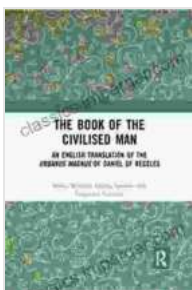


# Unveiling the Tapestry of Manners and Morals in Twelfth Century England

In the tumultuous tapestry of history, the twelfth century holds a pivotal place as a period of profound transformation in English society. During this era, a burgeoning sense of civilization swept over the land, marked by a remarkable refinement in manners and morals. *The Making of Manners and Morals in Twelfth Century England*, a captivating work of historical scholarship, delves into the intricate forces that shaped this societal evolution.

## The Rise of Chivalry

One of the most striking features of twelfth-century England was the emergence of chivalry. This code of honor and conduct, imported from continental Europe, emphasized courtesy, bravery, and loyalty. While initially confined to the aristocracy, its values gradually permeated all levels of society, establishing a new standard of conduct for both men and women. As illustrated in the book through vivid anecdotes and chronicles, knights became paragons of virtue, embodying the ideals of courage, generosity, and respect for others.



## The Making of Manners and Morals in Twelfth-Century England: The Book of the Civilised Man by Anthony D. Smith

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2848 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 244 pages

Paperback : 400 pages  
Item Weight : 1.19 pounds



## **The Influence of Religion**

Religion played a pivotal role in the development of manners and morals in twelfth-century England. The Church, with its vast network of cathedrals, monasteries, and parish churches, was a powerful force for social change. Its teachings on charity, humility, and forgiveness shaped the values of both the elite and the common folk. Through its emphasis on the importance of good deeds and the rewards of heaven, religion created a moral compass for society.

## **The Role of Women**

The Making of Manners and Morals in Twelfth Century England sheds light on the evolving role of women during this period. While still subject to many constraints, women gained increased influence in certain areas of life. The rise of courtly love, with its emphasis on the idealization and respect for women, created new opportunities for female agency. Noblewomen gained greater freedom and played a more active role in politics and patronage. Through their writings, such as the works of Marie de France, women contributed to the development of a refined literary culture.

## **The Influence of the Court**

The royal court was another important center of cultural and social change in twelfth-century England. As the seat of power and patronage, the court set the tone for manners and fashion. Kings such as Henry II and Richard

the Lionheart encouraged a sophisticated and cosmopolitan atmosphere, where courtiers vied to outdo each other in wit, elegance, and refinement. The court's influence spread beyond its walls, shaping the behavior and aspirations of the wider society.

## **The Development of Education**

The twelfth century witnessed a significant expansion of educational opportunities in England. The establishment of new universities, such as Oxford and Cambridge, provided a fertile ground for the study of classical texts and the development of new ideas. Scholars and students engaged in lively debates on philosophy, theology, and the nature of human behavior. Education became a powerful tool for the transmission of knowledge and the refinement of manners.

