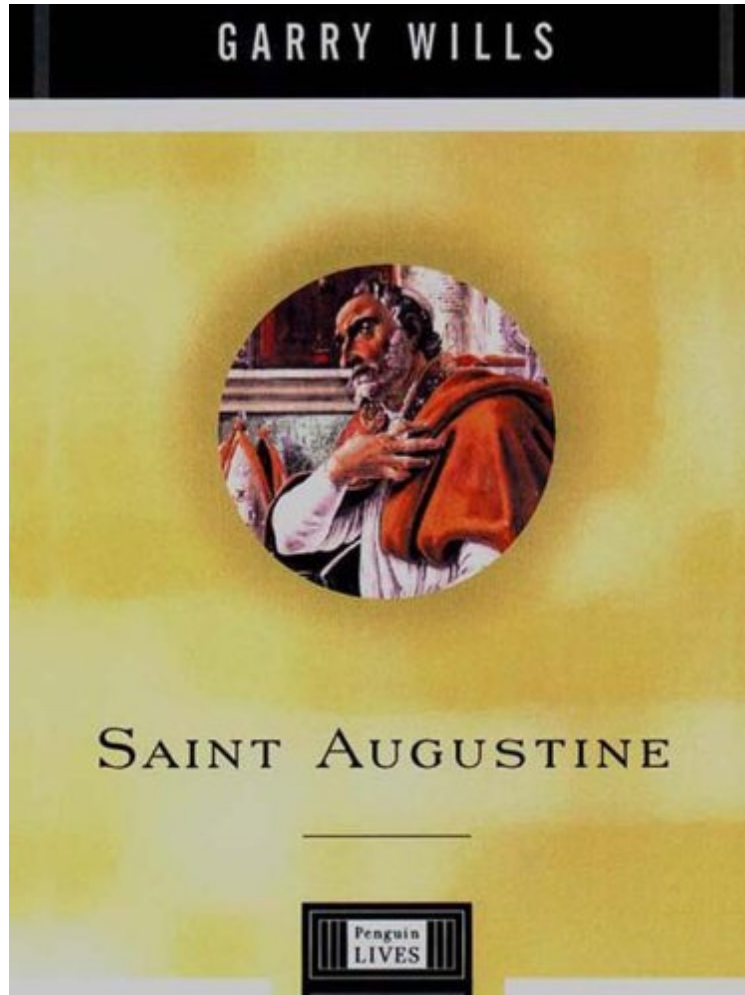


(Read free) Saint Augustine: A Life (Penguin Lives)

Saint Augustine: A Life (Penguin Lives)

Von Garry Wills

ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

Produktinformation -Verkaufsrang: #1628073 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 1999-06-01Erscheinungsdatum: 1999-06-01File Name: B000OCXGDM | File size: 68.Mb

Von Garry Wills : Saint Augustine: A Life (Penguin Lives) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Saint Augustine: A Life (Penguin Lives):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Eine kompakte Einfhruung in Leben und Denken Augustins auf 150 SeitenVon HannielDer Autor: Ein erfahrener SchreiberGary Wills (* 1934), US-amerikanischer Historiker und Autor, Katholik, Pulitzer-Preistrger, legte 1999 ein kurzes Portrait des grossen Kirchenvaters Augustinus (353-430) vor.Weshalb lesen?Ich sehe dafr vier Grnde:1. Es liest sich flssig.2. Es ist kurz (150 Seiten; sozusagen der kleine Bruder von Peter Browns monumentaler Biografie).3. Es enthlt viele Hinweise auf Quellen, insbesondere auf Briefe und Predigten.4. Eingeflochten sind einige pointierte Thesen zur Forschung von Augustinus.Wie ist das Buch aufgebaut?Das Buch folgt seinen Aufenthaltsorten, nmlich Afrika (354-383), seinem Abstecher nach Italien (383-388) sowie der restlichen Lebenszeit als Priester bzw. Bischof

