

Religion in Philosophy and Theology

Edited by Agata Bielik-Robson, Helen De Cruz, Asle Eikrem, Hartmut von Sass, and Heiko Schulz

Religions are core phenomena of human life. In order to understand, evaluate and adjudicate between them, it is not sufficient to be aware of 'the facts'; it is necessary to place these facts within the context of what seems possible and plausible, to shed a critical light on the self-conception of religious realities and to explore their relationships to other forms of (dealing with) reality. This is done in a wide array of disciplines whose thematic perspectives, methods and overall objectives vary. Among these, philosophy of religion and theology are underrepresented but vital voices within international research. The main purpose of the series *Religion in Philosophy and Theology (RPT)* is to provide a forum for testing different approaches within these two disciplines, and to explore both their individual and combined theoretical potential, without giving preference to specific theological or philosophical approaches or advocating certain religious or anti-religious viewpoints. In doing so, it provides the opportunity to discuss and assess the pros and cons of widely differing religious, philosophical and theological perspectives, situated within multiple religious traditions within a globalized world. Among the essential requirements for publication in the series are clarity of presentation, rigor of argument, and the willingness to subject one's own ideas and concepts to the criticism of others. *RPT* publishes relevant specialized monographs, outstanding habilitations and dissertations as well as collected volumes.

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Grassi, Martín

The Ghost of Totalitarianism

Deconstructing the Pneumatological Nature of Christian Political Theology

2024. Approx. 510 pages.
forthcoming in June

ISBN 9783161620577
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Martín Grassi deconstructs the totalitarian paradigm underlying Western political and theological discourses by a critical examination of the concept of spirit (pneuma). This notion plays a paramount role in such Western discourses as biology, cosmology, politics, and theology, for it is the principle that turns a plurality of elements into a systematic unity. Christian political theology finds in the Holy Spirit the principle of efficacy of God's economy of redemption, which has been ultimately defined as the realization of the Kingdom of God as a perfect and unified political system under the One Ruler. Only through a deconstruction of this semantic performance of the Spirit are we to look for an alternative understanding of God and a Trinitarian dynamics that could stress singularity and relationality without reducing community to a merely organic totality.

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Chapter 3: Pneuma and the Organization of the Bio-Political Cosmos

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Chapter 8: Doxological Eschatology

Klinge, Hendrik

Das Gebot und das Gute

Theologische Metaethik im Zeitalter des Pluralismus

Volume 129
2024. XIII, 571 pages.
forthcoming in June

ISBN 9783161624889
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What is the good? What does it mean that an action is obligatory? Metaethics clarifies the preconditions for all ethical judgments. Hendrik Klinge discusses various approaches to metaethics from a theological point of view. He presents a framework for theological metaethics that takes particular account of the importance of religious pluralism.

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Teil I: Tatsachen und Einstellungen – Themen und Positionen der Metaethik in theologischer Perspektive

Teil II: Religion und Moral – Vom theologischen Voluntarismus zu den Divine Command Metaethics

TEIL III: Realismus und Dissens – Komplexe Modelle theistischer Metaethik

TEIL IV. Gewissen und Gründe – Grundlinien und Konkretionen theologischer Metaethik

Peisker, Ulrike

Zwischenmenschliche Vergebung

Phänomenologische Betrachtungen in protestantischer Perspektive

Volume 128
2024. XI, 269 pages.

ISBN 9783161628177
paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161628184
eBook PDF

Talking about interpersonal forgiveness could perhaps be considered good form. But what is this much discussed topos all about? Ulrike Peisker does a phenomenological study of interpersonal forgiveness from a Protestant perspective.

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Philosophy of Religion after »Religion«

Edited by Michael Ch. Rodgers and Richard Amesbury

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2023. VIII, 162 pages.

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Long framed in terms of Christian and secularist concerns, the field of philosophy of religion has recently been attempting to expand to include a wider, more diverse variety of religious phenomena. At the same time, a growing body of literature within religious studies has called attention to the historical genealogy and limitations of the category of »religion.« If »religion« is itself a modern, secular extrapolation from Christian understandings, disseminated globally through colonial encounter, does the apparently more capacious approach to philosophy of religion simply reproduce the deficiencies of the old under the guise of a false universal? The present volume seeks to move the field in the direction of a reflexive turn, toward an examination of the philosophical implications of the concept of »religion.«

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Richard Amesbury: Introduction: Making the Reflexive Turn in Philosophy of Religion – *Sonia Sikka:* »Religion« under Erasure: Why the Concept is Problematic and Why We Still Need It – *Timothy D. Knepper:* Why Philosophers of Religion Don't Need »Religion« – at least not for now – *Dwayne Tunstall:* An Essentialist in Critical Religion Land, Or, How Fitzgerald's Deconstructive Genealogy of Religion Is Compatible with an Essentialist Concept of Religion – *J. Aaron Simmons:* Vagueness and Its Virtues: A Proposal for Renewing Philosophy of Religion – *Vincent Lloyd:* Race and the Philosophy of Religion – *Jin Y. Park:* Nothingness and Self Transformation: Kim Iryōp, Tanabe Hajime, and Jacques Derrida on Religious Practice – *Robert Cummings Neville:* Whether Religion Is a Proper Subject of Study

Autonomy, Diversity and the Common Good

Edited by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Marlene A. Block

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2023. VIII, 297 pages.

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Is it true that insistence on autonomy and diversity weakens social cohesion, or that striving for justice, equity and equality undermines individual freedom? A long tradition has seen the common good as the social order in which individuals and groups can best strive for perfection. Liberal societies insist that this perfecting must not be done at the cost of others or by restricting the right to such a striving only to some and not granting it also to others. However, in a time of growing social and cultural diversity and inequality the traditional tensions between individual freedom and social responsibility have increased to a point where the binding forces of our societies seem to be exhausted. How much individuality and what kinds of diversity are we ready to accept? How much autonomy and diversity are possible without destroying social cohesion and human solidarity? And how much social commonality is necessary to be able to live an autonomous life and do justice to diversity?

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Humanity: An Endangered Idea?

Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2019

Edited by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Raymond E. Perrier

Volume 125
2023. IX, 387 pages.

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The idea of humanity is more controversial today than ever before. Traditionally, answers to the questions about our humanity and 'humanitas' (Cicero) have been sought along five routes: by contrasting the human with the non-human (other animals), with the more than human (the divine), with the inhuman (negative human behaviors), with the superhuman (what humans will become), or with the transhuman (thinking machines). In each case the question at stake and the point of comparison is a different one, and in all those respects the idea of humanity has been defined differently. What makes humans human? What does it mean for humans to live a human life? What is the humanitas for which we ought to strive? This volume discusses key philosophical and theological issues in the current debate, with a particular focus on transhumanism, artificial intelligence, and the ethical challenges facing humanity in our technological culture.

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The idea of humanity is more controversial today than ever before. Traditionally, answers to the questions about our humanity and 'humanitas' (Cicero) have been sought along five routes: by contrasting the human with the non-human (other animals), with the more than human (the divine), with the inhuman (negative human behaviors), with the superhuman (what humans will become), or with the transhuman (thinking machines). In each case the question at stake and the point of comparison is a different one, and in all those respects the idea of humanity has been defined differently. What makes humans human? What does it mean for humans to live a human life? What is the humanitas for which we ought to strive? This volume discusses key philosophical and theological issues in the current debate, with a particular focus on transhumanism, artificial intelligence, and the ethical challenges facing humanity in our technological culture.

Contributors:

Jon Bialecki, Guelfo Carbone, Daniel Chernilo, Ronald Cole-Turner, Ingolf U. Dalferth, Dirk Evers, Adriano Fabris, Thomas Jarred Farmer, Petr Gallus, Hasse Hamalainen, Emily Hodges, Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, Richard Livingston, Anselm K. Min, Daniel Nelson, Raymond E. Perrier, Joseph Prabhu, Nathan Schradle, Walter Schweidler, Josiah Solis, Hava Tirosh-Samuels, Lucas Wright, Liu Yue

Hildebrandt-Wackwitz, Lina

Schuld und Narration

Zur anthropologischen Bedingtheit und narrativen Aufarbeitung von Schuld in Auseinandersetzung mit Søren Kierkegaard, Hannah Arendt und Paul Ricœur

Volume 124
2022. XIX, 505 pages.

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What is guilt and how can it be described? With the help of Kierkegaard, Arendt and Ricœur, Lina Hildebrandt-Wackwitz interprets guilt as an existentially stressful experience. In doing so, she shows that a narrative processing of one's own experience of guilt meets the human need for justification in a particularly concise way.

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Surau-Ott, Veronika

Erfahrung und Vollzug

Ansätze zu einer Theorie performativer Glaubensakte im Anschluss an Edmund Husserl und Richard Hönigswald

Volume 123
2022. XI, 266 pages.

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In this study, Veronika Surau-Ott presents a systematic theory of performative acts of faith. The theory is grounded in Husserl's concept of religious experience as presented in his late work, and in Hönigswald's theory of knowledge, transformed into a conception of performative acts which are intrinsically discursive. The combination of both approaches helps to identify what is required to fulfil performative acts of faith.

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The Unique, the Singular, and the Individual

The Debate about the Non-Comparable. Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2018

Edited by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Raymond E. Perrier

Volume 122
2022. IX, 420 pages.

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Debates about the unique, the singular, and the individual raise epistemological, hermeneutical, metaphysical, ethical, and theological problems. They are often discussed in separate discourses without attention to the multiple relationships that exist among these issues. This volume seeks to remedy this by linking three areas of discussion: the theological and metaphysical debates about divine uniqueness, the epistemological and hermeneutical debates about issues of singularity and (in)comparability, and the ethical debates about issues of human individuality and ethical formation. Taken together, this highlights the complex background of the current singularity debate and shows that it is worth paying attention to debates in other fields where similar questions are explored in a different way.

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Henriksen, Jan-Olav

Psychology in Nietzsche's Criticism of Religion

On Splitting and Loss of Orientation

Volume 121
2022. XI, 196 pages.

ISBN 9783161617911
paper 79,00 €

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eBook PDF 79,00 €

Friedrich Nietzsche claimed to be a psychologist. This claim is substantiated in his criticism of religion. In this book, Jan-Olav Henriksen provides new perspectives on Nietzsche's contribution to such criticism by applying elements from attachment theory and self-psychology. The result is that Nietzsche's insights into the problematic elements in religion point beyond what he was able to articulate based on the psychological resources available to him. Henriksen sheds new light on the psychological dimensions in Nietzsche's individualism, his understanding of God, morality, metaphysics and emotions, and demonstrates how Nietzsche's criticism of religion is rooted in both psychological splitting and a profound loss of the orientational resources religion provided in his childhood.

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Chapter 11: Acknowledging and moving beyond Nietzsche's psychological Criticism of Religion

Ruf, Matthias

»Handeln Gottes«

Zur Hermeneutik theologischer Rede von Gott

Volume 120
2022. IX, 328 pages.

ISBN 9783161617621
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What does Christian theology mean when it speaks of God's action? Matthias Ruf offers a typology of significant interpretations of this central topos of the talk of God. He shows that nonliteral interpretations are linguistically problematic and literal ones are not only de facto assumed by many key theologians but are also more plausible than often assumed.

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V. Rückblick und Gewichtung der Argumentationsstränge

Verletzt fühlen

Systematisch-theologische Perspektiven auf den Zusammenhang von Verletzung und Emotion

Herausgegeben von Lisanne Teuchert, Mikkel Gabriel Christoffersen und Dennis Dietz

Volume 119
2022. VIII, 250 pages.

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Being hurt is part of being human. It is a life experience and triggers a wide variety of emotions such as anger, rage, shame, grief or remorse. What are we to make of such emotions from a theological point of view? Can it also be said of God that he is hurt and feels this way?

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Konkrete Emotionen als Verletzungsreaktionen:

Demütigung und Scham

Michaela Quast-Neulinger: *Kränkung – Demütigung – Würde: Eine theo-politische Relecture Marias im Licht von Hannah Arendts Vita Activa* – *Mikkel Gabriel Christoffersen:* *Shame and Racial Humiliation: The Theological Activism of Martin Luther King Jr.* – *Heike Springhart:* *Die Macht der Scham und das vulnerable Leben im Licht des christlichen Glaubens*

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Dennis Dietz: *Empörung, Zorn und Reue: Modi der selbstbeherrschten Herrschaft Gottes –Lisanne Teuchert:* *Zwischen Todsünde und heiligem Zorn: Ambiguierungspotenziale theologischer Anthropologie in Auseinandersetzung mit dem Diskurs um resentment*

Trauer, Resignation – und darüber hinaus

Dominik Gautier: *Politische Theologie der Trauer: Das Problem der Unbetrauerbarkeit in US-amerikanischen Kreuzestheologien* – *Benedikt Friedrich:* *Gottes Resignieren: Überlegungen zur Auferstehungstheologie*
Wenn Menschen verletzt werden, sind sie mit einem irritierenden Spektrum an Emotionen konfrontiert: Zorn, Wut, Trotz,

Scham, Trauer, Aggression, Misstrauen, Reue. Eine systematisch-theologische Thematisierung dieser Emotionen als spezifische Reaktionen auf erfahrene Verletzungen blieb bislang aus, der Prominenz des Vulnerabilitäts- und Emotionsdiskurses zum Trotz. Wie reagieren Menschen emotional auf Verletzungen? Wie wurden diese emotionalen Reaktionen bisher, oft auch implizit, in theologischen Denksystemen bewertet? Was bedeutet der Umgang damit für das christliche Leben? Und wie sprechen wir von den Emotionen Gottes, mit denen er auf Verletzungen reagiert, die ihm seine Geschöpfe zufügen? Diesen Fragen gehen die Beiträge des vorliegenden Bandes nach.

Mit Beiträgen von:

Ann-Kathrin Armbruster, Mikkel Gabriel Christoffersen, Dennis Dietz, Benedikt Friedrich, Dominik Gautier, Hildegund Keul, Sasja Emilie Mathiasen Stopa, Michaela Quast-Neulinger, Heike Springhart, Lisanne Teuchert

Braunschweig, Michael U.

