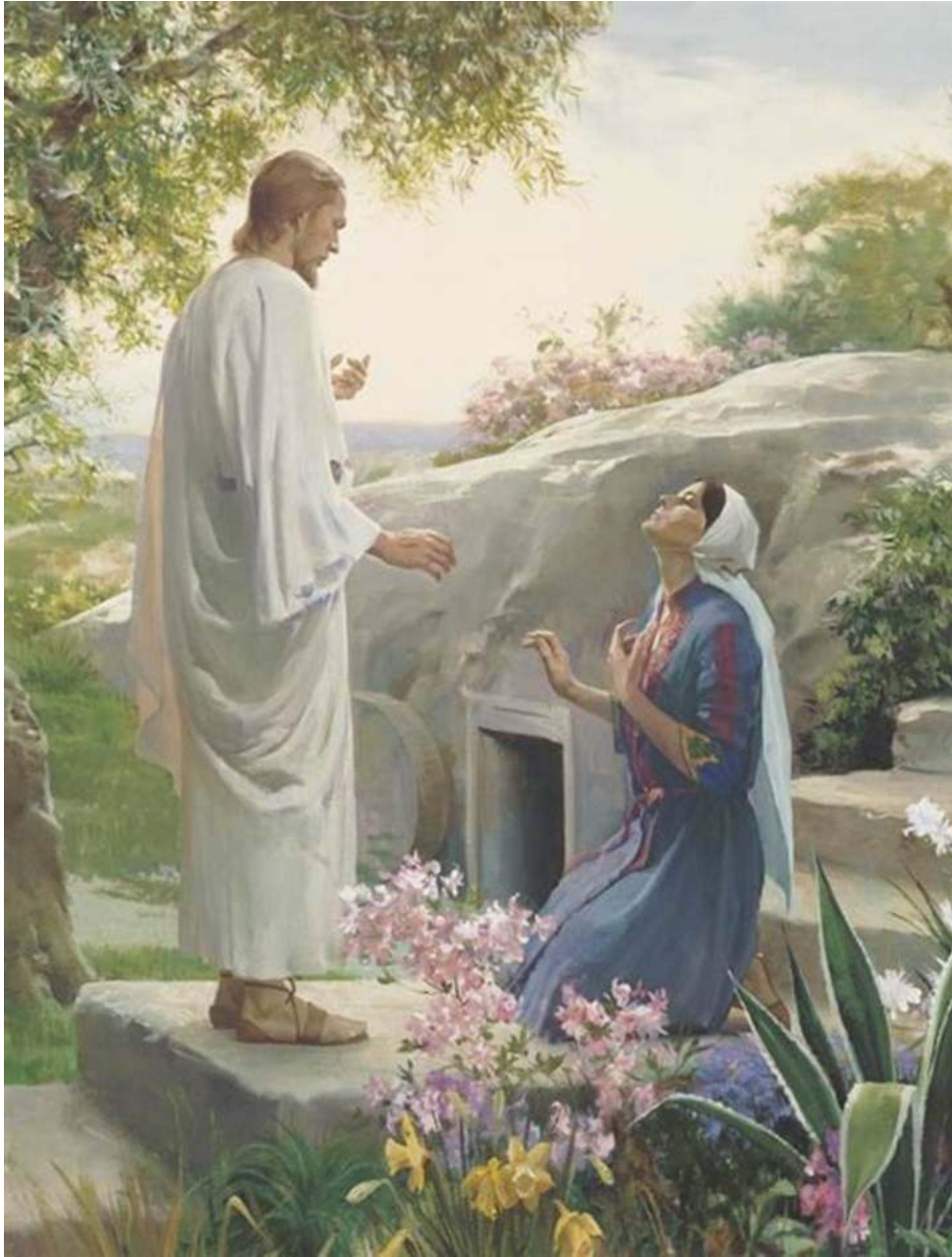


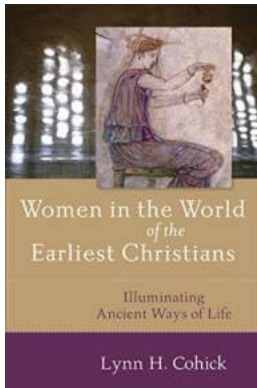
# **The Untold Stories of Brave and Influential Women in the World of the Earliest Christians**

When we think about the early days of Christianity, we often envision a world dominated by men. However, history tells a different story – the story of numerous strong and influential women who played significant roles in shaping the Christian faith. In this article, we will delve into the lives and contributions of these remarkable women, shedding light on their impact and the challenges they faced.

