

# Thoughts On Alain de Botton

**Post by "Hiram" of July 1, 2019 at 11:30 AM**

As for monasteries having originally been Gardens, this is not as far fetched. The Church was thirsty for power and to own property and estate from early on, and the Caesars had proven to be very generous for many decades when, in the sixth century, Justinian closed all the philosophy schools that competed with Christianity. So while the source remains unclear and I'd be curious to find a specific source, it's not difficult to imagine that the Gardens that were closed were handed over to the Church as political favors, as it was the main institution that was consolidating power and wealth at the time. This would fit the political reality of what was happening in the Roman Empire then.