

body is covered the whole hot line is

302

00:13:44,220 --> 00:13:41,530

covered with little mushroom shape and

303

00:13:46,350 --> 00:13:44,230

not only that but his body itself it has

304

00:13:50,790 --> 00:13:46,360

kind of a net shape law which you could

305

00:13:52,470 --> 00:13:50,800

describe as being a net or maybe yeah a

306

00:13:55,080 --> 00:13:52,480

net is probably the best description of

307

00:13:57,390 --> 00:13:55,090

it and my theory is that this is really

308

00:13:59,520 --> 00:13:57,400

a hope it was the people have looked at

309

00:14:02,280 --> 00:13:59,530

this say that this is a an imaginary

310

00:14:03,990 --> 00:14:02,290

painting of a shame and in communication

311

00:14:06,750 --> 00:14:04,000

with the spirit world needs mushrooms or

312

00:14:08,360 --> 00:14:06,760

how he did it but I believe this this

313

00:14:10,980 --> 00:14:08,370

penny is actually fairly realistic

314

00:14:13,920 --> 00:14:10,990

because I think this is actually a dead

315

00:14:15,840 --> 00:14:13,930

body with mushrooms growing off of his

316

00:14:18,120 --> 00:14:15,850

body because the mushrooms are

317

00:14:20,970 --> 00:14:18,130

everywhere except on this strange be

318

00:14:23,310 --> 00:14:20,980

shaped mask that he's wearing which of

319

00:14:25,260 --> 00:14:23,320

course the mushrooms would grow i mask

320

00:14:26,610 --> 00:14:25,270

whatever was made up but would grow on

321

00:14:28,050 --> 00:14:26,620

the body and i think that's a clear

322

00:14:32,310 --> 00:14:28,060

indication that this is one of the very

323

00:14:33,810 --> 00:14:32,320

early mushroom Shaymin who had actually

324

00:14:36,780 --> 00:14:33,820

mushrooms growing from his body that

325

00:14:40,170 --> 00:14:36,790

people could consume well let's connect

326

00:14:45,090 --> 00:14:40,180

that with mushroom or hallucinogenic use

327

00:14:47,340 --> 00:14:45,100

in Christianity as depicted in medieval

328

00:14:49,500 --> 00:14:47,350

art that we know of what can you tell us

329

00:14:51,630 --> 00:14:49,510

about that and I know there's some

330

00:14:54,030 --> 00:14:51,640

controversy surrounding that but how

331

00:14:57,680 --> 00:14:54,040

well established is it that we can look

332

00:14:59,960 --> 00:14:57,690

at medieval art and as a source of

333

00:15:03,190 --> 00:14:59,970

understanding the importance of these

334

00:15:06,130 --> 00:15:03,200

hallucinogenics among Christians

335

00:15:08,290 --> 00:15:06,140

well actually the the use of whose no

336

00:15:11,100 --> 00:15:08,300

genex in Christianity goes back to the

337

00:15:14,190 --> 00:15:11,110

very beginning and earlier than that

338

00:15:20,160 --> 00:15:14,200

according to the theory I worked out

339

00:15:23,140 --> 00:15:20,170

when the Jews first moved from Egypt to

340

00:15:27,780 --> 00:15:23,150

Palestine they took with them a religion

341

00:15:30,460 --> 00:15:27,790

that would combined their sort of ethnic

342

00:15:33,310 --> 00:15:30,470

semitic ideas about religion along with

343

00:15:34,630 --> 00:15:33,320

a layer of egyptian ideas and they

344

00:15:38,050 --> 00:15:34,640

actually created kind of a hybrid

345

00:15:40,060 --> 00:15:38,060

religion that was a guess I would call

346

00:15:41,970 --> 00:15:40,070

the Hebrew cult of the dead as close to

347

00:15:44,470 --> 00:15:41,980

the Egyptian calls the dead or the

348

00:15:46,270 --> 00:15:44,480

Semitic version whichever but this is

349

00:15:49,480 --> 00:15:46,280

kind of a merger of the Semitic and the

350

00:15:51,790 --> 00:15:49,490

Egyptian together and that that was what

351

00:15:55,150 --> 00:15:51,800

the Hebrew religion really was in the

352

00:16:00,430 --> 00:15:55,160

beginning a worship of the dead who they

353

00:16:02,650 --> 00:16:00,440

called the eloheem over time in the

354

00:16:04,720 --> 00:16:02,660

beginning that in Palestine they had all

355

00:16:06,190 --> 00:16:04,730

these little individual shrines and

356

00:16:08,890 --> 00:16:06,200

their religious sites all over the

357

00:16:10,750 --> 00:16:08,900

country and if you were a typical Hebrew

358

00:16:12,130 --> 00:16:10,760

you could go or anybody else live in

359

00:16:13,690 --> 00:16:12,140

there you could go to the shrine and

360

00:16:16,150 --> 00:16:13,700

whoever the shrine is dedicated to

361

00:16:17,950 --> 00:16:16,160

whether it was 22 Moses or just some

362

00:16:20,950 --> 00:16:17,960

other historic figure or some other God

363

00:16:23,170 --> 00:16:20,960

and you could sacrifice your goat or

364

00:16:25,120 --> 00:16:23,180

your animal or whatever it was there and

365

00:16:28,740 --> 00:16:25,130

the smoke would ascend to the heavens

366

00:16:32,050 --> 00:16:28,750

and the gods were happy but as

367

00:16:34,630 --> 00:16:32,060

urbanization took place there was a

368

00:16:38,290 --> 00:16:34,640

stronger sense of trying to reunite the

369

00:16:41,650 --> 00:16:38,300

country's hunter 1 capital and under one

370

00:16:44,050 --> 00:16:41,660

religion it's particularly true in

371

00:16:45,670 --> 00:16:44,060

Jerusalem that they didn't like the fact

372

00:16:47,110 --> 00:16:45,680

that all these little priests and

373

00:16:48,880 --> 00:16:47,120

shrines all over the place they had no

374

00:16:53,230 --> 00:16:48,890

control over they wanted to centralize

375

00:16:54,870 --> 00:16:53,240

the religious belief in Jerusalem and so

376

00:16:58,300 --> 00:16:54,880

they actually started a campaign

377

00:17:00,120 --> 00:16:58,310

probably around 800 BC to try to put

378

00:17:02,320 --> 00:17:00,130

these other guys out of business and

379

00:17:04,750 --> 00:17:02,330

very often they would make deals with

380

00:17:06,579 --> 00:17:04,760

whoever the kings or rulers were to help

381

00:17:08,050 --> 00:17:06,589

them do that and the Old Testament is

382

00:17:09,699 --> 00:17:08,060

full of stories where they'll go out and

383

00:17:11,350 --> 00:17:09,709

they'll try to kill this bunch of

384

00:17:13,000 --> 00:17:11,360

priests or that bunch of priests they

385

00:17:15,280 --> 00:17:13,010

always called them the priests of Baal

386

00:17:16,390 --> 00:17:15,290

that's usually the people to call the

387

00:17:18,730 --> 00:17:16,400

priests of Baal or the

388

00:17:20,590 --> 00:17:18,740

the worshipers of hash sure are whoever

389

00:17:22,360 --> 00:17:20,600

they are but in fact they're just the

390

00:17:25,450 --> 00:17:22,370

local guys who've been there for ages

391

00:17:27,790 --> 00:17:25,460

who they'll perform a right if you want

392

00:17:29,260 --> 00:17:27,800

to write for for yahweh though do yahweh

393

00:17:31,510 --> 00:17:29,270

if you want Ashtaroth did you ask her

394

00:17:32,830 --> 00:17:31,520

out they didn't care as long as you

395

00:17:34,450 --> 00:17:32,840

showed up with the animal you want to

396

00:17:36,670 --> 00:17:34,460

sacrifice and a couple bucks for them

397

00:17:39,610 --> 00:17:36,680

but the Jerusalem Temple really wanted

398

00:17:42,640 --> 00:17:39,620

to focus religion in Jerusalem and the

399

00:17:45,160 --> 00:17:42,650

Kings wanted that too because that they

400

00:17:47,470 --> 00:17:45,170

like that being able to use the power of

401
00:17:49,990 --> 00:17:47,480
the church to back them up and so there

402
00:17:52,330 --> 00:17:50,000
was a campaign starting about 800 BC in

403
00:17:54,010 --> 00:17:52,340
Palestine to try to to bring all the

404
00:17:55,720 --> 00:17:54,020
religious groups center them in

405
00:17:57,730 --> 00:17:55,730
Jerusalem and to get rid of these other

406
00:18:00,910 --> 00:17:57,740
sites that we're causing problems and

407
00:18:03,520 --> 00:18:00,920
that went along so often on with some

408
00:18:06,520 --> 00:18:03,530
success but the fact was they were never

409
00:18:08,440 --> 00:18:06,530
ever ever really able to suppress the

410
00:18:10,930 --> 00:18:08,450
cult of the dead as it existed among the

411
00:18:13,120 --> 00:18:10,940
various families I mean if your parent

412
00:18:15,850 --> 00:18:13,130
passed away you would have us a right

413
00:18:18,970 --> 00:18:15,860

and you would have this this a religious

414

00:18:20,650 --> 00:18:18,980

ceremony called the marzia which was

415

00:18:23,800 --> 00:18:20,660

common throughout the whole Near East

