

# Three Critics of the Enlightenment



## Three Critics of the Enlightenment: Vico, Hamann, Herder - Second Edition

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1684 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 561 pages



The Enlightenment was a period of intellectual and philosophical upheaval that took place in Europe during the 18th century. It was a time of great change, as new ideas about science, reason, and individual liberty emerged. These ideas were embraced by many people, but they also had their critics.

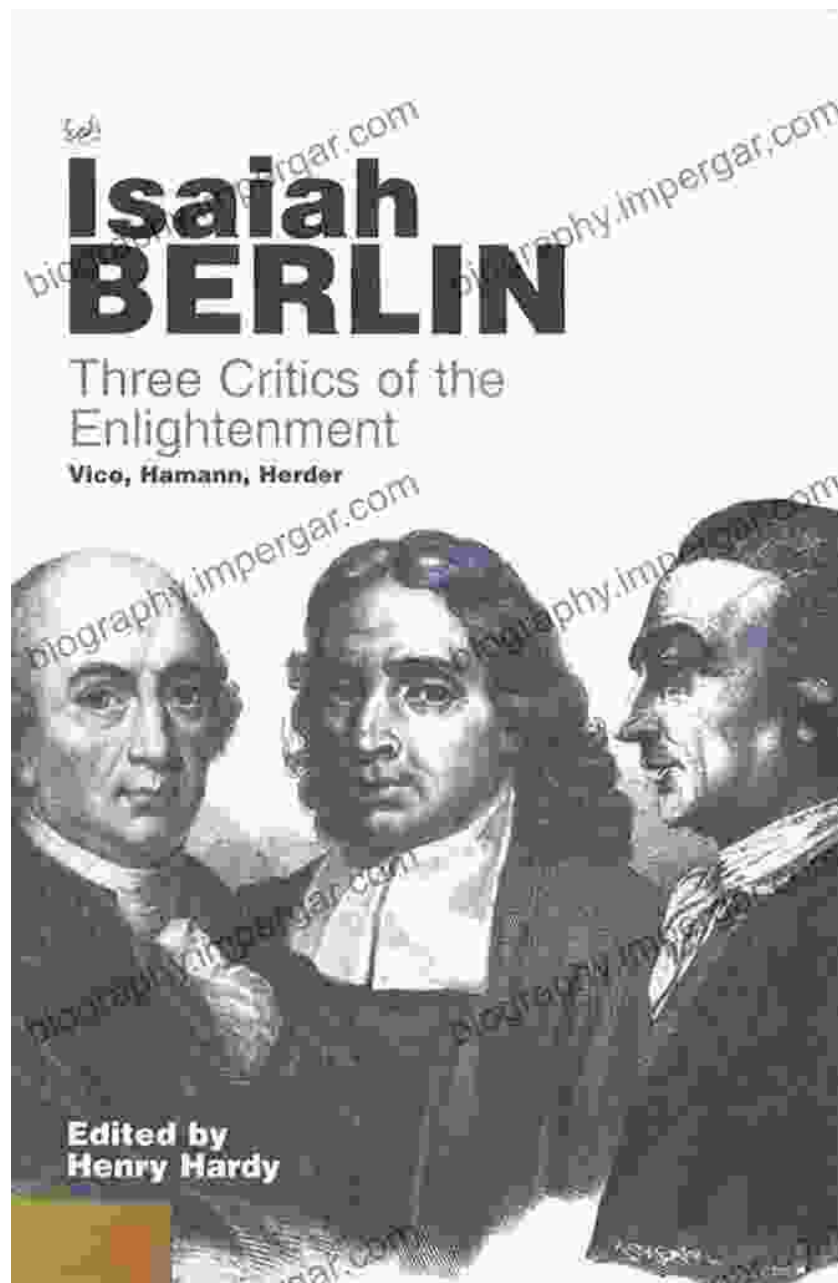
One of the most famous critics of the Enlightenment was Immanuel Kant. Kant argued that the Enlightenment's emphasis on reason and logic led to a cold and heartless world. He believed that it was more important to focus on morality and compassion.

Another critic of the Enlightenment was Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Rousseau argued that the Enlightenment's emphasis on individualism and self-interest led to a breakdown in social Free Download. He believed that society should be based on a shared commitment to the common good.

A third critic of the Enlightenment was Edmund Burke. Burke argued that the Enlightenment's emphasis on change and revolution led to a dangerous erosion of tradition and stability. He believed that it was important to preserve the wisdom and traditions of the past.

The criticisms of Kant, Rousseau, and Burke have had a profound impact on our understanding of the Enlightenment. They have helped us to recognize that the Enlightenment was not a universally positive phenomenon. It was a complex and contradictory movement that had both positive and negative consequences.

## **Immanuel Kant**



Immanuel Kant was born in Königsberg, Prussia, in 1724. He was the son of a saddler and grew up in a family of modest means. Kant studied at the University of Königsberg and became a professor of philosophy there in 1770.

