CONTENTS

PREFACE

Chapter 1 - VILLAGES, CITIES, AND EMPIRES

5

The Arrival of Man, 6 / The Height of the Food-Gathering Stage, 9 / Agricultural Villages, 6000 – 3500 B.C., 11 / The First Cities, 17 / Mesopotamian Development, 19 / The Price of Civilization, 28 / Other Civilized Peoples of the Ancient Orient, 32 / The Unification of the Ancient Orient, 35 / A Look Backward—and Forward, 43

Chapter 2 - THREE GREAT WAYS OF LIFE

46

Early Religions, 47 / The Rise and Fall of Israel, 2000—539 B.C., 51 / Israel and Its God, 55 / The Consolidation of Judaism, 61 / The Roots of Indian Thought, 2000—500 B.C., 63 / Buddhism, 65 / China and the Ancestors, 69 / Confucianism, 72 / Other Strands in Chinese Thought, 75 / Three Ways of Life, 77

Chapter 3 - THE GREEKS AND WESTERN CIVILIZATION

8т

The Background of Greek Civilization, 82 / The Emergence of Greek Civilization, 86 / Homer, 88 / The Political and Economic Frame of Historic Greece, 91 / Archaic Greek Civilization, 95 / Greek City-States and Persian Empire, 101 / Athenian Imperialism and Democracy, 103 / Fifth-Century Civilization, 109 / Oedipus the King, 112 / Summation, 115

CONTENTS

Chapter 4	- THE	THE MEDITERRANEAN WORLD				
		ALEXA				

тт8

Decline of the City-States and Persian Empire, 119 / Alexander the Great, 121 / The Hellenistic World, 128 / Hellenistic Art, Letters, and Science, 131 / Hellenistic Philosophy and Religion, 135 / The Rise of Rome, 600 – 133 B.C., 140 / Chaos and Consolidation, 133 – 30 B.C., 147 / The Coming of Peace, 152

Chapter 5 - AN ERA OF CONSOLIDATION

155

Han China, 207 B.C. – A.D. 220, 157 / India, 200 B.C. – A.D. 200, 161 / Western Asia, 141 B.C. – A.D. 227, 163 / The Fringes of Civilization, 166 / The Roman Empire, 27 B.C. – A.D. 180, 167 / Economic Achievements of the Roman Empire, 171 / Culture of the Roman Peace, 173 / Old and New in Imperial Culture, 178 / Emergence of Christianity, 182 / Conclusion, 185

Chapter 6 - THE END OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

т88

Internal Decay of the Roman Empire, 189 / The Coming of the Germans, 195 / Victory of Christianity, 200 / Christianity and Classical Civilization, 206 / Western Europe in A.D. 450, 210 / Eastern Eurasia, 214 / The End of the Ancient World, 219

GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

223

INDEX

226