



# The Age of Reason (Xist Classics)

By Thomas Paine

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## A Revolutionary Philosophical Work

"It is from the Bible that man has learned cruelty, rapine, and murder; for the belief of a cruel God makes a cruel man." *Thomas Paine, The Age of Reason*  
The Age of Reason was written by Thomas Paine as a Deist text which was well received in the United States in the late 18th century but seen as too incendiary in the United Kingdom. The Age of Reason challenges the idea of state religion and the legitimacy of the Bible.

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### Editorial Review

#### From the Publisher

COSIMO CLASSICS offers distinctive titles by the great authors and thinkers who have inspired, informed and engaged readers throughout the ages.

#### From the Author

THOMAS PAINE (1737-1809) was an Anglo-American political theorist and writer born in Norfolk, England. In 1774, Paine emigrated to America, bearing letters of introduction from Benjamin Franklin. Soon thereafter, he became involved in the clashes between England and the American colonies and published the enormously successful pamphlet *Common Sense* in 1776, which was widely distributed and contributed to the patriot cause throughout the American Revolution.

#### About the Author

Thomas Paine, born in Thetford, England, 29 January 1737. Passed on on 8 June 1809, New York City, U.S.) was an English pamphleteer, revolutionary, radical, classical liberal and intellectual. Born in Great Britain, he lived and worked there until the age of 37, when he migrated to the American colonies just in time to take part in the American Revolution. His main contribution was as the author of the powerful, widely read pamphlet, *Common Sense* (1776), advocating independence for the American Colonies from the Kingdom of Great Britain, and of *The American Crisis*, supporting the Revolution. Later, Paine was a great influence on the French Revolution. He wrote the *Rights of Man* (1791) as a guide to the ideas of the Enlightenment. Despite an inability to speak French, he was elected to the French National Assembly in 1792. Regarded as an ally of the Girondists, he was seen with increasing disfavour by the Montagnards and in particular by Robespierre.

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