"A terrible rumour," wrote Jerome in 410 AD, "reaches me from the West, telling of Rome besieged, bought for gold, besieged again, life and property perishing together. My voice falters, sobs stifle the words I dictate; for she is a captive, that city which enthralled the world" After the world-shattering sack of Rome by the Visigoths, St. Augustine seeks, in his magnum opus, to explain not only why Rome had fallen, but why humanity should eventually turn from hoping in a temporal city to hoping in an eternal one, De civitate Dei, the City of God. In this first volume, books I-III, Augustine pushes back against the pagans who claim that Rome has fallen as a result of the rise of the Christian religion and the subsequent neglect of the traditional pagan gods. Augustine argues convincingly that these gods, whatever they be, did not protect Rome even when she was entrusted to them, and that the Christian religion had provided protection for Romans who were on the brink of survival during the blood raid. "The ideas of this man furnished the themes for the piety and theology of more than a thousand years. No one possessed the "whole" Augustine, but all lived upon the fragments of his spirit from which each appropriated and understood what was "adapted" to his own wants." --Reinhold Seeberg

Virgil became a school author in his own lifetime and the centre of the Western canon for the next 1800 years, exerting a major influence on European literature, art, and politics. This Companion is designed as an indispensable guide for anyone seeking a fuller understanding of an author critical to so many disciplines. It consists of essays by seventeen scholars from Britain, the USA, Ireland and Italy which offer a range of different perspectives both traditional and innovative on Virgil's works, and a renewed sense of why Virgil matters today. The Companion is divided into four main sections, focussing on reception, genre, context, and form. This ground-breaking book not only provides a wealth of material for an informed reading but also offers fresh and sophisticated insights which point to the shape of Virgilian scholarship and criticism to come.

A good-hearted fellow who lives by the sea in a paper house and makes paper boats for the village children comes up against the devil in a life or death situation which can be salvaged only by his skill with paper folding. Along with his Confessions, The City of God is undoubtedly St. Augustine's most influential work. This long-awaited translation by William Babcock is published in two volumes. For all those who are interested in the greatest classics of Christian antiquity, The City of God is indispensable. Books 1-10 contain Augustine's critique of the Roman religious, political, and intellectual tradition and prepare the way for the great vision of the two cities that he sets out in Books 11-22. Book jacket. The City of God against the Pagans is a central text in the Western intellectual tradition. Made up of twenty-two lengthy books, Augustine wrote his masterpiece over a thirteen-year period during which the Western Roman Empire began to unravel. The first ten books are a critique of pagan religion and philosophy, while
books eleven to twenty-two treat the relationship between the City of God and the Earthly City. Throughout Augustine conveys his mature vision of what it means for a Christian to live in a world with evil. Its arguments and ideas have provoked debate for nearly 1600 years, and remains a central text in the disciplines of theology, historiography, and political theory. Augustine's City of God has profoundly influenced the course of Western political philosophy, but there are few guides to its labyrinthine argumentation that hold together the delicate interplay of religion and philosophy in Augustine's thought. The essays in this volume offer a rich examination of those themes, using the central, contested distinction between a heavenly city on earthly pilgrimage and an earthly city bound for perdition to elaborate aspects of Augustine's political and moral vision. Topics discussed include Augustine's notion of the secular, his critique of pagan virtue, his departure from classical eudaimonism, his mythology of sin, his dystopian politics, his surprising attention to female bodies, his moral psychology, his valorisation of love, his critique of empire and his conception of a Christian philosophy. Together the essays advance our understanding of Augustine's most influential work and provide a rich overview of Augustinian political theology and its philosophical implications. This magisterial volume is a comprehensive survey of the doctrine and practice of baptism in the first five centuries of Christian history, arranged geographically within chronological periods. Baptism in the Early Church covers the antecedents to Christian baptism and traces the history of Christian doctrine and practice from the New Testament through the writings of the church fathers of the fourth and fifth centuries. The book deals primarily with the literary sources, though it also gives attention to depictions of baptism (primarily of Jesus) in various art forms and to the surviving baptismal fonts. Ferguson's thorough study points to the central importance of baptism in the early church. Many blessings were attributed to baptism, but the two earliest and most consistently mentioned are forgiveness of sins and the reception of the Holy Spirit; faith and repentance were necessary in order to receive these benefits. Jewish immersion rites, the practice of John the Baptist, the meaning of the words used for baptism, the literary descriptions, and the material remains argue that full immersion was the normal practice, and the evidence from art is consistent with this interpretation. Containing nearly everything currently known about the early Christian ritual of baptism, with extensive citations to the primary and secondary literature, Ferguson's Baptism in the Early Church is destined to be a standard reference work.