416

00:18:25,660 --> 00:18:23,810

and you would drink whatever potion it

417

00:18:27,490 --> 00:18:25,670

was that was provided that was probably

418

00:18:29,740 --> 00:18:27,500

psychoactive a probably included opium

419

00:18:32,980 --> 00:18:29,750

and various mushrooms and you know the

420

00:18:34,240 --> 00:18:32,990

particular recipe didn't matter probably

421

00:18:38,020 --> 00:18:34,250

vary considerably from place to place

422

00:18:40,770 --> 00:18:38,030

and as part of the death ceremony you

423

00:18:43,270 --> 00:18:40,780

would someone or perhaps even these

424

00:18:44,650 --> 00:18:43,280

children would see visions of the

425

00:18:47,320 --> 00:18:44,660

afterlife where they can see the dead

426

00:18:49,990 --> 00:18:47,330

parent and the dead relatives and that

427

00:18:52,690 --> 00:18:50,000

was how that worked but the the

428

00:18:53,860 --> 00:18:52,700

Jerusalem Temple they didn't like that

429

00:18:55,000 --> 00:18:53,870

because they didn't they couldn't

430

00:18:57,280 --> 00:18:55,010

control it they couldn't make any money

431

00:18:59,770 --> 00:18:57,290

off of it it was problem and so they

432

00:19:03,670 --> 00:18:59,780

worked suppress that and it worked to

433

00:19:08,170 --> 00:19:03,680

some extent up until about the time of

434

00:19:10,420 --> 00:19:08,180

the the Babylonian captivity when the

435

00:19:11,980 --> 00:19:10,430

babblings came in took over buddy took

436

00:19:15,910 --> 00:19:11,990

all the elite anyway and care them off

437

00:19:18,010 --> 00:19:15,920

to Babylon for about 50 years the

438

00:19:21,900 --> 00:19:18,020

interesting thing then is that while

439

00:19:24,670 --> 00:19:21,910

they were in Babylon the Hebrew priest

440

00:19:27,070 --> 00:19:24,680

saw how things worked in Babylon and

441

00:19:28,570 --> 00:19:27,080

they like that pretty well because it

442

00:19:30,280 --> 00:19:28,580

was very organized you had a hero

443

00:19:32,080 --> 00:19:30,290

archaea priests you had

444

00:19:34,120 --> 00:19:32,090

one temple and all this and I thought

445

00:19:37,300 --> 00:19:34,130

well you know we could do this back home

446

00:19:40,540 --> 00:19:37,310

too so sure enough 50 years later when

447

00:19:42,700 --> 00:19:40,550

they move back to to to Jerusalem they

448

00:19:45,040 --> 00:19:42,710

more or less kicked everybody out they

449

00:19:47,530 --> 00:19:45,050

took the stuff left over from Moses like

450

00:19:48,460 --> 00:19:47,540

the brazen serpent which was still in

451

00:19:50,470 --> 00:19:48,470

the temple they took it out and

452

00:19:53,890 --> 00:19:50,480

destroyed it and they destroyed anything

453

00:19:56,620 --> 00:19:53,900

that wasn't clearly monotheistic Yahweh

454

00:19:59,140 --> 00:19:56,630

based and then they somehow found this

455

00:20:00,790 --> 00:19:59,150

supposed book you know that told them

456

00:20:03,100 --> 00:20:00,800

that what they had done just now was the

457

00:20:04,690 --> 00:20:03,110

right thing to do and they went on from

458

00:20:07,090 --> 00:20:04,700

there and they continue to try to

459

00:20:10,900 --> 00:20:07,100

suppress these smaller religious groups

460

00:20:12,730 --> 00:20:10,910

outside outside Jerusalem and they had

461

00:20:16,090 --> 00:20:12,740

more or less success there up until

462

00:20:18,850 --> 00:20:16,100

about 200 BC when they actually got

463

00:20:22,750 --> 00:20:18,860

their own Kingdom and once they had a

464

00:20:24,580 --> 00:20:22,760

Jewish King well then they really went

465

00:20:26,290 --> 00:20:24,590

after everybody because they were

466

00:20:29,530 --> 00:20:26,300

determined to get rid of everything that

467

00:20:31,920 --> 00:20:29,540

wasn't Yahweh and the result was that

468

00:20:34,960 --> 00:20:31,930

again all these groups are suppressed

469

00:20:37,840 --> 00:20:34,970

and there was just the one religion up

470

00:20:40,210 --> 00:20:37,850

until Christianity came along now the

471

00:20:41,920 --> 00:20:40,220

problem with Christianity and this is

472

00:20:44,950 --> 00:20:41,930

interesting too if you go back and study

473

00:20:46,420 --> 00:20:44,960

some of the books that are written about

474

00:20:48,790 --> 00:20:46,430

the origins of Christianity you'll find

475

00:20:51,310 --> 00:20:48,800

it it's not really clear exactly when it

476
00:20:53,470 --> 00:20:51,320
started and it appears like the Chisholm

477
00:20:55,330 --> 00:20:53,480
priests were really against Jesus and

478
00:20:57,670 --> 00:20:55,340
his followers and John the Baptist from

479
00:21:00,610 --> 00:20:57,680
the very beginning and that would fit in

480
00:21:03,640 --> 00:21:00,620
with the history that you just painted

481
00:21:06,580 --> 00:21:03,650
there that there was this ongoing battle

482
00:21:10,210 --> 00:21:06,590
for control toward centralization

483
00:21:12,130 --> 00:21:10,220
towards cooperation with other ruling

484
00:21:15,070 --> 00:21:12,140
entities and they didn't like that

485
00:21:16,180 --> 00:21:15,080
diversity and then it comes along I hope

486
00:21:18,250 --> 00:21:16,190
you'll weave into this i'm sure you are

487
00:21:20,440 --> 00:21:18,260
it's a wonderful story history that

488
00:21:23,470 --> 00:21:20,450

you're recounting here but how the Dead

489

00:21:25,810 --> 00:21:23,480

Sea Scrolls come along and and really

490

00:21:28,600 --> 00:21:25,820

substantiate a lot of what the picture

491

00:21:31,600 --> 00:21:28,610

that you're painting about this early

492

00:21:35,080 --> 00:21:31,610

Christian movement not being anything

493

00:21:38,170 --> 00:21:35,090

about Christianity but being much more

494

00:21:39,850 --> 00:21:38,180

about bringing back some of these rights

495

00:21:42,580 --> 00:21:39,860

and bringing back the freedom to

496

00:21:43,660 --> 00:21:42,590

practice their their rights and their

497

00:21:46,180 --> 00:21:43,670

sacraments as

498

00:21:49,540 --> 00:21:46,190

they saw fit which was in conflict with

499

00:21:50,830 --> 00:21:49,550

the Jerusalem church can you I think

500

00:21:52,780 --> 00:21:50,840

that's where you're leading can you fill

501
00:21:56,530 --> 00:21:52,790
in what I'm missing there right yeah

502
00:21:57,790 --> 00:21:56,540
basically they felt that they after than

503
00:21:59,710 --> 00:21:57,800
during the last 200 years they finally

504
00:22:01,390 --> 00:21:59,720
managed to get rid of these guys and

505
00:22:02,980 --> 00:22:01,400
they knew they were still kind of

506
00:22:04,600 --> 00:22:02,990
operating kind of in the hinterlands

507
00:22:07,030 --> 00:22:04,610
like Galilee and the places up north

508
00:22:09,520 --> 00:22:07,040
they Wed hadn't quite been completely

509
00:22:10,840 --> 00:22:09,530
wiped out but so they're sitting pretty

510
00:22:13,180 --> 00:22:10,850
that they're having to deal with the

511
00:22:16,000 --> 00:22:13,190
Romans who are kind of creating problems

512
00:22:18,460 --> 00:22:16,010
but they are very much in control of the

513
00:22:20,970 --> 00:22:18,470

religious rights at least in the

514

00:22:23,380 --> 00:22:20,980

southern part of you know of Palestine

515

00:22:25,300 --> 00:22:23,390

anyway so here there sit and all sudden

516

00:22:26,620 --> 00:22:25,310

this guy shows up and he starts

517

00:22:28,120 --> 00:22:26,630

preaching the stuff about the cult of

518

00:22:29,380 --> 00:22:28,130

dead and it's kind of like you could

519

00:22:32,170 --> 00:22:29,390

just see the priest standing at the

520

00:22:35,620 --> 00:22:32,180

temple wall fame Jesus Christ is he back

521

00:22:37,540 --> 00:22:35,630

again because here's these same things

522

00:22:39,340 --> 00:22:37,550

they work so hard to suppress and here's

523

00:22:41,380 --> 00:22:39,350

this guy who's become a popular figure

524

00:22:43,330 --> 00:22:41,390

and he's preaching the same stuff but

525

00:22:44,950 --> 00:22:43,340

they thought they'd gotten rid of like I

526

00:22:46,540 --> 00:22:44,960

imagine they were just really irritated

527

00:22:48,970 --> 00:22:46,550

and wanted to get rid of him as soon as

528

00:22:51,160 --> 00:22:48,980

possible well and it works both ways to

529

00:22:53,410 --> 00:22:51,170

I mean the evidence that we have suggest

530

00:22:57,190 --> 00:22:53,420

