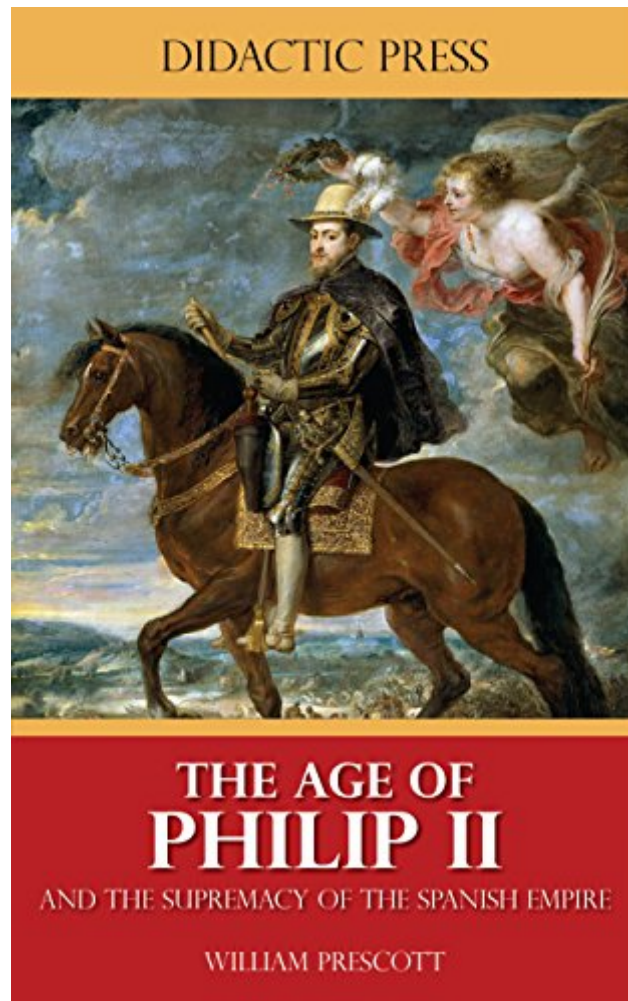


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The Age Of Philip II And The Supremacy Of The Spanish Empire (Illustrated)



Synopsis

The history of Philip the Second is the history of Europe during the latter half of the sixteenth century. It covers the period when the doctrines of the Reformation were agitating the minds of men in so fearful a manner as to shake the very foundations of the Romish hierarchy in the fierce contest which divided Christendom. Philip, both from his personal character, and from his position as sovereign of the most potent monarchy in Europe, was placed at the head of the party which strove to uphold the fortunes of the ancient Church; and thus his policy led him perpetually to interfere in the internal affairs of the other European statesâ |

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Customer Reviews

This book was published during the late 1840s and, as a result, the language takes a bit of getting used to. However if you stick with it, you will soon realize how eloquent and surprisingly effective the prose actually is. The book is also very detailed and covers a vast panorama of Spanish history and the towering personality of Philip II. The author tries to provide a balanced narrative and generally succeeds, especially given the times in which he wrote.

Prescott draws a vivid psychological portrait of this secretive, calculating monarch, focused on the western European theatre. The topical approach clarifies the historical context which shaped the reign the reactionary fanaticism, conservatism. inertia & absolutist beliefs. Great job of interpreting a difficult introverted character to modern readers

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