

(Download free ebook) The Four Cardinal Virtues

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Josef Pieper

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#141081 in Books Josef Pieper 1966-03-31Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 7.90 x .60 x 5.40l, .74 #File Name: 0268001030248 pagesThe Four Cardinal Virtues Prudence Justice Fortitude Temperance | File size: 64.Mb

Josef Pieper : The Four Cardinal Virtues before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Four Cardinal Virtues:

48 of 48 people found the following review helpful. Don't let your enemies define you.By NeriSimply brilliant reading. Living naturally is what the crux of this book is all about.The book delves into ethics, civics, justice, philosophy, psychology, and I think it is a healthy tool for understanding classical literature: Shakespeare, for

example, and the inner psychology of his characters as this moral plain, that Pieper describes, is so much closer to his than most of what we hear in our modernity. Pieper, here, spends time defining what the classic moral compass is, taken primarily from the last officially sanctioned church doctor St. Thomas Aquinas. Pieper brings Aquinas and other philosophers' language up to date, for the ears of the modern mind. Christianity's definition has too much to do with how its enemies, or alterior users, wish to define it and Pieper spends a short time correcting this in places. If you liked this you might like Pieper's *Virtues of the Human Heart* which is a bit less descriptive but more powerful. Pieper also makes the point that the most important struggle is the internal struggle for meaning and direction in any organization or person. 10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. *Clearing a Path* By R. Bono Tapping into the core of the western philosophical tradition, Pieper shows the reader how the ancient virtues of Prudence, Justice, Fortitude, and Temperance, have a universal and pressing contemporary application, in the world of human decision making...i.e., the right thinking that clears a path ahead. Formulated out of the Greek, Roman, Hebrew, and Christian traditions, he reminds of their elemental spiritual basis in Faith, Hope, and Charity. He notes with special emphasis, the primacy of the Cardinal Virtue of Prudence, as the clear eyed and humanly perfectable, effort to take a hard, and as objective as possible, look, at the entire factual context of a decision. And, in one of the most beautiful chapters among many in this wonderful book, is Pieper's elucidation of how this calculation is aligned and informed by the Spiritual Virtue of Charity. I find the book to be both a practical and a spiritual insight into human awareness itself. 5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. *Timeless virtues made accessible!* By Achilles Joseph Pieper is one of the finest philosophers of the 20th century. *The Four Cardinal Virtues* is an indispensable resource for understanding the best of ethics gifted to us from antiquity. Joseph Pieper is a brilliant philosopher, all the more so because he makes the exposition of these hinge virtues accessible to us all, even those of us less adept at philosophical explications. Further, with this book, he draws the reader into deep waters in understanding the totality of what it truly means to be human. The illuminating relevancy of each argument and exposition is a joy to the mind because what he exposes to us is timeless. I agree with the other reviewer who suggests that this book be followed by Joseph Pieper's *Faith, Love and Hope*. I imagine a great writer could not overstate the value of these wonderful books, much less a novice like myself. If you want to learn about the true nature of the timeless virtues, get and read these books!

In *The Four Cardinal Virtues*, Josef Pieper delivers a stimulating quartet of essays on the four cardinal virtues. He demonstrates the unsound overvaluation of moderation that has made contemporary morality a hollow convention and points out the true significance of the Christian virtues.