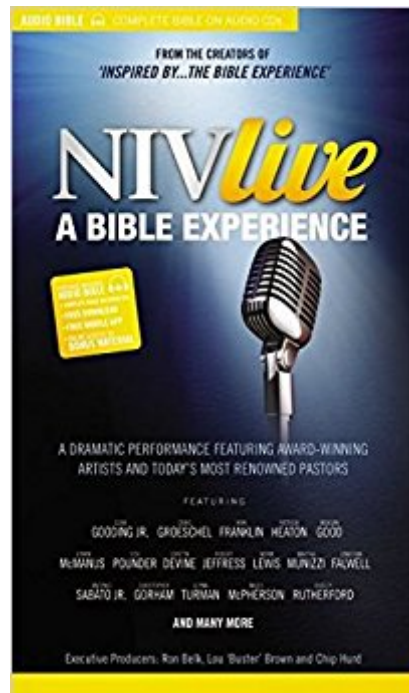




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NIV LIVE, Audio CD: A New Bible Experience



Synopsis

Multisensory. Cinematic. 3D enhanced sound. The NIV Live™ A Bible Experience, audio Bible CD set is a digital masterpiece that presents the entire Bible (Genesis through Revelation) in an engaging and entertaining format, lets you listen to and experience the entire New International Version of the Bible from cover to cover, and allows you to enjoy God's eternal story whenever and wherever you desire. NIV Live features an ensemble cast of actors, musicians, and notable personalities, including Oscar, Emmy and Grammy Award nominees and winners, leading pastors, teachers, members of the clergy, and evangelists, that breathe life into the words and teachings of the Bible. Two-time Emmy Award-winning actress and producer Patricia Heaton (Mary Magdalene), Jesse Corti (Abraham), Kris Polaha (David), Mick Wingert (Saul), Tony Award-nominated actor Norm Lewis (Solomon), Christopher Gorham (Jesus), Pastor Erwin McManus (Psalms), Carlos Santos (Luke), Grammy Award-nominated singer and songwriter Martha Munizzi (Abigail), Pastor Craig Groeschel (Amos), Christine Lakin (Jezebel), Alex Dessert (Joshua), Phil Crowley (Moses), Tatyana Ali (Tamar), Emmy Award winning producer Pastor Miles McPherson (Angel), nine-time Grammy Award-winning singer and producer Kirk Franklin (Peter), along with many others. NIV Live uses the Bible text from the New International Version, the world's most popular modern-English Bible, with all 368 biblical characters represented by a unique voice. Dramatic performances, 3D theatrical sound, and a beautiful, inspired score by the Prague Philharmonic Orchestra make this an unforgettable listening experience. The complete set features 79 digitally mastered audio CDs, an enhanced bonus making of DVD, free digital downloads, a mobile app, and online access to bonus material. The NIV Live audio Bible delivers a truly spiritual, heart-pounding and authentic event that will become one of the most engaging and emotional experiences of your life.

Book Information

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Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

I have completed the Bible now, so I updated my review. Besides this, I have listened to many other audio Bible's. These are the Audio Bible's that I have heard: The Word of Promise (Old and New Testament) Truth and Life Audio Bible (New Testament) Bible Alive (Old and New Testament) Bible Experience (Old and New Testament) Faith Comes by Hearing NIV and KJV (Old and New Testament) Needless to say, I can write a comparative review, having heard almost every dramatized audio Bible available on the market. As I write this review, I will compare this product to others that are also on the market. So how does this Bible stand in comparison to the others that I mentioned? Well, I would say that in rank, it would either be a close 2nd or an easy third.

Personally; I am not sure that the Word of Promise can ever be surpassed seeing that it cost over 1 million dollars to make and four years to produce in its entirety. That being said; I would venture to say that the NIV Live Audio Bible is very close in terms of acting and sound production. In fact, parts of the New Testament and even Old Testament (Exodus) are way better than the Word of Promise. So now I will take the time to rate the Music, Production, Acting and Overall quality of this Audio Bible. Acting 9/10: Across the board, the acting is fantastic with very few exceptions. The only exceptions would be a few of the folks that contributed to the book of Psalms as they are either void of emotion or sing lines with an awkward tune. Matt Gibson as the narrator 9/10: Besides an occasional mispronunciation of a name, Matt Gibson is perfect as the narrator. He manages to sound interested even through the readings of the genealogies and numbering of the Israelites. He has a deep voice that is pleasant to the ears. Alex Warner as the voice of God 10/10: Alex Warner has an incredible voice that has a unique quality that I have never heard before. It is not the deep booming voice that you would expect to hear. However, it is smooth and authoritative. His readings are outstanding. Christopher Gorham as the voice of Jesus 8/10: Christopher has a good voice and he chooses to play it safe in this role. By comparison, Jim Caviezel portrayed Jesus as a loving figure and rarely showed Jesus' angry side. Jim was incredibly flat through some of the teaching passages so parts of Matthew and Luke were hard to listen to. However, at times he was stellar, especially in the Crucifixion passages. Blair Underwood portrayed Jesus as a great teacher. His acting was stunning at times throughout the first three Gospels, but he overplayed the role at times.

