

Intro Quotes - Pagan - Inquiry Xian - Authority
 Intro XV Aristotle - Trust Perceptions not theory
 XVI Rational Thought can only make progress with tolerance
 XVII Plato Not Empirically Based Rational Thought -
 highest true rationality is in the world of Forms
 - Not Empirical Fact but Arduous intellectual journey
 XVIII Constantine gave cash wealth to those who had "right"
 Xianity. Empire was threatened. Emperor controlled theology through
 hand picked "Councils"
 XIX Recorded Astronomical Observations - from 475 AD to
 Copernicus - No - Not Quite
 restarted the scientific tradition"

XXIII - Best Bibles to use Jerusalem Bible.
 4 - God of Aquinas - and of Paul "I will destroy the wisdom of the
 wise"
 St. Augustine - the human mind - burdened by Adam's original sin
 is diminished in its ability to think for itself
 - At least Aquinas re-introduced Aristotle and Reasoning
 6 - It was Xians who attacked tradition of scientific
 thinking (not other way around)
 9 - Also intensely spiritual nature of Ancient Greeks - Festivals
 10 - Maintain the Round of Rituals (Festivals) - to protect the city
 ECME - Greek Intellectual Development (May the Force be with you)
 came from "optimistic belief that there were forces that tended
 to good order."

WOW - Work of Politician is to shift things to this
 natural good order.
 15 Use of Deductive Proofs was greatest Greek Intellectual Achievement
 18 - Greeks assumed underlying Order.
 3 - Statue - The Old man crushed by Aquinas holds sign "Wisdom conquers evil"
 20 - Greeks knew earth was round - and circumference within
 200 miles
 Science was cumulative, challengeable, and competitive
 23 - A Logos was a reasoned account.
 27 - The more a person wants to persuade the more he will work to be honor-
 able and good.
 29 - Plato - believed Human Soul was immortal - Forms were best
 (Carried away by LSD)
 Intellectual Elite who understand "Forms" - should govern
 31 - You should ignore Real World Observations if they conflict with
 Direct Attacks on mainstream Scientific Position
 Xians adopted Plato - Material World is NOT the best place
 for the soul. - Heaven? - Another world was better - to
 Effective reasoning was for the few - who should Control.

32 Xian - Plato - "Otherworldly basis for ethical beliefs"
 Aristotle - "Universalist" - Everyone can find their happiness
 "Nature always produces the best"
 NO originalism - "We are just and moderate from birth"
 Plato - rejects the world of the Senses
 43 - Epicureans & Stoics - Epicureans - withdraw from world,
 get peace of mind, share their women (Friendship)
 49 - Gymnasia (Greek) means "places of nakedness"
 59 - Augustus body rose to heaven from funeral pyre
 - so was a god.
 67 Ptolemy was cool - Total Genius & For Greeks
 Spirituality and Rationality Could Exist Without Conflict
 ECME → Logos & mythos
 Great Greek achievement - Distinction between areas of knowledge
 that can be proved and those not subject to rationalism.
 Greeks would think it absurd to insist that others believe the
 truth of a myth
 68 - You could be skeptical about gods (Cicero), but as long as you
 went along with the rituals you could believe as you wish
 Like Jews - just follow the laws
 69 313 Edict of Milan - Constantine → everyone will be tolerated, even
 Romans incorporated everyone's gods.
 70 Pagan Monotheism - a very deep and broad tradition.
 74 - IMP - for Platonists (Xians) - Emotion and Sensuality
 Would draw you away from god NO ECME - Reverse
 - Logos is like the force - Not just the word.
 75 Gnostics - drew on Platonism - I believe it - They saw the
 world & body as evil - made by evil god - But human soul was
 good - perfectable - but imprisoned - Dualists
 Supreme desire of the soul is to be re-united with the One (India)
 77 Gods were NOT jealous - None excluded other beliefs.
 85 Xians - How much should you show tolerance to a group that does NOT
 not show tolerance.
 86 Alt. to persecution of Xians - Absorb them into the authoritarian
 structure of the state.
 69 ECME - The Mother - Nature - "I is I am nature - the Universal
 Universal Mother
 88 - Jesus - Taught within the Jewish Tradition
 - Confirmed lack of Jewish Sources for Jesus' life
 90 - in Luke (100AD) Jesus is Divine for the first time
 91 - Matthew "Eternal Punishment" if you refuse to feed the
 hungry or clothe the naked. SOCIALIST?