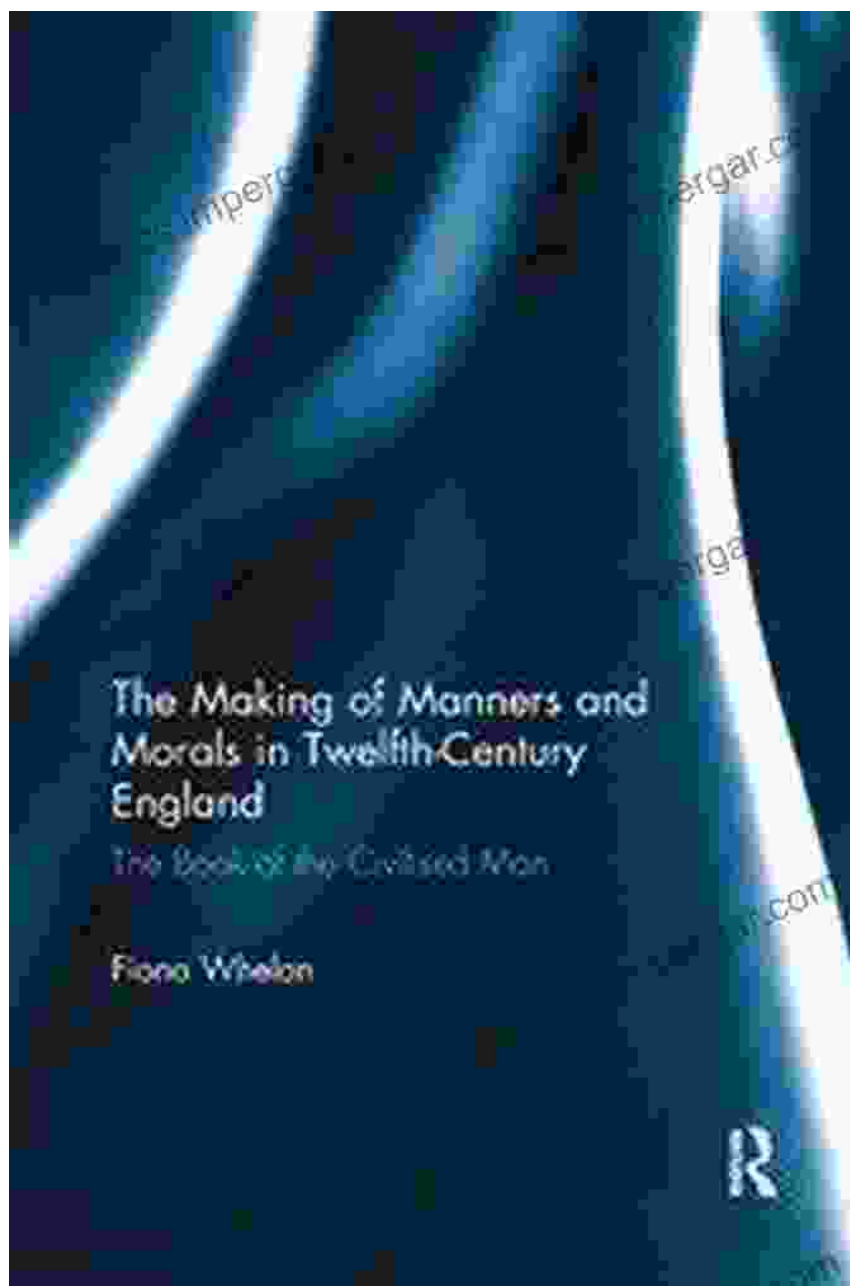
## **The Rise of the Middle Class**

Along with the aristocracy and the clergy, the middle class emerged as a growing force in twelfth-century England. Merchants, craftsmen, and artisans formed guilds and associations that promoted their economic and social interests. As their wealth and influence increased, the middle class adopted the manners and values of the elite, contributing to a broader diffusion of civilized behavior.

## **The Legacy of the Twelfth Century**

The Making of Manners and Morals in Twelfth Century England concludes by exploring the lasting impact of this transformative period. The values and practices that emerged during this era laid the foundation for the moral framework of English society for centuries to come. Chivalry, courtesy, and respect for authority remained central tenets of social behavior. The

influence of religion, education, and the court continued to shape English manners and morals long after the twelfth century had passed.

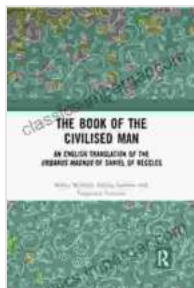


### **Call to Action**

The Making of Manners and Morals in Twelfth Century England is a captivating and informative account of a pivotal era in English history. It offers a fascinating glimpse into the forces that shaped the society and

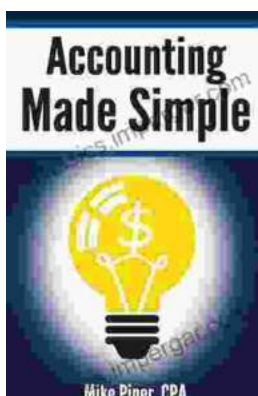
culture of the time. Whether you are a scholar, a history buff, or simply someone interested in the evolution of our moral compass, this book is an indispensable read.

Free Download your copy today and embark on a captivating journey into the making of manners and morals in twelfth-century England.



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