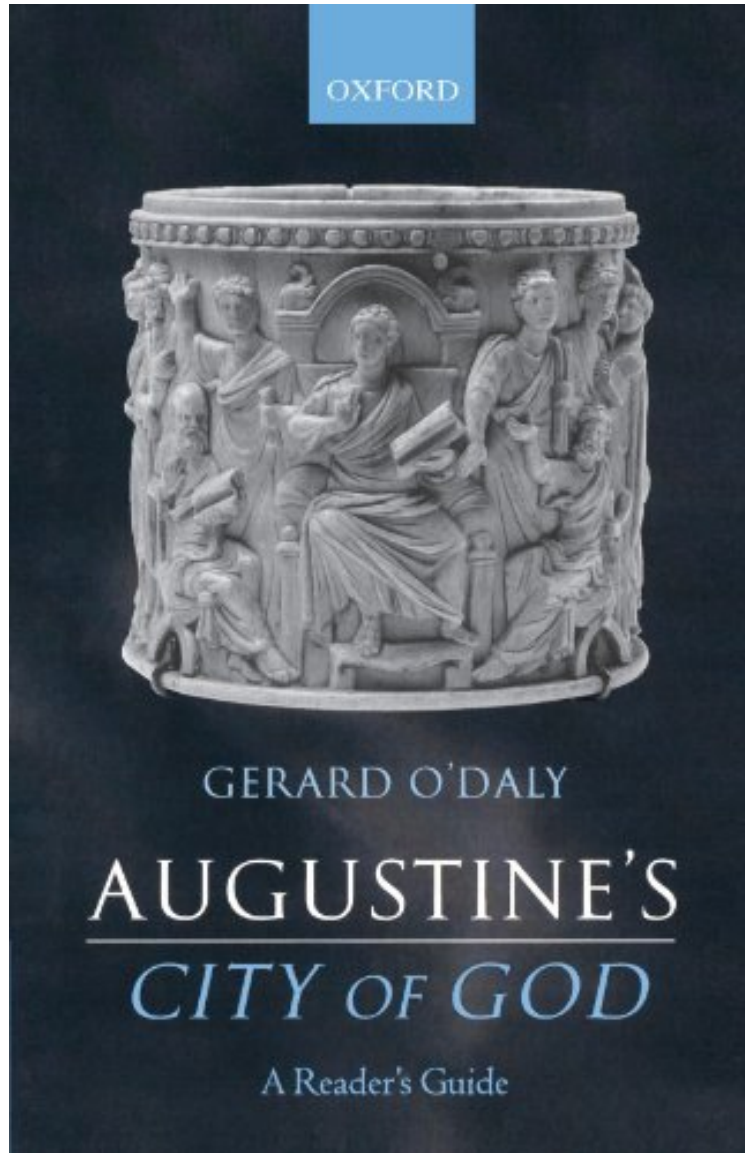


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Augustine's City of God: A Reader's Guide

Gerard O'Daly

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Gerard O'Daly : Augustine's City of God: A Reader's Guide before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Augustine's City of God: A Reader's Guide:

15 of 16 people found the following review helpful. An Indispensable Tool for Understanding City of GodBy Anthony DeGuerreO'Daly's reader's guide is an indispensable tool for students seeking to better understand Augustine's Opus. The Guide begins with an examination of the history which spawned City of God; a brief summary of Augustine's pagan contemporaries and their works; and an overview of the structure of the books. A summary of the books of City

of God follows. The guide ends with an analysis on the influences and sources which shaped Augustine's writings, as well as a discussion of how City of God fits in with Augustine's other writings. Though a scholarly treatise, O'Daly's guide is not pedantic. It paints a vivid picture of Augustine's world and the role religion played for fifth century Roman citizens. The chapters which summarize City of God provide background on the pagan and Christian writers Augustine used to support his arguments and illuminates Augustine's position. At the time of this review, the Readers Guide sells for about \$52.00, which seems a bit pricey for a paperback. If, however, you are committed to investing the time necessary to read all of Augustine's City of God, O'Daly's guide is an invaluable resource that will help you maximize the time spent with Augustine. 2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Very good book. Just what I was looking for self ...By Bartman Very good book . Just what I was looking for self study. 22 of 25 people found the following review helpful. A Masterful Survey of Augustine's Magnum Opus By Johannes Platonicus O Daly's masterful survey of Augustine's colossal work, the City of God, is in itself the foremost study of its kind, covering as it does the twenty-two books of the City of God, with a fine cornucopia of scholarly and insightful analyses, summaries and sweeping commentary. Principle themes to the City of God are highlighted and the profound wealth of philosophical, theological, historical, biblical and apocalyptic thought inherent to the text is elucidated and discussed in a terse, clear-cut fashion [also illuminated is the contextual setting and the cultural and literary stimuli which led to the City of God's composition]. Therefore, this reader's guide is not only the most scholarly treatment on the City of God available, but it is also the best and most accommodating means of approaching this most extraordinary text. In a word, Gerard O' Daly has given us the ultimate companion to Bishop Augustine's City of God; and this volume should be standard reading in institutions where the City of God is studied; also, it should go hand-in-hand with any full-scale research conducted upon the text. [See also O Daly's work, The Poetry of Boethius, which is an artful critique on the poetry found in Boethius' Consolation of Philosophy.]

The City of God is the most influential of Augustine's works which played a decisive role in the formation of the Christian West. Its scope embodies cosmology, psychology, political thought, anti-pagan polemic, Christian apologetic, theory of history, biblical interpretation and apocalyptic themes. This book is the first comprehensive modern guide to City of God in any language.

"O'Daly's splendid volume...fills a lacuna in Augustinian scholarship by providing a solid and detailed guide for a serious student of Augustine's most influential work." "O'Daly fills indeed a gap in scholarship that was long overdue, and he is a scholar most apt for this task....the book is well written and with its clear presentation of the outline of the City it helps the reader to get a good idea of its intention and direction....O'Daly manages to present a wealth of material in a well-structured way....this guide will be an indispensable tool for everybody interested in the City." --Church History "An expert and well-judged study, and one long needed." --Journal of Roman Studies "O'Daly's splendid volume...fills a lacuna in Augustinian scholarship by providing a solid and detailed guide for a serious student of Augustine's most influential work." --Theological Studies "O'Daly fills indeed a gap in scholarship that was long overdue, and he is a scholar most apt for this task....the book is well written and with its clear presentation of the outline of the City it helps the reader to get a good idea of its intention and direction....O'Daly manages to present a wealth of material in a well-structured way....this guide will be an indispensable tool for everybody interested in the City." --Church History "An expert and well-judged study, and one long needed." --Journal of Roman Studies "O'Daly's splendid volume...fills a lacuna in Augustinian scholarship by providing a solid and detailed guide for a serious student of Augustine's most influential work." --Theological Studies "O'Daly fills indeed a gap in scholarship that was long overdue, and he is a scholar most apt for this task....the book is well written and with its clear presentation of the outline of the City it helps the reader to get a good idea of its intention and direction....O'Daly manages to present a wealth of material in a well-structured way....this guide will be an indispensable tool for everybody interested in the City." --Church History "An expert and well-judged study, and one long needed." --Journal of Roman Studies "O'Daly's splendid volume...fills a lacuna in Augustinian scholarship by providing a solid and detailed guide for a serious student of Augustine's most influential work." --Theological Studies About the Author Gerard O'Daly is Professor of Latin at University College London.