

Book of the Month

October 2010

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN

Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy.
Eric Metaxas. Thomas Nelson, Inc. Nashville. 2010.

From the author of the biography of William Wilberforce (*Amazing Grace*), comes another work that will enrich your mind and heart. In his latest book, Metaxas tells the story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the Lutheran pastor who dared to expose the evils of Nazism. Though the cost of discipleship would be great, he chose Christ rather than Hitler, as his true Führer.

Bonhoeffer realized it would take more than cosmetic changes to deal with the depth of evil in the Nazi worldview. He once said, "If you board the wrong train, it is no use running along the corridor in the opposite direction" (p. 187). A more radical solution was demanded. Eventually, Bonhoeffer became involved in a plot to assassinate Hitler. The plot was discovered and he was executed in April of 1945. Facing death, he calmly said, "For me this is the beginning of life" (p. 528).

For those facing monstrous evil and finding that everyone around them is living in moral compromise, this book is a call to action, to courage, to sacrifice and to love! Martin Niemöller, a pastor who also suffered persecution from the Nazis, famously stated,

*First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out –
because I was not a Socialist.*

*Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out –
because I was not a Trade Unionist.*

*Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out –
because I was not a Jew.*

*And then they came for me –
and there was no one left to speak for me (p. 192).*

Pastor Stan Key