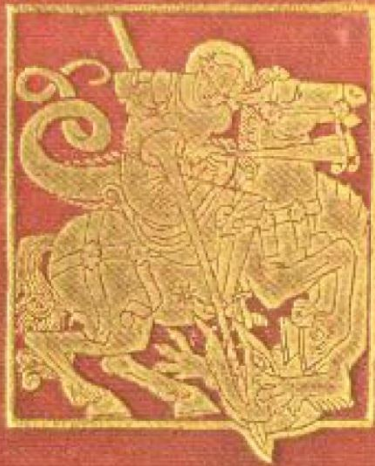


G. K. Chesterton

LibriVox



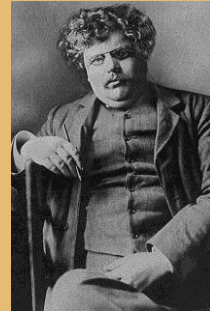
A Short History of England

G. K. Chesterton

A Short History of England

By G. K. Chesterton (1874-1936)

Gilbert Keith Chesterton was a prolific writer on many topics. His views of history were always from the standpoint of men and their interactions, and it may fairly be said he saw all of history as a battle between civilization and barbarism. So it has always been, and that remains true even today.



“But it is especially in the matter of the Middle Ages that the popular histories trample upon the popular traditions. In this respect there is an almost comic contrast between the general information provided about England in the last two or three centuries, in which its present industrial system was being built up, and the general information given about the preceding centuries, which we call broadly mediaeval.”

As this quotation taken from the Introduction clearly shows, he is no mere pedant reciting dry dates and locations, but a profound thinker flooding new light onto those modern “myths” that have filled our histories. He is a master of paradox, and the technique of reducing his opponent’s arguments to the logical absurdity they have inherent in them. He often turns them upside down. All of which makes his work both a sound subject for reflection and highly entertaining all the while it remains permanently timely. (Summary by Ray Clare)

Read by Ray Clare; total running time: 06:50:49.

This recording is in the public domain and may be reproduced, distributed, or modified without permission. For more information or to volunteer, visit librivox.org. Cover picture is the cover of the edition published by *Chatto & Windus* (1917). Author photo taken by an unknown photographer (1914). Copyright expired in US, Canada, EU, and all countries with author’s life +70 yrs laws. Cover design by Janette Brown. This design is in the public domain.

A Short History of England

A Short History of England

G. K. Chesterton