von Hippo (388-430). Auch die Unterkapitel orientieren sich an den Schauptzen seines Lebens und Wirkens. Inhaltlich nimmt das autobiografische Buch der Bekenntnisse einen zentralen Stellenwert ein. Als drei grosse Themen zur Zeit seiner Abfassung nennt Wills: Das Geheimnis des menschlichen Geistes; Gottes Erschaffung der Zeit aus der Ewigkeit; Gottes dreieinige Natur. Thesen Wissenswertes Wills bersetzt confessiones bewusst mit The Testimony aufgrund dessen eigenen Wortgebrauchs (z. B. das unbeseelte Universum bezeugt Gott, 10.9; bezeugt, dass Zeit messbar ist, 11.33). Augustins Mutter drfte in der Atmosphre der Donatisten geistlich geprgt worden sein. In Madauros (366-370) wurde Augustin in das heidnische System der Mythen und Poesie eingefhrt (was er spter seinen Eltern anlastete). Wills stellt die psychoanalytische Lesarten der Homosexualitt Augustins und der Dominanz seiner Mutter rigoros in Abrede. Als Motiv fr die ausfhrliche Schilderung des Birnendiebstahls sieht Wills fehlgeleitete consortium und amicitia, also die Liebe zur Gruppe. Die Freundschaft bleibt Augustinus bis ans Lebensende ein teures Gut. Wills rekonstruiert die Geburt seines Sohnes Adeodatus (Gottgesandter) im Alter von 17 Jahren. Augustinus wohnte damals in Thagaste bei seinem Frderer. Die (feste) Konkubine war zu Zeiten Augustins vom rmischen Recht, aber auch vom Konzil von Toledo (400) anerkannt. Die Bekehrung geschah wohl zuerst mehr zu Plotin als zu Christus hin. Augustinus war bemht, die Predigt dem Fassungsvermgen der Zuhrer anzupassen, damit diese mitgingen (make the text fit the communitys psychological participation, 69). Er predigte oft gegen die Laxheit und gegen lieb gewordene Gewohnheiten (z. B. Trunkenheit an Festen). Dabei waren Neid, Gewalt und Betrug vorrangigere Themen denn die Sexualitt (135). Die Confessiones bezeichnet Willis als Implosion seines Geistes und als Erkundung des Geheimnisses seines eigenen Geistes als Reflektion von Gottes Geheimnis (91). Im Kampf gegen die Donatisten arbeitet Willis heraus: Das Ausreizen aller Mittel, die Steigerung des Einsatzes, die Partnerschaft mit zwei anderen fhigen Wrdrntger (Marcellinus, Valerius). Augustinus baut in De civitate Dei nicht auf den Gegensatz zwischen Satans- und Gottesstadt, sondern auf die Stadt des gefallen Menschen und der Stadt Gottes (116). Von Augustinus sind 300 Briefe und 400 Predigten (von insgesamt geschzt 8000) erhalten. Ich erhielt viele Hinweise auf Primrtexte, u. a. Der Mensch als Wahrheitssucher, De Trinitate 9,18 Das Wesen der Ehe, 5.5 Vom glcklichen Leben (386) Kains Grndung der Weltstadt (De civitate Dei) Soliquia (Selbstgesprche) De musica Die Buchstblichkeit des Schpfungsberichtes, Genesis 1.17 Politische Ordnung (L122.3, 122.7) Priester und Nonne der Homosexualitt bezichtigt (L78) Zudem empfiehlt Wills die Monografien von Robert F. Evans Pelagius: Inquiries and Reappraisals (1968) sowie von Peter Brown Body and Society. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A fine job on a difficult subject Von Tom Gillis I wanted very much to like this book, and I did by the time I finished and reflected on it. A short biography of Augustine, an influential but little-known (to modern Americans) figure in Western history, was a great idea. Writing a biography of someone like Augustine is difficult -- little information is available other than Augustine's surviving writings. The successful biographer needs to ground the available information, and a critical rereading of previous biographies, in our current understanding of the state of society at that time. Garry Wills has pulled that off nicely. Augustine lived in interesting times: Church doctrine was evolving and identifying heretical doctrines (e.g., Donatists); the Roman Empire was effectively split in two, with the Western capital moved from Rome to Ravenna; and (mainly) Christianized "barbarian" groups were taking over large sections of the Western Empire (Alaric's Goths captured Rome during Augustine's lifetime, and Augustine died near the end of the Vandal conquest of Roman Africa). Wills successfully places Augustine's life in context of these important events. Other reviewers have noted that this is not a good introductory volume. I disagree, as long as the reader has some knowledge of the historical period. Even in that case, however, the early sections of the book can drag -- e.g., with lengthy reinterpretations of specific Augustinian phrases. But how can one complain about an Augustine biography that (in the final pages, anyhow) manages to incorporate discussions of both Roth's "Portnoy's Complaint" and Chesterton's "Secrets of Father Brown"? 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A relatively pain-free introduction to Augustine Von Tom Gillis I wanted very much to like this book, and I did by the time I finished and reflected on it. Publication of a short biography of Augustine, an influential but little-known (to modern Americans) figure in Western history, was a great idea, and I'm pleased that Penguin took on the project. Writing a biography of someone like Augustine is difficult -- little information is available other than Augustine's surviving writings. The successful biographer needs to ground the available information, and a critical rereading of previous biographies, in our current understanding of the state of society at that time. Garry Wills has pulled that off nicely. Augustine lived in interesting times: Church doctrine was evolving while identifying heretical doctrines (e.g., Donatists); the Roman Empire was effectively split in two, with the Western capital moved from Rome to Ravenna; and (mainly) Christianized "barbarian" groups were taking over large sections of the Western Empire (Alaric's Goths captured Rome during Augustine's lifetime, and Augustine died near the end of the Vandal conquest of Roman Africa). Wills successfully places Augustine's life in context of these important events. Other reviewers have noted that this is not a good introductory volume. I disagree, as long as the reader has some knowledge of the historical period. Even in that case, however, the early sections of the book can drag -- e.g., with lengthy reinterpretations of specific Augustinian phrases. But how can one complain about an Augustine biography that (in the final pages, anyhow) manages to incorporate discussions of both Roth's "Portnoy's