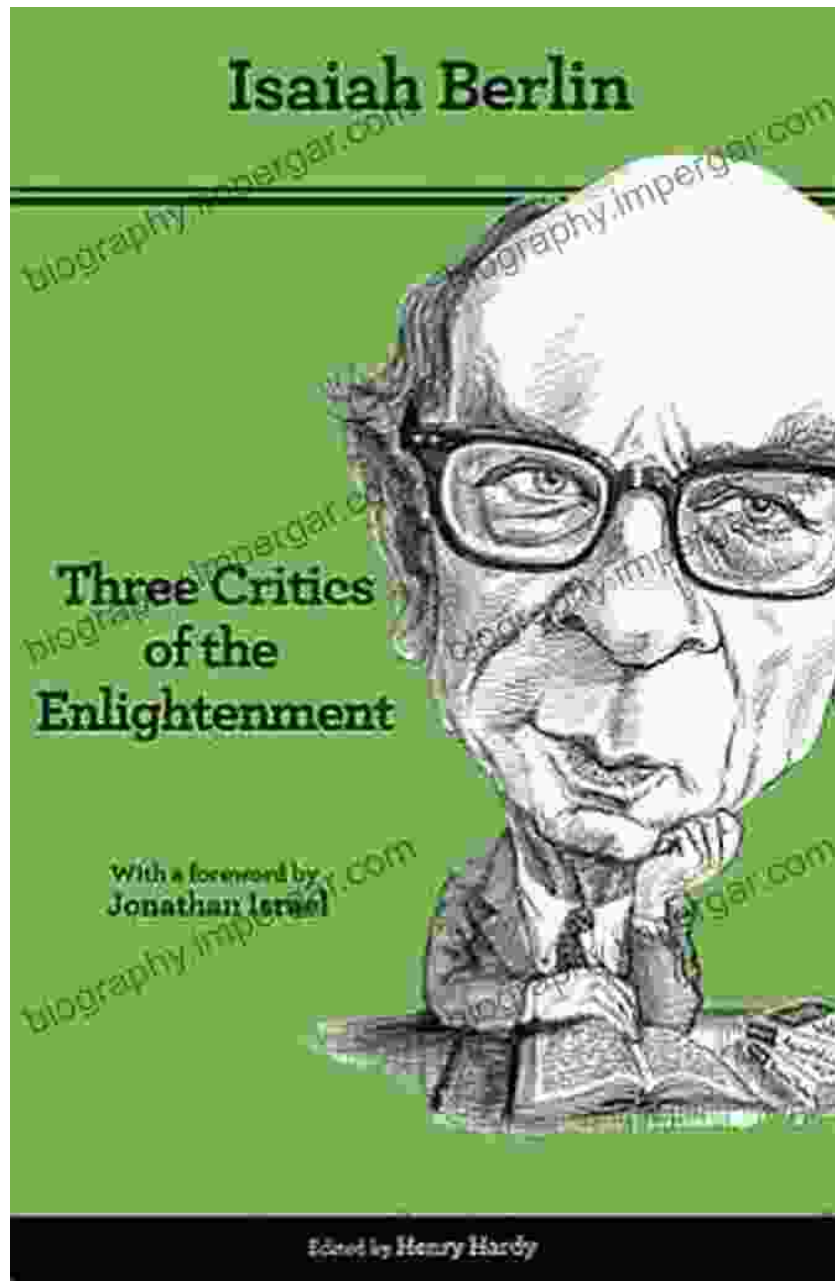
Kant was a prolific writer and his work has had a profound influence on Western philosophy. His most famous works include the *Critique of Pure*

*Reason, the Critique of Practical Reason, and the Critique of Judgment.*

In his *Critique of Pure Reason*, Kant argued that human knowledge is limited to the realm of experience. He believed that we can only know things that we can observe through our senses. This argument has had a profound impact on the development of modern philosophy.

Kant was also a critic of the Enlightenment. He believed that the Enlightenment's emphasis on reason and logic led to a cold and heartless world. He believed that it was more important to focus on morality and compassion.

**Jean-Jacques Rousseau**



Jean-Jacques Rousseau was born in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1712. He was the son of a clockmaker and grew up in a family of modest means. Rousseau was a precocious child and he was able to read and write by the age of ten.