that he was really irritated that those

531

00:22:58,690 --> 00:22:57,200

folks who were against Jerusalem and the

532

00:23:00,670 --> 00:22:58,700

control of the church were really

533

00:23:02,620 --> 00:23:00,680

irritated too because these practices

534

00:23:05,320 --> 00:23:02,630

were very important to them so there's a

535

00:23:06,850 --> 00:23:05,330

genuine conflict yeah yeah I'm sure they

536

00:23:09,610 --> 00:23:06,860

were because these people have been

537

00:23:12,940 --> 00:23:09,620

literally been fighting for 800 years at

538

00:23:16,000 --> 00:23:12,950

least 800 years if we follow the Old

539

00:23:17,860 --> 00:23:16,010

Testament chronology of it yeah and they

540

00:23:19,150 --> 00:23:17,870

and the people in Jerusalem Temple had

541

00:23:21,330 --> 00:23:19,160

thought they'd won it was all over with

542

00:23:23,320 --> 00:23:21,340

it suddenly here these guys again and

543

00:23:26,050 --> 00:23:23,330

they tried everything they could and

544

00:23:28,450 --> 00:23:26,060

they treated Christianity as if it were

545

00:23:31,540 --> 00:23:28,460

heresy because in that in their minds

546

00:23:33,040 --> 00:23:31,550

that's what it was where in fact maybe

547

00:23:34,660 --> 00:23:33,050

they were the heresy they're the ones

548

00:23:36,520 --> 00:23:34,670

who went away from what religion had

549

00:23:38,050 --> 00:23:36,530

been twelve hundred years earlier and if

550

00:23:39,280 --> 00:23:38,060

you want to look at that way 60 both

551

00:23:40,930 --> 00:23:39,290

points of view how was kind of

552

00:23:42,820 --> 00:23:40,940

problematic right and we shouldn't

553

00:23:45,490 --> 00:23:42,830

really even call it Christianity at this

554

00:23:47,860 --> 00:23:45,500

point because this group out in the

555

00:23:51,660 --> 00:23:47,870

hinterlands is really calling for what

556

00:23:54,160 --> 00:23:51,670

they believe is a return to the true

557

00:23:57,010 --> 00:23:54,170

Judaism that that they've always known

558

00:23:59,140 --> 00:23:57,020

right right the Judaism

559

00:24:01,840 --> 00:23:59,150

Bush by Moses this is the mosaic thing

560

00:24:04,450 --> 00:24:01,850

and you see little traces of this two in

561

00:24:06,700 --> 00:24:04,460

the first early Christian books be

562

00:24:09,430 --> 00:24:06,710

written for example an axe they make a

563

00:24:12,820 --> 00:24:09,440

great point of saying that we are

564

00:24:14,230 --> 00:24:12,830

followers of Moses Moses was considered

565

00:24:16,330 --> 00:24:14,240

the most important person and we're

566

00:24:18,670 --> 00:24:16,340

simply going back to mosaic stuff and

567

00:24:21,040 --> 00:24:18,680

you guys the problem there's a line of

568

00:24:22,870 --> 00:24:21,050

that I think I've I've adapted as

569

00:24:24,430 --> 00:24:22,880

slightly but there's a Linus's pretty

570

00:24:25,780 --> 00:24:24,440

much that in the book of Acts no we're

571

00:24:28,060 --> 00:24:25,790

just taking religion back to what it was

572

00:24:32,560 --> 00:24:28,070

the time of Moses and and you guys are

573

00:24:34,570 --> 00:24:32,570

the problem so if that is the history

574

00:24:36,670 --> 00:24:34,580

and there's some controversy there but I

575

00:24:39,040 --> 00:24:36,680

think as your book points out and anyone

576

00:24:42,340 --> 00:24:39,050

who reads your book will see a lot of

577

00:24:43,810 --> 00:24:42,350

references to sources that they can

578

00:24:45,880 --> 00:24:43,820

follow up on and come to their own

579

00:24:49,030 --> 00:24:45,890

conclusions but you pray a pretty

580

00:24:52,720 --> 00:24:49,040

convincing story of that being the case

581

00:24:55,930 --> 00:24:52,730

bring us up to the present where some of

582

00:24:58,420 --> 00:24:55,940

these rites and rituals as you pause it

583

00:25:00,670 --> 00:24:58,430

in your book remain with us today and

584

00:25:03,880 --> 00:25:00,680

they're deeply embedded in in the

585

00:25:06,400 --> 00:25:03,890

symbolism and the sacraments of modern

586

00:25:08,050 --> 00:25:06,410

Christianity and Judaism that people

587

00:25:11,350 --> 00:25:08,060

would be familiar with tell us a little

588

00:25:13,600 --> 00:25:11,360

bit about that okay what what perhaps

589

00:25:16,240 --> 00:25:13,610

the greatest irony of all in my mind is

590

00:25:18,700 --> 00:25:16,250

that once the Christian Church got

591

00:25:21,790 --> 00:25:18,710

established and once it was settled in

592

00:25:24,040 --> 00:25:21,800

Rome and hand or and was very actively

593

00:25:25,600 --> 00:25:24,050

recruiting people suddenly they began

594

00:25:27,820 --> 00:25:25,610

acting just like the Jerusalem Temple

595

00:25:30,640 --> 00:25:27,830

had done they began consolidating power

596

00:25:32,680 --> 00:25:30,650

they began lining up their lines of

597

00:25:35,020 --> 00:25:32,690

power with the Roman authorities and

598

00:25:37,810 --> 00:25:35,030

they got to a point eventually when they

599

00:25:39,130 --> 00:25:37,820

decided that these rights that they was

600

00:25:41,860 --> 00:25:39,140

what they were established on we're

601
00:25:44,850 --> 00:25:41,870
becoming a problem because the issue is

602
00:25:47,890 --> 00:25:44,860
if you're a person who's had a vision of

603
00:25:51,130 --> 00:25:47,900
the Christ and you have a teaching that

604
00:25:53,500 --> 00:25:51,140
can use by way of this mushrooms that

605
00:25:55,210 --> 00:25:53,510
you've eaten you believe your vision is

606
00:25:58,570 --> 00:25:55,220
more important than anything that any of

607
00:26:00,130 --> 00:25:58,580
the priests say and so fairly soon

608
00:26:01,930 --> 00:26:00,140
within after the establishment of

609
00:26:04,120 --> 00:26:01,940
Christianity that the priest began

610
00:26:06,040 --> 00:26:04,130
working to get rid of this and this is

611
00:26:07,630 --> 00:26:06,050
where they this is how they started yet

612
00:26:09,010 --> 00:26:07,640
now they were turning the opposite

613
00:26:10,259 --> 00:26:09,020

direction but now that they had their

614

00:26:11,399 --> 00:26:10,269

hands on the

615

00:26:13,619 --> 00:26:11,409

the power they were going to take

616

00:26:14,940 --> 00:26:13,629

control and so for that's several

617

00:26:18,919 --> 00:26:14,950

hundred years you see the church

618

00:26:21,089 --> 00:26:18,929

struggling to suppress these rights and

619

00:26:22,919 --> 00:26:21,099

driving people out of the catacombs

620

00:26:24,869 --> 00:26:22,929

closing up the catacombs doing

621

00:26:27,539 --> 00:26:24,879

everything can to suppress the soul cult

622

00:26:30,449 --> 00:26:27,549

of the dead and then of course around

623

00:26:32,849 --> 00:26:30,459

six hundred they made all the other

624

00:26:35,249 --> 00:26:32,859

religions besides Christianity illegal

625

00:26:37,859 --> 00:26:35,259

and they had the full force and power of

626

00:26:40,589 --> 00:26:37,869

the Roman Empire and the Roman armies to

627

00:26:44,039 --> 00:26:40,599

to enforce that and people had to go

628

00:26:46,919 --> 00:26:44,049

into hiding all across Europe in Egypt

629

00:26:49,589 --> 00:26:46,929

you have the NAG Hammadi documents being

630

00:26:52,499 --> 00:26:49,599

buried out in the desert and all these

631

00:26:54,180 --> 00:26:52,509

different smaller groups among the celts

632

00:26:56,729 --> 00:26:54,190

and others on the edges of the empire

633

00:26:58,619 --> 00:26:56,739

they all had to go underground I'll tell

634

00:27:01,829 --> 00:26:58,629

you one small piece that really caught

635

00:27:03,449 --> 00:27:01,839

my attention because I was raised in the

636

00:27:05,579 --> 00:27:03,459

Greek Orthodox Church in the Greek

637

00:27:09,029 --> 00:27:05,589

Orthodox tradition and they have this

638

00:27:11,219 --> 00:27:09,039

practice of anointing with oil and once

639

00:27:12,959 --> 00:27:11,229

a year I forget what it is they come and

640

00:27:16,169 --> 00:27:12,969

they dip their thumb a little bit of oil

641

00:27:18,060 --> 00:27:16,179

and they put it on your body and your

642

00:27:19,949 --> 00:27:18,070

book reminded me that that's really

643

00:27:22,709 --> 00:27:19,959

something that's kind of unique to the

644

00:27:25,129 --> 00:27:22,719

to the Orthodox tradition it's been kind

645

00:27:28,109 --> 00:27:25,139

