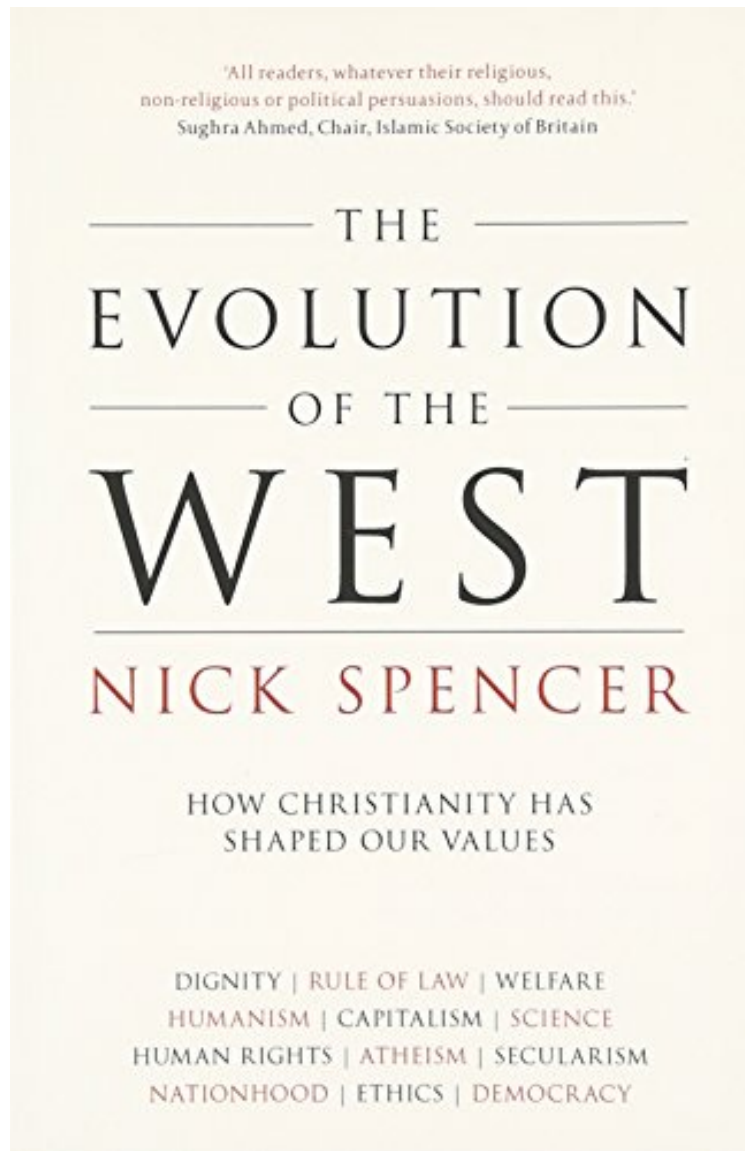


The Evolution of the West

Nick Spencer

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Nick Spencer : The Evolution of the West before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Evolution of the West:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Well balanced and thoughtful review of Christianity's influence on rule ...By CustomerWell balanced and thoughtful review of Christianity's influence on rule of law, establishment of legal rights of free men and commoners, the Enlightenment, and modern democratic institutions. He points out that freedom of thought and expression did not simple come into being with the Enlightenment. As we were once taught,

Western Civilization was born from Germanic, Christian, and Greco-Roman influences. He freely points out the sins of the church but balances this with the more efficacious influences as well. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great book. Author is a first-rate thinker and writer. By Muiyiwa Onigbogi Great book. Author is a first-rate thinker who in these pages provides powerful but fluid commentary, on a subject of universal import to people whose meditations include such great subjects. The rhetoric is not doctrinaire but simply one that lets your own epistemology be the guide to your understanding on the subjects. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good balance to the radical atheists - and well written. By Margaret Galt A good balancer against the prevailing meme that Christianity contributed nothing to the west, and in general it doesn't overstate the opposite case. The only reason I didn't give it 5 stars is that in a few places it was something of a polemic. Very well written so that it was a pleasure to read.

Over the last decade the role of Christianity in the West has come under close, sometimes hostile, scrutiny. During that time, Nick Spencer, Research Director of the Christian think tank Theos, has been at the forefront of the debate, and this book brings together a range of his influential essays, putting forward a well-rounded case for the continuing presence of Christianity in 21st-century public life. They also sound a warning that contemporary liberal secular society risks losing sight of the basis for its deepest values - with the attendant risk that forgetting them leaves little capacity to defend them.

This is a much needed book. Spencer shows persuasively that we cannot understand our political, economic or social culture without taking into account the key role Christianity has played in shaping Western values. Balanced and never claiming too much, it offers an essential corrective to contemporary narratives that try to write Christianity out of the script. - Richard Harries, House of Lords; Surrounded by complex issues, it is hard to understand what's going on, what the important thinkers are saying, and what a thinking Christian might make of it all. Nick Spencer carves out a clear path through this jungle, helping us to see how we got here in the first place and how we might move forward in faith and wisdom. - N. T. Wright, Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity, University of St Andrews About the Author Nick Spencer is the Research Director of Theos think tank and Visiting Research Fellow at the Faiths and Civil Society Unit, Goldsmiths, University of London. He is also a frequent contributor to the national press.