Rousseau did not receive a formal education, but he read widely and developed a deep interest in philosophy, literature, and music. He moved to

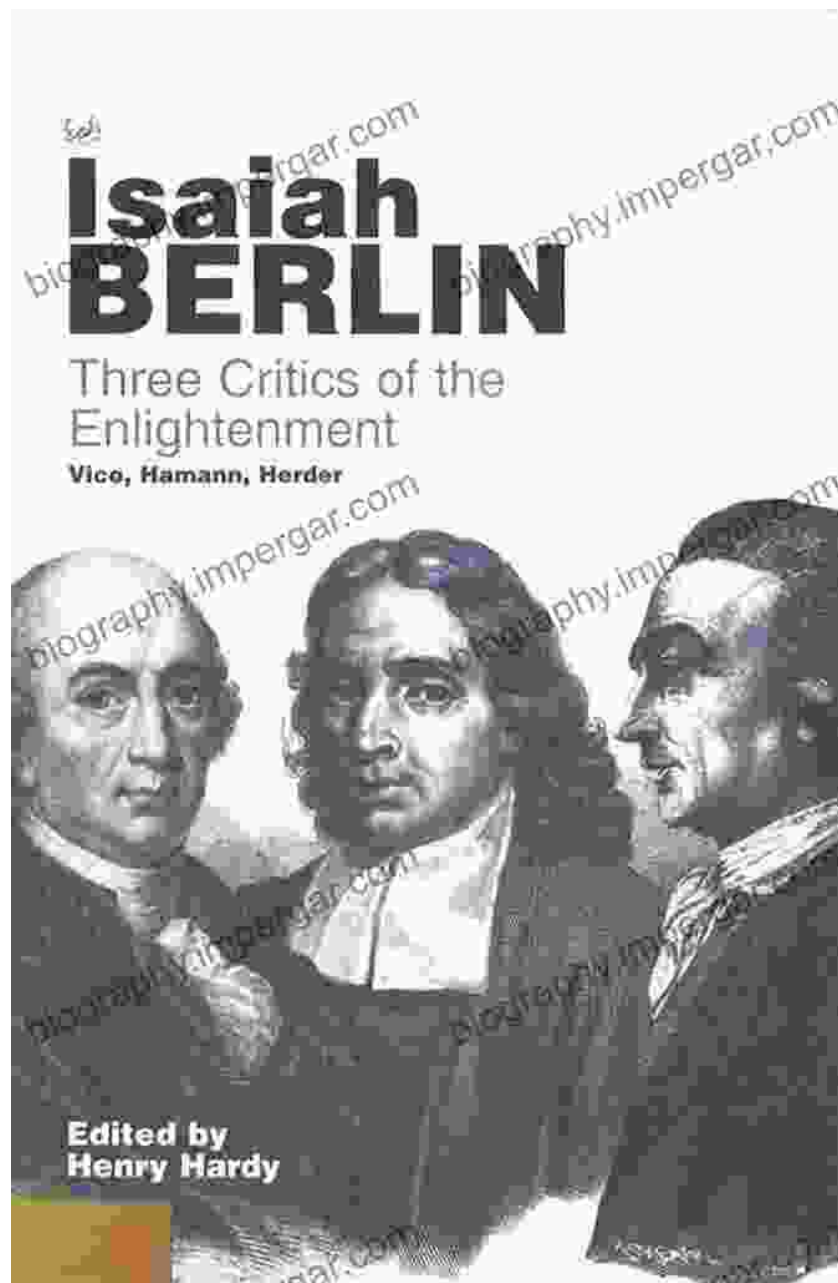
Paris in 1742 and began to write professionally.

Rousseau was a prolific writer and his work has had a profound influence on Western thought. His most famous works include the *Discourse on Inequality*, the *Social Contract*, and the *Confessions*.

In his *Discourse on Inequality*, Rousseau argued that human beings are naturally good, but that society corrupts them. He believed that the best way to create a just and equitable society is to return to a state of nature.

Rousseau was also a critic of the Enlightenment. He believed that the Enlightenment's emphasis on individualism and self-interest led to a breakdown in social Free Download. He believed that society should be based on a shared commitment to the common good.

## **Edmund Burke**



Edmund Burke was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1729. He was the son of a Protestant lawyer and grew up in a family of modest means. Burke studied at Trinity College Dublin and then went on to study law at the Inns of Court in London.

Burke was a successful lawyer and he entered politics in 1765. He was elected to the House of Commons in 1766 and served as a Member of

Parliament for over thirty years.

Burke was a prolific writer and his work has had a profound influence on British and American political thought. His most



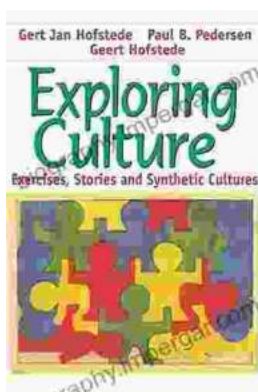
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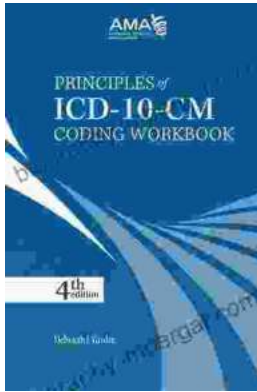
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