

The Age of Bede (Penguin Classics)

Bede, J. F. Webb, D. H. Farmer

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This selection of writings from the sixth and seventh century AD provides a powerful insight into the early history of the Christian Church in England and Ireland. From Bede's *Life of Cuthbert* and *Lives of the Abbots of Wearmouth and Jarrow* to the anonymous *Voyage of St Brendan* - a whimsical mixture of fact and fantasy that describes a quest for paradise on earth - these are vivid accounts of the profoundly spiritual and passionately heroic lives of Christian pioneers and saints. Both vital religious writings and a revealing insight into the reality of life at a formative time for the church, they describe an era of heroism and bitter conflict, and the rapid spread of the Christian faith.

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