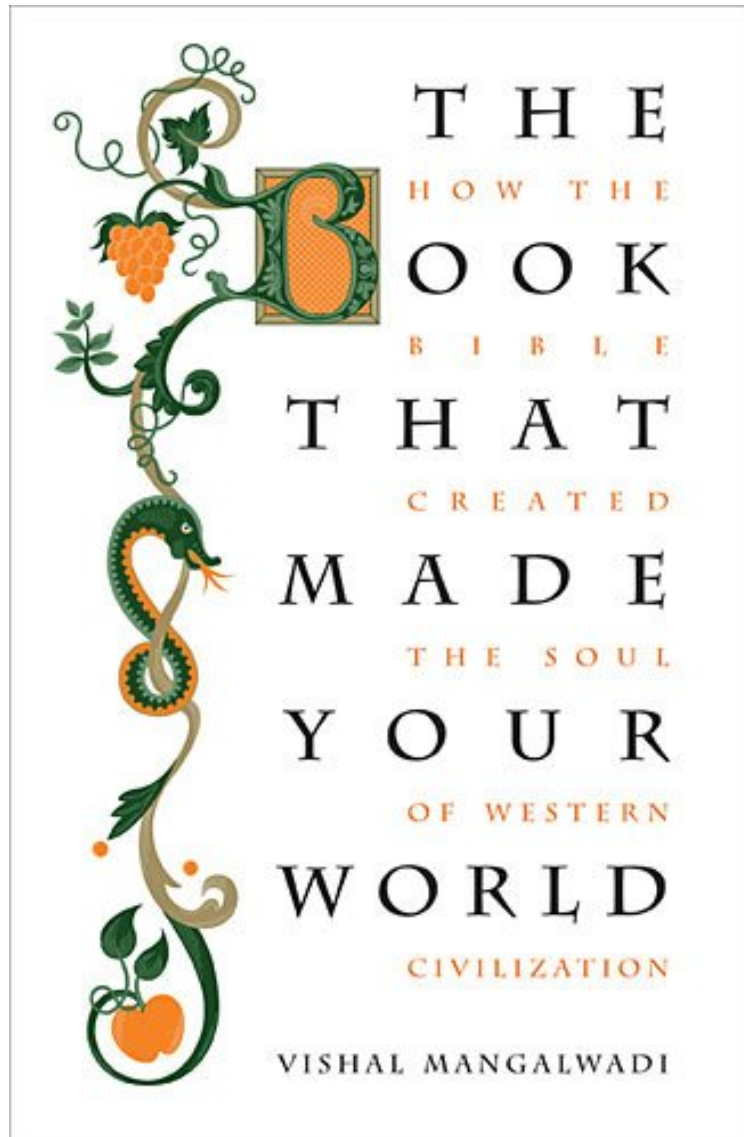


# The Book that Made Your World: How the Bible Created the Soul of Western Civilization

Vishal Mangalwadi

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**Vishal Mangalwadi : The Book that Made Your World: How the Bible Created the Soul of Western Civilization** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Book that Made Your World: How the Bible Created the Soul of Western Civilization:

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Very Important BookBy GlennVishal Mangalwadi's The Book

