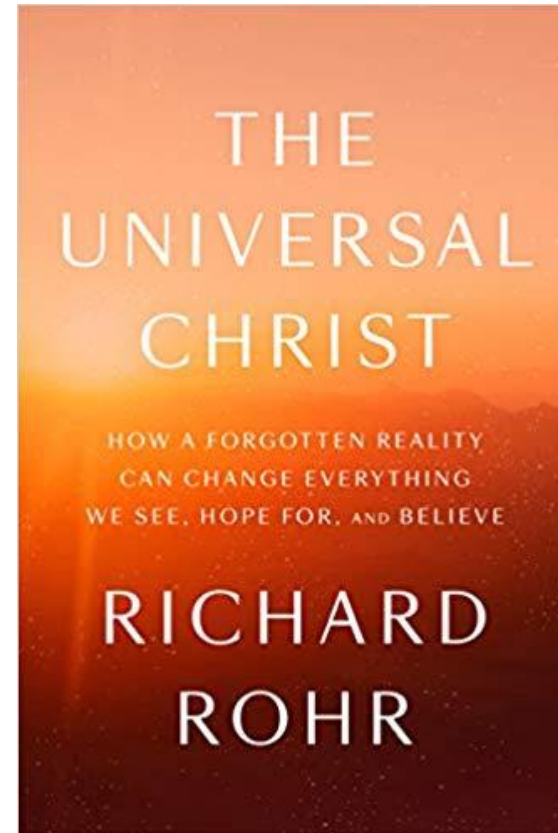


# The Universal Christ: *Christ is Not Jesus' Last Name.*

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. —Genesis 1:1-3



What was God up to at Creation?

The 1<sup>st</sup> Incarnation: God joined in unity with all Creation

Everything visible is the outpouring of God.

Logos... through whom all things came into being (John's sacred cosmology)

“I am the light of the world!”

Light: not what you see...but by which you see everything else



# The Incarnation

- ▶ Instead of “God came into the world through Jesus.”
- ▶ Jesus came out of an already Christ-soaked world!
- ▶ The world: hiding place and revelation of God
- ▶ Can we feel sacred (in a profane, empty accidental universe)?



# God loves things by becoming them

## God loves things by uniting with them

- ▶ Is it about personal individual salvation?
- ▶ Personal relationship...
- ▶ Rather a universal, liberating message under the name of Christ
- ▶ Christ: personal and universal



# Second Coming of Christ Body of Christ

