

Augustine, *City of God*

OUTLINE adapted from pages lxi-lxiii in the introductory material to Bettenson's translation

Part One | The worship of the pagan gods does not lead to happiness in this life

Book 1 | The defeat of Rome was not caused by Christianity; the pagan gods did not protect Rome. How to understand the suffering caused by the defeat of Rome.

Book 2 | The pagan gods are not moral but require obscene rituals.

Book 3 | The pagan gods did not protect Troy or Rome. Rome was once more moral and became more depraved.

Book 4 | The pagan gods are numerous and futile.

Book 5 | Astrology versus God. Roman virtue led to Roman success. Roman ambition for glory and dominion. God's blessing for Christian emperors.

Part Two | The worship of the pagan gods does not lead to happiness in the life to come

Book 6 | Pagan gods are not worshipped for giving eternal life. Gods in mythology versus gods in civil religion. Small gods are not helpful.

Book 7 | 'Select' gods. Questions of Jupiter's supremacy, and of a god as the soul of the world.

Book 8 | Gods in philosophy. Platonists are the best of the philosophers; they are almost Christians. Paganism versus Christianity.

Book 9 | Demons; Apuleius and Neoplatonists.

Book 10 | Christianity (including worship of God, miracles, Scripture, Christ's sacrifice, and salvation) is superior to Neoplatonism.

Part Three | The origin of the City of God and the city of this world

Book 11 | Scripture is true. Creation. Nothing created is evil in itself.

Book 12 | Evil is a created being turning away from God to itself. History is not cyclical and the world is not eternal.

Book 13 | Creation of humans; death, and resurrection.

Book 14 | The Fall, the origin of sin and evil, and love of self versus love of God. The spirit versus the "flesh" (not the same as the body). The origin of the two cities.

Part Four | The development of the City of God and the city of this world

Book 15 | Abel to Noah. The beginning of the two cities.

Book 16 | Noah to Judah.

Book 17 | Biblical prophecies predicting Christ.

Book 18 | The two cities until Christ. In this world there are evil people in the Church, who will be separated out in the end. The City of God includes people outside of Israel, such as Job.

Part Five | The ends in store for the City of God and the city of this world

Book 19 | The supreme good of man is peace. The ends in store for the two cities.

Book 20 | The last judgment. Law and order.

Book 21 | Eternal punishment.

Book 22 | Creation, resurrection, and miracles. The Vision of God.