Ethik als Existenzhermeneutik

Zur Grundlegung der Ethik zwischen Kategorizität und Kontingenz

Volume 118
2022. XVI, 417 pages.

ISBN 9783161601200
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The dominant conceptions of ethics as a rational reason for general moral standards are limited and miss the point. Michael U. Braunschweig shows that ethics is a hermeneutic discipline primarily concerned with understanding moral thinking and human beings as moral beings.

Der Glaube und seine Gründe

Beiträge zur Religiösen Epistemologie

Herausgegeben von Martin Breul und Klaus Viertbauer

Volume 117
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Is the justification of religious beliefs different from the justification of non-religious beliefs? What criteria seem appropriate for the justification of religious beliefs? Religious epistemology addresses questions like these. The contributors to this volume explore these questions and in doing so specifically seek dialogue with researchers of diverse provenance in philosophy and theology.

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Martin Breul/Klaus Viertbauer: Einleitung

Zur epistemischen Relevanz religiöser Erfahrung

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Kim, Hyoseok

D. Z. Phillips on Religious Language, Religious Truth, and God

Beyond Misunderstandings and Criticisms

Volume 116
2022. XI, 204 pages.

ISBN 9783161610400
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161611254
eBook PDF 74,00 €

D. Z. Phillips (1934–2006) was one of the most influential, ingenious, and perhaps controversial thinkers in the Anglo-American philosophy of religion. In particular, he is widely regarded as a leading proponent of a Wittgensteinian approach to the philosophy of religion. While almost every book on religious language or Anglophone philosophy of religion deals with Phillips' thought or, at least, mentions his name, all too frequently his position has been grossly misunderstood and has often attracted unwarranted criticism from various sides. Seeking to offer a constructive presentation and critical discussion of Phillips' view of philosophy, religious language, religious truth, and God, Hyoseok Kim endeavors to resolve some misunderstandings, refute undue criticisms of Phillips' position, and make some suggestions concerning directions in which his view might and ought to be further developed.

Berg, Stefan

Gott und Mensch

Differenziologische Analysen zur Grammatik des Systems christlicher Existenz

Volume 115
2022. XIX, 290 pages.

ISBN 9783161608377
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Christian life takes its characteristic form by dealing with different things in different ways. This poses a key theological question: To whom should we attribute these distinctions? Stefan Berg traces how the grammar of the system of Christian existence unfolds as a series of re-entry movements.

Wolff, Edda

Liturgical Non-Sense

Negative Hermeneutics as a Method for Liturgical Studies Based on Liturgical Case Studies of Holy Saturday

Volume 114
2021. XI, 236 pages.

ISBN 9783161599521
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In this work, Edda Wolff analyses how a more subtle and nuanced understanding of 'non-sense' can enhance the study of liturgy and its contribution to a broader theological discourse. The study is divided into two parts: the first outlines the methodological starting point for a dialogue between liturgical studies and philosophical-hermeneutical approaches, while the second applies negative hermeneutics to analyse the liturgy of Holy Saturday through case studies. The choice of Holy Saturday reflects the broader interest of the work in the 'in-between' spaces, the gaps, paradox and negative structures within liturgy. Holy Saturday thus serves as a paradigm for the liturgical engagement with the experience of a loss of sense, as well as the formal lack of pre-given structures. On this basis, the author reflects on the methodological challenges and potential of a negative liturgical hermeneutics for the dialogue with other theological subjects.

Frick, Tyler J.

Karl Barth's Ontology of Divine Grace

God's Decision is God's Being

Volume 113
2021. X, 223 pages.

ISBN 9783161595585
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ISBN 9783161608032
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Karl Barth's rigorous and singular focus on God's reconciling and revealing activity in Jesus Christ yields a profoundly compelling ontological vision. In this study, Tyler J. Frick explores Barth's understanding of God's being and particularly Barth's contention in *Church Dogmatics* II/1 that God is essentially gracious in God's original and proper triune life. The author argues that Barth's doctrine of election expounded in *Church Dogmatics* II/2 provides Barth with the sufficient conceptual framework to ensure that there is no bifurcation between what God does in the economy of grace and who and what God is as triune. This analysis demonstrates the Trinitarian consequences present in Barth's later volumes, which arise from Barth's insistence that the doctrine of election is the eternal decision in which God graciously elects Godself to become humanity's God in the covenant-fulfilling existence of Jesus Christ.

Josiah Royce

Pragmatist, Ethicist, Philosopher of Religion

Edited by Christoph Seibert and Christian Polke

Volume 112
2021. VIII, 277 pages.

ISBN 9783161598579
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Josiah Royce was undoubtedly one of the most interesting thinkers of classical American philosophy in the transition from the 19th to the 20th century. His works cover a wide range of subjects from psychology and issues of social philosophy to metaphysics. Surrounded by philosophers such as William James or Charles Sanders Peirce, Royce developed a concept of pragmatism which he himself called »absolute pragmatism« and which was centred around a theory of community. The essays in this edited volume deal with this pragmatistic approach in his work and discuss it from various points of view. Among other things, they explore Royce's relationship to German idealism, the foundation of his ethics as well as his philosophical doctrine of God and his philosophy of religion. This results in rather divergent assessments of his philosophy, each of which is evidence of the enduring relevance of his thinking for the world of today.

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Bridging Two Continents: Royce between Pragmatism and Idealism

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Das Böse denken

Zum Problem des Bösen in der Klassischen Deutschen Philosophie

Herausgegeben von Andreas Arndt und Thurid Bender

Volume 111
2021. VIII, 201 pages.

ISBN 9783161600647
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By believing in the power of reason and the scientific and cultural, but also the moral progress of humankind, the Enlightenment largely marginalised the problem of evil. That this one-sided insistence on reason can itself turn into evil was painfully illustrated by the reign of terror during the French Revolution. Superseding the Enlightenment, classical German philosophy understands that reason can only develop its true power and goodness by confronting evil. Thus comes the new, bold demand: to think and understand evil in all its depths.

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Thurid Bender: Zur Einführung: Das Böse denken – *Joachim Ringleben:* Das anstößige Thema Sünde – oder wie die Aufklärung zur Vernunft kommt – *Burkhard Nonnenmacher:* Kants Begriff des Bösen und Hamartologie – *Sebastian Böhm:* Die paradoxe Aneignung der Autonomie – *Alexandre Lissner:* Kant und der Skandal des Idealismus – *Thurid Bender:* Terror und Erlösung. Erscheinungsformen des Bösen bei G.W.F. Hegel – *Anne Becker:* Die logische Erfassung des Bösen – *Gilles Marmasse:* Hegel und das Übel in der Geschichte – *Christian Danz:* Der »umgekehrte Gott«. Schellings identitätsphilosophisches Verständnis des Bösen in der Freiheitsabhandlung von 1809 – *Christoph Binkermann:* Das Böse ist Ansichtssache – aber auch Realität. Über einen vernachlässigten Aspekt in Schellings Freiheitsschrift – *Vincent Giraud:* Das Böse als Nichts: Schelling und Augustinus – *Christoph Asmuth:* »Es ist eine abgeschmakte Verläumdung der menschlichen Natur, daß der Mensch als Sünder gebohren werde« – Fichte über das Böse – *Andreas Arndt:* »... das Böse ist nur außer dem Werden des höchsten Gutes«. Die Relativität des Bösen bei Schleiermacher

The Meaning and Power of Negativity

Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2017

Edited by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Trevor W. Kimball

Volume 110
2021. IX, 369 pages.

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Negativity is omnipresent in human life and thinking. Without it, contingency and otherness, subjectivity and power, transcendence and immanence and other manifestations of the pluriform dynamics between signifier, signified and meaning in human life and culture cannot be understood. This volume explores the significance of negativity in Western and Eastern thought in four central areas: in the traditions of negative theology in the West; in the dialectics of negativity in the wake of Hegel and in existential philosophy; in versions of negative dialectics and negative hermeneutics in the 20th century; and in Buddhist thought about emptiness, Korean philosophies of nothingness, and the similarities and differences between the mystical traditions of the East and the West. Together, the four parts outline a panorama of questions, positions, and approaches that must be explored by anyone who wants to address questions of negativity in the context of contemporary philosophical, theological, ethical, and existential challenges.

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Privette, Jeffrey S.

Constructive Realism, Incarnation, and Experience of God

Working at the borderlands of philosophy and theology, Jeffrey Privette thinks theologically about epistemology, both within the context of the realism versus antirealism debate, and with sustained reference to the incarnation. His study is divided into three parts: the first and second deal with the role of language and interpretation in experience generally, as well as with some of the curious philosophical problems foreshadowed by the predicament of language. Here, he offers a novel interpretation of Kant's transcendental distinction, which, when fully developed, serves as a rich resource for theologies working consciously in the Christian tradition. With the foundation of the argument in place, the third part fleshes out the logic of the incarnation within the context of the life of incarnate Christian communities, and so considers the complex relation of language and language-practices to Christian experience.

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2021. X, 286 pages.

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Cohen im Kontext

Beiträge anlässlich seines hundertsten Todestages

Herausgegeben von Heinrich Assel und Hartwig Wiedebach

Hermann Cohen (1842–1918) was a prominent German philosopher and Jewish thinker. Within numerous spheres of his wide-ranging activities and interests, he exercised a significant impact on academic, political, and religious life in his time. Marking the centenary of his death in April 2018, this volume explores the multifarious contexts and networks in which Cohen was involved over the course of his life and thought.

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Heinrich Assel/Hartwig Wiedebach: Einleitung – *Christoph Schulte*: Messianismus ohne Messias – *Torsten Lattki*: »Erneuerung und Verjüngung« Ben Zion Kellermann, Hermann Cohen und das liberale Judentum – *Ulrich Sieg*: Cohen und der Linksliberalismus. Die Geschichte einer emphatischen Verbindung – *Heinrich Assel*: Cohen und die Luther-Renaissance – *Hartwig Wiedebach*: Cohen am Breslauer Rabbinerseminar – *Christian Damböck*: Cohens Psychologie zwischen »beschreibender Psychologie« und dem »Gipfel des Systems« – *Lois Rendl*: Cohen und Trendelenburg – *Hauke Heidenreich*:

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2021. VII, 368 pages.

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»Bedenklich und anstößig« – Cohens Interpretation der Postulatenlehre im Kontext von Spiritismus und Materialismus um 1900 – *Cedric Cohen Skalli*: Hermann Cohen's Jewish and Imperial politics during World War I – *Robert S. Schine*: Hermann Cohen – Der Lehrer aus der Sicht seiner Schüler – *Bernd G. Ulbrich*: Robert Fritzsche und Hermann Cohen – *Frederick Beiser*: Hermann Cohen's Theory of Sensation – *Kurt Walter Zeidler*: Cohen und die Fries'sche Schule – *Pierfrancesco Fiorato*: Cohens Theorie der Sprachhandlung im Kontext – *Ezio Gamba*: Hermann Cohen and the Aesthetic Debate of his Time – *Kirstin Zeyer*: Cohens Cusanus-Forschung – der »eigentliche Entdecker des Cusanus« – *Günter Bader*: Creatio ex nihilo bei Cohen – *Rudolf Smend*: Cohen und Wellhausen – Anhang: *Siegfried Sinai Ucko*: Hermann Cohen und seine religiöse Lehre, aus dem Hebräischen übersetzt von Simon Lauer.

Lincoln, Ulrich

Prekäre Geschöpflichkeit

Beiträge zum theologischen Gewaltdiskurs

Volume 107
2021. XIII, 506 pages.

ISBN 9783161601132
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ISBN 9783161601149
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Ulrich Lincoln explores the relationship between Christian faith and human violence. The experience of violence lies at the heart of human history. In this study, the author lays out various ways for a systematic-theological approach to this experience, applying insights from current phenomenological and social-philosophical research.

Gallus, Petr

The Perspective of Resurrection

A Trinitarian Christology

Volume 106
2021. XIV, 467 pages.

ISBN 9783161601095
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eBook PDF 114,00 €

For the Christian faith as well as its theology, the Easter confession of resurrection has always been the fundamental idea. Starting from this elemental perspective and following the notions of internal realism, semiotics and the postmodern paradigm, Petr Gallus reconstructs the central theological locus of Christology as ontological Christology. In so doing, the author examines the traditional Chalcedonian Christology, as well as many Christological concepts of the last decades, following it critically and proposing an original solution. The whole concept is based on the notion that consistent Christology is possible only against the backdrop of the Trinity, which is the necessary framework and, in some points, necessary unloading of Christology.

Ullrich, Calvin D.

Sovereignty and Event

The Political in John D. Caputo's Radical Theology

Volume 105
2021. XII, 269 pages.

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In this study, Calvin D. Ullrich argues for the political significance of the philosopher-theologian John D. Caputo's radical theology. Against the backdrop of present debates, the author traces the notions of 'sovereignty and event' by drawing on the political theology of Carl Schmitt and Caputo's evolving engagement with postmodern thought; from its genesis in Martin Heidegger to its deeply involved association with Jacques Derrida. Calvin D. Ullrich shows that contrary to some misleading interpretations of his religious deconstruction, Caputo has always held nascent political concerns which culminate in his radical theology. Writing for scholars working in contemporary philosophy and theology, this book offers one of the first major in-depth analyses covering Caputo's writings of the last four decades, and seeks to defend their relevance for discussions responding to ongoing political-theological challenges.

van Hoogstraten, Marius

Theopoetics and Religious Difference

The Unruliness of the Interreligious: A Dialogue with Richard Kearney, John D. Caputo, and Catherine Keller



Volume 104
2020. XI, 259 pages.

