



# The Genesis of Science: How the Christian Middle Ages Launched the Scientific Revolution

By James Hannam

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**Maybe the Dark Ages Weren't So Dark After All...**

Here are some facts you probably didn't learn in school:

- People in the Middle Ages did *not* think the world was flat--in fact, medieval scholars could prove it wasn't;
- The Inquisition never executed *anyone* because of their scientific ideas or discoveries (actually, the Church was the chief sponsor of scientific research and several popes were celebrated for their knowledge of the subject);
- It was medieval scientific discoveries, methods, and principles that made possible western civilization's "Scientific Revolution".

If you were taught that the Middle Ages were a time of intellectual stagnation, superstition, and ignorance, you were taught a myth that has been utterly refuted by modern scholarship.

As a physicist and historian of science James Hannam shows in his brilliant new book, *The Genesis of Science: How the Christian Middle Ages Launched the Scientific Revolution*, without the scholarship of the "barbaric" Middle Ages, modern science simply would not exist.

The Middle Ages were a time of one intellectual triumph after another. As Dr. Hannam writes, "The people of medieval Europe invented spectacles, the mechanical clock, the windmill, and the blast furnace by themselves. Lenses and cameras, almost all kinds of machinery, and the industrial revolution itself all owe their origins to the forgotten inventors of the Middle Ages."

In *The Genesis of Science* you will discover:

- Why the scientific accomplishments of the Middle Ages far surpassed those of

the classical world;

- How medieval craftsmen and scientists not only made discoveries of their own, but seized upon Eastern inventions--printing, gunpowder, and the compass--and improved them beyond the dreams of their originators;
- How Galileo's notorious trial before the Inquisition was about politics, not science; and
- Why the theology of the Catholic Church, far from being an impediment, led *directly* to the development of modern science.

Provocative, engaging, and a terrific read, James Hannam's *The Genesis of Science* will change the way you think about our past--and our future.

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## **Editorial Review**

From the Inside Flap

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Why the theology of the Catholic Church, far from being an impediment, led *directly* to the development of modern science

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## **PRAISE FOR THE GENESIS OF SCIENCE**

"With an engaging fervour, James Hannam has set about rescuing the reputation of a bunch of half-forgotten thinkers, and he shows how they paved the way for modern science." —Boris Johnson, *Mail on Sunday*

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Hannam has done a fine job of knocking down an old caricature." —*Sunday Telegraph*

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"A very useful general survey of a difficult topic, and a robust defence of an unfairly maligned age." —*Spectator*

From the Back Cover

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About the Author

JAMES HANNAM is a graduate of both Oxford and Cambridge where he studied physics and then gained a Ph.D. in the history of science. He lives in England with his wife and two children.

### **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Jerry Petrus:**

Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also get a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The details you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want have more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want truly feel happy read one together with theme for entertaining including comic or novel. The The Genesis of Science: How the Christian Middle Ages Launched the Scientific Revolution is kind of e-book which is giving the reader erratic experience.

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