

Augustine in 100 days

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Chapter 1

The First Chapter

Chapter 2

The Second Chapter

Chapter 3

The First Chapter

Chapter 4

The First Chapter

Chapter 5

Books 19-22

5.1 Book 19

5.1.1 Day 78: chapter 1

5.1.2 Day 79: chapters 2-3

5.1.3 Day 80: chapter 4

In this chapter, Augustine first states the opinion of the church on man's ultimate end. He then shows in what the opinions of the philosophers are mistaken, namely, in their belief that happiness, whether bodily or psychic, can be achieved in this life. To show this, he first refutes the opinion of those who locate man's end in the bodily good which is satisfaction of his basic needs, then the opinion of those who locate it in the psychic good which is virtue. In doing the former, he first examines man's basic natural needs, beginning with lower needs and moving to higher ones. In doing the latter, he successively examines the four cardinal virtues, showing that the acquisition of none of them is sufficient for earthly happiness.

Throughout the following chapters, Augustine's main argument is as follows:

1. Happiness is not attainable in this life.
2. Man's ultimate end is happiness.

Conclusion Man's ultimate end is not attainable in this life.

To prove the major premise, he argues as follows:

1. If happiness is attainable in this life, it is found either in attendance to basic needs, or in virtue

2. Happiness is not found in attending to basic needs

2. Happiness is not found in virtue

Conclusion Therefore, happiness is not attainable in this life.

5.1.4 Day 81: chapters 5-6

In chapters five through seven, Augustine begins by describing in what the philosophers were correct, namely in their belief in the social character of the good life. He then shows how this social character nevertheless fails to secure the good in natural societies, examining the various levels of society. First, he examines the natural family unit, then the city, then the world, showing in each case the ways in which their social character leads to misfortune and unhappiness.

5.1.5 Day 82: chapters 7-11

After having examined the three main levels of society, Augustine then discusses certain other societies: first, that of friendship; then that of the cosmos. He shows none of these to be entirely free from unhappiness. Friendship is accompanied by betrayal when false, and death when sweet. The cosmic companionship with the angels cannot guard against the possibility of demonic deception.

In chapter ten, Augustine summarizes, contrasting the earthly prospects for deception with the certainty granted in heaven.

5.1.6 Day 83: chapter 12

In the middle of chapter ten, Augustine begins to support the claim that the end of man, heavenly beatitude, is peace. He continues expounding on this idea through chapter thirteen.

5.1.7 Day 84: chapters 13-14

5.1.8 Day 85: chapters 15-18

5.1.9 Day 86: chapters 19-22

5.1.10 Day 87: chapter 23

5.1.11 Day 88: chapters 24-28

5.2 Book 20

5.3 Book 21

5.4 Book 22

