

Dominion: The Making of the Western Mind', by Tom Holland

In *Dominion*, Holland is hugely ambitious, exploring the history and impact of Christianity. There can be few books that begin in Ancient Persia and conclude with the #MeToo movement. Some of the group found such a wide-ranging approach made for a hefty, dense read, while others were engaged by Holland's easy, often humorous, writing style. All were fascinated by his underlying argument that, though churches in the Western world are emptying, Christian instincts continue to 'infuse people's morals and presumptions so utterly' that many fail 'even to detect their presence'. I found it a thought-provoking read that convincingly outlined how evident such instincts remain in science, secularism, gay rights, and even in atheism.