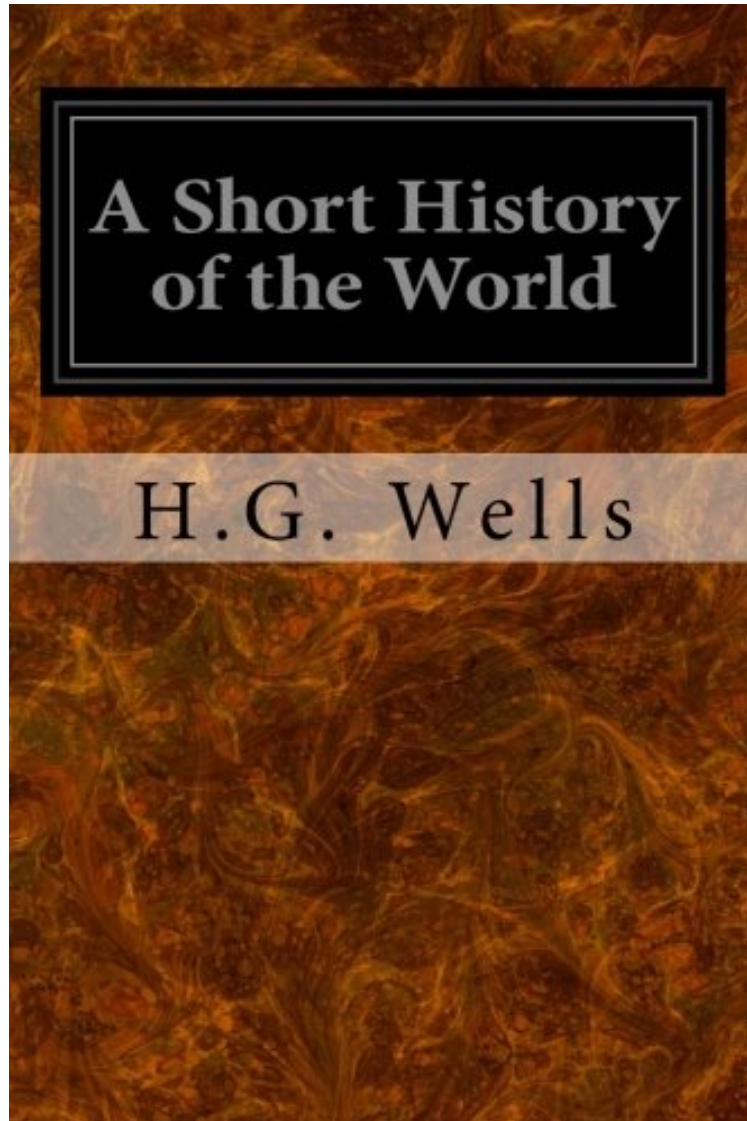


(Mobile pdf) A Short History of the World

A Short History of the World

H.G. Wells

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H.G. Wells : A Short History of the World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Short History of the World:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Writing, But Somewhat DatedBy Alan Dale DanielThis is a review of the Kindle version of this product which does NOT have drawings, pictures, maps etc. This detracts from the book tremendously.The writing is excellent and pretty easy to follow. The chapters are well arranged to take the reader progressively through history. His analysis of history is normally spot on. Here is an example of the author's

comments on the Treaty of Versailles: "The treaty of Versailles was intended to be exemplary and vindictive; it provided tremendous penalties for the vanquished; it sought to provide compensations for the wounded and suffering victors by imposing enormous debts upon nations already bankrupt, and its attempts to reconstitute international relations by the establishment of a League of Nations against war were manifestly insincere and inadequate." (Kindle Locations 5473-5475). That is about as good an analysis of the Treaty of Versailles in one sentence as you could ever get. Mr. Wells also lets us know when he is speculating about history. Note: "And now let us indulge in a very interesting speculation; how did it feel to be a man in those early days of the human adventure? How did men think and what did they think in those remote days of hunting and wandering four hundred centuries ago before seed time and harvest began." p.24 Kindle Edition. H.G. Wells clearly labels his comments as speculation. This is not usual for writers of history. Historians often tell us what happened in an era long before writing as if it were taken off of live film footage. Wells, at least, tells us we are guessing. The author's discussion of Socialism, page 152 - 156, is excellent and worth the price of the book. The book ends before the great depression, but that is OK as other books can take us from the 1920's to the present day. The writing is a bit out of date as there has been significant historical progress in many areas since Wells wrote; however, just keep in mind that some of the facts recited by the author may be dated. His conclusions of where history has been and where it may be headed are still excellent. Of course, Wells does not adopt the view that history is random with no overarching themes. He writes from the point of view that people have progressed from the early days of scratching in the ground for a living to a modern and very complex world. Progress is assumed and the theme of man's progress from primitive to modern is put forth without question. The reader should be aware that this reviewer has the same viewpoint; however, the newer views of history have changed this assumption dramatically. (See: Jeff Rigenbach, *Why American History Is Not What They Say It Is* - available on Kindle). Overall, an excellent work but I would advise buying the hard copy version for the maps and drawings. They are really first rate and help the reader follow the flow of history.

AD20 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A truly inspired look at our history thus far. By Mark Wiechert This is an extremely well written book which takes a look at all of history as a single process, and evokes such a profound appreciation of the facts of history as much as it results in a profound appreciation of the true genius of its author, H. G. Wells, as well as his witty, entertaining, and even amusing writings. I have read this book in bits at a time just while traveling for a couple of years, and now that I've finished it, I can look back on the experience with sincere appreciation and warm affections for it.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Good Victorian look at History By David D. Lawson Mr. Wells is one of my all time favorite authors. My parents being a lot smarter than I ever hope to be gave me this book many decades ago. From it, I developed a love of history. While it is a old book and lacks a non eurocentric view it is a good history book none the less. I used it a lot at University and found it to be very useful resource tool. But I would not recommend it for any light reading very soon.

While it is not one of H.G. Wells' many famous, popular science fiction novels, *A Short History of the World* remains a worthwhile and informative read.

About the Author Often called the father of science fiction, British author Herbert George (H. G.) Wells literary works are notable for being some of the first titles of the science fiction genre, and include such famed titles as *The Time Machine*, *The War of the Worlds*, *The Island of Doctor Moreau*, and *The Invisible Man*. Despite being fixedly associated with science fiction, Wells wrote extensively in other genres and on many subjects, including history, society and politics, and was heavily influenced by Darwinism. His first book, *Anticipations of the Reaction of Mechanical and Scientific Progress Upon Human Life and Thought*, offered predictions about what technology and society would look like in the year 2000, many of which have proven accurate. Wells went on to pen over fifty novels, numerous non-fiction books, and dozens of short stories. His legacy has had an overwhelming influence on science fiction, popular culture, and even on technological and scientific innovation. Wells died in 1946 at the age of 79.