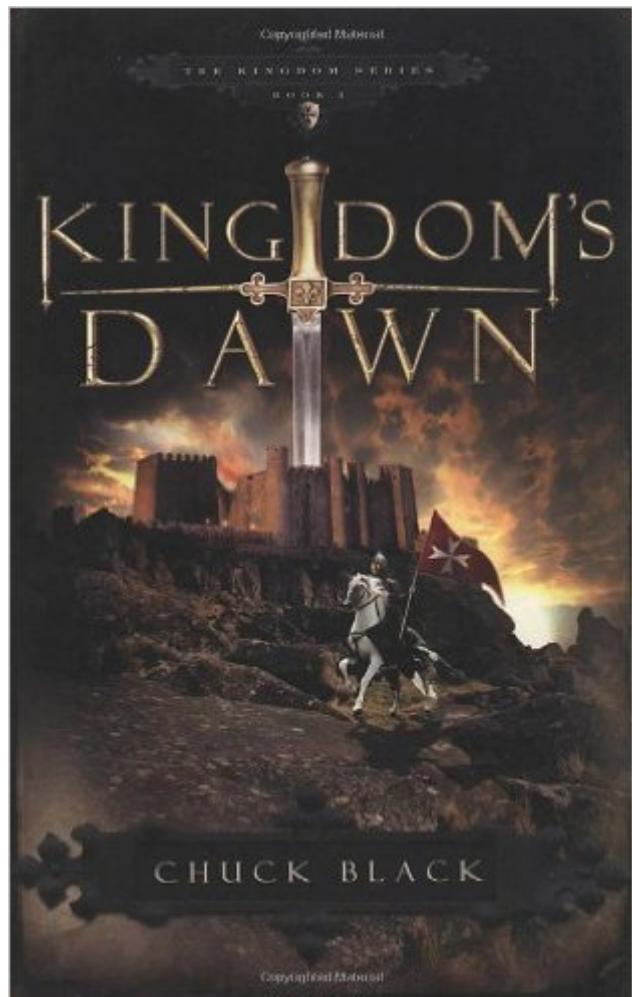


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# Kingdom's Dawn (Kingdom, Book 1)



## **Synopsis**

A Riveting Medieval Parallel to the Bible Good and evil clash. Leinad and Cedric are determined to not only survive, but claim hope and victory! In Kingdom's Dawn , Leinad and Tess, along with all the king's people, must escape slavery by the powerful Lord Fairos. Kingdom's Hope finds them free and arriving in the Chessington Valley. But when they forget the king, will Kergon and the Kessons capture them for good? After many years, Kingdom's Edge finds Cedric living a hopeless life until a stranger appears with powerful words of a new kingdom and a grand army. Finally, Kingdom's Reign marches you through the danger of earth's last days as the evil dark knight threatens to defeat the prince once and for all. Swords, knights, and battles define these captivating tales that parallel biblical events from Genesis to Revelation!

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Multnomah (May 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1590526791

ISBN-13: 978-1590526798

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.4 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (90 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #61,328 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 inÂ  Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Religious > Christian > Action & Adventure #20 inÂ  Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Religious > Christian > Historical #27 inÂ  Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Medieval

## **Customer Reviews**

A few weeks ago, my wife and I had the opportunity to attend the Florida Homeschool Convention. It was a great convention, with lots of incredible workshops and great resources. While we were there, we took a walk through the vendor's area (actually, we took several walks through there...). My son was drawn to one particular table, holding a display of books... and swords. My kids looked at the swords, I looked at the books, but we didn't buy either. we had just moved to Florida, and extra funds were simply non-existent at the moment. As we browsed, though, I struck up a conversation with the guy behind the table, Chuck Black, author of Kingdom's Dawn (Kingdom, Book 1), and several other books. A year ago, I read and reviewed Sir Rowan and the Camerian Conquest (The Knights of Arrethrae), the fifth book in Black's Knights Of Arrethrae series. That series is the

follow-up series to The Kingdom series, of which Kingdom's Dawn is the first. Chuck handed me Kingdom's Dawn, asking if I would do the same again. As Chuck and I talked, explained to me that The Kingdom series, and Kingdom's Dawn, is written as an allegorical series of novels, attempting to capture the incredible story of the Bible. Kingdom's Dawn covers the book of Genesis, describing Leinad's adventures through life, including hearing about Creation, experiencing Noah's Flood, and living through the stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.

I really wanted to like this book. I love YA literature and fantasy novels, especially the medieval "knights-and-castles" style. And I love good Christian allegory. So I came to this book really hoping that it would be a good read. And... it's really only Okay at best. It's a very short book, only about 130-140 pages including the prologue and epilogue. That's not a lot of space to develop a complex plot, but this is a part of a six book series so there was definitely room to at least begin building towards a good story. The problem is that there is too much plot for that amount of space. I felt like I was reading an in-depth summary rather than a novel. There were sections of the story that had great potential for weight and development, but they were glossed over in a few paragraphs. This not only weakened the story telling, but also did not allow for much character development. The characters weren't bad necessarily, just generic and severely underdeveloped. The main character Leinad had the most description and some little development, but not nearly as much as he could have had. On almost every page the author broke the most basic rule of writing, "show, don't tell". Character traits and responses were told to the reader rather than shown through actions or dialogue. This is ok sometimes, but it seemed like any time the author wanted to communicate something he just straight up told it to me rather than showed me. There were also several points in the narrative where Leinad asked internal questions that the reader should be asking already. These were not necessary to include and didn't add to the tension at all. In fact these thoughts would often break up the flow of the narrative rather than enhance it.

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