

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	9
1 Perfection and Perfectibility	11
2 From Olympus to the Form of the Good	28
3 The Godlike Man: Aristotle to Plotinus	46
4 Christianity Rejects Perfection: the Elements	68
5 Pelagius and his Critics	94
6 Perfectibility within Christianity: the Ascetico-Mystical Tradition	116
7 Perfectibility within Christianity: Protestant and Heretical	134
8 Perfecting by Social Action: the Presuppositions	149
9 Governmentalists, Anarchists and Geneticists	171
10 The Perfecting of Man by Scientific Progress	190
11 Progress by Natural Development: from Joachim to Marx	212
12 Progress by Natural Development: from Darwin to Teilhard	239
13 Perfection Renounced: the Dystopians	260
14 Mysticism and Humanity	286
15 The New Mysticism: Paradise Now	304
References	329
Subject Index	381
Name Index	387