



CARE CONVERSATIONS

FORWARD
FROM
DR TINA LAMONT // Director TEC



Dear Friend,

We trust that you have continued to find our *Care Conversations* a welcome part of your week. The feedback has been encouraging. We want to keep supporting you in your important role in this ministry of Christian education.

In this next series of *Care Conversations*, Stephen looks at some important historical moments through the eyes of Rodney Stark, and in particular his *How the West Won: The Neglected Story of the Triumph of Modernity* (ISI Books, 2015). We trust that this gives you a fresh lens about some common themes in our world of education.

Please remember to contact us at The Excellence Centre if we can assist you with any of the topics raised in these Conversations.

Sincerely,

Dr Tina Lamont

Director TEC

The Excellence Centre

Series 3:

NOTIONS OF THE WEST



REFLECTION BY
STEPHEN J FYSON *PHD*
PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT



Number 1:

Was the Fall of Rome a Good Thing?



What do you think your history teachers would make of this statement?

Rather than a great tragedy, the fall of Rome was the single most beneficial event in the rise of Western civilization. The many stultifying centuries of Roman rule saw only two significant instances of progress: the invention of concrete and the rise of Christianity, the latter taking place despite Roman attempts to prevent it. (p.3)

I know that my introduction to Roman society at school and university was how clever the people were and how much we owed them. This reassessment by Rodney Stark is because he takes a longer lens when he is reviewing who contributed what to this dynamic we call *human progress*. Concrete was

certainly important. Yet, foundationally, Christianity was much more important. Rome, of course, through its leadership, tried to essentially stop Christianity. Some people in our day would like to stop Christians as well (or at least make them keep their faith at home and in the local church).

But as Stark notes in a different work (*The Rise of Christianity*):

.... Christianity revitalised life in Greco-Roman cities by providing new norms and new kinds of social relationships able to cope with many urgent urban problems. (p.161)

Let us pray that our schools may be places of learning, serving and leading that also help revitalize our people in our society!

Grace and peace,

Stephen J Fyson PhD
Principal Consultant
The Excellence Centre



I'm enjoying reading TEC Care Conversations?

lowest 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 highest

Sorry, voting is closed.

How likely are you to recommend it to others?

lowest 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 highest

Sorry, voting is closed.

Join the TEC Connections List to receive these emails

[Subscribe here](#)



We value your questions, thoughts and comments; so why not drop us a line to share how this newsletter has helped / inspired you. [Send us an email](#)

Our Vision...to transform the practice of Christian Education

We pursue our vision from a biblical base by aiming:

- To be authentically Christian
- Provide excellent products, services and research products
- Practice Christian Community

The Excellence Centre is a not for profit ministry of Pacific Hills Christian Education based at our Dural Campus in Sydney Australia.

You can read more about TEC at: <http://www.theexcellencecentre.org>

Visit us on Facebook



Top Trending post

So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.
Genesis 1:27

The Excellence Centre

VERSE OF THE DAY

facebook

TEC posts every weekday.

Like us for:

- Motivational Posts
- Scriptures
- News & Events
- Quotes
- Website Information & much more



Copyright © 2016 The Excellence Centre, All rights reserved.



+61 2 9651 0712



[email us](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or
if you do not wish to receive these

reflections from Dr Ted Boyce or his team please
[unsubscribe from this list](#)

MailChimp.