of whittled out of mainstream

646

00:27:31,859 --> 00:27:28,119

Christianity but it has its origins way

647

00:27:37,249 --> 00:27:31,869

way back and it's deeply tied into this

648

00:27:40,319 --> 00:27:37,259

idea of of sacred perhaps hallucinogenic

649

00:27:43,440 --> 00:27:40,329

substances can you maybe tell us about

650

00:27:46,949 --> 00:27:43,450

anointing of anointing how that's woven

651
00:27:49,619 --> 00:27:46,959
in and what the true origin that is well

652
00:27:51,690 --> 00:27:49,629
let me say first of all that I was

653
00:27:53,430 --> 00:27:51,700
raised Southern Baptist and so the whole

654
00:27:56,940 --> 00:27:53,440
idea about anointing just seems to me

655
00:27:58,409 --> 00:27:56,950
very I just don't understand it because

656
00:28:00,839 --> 00:27:58,419
it was never part of my religious

657
00:28:04,049 --> 00:28:00,849
upbringing at all the Baptist don't know

658
00:28:05,519 --> 00:28:04,059
anybody okay in fact they barely have a

659
00:28:06,919 --> 00:28:05,529
communion if you have communion you have

660
00:28:09,629 --> 00:28:06,929
grape juice you don't even get wine

661
00:28:12,029 --> 00:28:09,639
juice and crackers is that you get the

662
00:28:13,919 --> 00:28:12,039
communion but anyway when I first

663
00:28:15,930 --> 00:28:13,929

started writing this book I kept running

664

00:28:19,079 --> 00:28:15,940

across his reference to anointing all

665

00:28:20,819 --> 00:28:19,089

over the place I thought ended there any

666

00:28:22,440 --> 00:28:20,829

Christians anoint and I just couldn't

667

00:28:23,700 --> 00:28:22,450

wrap my mind around it but then as i've

668

00:28:26,490 --> 00:28:23,710

been looking i kept finding

669

00:28:28,680 --> 00:28:26,500

all this stuff in fact apparently early

670

00:28:31,049 --> 00:28:28,690

on in the Christian Church they would

671

00:28:32,820 --> 00:28:31,059

anoint prep for your whole body in fact

672

00:28:34,560 --> 00:28:32,830

this is one passage I think I've put on

673

00:28:37,860 --> 00:28:34,570

my blog I found where they talked about

674

00:28:40,200 --> 00:28:37,870

men and women and getting anointed from

675

00:28:42,269 --> 00:28:40,210

head to foot and this one guy in

676

00:28:45,360 --> 00:28:42,279

particular even had his teeth anointed

677

00:28:47,610 --> 00:28:45,370

which I thought was really strange but

678

00:28:49,440 --> 00:28:47,620

the whole idea was to drive out these

679

00:28:51,960 --> 00:28:49,450

evil spirits that were inside your body

680

00:28:54,570 --> 00:28:51,970

and by then that's what you accomplished

681

00:28:57,240 --> 00:28:54,580

by putting this anointing oil on and

682

00:29:00,060 --> 00:28:57,250

this anointing oil probably had a

683

00:29:03,389 --> 00:29:00,070

variety of hallucinogens if you look at

684

00:29:06,389 --> 00:29:03,399

that one book the golden half that was

685

00:29:09,180 --> 00:29:06,399

the Roman novel a guy and their

686

00:29:11,730 --> 00:29:09,190

describes a pagan Rite where he gets

687

00:29:14,190 --> 00:29:11,740

anointed and he says if he felt like his

688

00:29:16,260 --> 00:29:14,200

whole body was put on fire because it

689

00:29:17,909 --> 00:29:16,270

was so strong I imagine the anointing

690

00:29:20,789 --> 00:29:17,919

that the Christians are the Christians

691

00:29:22,049 --> 00:29:20,799

it probably had very similar qualities

692

00:29:25,139 --> 00:29:22,059

you probably had this burning sensation

693

00:29:26,940 --> 00:29:25,149

on all of your skin and this sense of

694

00:29:29,220 --> 00:29:26,950

all these evil spirits being driven out

695

00:29:32,159 --> 00:29:29,230

by this sacred fire that was associated

696

00:29:34,110 --> 00:29:32,169

with the Holy Spirit and you're quite

697

00:29:35,789 --> 00:29:34,120

right the anointing continued in the

698

00:29:39,060 --> 00:29:35,799

Orthodox Church to a much greater degree

699

00:29:42,240 --> 00:29:39,070

than it did in the Roman Church because

700

00:29:44,490 --> 00:29:42,250

I think as time went on they just felt

701
00:29:46,590 --> 00:29:44,500
it was safer to get away from that does

702
00:29:49,320 --> 00:29:46,600
that make a cent absolutely so again

703
00:29:51,090 --> 00:29:49,330
it's one of these cases where and again

704
00:29:55,110 --> 00:29:51,100
you point out in the book some strong

705
00:29:57,899 --> 00:29:55,120
evidence to suggest that this ritual

706
00:30:00,029 --> 00:29:57,909
that still carried on today in thousands

707
00:30:02,360 --> 00:30:00,039
and thousands of churches has its

708
00:30:05,580 --> 00:30:02,370
origins with some kind of other

709
00:30:08,580 --> 00:30:05,590
psychoactive substance that is all in

710
00:30:11,130 --> 00:30:08,590
through time been disjointed from the

711
00:30:12,810 --> 00:30:11,140
original purpose of it but we have to go

712
00:30:14,039 --> 00:30:12,820
back and try and recreate that history

713
00:30:16,500 --> 00:30:14,049

which is what you do in your book and

714

00:30:19,620 --> 00:30:16,510

it's fascinating thank you thank you I

715

00:30:22,710 --> 00:30:19,630

it's kind of a labor of love that's gone

716

00:30:25,080 --> 00:30:22,720

on for a long long time and I feel I've

717

00:30:27,630 --> 00:30:25,090

come up with a very good theory of how

718

00:30:30,149 --> 00:30:27,640

Krishna came to existence and I'm

719

00:30:31,980 --> 00:30:30,159

surprised more people aren't jumping on

720

00:30:34,230 --> 00:30:31,990

this and saying yeah this is this is the

721

00:30:36,960 --> 00:30:34,240

way things really began it's not this

722

00:30:37,560 --> 00:30:36,970

story about these prophets traveling all

723

00:30:39,990 --> 00:30:37,570

the places

724

00:30:42,090 --> 00:30:40,000

being persecuted in and converting

725

00:30:44,250 --> 00:30:42,100

people it's not so much data but but how

726

00:30:46,020 --> 00:30:44,260

they did it they did it by way of these

727

00:30:48,210 --> 00:30:46,030

rights were you anointed people these

728

00:30:51,270 --> 00:30:48,220

special oils and they had these these

729

00:30:53,460 --> 00:30:51,280

communion with these various substances

730

00:30:55,320 --> 00:30:53,470

they were part of the Eucharist and and

731

00:30:56,820 --> 00:30:55,330

those things got pushed out of

732

00:30:59,340 --> 00:30:56,830

Christianity within the first couple

733

00:31:02,520 --> 00:30:59,350

hundred years and they went just a plain

734

00:31:06,540 --> 00:31:02,530

bread and playing wine and oils that

735

00:31:08,700 --> 00:31:06,550

were just no different from Wesson oil I

736

00:31:10,260 --> 00:31:08,710

guess practically anymore I suppose I

737

00:31:12,180 --> 00:31:10,270

suppose today a Catholic priest goes

738

00:31:14,340 --> 00:31:12,190

down the shopping bag at your our

739

00:31:16,350 --> 00:31:14,350

Western oil use that annoying people for

740

00:31:19,910 --> 00:31:16,360

all the difference to make right right

741

00:31:23,070 --> 00:31:19,920

okay but I think we've kind of come to

742

00:31:26,070 --> 00:31:23,080

the the junction point here the rub if

743

00:31:28,800 --> 00:31:26,080

you will and that's that so great why

744

00:31:30,990 --> 00:31:28,810

aren't more people jumping on this why

745

00:31:34,440 --> 00:31:31,000

aren't more scholars trying to connect

746

00:31:37,170 --> 00:31:34,450

this and I feel like there's an elephant

747

00:31:39,780 --> 00:31:37,180

in the room here and that we have to

748

00:31:42,120 --> 00:31:39,790

deal with it I mean you are an atheist

749

00:31:43,650 --> 00:31:42,130

and pretty much for hardcore atheist if

750

00:31:45,600 --> 00:31:43,660

there is such a thing but you're in

751
00:31:47,970 --> 00:31:45,610
atheist groups and you publish atheist

752
00:31:50,130 --> 00:31:47,980
books and all that then that has nothing

753
00:31:52,680 --> 00:31:50,140
to do with this masterful job you've

754
00:31:55,500 --> 00:31:52,690
done of weaving together this history

755
00:31:58,680 --> 00:31:55,510
but it does make me wonder are you

756
00:32:03,650 --> 00:31:58,690
coming at this from a biased perspective

757
00:32:06,930 --> 00:32:03,660
and are you trying to jam all of these

758
00:32:09,240 --> 00:32:06,940
accounts back into this we're all

759
00:32:12,270 --> 00:32:09,250
biological robots so there couldn't be

760
00:32:15,480 --> 00:32:12,280
