

"Decline And Fall of The Roman Empire" - Edward Gibbon (1776)

Post by "Cassius" of June 27, 2025 at 10:20 AM

I recall when I read some of these chapters many years ago, and listened to them on the Audible.com version, that Gibbon can be very sarcastic/ironic. It will therefore pay for readers to keep that in mind and not accept everything he says on face value, especially if English is not your first language. Some of that irony is probably easier to detect in the Audible version.

For example, in the outline above there is a reference to "the moral purity and discipline of Christian communities." I gathered in reading some of those references that it was very debatable whether he was serious or sarcastic about that.