ISBN 9783161598005
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In this study, Marius van Hoogstraten seeks to come to an understanding of the interreligious that embraces the ambiguity, historicity, and dynamic relationality of religious difference – in a word, its unruliness. While many approaches in theology implicitly recognize this unruliness, they typically try to bring it under control, to pacify it, or keep it at a distance. Instead, the author proposes turning to the »theopoetics« – approaches to theology marked by both uncertainty and creativity – of the contemporary philosophers and theologians Richard Kearney, John D. Caputo and Catherine Keller to envision the interreligious as the non-site of an aporetic relatedness neither secondary to religious identity nor indicative of an underlying unity, making it possible for an inter-religious solidarity to emerge from the depths of difference.

Stricker, Anne Katrin

Zwischen Konstruktion und Erfahrung

Eine Auseinandersetzung mit Gordon D. Kaufmans Theologie der »imaginative construction«

Volume 103
2020. VIII, 261 pages.

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Can the lack of interest in questions of Christianity and matters of religion merely be attributed to outdated theological and religious forms of speech? While creative reformulations of religious concerns promise a quick revitalization, Anne Katrin Stricker shows that we should accord priority to the interaction between language and experience – an interaction which she describes as the »practice of creative memory«.

The Reformation of Philosophy

The Philosophical Legacy of the Reformation Reconsidered

Edited by Marius Timmann Mjaaland

Volume 102
2020. VIII, 279 pages.

ISBN 9783161568701
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Did the Reformation introduce a new approach to philosophy? How did this historical caesura influence key thinkers in the history of modern philosophy up to the twenty-first century? This volume discusses the Reformation as a *philosophical* event in the early modern era – and its astonishing impact on key issues in philosophy until today. The contributors analyse central patterns of Luther's thinking from a philosophical angle and identify essential traits from the Reformation in modern philosophy, for example, in Kant, Hegel, Schelling, Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche. The volume also includes texts on contemporary phenomenology, aesthetics, political philosophy, and pragmatism, where Paul, Luther, Protestantism, and Marxism have experienced a revival. Finally, authors also discuss Jewish and Islamic approaches to philosophy in the wake of the Reformation.

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Love and Justice

Consonance or Dissonance? Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2016

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Trevor W. Kimball

Volume 101
2019. IX, 367 pages.

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The ideas of love and justice have received a lot of attention within theology, philosophy, psychology, sociology, and neuroscience in recent years. In theology, the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love have become a widely discussed topic again. In philosophy, psychology and neuroscience research into the emotions has led to a renewed interest in the many kinds and forms of love. And in moral philosophy, sociology, and political science questions of justice have been a central issue of debate for decades. But many views are controversial, and important questions remain unanswered. In this volume the authors focus on issues that take the relations between the two topics into account. The contributions move from basic questions about the relationships between love and justice through specific, but central problems of a just practice of love to social and political issues of the practice of justice in today's society

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Herrmann, Andreas

Der Islam als nachchristliche Religion

Die Konzeptionen George A. Lindbecks als Koordinaten für den christlich-islamischen Dialog

Volume 100
2018. XIII, 242 pages.

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Islam is a special case among non-Christian religions. What sets the Koran apart from these is its reference to Christian tradition. From the outset, the contemporaneous closeness yet distance between the two led to irritations that are still present to this day. How then are the Koran's reception of biblical figures and its criticism of central Christian doctrines to be viewed? By examining the North American theologian George A. Lindbeck's modern classic »The Nature of Doctrine«, Andreas Herrmann attempts to clarify these fundamental questions lying between Christianity and Islam. The perspectives revealed are discussed in the context of various dialogue topics, showing that Lindbeck's concepts, inspired by the philosophy of Ludwig Wittgenstein, can provide new impulses for an understanding of Islam as a post-Christian religion.

Robinson, Matthew Ryan

Redeeming Relationship, Relationships that Redeem

Free Sociability and the Completion of Humanity in the Thought of Friedrich Schleiermacher



Mohr Siebeck

Religion in Philosophy and Theology
Last updated: 10/05/2024

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Volume 99
2018. XI, 200 pages.

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A renewed focus on the role of interpersonal relationships in the cultivation of religious sensibilities is emerging in the study of religion. Matthew Ryan Robinson addresses this question in his study of Friedrich Schleiermacher's notion of »free sociability«. In Schleiermacher's ethics, the human person is formed in and consists of intimate, tightly interconnecting relationships with others. Schleiermacher describes this sociability as a natural tendency prompted by experiences of physical and existential limitation that lead one to look to others to complete one's experience. But this experience of incompleteness and orientation to »the completion of humanity« also constitute the fundamental structure of religion in Schleiermacher's theory of religion as orientation to »the universe and the relationship of humanity to it.« Thus, Schleiermacher not only presents sociability as basic to human nature, but also as inherently religious – and, potentially, redemptive. What making such a claim means and the implications it raises are central considerations of this study of Schleiermacher's ethics, theory of religion and ecclesiology.

Der Begriff des Judentums in der klassischen deutschen Philosophie

Hrsg. v. Amit Kravitz u. Jörg Noller

Volume 98
2018. VI, 180 pages.

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The aim of this volume is to map out the specifically philosophical relationship between German Idealism and Judaism in the latter's reception and transformation. Going by Kant, is »Judaism« dealt with affirmatively, critically, or even in a defamatory way in the construction of philosophical theories? How is one's own philosophy created in distinction to Judaism? How is the image of Judaism composed philosophically, and how is it instrumentalized, modified and transformed for one's own philosophical theory? At the heart of the matter lies the concept of monotheism, the historical-philosophical significance of the Israelites' captivity in and exodus from Egypt, and the relationship between Judaism and Christianity, but also the meaning of revelation, the laws and commandments as well as the mythic tradition of the Kabbalah.

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Heinsohn, Nina

Simone Weils Konzept der attention

Religionsphilosophische und systematisch-theologische Studien

Volume 97
2018. XII, 324 pages.

ISBN 9783161554155
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161554162
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Attention is the basis of perception, reflection, communication and whatsoever other forms of human action. To be able to get in touch with one's own attention seems to almost be a form of freedom. And yet the control over this »only power that is ours« (Simone Weil) has its limits because the point of attention is always accompanied by an experience of self-withdrawal. Nina Heinsohn interprets the work of Simone Weil (1909–1943) by carving out her concept of *attention* as the hermeneutical key to the French philosopher's oeuvre. She shows both that and how Weil presents a concise, distinguished and phenomenologically-based concept that promises new prospects for various debates in the philosophy of religion and theological anthropology, such as the discourses on imagination and creativity, gaze and desire, waiting and expectation or contemplation and prayer.

Meuffels, Otmar

Christsein im demokratischen Handeln

Trinitarische Einsichten – gesellschaftliche Interessen

Volume 96
2018. XV, 347 pages.

ISBN 9783161553684
sewn paper 79,00 €

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eBook PDF 79,00 €

In this volume, Otmar Meuffels examines how and where committed Christians can bring their Trinitarian faith into civic citizenship. Assuming communicative-structural thought, an up-to-date aesthetic-dramatic Christology is developed in the Trinitarian creed, which then introduces God the Father as the creator of a world offering the scope to be part of social fulfillments. Added to this is the Holy Ghost's power that can pervade and persuade believers to help fashion society. The question is thus posed whether the Trinitarian faith's aptitude for plurality can meet current political theory at eye level and is accordingly also capable of participating in societal discussion.

Hermeneutics and Negativism

Existential Ambiguities of Self-Understanding

Ed. by Claudia Welz and René Rosfort

Volume 95
2018. VIII, 269 pages.

ISBN 9783161557514
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161559495
eBook PDF 99,00 €

This volume explores existential questions within the following three thematic fields: first, experiences of anxiety and despair as related to the question of what these phenomena show about freedom and its difficulties; second, hermeneutical theories as related to the question of how we can develop an existential hermeneutics that can account for the ambiguities of self-understanding between transparency and opacity, and, third, selfhood between self-understanding and self-alienation as a focal point of existential psycho(patho)logy. What can disturbances to or breakdowns in self-understanding teach us about personhood? Making visible one's own blindness by articulating the shadows of our knowledge and abilities is at the core of a negativistic approach to existential questions discussed in a dialogue between philosophical anthropology, phenomenology, theology, psychoanalysis, and psychiatry.

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Self or No-Self?

The Debate about Selflessness and the Sense of Self. Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2015

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Trevor W. Kimball

Volume 94
2017. IX, 361 pages.

ISBN 9783161553547
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eBook PDF 99,00 €

Religious, philosophical, and theological views on the self vary widely. For some the self is seen as the center of human personhood, the ultimate bearer of personal identity and the core mystery of human existence. For others the self is a grammatical error and the sense of self an existential and epistemic delusion. Buddhists contrast the Western understanding of the self as a function of the mind that helps us to organize our experiences to their view of no-self by distinguishing between no-self and not-self or between a solid or 'metaphysical' self that is an illusion and an experiential or psychological self that is not. There may be processes of 'selfing', but there is no permanent self. In Western psychology, philosophy, and theology, on the other hand, the term 'self' is often used as a noun that refers not to the performance of an activity or to a material body per se but rather to a (gendered) organism that represents the presence of something distinct from its materiality. Is this a defensible insight or a misleading representation of human experience? We are aware of ourselves in the first-person manner of our *ipse* -identity that cannot fully be spelled out in objectifying terms, but we also know ourselves in the third-person manner of our *idem* -identity, the objectified self-reference to a publicly available entity. This volume documents a critical and constructive debate between critics and defenders of the self or of the no-self that explores the intercultural dimensions of this important topic.

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Pitschmann, Annette

Religiosität als Qualität des Säkularen

Die Religionstheorie John Deweys

Volume 93
2017. IX, 348 pages.

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In the discourse about religion's legitimate role in the democratic public sphere, it is often assumed that religious and secular forms of thought can be clearly demarcated based on their respective metaphysical presuppositions. The question to what extent a transcendent reality is presupposed is hereby often taken as an indication of the incompatibility between religious and secular thinking. The pragmatist John Dewey set out a theory of religion in the first half of the 20th century, which, in light of this tendency, desists from dichotomizing the fundamental difference between transcendence and immanence. Annette Pitschmann unfolds Dewey's theory against the background of his conception of reality and tests its plausibility in line with his philosophy of science and theory of action as well as his aesthetics.

Rass, Friederike D.

Die Suche nach Wahrheit im Horizont fragmentarischer Existenzialität

Eine Studie über den Sinn der Frage nach »Gott« in der Gegenwart in Auseinandersetzung mit Gianni

Vattimo, John D. Caputo und Jean-Luc Nancy

Volume 92
2017. XIV, 277 pages.

ISBN 9783161553660
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ISBN 9783161555428
eBook PDF 69,00 €

The quest for the one »Truth« in a pluralist society seems to have become as redundant as it is problematic – in much the same way that the idea of one »God« being the all-determining reality has. Yet we have not given up searching and the word »God« still continues to polarize, whether in society, theology or philosophy. In view of this seeming paradox, Friederike D. Rass seeks an alternative route that goes off the beaten track and beyond the temptation to resignedly retreat to relativist or fundamentalist positions. She argues that it is precisely the supposedly futile quest for a single »Truth« as well as the continuous questioning of the meaning of the word »God« that provide an essential guide to responsible action today.

Natur, Religion, Wissenschaft

Beiträge zur Religionsphilosophie Hermann Deusers

Hrsg. v. Markus Kleinert u. Heiko Schulz

Volume 91
2017. XI, 514 pages.

ISBN 9783161550126
sewn paper 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161550133
eBook PDF 114,00 €

The renowned theologian, philosopher of religion and permanent fellow at *Max Weber Kolleg* (University of Erfurt) Hermann Deuser turned 70 in February 2016. The present volume was compiled to mark the occasion and features original articles on Deuser's thought by noted colleagues and scholars from various countries and backgrounds. However, it is a Festschrift with a difference due to the fact that contributors were asked to critically engage with central tenets and themes of Deuser's thinking, in particular his newer and most recent work on the relation between science, theology and religion. The anthology's final piece comes as a 'donum superadditum', which contains a condensed discussion of the preceding articles penned by Deuser himself.

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Hermann Deuser: Nachwort: Kommentierung und Replik

Henriksen, Jan-Olav

Religion as Orientation and Transformation

A Maximalist Theory

Volume 90
2017. XII, 217 pages.

ISBN 9783161550980
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161550997
eBook PDF 69,00 €

In this book, Jan-Olav Henriksen presents an argument for understanding religion as an expression of different types of practices: those of orientation, transformation, and reflection. Instead of understanding religion first and foremost on the basis of doctrine and propositionally articulated belief, he argues that religions should be seen primarily as practices that mediate symbolic resources for orientation and transformation. The meaning of doctrine and reflection is constituted by its relation to such practices. Thus, doctrine does not constitute religion. This approach allows for a maximalist understanding of religion, i.e. seeing religions as a variety of phenomena relating to all dimensions of human experience. This is not possible to understand from a reductionist perspective. The volume offers a concrete, practice-orientated and pragmatic understanding of the role of religion in different realms of human life.

Green, Deidre Nicole

Works of Love in a World of Violence

Feminism, Kierkegaard, and the Limits of Self-Sacrifice

Volume 89
2016. XIII, 204 pages.

ISBN 9783161548468
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Drawing on the thought of Kant, Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche in order to illuminate and interrogate feminist critiques of self-sacrifice, Deidre Nicole Green relies on Kierkegaard's view of Christian love to offer a constructive theological framework for limiting self-sacrifice that resists an overly simplistic identification of self-sacrifice with love. Although Kierkegaard's *Works of Love* deems Christian love essentially sacrificial, his view of love also circumscribes the role of self-sacrifice within human life. Particularly, it offers the potential for a rigorous and empowering model of forgiveness that challenges traditional ideals of the submissive, permissive woman while keeping love central to the dialogue. Rather than passively accept unjust relationships, works of love must seek to ameliorate a world of violence.

Zank, Michael

Jüdische Religionsphilosophie als Apologie des Mosaismus

Volume 88
2016. X, 399 pages.