any possibility of life after death

761
00:32:18,650 --> 00:32:15,490
perspective the question is are these

762
00:32:21,750 --> 00:32:18,660
people using hallucinogenics to

763
00:32:25,080 --> 00:32:21,760

experience something real or are they

764

00:32:28,880 --> 00:32:25,090

using hallucinogenics and having a

765

00:32:31,800 --> 00:32:28,890

brain-based experience that is a

766

00:32:34,050 --> 00:32:31,810

hallucination well that's that's a good

767

00:32:36,810 --> 00:32:34,060

question but it's it's a question that

768

00:32:41,370 --> 00:32:36,820

I've I feel I'm not qualified to answer

769

00:32:44,820 --> 00:32:41,380

I mean it was very nice it's at the

770

00:32:48,420 --> 00:32:44,830

center it's at the center of the book

771

00:32:50,770 --> 00:32:48,430

because I your book can be a totally

772

00:32:52,810 --> 00:32:50,780

true and factual

773

00:32:54,190 --> 00:32:52,820

but it doesn't get at this this question

774

00:32:55,690 --> 00:32:54,200

you know I recently had a chance to

775

00:32:57,550 --> 00:32:55,700

interview just recently this guy this

776

00:32:59,860 --> 00:32:57,560

directly relates to what we're talking

777

00:33:01,990 --> 00:32:59,870

about his name is talaat Phillips the

778

00:33:04,720 --> 00:33:02,000

title of his book is the electric jeezus

779

00:33:08,100 --> 00:33:04,730

he's this political activist who was an

780

00:33:10,780 --> 00:33:08,110

atheist and then went on this rather

781

00:33:13,630 --> 00:33:10,790

amazing kind of journey using all sorts

782

00:33:17,110 --> 00:33:13,640

of different hallucinogenic drugs and

783

00:33:19,210 --> 00:33:17,120

ayahuasca and dmt and mushrooms and all

784

00:33:22,450 --> 00:33:19,220

the rest of this and he becomes this

785

00:33:24,790 --> 00:33:22,460

kind of modern-day Gnostic who's

786

00:33:26,920 --> 00:33:24,800

convinced like thousands of other people

787

00:33:31,090 --> 00:33:26,930

are through their personal existence

788

00:33:33,040 --> 00:33:31,100

that he is accessing these other realms

789

00:33:35,410 --> 00:33:33,050

and that there's a reality to these

790

00:33:38,440 --> 00:33:35,420

other realms so this is modern this is

791

00:33:40,630 --> 00:33:38,450

today how do we read that story into

792

00:33:43,600 --> 00:33:40,640

your story the way that I would read it

793

00:33:46,780 --> 00:33:43,610

is just taking it at face value is that

794

00:33:49,960 --> 00:33:46,790

there is something real to these realms

795

00:33:53,080 --> 00:33:49,970

and these folks are accessing it and it

796

00:33:56,340 --> 00:33:53,090

puts a totally different spin on the

797

00:33:58,840 --> 00:33:56,350

creation of these religions and the

798

00:34:01,480 --> 00:33:58,850

perpetuation of these religions is that

799

00:34:04,630 --> 00:34:01,490

they were really getting something real

800

00:34:08,080 --> 00:34:04,640

out of the experience not just a trip

801
00:34:11,950 --> 00:34:08,090
and a fake experience well my hope and

802
00:34:15,280 --> 00:34:11,960
if my book has any success all in

803
00:34:17,680 --> 00:34:15,290
ultimately my hope is that the existing

804
00:34:19,659 --> 00:34:17,690
religious groups whether they're already

805
00:34:21,310 --> 00:34:19,669
established ones are newly formed ones

806
00:34:22,810 --> 00:34:21,320
or if you call the new age groups or

807
00:34:24,700 --> 00:34:22,820
whatever I think they need to start

808
00:34:26,710 --> 00:34:24,710
seriously thinking about trying these

809
00:34:29,409 --> 00:34:26,720
things again getting back into a

810
00:34:32,350 --> 00:34:29,419
spiritual connection using these various

811
00:34:33,760 --> 00:34:32,360
religions and and see if they can make

812
00:34:35,889 --> 00:34:33,770
them work and if they improve their

813
00:34:37,320 --> 00:34:35,899

religious experience because we got to

814

00:34:39,399 --> 00:34:37,330

get away from this world where

815

00:34:40,870 --> 00:34:39,409

everything you decide if you're

816

00:34:42,730 --> 00:34:40,880

religious or not based on what your

817

00:34:44,620 --> 00:34:42,740

standards on abortion or you or you

818

00:34:46,270 --> 00:34:44,630

decide what I what your religion is

819

00:34:48,669 --> 00:34:46,280

based on how you feel about gun

820

00:34:50,200 --> 00:34:48,679

ownership or or any of a dozen other

821

00:34:52,690 --> 00:34:50,210

issues that are pressed as being

822

00:34:55,180 --> 00:34:52,700

religious these days and get back to

823

00:34:56,950 --> 00:34:55,190

some national direct experience of the

824

00:34:59,080 --> 00:34:56,960

divine in it and I think this is

825

00:35:01,900 --> 00:34:59,090

something that the church has gotten so

826

00:35:04,450 --> 00:35:01,910

far away from now you know that it's got

827

00:35:07,660 --> 00:35:04,460

ridiculous and they need to to step up

828

00:35:09,520 --> 00:35:07,670

and do this and not quit and quit this

829

00:35:11,980 --> 00:35:09,530

stuff about you know and it's nice if

830

00:35:13,930 --> 00:35:11,990

your church has just you know food to

831

00:35:16,000 --> 00:35:13,940

the poor has a soup kitchen it's nice if

832

00:35:17,890 --> 00:35:16,010

your church helps support on when

833

00:35:20,109 --> 00:35:17,900

mothers or any of these other dozens of

834

00:35:21,310 --> 00:35:20,119

different social issues but if people

835

00:35:23,500 --> 00:35:21,320

are going to your church and they're not

836

00:35:25,930 --> 00:35:23,510

having experienced the divine then what

837

00:35:28,630 --> 00:35:25,940

are you good for I hear you and as a

838

00:35:30,910 --> 00:35:28,640

matter of fact to lot Phillip so I just

839

00:35:33,790 --> 00:35:30,920

talked about he's directly involved in a

840

00:35:36,280 --> 00:35:33,800

church in that does just that they use

841

00:35:39,550 --> 00:35:36,290

ayahuasca some derivative of ayahuasca

842

00:35:42,250 --> 00:35:39,560

which is of course DMT is the

843

00:35:44,710 --> 00:35:42,260

psychoactive element in that but to have

844

00:35:48,250 --> 00:35:44,720

this direct religious Christian

845

00:35:50,290 --> 00:35:48,260

experience that then they work into it's

846

00:35:52,750 --> 00:35:50,300

it's fundamental to their religion saw I

847

00:35:54,820 --> 00:35:52,760

don't know if hallucinogenics are the

848

00:35:56,589 --> 00:35:54,830

answer but I think that it's certainly

849

00:35:59,079 --> 00:35:56,599

what you're what you're positing there

850

00:36:02,050 --> 00:35:59,089

or what you're putting forth makes a ton

851
00:36:04,329 --> 00:36:02,060
of sense yeah I'm sorry but I did want

852
00:36:05,920 --> 00:36:04,339
to push a tiny bit further I understand

853
00:36:08,440 --> 00:36:05,930
your position I think that's a fair one

854
00:36:10,089 --> 00:36:08,450
to say you've done a fantastic job

855
00:36:12,250 --> 00:36:10,099
you've done your work so you can sit

856
00:36:14,500 --> 00:36:12,260
back and say okay it's for other people

857
00:36:16,750 --> 00:36:14,510
to pick it up and push it this way or

858
00:36:20,470 --> 00:36:16,760
push it that way but I do again think

859
00:36:22,540 --> 00:36:20,480
that this issue of consciousness

860
00:36:24,550 --> 00:36:22,550
surviving death is fundamental to

861
00:36:27,010 --> 00:36:24,560
understanding this history you know and

862
00:36:31,650 --> 00:36:27,020
another former guest we've had on this

863
00:36:34,720 --> 00:36:31,660

show is critical care physician cornell

864

00:36:38,290 --> 00:36:34,730

university professor and dr. of

865

00:36:40,570 --> 00:36:38,300

resuscitation dr. Sam ponyo and this is

866

00:36:42,370 --> 00:36:40,580

a guy who studied cardiac arrest

867

00:36:44,890 --> 00:36:42,380

patients for I don't know 10 20 years

868

00:36:46,630 --> 00:36:44,900

and has finally come around to the

869

00:36:49,060 --> 00:36:46,640

conclusion that every other near-death

870

00:36:51,520 --> 00:36:49,070

experience researcher has come around to

871

00:36:56,050 --> 00:36:51,530

and that is that consciousness survives

872

00:36:57,370 --> 00:36:56,060

death so your book as well as these

873

00:37:00,730 --> 00:36:57,380

religions that we're talking about

874

00:37:03,280 --> 00:37:00,740

Christianity Judaism Islam are embedded

875

00:37:05,349 --> 00:37:03,290

in this culture that kind of has this

876

