

Confessing with St Augustine

Book Notes: Confessions Book XII

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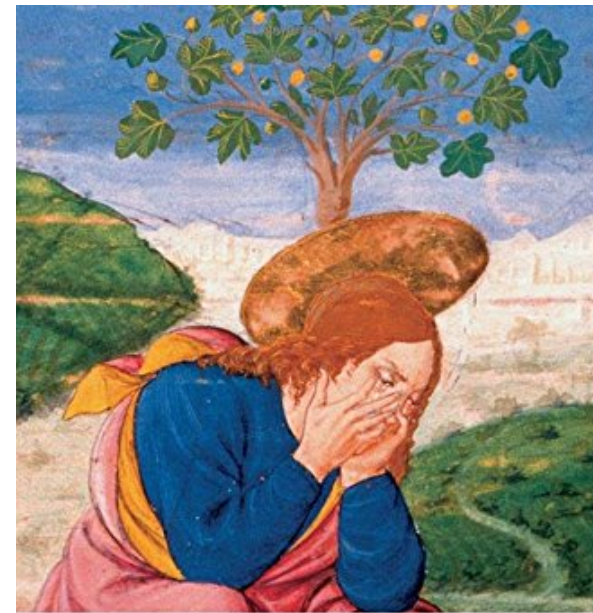


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Book XII: Heaven and Earth

- Heaven's Heaven (12.1.1-2.2)
- The Formlessness of the Earth (12.3.3-8.8)
- No Time (12.9.9-11.14)
- Summary: Spiritual and Material Creation (12.12.15-13.16)
- Objections (12.14.17-15.22)
- Augustine's Response (12.16.23-17.26)
- Seeking the author's intention in charity (12.18.27-25.35)
- If I had been Moses (12.26.36)
- How fruitful are these verses of Genesis (12.27.37-29.40)
- Conclusion (12.30.41-32.43)



Saint Augustine Confessions

A new translation by Henry Chadwick

OXFORD WORLD'S CLASSICS



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Beatitude, Wisdom, and Created Forms

- Platonic philosophy explain natural entities by virtue of their participation in a “realm of forms”, which may be known by an ascent through natural entities themselves.
- A’s distinction between heaven and earth is trying to address the question of the nature of the forms as ideas expressed of divine wisdom.
- It is a way of tying the beauty of the created order to God as its source, and to indicate the disproportion between God and the world:
 - “Nothing can I find that I would more readily call ‘heaven’s heaven, which belongs to the Lord’ than this your household, which contemplates your entrancing beauty, never tiring, never turning aside to any other joy” (12.11.12).



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