ISBN 9783161547331
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ISBN 9783161547348
eBook PDF 114,00 €

In twenty lectures and essays, many of which are published here for the first time, Michael Zank looks at modern Jewish philosophy of religion as an »apologetics of the Mosaic faith«. He approaches the subject from thematic as well as historical angles and shows how Hermann Cohen, Franz Rosenzweig, Martin Buber, Leo Strauss and others wrestled with the Christian and philosophical legacies of Europe. He also offers reflections on what we can learn from these philosophical efforts for today, aiming to introduce the reader to the field of modern Jewish philosophy. The author first developed the idea for this book when he taught in Frankfurt as Martin Buber Professor of Jewish Philosophy of Religion at Johann Wolfgang Goethe University.

Wirth, Mathias

Distanz des Gehorsams

Theorie, Ethik und Kritik einer Tugend

Volume 87
2016. IX, 449 pages.

ISBN 9783161540868
sewn paper 94,00 €
ISBN 9783161549564
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Obedience has been as much invoked as a virtue as deemed to end in disaster. The history of Nazism, violent pedagogy, also at the hands of the church, and the general discrediting of the individual self in the discourses of obedience all illustrate this much-discussed yet seldom systematically scrutinised form of interpersonal relations. Mathias Wirth's systematic contribution lies in uncovering a core structure in the phenomenon of obedience, namely the distance between an individual as person and as agent, i.e. between the 'is' and 'ought' of willing. Obedience after all demands doing things one does not intrinsically want to do, otherwise a command to that effect would not be necessary. In his exploration of the sometimes merely postulated distance between the person and the agent, the author shows how this chasm poses an ethical and religious problem. The work was awarded the 2014 Hannover Wissenschaftspreis and the Ernst Wolf-Preis 2017 of the Gesellschaft für Evangelische Theologie in category A (dissertations/habilitations).

Jütte, Stephan R.

Analogie statt Übersetzung

Eine theologische Selbstreflexion auf den inneren Zusammenhang von Glaubensgrund, Glaubensinhalt und Glaubensweise in Auseinandersetzung mit Jürgen Habermas

Volume 86
2016. X, 299 pages.

ISBN 9783161543548
sewn paper 69,00 €
ISBN 9783161545726
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Jürgen Habermas, »master thinker of the German-speaking parts of the world«, has advanced to become a much-quoted critic of the secularisation hypothesis over the past ten years. Purveyors of theological-political Sunday speeches and theological-academical discussions alike have tried to self-assuringly latch onto his talk of the lasting relevance of the »Jewish-Christian tradition«, the »rescuing appropriation of religious contents« and his call for a cooperative project of translation within »post-secular society«. Stephan R. Jütte, on the other hand, aims to focus on the lasting irritation of the stricture in the relationship between religion and society and thereby induce a theological self-reflection on the internal relation between the ground of faith, its content and form.

Klein, Rebekka A.

Depotenzierung der Souveränität

Religion und politische Ideologie bei Claude Lefort, Slavoj Žižek und Karl Barth

Volume 85
2016. XII, 307 pages.

ISBN 9783161543531
sewn paper 59,00 €
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eBook PDF 59,00 €

The concept of sovereignty as characterised by Hobbes has shown itself to be crucial to politics and theology right up to the present. According to Carl Schmitt, it implies a law-positing power itself beyond the law which stems from the early Modern Age's metaphysical-theological inheritance. In contrast, the current political discourse no longer sees sovereignty as an inheritance of theology, but rather as a product of man's political imagination. Belief in sovereignty relies on the fiction that absolute power is actually able to really exist and stably endure, thus bestowing political ideologies with necessarily totalitarian purposes. With reference to the critiques of sovereignty by the philosophers Claude Lefort and Slavoj Žižek and theologian Karl Barth, Rebekka A. Klein clarifies how such ideologies can be exposed and defused. The three thinkers initiate an attenuation of the concept of sovereignty by reinforcing its subversive.

Hope

Claremont Studies in Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2014

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Marlene A. Block

Volume 84
2016. IX, 458 pages.

ISBN 9783161537141
sewn paper 139,00 €

Hope is a fundamental but controversial human phenomenon. For some it is Pandora's most mischievous evil, for others it is a divine gift and one of the highest human virtues. It is difficult to pin down but its traces seem to be present everywhere in human life and practice. Christianity as a comprehensive practice of hope cannot be imagined without it: Christians are not believers in dogmas but practitioners of hope. In other religious traditions the topic of hope is virtually absent or even critically rejected and opposed. Some see hope as the most humane expression of a deep-seated human refusal to put up with evil and suffering in this world, while others object to it as a form of delusion and an escapist reluctance to face up to the realities of the world as it is. Half a century ago hope was at the center of attention in philosophy and theology. However, in recent years the discussion has shifted to positive psychology and psychotherapy, utopian studies and cultural anthropology, politics and economics. This has opened up interesting new vistas. It is time to revisit the subject of hope, and to put hope back on the philosophical and theological agenda.

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Lassak, Andrea

Grundloses Vertrauen

Eine theologische Studie zum Verhältnis von Grund- und Gottvertrauen

Volume 83
2015. X, 233 pages.

ISBN 9783161539428
sewn paper 74,00 €

In this book, Andrea Lassak aims to determine the relation of trust and faith. Brought into focus are the so-called 'forms of basic trust' and the Christian trust in God. The author starts from the theological concept of trust given by Wolfhart Pannenberg who was the first 20th century theologian to include Erik H. Erikson's investigations of developmental psychology in German theology and on that basis advocated a distinct transformative relation between early childhood 'basic trust' and religious trust in God. In a critical analysis of Pannenberg's argument, Andrea Lassak advances an alternative in the tradition of hermeneutic theology.

Forgiving and Forgetting

Theology and the Margins of Soteriology

Ed. by Hartmut von Sass and Johannes Zachhuber

Volume 82
2015. VIII, 225 pages.

ISBN 9783161540813
sewn paper 89,00 €

Forgiveness has traditionally been associated with a duty to remember in order for reconciliation to be possible. Human failure, evil, and atrocities could thus only be forgiven on the basis of a saving memory. Forgetting, by contrast, had to be excluded in the interest of a truthful and genuinely new beginning. Historical experience, it seemed, supported this account. The essays collected in this volume seek to challenge this traditional picture – by elaborating on the notion of forgetting, by reappreciating its constructive or even necessary impact on our lives, by paying heed to the potential obstacles for reconciliation due to an unforgiving remembrance, by clarifying the relationship between remembrance and forgetting, which is not necessarily complementary, and by finding new ways of relating forgiveness to forgetting ultimately leading to the precarious question of whether even God forgets when he forgives.

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Hartmut von Sass / Johannes Zachhuber: Forgetting. An Introductory Reminder

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Hermeneutik der Transzendenz

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth, Pierre Bühler u. Andreas Hunziker

Volume 81
2015. XXIV, 214 pages.

ISBN 9783161535062
sewn paper 79,00 €

Transcendence is a controversial concept. Are there any genuinely religious forms of transcendence at all besides ontological, epistemological, ethical or alterological forms of transcendence? If so, what is their relation to those other forms of transcendence? Is it true that a cultural shift has taken place from a 'vertical' to a 'horizontal' understanding of transcendence? And if human religious self-transcendence is indeed more than a mere immanent experience, how can we understand this? Is absolute transcendence only possible if it breaks into immanence by itself, and is that possible without also modifying human forms of self-transcendence in specific ways? The authors of this volume shed light on these and other questions.

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Hall, Eric E.

The Paradox of Authenticity

Volume 80
2015. XIV, 223 pages.

ISBN 9783161538636
sewn paper 79,00 €

In this book, Eric E. Hall takes up the question of the meaning of a vigorously used concept in the liberal west: authenticity and the pursuit of personal originality. By uncovering this idea's uses within three deepening contexts – the ethical, the ontological, and the theological – the author unfolds authenticity's origins and implications. To the degree that authenticity seeks in all contexts freedom from social horizons, the conclusion renders attempts to embody this ideal secularly impossible. The goal requires a total transcendence that only the divine could fulfill. Human authenticity thus emerges in creatively imitating God's self-sacrificial expression on the cross, which both transcends and revalues the horizons of this world.

Schmuck, Martin

Peirces 'Religion of Science'

Studien zu den Grundlagen einer naturalistischen Theologie

Volume 79
2015. XIII, 598 pages.

ISBN 9783161532436
sewn paper 99,00 €

Martin Schmuck describes Charles Sanders Peirce's pragmatic philosophy of religion, based on common sense, as a theory which holds a comprehensive complementary view of religion and science. Starting with a critical examination of Peirce's indeterministic evolutionary cosmology, Martin Schmuck develops an alternative »necessitarian« and naturalistic ontology, which recognizes the modern discussion about dispositions and laws of nature and presents central aspects of Peirce's philosophy, for example an objective idealism, modal ontology and a philosophy of continuity, in a new fashion. Both Peirce's »Religion of Science« and the revised naturalistic ontology are then used to realize the concept of a modern theology of Christian faith which provides a profoundly naturalistic interpretation of the Christian creed.

Hermeneutics and the Philosophy of Religion

The Legacy of Paul Ricoeur. Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2013

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Marlene A. Block

Volume 78
2015. IX, 291 pages.

ISBN 9783161537127
sewn paper 99,00 €

Paul Ricoeur (1913–2005) was one of the most distinguished and prolific philosophers of religion in the second half of the 20th century. Through his wide-ranging writings, a self-reflective and critical approach to hermeneutics became an indispensable tool for the philosophical interpretation of the complex text worlds of religious traditions and for critical reflection on cultural phenomena. His philosophical hermeneutics was sensitive to the lack of transparency of the human self and the corresponding intricacies of direct and indirect communication in religion and culture. It was open to the analytic and phenomenological traditions but, by combining phenomenological description with hermeneutical interpretation, also decisively different from other contemporary approaches. On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birth this volume explores and evaluates Ricoeur's contributions to the hermeneutic turn in the philosophy of religion. His hermeneutical phenomenology enriches and reorients the contemporary practice of philosophy of religion, moving beyond the barren varieties of metaphysical theism and antitheism in both the analytic and post-analytic traditions.

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Ingolf U. Dalferth: Hermeneutics of the Call: Introduction

I. Hermeneutics and Religion

David Tracy: Paul Ricoeur: Hermeneutics and the Dialectic of Religious Forms – *Marlene A. Block*: Paul Ricoeur's Philosophy as Mourning, as Conversion, and as a Way of Life: A Response to David Tracy – *Pamela Sue Anderson*: Confidence in the Power of Memory: Ricoeur's Dynamic Hermeneutics of Life – *Richard T. Livingston*: Hope in the Fallibility of Memory: A Response to Pamela Sue Anderson – *Walter Schweidler*: The Self-Repeating Origin: Ontological Aspects of Ricoeur's Concept of Hermeneutics – *Nathan Greeley*: On What it Means for God to Speak a Word: A Reply to Walter Schweidler

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III. Hermeneutics and Theology

Pierre Bühler: »Here I Stand...«: Hermeneutics of the Self as a Legacy of Reformation Thought – *Kirsten Gerdes*: Other than 'Self': A Response to Pierre Bühler – *Nicola Stricker*: Thinking the Revelation – *Eric E. Hall*: Hermeneutics as Loving Revelation:

Ethics of In-Visibility

Imago Dei, Memory, and Human Dignity in Jewish and Christian Thought

Ed. by Claudia Welz

Volume 77
2015. VIII, 289 pages.

ISBN 9783161538100
sewn paper 79,00 €

The hyphenated phrase 'in-visibility' indicates that the visible and the invisible are inseparable and yet in tension with each other. If originating from acts of (in)visibilization, both the visible and the invisible are ethically imbued. Whether we see or overlook each other, respect or dismiss another's dignity, remember or forget a history of crimes against humanity, our (over)sight has an impact on our interaction. What, then, is implied in seeing the human being as created in the image of an invisible God, as *imago Dei*? Which (re)sources in Judaism and Christianity can counter idolatry in the sense of cognitive captivity and experiences of abandonment after the Shoah? In addressing such questions, this volume outlines an ethics of in-visibility in an interdisciplinary dialogue between philosophy and theology, cultural history, art and media theory, sociology, literary and gender studies.

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IV. Jewish Thought after the Shoah

Christian Wiese: God's Passion for Humankind and Human Responsibility for the Divine: Anthropology and Ethics in Hans Jonas's and Abraham J. Heschel's Post-Holocaust Interpretation of Imago Dei – *N. Verbin*: Protest and Resentment as Theological Responses to the Shoah – *Claudia Welz*: Imago Dei and Crimes against Humanity: Jewish Perspectives on an Ethics of In-Visibility

Paul Ricoeur und die evangelische Theologie

Hrsg. v. Dietrich Korsch

Volume 76
2016. VIII, 230 pages.

ISBN 9783161536113
sewn paper 79,00 €

The one hundredth recurrence of Paul Ricoeur's birthday was an occasion for many to remember the work of the French philosopher, whose groundbreaking combination of phenomenology with hermeneutics, transcending even his own discipline, is of great significance to this day. This volume looks into the relationship between persons and subjects of Protestant theology and Ricoeur's philosophy. It does so from two different perspectives – the history of theology and the perspective of dogmatics – and links both of these approaches methodologically. The volume documents the intense discussion between Paul Ricoeur and primarily the younger generation of theologians.

