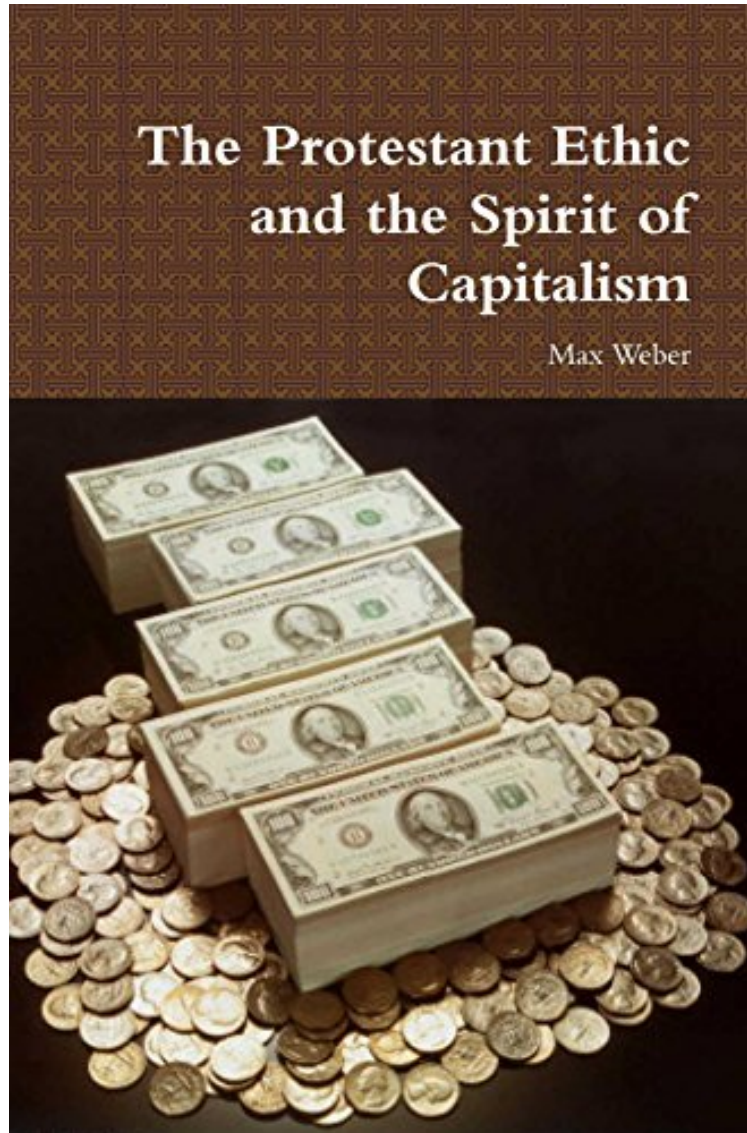


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# The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism

*Max Weber*

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THE PROTESTANT ETHIC AND THE SPIRIT OF CAPITALISM is considered a founding text in economic capitalism, economic sociology and sociology in general. In the book, Weber wrote that capitalism in Europe evolved when the Protestant ethic influenced large numbers of people to engage in work in the secular world, developing their own enterprises and engaging in trade and the accumulation of wealth for investment. In other words, the Protestant work ethic was a force behind a mass action that influenced the development of capitalism. This book is not a detailed study of Protestantism but rather an introduction into Weber's studies of interaction between moral religious ideas and economics. He argues convincingly about the American ethics and ideas that have so positively influenced the development of capitalism and, by extension, both the personal and common good.

"One of the most renowned and controversial works of modern social science." -Anthony Giddens "Max Weber is the one undisputed canonical figure in contemporary sociology." -Times Higher Education Supplement Language Notes Text: English (translation) Original Language: German From the Publisher A brilliant book which studies the psychological conditions which made possible the development of capitalist civilization. The book analyzes the connection between the spread of Calvinism and a new attitude toward the pursuit of wealth in post-Reformation Europe and England, and attitude which permitted, encouraged--even sanctified--the human quest for prosperity.