Augustine of Hippo was Bishop of Hippo Regius (present-day Annaba, Algeria). He was a Latin-speaking philosopher and theologian who lived in the Roman Africa Province. His writings were very influential in the development of Western Christianity. According to his contemporary, Jerome, Augustine "established anew the ancient Faith." This classic work, The City of God, was translated into several languages and played an important role in the spreading of the ideals of Eastern and Western Christianity. The City of God is the most influential of Augustine's works, which played a decisive role in the formation of the Christian West. This book is the first comprehensive modern guide to it in any language. The City of God's scope embodies cosmology, psychology, political thought, anti-pagan polemic, Christian apologetic, theory of history, biblical interpretation, and apocalyptic themes. This book is, therefore, at once about a single masterpiece and at the same time surveys Augustine's developing views through the whole range of his thought. The book is written in the form of a detailed running commentary on each part of the work. Further chapters elucidate the early fifth-century political, social, historical, and literary background, the work's sources, and its place in Augustine's writings. The book should prove of value to Augustine's wide readership among students of late antiquity, theologians, philosophers, medievalists, Renaissance scholars, and historians of art and iconography. The first new rendition for a generation of one of the classic texts of Western civilisation. LARGE PRINT EDITION, easy to read layout, complete footnotes (>1000). "The City of God, for those who can understand it, contains the secret of death and life, war and peace, hell and heaven."- Thomas Merton "Of all the saints, Augustine is possibly the one who, as the Quakers phrase it, 'speaks most clearly to our condition.' Today as fifteen hundred years ago."- Anne Fremantle, Saints Alive! The philosopher Saint Augustine wrote The City of God (De civitate Dei contra paganos), a philosophical treatise vindicating Christianity, about 413-426 CE. With designs to solidify the Christianization of the Roman world, Saint Augustine has led one of the biggest battles against heresy. His love of rhetoric combined with his relentless philosophical search paved the way for his historic legacy-to this day. He influenced the work of Thomas Aquinas and John Calvin.
and many other theologians throughout the centuries. The first part (Books I-X) is a polemical critique of Roman religion and philosophy, corresponding to the Earthly City. The second half of The City of God (Books XI-XII) turns to Augustine’s defense of Christianity in the context of his philosophy and theology of history. BOOKS I-XII- also available The City of God-BOOKS XIII-XXII Excerpts: "The glorious city of God is my theme in this work, which you, my dearest son Marcellinus, suggested, and which is due to you by my promise. I have undertaken its defense against those who prefer their own gods to the Founder of this city—a city surpassingly glorious, whether we view it as it still lives by faith in this fleeting course of time, and sojourns as a stranger in the midst of the ungodly, or as it shall dwell in the fixed stability of its eternal seat, which it now with patience waits for, expecting until “righteousness shall return unto judgment,” I and it obtain, by virtue of its excellence, final victory and perfect peace. A great work this, and an arduous; but God is my helper. For I am aware what ability is requisite to persuade the proud how great is the virtue of humility, which raises us, not by a quite human arrogance, but by a divine grace, above all earthly dignities that totter on this shifting scene. For the King and Founder of this city of which we speak, has in Scripture uttered to His people a dictum of the divine law in these words: “God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.” 2 But this, which is God’s prerogative, the inflated ambition of a proud spirit also affects, and dearly loves that this be numbered among its attributes, to Show pity to the humbled soul, And crush the sons of pride.3 And therefore, as the plan of this work we have undertaken requires, and as occasion offers, we must speak also of the earthly city, which, though it be mistress of the nations, is itself ruled by its lust of rule.” (1 Ps. 94:15, rendered otherwise in English versions. 2 Jas. 4:6 and 1 Pet. 5:5. 3 Virgil Æneid 6.854.)Here in one concise volume is St. Augustine's brilliant analysis of where faith and politics meet - casting a penetrating light on Roman civilization, the coming Middle Ages, ecclesiastical politics, and some of the most powerful ideas in the Western tradition, including Augustine's famous "just war theory" and his timeless ideas of how men should live in society.Along with his Confessions, The City of God is undoubtedly St. Augustine's most influential work. In the context of what begins as a lengthy critique of classic Roman religion and a defense of Christianity, Augustine touches upon numerous topics, including the role of grace, the original state of humanity, the possibility of waging a just war, the ideal form of government, and the nature of heaven and hell. But his major concern is the difference between the City of God and the City of Man - one built on love of God, the other on love of self. One cannot but be moved and impressed by the author's breadth of interest and penetrating intelligence. For all those who are interested in the greatest classics of Christian antiquity, The City of God is indispensable. This long-awaited translation by William Babcock is published in two volumes, with an introduction and annotation that make Augustine's monumental work approachable. Books 11-22 offer Augustine's Christian view of history, including the Christian view of human destiny. The INDEX for Books 1-22 (both volumes of The City of God) is contained in this edition. No description available. City of God is an enduringly significant work in the history of Christian thought, by one of its central figures. Written as an eloquent defence of the faith at a time when the Roman Empire was on the brink of collapse, this great theological and philosophical work by St Augustine, bishop of Hippo, examines the ancient pagan religions of Rome, the arguments of the Greek philosophers and the revelations of the Bible. Pointing the way forward to a citizenship that transcends worldly politics and will last for eternity, City of God is one of the most influential documents in the development of Christianity. Translated with Notes by Henry Bettenson with an Introduction