that Made Your World: How the Bible Created the Soul of Western Civilization is a wide-ranging look at the impact of the Bible on Western culture. After hearing the Bible attacked by Arun Shourie, a prominent public intellectual, Member of Parliament, and governmental minister in India, Mangalwadi decided to study the impact of the Bible on culture. In particular, he wanted to find out if God's promise that all the nations would be blessed through Abraham was true. His conclusion is that not only did the Bible create the modern West, but it is also responsible for creating modern India. Mangalwadi looks at a tremendous variety of subjects (music, language, literature, human rights, concepts of heroism, technology, science, family, economics, freedom ...) and demonstrates that modern concepts in all of these areas have their roots in the Bible and the worldview it created. While I did something similar in *Why You Think the Way You Do*, Mangalwadi goes into far more detail than I did and engages the historiography of the subjects far more directly. What is particularly illuminating is the impact these ideas had in Mangalwadi's native India, a subject about which I knew nothing. Although I found myself disagreeing with some of Mangalwadi's details--his historiography is sometimes dated, and I have a higher view of medieval Christianity than he does on some issues--overall the book is superb. If you are interested in understanding what the Gospel of the Kingdom looks like in practice, this is a great place to start. At the same time, it is a sobering read, since it shows the degree to which the West has turned its back on its roots and highlights some of the dysfunction that has resulted. For those committed to living out a full-orbed vision of the Gospel touching all areas of life, this book is a wake-up call and a reminder of what is at stake for us today.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. a very important part of our amazing history as Christians. By Ryan Basye Christians should read this to learn how the Bible enables freedom and opportunity because of the literal Biblical view. I have learned an incredible amount because of the unique perspective that the author has of Christianity. I love the comparisons between Christian world view and that of other religions and why they were not able to develop an advanced society where every one benefits even though they had advanced science and philosophy. Non-Christians should read it because it helps to discount negative myths of America (and Christians) becoming great because they took advantage of weaker nations. America would not be possible without the work ethic and freedom (for everyone including women) that was only possible through the Christian world view. Every page I am finding something worthy of highlighting, Very Highly Recommended.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Discovering my Own roots By Jesse Evans I use this book constantly as not only a great read but a source of information. Reading the "Book that made your world" has opened up new doors for my own study in Sciences. For instance he quotes Social Scientist Rodney Stark a few times. I have since read about 4 books by Rodney Stark. Whether you are Devout Christian or a Social Christian the book will inspire you to further explore the roots of your own culture, and World View. His chapter on "Revolution" is outstanding as an avid student of Church History. To contemplate the roots of Western Civilization being found not in Ancient Rome or Greece rather in the life of the Church. Those who continue to take up their cross and lay their life down for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Men like Tyndale and Luther assuring that common men and women would be able to read the word of God for themselves is what lead to western Freedom of economy, women, culture, slaves, governments under the rule of Law, printing press. Another great follow up to the work of Vishal would be Francis Scheaffer. Probably the greatest World View thinkers of the 20th Century. Buy multiples of this book!

Understand where we came from. Whether you're an avid student of the Bible or a skeptic of its relevance, *The Book That Made Your World* will transform your perception of its influence on virtually every facet of Western civilization. Indian philosopher Vishal Mangalwadi reveals the personal motivation that fueled his own study of the Bible and systematically illustrates how its precepts became the framework for societal structure throughout the last millennium. From politics and science, to academia and technology, the Bible's sacred copy became the key that unlocked the Western mind. Through Mangalwadi's wide-ranging and fascinating investigation, you'll discover: What triggered the West's passion for scientific, medical, and technological advancement How the biblical notion of human dignity informs the West's social structure and how it intersects with other worldviews How the Bible created a fertile ground for women to find social and economic empowerment How the Bible has uniquely equipped the West to cultivate compassion, human rights, prosperity, and strong families The role of the Bible in the transformation of education How the modern literary notion of a hero has been shaped by the Bible's archetypal protagonist Journey with Mangalwadi as he examines the origins of a civilization's greatness and the misguided beliefs that threaten to unravel its progress. Learn how the Bible transformed the social, political, and religious institutions that have sustained Western culture for the past millennium, and discover how secular corruption endangers the stability and longevity of Western civilization. Endorsements: This is an extremely significant piece of work with huge global implications. Vishal brings a timely message. (Ravi Zacharias, author, *Walking from East to West* and *Beyond Opinion*) In polite society, the mere mention of the Bible often introduces a certain measure of anxiety. A serious discussion on the Bible can bring outright contempt. Therefore, it is most refreshing to encounter this engaging and informed assessment of the Bible's profound impact on the modern world. Where Bloom laments the closing of the American mind, Mangalwadi brings a refreshing optimism. (Stanley Mattson, founder and president, C. S. Lewis Foundation) Vishal Mangalwadi recounts history in very broad strokes, always using his cross-cultural perspectives for highlighting the

many benefits of biblical principles in shaping civilization. (George Marsden, professor, University of Notre Dame; author, *Fundamentalism and American Culture*)

About the Author Vishal Mangalwadi, LLD, was born and raised in India. He studied eastern religion and philosophy in India, Hindu ashrams, and at L'Abri Fellowship in Switzerland. He is a dynamic and engaging speaker who has lectured in thirty-five countries. He is a social reformer, political columnist, and author of fourteen books. *Christianity Today* calls him "India's foremost Christian intellectual."