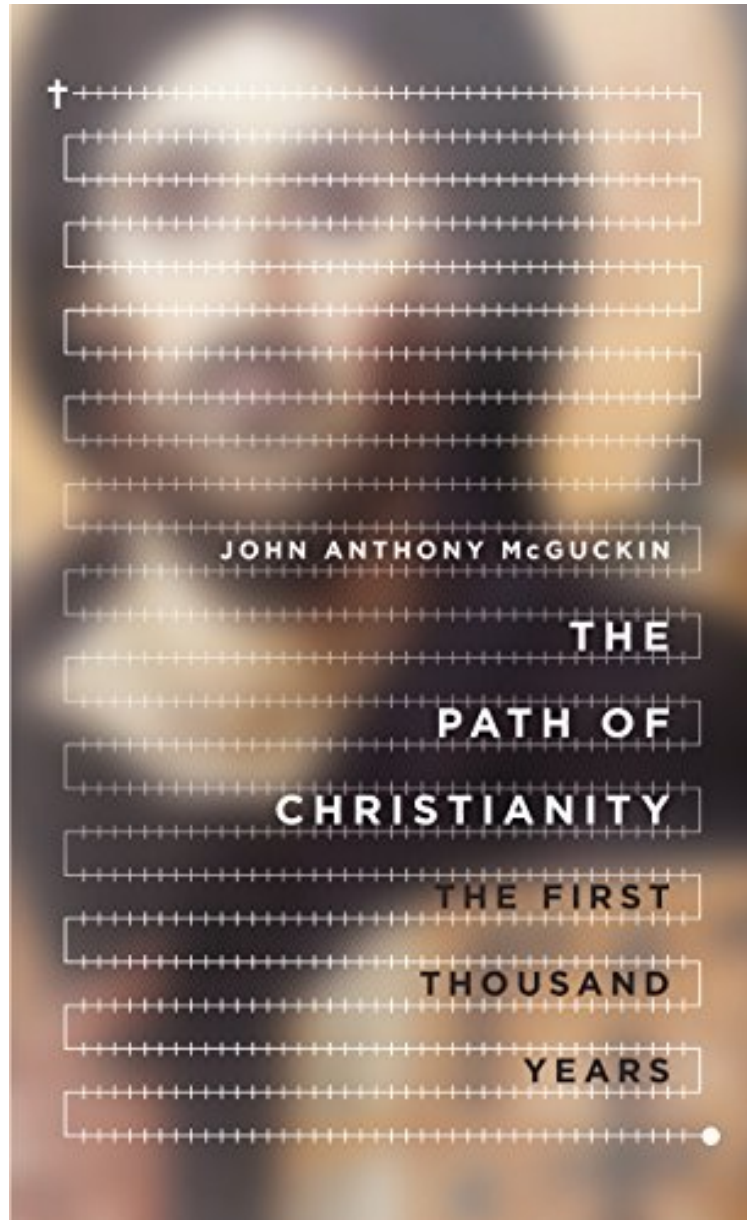


(Ebook free) The Path of Christianity: The First Thousand Years

# The Path of Christianity: The First Thousand Years

*John Anthony McGuckin*

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#479892 in Books InterVarsity Press 2017-05-16 2017-05-16 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.20 x 2.50 x 6.101, #File Name: 08308409821280 pages The Path of Christianity The First Thousand Years | File size: 74.Mb

**John Anthony McGuckin : The Path of Christianity: The First Thousand Years** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Path of Christianity: The First Thousand Years:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful and Comprehensive Volume! By Dylan Price Most

histories of Christianity span two to three volumes. In spanning two or three volumes, they are often broad surveys which touch on the major events of Christianities development. The positive consequence to this is the reader receives a plethora of information. The negative is the reader often must do further research on a topic because there is so much information. Certainly, students would enjoy different aids to specific eras of Christianity. John McGuckins book *The Path of Christianity: The First Thousand Years* is such an aid to students of Christian history. This volume is an in-depth view of pivotal events that shaped Christianity for the next thousand plus years. I have found in my own study that more resources are written on Christian development in the 1300s through the present-day based upon the events of the Reformation. It is rare to find such a work that traces Christianity from the end of the apostles to the Medieval era. I appreciate this book for several reasons. First, it is massive. The book itself is large, but that is because McGuckin has taken the time to conduct and present his research in a way that any interested in the history of Christianity will find this book of use. Second, I appreciate this book for its lay out. McGuckin tells the reader in the introduction that you will want to alternate reading chapters. This, according to McGuckin, prevents the reader from becoming overwhelmed. Each chapter has a specific layout- historical analysis, a short reader of primary sources, and a further reading list. I find the further reading list commendable because it provides more resources to further research interests. I love Christian history. I do not think enough church members (and even pastors!) read enough of the development of Christianity. It is paramount to understand from where the church has come so that we can wisely and prayerfully discern where to go. This volume of the history of Christianity in the first one-thousand years is a monumental work that deserves to be recognized. I hope you will add this to your bookshelf and take the time to read. Disclosure: I received a complimentary copy of this book from InterVarsity Press. The opinions I have expressed are my own, and a positive review was not required. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commissions 16 CFR, Part 255.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommend By DibsLot of helps, easy layout - very easy to find things in. Great discussion and good material. Written from the Orthodox perspective which, as a Catholic, I find enriching the perspective although we may have a few wee differences. Very well written. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellence By RobertMN This is truly a masterpiece of scholarship. A necessary reference for most students (in the broadest sense of the word) of history or religion.