Concept Messiah = Christos (Greeks) = Christ.
 96 Cyrus of Persia (a liberator) was given Christos title - ?
 Nearly any statement of Jesus is qualified or contradicted by another.
 105 Can the historical Jesus be found "Only with the greatest difficulty."
 110 Mainstream Judaism hostile to celibacy - Essenes were for it.
 119 - Sick Paul - Go into Hell even if you never heard of Jesus.
 Hebrew law AND the Greek Achievement - The concept of a rational argument itself was superseded by the coming of Christ.
 134 Free Sexual Love - Always a concern to traditionalists / break down the social order.
 135 - What are the Basic Rituals of Life
 137 - others were adopting Jesus, Gnostics, the "Theosophists" check it out.
 143 - Xians would draw on Both Hebrew Scripture and Greek Philosophy.
 144 (★) Platonism DID provide intellectual back bone for Xianity. Platonists - immaterial world - it was 250 at inception.
 151 Xians were decided for creating ECME a religion without tradition.
 152 Xian Martyrdom was a draw - impressive - like osama.
 159 - in 313 - All Cults tolerated - first proclamation of right of Freedom to worship.
 160 - 315 After his battle - on his big arch in Rome - No Xian Symbolism at all. Victory associated w/ Sun Gods Victory Goddess.
 170 Nicene Creed was directly forced by Constantine - within 10 years all the signers had been disgraced.
 - Constantine's Personal Brutality - Kill Son and Wife.
 172
 175 Constantine - Baptized only when he knew he was dying. No evidence he ever went to a church service.
 176 Constantine created the relationship (strong) between Xianity and WAR. Jesus portrayed as Roman soldier! Emperors played a large part in determining doctrine.
 184 Julian - Next Emperor was pagan - Tried to turn things around.
 188 Xians bring Pessimistic concepts of Human Nature. Contrast strongly with Greek Optimism.
 Photos - Marcus Aurelius - quote on REASON - bears fruit.
 Constantine supported but not fully converted to Xianity. Wanted to harness Xianity - like paganism - in the service of the state.

Nothing Xian on his Arch But considered himself the 13th Apostle & is buried as such.
 201 Roman Church liked the Authoritarianism of Paul (Empire) rather than Gospels which had Jesus challenging Authority.
 202 Vast wealth and Prestige - to those who followed the Emperor or Church Doctrine.
 203 1083 1/5 of England's resources under church control. Xianity came to be bulwark of traditional system.
 206 Slavery O.K.
 207 Worship Outdoors - Even Bible says the creator "does not live in shrines made by men."
 216 You could buy a bishopric and get old guy banished and his writings burned.
 223 - Smash Pagan Buildings - Should be no building left standing where Christ was denied.
 224 - Ambrose - When the Church took Superiority over the state - 226
 225 - Ambrose - Xian mobs unleashed - Destroyed Great Shrines of the Ancient World. Olympics 395? Eternity?
 233 - Xians filthy, diseased: a Clean Body and Clean clothes bespeak a dirty mind.
 234 - 234 Ascetics - Separated Body's mind - Subjugated the body (sense desire) to achieve a higher state of being. Emotional restraint highly valued in Roman E. E. Abstinence & strength went together. Sex to be kept in control - Concern w/ legitimacy of heirs. Xians dramatized desires as cosmic forces.
 236 Xian concepts of Heaven and Hell had great power - So Platonism set stage for asceticism "fear of hell".
 237 - Jerome - marriage had one virtue - it produced more virgins.
 240 - Greek world - Women sex drive was so powerful they must be kept in the home / Threatened by Voluntary Virginity. Cultural Threat? - Different kinds of life now possible.
 241 - Mary's Virginity was a mistaken translation into Greek.
 242 - 4th Century Mary became perpetual virgin. So then Augustine could say that those "beget" in the normal way were corrupted with sexual sin. NO SEX before Jesus. Mary became "mother of god" - still a virgin after giving birth. Need for a goddess figure was profound.