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Vorwort

I. *Martina Kumlehn*: Extravaganz und Grenzausdruck. Ricoeurs Zugänge zur Bibel im Spiegel seiner Hermeneutik – *Nicola Stricker*: Ricoeurs Hermeneutik im Dialog mit Rudolf Bultmann – *Katharina Eberlein-Braun*: Unter Naivlingen. Karl Barth, Paul Ricoeur und Holly Golightly – *Wilhelm Gräß*: Sich in Gott verstehen. Paul Ricoeurs und Ernst Cassirers Hermeneutik des religiösen Symbols

II. *Thorsten Dietz*: Schuld und Leiden bei Opfern und Tätern. Annäherungen an eine Phänomenologie des Bösen bei Paul Ricoeur – *Philipp Stoellger*: Symbolische Ordnung und Sinn für's Außerordentliche. Ricoeurs dialektische Moderation religiöser Rede und sein Exorzismus der Imagination – *Cornelia Richter*: Am Anderen sich selbst verstehen. Das religiöse und das ethische Selbst – *Doris Hiller*: Integratives Geschichtsverstehen. Impulse der Geschichtstheorie Paul Ricoeurs zur Reflexion der Gottesgeschichte – *Christian Ferber*: Die Transzendenz in der Konkretion. Zu den Spezifika theologischer Bestimmungsleistungen – *Jens Trusheim*: Zeugnis und Offenbarung bei Paul Ricoeur – *Dietrich Korsch*: Rechtfertigung und Anerkennung. Auslegungsdimensionen der Rechtfertigungslehre

III. *Hans-Christoph Askani*: Gott bezeugen – *Andreas Hunziker*: »Der fähige Mensch« und »das mehr als Mögliche« – *Dietrich Korsch*: Der verborgene Gott. Eine stillschweigende Voraussetzung in der Philosophie Paul Ricoeurs

Gott denken – ohne Metaphysik?

Zu einer aktuellen Kontroverse in Theologie und Philosophie

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth u. Andreas Hunziker

Volume 75
2014. XXII, 219 pages.

ISBN 9783161520020
sewn paper 74,00 €

Metaphysics has become a viable option again in philosophy of religion and theology today. There is however little discussion of the arguments of those who have advocated the »end of metaphysics« in 20th century philosophy and theology. Is it impossible to think about God without thinking about God metaphysically? Is the issue the kind of metaphysics practiced in philosophy and theology rather than the alternative between metaphysical or non-metaphysical God-thought? Attempts to think about God can be a source or a critique of metaphysical theology. But what does it mean to think about God in a metaphysical or a non-metaphysical way? And why should we do the one rather than the other?

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Revelation

Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2012

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Michael Ch. Rodgers

Volume 74
2014. IX, 292 pages.

ISBN 9783161531989
sewn paper 89,00 €

Revelation is a central category in many religions. Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Mormonism or Unificationists are difficult if not impossible to imagine without it. For some, revelation signifies a decisive event in the past, for others it is a present reality. It plays a central role in shaping religious identities, and it is the reason for much criticism. Some follow a religion only because of its claim to divine revelation, whereas others criticize it as »hearsay upon hearsay« (Paine) on which they would never rest their belief. For some, God has put everything at risk in revelation, including his own being, exposing himself to the utter contingency of existence; for others, even the idea of revelation is an embarrassment to their understanding of a perfect and absolute God. Sometimes revelation is used to refer to a special source of information about the divine accessible only to a few, in the hand of others it becomes virtually indistinguishable from religious experience or experience in general. Sometimes revelation is understood to be self-communicating and self-authenticating, at other times revelations need mediations and mediators. In some traditions, true revelation is always personal and experienced, and past revelation must continually be made revelation again. Some religions have built elaborate institutions of priests and privileged interpreters to safeguard their revelation, control access to it and to protect the right way of interpreting and communicating it. Theologies have distinguished between natural and supernatural, general, specific and individual, personal and impersonal revelation, between revelation, inspiration and incarnation, or between revelation and divine self-revelation. But claims to revelation have also been criticized as strategies of self-immunization, which allow religions to avoid critical public debate of their views and teachings, or legitimize the position of those in power.

The 33rd Conference of Philosophy of Religion at Claremont Graduate University in 2012 addressed these complex issues by concentrating on three areas of debate: I. Revelation and Reason, II. Hermeneutics of Revelation, III. Phenomenology of Revelation.

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Meyer-Hansen, Ralf

Apostaten der Natur

Die Differenzanthropologie Helmuth Plessners als Herausforderung für die theologische Rede vom Menschen

Volume 73
2013. XV, 475 pages.

ISBN 9783161527395
sewn paper 94,00 €

Helmuth Plessner (1892–1985) is seen as one of the most prominent representatives of philosophical anthropology. With his theory of the eccentric positionality of man and the thesis of his basic inscrutability (*homo absconditus*), he developed a concept which can throw light upon the bodily-natural and the spiritual-historical dimension. The experience of non-identity with oneself is of central importance for Plessner. As a result of the »real break« (Plessner) in human beings, experiences of freedom and power but also of ambivalence and fragmentary existence are newly permeated and illuminated. Ralf Meyer-Hansen reconstructs this concept as an anthropology of difference and shows that Plessner's anthropological criticism of religion not only presents a challenge to theology but that this concept also stimulates a new definition of faith and doubt, autonomy and theonomy, politics and religion.

Concepts of Law in the Sciences, Legal Studies, and Theology

Ed. by Michael Welker and Gregor Etzelmüller

Volume 72
2013. IX, 395 pages.

ISBN 9783161527425
sewn paper 104,00 €

This volume documents the results of an international, interdisciplinary exchange between legal scholars, theologians, scientists, and philosophers. During the course of several years, these thinkers explored analogies and differences between concepts of law in various academic disciplines, probing the sustainability of an interdisciplinary concept of law. While inspired by objectives of the natural law debate, the contributions nonetheless assume that a dialogue between theology and philosophy is not sufficient to forge both a critical and constructive association of »reason and religion.« Instead, for the combination of »reason and religion« to be truly fruitful, various academic disciplines are required to engage on specific issues, relating constructively to different methods and modes of thought. The contributors pursue a concept of law which is viable in multidisciplinary as well as international regard and, while drawing on the goals of the natural law debate, leaves its shortcomings behind.

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Religion und Irrationalität

Historisch-systematische Perspektiven

Hrsg. v. Jochen Schmidt u. Heiko Schulz

Volume 71
2013. XXXIV, 318 pages.

ISBN 9783161522505
sewn paper 89,00 €

The critique of religion is often presented as a critique of the alleged irrationality of religion. The contributions collected in this volume inquire into the function of the irrational in Hamann, Hegel, Schelling, Nietzsche and Rudolf Otto. This series of historical analyses is followed by in-depth studies of the writings and the reception of Søren Kierkegaard, the theorist of irrationality par excellence. In conclusion, the volume provides systematic accounts for the critical and/or constructive function of discourses on the irrational within philosophy of religion and theology. This latter group of essays deals with semantics, apologetics and ethics.

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Conversion

Claremont Studies in Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2011

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Michael Ch. Rodgers

Volume 70
2013. IX, 282 pages.

ISBN 9783161528545
sewn paper 89,00 €

According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), religious conversion is a fundamental human right. Not all religious traditions accept this. Some allow conversion only to their religion but deny it to their own members. Some distinguish between voluntary conversion, which they accept, and organized proselytism, to which they object. Some accept it as a fact, which they regret, and others threaten converts with the death penalty for leaving the religion into which they were born. However, there are many kinds of conversion: philosophical, intellectual, moral, spiritual, and there are many kinds of religious conversion. The 32nd Conference of Philosophy of Religion at Claremont Graduate University in 2011 addressed this complex issue from religious, legal, philosophical and theological perspectives.

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Ingolf U. Dalferth: Introduction: The Complex Challenge of Conversion

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Gary Gilbert: Why Conversion? The Blurring and Building of Boundaries in Ancient Judaism – *Shelley L. Long*: Who Determines Conversion? A Response to Gary Gilbert – *Yaron Catane*: Administrating Conversion – Israel's Conversion Administration – *S. Ayse Kadayifci-Orellana*: Da'wah and Religious Freedom in Islam – *Richard T. Livingston*: In Pursuit of Plurality: A Response to Ayse Kadayifci-Orellana – *Joseph Prabhu*: Conversion in an Ecumenical Age – *Marlene Block*: Religion, Religions, and Conversion: A Response to Joseph Prabhu

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Linde, Gesche

Zeichen und Gewißheit

Semiotische Entfaltung eines protestantisch-theologischen Begriffs

Volume 69
2013. XVIII, 1133 pages.

ISBN 9783161498473
sewn paper 159,00 €

Processes for attaining certainty, those of the Christian faith as well, are processes of the classification of signs. Gesche Linde develops this theory in four chapters by outlining the theoretical use of the concept of signs for the problem of certainty from antiquity up to Luther and then reconstructing the system of the classification of signs into ten trichotomies described in the late works of Charles Sanders Peirce. This system makes it possible to interpret all processes of consciousness, which include feeling, acting, thinking and the understanding of language, as processes of the interpretation of signs whose structures are basically identical.



Impossible Time

Past and Future in the Philosophy of Religion

Ed. by Marius Timmann Mjaaland, Ulrik Houliind Rasmussen and Philipp Stoellger

Volume 68
2013. VII, 253 pages.

ISBN 9783161519567
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161631276
eBook PDF 74,00 €

It is impossible *not* to discuss the question of time, at least for the philosophy of religion. However, to discuss the question of time is equally impossible, as the various perspectives presented in this volume show. Then what is time? Time *is* not, and yet everything is within time. Time *is*, but neither substance nor pure form. Being a dimension of all Being, not even God could or would withdraw from time. The authors of the contributions to this volume discuss the unavoidability of time and its paradoxes, not the least with the purpose of *giving time*, as a recurring topic for the philosophy of religion.

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Eikrem, Asle

Being in Religion

A Journey in Ontology from Pragmatics through Hermeneutics to Metaphysics

Volume 67
2013. X, 253 pages.

ISBN 9783161520525
sewn paper 89,00 €

Asle Eikrem strives to develop a systematic philosophical understanding of the constitutive structures of religious discourses. Different philosophical traditions (phenomenology, hermeneutics, pragmatics, metaphysics or analytical philosophical thinking) have articulated these structures in their own distinctive ways. The author aims to show how insights from partly conflicting traditions can be coherently reconstructed within the framework of a comprehensive philosophical presentation. The central thesis guiding his work is inspired by the deep-metaphysics of German philosopher Lorenz B. Puntel, and states that the relation between the pragmatic, semantic and ontological structures of religious discourses must be understood as internally necessary. They cannot be thought independently from each other. The pragmatic and semantic structures of religious discourses must be understood as substructures in a comprehensive ontological dimension (Being) that is characterized as practicable and expressible.

Skeptical Faith

Claremont Studies in Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2010

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Michael Ch. Rodgers

Volume 66
2012. VIII, 245 pages.

ISBN 9783161520099
sewn paper 69,00 €

The authors of this volume rethink our usual understanding of the relationship between faith, belief and skepticism. For some, »skeptical faith« is an oxymoron and faith and skepticism are mutually exclusive states or attitudes. Others argue that there is no proper faith without skepticism about faith. Taking John Schellenberg's recent work on the possibility of a »skeptical faith« as a starting point, the authors respond to and in some cases seek to go further than Schellenberg. In a variety of ways, the papers take up the following questions: How are we to construe the relationship between faith, belief, and skepticism if we seek to understand what is characteristic of a life of faith, or of unfaith? Is belief in God necessary for faith in God to be possible? Does one need to have sufficient reasons for believing something before one is rationally entitled to having faith in something? In short, what is the relationship between faith and belief, belief and understanding, understanding and experience, and experience and skepticism?

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Ingolf U. Dalferth: Skeptical Faith in Dispute – *John L. Schellenberg*: Skepticism as the Beginning of Religion – *Michael Rodgers*: A Response to John L. Schellenberg – *Adriano Fabris*: Skepticism, Involvement, Faith: From Weischedel to Schellenberg – *Marlene Block*: A Response to Adriano Fabris – *Philip Clayton*: Between Skepticism and Faith: Evolution, Peirce, and Religious Belief – *Randy Ramal*: Skepticism and the Grammar of Evidence and Causality in Religion – *Stephen T. Davis*: Christian Skepticism: Can we really know God? – *Ryan Falcioni*: A Response to Stephen T. Davis – *John H. Whittaker*: Why Athens Will Never Reach Jerusalem – *Sanjay Merchant*: A Response to John H. Whittaker – *Patricia Easton*: The Siren Song of

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Religion aus den Quellen der Vernunft

Hermann Cohen und das evangelische Christentum

Hrsg. v. Hans M. Dober u. Matthias Morgenstern

Volume 65
2012. XVI, 258 pages.

ISBN 9783161519512
sewn paper 69,00 €

New research has shown that Hermann Cohen was an alert reader of liberal Protestant theology in his time. To understand his work »Religion of Reason out of the Sources of Judaism,« it is important to reconstruct this hidden discourse in his writings. At the same time, his philosophy of religion challenges Christian theology to demonstrate its own reasonableness. The articles collected in this volume deal with the historical contexts as well as systematic-theological issues such as the concept of God, the belief in Jesus Christ, the concept of the Holy Spirit, sin, prayer and the method of correlation. This interpretation and discourse require encounters between Judaism, philosophy and theology.

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Inhaltsübersicht: *Ulrich Heckel*: Geleitwort

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1. Die Quellen des Judentums und der Vernunft

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Meuffels, Otmar

Ein eschatologisches Triptychon

Das Leben angesichts des Todes in christlicher Hoffnung

Volume 64
2012. IX, 221 pages.

ISBN 9783161519079
sewn paper 69,00 €

The way in which the Christian faith was shaped by Easter does not signify comfort in the hereafter; it has to prove its truth in the current significance of the trinitarian act of resurrection for the finite life in this world. Based on the borderline experience of death and against the backdrop of a criteriology for the recognition of a lived life, Otmar Meuffels deals with the question of the truth of human beings from the perspectives of biblical revelation, official church doctrine and systematic theology as well as philosophy and literature. In this way, he makes it possible to recognize how divine judgment and redemption are a liberating force in the present time. An eschatology which shows such a strong commitment takes the pastoral standard of the Second Vatican Council, the mission of the church as the successor in the charity of Jesus Christ, seriously, and sees respect for life as the guiding principle of the hope for perfection.

Dialektik der Freiheit

Religiöse Individualisierung und theologische Dogmatik

Hrsg. v. Hermann Deuser u. Saskia Wendel

Volume 63
2012. VIII, 255 pages.