by G. R. Evans. This important collection reveals that Augustine's political thought drew on and diverged from the classical tradition, contributing to the study of questions at the center of all Western political thought. No description available. The city of God is a heavenly city on earthly pilgrimage. In 1990, New City Press, in conjunction with the Augustinian Heritage Institute, began the project knows as: The Works of Saint Augustine, A Translation for the 21st Century. The plan is to translate and publish all 132 works of Saint Augustine, his entire corpus into modern English. This represents the first time in which The Works of Saint Augustine will all be translated into English. Many existing translations were often archaic or faulty, and the scholarship was outdated. New City Press is proud to offer the best modern translations available. The Works of Saint Augustine, A Translation for the 21st Century will be translated into 49 published books. To date, 41 books have been published by NCP containing 93 of The Works of Saint
Augustine, A Translation for the 21st Century. Augustine's writings are useful to anyone interested in patristics, church history, theology and Western civilization. -- Publisher. After completing the first ten books of De Civitate Dei, in which Augustine sought to refute the claim that pagan deities had ensured that Rome enjoyed unbroken success and prosperity in this life and guaranteed its citizens a blessed life after death, Augustine devoted the remaining twelve books to discuss the origins, development and destiny of the two cities of Babylon and Jerusalem, with the predominant emphasis on the city of God. In this volume, the seventh in Peter Walsh's series, Augustine turns to the problem of death as punishment for the sin of disobedience, resumes his attack on the Platonists and pursues a range of topics which emerge from consideration of Adam's sin. This is the only edition of these books in English which provides not only a text but also a detailed commentary on one of the most influential documents in the history of western Christianity. A new reading of Augustine's City of God which considers the status of politics within Augustine's sacramental worldview. No description available. One of the great cornerstones in the history of Christian philosophy, The City of God provides an insightful interpretation of the development of modern Western society and the origin of most Western thought. Contrasting earthly and heavenly cities—representing the omnipresent struggle between good and evil—Augustine explores human history in its relation to all eternity. In Thomas Merton's words, "The City of God is the autobiography of the Church written by the most Catholic of her great saints." This Modern Library Paperback Classics edition is a complete and unabridged version of the Marcus Dods translation. Reproduction of the original: The City of God by Aurelius Augustine. No book except the Bible itself had a greater influence on the Middle Ages than Augustine's The City of God. And since medieval Europe was the cradle of modern Western society, this work is vital for understanding our world and how it came into being. This authoritative English-language commentary discusses Books 1-5, in which Augustine argued that Rome suffered worse disasters before Christianity was known; that empire depends on injustice; and that everything depends on the will of the true God, not on the many gods of Roman tradition. For all those who are interested in the greatest classics of Christian antiquity, The City of God is indispensable. This version also contains thought-provoking study questions at the end of each chapter. Along with his Confessions, The City of God is undoubtedly St. Augustine's most influential work. In the context of what begins as a lengthy critique of classic Roman religion and a defense of Christianity, Augustine touches upon numerous topics, including the role of grace, the original state of humanity, the possibility of waging a just war, the ideal form of government, and the nature of heaven and hell. But his major concern is the difference between the City of God and the City of Man - one built on love of God, the other on love of self. One cannot but be moved and impressed by the author's breadth of interest and penetrating intelligence. For Augustine, the pre-Fall Paradise was a life of tranquil love and joy. The post-Fall world is marked by loss of control over our bodies and emotions. But what exactly happened in the Fall, and why? How does desire relate to man's disobedience, and is there any sense in which we can recover what Adam and Eve have lost? In treating City 14 as an integral whole, this study explores Augustine's critiques of the Manichean and Platonist positions that the body is bad or evil, and discusses his biblical doctrine of emotions in light of the two-cities theme. The entire study concerns topics germane to the paradisal situation: the theme of the Primal Fall and the will being 'spontaneous', the exploration of the disobedience of the genitals in all forms of sex, including married life, and the workings of Adam and Eve's hypothetical sexual experience in the pre-Fall world. Is religion a right given to us by the state? Is it an opium for the masses? Is it private opinion with no role in the public sphere? In It Is Right and Just, bestselling author Scott Hahn and Brandon McGinley challenge our idea of religion and its role in society. Hahn and McGinley argue that to answer questions over religious liberty, justice, and peace, we must first reject the insidious lie perpetrated by secular-liberal culture: that religion is a private matter. Contrary to what political commentators and activists say, religion is not only relevant to justice and law, but is necessary for civilization to thrive. Recover the public nature of true religion, It Is Right and Just argues, and watch as a revolution unfolds. Find eternal answers to today's political confusion right now—pre-order today and get a free ebook to begin reading immediately! The City of God, written in the aftermath of the Gothic sack of Rome in AD 410, is the most influential of Augustine's works, having played a decisive role in the formation of the Christian West. Gerard O'Daly's book is the most comprehensive modern guide to it in any language.
provides a new introduction to Augustine's City of God and his doctrine of the two cities, sources of this doctrine in Manichaeism, (Neo)Platonism and the pre-Augustinian Jewish and Jewish-Christian traditions. Masterfully explains Augustine's major work The City of God book by book through engagement with theology, history and political science.