John Anthony McGuckin, one of the world's leading scholars of ancient Christianity, has synthesized a lifetime of work to produce the most comprehensive and accessible history of the Christian movement during its first thousand years. *The Path of Christianity* takes readers on a journey from the period immediately after the composition of the Gospels, through the building of the earliest Christian structures in polity and doctrine, to the dawning of the medieval Christian establishment. McGuckin explores Eastern and Western developments simultaneously, covering grand intellectual movements and local affairs in both epic scope and fine detail. *The Path of Christianity* is divided into two parts of twelve chapters each. Part one treats the first millennium of Christianity in linear sequence, from the second to the eleventh centuries. In addition to covering key theologians and conciliar decisions, McGuckin surveys topics like Christian persecution, early monasticism, the global scope of ancient Christianity, and the formation of Christian liturgy. Part two examines key themes and ideas, including biblical interpretation, war and violence, hymnography, the role of women, attitudes to wealth, and early Christian views about slavery and sexuality. McGuckin gives the reader a sense of the real condition of early Christian life, not simply what the literate few had to say. Written for student and scholar alike, *The Path of Christianity* is a lively, readable, and masterful account of ancient Christian history, destined to be the standard for years to come.

"An excellent overview of the first ten centuries of Christian history, unsurpassed in its thoroughness, clarity, and organization. This belongs in the library of anyone interested in the history of Christianity." (Justo L. Gonzalez, historian and theologian) "This is probably the best single-volume account of the history and key themes of the undivided Christian church through the first millennium and beyond available today. Its scope is both broad and focused, covering all geographical areas and epochs of that period, yet also introducing particular key figures and providing thoughtful analyses of important topics such as the relationship between church and state or the understanding of human sexuality. It also provides well-chosen selections of primary texts for further reading. It is sure to become a standard textbook and reference work for all students of that period." (John Behr, dean, professor of patristics, St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, Crestwood, New York) "In this massive introduction to the history of Christianity's first millennium, John Anthony McGuckin has succeeded in producing a work of great scholarly depth that is easy to read. Although, given the vast scope of this book, he has to move relatively quickly over the numerous theologians of the fourth and fifth centuries, who have been well treated elsewhere, McGuckin is at his brilliant best in rehabilitating the theologians of the second and early third centuries whose fundamental importance for all later forms of Christianity he demonstrates in definitive fashion. When he turns to particular themes of Christian faith and practice, he combines a master historian's attention to differences between epochs with a master theologian's open willingness to take sides in controversies. A marvelous achievement!" (Matthew Levering, James N. and Mary D. Perry Jr. Chair of Theology, Mundelein Seminary) "This is a monumental work that wonderfully

synthesizes a dazzling array of virtues. It is vastly comprehensive, but also enlivened by a judicious selection of concrete detail; deeply learned, yet written with elegant lucidity; it takes the reader on a brisk march through Christian history while also offering historically situated contemplations of perennial Christian themes and preoccupations, such as philanthropy and sexual morality. John McGuckin's prodigious talents as a scholar and teacher, honed over decades, here achieve a brilliant and widely accessible distillation." (Khaled Anatolios, professor of theology, University of Notre Dame)"To attempt a study of this kind of historical, geographical, prosopographical, literary, and theological scope for a period as massive as the first ten centuries of the Common Era is as ambitious as it is daring. To actually do so, not only with comprehensiveness but with real depth of insight, is an extraordinary achievement. John McGuckin is one of the most learned and energetic historians of early Christianity in the world, and this fine work may be the capstone of his many distinguished studies. From Christian polity to liturgy, from perspectives on war to practices of healing, from views of slavery to views of art, this spectacular volume covers themes largely untouched in earlier macrohistories of the early church." (Paul M. Blowers, Emmanuel Christian Seminary at Milligan College)"John McGuckin has already provided several comprehensive guides to Eastern Orthodoxy. In this book, he discusses the history of the whole church during the first millennium, when there was yet no schism between East and West. He discusses not simply the public story of the institutional church, as is customary, but pays careful attention to what it was like to be a Christian in this period: how Christians prayed and worshiped, and how they dealt with wealth and poverty, not to mention slavery. Fr. John tells his story with immense erudition and insight, but simply and directly. The result is a rare achievement of immense value to all Christians as they seek to understand their past and their future." (Andrew Louth, professor emeritus of patristic and Byzantine studies, Durham University UK, honorary fellow, faculty of theology, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, author of *Modern Orthodox Thinkers*)About the AuthorJohn Anthony McGuckin, formerly reader in patristic and Byzantine theology at the University of Leeds in England, is currently the Nielsen Professor in Late Antique and Byzantine Christian History at Union Theological Seminary and professor of Byzantine Christian Studies at Columbia University in New York City. He is an Archpriest of the Romanian Orthodox Church and a fellow of both the Royal Society of Arts and the Royal Historical Society of the United Kingdom. He has written twenty-five works of historical theology, including *St. Cyril of Alexandria: The Christological Controversy*, *St. Gregory of Nazianzus: An Intellectual Biography*, *The Westminster Handbook to Patristic Theology*, and *The Ascent of Law*.