ISBN 9783161517990
sewn paper 79,00 €

Social development in the modern age is based on increasing individualization. What is debatable about this theory is not its explanatory power but the affirmative or critical assessment which it involves. In the 19th and 20th century, this applied especially to the development of religion in relation to the churches and their dogmatics. Does dogmatics have to conflict with the manifold emancipation movements or does it support the realization of freedom? The Protestant and Catholic reactions in the church and in theology were and are not consistent, but comparable. The new discovery in this volume is the interdenominational reciprocity in the area of the recognition of the modern age and its dialectics of the benefits and the dangers resulting from individualization. The participants of an ecumenical conference at the Max Weber Center in Erfurt discussed these issues, using classical authors and dogmatic problems from the recent past, always bearing in mind how to come to terms with the dialectics of freedom in the present.

Pöder, Johann-Christian

Evidenz des Ethischen

Die Fundamentelethik Knud E. Løgstrups

Volume 62
2011. XIII, 362 pages.

ISBN 9783161509469
sewn paper 89,00 €

The ethics of Knud E. Løgstrup (1905–1981), the Danish theologian and philosopher, are among the most important ethical approaches of the 20th century. In the manner of H. Jonas and E. Lévinas, his universalistic justification of ethics is embedded in the horizon of the phenomenology of Husserl and Heidegger. Johann-Christian Pöder explains the basic elements of Løgstrup's ethical thinking and shows that Løgstrup assumes that there is evidence of the ethical which constitutes humankind's relationship to himself and the world. For him, the ethical is part of the ethical-ontological structure of human beings as homo moralis. From a theological perspective, this is the imperative and indicative presence of the creature-like destiny of human beings which is God's work. Løgstrup's ethics are an impressive and provocative invitation to take the irreducible alienness of the ethical experience seriously.

Passion and Passivity

Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2009

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Michael Ch. Rodgers

Volume 61
2011. VIII, 214 pages.

ISBN 9783161510250
sewn paper 59,00 €

The interplay between activity and passivity in religious practices in general and religious beliefs and emotions in particular is a central and controversial issue in philosophical, theological and psychological thought past and present. This conference volume is organized around Schleiermacher's central idea of the 'feeling of ultimate dependence' and Kierkegaard's existential analysis of the fundamental passivity of passion. Three studies elucidate important strands in the theological and philosophical background of these insights in Paul the Apostle, Luther, Melancthon, Hobbes and Spinoza. Three further studies look at concrete examples of affects, emotions, or passions in religious life such as anxiety, fear of God, wonder, and pathos of faith that move the debate in distinct ways beyond Schleiermacher and Kierkegaard. All contributions do not restrict what they say to historical analyses but aim at making a contribution to contemporary debates.

Contributors:

Ingolf U. Dalferth, C.J. Dickson, M. Jamie Ferreira, Arne Grøn, Teri Merrick, Michael Moxter, Cornelia Richter, Robert C. Roberts, Michael Rodgers, Amy M. Schmitter, Philipp Stoellger, Thandeka

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Ingolf U. Dalferth: Introduction – *Robert C. Roberts*: Emotions in the Epistemology of Paul the Apostle – *Cornelia Richter*: Melancthon on Affectivity – Performative Passion – *Amy M. Schmitter*: Natural Passions, Reason and Religious Emotion in Hobbes and Spinoza – *Michael Moxter*: Feeling and Symbolic Expression. Schleiermacher's Feeling of Ultimate Dependency Reconsidered – *Thandeka*: Neuopassion Plays: Schleiermacher and Affective Neuroscience – *C.J. Dickson*: Schleiermacher Through Wittgenstein – *M. Jamie Ferreira*: Passion, Passivity, and Imagination – *Arne Grøn*: Subjectivity, Passion and Passivity – *Michael Rodgers*: Anxiety and the Fear of God – *Teri Merrick*: Wonder as a Characteristically Religious Attitude – *Philipp Stoellger*: Passions' Performance. On the Effects of Affects

Berg, Stefan

Spielwerk

Orientierungshermeneutische Studien zum Verhältnis von Musik und Religion

Volume 60
2011. XVI, 464 pages.

ISBN 9783161509476
sewn paper 89,00 €

Music, in its apparent immateriality, is often elevated to a position of closeness to God, an honour not bestowed upon most other phenomena. The understanding of music hence provides important insights into the relationship between the understanding of the world and the understanding of God which in turn can clarify the relationship between music and religion from the point of view of the philosophy of religion. Using a hermeneutical method of orientation, Stefan Berg undertakes an analysis of the point where religion becomes relevant in the situation of music. In the ontological horizon of Augustine's *De musica*, religion and music fuse into the unity of the world. In J.-J. Rousseau's thinking, which is focussed on the individual subject, they meet each other as two separate entities. Over and above these two perspectives the situation of music presents itself as a *Spielwerk*, a specific hermeneutical situation of a musical game. B.A. Zimmermann's *Ekklesiastische Aktion* is used to show that here music and religion establish a transient relationship to each other, which always is concrete, and limited in time and space.

Brouwer, Christian

Schellings Freiheitsschrift

Studien zu ihrer Interpretation und ihrer Bedeutung für die theologische Diskussion



Volume 59
2011. XIV, 411 pages.
ISBN 9783161508110
sewn paper 94,00 €

Schelling's Treatise on Human Freedom (1809) is one of the most influential texts written in the period of German Idealism. Christian Brouwer interprets the treatise in relation to its contemporary philosophy as well as to philosophical and theological works on freedom. Reading the treatise, he elaborates Schelling's way of thought and speech that is appropriate to God and freedom precisely because of its vague expressions. The interpretation recognizes the metaphor as the adequate linguistic figure.

Schmidt, Jochen

Klage

Überlegungen zur Linderung reflexiven Leidens

Volume 58
2011. X, 222 pages.
ISBN 9783161507748
sewn paper 39,00 €

Lament is not a preliminary form of praising God, nor is suffering a noble form of happiness. Lament is lament, and suffering is suffering. Renouncing any rhetoric of an internal alteration of the negative, Jochen Schmidt describes lament as a human practice which due to its expressive potential opens up new possibilities of self-interpretation and can thus alleviate suffering. Against the backdrop of a phenomenological analysis of »reflective« individual suffering, this monograph proposes a theory of lament which draws upon phenomenology, literary aesthetics and systematic theology.

Interpreting Religion

The Significance of Friedrich Schleiermacher's 'Reden über die Religion' for Religious Studies and Theology

Ed. by Dietrich Korsch and Amber L. Griffioen

Volume 57
2011. XVI, 234 pages.
ISBN 9783161508530
sewn paper 74,00 €

The term *religion* is indispensable to the subject matter of both religious studies and theology. Many approaches attempt a reductive, essentialist, functionalist, or other type of unifying definition, but these approaches tend to rest on various, often controversial sets of presuppositions. Indeed, it seems impossible to overcome the vast plurality of understandings of *religion* as the academic fields that deal with religion splinter and proliferate, thereby inhibiting the rational treatment of a very important dimension of modern society. The present volume undertakes an intense interdisciplinary examination of a seminal modern text that religious scholars agree helped spawn religious studies and modern theology as we know it, namely Schleiermacher's *Reden über die Religion*, which lays out the most important and controversial themes under discussion by theologians and religious studies scholars: first, the significance of emotion for the understanding of religion; second, the role of imagination and religious utterances in religious belief; third, the importance of religion for the social world; and fourth, the political implications of religion.

Mit Beiträgen von:

Andreas Arndt, Thorsten Dietz, Andrew Dole, Thomas Erne, Volker Gerhardt, Wilhelm Gräb, Mathias Gutmann, Hans Joas, Jörg Lauster, Georg Northoff, Wayne Proudfoot, Thandeka, Theodore Vial

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and Politics – The Contribution of Schleiermacher's »Speeches on Religion« in an Ongoing Debate: A Discussion with Ted Vial's Paper

Erinnerung an das Humane

Beiträge zur phänomenologischen Anthropologie Hans Blumenbergs

Hrsg. v. Michael Moxter

Volume 56
2011. XXI, 339 pages.

ISBN 9783161506055
sewn paper 89,00 €

The Human's self-description of an *animal rationale* can no longer be taken for granted. A crisis in the concept of rationality, insights into the contingency of human life challenged by theories of evolution and a gradual diminishing of normative ideas of humanity transform the question »What is a human being?« into two other questions: »What has it been?« and »What will it have been?« Hans Blumenberg's phenomenological anthropology performs this work of remembrance by hinting at possibilities, which have not yet been realized. It is mainly Blumenberg's post-humously published works on phenomenology and anthropology, which show that his studies of metaphors and analogies, his phenomenology of history or his theory of modernity cherish the remembrance of the human in an entirely new way. This volume contains a selection of philosophical and theological articles, some of them in English.

Harter, Joel

Coleridge's Philosophy of Faith

Symbol, Allegory, and Hermeneutics

Volume 55
2011. X, 242 pages.

ISBN 9783161508349
sewn paper 74,00 €

Joel Harter reconstructs Samuel Taylor Coleridge's intellectual project as a philosophy of faith that anticipates modern philosophical hermeneutics, challenges reductive notions of reason and personhood, and illustrates the progressive potential of the biblical tradition. His central claim is that Coleridge's definition of the symbol is his attempt to reclaim an allegorical vision in response to modern alienation. The symbolic imagination affirms meaning through ongoing interpretation and informs Coleridge's various efforts in literature, philosophy, theology, and cultural criticism. Harter examines Coleridge's complex appropriation of Immanuel Kant and Friedrich Schelling, and clarifies the relationship of symbol to allegory and irony. Harter also responds to later postmodern challenges to meaning and transcendence. In a discussion that includes Paul Ricoeur, David Tracy, and modern theologies of symbol the author concludes that Coleridge's understanding of the symbol reconciles reason and revelation and that creative imagination is necessary for critical philosophy and theology.

Seinkönnen

Der Mensch zwischen Möglichkeit und Wirklichkeit

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth u. Andreas Hunziker

Volume 54
2011. XXI, 345 pages.

ISBN 9783161506345
sewn paper 89,00 €

»Animals live their lives; only human beings exist – between possibilities and actualities which do not converge.« This is neglected in contemporary neuro- or evolutionary-biological approaches which focus on the objective structures of human life in its factual actuality. How can we avoid this one-sided abstraction from the modalities of the life-word in which we exist? What is the difference between biological ability and anthropological possibility? And how is the elementary self-referentiality of human life related to the scope between possibility and actuality in which human beings exist? The aim of this volume is to enlarge our view of human beings by focusing on human possibilities from philosophical and theological perspectives. How does our view of human life change if we pay attention to the creative possibilities that continuously and in unforeseeable ways terminate old actualities and open up new possibilities?

Metaphysics, Analysis, and the Grammar of God

Process and Analytic Voices in Dialogue

Ed. by Randy Ramal

Volume 53
2010. X, 267 pages.

ISBN 9783161505867
sewn paper 74,00 €

This volume brings together both young and mature philosophers from the analytic and process traditions to dialogue on central questions in the areas of metaphysics, philosophy of religion, philosophical theology, and philosophy of language. The papers not only fill a massive gap in the intersections of interest between analytic and process scholars of religion but also demonstrate beyond any doubt that two traditions of process and analysis are integral to current philosophical movements and debates. The main questions discussed here include the nature of 'good' metaphysics, the application of modal discourse to the understanding of God's reality, God's epistemic nature, and the grammar of 'the world'. *With contributions by: Vincent Colapietro, Daniel A. Dombrowski, Roland Faber, Patrick N. Horn, James A. Keller, George R. Lucas, Jr., D. Z. Phillips, Randy Ramal, Jay W. Richards, Peter Simons, Charles Taliaferro, Donald W. Viney*

Trust, Sociality, Selfhood

Ed. by Arne Gron and Claudia Welz



Volume 52
2010. VIII, 232 pages.

ISBN 9783161505973
sewn paper 69,00 €

In what sense is trust basic for human (co-)existence, and in what sense can trust also show the limits of the social character of the self? How should the loss of trust figure in an account of trust? And how are freedom and transcendence implied in trust as relation, response, and openness? In addressing such questions, this book discusses how to understand trust, arguing for a multifaceted approach, which brings together perspectives from various philosophical traditions, from developmental psychology, sociology, ethics, and from theology. The authors of the essays collected here deal with the question of why and in what sense trust is basic for becoming oneself and for living together with others, with trust as a personal attitude, the connection between one's trust and the other's trustworthiness, and the relation between trust in the world and trust in persons. The authors investigate the distinction between trust and dis- or mistrust by describing the judgment inherent in these modes of orientation, and by comparing trust in humans with trust in God. Finally, the transformative potential inherent in trust is explored against the background of violations of trust. *With contributions by: Gry Ardal, Ingolf U. Dalferth, Günter Figal, Arne Grøn, Lars Hertzberg, Karen Jones, Burkhard Liebsch, Anne Marie Pahuus, Philippe Rochat, Anthony J. Steinbock, Philipp Stoellger, Claudia Welz*

Welz, Claudia

Vertrauen und Versuchung

Volume 51
2010. X, 290 pages.

ISBN 9783161503986
sewn paper 79,00 €

Claudia Welz explores the meaning and forms, the potential, the limits of trust as a phenomenon and a concept. She discusses biblical, poetical, theological and philosophical texts in the light of current interdisciplinary debates, focusing on trials that put trust to the test. Comparing religious approaches to trust (Luther, Kierkegaard, Rosenzweig, Levinas, Benyoëtz) with prominent approaches from developmental psychology (Erikson, Rochat), neuroscience (Kosfeld, Zak), sociology (Luhmann, Giddens), and philosophy (Kant, Husserl, Heidegger, Ricoeur, Løgstrup, Austin, Wittgenstein etc), she distinguishes between trustful faith in God, inter-human trust, and the everyday certainties on which we rely in orienting ourselves in our world.