Complaint" and Chesterton's "Secrets of Father Brown"?

Kurzbeschreibung Look out for a new book from Garry Wills, *What The Qur'an Meant*, coming fall 2017. Pulitzer Prize winner Garry Wills brings the same fresh scholarship, lively prose, and critical appreciation that characterize his well-known books on religion and American history to this outstanding biography of one of the most influential Christian philosophers. Saint Augustine follows its subject from his youth in fourth-century Africa to his conversion and subsequent development as a theologian. It challenges the widely held misconceptions about Augustine's sexual excesses and shows how, in embracing classical philosophy, Augustine managed to enlist pagan authors in the defense of Christianity. The result is a biography that makes a spiritual ancestor feel like our contemporary.

deSaint Augustine by Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and cultural critic Garry Wills is a 145-page biography of a saint whose collected works total 13 volumes. Despite its brevity the book offers a complex and compelling interpretation of Augustine's life and work. Much of Wills's task is demythologising: Augustine was not a central figure in 4th-century Christianity but was "peripheral in his day, a provincial on the margins of classical culture" who did not know Greek, the intellectual lingua franca of his time. Although Augustine has been portrayed by artists as a bishop "wearing all the episcopal finery of the late Middle Ages" he actually "dressed in the grey clothes of a monk". And far from being a self-righteous pontificator, Augustine was "impatient with all preceding formulations, even his own". He wrote, "Since it is God we are speaking of, you do not understand it. If you could understand it, it would not be God". Wills also argues that Augustine's *Confessions* (Wills persuades the reader that this is an anachronistic, egoistic translation of the original Latin title, a word Wills more accurately renders as "Testimony") has been misread in a way that suggests Augustine led a debauched sexual life before his conversion. However, in the *Shocking Revelation* department Wills does find more detailed (if elaborately coded) information about Augustine's mistress and about the son they raised together than other biographers have found. Like in his masterful *Lincoln at Gettysburg*, in *Saint Augustine* Wills accomplishes his aims to set the record straight completely and yet lightly. Wills makes his arguments without ever forgetting his first job: telling the story of a life. --Michael Joseph Gross.co.uk

Saint Augustine by Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and cultural critic Garry Wills is a 145-page biography of a saint whose collected works total 13 volumes. Despite its brevity the book offers a complex and compelling interpretation of Augustine's life and work. Much of Wills's task is demythologising: Augustine was not a central figure in 4th-century Christianity but was "peripheral in his day, a provincial on the margins of classical culture" who did not know Greek, the intellectual lingua franca of his time. Although Augustine has been portrayed by artists as a bishop "wearing all the episcopal finery of the late Middle Ages" he actually "dressed in the grey clothes of a monk". And far from being a self-righteous pontificator, Augustine was "impatient with all preceding formulations, even his own". He wrote, "Since it is God we are speaking of, you do not understand it. If you could understand it, it would not be God". Wills also argues that Augustine's *Confessions* (Wills persuades the reader that this is an anachronistic, egoistic translation of the original Latin title, a word Wills more accurately renders as "Testimony") has been misread in a way that suggests Augustine led a debauched sexual life before his conversion. However, in the *Shocking Revelation* department Wills does find more detailed (if elaborately coded) information about Augustine's mistress and about the son they raised together than other biographers have found. Like in his masterful *Lincoln at Gettysburg*, in *Saint Augustine* Wills accomplishes his aims to set the record straight completely and yet lightly. Wills makes his arguments without ever forgetting his first job: telling the story of a life. --Michael Joseph Gross