

Confessing with St Augustine

Book Notes: Confessions Book VII

Dr T. R. Baylor

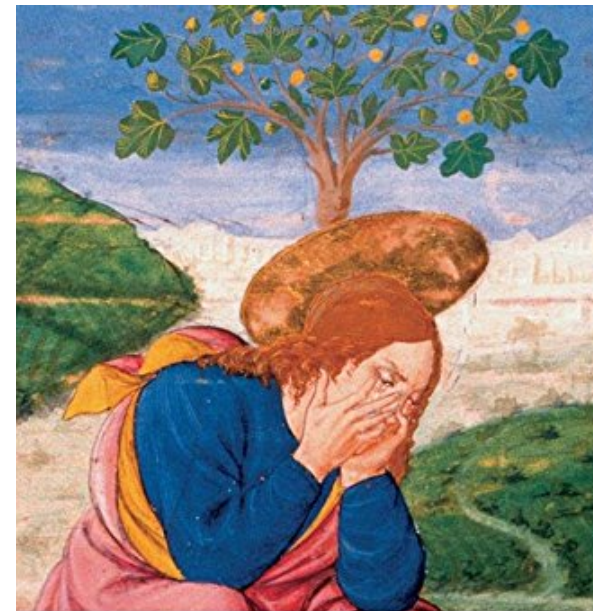


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Book VII: Neo-Platonism & Augustine's Breakthrough

- Materialistic Conceptions of God Insufficient (7.1.1-2.3)
- The Origin of Evil (7.3.4-5)
- Divine Perfection (7.4.6-5.7)
- Rejection of Astrology (7.6.8-10)
- Grace in Uncertainty (7.7.11-8.12)
- Books of the Platonists (7.9.13-15)
- Beaten Back From Platonic Ecstasy (7.10.16)
- New Light on the Origin of Evil (7.11.17-16.22)
- Fresh Attempt to Attain Knowledge of "That Which Is" (7.17.23)
- Need for Christ the Mediator (7.18.24-19.25)



Saint Augustine Confessions

A new translation by Henry Chadwick

OXFORD WORLD'S CLASSICS

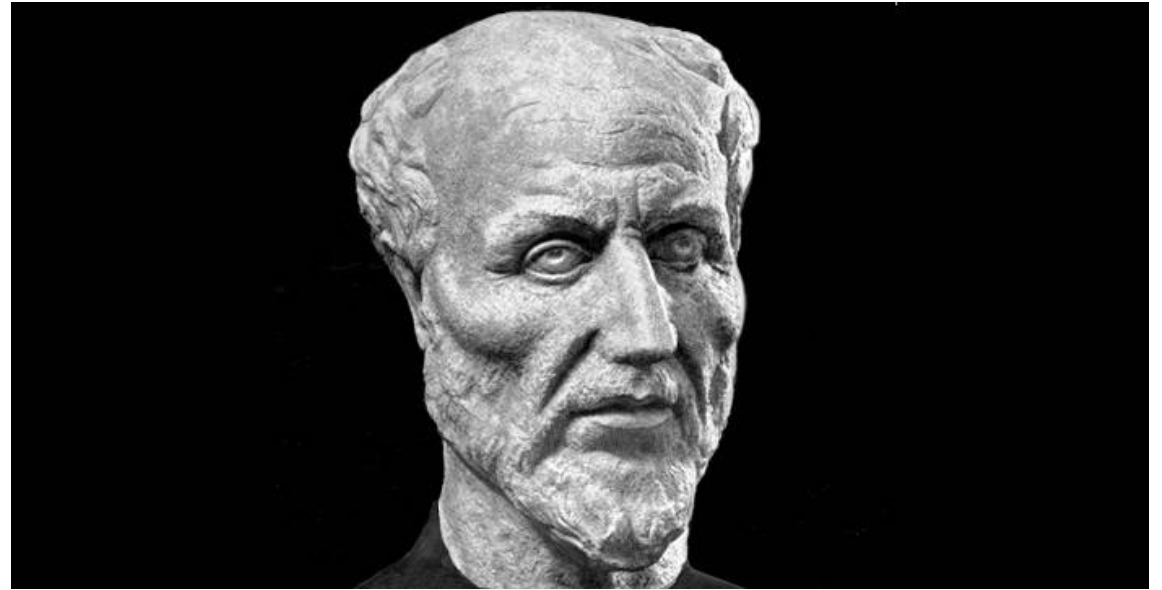


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Plotinus & Neo-Platonism

- A read the works of Plotinus and Porphyry.
- Early Christian, Jewish, and Muslim thought gravitated to Platonic thought because of its emphasis on divine transcendence, and the order of the world as a reflection of the divine mind.
- God is regarded as the Source or the One in which all things have their origin and end.
- Insight came by means of contemplative ascent to God by means of *reason*. But how can we have knowledge of something that transcends everything earthly and mundane?
- Plotinus reflects considerably on the problem: the limits of the human mind to attain to the transcendent.



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