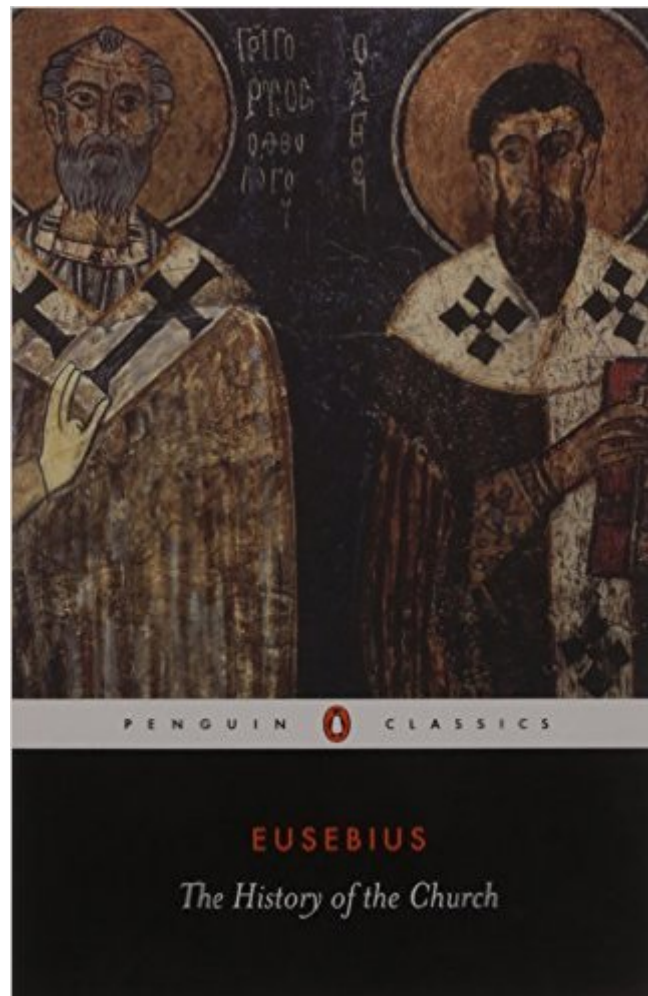




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The History Of The Church: From Christ To Constantine (Penguin Classics)



Synopsis

Eusebius's account is the only surviving historical record of the Church during its crucial first 300 years. Bishop Eusebius, a learned scholar who lived most of his life in Caesarea in Palestine, broke new ground in writing the History and provided a model for all later ecclesiastical historians. In tracing the history of the Church from the time of Christ to the Great Persecution at the beginning of the fourth century, and ending with the conversion of the Emperor Constantine, his aim was to show the purity and continuity of the doctrinal tradition of Christianity and its struggle against persecutors and heretics.

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Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Greek

The so-called 'Father of Ecclesiastical History', Eusebius (263-339) was a Greek Christian. His prodigious literary output can be grouped into four categories: the historical, the apologetic, the Biblical and the dogmatic. G.A Williamson was a renowned scholar of the Classics.

Eusebius, writing in the early years of the 4th Century attempted to do what know one before him had done. He attempted to write a comprehensive history of the Church, beginning with its inception until his present day. I found his writings interesting and learned much. It is a must read for anyone interested in the early church.

I enjoyed this immensely. I did not struggle reading or find it tedious. I read it intriguingly which may have overshadowed the writing style & ebook format. I cannot speak to what is accurate, rumor, or heresy. I have much more to research! It's easy to see the rise and fall of kings and nations as they relate to Israel's obedience or disobedience toward God in the old testament, His mercies and ultimate plan; my objective in reading this book was to see how God's purposes ran His course with man through new testament times . . . "for while Caius was raging against them (Christians) he was in fact already contending with God! The misfortunes which overwhelmed their presumptions against Christ, became the misfortunes of the whole nation. Daring crimes against the Savior "we have no other King than Caesar." Thus, the divine vengeance overtook the Jews for the crimes which they dared to commit against Christ. After the Apostles/Desciples left Jerusalem the judgment of God overtook those who committed such outrages against Christ and his apostles, totally destroyed that generation of impious men." -- History happens, subtly in the day-to-day, "circumstances" of kings, kingdoms, rulers, nations and individuals "play" into God's scheme. History books give us a panoramic and cumulative view. Opposers did not just die horrible deaths, they lived horribly before their horrible deaths. Dare I say, replace "Caius" with those who oppose Christ. Persecution still exists, as barbaric and obscene as then. John 16:33 (NIV)"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Matt. 16:18 (Turretin paraphrase) the gates of hell (death)will not prevail against it(the body of Christ, the Church. It's history still continues). History is not moving in a circle, it's moving toward a point.

Being a church history buff, I am fascinated by this book. It answers many questions, some I never knew I had. It tells of the convulsions that the church had before the fall of the Roman Empire. It tells of the good times and of brutal persecution.

This is the same book I have in my library, but in electronic form that I can carry with my Kindle. As a history buff, this is a good source of information and reference.

Classic volume that most ecclesiastical history classes refer to if not use as a text. I am happy to have it available on my smartphone.

To be honest, this is not my first time reading Eusebius. But the first time I remember reading

Eusibius, I remembered that the translation made it very difficult to read. The language felt old which extremely lessened one's comprehension. This translation is not like that at all. It feels quite modern and the translation is quite enjoyable to read as well. I honestly can't say anything more when I comes to the translation. As for the work itself, Eusibius's work is essential when it comes to church history. Make sure this is the first book you pick up after reading the New Testament as the events described within really do pick up where the New Testament leaves off. Eusibius also references Josephus, Philo, and Ireaneus heavily. So I also recommend those books for the more serious student.

As good as this book is, it requires a reader who has somewhat of a dedication to early Church history. This book is not for the casual reader who expects a casual and entertaining view of Church history. Having said that, I am pleased with the book and recommend it for serious students and clergy.

Great reading if you want to learn what the world was saying about Christ and Christians during the time of the Apostles.

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