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George Weigel: The Cube and the Cathedral Study Guide

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### GEORGE WEIGEL: THE CUBE AND THE CATHEDRAL
### STUDY GUIDE, 2007
### Steven Alan Samson

**Review**

| most urgent issue confronting Europe today | “Europe’s problem” |
| why the United States and Europe have different strategic vision | Europe’s new civilizing mission |
| Immanuel Kant’s vision of perpetual peace | Europe’s new Kantian order |
| the arms race that preceded the Great War | what Roman Prodi’s “end of politics” means |
| What history is driven by in the long haul | belief that destruction brings regeneration. |

Peter Brown vs. Christopher Dawson’s story line on the role of Rome and Christianity

Byzantine Christianity’s ideal for the place of a transcendent order of justice

the European passions that brought the continent to war in August 1914

According to Henri de Lubac, communism, fascism, and Nazism were expressions of this

athletic humanism that took its cues from what sources?

Auguste Comte, Ludwig Feuerbach, Karl Marx, Friedrich Nietzsche

Sir Edward Grey, Tom H. Grey, et al. (ethos, telos)

components of Christophobia in Europe

According to J. H. H. Weiler, the functions of constitution-making and constitutions in Europe

the argument over the meaning of freedom in the Middle Ages

Servais Pinckaers, Thomas Aquinas, William of Ockham, Thomas Hobbes

Why the possibility of institutional pluralism and civil society might have been lost or delayed

investiture controversy, Gregory VII, Henry IV

what the Christian civilization of the Middle Ages taught western Europe

J. H. H. Weiler on tolerance, neo-Kantian neutrality toward worldviews.

why the Church opposed the evil of totalitarianism

a root of the hopelessness that assails many people today

explanations for the success of Solidarity vs. what really made Solidarity work.

why it is dangerous to deny that Christianity had anything to do with Europe’s development

what accounts for the radicalization of Islam in contemporary, secularized Europe.

reasons why Americans should care about the “Europe problem”

the nightmare scenario for the future of Europe

what the failure to create a human future means in the most elemental sense

which culture is more likely to protect human rights, promote the common good, etc.