00:37:07,120 --> 00:37:05,359

schizophrenia because on one hand we

877

00:37:09,339 --> 00:37:07,130

have science saying no no no no there

878

00:37:11,440 --> 00:37:09,349

can't be anything after death there

879

00:37:14,400 --> 00:37:11,450

cannot be survival of consciousness and

880

00:37:17,870 --> 00:37:14,410

then you have these religions that just

881

00:37:19,790 --> 00:37:17,880

blindly say oh yeah there's

882

00:37:22,250 --> 00:37:19,800

there's some truth to that and this is

883

00:37:24,470 --> 00:37:22,260

what it is it's only our way and now we

884

00:37:26,180 --> 00:37:24,480

have science coming in between and

885

00:37:29,030 --> 00:37:26,190

saying well I don't know about what

886

00:37:30,710 --> 00:37:29,040

either side of you're saying but our

887

00:37:33,800 --> 00:37:30,720

evidence suggests that there is a

888

00:37:36,500 --> 00:37:33,810

reality to survival of consciousness

889

00:37:39,530 --> 00:37:36,510

there is a reality to life after death

890

00:37:41,480 --> 00:37:39,540

if you will and I don't know how we're

891

00:37:44,270 --> 00:37:41,490

going to be able to sort all that out

892

00:37:45,860 --> 00:37:44,280

and then go back and reclaim our history

893

00:37:49,520 --> 00:37:45,870

it seems to be almost too big of a

894

00:37:53,270 --> 00:37:49,530

challenge yeah I'm kind of at a loss to

895

00:37:54,680 --> 00:37:53,280

to know exactly what Thresh to take and

896

00:37:57,110 --> 00:37:54,690

I think I've painted a pretty good

897

00:37:59,000 --> 00:37:57,120

picture of where religions came from but

898

00:38:00,950 --> 00:37:59,010

the real challenge is trying to figure

899

00:38:02,810 --> 00:38:00,960

out which direction religions go into

900

00:38:05,120 --> 00:38:02,820

the future are they going to continue

901
00:38:07,160 --> 00:38:05,130
with these political Crusades constantly

902
00:38:08,690 --> 00:38:07,170
or are they are they actually going to

903
00:38:12,080 --> 00:38:08,700
do something that actually helps

904
00:38:16,070 --> 00:38:12,090
somebody for a change I just wish I knew

905
00:38:18,320 --> 00:38:16,080
what why I can do except try to get

906
00:38:21,920 --> 00:38:18,330
people a better sense of where they came

907
00:38:23,630 --> 00:38:21,930
from and what it was the founders of

908
00:38:26,090 --> 00:38:23,640
their religions actually did and

909
00:38:29,180 --> 00:38:26,100
speaking here to also is la meeeeee I

910
00:38:31,970 --> 00:38:29,190
didn't go into that at all in my in my

911
00:38:34,190 --> 00:38:31,980
book but there I found some interesting

912
00:38:36,590 --> 00:38:34,200
stuff there too that I think could be

913
00:38:39,380 --> 00:38:36,600

explored then there's all strange stuff

914

00:38:43,100 --> 00:38:39,390

in Islam to has put that way but anyway

915

00:38:45,680 --> 00:38:43,110

no there's a there's certainly a role to

916

00:38:47,450 --> 00:38:45,690

be played by religious belief and if it

917

00:38:49,040 --> 00:38:47,460

turns out that there is life after death

918

00:38:50,660 --> 00:38:49,050

well that would be a wonderful thing too

919

00:38:51,770 --> 00:38:50,670

but that's not what the current churches

920

00:38:53,450 --> 00:38:51,780

are doing this they hope there's life

921

00:38:54,620 --> 00:38:53,460

after death why you can discuss it and

922

00:38:57,560 --> 00:38:54,630

then they just go on with their merry

923

00:38:59,750 --> 00:38:57,570

way with their weather brick bake sales

924

00:39:01,820 --> 00:38:59,760

or whatever you know I I guess I don't

925

00:39:04,780 --> 00:39:01,830

understand that fair enough so the book

926

00:39:08,120 --> 00:39:04,790

again is from the body of the gods

927

00:39:11,180 --> 00:39:08,130

psychoactive plants and the cults of the

928

00:39:13,070 --> 00:39:11,190

dead Earl if i could i just wanted to

929

00:39:15,980 --> 00:39:13,080

mention you have a couple of other blogs

930

00:39:18,140 --> 00:39:15,990

that you maintain with some interesting

931

00:39:20,270 --> 00:39:18,150

little tidbits that i've pulled out i

932

00:39:22,130 --> 00:39:20,280

want to just touch on a couple they

933

00:39:23,300 --> 00:39:22,140

don't really relate directly to what

934

00:39:26,170 --> 00:39:23,310

we've talked about it found them

935

00:39:28,990 --> 00:39:26,180

fascinating one is this account of

936

00:39:31,670 --> 00:39:29,000

Sigmund Freud and one of his children

937

00:39:34,329 --> 00:39:31,680

talking about going with their far

938

00:39:37,190 --> 00:39:34,339

they're for a session of gathering

939

00:39:40,190 --> 00:39:37,200

psychoactive mushrooms in the forest

940

00:39:42,339 --> 00:39:40,200

tell us about that well it was really

941

00:39:46,280 --> 00:39:42,349

strange but back when I first began

942

00:39:48,890 --> 00:39:46,290

reading about a Manitou muscaria

943

00:39:50,569 --> 00:39:48,900

mushrooms and where they grow and this

944

00:39:52,040 --> 00:39:50,579

sort of thing now these are the

945

00:39:54,380 --> 00:39:52,050

mushrooms that are associated with

946

00:39:56,569 --> 00:39:54,390

Christmas their leg grow under Christmas

947

00:39:59,390 --> 00:39:56,579

trees they're brightly red and they grow

948

00:40:00,890 --> 00:39:59,400

in that area in Germany and other in

949

00:40:03,290 --> 00:40:00,900

Europe and other places right is that

950

00:40:04,819 --> 00:40:03,300

the mushroom right they pretty much grow

951
00:40:07,690 --> 00:40:04,829
at high altitudes in the mountains but

952
00:40:10,670 --> 00:40:07,700
they can be in Germany or the Pyrenees

953
00:40:12,020 --> 00:40:10,680
any high altitude it has the right kind

954
00:40:13,549 --> 00:40:12,030
of trees which are basically I think

955
00:40:16,190 --> 00:40:13,559
cedar and a couple other varieties that

956
00:40:18,109 --> 00:40:16,200
are going to grow and also you can find

957
00:40:19,730 --> 00:40:18,119
big often grow where a tree has died

958
00:40:21,260 --> 00:40:19,740
because that's where the fairy rings

959
00:40:23,859 --> 00:40:21,270
come from we actually see a ring of

960
00:40:26,210 --> 00:40:23,869
mushrooms where a dead tree used to be

961
00:40:28,069 --> 00:40:26,220
but yeah the *Imagine muscari* are a

962
00:40:30,410 --> 00:40:28,079
bright red or bright yellow and they had

963
00:40:33,410 --> 00:40:30,420

these little white spots on their pretty

964

00:40:36,170 --> 00:40:33,420

distinctive anyway I was reading this

965

00:40:38,599 --> 00:40:36,180

book about a woman had written a book

966

00:40:41,150 --> 00:40:38,609

about the Freud archives and she had a

967

00:40:45,200 --> 00:40:41,160

cold in there where she quoted a Ford

968

00:40:46,730 --> 00:40:45,210

son his memoir and in there he described

969

00:40:48,319 --> 00:40:46,740

his father taking him out in the woods

970

00:40:50,839 --> 00:40:48,329

to look for these amenta muscaria

971

00:40:53,270 --> 00:40:50,849

mushrooms and I'm like what this is not

972

00:40:56,030 --> 00:40:53,280

something I heard of it in reading about

973

00:40:57,380 --> 00:40:56,040

Freud or any of his life and so I went

974

00:40:59,839 --> 00:40:57,390

back to the original source and read

975

00:41:02,809 --> 00:40:59,849

martin Freud's memoir sure enough he

976

00:41:04,849 --> 00:41:02,819

describes his father Sigmund Freud

977

00:41:06,770 --> 00:41:04,859

taking him and his brothers and sisters

978

00:41:10,220 --> 00:41:06,780

out into the woods in the mountains and

979

00:41:13,430 --> 00:41:10,230

Alps and hunting for these red and white

980

00:41:14,809 --> 00:41:13,440

mushrooms and it's pretty clear that's

981

00:41:17,270 --> 00:41:14,819

what they're looking for except that

982

00:41:18,530 --> 00:41:17,280

Freud was kind of deceiving them too

983

00:41:19,849 --> 00:41:18,540

because he's saying yeah we're looking

984

00:41:21,410 --> 00:41:19,859

for these red and white mushrooms but

985

00:41:24,410 --> 00:41:21,420

we're not hate those were these other

986

00:41:25,700 --> 00:41:24,420

mushrooms that grow nearby and so he had

987

00:41:27,920 --> 00:41:25,710

the kids looking for these red and white

988

00:41:29,510 --> 00:41:27,930

mushrooms I'm sure when he found them

989

00:41:31,220 --> 00:41:29,520

he'd remember where their little patch

990

00:41:32,270 --> 00:41:31,230