Wabel, Thomas

Die nahe ferne Kirche

Studien zu einer protestantischen Ekklesiologie in kulturhermeneutischer Perspektive

Volume 50
2010. XVII, 570 pages.

ISBN 9783161503696
sewn paper 114,00 €

For the Protestant churches in Western Europe, the self-definition within and against a pluralistic environment is becoming increasingly difficult. In a situation of »believing without belonging« (G. Davie), the distinction between the inside and the outside is blurred. Based on the results of the latest decennial nation-wide survey done by the Protestant church in Germany (EKD), Thomas Wabel argues that the numerous forms of participation which characterize an open people's church (Volkskirche) are defined by mutual inclusion and exclusion. Ernst Cassirer's philosophy of culture and Bernhard Waldenfels' phenomenology provide the theoretical framework for developing the categories of identity and alterity, order and disruption, and the metaphor of the boundary that allows for the re-entry of what has been ruled out. The stabilizing element of criteria for membership and the destabilizing experience of transgressing existing boundaries are equally important for the church as an institution which is sensitive to an element of foreignness in the familiar.

The Contemplative Spirit

D.Z. Phillips on Religion and the Limits of Philosophy

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Hartmut von Sass

Volume 49
2010. XVI, 303 pages.

ISBN 9783161505058
sewn paper 74,00 €

To understand reality in terms of what is possible has methodological implications which a contemplative philosophy makes explicit. The goal is no longer to determine how things *are* or *must* be but rather to provide an overview of how they *could* be and the *diversity* with which they already appear. The function of philosophy is not the discovery of a single answer but rather a careful description of the diversity and the heterogeneity of possible answers in different contexts and practices. This approach, inspired by Wittgenstein, was applied to the philosophy of religion by Dewi Z. Phillips (1934–2006) in particular. This volume explores his contemplative philosophy of religion in an intense and lively discussion, showing how the description of religious faith and the access to its practice and language change unexpectedly and provocatively in this way of thinking.

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Possibilities of Religious Sense. True Belief and Superstition – *Ray Paul Bitar*: Contemplating Death and Evil: D.Z. Phillips and the Tragic Sense of Christian Faith – *Richard Amesbury*: Changing the Subject: Atheism, 'Friendly Fire', and Contemplative Philosophy

Zarnow, Christopher

Identität und Religion

Philosophische, soziologische, religionspsychologische und theologische Dimensionen des Identitätsbegriffs

Volume 48
2010. IX, 394 pages.

ISBN 9783161501425
sewn paper 79,00 €

The question of one's own identity is one of the basic questions of human experience. It arises in certain developmental stages of a person's life, in response to drastic changes or blows of fate, but also as an effect of the fragmentation of experiences into a myriad of roles which is typical of the modern age. Given the differentiation and diversification characterizing contemporary society, identity has become a widely discussed issue, and it is only natural that the topic of identity and that of religion overlap in various ways. The concept of religion can be defined in terms of processes of identity formation. However, questions of identity are themselves a topic of religious communication. In its symbols of creation, sin, salvation and consummation, material dogmatics deals with the entire spectrum of the religious reflection of the self.

von Sass, Hartmut

Sprachspiele des Glaubens

Eine Studie zur kontemplativen Religionsphilosophie von Dewi Z. Phillips mit ständiger Rücksicht auf Ludwig Wittgenstein

Volume 47
2010. XVI, 454 pages.

ISBN 9783161504600
sewn paper 104,00 €

A sketch of the current doctrine of God could take the following form: On the one side are those who maintain that statements about God refer to facts and that these facts have a »robust« ontological meaning beyond this world. On the other side are those who have taken leave of this concept and who trace the discourse on God back to the expression of an attitude, of a state of consciousness or of a feeling. In his work, the author transforms this supposedly complete either/or into a neither/nor. In a conversation with Wittgenstein and Dewi Z. Phillips' contemplative approach, Hartmut von Sass outlines an alternative beyond metaphysics and reduction which traces the discourse on God back to the place in which, in view of existential questions, it belongs: in the »language games of faith«.

Ebinger, Thomas

Verkehrte Freiheit?

Jean-Paul Sartres Freiheitslehre aus christlicher Sicht

Volume 46
2010. X, 201 pages.

ISBN 9783161503009
sewn paper 64,00 €

In 1943, Sartre provided the theoretical rationale for existentialism in the form of a doctrine of freedom in his work »Being and Nothingness.« Existentialism became extremely popular in the postwar period and has had a lasting influence on the everyday consciousness of many people up to the present time. Inspired by philosophers such as Bergson, Descartes, Husserl and Heidegger, he dared to develop a phenomenological ontology which was able to do without a Creator who laid the foundations for the freedom of human beings. Theology very soon contradicted Sartre's popular assertions and denounced him as a libertine atheist, but did not examine the theory behind these assertions. Thomas Ebinger provides a detailed analysis of the origins and the inner logic of Sartre's doctrine of freedom as well as a study of the phenomena he describes and shows that a Christian understanding of freedom can manage without the aporiae which Sartre was unable to solve.

Lane, Keith H.

Kierkegaard and the Concept of Religious Authorship

Volume 45
2010. VIII, 171 pages.

ISBN 9783161501203
sewn paper 64,00 €

Keith H. Lane examines Søren Kierkegaard's concept of religious authorship and argues for Kierkegaard's status as a religious author. He elucidates how such authorship may have similarities to philosophical authorship (particularly philosophy as envisioned by Ludwig Wittgenstein) and wherein the two differ. Starting with Kierkegaard's *Concluding Unscientific Postscript* and giving special attention to *The Point of View* and other later writings, Lane investigates aspects of thought and expression that may be unique to religious authorship and explores the particular constraints, challenges, and opportunities for one who writes from within a framework of religious belief and commitment-including such issues as protectionism, apologetics, persuasion, and the tension between certainty and uncertainty that attends religious authorship.

Der Eine oder der Andere

»Gott« in der klassischen deutschen Philosophie und im Denken der Gegenwart

Hrsg. v. Christoph Asmuth u. Kazimir Drilo

Volume 44
2010. VIII, 270 pages.

ISBN 9783161501128
sewn paper 74,00 €

During the past decades, there has been a renewed interest in religion in Europe, an interest which is no longer committed to one denomination or dogma. The political and social events and the new problems which have challenged the Western world in the past few years (religiously motivated violence, the universal application of human rights, peaceful coexistence of cultures) and the newly awakened need for spiritual experiences beyond the established religions and their dogmas show the timeliness of the philosophical preoccupation with God and religion. The articles in this book originated at an international conference in March 2007 in Berlin organized by Christoph Asmuth and Kazimir Drilo.

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Kazimir Drilo: Einleitung – *Christoph Binkelman*: Enthusiasmus und Skepsis. Das europäische Pendel – *Burkhard Nonnenmacher*: Kants Postulatenlehre als Prüfstein für Heideggers »These der neuzeitlichen Ontologie«? – *Günter Zöller*: Ex aliquo nihil. Fichtes Anti-Kreationismus – *Kai U. Gregor*: Eine Kritik innerhalb der Grenzen der Vernunft. Wilhelm Weischedels Grundlegungsversuch einer Philosophischen Theologie im Zeitalter des Nihilismus und ein Gedanke Fichtes – *Marco Rampazzo Bazzan*: Die Staatslehre Fichtes unter dem Aspekt der politischen Theologie nach Carl Schmitt – *Cristiana Senigaglia*: Die Spur der Andersheit: Fichte und Levinas – *Detlev Pätzold*: Hegels Philosophie der Religion: Die Stellung der Religion zwischen Kunst und Philosophie – *Arthur Kok*: Absoluter Geist und Schöpfung, Jan Hollaks neothomistische Hegelkritik – *Kazimir Drilo*: Kritik des religiösen Bewusstseins. Falk Wagners theologische Interpretation von Hegels »Wissenschaft der Logik« – *Jakub Kloc-Konkolowicz*: »Der Mensch lebt in zwei Welten [...]«. Religion und Staat in Hegels Ansicht und in der heutigen Debatte – *Elena Ficara*: Der ontologische Gottesbeweis bei Hegel und in der analytischen Philosophie – *Robert Marszalek*: Die Gegenwart der Religionslehre des mittleren Schelling – *Mildred Galland-Szymkowiak*: Philosophie und Religion bei K.W.F. Solger. Ein Beitrag zur nachkantischen Frage nach dem Prinzip der Philosophie – *Patrick Grüneberg*: Der transzendente Gott – *Wibke Rogge*: Emmanuel Lévinas: Über die Beziehung des Unendlichen zum Seienden als Gemeinschaft in der Trennung – *Ansgar Lyssy*: Darwin, Gott und Neurotheologie. Was können uns die Biowissenschaften über die Religion sagen?

Ley, Friedrich

Arnold Gehlens Begriff der Religion

Ritual – Institution – Subjektivität

Volume 43
2009. XIII, 484 pages.

ISBN 9783161501692
sewn paper 104,00 €

Arnold Gehlen, probably the most prominent but also the most controversial representative of German postwar sociology, left behind an extremely multifaceted and wide-ranging body of work. His major works include studies of anthropology and the theory of institutions, social psychology and ethics as well as a sociology and aesthetics of modern painting. He did not however have a cohesive theory of religion. Nevertheless, it has been noticed, and even specifically stated, that virtually all of his writings refer to the phenomenon of religion. Friedrich Ley studies Arnold Gehlen's cultural anthropology as it pertains to the theory of religion. Identifying those themes which deal with the theory of religion does however require a precise reconstruction of the individual ranges of the theory. Thus this study also gives a complete portrayal of the author's works.

The Presence and Absence of God

Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2008

Ed. by Ingolf U. Dalferth

Volume 42
2009. VIII, 236 pages.

ISBN 9783161502057
sewn paper 59,00 €

Safeguarding the distinction between God and world has always been a basic interest of negative theology. But sometimes it has overemphasized divine transcendence in a way that made it difficult to account for the sense of God's present activity and experienced actuality. Criticisms of the Western metaphysics of presence have made this even more difficult to conceive. On the other hand, there has been a widespread attempt in recent years to base all theology on (religious) experience; the Christian church celebrates God's presence in its central sacraments of baptism and Eucharist; process thought has reconceptualized God's presence in panentheistic terms; and some have argued that God might be poly-present, not omnipresent.

But what does it mean to say that God is present or absent? For Jews, Christians, and Muslims alike God is not an inference, an absentee entity of which we can detect only faint traces in our world. On the contrary, God is present reality, indeed the most present of all realities. However, belief in God's presence cannot ignore the widespread experience of God's absence. Moreover, there is little sense in speaking of God's absence if it cannot be distinguished from God's non-presence or non-existence. So how are we to understand the sense of divine presence and absence in religious and everyday life? This is what the essays in this volume explore in the biblical traditions, in Jewish and Christian theology and philosophy, and in contemporary philosophy of religion.

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Ingolf U. Dalferth: God, Time, and Orientation. 'Presence' and 'Absence' in Religious and Everyday Discourse
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Leah Rediger Schulte/Tammi J. Schneider: The Absence of the Deity in Rape Scenes of the Hebrew Bible – *Kristin De Troyer/Leah Rediger Schulte*: Is God absent or present in the Book of Esther? An Old Problem Revisited. – *Stefan Alkier*: Ways of Presence and Modes of Absence in the Gospel of Luke – or: How Scripture Works

II Jewish Theology and Philosophy

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Der Gott der Vernunft

Protestantismus und vernünftiger Gottesgedanke

Hrsg. v. Jörg Lauster u. Bernd Oberdorfer

Volume 41
2009. XIII, 346 pages.

ISBN 9783161502026
sewn paper 89,00 €

According to a current prejudice, the »God of reason« does not have a home in Protestantism. On the basis of model studies on the connection between biblical, Platonic and Aristotelian themes in the development of the Christian concept of God in late antiquity, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, the authors of this volume show that the reformers did not at all flatly dismiss the rationality of faith. The articles focus on the modern transformations of the concept of God in the 18th and 19th centuries. The volume, a collection of case studies of the history of the problem of the Christian concept of God, concludes with prominent syntheses of revelation and reason in the 20th century.

Seibert, Christoph

Religion im Denken von William James

Eine Interpretation seiner Philosophie

Volume 40
2009. XII, 427 pages.

ISBN 9783161500220
sewn paper 104,00 €

William James (1842–1910) was one of the founders of the philosophy of pragmatism. Christoph Seibert deals with his philosophy of religion and interprets it within the context of his psychology, radical empiricism and theory of truth. The central idea behind the interpretation is the development of James' thinking as a struggle for an adequate understanding of the concrete conditions and challenges of human actions. It is the author's theory that this is expressed very succinctly in the way he deals with the phenomenon of religion. In the course of his study, the author shows how inappropriate it is to classify James' philosophy as subjectivist, antimetaphysical or constructivist and describes clearly the inherent problems and the potential of his position in the modern discourse on the philosophy of religion.

Glöckner, Dorothea

Das Versprechen

Studien zur Verbindlichkeit menschlichen Sagens in Soren Kierkegaards Werk *Die Taten der Liebe*

Volume 39
2009. XI, 236 pages.

ISBN 9783161499661
sewn paper 74,00 €

Works of Love, Kierkegaard's ethical main work, contains numerous reflections on language and human speech. Dorothea Glöckner deals with Kierkegaard's confrontation between human and Christian linguistic usage and seeks justificatory models for the reliability of human communication. Referring to Hannah Arendt's determination of the relationship between speech and action, she shows the parallel approaches in Kierkegaard's and Arendt's ethical mode of thinking, since both of them regarded equality, how to address one's neighbor as well as an optimistic attitude towards the future as decisive criteria for reliability in speech. In analyzing the works of Hans Lipps, Hannah Arendt and Paul Ricœur, the author studies the promise as an example of the extent to which these criteria can be applied.

Unmöglichkeiten

Zur Phänomenologie und Hermeneutik eines modalen Grenzbegriffs

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth, Philipp Stoellger u. Andreas Hunziker

Volume 38
2009. XIII, 362 pages.

