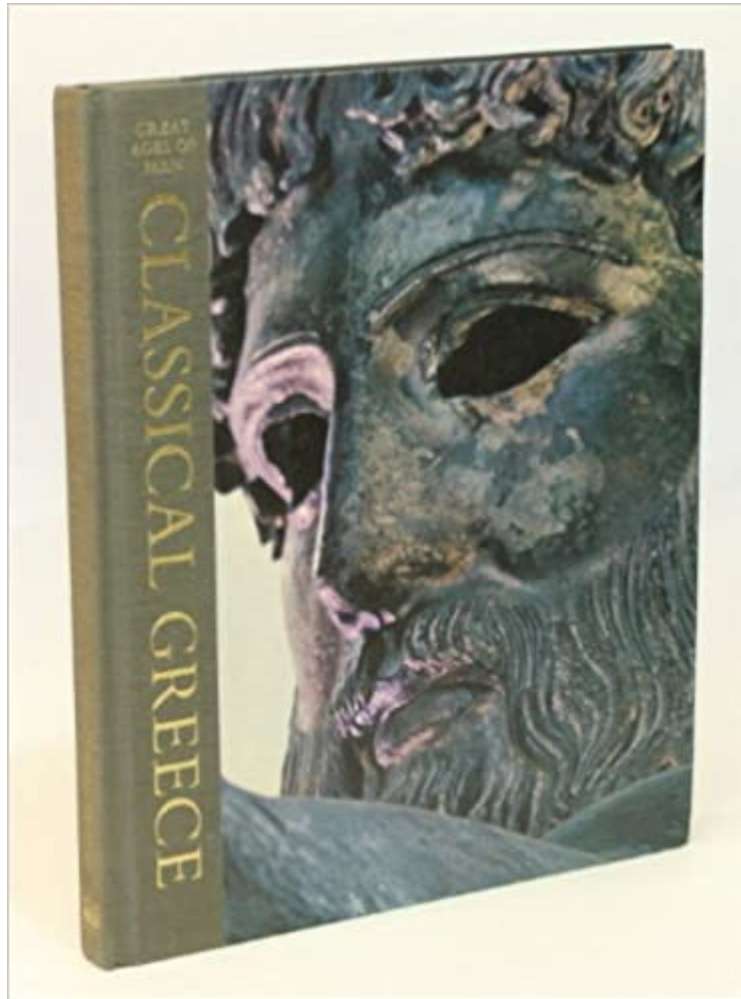




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# Classical Greece (Great Ages Of Man)



## Synopsis

Part of Time Life Series on the Great Ages of Man. Author, Sir Maurice Bowra has devoted his life to the contemplation of Greek literature, art and society. His brilliant distillation of Hellenism shows Greece in all its dewy freshness. In the picture essays that document various aspects of the Greek experience for even the most assiduous reader of books on Greece.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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I purchased this to go along with a CD course on the Hellenistic period. Excellent background, maps, etc. that made the course more enjoyable.

Fast delivery! Item just as described!

I was always a history buff, but my interest in ancient Greece was dormant until my father ordered a series from Time/Life, which he did not announce. That was dad's style. The book arrived in cardboard, its contents unknown. My father handed the unopened delivery to me. A whole new

world was reopened as I turned the pages and a revival began. Just the cover of Poseidon preparing to throw a trident was mystical. I stared at bronze friezes, maps and modern ruins wondering what it must have looked like 2,000 years ago. Each chapter acted as a catalyst to the next. The Archaic Period was like reading about the dawn of a tremendous civilization. The Classical Period was the shining light of day that conveyed the vitality and vigor of a civilization confident in its achievement in philosophy, government, drama, science, and warfare. The Hellenistic Period brought the close of Greek greatness, but not its influence. I felt the rise of Greek confidence reading about Marathon, Thermopylae, and Salamis and the astonishment of a greatly outnumbered force doing the impossible that allowed everything Greek to influence us to this very day. These were battles that are still marvels in the annals of time. I felt the disappointment of the Peloponnesian War reading about great Greek city-states destroying each other becoming a shadow of what they once were. The rise of Alexander the Great brought this classical age, to an end. Reading this was like watching the last flicker of light ending what had once been so bright and stirring. This book is not for the serious scholar, but it is what turns an interested person into one. Everything in this book peaked the interest of a teenager to learn more of anything about ancient Greece. If it was only about the intrigues and frailties of the gods, the culture of Sparta and Athens, or the remarkable achievement of a people who only united when they had to, it was exciting. I remember ignoring my study of Macbeth because all my attention was turned toward learning about Pericles, Demosthenes, the Dialogues of Plato, Sparta, Leonidas, Euripides, the Olympians, or Epaminondas. This book created a craving that could not be satisfied. I recommend you come home with this book, or on it. Well, maybe just come home with it. Civilization could depend on it. ALALA!

Classical Greece is one of twenty-one volumes from the Time-Life book series Great Ages of Man. This series is a history of the world's cultures. As with other books in this series, Classical Greece has numerous illustrations and maps which supplement the narrative. This volume presents the political and military history of Ancient Greece with an emphasis on Athens and Sparta. Social history and early Greek drama and philosophy are also covered. The reference section is especially useful as it describes the heroes of Greek mythology as well as great and famous Greek statesmen, philosophers, poets, artists, and scientists. I used this book when I taught Ancient Greek history and Greek mythology to my middle school students. Ideal for teachers or readers wanting a basic introduction to the birthplace of democracy, drama, philosophy, and the Olympic games. Highly recommended.

This is a very good introductory book for anyone interested in learning about Ancient Greece. It covers all the major points of Greek history from the early days of myth through the death of Alexander the Great. All the important events and individuals are mentioned in enough detail to avoid being superficial. At the same time the author spares us the minute details to avoid being too academic and boring for the casual reader. In a nutshell, this book is everything a non-scholar needs to (and should) know about ancient Greece provided in a succinct, easy to read format.

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