# Marcus Aurelius: A Stoic Emperor in the Roman World

Marcus Aurelius was born in Rome in 121 AD. His father was a Roman senator and his mother was the daughter of a wealthy Greek family. Aurelius was educated by private tutors and he showed a great aptitude for learning. He studied rhetoric, philosophy, and law. Aurelius was also a skilled athlete and he enjoyed hunting and riding horses.



#### Marcus Aurelius (Philosophy in the Roman World)

by John Sellars

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Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
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In 161 AD, Aurelius became co-emperor with his adoptive brother, Lucius Verus. Aurelius was responsible for the administration of the eastern provinces of the empire, while Verus was responsible for the western provinces. Aurelius proved to be a capable administrator and he quickly gained the respect of the Roman people.

In 169 AD, Verus died and Aurelius became the sole emperor. Aurelius faced many challenges during his reign. The Roman Empire was at war

with the Parthians in the east and the Germanic tribes in the north. Aurelius also had to deal with a series of natural disasters, including a plague and a famine.

Despite these challenges, Aurelius was able to maintain the stability of the Roman Empire. He was a just and merciful ruler and he was loved by the Roman people. Aurelius was also a prolific writer and he left behind a body of work that has inspired people for centuries.

#### ## Aurelius's Philosophy

Aurelius was a follower of Stoicism, a philosophy that emphasizes virtue, reason, and living in accordance with nature. Stoics believe that the only things that are truly good are virtue and reason. All other things, such as wealth, power, and pleasure, are indifferent. Stoics also believe that we should accept the things that we cannot change and focus on the things that we can.

Aurelius's philosophy is evident in his writings, particularly his Meditations. The Meditations is a collection of Aurelius's thoughts and reflections on life. In the Meditations, Aurelius writes about the importance of virtue, the futility of worrying about things that we cannot control, and the importance of living in the present moment.

#### ## Aurelius's Impact on the Roman World

Aurelius was a great emperor and a wise philosopher. His writings have had a profound impact on the Roman world and continue to inspire people today. Aurelius's philosophy helped to shape the character of the Roman

people and it played a major role in the development of Western civilization.

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Marcus Aurelius was a remarkable man. He was a wise emperor, a skilled philosopher, and a virtuous man. Aurelius's writings continue to inspire people today and his legacy will continue to live on for centuries to come.



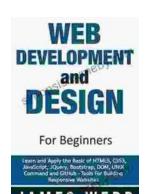
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