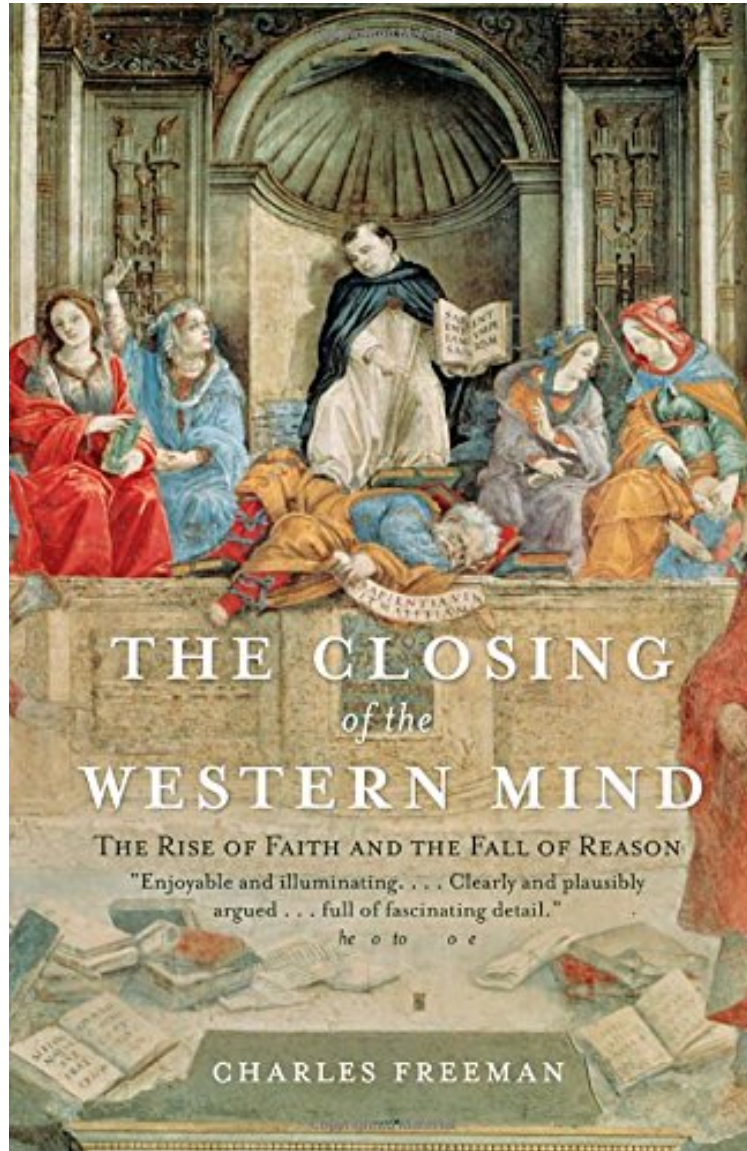


The Closing of the Western Mind: The Rise of Faith and the Fall of Reason

Charles Freeman

ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#218392 in Books Freeman, Charles 2005-02-08 2005-02-08 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.99 x .97 x 5.20l, .96 #File Name: 1400033802480 pages Vintage | File size: 37.Mb

Charles Freeman : The Closing of the Western Mind: The Rise of Faith and the Fall of Reason before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Closing of the Western Mind: The Rise of Faith and the Fall of Reason:

A radical and powerful reappraisal of the impact of Constantine's adoption of Christianity on the later Roman world, and on the subsequent development both of Christianity and of Western civilization. When the Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity in 368 AD, he changed the course of European history in ways that continue to have repercussions to the present day. Adopting those aspects of the religion that suited his purposes, he turned Rome on a course from the relatively open, tolerant and pluralistic civilization of the Hellenistic world, towards a culture that was based on the rule of fixed authority, whether that of the Bible, or the writings of Ptolemy in astronomy and of Galen and Hippocrates in medicine. Only a thousand years later, with the advent of the Renaissance and the emergence of modern science, did Europe begin to free itself from the effects of Constantine's decision, yet the effects of his establishment of Christianity as a state religion remain with us, in many respects, today. Brilliantly wide-ranging and ambitious, this is a major work of history.