243 - Women as a whole were temptresses - Daughters of Eve
 Not Mary - Perpetuate Ever Guilt by being sexual.
 "The Devils Gateway" - "desecrated the fatal tree"
 So we get the Virgin/Whore dichotomy. No legitimate ^{Female} sexuality.
 244 - Sex-Marriage little better than fornication
 Judeo-Christian tradition Ethical - 5 tresses Care for ones
fellow human beings
 So was Ascetic just self-serving - to save his own soul
 - was he an inter me diary - bodisattva type? Charismatic
 - was he an inter me diary under Authority - No Leaders
 247 Monasteries - Kept Ascetics under Authority - ALSO BY CHARLES FREEMAN
 So - No Intellectual Independence - Follow Church
 Here it is - Submit to the Elders who tell you how to think.
 Ascetics - Non Political Egypt, Greece, and Rome
 and expected to be. The Greek Achievement
 Could have been counter to church opulence The Legacy of Ancient Egypt
 249 Christianity - a preoccupation with me - saving me
 The individual soul
 WOW - The Key C.W. Lineage Delimitation - The evil comes
 from within you, you will be judged, tense, not at peace
 (Jerome, Augustine - were they whole, happy.)
 Paul - Who will rescue me from this body doomed to death
 So the virtue of obedience becomes paramount.
 If you totally obey you can be sure that you commit no
 fault. SO The transition is Completed
 258 - So Basic CW thing is Authority - Hoke Cannabis same
 as. Believe in trinity or Mary was a virgin after birth - 6 Bros.
 assisters. Force them to utterly surrender personal integrity
 and reason and self determination
 262 - Decided the impossible nature of christ & then made
 any discussion critical of it punishable.
 264 - Some "Proto" Xians avoided baptism so they could
 Keep going to Pagan festivals.
 - Other Pagan Examples - Gods being worshipped in groups of 3
 265 - Pagans adapted and kept Right on going
 5th Century - "Any solemn ceremony" was banned
 266 Destroy Pagan and Jewish Stuff. Destroy their
 altars, cut down their groves (Gods Name is Jealous
 268 Xian mobs destroy and murder.
 Thing: The murder of Hypatia - Body pulled apart "The end of the era
 of Greek Mathematics."
 527-65 - Justinian tries to frantically Stamp out Paganism.

