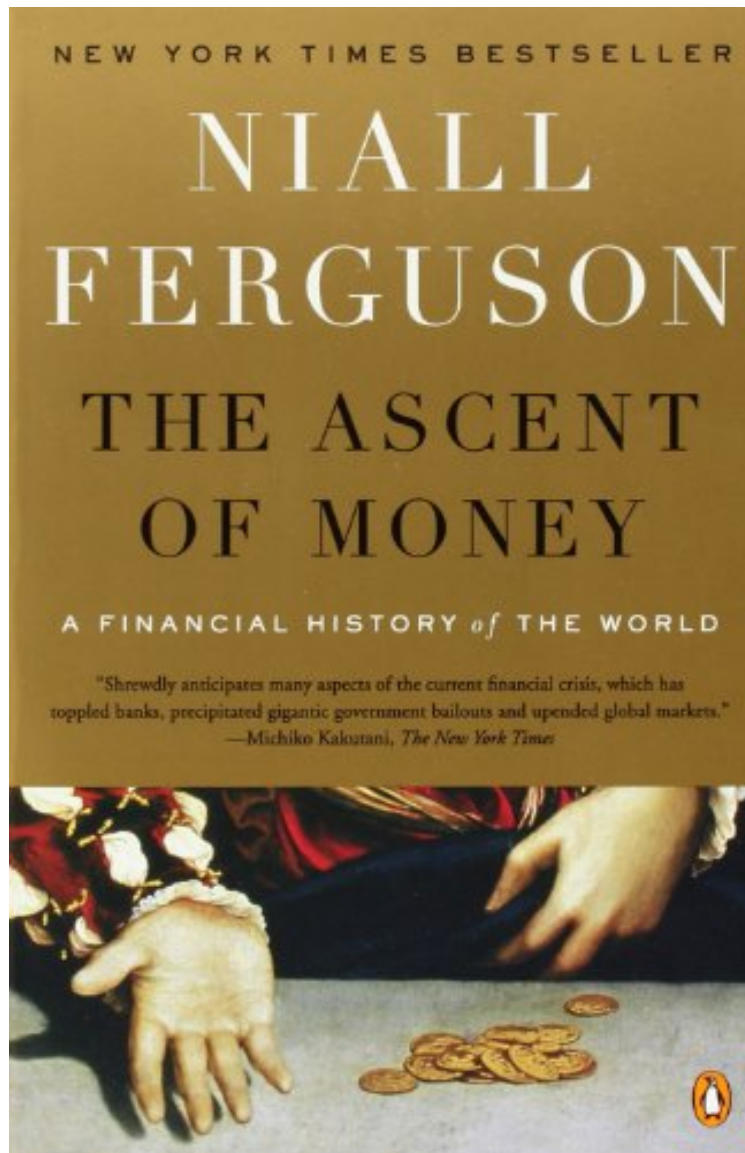


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The Ascent of Money: A Financial History of the World

Niall Ferguson

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#18188 in Books Niall Ferguson 2009-10-27 2009-10-27 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.40 x .91 x 5.44l, .83 #File Name: 0143116177448 pages The Ascent of Money A Financial History of the World | File size: 78.Mb

Niall Ferguson : The Ascent of Money: A Financial History of the World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ascent of Money: A Financial History of the World:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Once again from Niall Ferguson - a good read By Susan Ferreira Niall Ferguson has become one of the strange animals - an academic celebrity, which often brings a sense of unease to other academics. But they are a great asset, as they have the ability to crystallize their subject and explain it to us, who

otherwise would not have a chance to dip into the subject. In the "Ascent of Money", Niall Ferguson has written an entertaining book on the history of money from Mesopotamian times to the present. Published in a timely fashion in 2008, as the World descended into its latest "Bust", this book provides a good overview of how and when money and financial products developed. The narrative is interlaced with tales of men, who contributed to or were destructive of these systems, institutions and/or countries and as always with a historical overview, we are left wondering why we never learn from our past. Sadly, the answer is most likely that we either do not know our past or think "This time it will be different" - and it never is! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great book. No delivery problems. By Brian K. Yoder. Great book. No delivery problems. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating. By Danny. This book is a fascinating history of finance. I learned a lot that I didn't know before, and felt that it not only gives a good overview on the markets but a good insight into why we have the system we have, how it got this way, and where we're headed in the future. Definitely recommend to anyone interested in finance especially our current situation in the United States.

A richly original look at the origins of money and how it makes the world go round. Niall Ferguson follows the money to tell the human story behind the evolution of our financial system, from its genesis in ancient Mesopotamia to the latest upheavals on what he calls Planet Finance. What's more, Ferguson reveals financial history as the essential backstory behind all history, arguing that the evolution of credit and debt was as important as any technological innovation in the rise of civilization. As Ferguson traces the crisis from ancient Egypt's Memphis to today's Chongqing, he offers bold and compelling new insights into the rise--and fall--of not just money but Western power as well. Niall Ferguson's new book *The Square and the Tower: Networks and Power, from the Freemasons to Facebook* will be published in January 2018.

From Bookmarks Magazine. Niall Ferguson makes a strong, compelling case for the development of money and banking as a catalyst for the advancement of civilization. Yet while some critics praised his clear, comprehensible writing, punctuated with anecdotes and historical details, others were nonplussed by his explanations and narrative detours. Several critics also bemoaned the book's choppy and uneven structure, an echo of the episodic, six-part television series it was meant to accompany. So it seems the UK critics liked the book less because they had seen the show. Though perhaps best suited to readers with a fundamental understanding of financial terms and theories, Ferguson's latest work provides valuable insight into the inner workings of the global economy, past and present. For interested readers, it demonstrates how our current fiscal meltdown fits into the bigger historical picture and laments humanity's perennial inability to learn from this history. Copyright 2009 Bookmarks Publishing LLC. From Booklist. Starred. * British historian Ferguson follows *Empire* (2003), his provocative take on British history, and his equally provocative take on the American empire in *Colossus* (2004), with a not so much provocative as fresh look at the history of money and its ramifications on how modern life has evolved, since to him money is the root of most progress. One of his basic premises cannot be argued with: most people in the English-speaking world are woefully ignorant of things financial. To that end, Ferguson, in his desire to educate the general public, presents the history of money within these contexts: the rise of money and the history of credit, and the histories of the bond market, the stock market, insurance, the real-estate market, and international finance. There is an ease to his prose that leaves this complicated subject interesting to and approachable by any general reader. For the history and social-science side of the public library business collection. --Brad Hooper "Before regulators throw block trades, bond swaps, bridge financing, butterfly spreads and Black-Scholes out with the bathwater, they should find time to read Niall Ferguson's *The Ascent of Money*." --The Wall Street Journal "[An] excellent, just in time guide to the history of finance and financial crisis." --The Washington Post "Shrewdly anticipates many aspects of the current financial crisis, which has toppled banks, precipitated gigantic government bailouts and upended global markets." --Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*