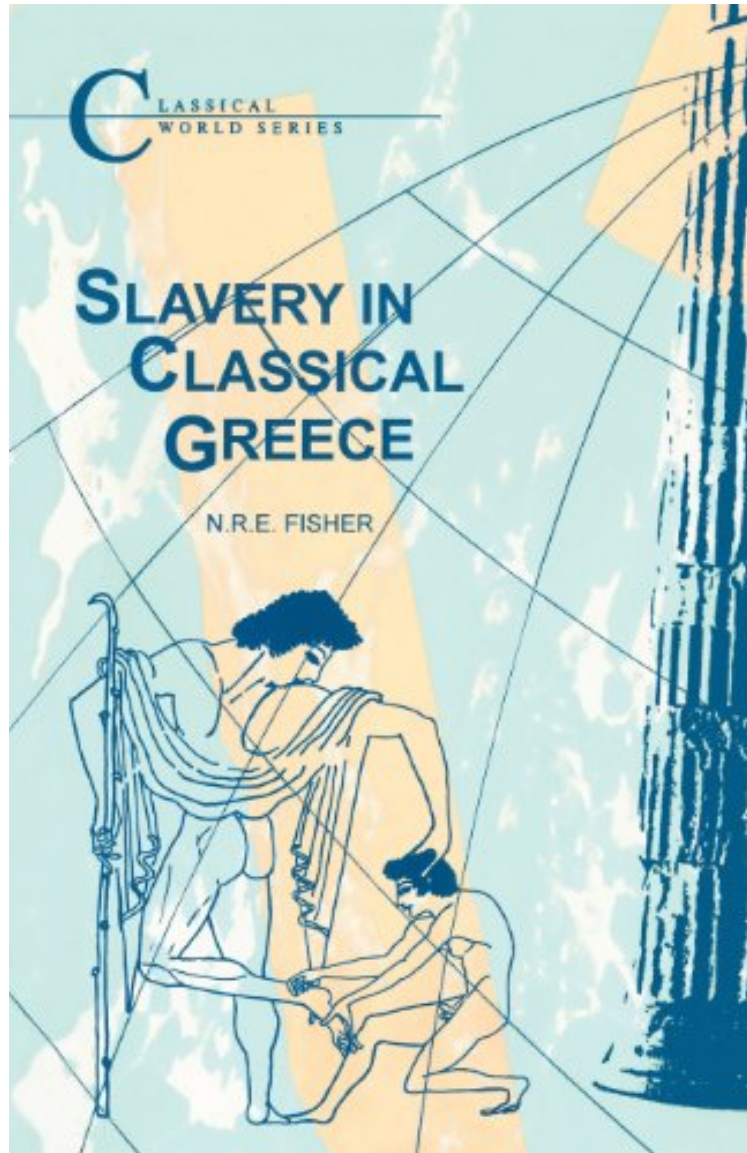


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N.R.E. Fisher : Slavery in Classical Greece (Classical World) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slavery in Classical Greece (Classical World):

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Superb...and eminently readable!By Tim EvansonThis is one of the best books I have ever read on slavery in antiquity. Many books on slavery in ancient Greece and Rome are almost prudish in their approach to the issue. But in order to convey the true nature (and horror) of slavery, no scholarly work

can ignore such aspects of slavery as sexual mores or physical violence. Vague references simply will not do. This book digs right into the nitty-gritty of everyday slave life. Although it's a very short work, the author manages to convey the most amazing details of slave life -- right down to the kind of undergarments a slave might be permitted to wear. Unlike some works, which never really explain how slaves could rise to positions of great power and prestige and still remain slaves, this volume does so and makes it seem reasonable. The book also places slavery in context as well. That's something missing in most other works on slavery in ancient Europe and the Middle East. The sections on Spartan slavery and how it meshed nearly seamlessly with Spartan attitudes on the upbringing of young males (especially the lengthy passages on the "crypteia") really make history come alive. I can't say enough good things about this book. Its superb reliance on primary sources, its terrific critical analysis of modern scholarly works, its heavy contextualization of slavery and slave-owning, its crisp and elegant writing, its no-nonsense and fact-based approach to sensitive topics: It is everything I wanted from a book about this important topic. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book By Wishbone I like a historical book that gets right down to the facts without getting bogged down trying to fill in spaces and make the book longer. Great short read with a lot of good information

This is an authoritative and clearly written account of the main issues involved in the study of Greek slavery from Homeric times to the fourth century BC. It provides valuable insights into the fundamental place of slavery in the economies and social life of classical Greece, and includes penetrating analyses of the widely-held ancient ideological justifications of slavery. A wide range of topics is covered, including the development of slavery from Homer to the classical period, the peculiar form of community slaves (the *heletoi*) found in Sparta, economic functions and the treatment of slaves in Athens, and the evidence for slaves' resistance. Throughout the author shows how political and economic systems, ideas of national identity, work and gender, and indeed the fundamental nature of Greek civilisation itself, were all profoundly affected by the fact that many of the Greek city-states were slave societies. With 12 illustrations.

About the Author Professor Nick Fisher is Professor Emeritus of Ancient History at Cardiff University.