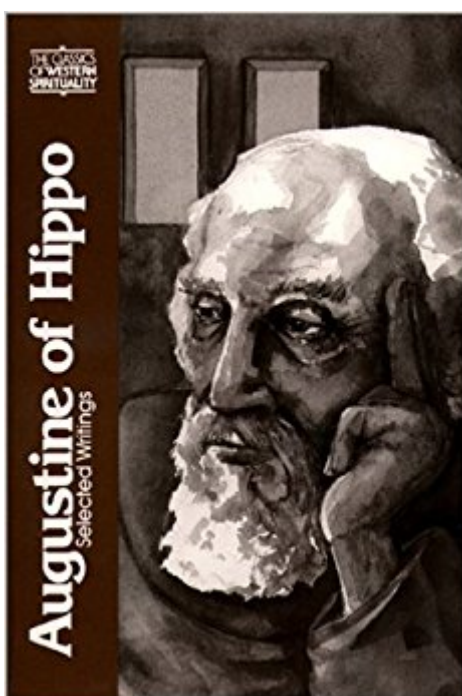


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Augustine Of Hippo, Selected Writings (Classics Of Western Spirituality (Paperback))



Synopsis

Gathers selections from St. Augustine's autobiographical Confessions, sermons on Christian life and the Psalms, and his discussion of the secular and Christian views of happiness.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English, Latin (translation)

The HarperCollins Spiritual Classics series presents short, accessible introductions to the foundational works that shaped Western religious thought and culture. This series seeks to find new readers for these dynamic spiritual voices -- voices that have changed lives throughout the centuries and still can today. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Nice readable selection of works. A few minor errors in the author's prefaces, but the text translation is great!

.Useful compressed overview of Augustine's work to help people know if they want to go further and read all his available work. A giant intellectual of the early church. Well worth the time.

A trusted and great teacher of God. This dear St. Augustine, found in Holy Scripture, Beauty, Love, Faithfulness and eternal Life in the Life giver. He opened the book of his life and described how the

One True Triune God came to him, called him, turned him to walk where Saints walk and therefore St. Augustine gives back to the world, Christ. He always turns the reader to the Man who gave His life for all who come to know Him. Reading Augustine is a great joy.

Purchased this to add to my Classics of Western Spirituality collection. When I get around to reading it, probably years from now, I'll probably review it then.

In this superlative volume of The Classics of Western Spirituality series, "Augustine of Hippo: Selected Writings," St. Augustine's Trinitarian thought is gracefully explained and examined with lucid clarity in Mary T. Clark's Introduction. For example, the differences between Augustinian Theology and Plotinian Neoplatonism: Augustine's belief in the Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit being one and co-equal, and Plotinus believing in The One (God), the Intellectual-Principle (the mind of God, i.e., His image, which is inferior to The One--created by The One), and the Reason-Principle (the soul of God, which is inferior to The One and its cause, the Intellectual-Principle). Augustine adopted from Plotinus "that the spiritual icon is always in immediate contact with its exemplar, the higher intelligible that is its source" (i.e., God). Through Ambrose, Augustine "had found the 'wind' that would waft his bark safely to port in the Blessed Fatherland." So you can see why Augustine is considered Neoplatonic. Many of his beliefs were rooted in Plotinus' Neoplatonism of The One. He believed that God is intuitively known "through the supernatural knowledge possessed by the soul." Our faith and charity is what transformed it into the image of the Trinity. How Augustine's early beliefs formed and evolved into maturity are thoroughly examined, such as his (Augustinian speculation) original triad of the speculative intellect--memory, understanding, and free will. Also elucidated is his belief that Grace is superior to free will, which all modern Christians naturally believe. Before Augustine, the opposite opinion was the prevailing view. And whether or not he was a mystic is discussed in depth. Obviously, he was a mystic is the answer that the majority of reputable scholars concluded. Personally, I think there's no doubt that Augustine was a mystic. He's probably the greatest mystic of the post Apostolic Fathers. The two mystical experiences he describes in "CONFESSIONS" with his friend, Alypius, in the garden (during his last great battle for conversion) and with his mother at the window reveal his mysticism. There's so much more information discussed in the Introduction, that it makes it worth the cost of the entire book. All the selections included in this volume have Introductory Notes, which are extremely helpful in explaining the writings. Here are the contents: "CONFESSIONS: Book Seven; Book Eight; Book Nine; Book Ten

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