

The City of God

1st pagan phil. of hist. 1st reaction was horror & distress
Began in 412. Finished 427. Discusses Roman history.

I. Roman Hist.

A. Its origin & argument. Books 1-10 devoted to
questions raised by siege of Rome 11-22. Hist of 2
Kingdoms of gods & love.

1-10 (1) Was X^{ty} resp. for fall of Rome & paganism for its
rise? (2) If paganism not resp. for rise of Rome, what
spiritual power was responsible (3) Has any pagan system a
serious claim to being a true spiritual system in of X^{ty}.
If Rome not X^{ty} it would have been worse when Goths sacked
Rome. Suicide is rebellion ag. God. Sordid history
rape no sin.

Bk 1 - Degeneracy of Romans hist on fate of city.

Bk 2 - Rel. that was propitious & indecent could not
bring blessing. Roman gods were indecent, selfish,
murderous, rogues. Good ill of 1 Jn 15.

Bk 3 - Was pagan Rome sapped.

Bk 4 - Romans arose bec of merit (religion)

II Roman Rel.

Bk 6-10 Religion vs. secular

Augustine's City of God

Aug + Phil. (rel. to Platonism)

A. that Plato approached nearest to X's truth. (Neo-P is called today the rel. interpretation of Plato). Books 8-10 devoted to disagreements with Platonists.

11-14 deal with origin of 2 cities (1 from God + 1 fr. world)

15-18 unfolding course of cities in past

19-22 ultimate destinies of cities.

(18:11 is purpose)

World doesn't revolve in cycles but moves toward goal.

Ethics + History

Heavenly city finds expression in ch. Citizens of heavenly city must challenge earthly city when nec. Obey God rather than man.

People is assemblage of people with a common love - not origin but common goal.

Hist + Eschatology Bks 20-22. Very influential.

Death. ^{Bk 13} judgment. ^{Bk 20} hell. ^{Bk 21} heaven. ^{Bk 22} M is present age but real^{ly} + judgment of X's. Saints now enjoy rule with X Tho not in fullest peace. (20:9). Purgatory may delete some of

the injustices.

21:17 Universalists are called "tender-hearted fellow X's!"

City of God + Satan + men.

A. looks on this world as friendly man + also hoping to escape.

18:42-44 A. accepts verbal insp of LXX. So don't cite Aug re verbal insp. of Scripture.

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