Christianity, along with a batch of other religions, was more "internal." It focused on one's relationship with the divine in an ineffable way. The performance of sacrifices and other rituals, while still present, was less important than some kind of direct contact with God. As Classical society started to fall apart, this was a pretty significant innovation. Christianity also brought with it the prospect of a happy afterlife, something distinctly missing from Classical religions.

In the first essay, "The history of political theory," Professor Dunn argues for the importance of a historical perspective in the
study of political thought. Other pieces engage with central concepts of political philosophy such as obligation, trust, freedom of conscience and property. A
group of studies tackle specific contemporary problems and future dangers, for example racism and the dilemma of humanitarian intervention.