Neal McDonough was good, but he overdid it in the long teaching passages, overemphasizing each phrase. His strengths were found in the crucifixion passages. Christopher Gorham does a solid job of playing Jesus every passage. His performance may not be jaw dropping, but neither is it terrible or even slightly irritating at any point. I really enjoyed his performance and he is my personal favorite out of all the audio bible's I have ever heard.

Jessi Corti as Abraham 10/10: His performance was flawless. There's really nothing else to say.

Kristoffer Polaha as David 9/10: Not everyone will give him the same rating, but I loved his acting in the Audio Bible. He sings some lines with a Jewish flavor. The only problem I have is that he is very emotional and he does take it over the top at times. For instance, he almost screams his prayers in Psalms. I enjoyed his emotion, but not everyone will.

Phil Crowley as Moses 10/10: Phil Crowley is the first actor to have played this role flawlessly in my opinion. Forest Whitaker was awful in the book of Deuteronomy and Richard Dreyfus' voice was a bit grating at times in the same book. Richard read his lines too slowly, which might've been realistic. Even so, it was annoying to listen to after a while. Phil's voice is great and his acting is wonderful. No complaints here.

The Prophets 8/10: All of the prophets are performed exceedingly well.

Phil Morris as Paul 9/10: In the Word of Promise Stacy Keach was incredible in this role. Though I was doubtful that Phil could even come close; I now admit that Phil was almost as good.

Kirk Franklin as Peter 8/10: Kirk Franklin is not an actor, but he does perform quite well, especially in the book of Acts. I would also like to give special mention to the actor that played Job and James. I don't know his name, but he is one of the finest actors in this Audio Bible. His readings are incredible. His reading gets a 10/10 for me. I only wish that I knew his name!

All of the Gospel accounts are read with excellence and the epistles are well done.

Music 8/10: The Music can be incredible at certain points. There are times when the music is too loud and it overtakes the reading. Also, one piece of music is rock, which accompanies parts of the Bible that are action driven. It might be offensive to some.

Production 6.5/10: To me, the producers are to blame for nearly all of the problems with this production. They should also receive credit for the good as well. Even so, there are some major flaws throughout the production or just some major annoyances. Here are a few:

1. Throughout the ENTIRE book of Philippians, there is a sound effect that plays non-stop. The sound effect is children chanting. This is totally annoying and distracting from the text.. Throughout the books of Galatians, 1 and 2 Timothy (Ummm...he was in a prison cell people) and 1, 2 and 3rd John, there is the sound of chanting monks in the background. This same sound effect is used almost anytime a scene occurs inside the temple in the Old Testament. It is also used throughout the book of Psalms. I'm not sure why the sound engineer thought this was a good idea. To me, it is just plain irritating. Because of this, the epistles are hard to listen to.
2. In the Book of 2 Kings, a little

boy plays the role of King Josiah. A careful reading of scripture reveals that he was not a little boy when he cleansed the Temple and the nation.³ Sound effects in the background often overtake the reading of scripture. For instance, I found myself concentrating on the voices in the background instead of the reading of the Biblical text. Yet, when used correctly, they really add to this production.⁴ Some splicing is obvious throughout and voices will occasionally take over one another. So these were the complaints about the production. Now on to the positive:¹. Sound effects are done quite well usually. Out of all the Audio Bible's that I have heard, NIV Live is the easiest for me to picture the events in my head.² It is clear that the acting coach is superb. Almost all actors and actresses perform exceedingly well.³ The music can be moving when it is done correctly.⁴ The product is packaged very well and is eye-catching. Overall 9.5/10: Overall, this is a great Audio Bible that is an enjoyable listen. It will be a wonderful tool to draw the young (as well as the old) into the sacred scriptures. Is it as good as the Word of Promise? My personal opinion is at times it is better, but not as a whole. Minus the annoying sound effects in the epistles, I might say that it is better. Also, I prefer the NKJV to the NIV so that plays into my ranking. Purchase this if you prefer the NIV translation and enjoy dramatized productions. It is incredible indeed.

Well initially the CDs are great. Love the sound but as we have moved through the set some disks don't play properly they are glitchy or just don't play certain tracks. No happy and been too long to return or get new one.

Absolutely amazing value for this live narration of the Bible in NIV translation. I'm listening to the CDs back and forth to work each day and I can tell you they are a real blessing! Excellent product!

what a great blessing

I love this audio version of the Bible. This disc set also came with a code to get a digital download copy of the bible too.

My husband and I listen to this on short trips. I seem to retain the message better as a listener than a reader. We also talk about the scriptures more than when we read at home and don't have to try to figure out the pronunciation of all those names in the old testament. I'm very happy with this purchase.

I didnot know what to expect. I have really enjoyed listening to these cds. The reading and dramatics by the performers are exciting. It pulls you into the stories of the bible.

Really nice, exciting way to go through and learn the bible. The product was in great condition. It works. I enjoy this way of getting into my bible while I have to clean, cook or excersise. I am a very satisfied customer. Thanks!

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