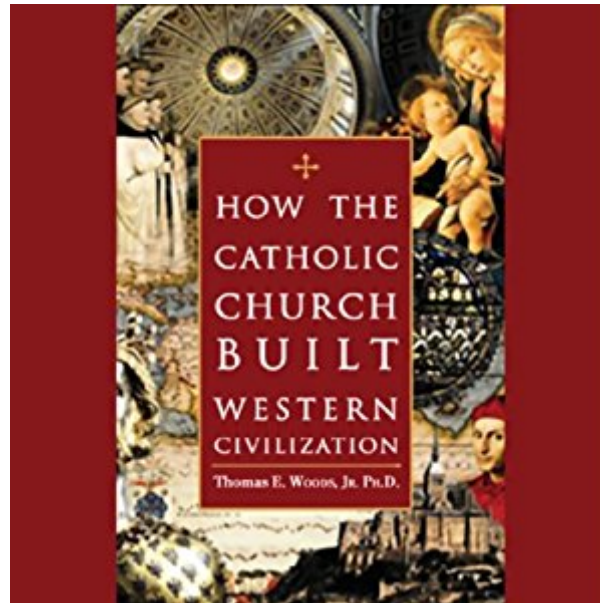




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# How The Catholic Church Built Western Civilization



## Synopsis

Ask a college student today what he knows about the Catholic Church and his answer might come down to one word: "corruption." But that one word should be "civilization." Western civilization has given us modern science, the wealth of free-market economics, the security of law, a sense of human rights and freedom, charity as a virtue, splendid art and music, philosophy grounded in reason, and innumerable other gifts we take for granted. But what is the ultimate source of these gifts? Bestselling author and professor Thomas E. Woods, Jr., provides the answer: the Catholic Church. No institution has done more to shape Western civilization than the two-thousand-year-old Catholic Church and in ways that many of us have forgotten or never known. Woods' book is essential reading for recovering this lost truth. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Whether Catholic or not; believer or unbeliever; facts are facts, even when they disabuse us of our cherished fallacies and prejudices. And such is, in my humble opinion, what Thomas Woods accomplishes by redressing distortions and exploding errors. It is remarkable that a work of such scope can be as terse and read so breezily; that events, people, and times can be as clearly laid out. *"How the Catholic Church Built Western Civilization"* is an antidote to the removal of Western studies from American education and an aid to a right understanding of the Catholic Church and the world's debt to her.

History without the spin doctoring! If you are looking for a great, truthful, entertaining book on history buy this one! This is a well written, excellently researched volume on history that focuses on unique and indispensable contributions made to betterment of life on this world for everyone by the Church. It is a must-read for everyone who enjoys living in this country or who wants to make the USA their home and keep it a great place to live and work and pursue their dreams. It covers historical events from 300 A.D. into the new millennium. Easy to read, easy to understand, this book is written by PhD historian and professor Thomas E. Woods and comes with a large reference/bibliography included to show where the information in the book has come from. I would count any book by this author as most reputable and honest.

Fascinating account of how the Catholic Church built Western Civilisation. With roots in Ancient Greek civilisation, the Catholic Church first introduced the notion that all men are equal under God, introduced the legal rights of nation states and their peoples be they religious or not, sponsored breakthrough science, introduced universities to the world, gave the world some of the most beautiful works of art and architecture, inspired medical research, promoted philosophical debate and moved forward from ancient sages such as Socrates, pushed for the rights of women in society and becoming the greatest source of charity and financial support to poor people's throughout the world.

This was a very good book. It was a very hard book to read to be honest with you. There is so much negativity towards the catholic church. We are so used to the negative parts so much that the negative parts actually become the most known parts of History for us and we forget or ignore the True History. Yes the church did some bad stuff. Yes, the church still does bad stuff. That's Life. The mystery of Christ and Grace helps softens the blow of reality. Ok we all know it, But lets not over shadow completely and just focus on the bad stuff. This book opens up a door that's been closed for many years. Every page is a slow door creaking open and letting light in....very good read and very refreshing on History and the Church as a whole.

Most people are biased regarding the Catholic Church, whether pro or against. For many decades now most historians have been on the "against" side, and many myths and misunderstandings are preponderant about the Catholic Church and particularly regarding the Middle Ages, so called the Dark Ages. This book, although written by a Catholic, brings to bear many historical facts that provide a much more balanced view, not only about the Middle Ages but also about the role of the

Catholic Church throughout its 2000 year history. It is also well written. I thoroughly enjoyed it, therefore I give it a 5.

This book documents what every Catholic already feels--that God has worked through his Church for the good of His people. Is the church perfect? Oh, heck no. Is it the best thing man has ever created out of his desire to serve our Maker, our Messiah, and our fellow man? Oh, heck yeah.

Dr. Woods has written a book that has long been needed: one that tells the truth about the Church and the development of western culture over and against the lies, distortions and misrepresentations of to-day's anti-Catholic, anti-God visual and print media--not to mention the rabid hatred of the Church in much of academia. The chapter on the Church and science will be particularly enlightening to those who have accepted, *carte blanche*, the often repeated modern mantra about the Church being anti-science--always using a distorted version of the Galileo controversy as the ONE example in 2000 years to "prove" the Churches' scientific backwardness and authoritarian posturing: nothing could be further from the truth. Such a view is not only wrong; it is the opposite of wrong. Those anti-Catholics, both Protestant and secular, who dare to come to terms with the historical content and insights in Dr. Woods' book will find themselves with a new understanding and appreciation of the true roots and foundations of the moral, relational, scientific and metaphysical concepts they have previously taken for granted. How many converts will the book influence? It's hard to say. But those who read it with even a remote sense of fair-mindedness are likely to lose much of the Catholic animus they may have previously harbored--and that, in itself, is a good thing. Dr. Woods' book also has a virtue that Catholic homilists are encouraged to develop: transparency. It is very easy to understand. Difficult concepts and ideas are explained with a simplicity and clarity even a Fulton J. Sheen would have admired. The text is extremely lucid and enjoyable to read. An outstanding introduction to a great diversity of ideas and disciplines, Dr. Woods shows that virtually every thing we have and value in the West, with the possible exception of peanut butter, finds its origin in the past and its sustaining bulwark in the present in the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church,.

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