

19 September 2007

Gunter's Seven Great Books

If you only read seven great books in your life then I recommend that you read these.

Where is Shakespeare? I've left off books that people like to read.

Do you have a book that I should add to the list? Don't tell me about it. I have almost 600 books on my lifetime reading list. At my current reading rate, I already have to live to at least age 93 to finish.

Do you want to recommend a substitution for one of my books? Please let me know which book I should toss off the list in order to make room for your recommendation. And please justify the substitution.

Read and learn!

Limits of reason:

1. Socrates' early *Dialogues* (Apology, Crito, Republic (Book I only), Ion, Euthyphron, Laches, Protagoras, Charmides and Lysis)
2. Euclid's *Elements* (Book I only)

Virtue:

3. *New Testament of the Christian Bible* (Many prefer King James but I like the New American)
4. Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*

Individual:

5. William James' *Principles of Psychology* (His shorter version is OK but the long version is a better read.)

Society:

6. Adam Smith's *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*
7. Edward Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* Volumes I-III (Read the unabridged version, the abridged versions are terrible.)