was and then come back later to get them

991

00:41:34,819 --> 00:41:32,280

but he had them out there looking

992

00:41:36,230 --> 00:41:34,829

actually for these edible mushrooms the

993

00:41:38,720 --> 00:41:36,240

problem is the end of emotions I don't

994

00:41:41,210 --> 00:41:38,730

think growing the same Norman in the

995

00:41:42,770 --> 00:41:41,220

same area that the managers grow so that

996

00:41:45,230 --> 00:41:42,780

whole story doesn't make any sense to me

997

00:41:47,450 --> 00:41:45,240

but anyway I wrote

998

00:41:49,930 --> 00:41:47,460

an essay about this and put it in my

999

00:41:52,420 --> 00:41:49,940

book I published some years ago called

1000

00:41:54,859 --> 00:41:52,430

libraries in the age of mediocrity and

1001

00:41:57,320 --> 00:41:54,869

most of the book deals with the

1002

00:41:59,600 --> 00:41:57,330

censorship issues and libraries and and

1003

00:42:02,120 --> 00:41:59,610

libertarian ideas but there was that one

1004

00:42:03,950 --> 00:42:02,130

chapter on Freudian and the funny part

1005

00:42:05,690 --> 00:42:03,960

is everybody who read the book said oh

1006

00:42:09,290 --> 00:42:05,700

yeah that book was really good but that

1007

00:42:11,000 --> 00:42:09,300

are contrary that was just weird and

1008

00:42:12,170 --> 00:42:11,010

it's like you know and that's what

1009

00:42:13,700 --> 00:42:12,180

that's weird but we're gonna ignore that

1010

00:42:15,620 --> 00:42:13,710

for right I was like no one wanted to

1011

00:42:17,840 --> 00:42:15,630

hear it and the fact is I don't think

1012

00:42:21,560 --> 00:42:17,850

even after you know more than a decade

1013

00:42:23,840 --> 00:42:21,570

that anybody in the psychology field has

1014

00:42:25,730 --> 00:42:23,850

looked at at why store seem to even care

1015

00:42:28,700 --> 00:42:25,740

I don't think the people who are writing

1016

00:42:31,190 --> 00:42:28,710

biographies are for today even are aware

1017

00:42:33,590 --> 00:42:31,200

that I've said anything well it's it's

1018

00:42:35,720 --> 00:42:33,600

just this taboo and I think you know as

1019

00:42:37,430 --> 00:42:35,730

you quote in the book terence mckenna

1020

00:42:39,320 --> 00:42:37,440

has probably done more than anyone else

1021

00:42:42,170 --> 00:42:39,330

or did more than anyone else while he

1022

00:42:43,910 --> 00:42:42,180

was alive and just kind of laying out

1023

00:42:46,160 --> 00:42:43,920

how obvious this is i mean these people

1024

00:42:48,590 --> 00:42:46,170

are out there certainly not Freud as a

1025

00:42:50,540 --> 00:42:48,600

as a modern but ancient people were out

1026

00:42:52,910 --> 00:42:50,550

there eating everything they could you

1027

00:42:55,609 --> 00:42:52,920

know their porridge in through Andy why

1028

00:42:59,599 --> 00:42:55,619

would they not come across these

1029

00:43:00,980 --> 00:42:59,609

substances and use them and then given

1030

00:43:02,960 --> 00:43:00,990

that these substances are creating these

1031

00:43:04,790 --> 00:43:02,970

amazing experiences and maybe they're

1032

00:43:07,099 --> 00:43:04,800

all brain-based like you think or maybe

1033

00:43:09,470 --> 00:43:07,109

they truly are allowing these people to

1034

00:43:13,359 --> 00:43:09,480

access other realms like I think either

1035

00:43:16,340 --> 00:43:13,369

way we seem to be bound and determined

1036

00:43:18,440 --> 00:43:16,350

to not include that in our history and

1037

00:43:20,930 --> 00:43:18,450

and paint this narrative that totally

1038

00:43:22,790 --> 00:43:20,940

excludes that from ever happening when

1039

00:43:24,290 --> 00:43:22,800

it's obvious that it did happen and I

1040

00:43:26,359 --> 00:43:24,300

think frauds just another example of

1041

00:43:27,920 --> 00:43:26,369

that well the other thing too is the

1042

00:43:29,830 --> 00:43:27,930

word in the middle of this drug war and

1043

00:43:34,010 --> 00:43:29,840

anything that smacks in any way of

1044

00:43:35,450 --> 00:43:34,020

exactly it is is taboo and instead of

1045

00:43:37,550 --> 00:43:35,460

ending the drug war which is what I

1046

00:43:39,109 --> 00:43:37,560

think a lot of people hoped that Obama

1047

00:43:41,380 --> 00:43:39,119

would do and yet elected he's making it

1048

00:43:43,730 --> 00:43:41,390

worse he's amped up the drug war oh

1049

00:43:45,440 --> 00:43:43,740

don't even get us started on the whole

1050

00:43:48,170 --> 00:43:45,450

political thing of course Obama is

1051
00:43:50,660 --> 00:43:48,180
obvious at this point a pure extension

1052
00:43:52,370 --> 00:43:50,670
of george w bush's most important

1053
00:43:53,750 --> 00:43:52,380
policies and anyone who doesn't see that

1054
00:43:55,849 --> 00:43:53,760
or thinks that there really is a

1055
00:43:58,350 --> 00:43:55,859
left-right paradigm in this country is

1056
00:43:59,700 --> 00:43:58,360
asleep at the switch but wait wait wait

1057
00:44:01,080 --> 00:43:59,710
gone there and I've jumped into that

1058
00:44:03,540 --> 00:44:01,090
whole thing I tell you what I want to

1059
00:44:06,210 --> 00:44:03,550
real quickly pick up on one other little

1060
00:44:08,910 --> 00:44:06,220
tidbit and again it's something that I

1061
00:44:10,500 --> 00:44:08,920
guess I kind of knew or a lot of people

1062
00:44:12,870 --> 00:44:10,510
know is out there but you did a great

1063
00:44:15,570 --> 00:44:12,880

job of really adding a little bit

1064

00:44:18,180 --> 00:44:15,580

something to it and that's Joseph Smith

1065

00:44:23,130 --> 00:44:18,190

one of the founders of the Mormon

1066

00:44:26,310 --> 00:44:23,140

religion and you document his use and

1067

00:44:28,910 --> 00:44:26,320

his father's use of this pearstone scam

1068

00:44:31,470 --> 00:44:28,920

can you tell us a little bit about that

1069

00:44:33,900 --> 00:44:31,480

well it's it's interesting because this

1070

00:44:37,740 --> 00:44:33,910

is all it's all been clearly documented

1071

00:44:40,500 --> 00:44:37,750

it's been known since the 1970s that and

1072

00:44:43,200 --> 00:44:40,510

even before then that basically Joseph

1073

00:44:46,710 --> 00:44:43,210

Smith was a scam artist like his father

1074

00:44:48,870 --> 00:44:46,720

and they ran this scam where they would

1075

00:44:51,870 --> 00:44:48,880

go to say a rich farmer and they'd say

1076

00:44:54,030 --> 00:44:51,880

oh we've used our little magic stone

1077

00:44:55,560 --> 00:44:54,040

here look through we can and we can tell

1078

00:44:57,750 --> 00:44:55,570

there's pirate treasure or whatever

1079

00:45:00,690 --> 00:44:57,760

Indian treasure buried on your farm and

1080

00:45:02,490 --> 00:45:00,700

for a small fee we will help you find it

1081

00:45:04,590 --> 00:45:02,500

and you can get your workers to dig it

1082

00:45:06,510 --> 00:45:04,600

up and then you'll be rich and they

1083

00:45:08,460 --> 00:45:06,520

found lots of farmers who thought all

1084

00:45:09,600 --> 00:45:08,470

this makes sense and so they collect

1085

00:45:10,980 --> 00:45:09,610

their fee and they go up there with

1086

00:45:12,810 --> 00:45:10,990

their little stone they hold up their

1087

00:45:14,490 --> 00:45:12,820

eyes others the treasure is buried right

1088

00:45:16,140 --> 00:45:14,500

over there and so the farm workers would

1089

00:45:18,240 --> 00:45:16,150

get their shovels and start digging

1090

00:45:20,820 --> 00:45:18,250

start digging he was oh it's just a

1091

00:45:22,830 --> 00:45:20,830

little bit farther you know he played

1092

00:45:24,540 --> 00:45:22,840

them along as its kind playing a fishy

1093

00:45:26,340 --> 00:45:24,550

plan as long as he still had his

1094

00:45:28,530 --> 00:45:26,350

audience then suddenly he would say oh

1095

00:45:30,660 --> 00:45:28,540

wait a minute nobody goes have taken the

1096

00:45:33,090 --> 00:45:30,670

treasure away oh it's gone that's too

1097

00:45:35,730 --> 00:45:33,100

bad sorry about that and it leaves right

1098

00:45:38,370 --> 00:45:35,740

with his feet now this is a historical

1099

00:45:41,370 --> 00:45:38,380

fact that Joseph Smith's father is

1100

00:45:43,170 --> 00:45:41,380

actually arrested for this tried for

1101

00:45:44,580 --> 00:45:43,180

this he's known to be this kind of

1102

00:45:46,740 --> 00:45:44,590

swindler right i mean this is in right

1103

00:45:49,020 --> 00:45:46,750