## **1. Mary Magdalene – The Witness of the Resurrection**



Mary Magdalene is perhaps one of the most well-known women in the Bible. She is often remembered as the first person to witness the resurrected Jesus. Mary Magdalene's unwavering faith and devotion made her a central figure in the early Christian community, and she played a crucial role in spreading the message of Jesus' resurrection.



## Women in the World of the Earliest Christians: Illuminating Ancient Ways of Life

by Willem Floor (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3771 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 353 pages

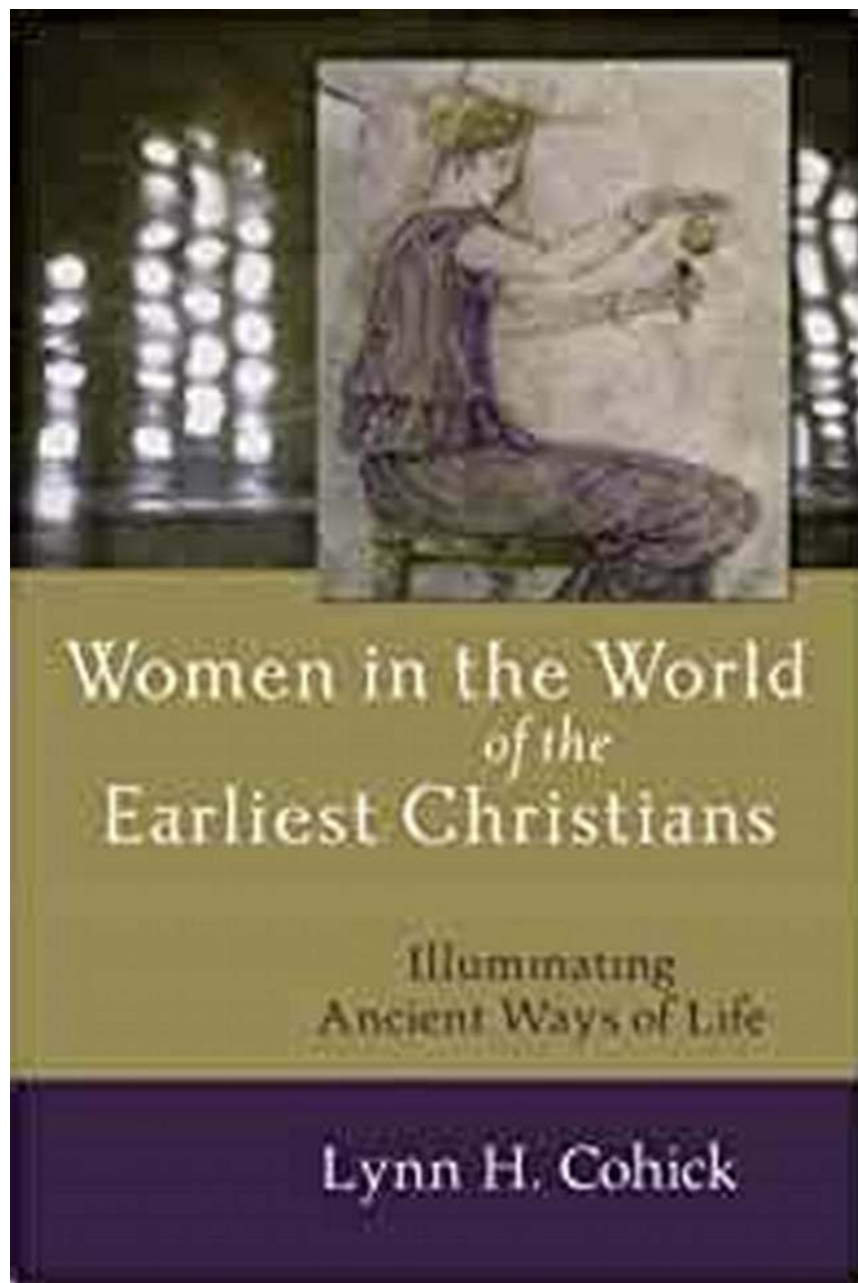


## 2. Priscilla – The Scholarly Woman



Priscilla's story demonstrates that women in the early Christian world were not just passive followers but active participants. Priscilla, alongside her husband Aquila, played a vital role in teaching and guiding others in the faith. Her influence was so significant that she even corrected and instructed the well-known apostle Paul in matters of theology.

### 3. Phoebe – The Deaconess



Phoebe is mentioned by the apostle Paul in his Letter to the Romans as a deaconess and benefactor of many, including himself. Her role as a deaconess indicates that women held leadership positions within the early Christian congregations. Phoebe's influence and service paved the way for many women to follow in her footsteps, contributing to the growth and development of the early church.

