

"The Darkening Age: Christian Destruction of the Classical World" - By Catherine Nixey (2018)

Post by "Philos Armonikos" of August 16, 2020 at 3:30 AM

Hi Cassius,

I am currently working through this book. Unfortunately as I understand it, academic historians do not like to engage in broad sweeping historiographic narratives which may be overly simplistic (the biggest example of this usually given is Edward Gibbon's 1776 History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire). Apparently Stephen Greenblatt's The Swerve is also held in a similar level of contempt. That being said, I intend to eventually go through it and develop my own opinion, though I am certainly out of my area of expertise here as regards to historical textual criticism and historiography.

My preconceptions on these kinds of popular histories has been shaped by the historians at these links:

<https://historyforatheists.com/the-great-myths/>

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorian...tm_source=share

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskHistorian...tm_source=share

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You may want to try "The Triumph of Christianity" by Bart Ehrman instead. Bart is a New Testament scholar who has journeyed from evangelical Christian to liberal Christian to agnostic atheist in the span of his career and writes even-handed, relatively unbiased historical accounts based on the available evidence to the best of my knowledge.