and the historical record well the

1104

00:45:51,870 --> 00:45:49,030

interesting too is in the 1970s actually

1105

00:45:54,360 --> 00:45:51,880

found a rest record of some kind for

1106

00:45:56,070 --> 00:45:54,370

Joseph Smith himself that they hadn't

1107

00:45:57,960 --> 00:45:56,080

found that until then I'm not quite sure

1108

00:45:59,460 --> 00:45:57,970

why they didn't find it earlier but

1109

00:46:01,710 --> 00:45:59,470

there actually is a wreck for Smith

1110

00:46:04,110 --> 00:46:01,720

himself too so he's also clearly the

1111

00:46:06,420 --> 00:46:04,120

police he thought of him as one of the

1112

00:46:08,940 --> 00:46:06,430

usual suspects yeah and then obviously

1113

00:46:10,290 --> 00:46:08,950

the connection if anyone doesn't know it

1114

00:46:11,610 --> 00:46:10,300

go ahead and tell people the connection

1115

00:46:16,170 --> 00:46:11,620

between that and

1116

00:46:18,810 --> 00:46:16,180

the Mormon Church well when he some time

1117

00:46:22,530 --> 00:46:18,820

later when he decided to found this

1118

00:46:25,020 --> 00:46:22,540

church he he claims to have found these

1119

00:46:26,880 --> 00:46:25,030

golden plates that were hidden that the

1120

00:46:29,550 --> 00:46:26,890

angel Moroni helped him find his golden

1121

00:46:31,500 --> 00:46:29,560

plates and he would interpret them by

1122

00:46:32,640 --> 00:46:31,510

looking through this pearstone at the

1123

00:46:35,010 --> 00:46:32,650

plates because you couldn't actually

1124

00:46:36,800 --> 00:46:35,020

read writing on the plates you had used

1125

00:46:39,750 --> 00:46:36,810

the pier stone to look at the plate and

1126

00:46:42,660 --> 00:46:39,760

interpret what it said so the pier stone

1127

00:46:44,400 --> 00:46:42,670

continued to be part of his story in

1128

00:46:47,040 --> 00:46:44,410

establishing writing the book of the

1129

00:46:49,890 --> 00:46:47,050

Mormon establishing the Mormon Church

1130

00:46:52,710 --> 00:46:49,900

but it was just a scam on a much larger

1131

00:46:54,360 --> 00:46:52,720

scale than his earlier scam and of

1132

00:46:55,980 --> 00:46:54,370

course we all know to at some point he

1133

00:47:01,620 --> 00:46:55,990

decided well you know maybe I convince

1134

00:47:02,970 --> 00:47:01,630

them I should have multiple wives why

1135

00:47:05,900 --> 00:47:02,980

not yeah they believe this other bull

1136

00:47:08,600 --> 00:47:05,910

crap why would you just do you know

1137

00:47:11,730 --> 00:47:08,610

that's where that went yeah yeah

1138

00:47:15,120 --> 00:47:11,740

fascinating Earl tell folks real quickly

1139

00:47:16,530 --> 00:47:15,130

how they can reach you some web

1140

00:47:19,650 --> 00:47:16,540

addresses will of course have them

1141

00:47:21,150 --> 00:47:19,660

linked up but tell them tell them if you

1142

00:47:23,070 --> 00:47:21,160

would who folks who are listening how

1143

00:47:26,460 --> 00:47:23,080

they can find out more about you and

1144

00:47:28,320 --> 00:47:26,470

your writing well I have at web doing a

1145

00:47:30,450 --> 00:47:28,330

lot of documenting right now on my

1146

00:47:32,760 --> 00:47:30,460

website called among the cannibal

1147

00:47:36,000 --> 00:47:32,770

Christians the origin of religion of

1148

00:47:38,970 --> 00:47:36,010

ritual cannibalism and the address for

1149

00:47:42,930 --> 00:47:38,980

that site is cannibal Christians dot

1150

00:47:44,700 --> 00:47:42,940

blogspot com and it's probably easy to

1151
00:47:46,770 --> 00:47:44,710
use just to get to me through there or

1152
00:47:48,180 --> 00:47:46,780
you think there's a link to my google

1153
00:47:50,160 --> 00:47:48,190
address if you want to send me a message

1154
00:47:52,500 --> 00:47:50,170
but that's where I'm putting all the

1155
00:47:54,300 --> 00:47:52,510
documentation I've collected about the

1156
00:47:56,460 --> 00:47:54,310
Christian Church and the catacombs and

1157
00:48:00,540 --> 00:47:56,470
their uses how they used their aunt Minh

1158
00:48:01,800 --> 00:48:00,550
sand functions during that first two

1159
00:48:03,720 --> 00:48:01,810
three hundred years of Christian history

1160
00:48:05,730 --> 00:48:03,730
and I think you'll find I think you will

1161
00:48:07,110 --> 00:48:05,740
people find it fascinating all because

1162
00:48:09,810 --> 00:48:07,120
there's just a ton of evidence there

1163
00:48:11,820 --> 00:48:09,820

there is it's mind-boggling there really

1164

00:48:14,370 --> 00:48:11,830

is and you do a great job of bringing it

1165

00:48:17,460 --> 00:48:14,380

forward again you can also google the

1166

00:48:19,740 --> 00:48:17,470

book's title from the body of the gods

1167

00:48:21,690 --> 00:48:19,750

and you'll go immediately to Earl's

1168

00:48:24,630 --> 00:48:21,700

website or oh thanks so much for joining

1169

00:48:25,380 --> 00:48:24,640

me of fascinating work and best of luck

1170

00:48:27,890 --> 00:48:25,390

with it

1171

00:48:30,420 --> 00:48:27,900

thank you very much I appreciate it

1172

00:48:32,250 --> 00:48:30,430

thanks again too early for joining me

1173

00:48:34,020 --> 00:48:32,260

today on skeptic Oh a couple of

1174

00:48:37,200 --> 00:48:34,030

questions I'd toss out to you as a

1175

00:48:40,290 --> 00:48:37,210

result of this interview the first is

1176

00:48:42,600 --> 00:48:40,300

what do you think happened I guess

1177

00:48:44,490 --> 00:48:42,610

there's three possibilities one that

1178

00:48:47,190 --> 00:48:44,500

there's absolutely no connection between

1179

00:48:51,180 --> 00:48:47,200

the use of psychedelic drugs and these

1180

00:48:54,270 --> 00:48:51,190

early religious founders to that as

1181

00:48:56,400 --> 00:48:54,280

early suggests these guys were tripping

1182

00:48:58,530 --> 00:48:56,410

on mushrooms and the resulting

1183

00:49:01,170 --> 00:48:58,540

hallucinations are what we can attribute

1184

00:49:02,880 --> 00:49:01,180

to these crazy tales that they came up

1185

00:49:05,910 --> 00:49:02,890

with in these books that became

1186

00:49:08,340 --> 00:49:05,920

scripture or three yeah they were

1187

00:49:11,580 --> 00:49:08,350

tripping on shrooms but that allowed

1188

00:49:14,670 --> 00:49:11,590

them to access another subtler realm of

1189

00:49:18,210 --> 00:49:14,680

consciousness in which some real genuine

1190

00:49:20,520 --> 00:49:18,220

spiritual transmission happened so

1191

00:49:23,640 --> 00:49:20,530

that's question one let's sort that out

1192

00:49:26,670 --> 00:49:23,650

and question two is what do we do with

1193

00:49:29,520 --> 00:49:26,680

the growing body of evidence that seems

1194

00:49:33,350 --> 00:49:29,530

to consistently point towards the foul

1195

00:49:36,330 --> 00:49:33,360

ability of religion of sacred texts and

1196

00:49:38,610 --> 00:49:36,340

institutions that tell us what God is

1197

00:49:41,340 --> 00:49:38,620

all about I mean it's a pretty sorry

1198

00:49:43,620 --> 00:49:41,350

state of affairs really and it's hard to

1199

00:49:46,380 --> 00:49:43,630

find much of a silver lining other than

1200

00:49:49,530 --> 00:49:46,390

the unique individual experiences that

1201
00:49:52,470 --> 00:49:49,540
prop up from time to time so what are we

1202
00:49:55,500 --> 00:49:52,480
to make of religion should we just chuck

1203
00:49:58,590 --> 00:49:55,510
it all or is there something there worth

1204
00:50:00,990 --> 00:49:58,600
saving that's a huge question but it's

1205
00:50:03,840 --> 00:50:01,000
one that continues to not me and I'm

1206
00:50:06,750 --> 00:50:03,850
sure you all will have quite a bit to

1207
00:50:09,960 --> 00:50:06,760
say about it as well of course the place

1208
00:50:14,550 --> 00:50:09,970
to share your opinion is through the

1209
00:50:16,830 --> 00:50:14,560
skeptic Oh website at ske PTI koat.com

1210
00:50:19,410 --> 00:50:16,840
you can leave a comment there send me an

1211
00:50:22,230 --> 00:50:19,420
email or click on over to our forum and

1212
00:50:24,870 --> 00:50:22,240
join the conversation over there have a

1213
00:50:27,030 --> 00:50:24,880

number of interesting shows coming up I

1214

00:50:29,370 --> 00:50:27,040

hope you'll stay with me for all of that

1215

00:50:31,230 --> 00:50:29,380

I hope you'll keep listening to skeptic

1216

00:50:34,350 --> 00:50:31,240

oh and tell your friends about it as you