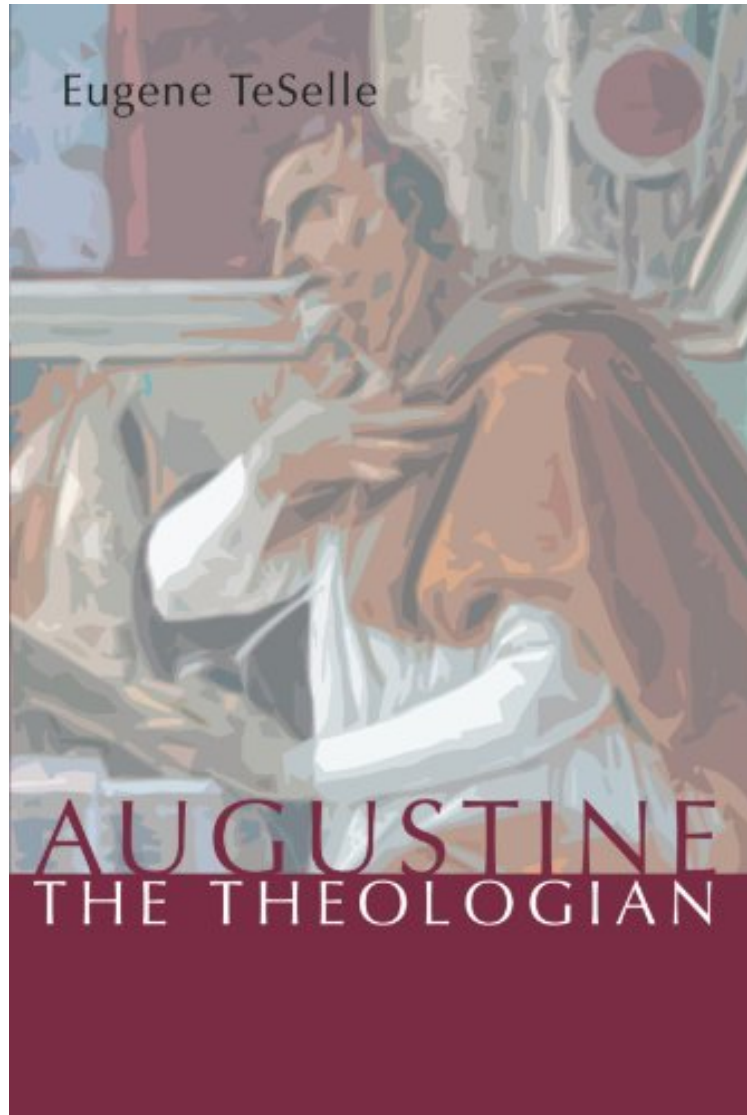


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Augustine the Theologian:

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Eugene TeSelle : Augustine the Theologian: before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Augustine the Theologian::

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Overview of Augustine's TheologyBy NateThe importance of this books stems from what it is. It is not a biography, a compelling re-reading of Augustine, or a loot at any specific issue in Agustine's theological thought. It is an overview and summary of Augustine's theology moving from the dialogues that he wrote at Cassiciacum after his conversion but before his baptism, up through his more advanced works until the end of his life. TeSelle thinks Augustine's career as a theologian can usefully be split into six different

periods, and chapters corresponding to these periods form the heart of the book. I mainly appreciate the book for managing to balance the tension between the cohesion and particularity of Augustine's various works. TeSelle holds that Augustine was not a "systematic" thinker building out from one particular insight, but does hold that he was a "synthetic" thinker. That is, Augustine would focus on issues as they came up, often for pastoral reasons, but would always seek to understand how his new insights or claims relate to the rest of his theology. TeSelle also shows an awareness of Augustine's development as a Christian and a thinker, while still affirming that underlying continuity present throughout Augustine's work. It may not be fair, but I guess I withhold the fifth star partially out of my own ignorance. I can't speak to the intricacies of TeSelle's readings of certain works. For all I know they may be controversial or not mainstream. From his review of work by Augustine that I have read, that doesn't seem to be the case, though. That said, I do think it's a solid book that deserves to be read today years after it was published. You can't say that about every book. Four and a half stars? I would recommend this book, especially to history, classics, and especially theology students interested in Augustine. It is by itself a useful read, and its organization means it could easily serve well as a reference book. If you all of a sudden encounter references to Trinitarian theology or debates on grace/free will that are termed "Augustinian", some time spent reading the relevant sections of this book could render one a much more informed reader. 0 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Done Right By James Harold Johnson II The Book is in good shape and arrived very quickly Thank You

Description: In Augustine the Theologian Eugene Teselle surveys the whole of Augustine's theological achievement, viewing it not according to the rubrics of later systematic theology, as it is so often viewed, to the detriment of both Augustine and "theology," but as an inquiry progressing according to the problems with which Augustine was concerned and the historical challenges he faced. Teselle sketches the broad outlines of Augustine's thought in six major periods, periods characterized by the basic orientations in the often perplexing variety of Augustine's writings. This comprehensive method brilliantly delineates Augustine the theologian at work. It provides the framework of his problems, showing what is taken for granted, what options are at hand, what resources Augustine has for affecting a resolution. It is a sourcebook of the nature of the theological enterprise, one which may aid the present generation to think problems through once again with a measure of the breadth and originality Augustine exemplified. It is the inward history of a brilliant mind, a mind many complexities of which are still veiled by chronological unknowns, but which always gains by careful estimations like TeSelle's. It is above all a reliable guide to the major themes in the constantly developing thought of this major Christian thinker, a co-dweller with us in an age of philosophical and theological uncertainties.