271 Rome was far from the centers of Christianity
 275 - Jerome - Translated the Bible into Latin - Was a twisted
 wreck - ascetic - Also vindictive a plagiarist
 278 Augustine - Main man Defining Western Xian Tradition
 loved original sin and hatred of sex.
 Evil was in all matter - the Human Body was evil. Sicko
 282 - Paul "Spend no more thought on nature and nature's
 appetites. Augustine embraced Calibacy
 Augustine - Moved away from Reason toward Faith.
 Later - Take some things on trust and have the humility to accept the
 authority of others
 The Closing of the Western Mind
 CANNABIS - cw - This is it. Reason/Evidence is
 undermined/crushed by faith in authority ^{no evidence}
 Sin - comes from pride - like pride in your intelligence.
 286 - its all Authority - Only if you believe can you (not)
 understand.
 Role of Reason was only the means through which one learns that
 authority must be accepted
 Augustine - microcosm of larger turning away from Greek Rationality
 His "Original Sin" was from poor translation He had no Hebrew and
 little Greek.
 288 - Original Sin - was from a misreading of Paul
 Free Will - Forbidden Fruit - If Adam perfect why did
 he easily give in - B.D.W. - CAN, CAP -> what is forbidden
 fruit anyway "You are horribly evil if you don't buckle
 to my (unfulfilling) authority" The fruit brought Knowledge
 or Enlightenment. Only a trusted god would put you in
 impossible situations and keep you tense, & hate your
 sexuality and plant consciousness
 Original Sin (independent thought - rational or mystical) was
 debilitatingly powerful - humans just lumps
 infused with the guilt of Adam. My God So Sick
 A god that makes damnation very likely.
 290 CW Sex - Sin is passed on through Sexual Intercourse. Sexual
 desire equals evil. - A. F. in his turbulent times
 291 Scripture Backing Original Sin Very iffy, ^{mostly} mistranslations
 298 A - you obey orders, even in War Hierarchy is the natural order
 - Natural Order of things. Pessimistic about Progress.
 Accepted Slavery - Gods punishment of the slave
 Social Conservative - People inevitably flawed. Order is impt
 A Giant - But flawed by guilt/pessimism
 little room for hope - even being Xian won't save you!
 Raise Stress Level/Perversion/Drop Possibility of happy society of
 fulfilled people.

302 - The End Gregory the Great 590-604
 Became Latin Clerical Culture. Wisdom was bad
 "The wise should be advised to cease from their knowledge"
 to be "wisely ignorant wisely untaught." But he was more
 moderate - Founder of Medieval Papacy.

305 - The Anxiety Rooted in Paul - last judgement is a
 "day of angels" - began a bad spiral
 Original sin - Inter generational Guilt. Not Acceptable
 to most ethical systems

Intense Anxiety - over AUTHORITY, SEX, HELL
 Human Psyche - Always at war with itself - no
 (Aristotle) tendency toward harmony.

Agony on the cross only makes sense in terms of mans
sinfulness.

Augustine - Mans power of rational thinking was
forever corrupted by Adam's sin. THAT is why
 your only hope is in obedience.

306 Original Gospel Message of JESUS was profound
 ambivalence toward AUTHORITY - so they
 309 So much bitterness in Xian philosophical dispute.
 - banishment

310 They had driven into a philosophical cul de sac - No way out
SO Many decided the Nature of god is unknowable and you
 should live in SILENCE (as sheep of the shepherd)

310-311 - Xians confront those who dare to question or
speculate at all - It is faith that matters.
NO to "meddlesome investigations"

313 The Emperors called the Councils - forced the consensus.
 They were "The Deciders"

315 - Finally - Individual Creativity was no longer recognized
 It was god speaking through the individual. Aristotle lost

316 "Restrain our reasoning - and empty our minds of secular
 learning." Don't research the essence of things

Total Abdication of independent intellectual thought.

317 Plato - So Perfect for Xians "I ignore what is in the sky
 if you want "true knowledge" of philosophers.
 "miracles" were the rule - the intellect stagnated

Study of Astronomy Dropped for 1000 years.
 500 years w/ NO critical thought

1170 First New Universities

330 Aquinas (ECME) Deeper understanding of the natural world
 leads to more certainty of the greatness of the creator.

331 - Aristotle - humans naturally desire the good

Aquinas - Optimistic - People should strive to be good
 we should "shun ignorance"
 His was the Concept of "Natural Law"
 Aquinas - Restored Relationship between reason and faith.


339 - The Right Way to say what happened
 Simplistic to say - Greek Rationalism was destroyed by the
 Xians.
 more Realistic - "The suppression was by a state
 supported by a church which it had politicized. and
 removed from its roots in gospel teaching.

The Closing of the Western Mind

340 Church under Empire was radically different than
 in earlier times.
 Serious Mathematical & Scientific Thinking Destroyed
 The Rise of Faith and the Fall of Reason
 Dead for a thousand years
 And destroyed the Knowledge of the thousand
 before them

346 Original Sin Never caught on in the East

CHARLES FREEMAN


 ALFRED A. KNOPF
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