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this extensively researched book argues that the development of a libertarian culture was an indispensable component of the rise of the west the roots of the west s superior intellectual and artistic creativity should be traced back to the aristocratic warlike culture of indo european speakers among the many fascinating topics discussed are the ascendancy of multicultural historians and the degradation of european history china s ecological endowments and imperial windfalls military revolutions in europe 1300 1800 the science and chivalry of henry the navigator judaism and its contribution to western rationalism the cultural richness of max weber versus the intellectual poverty of pomeranz wong goldstone goody and a g frank change without progress in the east hegel s phenomenology of the western spirit nietzsche and the education of the homeric greeks kojeve s master slave dialectic and the western state of nature christian virtues and german aristocratic expansionism

this book explores how complementary chinese and western cultures are how they should learn from each other to establish a dynamic balance and how institutions need constant redefinition and renewal in order to prosper by studying the history and development of thought and philosophy in these cultures it suggests lessons from our past that may shed light on current events and help us in handling future challenges the book presents answers to the following important questions do chinese people think differently from westerners and if so how and why what are the key differences between chinese and western culture and why how did china become the most technologically advanced and sociologically sophisticated nation in the world until the seventeenth century and why did it ultimately decline what are the key characteristics of political institutions in historical china and europe and how were they significant in this postmodern time and era of globalization what can we learn from chinese culture and

experiences as china rapidly industrializes what can it learn from the west without repeating some of the mistakes that europeans and north americans made in their periods of industrialization

this volume looks at the ancient heritage of greek philosophy and mesopotamian astronomy and examines the history of map making coastal and celestial navigation and astronomy from 1487 1727

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approaching us in sovereign freedom god comes alive to us we come alive to god and all creation comes alive as a sign pointing to god in the gospel of jesus christ god gives and discloses himself in this immediate way as our ultimate context and host within the provisional medium of creation this life giving gospel is met by blindness however among those who live today in a collapsing western culture this is because their imaginative world is shaped by habitual assumptions and practices that lie largely unacknowledged deep within that culture and that preclude openness to the gospel moreover western christians themselves widely share these assumptions betraying the gospel into cultural captivity god calls for the conversion of western culture to the living gospel crucially this must include as lesslie newbigin recognized a repentance from modern western assumptions about knowledge part one explores seeking knowing and serving god as providing a true paradigm for understanding all human enquiry knowledge and action part two examines ten resulting hot spots where conversion from prevailing cultural assumptions is vital for authentic mission to western culture

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