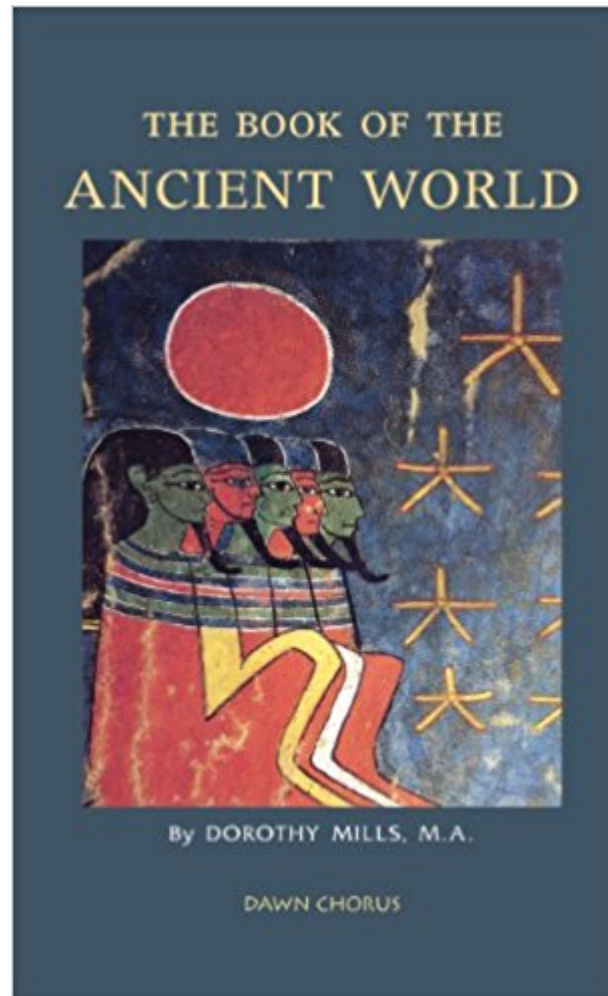




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# The Book Of The Ancient World



## Synopsis

The Book of the Ancient World is an account of our common heritage from the dawn of civilization to the coming of the Greeks. It is the story of how human beings began their great adventure of learning how to live; of how they have sought to satisfy the practical needs of their bodies, the questioning of their minds, and the searching of their spirits. To this end it subordinates details of political events to the record of things that lie at the foundation of our modern civilization. Dorothy Mills had an uncanny and unique ability to write history that is interesting and at the same time based on sound scholarship. Her direct, engaging approach is valued increasingly by the many parents in our day who are looking for reliable materials for home study, as well as by many private school educators. The highly-prized six volumes of her historical works (see below) have become very scarce on the used book market, and so Dawn Chorus has undertaken to reprint them as part of its effort to offer texts ideally suited to the needs of a new generation of teachers and students. In a world where the quality of education has so deteriorated, may the reissue of this wonderful historical series shine as a beacon to a new generation of young (and not so young) scholars!. Dawn Chorus publishes these five other books by Dorothy Mills: The Book of the Ancient Greeks; The Book of the Ancient Romans; The People of Ancient Israel; The Middle Ages; and Renaissance and Reformation Times. Dawn Chorus has also republished another outstanding, and long-out-of-print historical series perfectly suited for home or school use (and highly recommended in home-school curricula), entitled The Picturesque Tale of Progress, by Olive Beaupré Miller. It is available in large format (9 volumes), or smaller, double-bound format (5 volumes).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Memoria Press does quality reproductions.

If you're a homeschooling mom (or dad) or one considering homeschooling, then you know there are a TON of curriculum options out there. Some are better than others, but it really boils down to what style of homeschooling you are going to employ. If you are taking the classical approach, like my wife and I intend to do, then you definitely know the name Dorothy Mills. Dorothy Mills wrote a six book series on ancient history. Two different publishers have taken the time to re-print these, Memoria Press and Angelico Press. Even though Memoria Press has student and teacher guides, you can purchase with them, they only have four of the six volumes. Personally, I prefer the Angelico Press editions after all and will be reviewing one volume every other month on my blog. Today, I am starting with *The Book of the Ancient World*. *The Book of the Ancient World* begins with an Introduction that speaks of cave men and prehistoric times. It speaks of making stone tools and how some people don't believe history really started until man was able to keep written records. I'm honestly unsure how I felt about this introduction, but thankfully it was short and something you could skip over and not miss anything in the book. The contents of the rest of the book includes the Egyptians; the Assyrians and Babylonians; the Hebrews; the Hittites; the Persians; and the Phoenicians. Egypt by far gets the most attention as it spans over 50 pages. The rest of the ancient people, with the exception of Israel, only garnered about 20-25 pages. It was hard to pick a favorite part in this book. The level of detail given to the Egyptians was fascinating. Ms. Mills didn't just discuss popular pharaohs and their pyramids, but she also covered their gods, their books and writings, what typical life consisted of in Egypt, and even how children lived in Egypt. She also did a truly great job addressing Israel. In this section, she included the Patriarchs, the three kings (Saul, David, and Solomon), and the Divided Kingdom. I am truly fascinated to see what level of detail she went into in her book, *The People of Ancient Israel*. I wish more information would have been included on places like Persia and Phoenicia, but I appreciate that there was additional reading suggestions at the end. The one that I wish there had been more of/any of was maps! Maps would have definitely elevated this book, and perhaps they were there in the original edition, but not in this reprint. After reading through this book, I feel much more knowledgeable about the ancient world. Yes, some information may be a tad dated as we have made new finds regarding these ancient worlds, but that doesn't take away from the quality of this work or the information that Dorothy Mills compiled. And while the book won't make you a certified expert, it will provide you a great starting point on the subject. So if you are an adult looking for an introduction to the ancient world or a teacher/parent looking for a supplemental text to your history book, you will find this book to be

extremely helpful. I imagine you could use it as the skeleton for your homeschool history, but you will definitely want to find some more resources to add meat to the bones.

This is wonderfully written. I have never enjoyed history, but the author's style of writing made it interesting and drew me in. I plan to use this book for homeschooling. My copy of this book from Dawn Chorus is missing a few things that were in the original book. The list of illustrations is missing. The map illustrating the ancient world on page 1 is missing, and so is the map of the Persian Empire from page 192. I will not purchase any more of the Dawn Chorus reprints now that I know they leave things out.

Wow- I had no idea this was available. I have a sturdy hardback copy from 1923 and assumed I was one of the few that appreciated it. My children all read this book when studying the Ancient World in about grade 6. It is written in an engaging narrative style. It could be enjoyed by 3rd or 4th graders as a read-aloud or by high-schoolers as a history book that is not stuffy, scholarly, or dry. It is one of those books that might be enjoyed by anyone from ten to fifty years of age. The only thing it lacks is color pictures. However, that is why we have the DK Eyewitness books and First Civilizations: Cultural Atlas for Young People. Content: History of Egyptians, Assyrians and Babylonians, Hebrews (Israel), Hittites, Persians, Phoenicians

I chose this book for my daughter's study of early civilizations. It has references to cave men and millions of years. I tell her to chew the meat, which are the facts about early civilizations, and, spit out the bones, regarding the author's opinion about the age of the earth and early man.

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