#### 4. Junia – The Outstanding Apostle



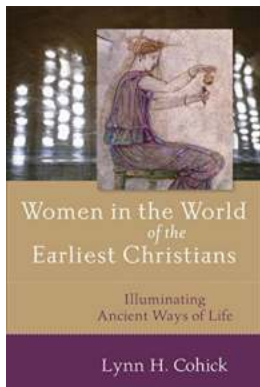
Junia's name appears in the New Testament, where she is referred to as "outstanding among the apostles." This description highlights her significant role and recognition as a female apostle. Junia's presence challenges the common misconception that women were solely relegated to supporting roles within the early Christian community.

#### 5. Lydia – The Independent Businesswoman



Lydia, a wealthy businesswoman from Thyatira, became an essential supporter of the early Christian movement. Her conversion to Christianity and subsequent hospitality towards Paul and his companions demonstrate her commitment to the faith. Lydia serves as a reminder that women were not only influential within the spiritual realm but also possessed significant economic autonomy.

The stories of these remarkable women reveal that the world of the earliest Christians was far from being dominated by men alone. Women played active roles as witnesses, teachers, deaconesses, apostles, and businesswomen, shaping the foundations of the Christian faith. Their bravery, faith, and commitment have left an indelible mark on history and continue to serve as an inspiration for women around the world.



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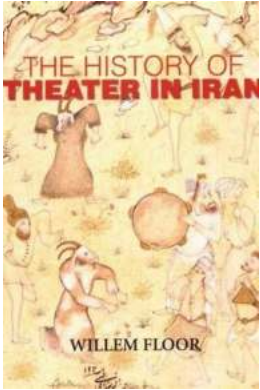
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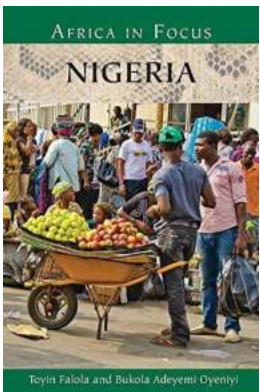


Lynn Cohick provides an accurate and fulsome picture of the earliest Christian women by examining a wide variety of first-century Jewish and Greco-Roman documents that illuminate their lives. She organizes the book around three major spheres of life: family, religious community, and society in general. Cohick shows that although women during this period were active at all levels within their religious communities, their influence was not always identified by leadership titles nor did their gender always determine their level of participation. The book corrects our understanding of early Christian women by offering an authentic and descriptive historical picture of their lives. Includes black-and-white illustrations from the ancient world.



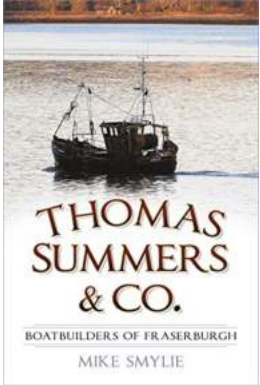
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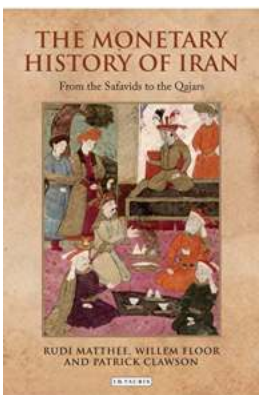
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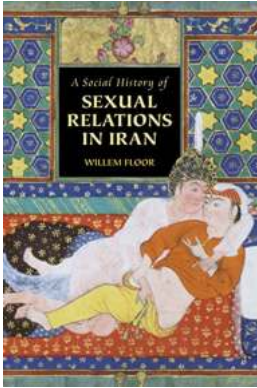
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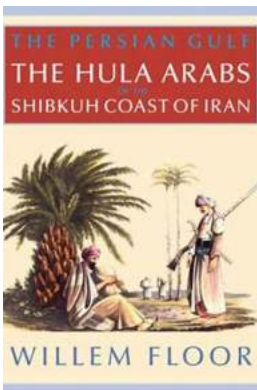
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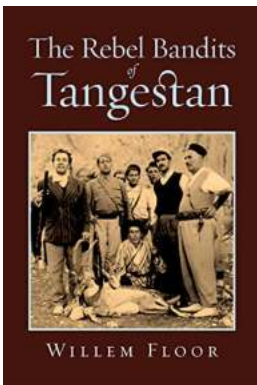
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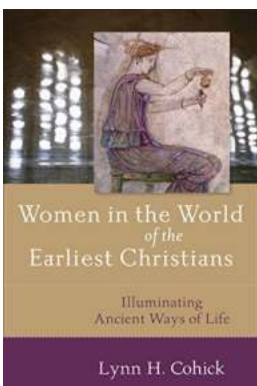
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