ISBN 9783161499425
sewn paper 89,00 €

The impossible is the modal companion to everything that is necessary, possible and real and thus it is the boundary concept for everything which appears in everyday life, in the sciences and in religion as reality, possibility or necessity. The objective of the studies presented here is the explicit contemplation of this generally non-topical boundary concept of modal phenomenological constellations. What are possibilities if they cannot be understood as distinct from reality and dissociated from the impossible? The studies in this volume deal with these issues from the perspective of phenomenology and science and the humanities on the one hand and hermeneutics, religion and theology on the other hand.

Survey of contents



Ingolf U. Dalferth: Vorwort: Unmöglichkeit als modaler Grenzbezug

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Bernhard Waldenfels: Spielräume des Möglichen und Überschüsse des Unmöglichen – *Dieter Mersch*: Chiasmen. Über den unbestimmten Zwischenraum. – *Christian Strub*: 'Zwischen' Welt und Sprache: Unmögliche Orte. – *Hendrik J. Adriaanse*: Utopien, kategoriales Nichts, mögliche dicke Männer und andere Undinge – *Burkhard Liebsch*: Leidenschaft des Unmöglichen? Anti-politische Bemerkungen mit Blick auf Kierkegaard und Derrida – *Michael Hamppe*: Über die Notwendigkeit der Annahme unmöglich realisierbarer Ideale – *Gerd Folkers*: Vom Schattenwurf der Moleküle. Eine 'hochauflösende Betrachtung' zum Thema: 'Vom Darstellen des Undenkbaren – Paradoxie und Metapher'

II Hermeneutik und Religion

Emil Angehrn: Diesseits und jenseits des Sinns: Macht und Ohnmacht der Sprache – *Matthias Jung*: 'Leaving it implicit' – Zur anthropologischen Prägnanz von Unbestimmtheit – *Thomas Rentsch*: Unmöglichkeit und lebensweltliche Sinnkonstitution. Aspekte einer negativen Existentialpragmatik – *Hans J. Schneider*: Das Unmögliche, das Undenkbare, das Unsagbare: Schritte zum Wunderbaren? – *Jean-Luc Marion*: Das dem Menschen Unmögliche -Gott – *Günter Bader*: Adynaton und A-Adynaton – *Stephan Schaede*: Repräsentative Eeseleien vor und nach Buridan. Unmöglichkeiten im Blick auf Entscheidungsapriorien theologisch gesichtet – *Tom Kleffmann*: Paradoxien ewigen Lebens – *Rainer Marten*: Wahre Hoffnungen? Eine Frage an Hermeneutik und Religion

Word – Gift – Being

Justification – Economy – Ontology

Ed. by Bo K. Holm and Peter Widmann

Volume 37
2009. IX, 215 pages.

ISBN 9783161499418
sewn paper 64,00 €

Focusing on the relationship between justification, gift-economy and ontology, this volume addresses fundamental issues in contemporary Reformation theology with an impact on the understanding of creation theology, human passivity/activity, self-giving, the concept of excess, and generosity. This volume brings the discussion of the role of studies in exchanging gifts into a Lutheran context, offering necessary clarifications on Lutheran thinking and Lutheran perspectives on existing discussions in other traditions. With its focus on gift-economy and ontology, this volume provides new perspectives on the core of Lutheran theology and identifies the crucial issues.

The volume contains English and German studies.

With contributions by:

Oswald Bayer, Ingolf U. Dalferth, Risto Saarinen, Bo Kristian Holm, Niels Henrik Gregersen, Christine Pöder, Peter Widmann

Höfner, Markus

Sinn, Symbol, Religion

Theorie des Zeichens und Phänomenologie der Religion bei Ernst Cassirer und Martin Heidegger

Volume 36
2008. XI, 406 pages.

ISBN 9783161497544
sewn paper 94,00 €

Markus Höfner analyzes Ernst Cassirer's and Martin Heidegger's phenomenology of religion with regard to their theory of signs. Focusing on the time before the Davos disputation in 1929, he emphasizes the neo-Kantian background of Cassirer and Heidegger. The author explains how their two opposite approaches can be seen as different answers to common problems. Against this backdrop, Cassirer's phenomenology of religion is analyzed as a part of his philosophy of culture and contrasted with the approach of a phenomenology of religion which Heidegger develops in his early Freiburg lectures. By using this method, the author develops a critical dialogue between the two approaches, a dialogue which provides new perspectives for the contemporary philosophy of religion.

This work was awarded the John Templeton Award for Theological Promise 2009.

Gott Nennen

Gottes Namen und Gott als Name

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth u. Philipp Stoellger

Volume 35
2008. VIII, 326 pages.

ISBN 9783161497926
sewn paper 79,00 €

Deus definiri nequit, God cannot be defined, is seen as a rule of language and of thought in theology. Deus nominari nequit however does not apply. God has to be called by his name, since otherwise he would remain unsaid, and nothing would be more inappropriate. But which name to use, and how to use it, and what happens when using it, has always been a point of contention. This volume contains articles written from the perspective of exegetics and religious studies. Against this backdrop, the authors deal with the Septuagint, the New Testament and the Christological concentration on the question of the name. Based on this compact concentration, they then explore the prospective areas in which the name of God can presently be understood and used responsibly. These studies take us from negative theology to the relationship between trinity and tetragram and up to the infinity of the name with the goal of naming God and not letting him remain nameless, since the name of God is the basic phenomenon of Christian theology – and of any Christian theology which wants to remain one.

Survey of contents

Ingolf U. Dalferth und Philipp Stoellger: Einleitung: Die Namen Gottes, 'Gott' als Name und der Name Gottes

I Gottesnamen

Christoph Uehlinger: Arbeit an altorientalischen Gottesnamen. Theonomastik im Spannungsfeld von Sprache, Schrift und Textpragmatik – *Friedhelm Hartenstein:* Die Geschichte JHWHs im Spiegel seiner Namen – *Erhard Blum:* Der vermeintliche Gottesname 'Elohim' – *Albert de Pury:* Wie und wann wurde 'der Gott' zu 'Gott'? – *Kristin de Troyer:* The Pronunciation of the Names of God. With Some Notes Regarding *nomina sacra* – *Samuel Vollenweider:* 'Der Name, der über jedem anderen Namen ist'. Jesus als Träger des Gottesnamens im Neuen Testament

II Gott Nennen

Lieven Boeve: Negative Theology and Theological Hermeneutics: The Particularity of Naming God – *Heinrich Assel:* Eliminiertes Name. Unendlichkeit Gottes zwischen Trinität und Tetragramm – *Philipp Stoellger:* 'Im Namen Gottes'. Der Name als Figur des Dritten zwischen Metapher und Begriff – *Günter Bader:* Das Unendlichkleine des Namens

Religion and the End of Metaphysics

Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2006

Ed. by Dewi Z. Phillips and Mario von der Ruhr

Volume 34
2008. VIII, 171 pages.

ISBN 9783161497582
sewn paper 54,00 €

The authors of this volume present a detailed philosophico-theological discussion of the relation between religion and metaphysics. If thinkers like Richard Rorty and Kai Nielsen are right to insist that metaphysical speculation must be abandoned for good, then what are the prospects for religion? Is belief in an omnipotent God not inextricably linked with belief in a metaphysical ground of all being? Indeed, can one even speak intelligibly about causal or moral necessity without invoking the notion of a transcendent reality? On the other hand, is the concept of metaphysics not as multi-faceted as the modes of religious discourse themselves? The contributors approach these questions from their own distinctive (philosophical and theological) perspectives, in the process disentangling some of the complex conceptual issues surrounding religion and metaphysics.

Survey of contents

Dewi Z. Phillips †: Acknowledgments – *Dewi Z. Phillips †:* Introduction. Can There Be a Marriage Between Religion and Metaphysics? *Dewi Z. Phillips †:* Wittgenstein, Religion, and 'First Philosophy' – Voices in Discussion (*Patrick N. Horn*) – *David Cockbuh:* Wittgenstein. The End of Metaphysics? – Voices in Discussion (*Dewi Z. Phillips †*) – *John Haldane:* Metaphysics and Transcendence – Voices in Discussion (*Dewi Z. Phillips †*) – *G. Scott Davis:* Method and Metaphysics – Voices in Discussion (*Dewi Z. Phillips †*) – *Stephen T. Davis:* Belief and Unbelief. A Metaphysical Choice? – Voices in Discussion (*Dewi Z. Phillips †*) – *Schubert M. Ogden:* Theology Without Metaphysics? – Voices in Discussion (*Dewi Z. Phillips †*)

Kühnlein, Michael

Religion als Quelle des Selbst

Zur Vernunft- und Freiheitskritik von Charles Taylor

Volume 33
2008. XI, 298 pages.

ISBN 9783161496899
sewn paper 79,00 €

Michael Kühnlein deals with the religious background and motives of Taylor's social philosophy and his philosophy of freedom. In doing so, his main objective is to prove that the primacy of the good over the right, advocated by Taylor in an ethical context, cannot be separated from the theological implications of the transcendental concept of self-affirmation. Taylor outlines an understanding of freedom which derives its self being from the conditions of its realization. It is in this sense that Taylor describes the rise of modernism as a process that causes further delays in self-fulfilment.

Hunziker, Andreas

Das Wagnis des Gewöhnlichen

Ein Versuch über den Glauben im Gespräch mit Ludwig Wittgenstein und Stanley Cavell

Volume 32
2008. IX, 333 pages.

ISBN 9783161495915
sewn paper 89,00 €

Is Christian faith possible without metaphysics? Is the idea of a non-metaphysical philosophy of religion or theology not contradictory in itself? In conversation with Wittgenstein's and Stanley Cavell's thinking, which is critical of metaphysics, Andreas Hunziker searches for a theology of the ordinary, which perceives the life of faith neither as »something which is behind nature and which makes it possible« nor as a skeptical denial of this metaphysical escapism. Its function is therapeutic, and consists of working through our metaphysical fantasies which keep us from seeing what it means to live *in the midst of ordinary life*. Christian faith is thus shown to be a way of recovering the ordinary, the turning from the *actual* ordinary to the *possible* ordinary.

Krüger, Malte Dominik

Göttliche Freiheit

Die Trinitätslehre in Schellings Spätphilosophie

Volume 31
2008. X, 342 pages.

ISBN 9783161495335
sewn paper 89,00 €

German idealism is of considerable significance for the current renaissance of the doctrine of the Trinity. Thus it is surprising that the Trinity doctrine in F.W.J. Schelling's late philosophy has been studied very little up to now. One of the reasons for this is that Schelling's most significant work on this subject, »Urfassung der Philosophie der Offenbarung.« was not published until 1992. Malte Dominik Krüger studies and interprets this »Urfassung« in its entirety for the first time. In doing so, he portrays Schelling's entire concept in the way Schelling himself intended it: Schelling's late philosophy is on the whole a Trinity doctrine which combines theological tradition and philosophical reflection. This means that it is of interest from both an ecumenical and a philosophical perspective.

Welz, Claudia

Love's Transcendence and the Problem of Theodicy

Volume 30
2008. XX, 437 pages.

ISBN 9783161495618
sewn paper 104,00 €

Since the problem of theodicy concerns all dimensions of human existence and cannot be reduced to a logical problem of consistency, it cannot be resolved by means of a theodicy, a rational defense of God before the tribunal of human reason. But how can we deal with 'the wound of negativity?' Claudia Welz explores responses that do not end up in a theodicy. Instead of asking about the origin and sense (or non-sense) of evil and suffering, she considers God's (non)phenomenality, the dialectics of God's givenness and hiddenness. Neither God nor evil is given 'as such;' rather, God and evil are determined *for* someone as something within specific contexts of experience. How does God appear in human life, and how is his phenomenal presence or non-presence related to the ambiguities of our lives? In the center of the book, Kierkegaard's and Rosenzweig's answers, their reasons for having *no* reason to defend God and their ethics of love are discussed 'between' German idealism and French phenomenology. Both of them follow Kant's practical turn of the problem of theodicy, oppose Hegel's theodicy through history and anticipate Levinas' idea to look for the traces of God's transcendence in human movements of self-transcendence. Moreover, they have remarkable contributions to the current debates on 'metaphysics of presence' and 'onto-theology.' In dialogue with Levinas, the *presence* of God's love is in question, in dialogue with Derrida God's presence as a *gift*, and in dialogue with Marion the gift of God's presence as a so-called 'saturated' self-giving *phenomenon*. In conclusion to these discussions, theology is developed as semiotic phenomenology of the Invisible.

Bonhoeffer's Intellectual Formation

Theology and Philosophy in His Thought

Ed. by Peter Frick

Volume 29
2008. XIII, 342 pages.

ISBN 9783161495359
sewn paper 79,00 €

In spite of the plethora of Bonhoeffer studies there is a large lacuna regarding studies that have addressed Bonhoeffer's intellectual grounding in a thorough, comprehensive and methodical manner. Scholarly attention to this important subject matter has indeed been scarce. However, without an attempt to examine, trace, and weigh these influences in Bonhoeffer's theological formation it is hardly possible to gain a comprehensive and complete understanding of his thought. In the studies, the different authors seek to address the decisive questions and issues in this regard. As such, the essays collected in this volume have the one focal point and common scope in the thought of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. In each of the essays, the authors discuss one or two philosophers or theologians and demonstrate how specific ideas penetrated and shaped Bonhoeffer's intellectual formation. These various studies converge on the thought of Bonhoeffer as a whole in such a way as to illuminate the growth and maturation of his own intellect vis-à-vis the philosophical and theological ideas articulated in the thinkers discussed in the essays. Put differently, the objective of the essays is to open up the intellectual window of Bonhoeffer's thought, as it were, and thereby allow more light to fall on the structure, extension and formation of that thought.

Survey of contents

Barry Harvey: Augustine and Thomas Aquinas in the Theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer – *Peter Frick:* The Imitatio Christi of Thomas à Kempis and Dietrich Bonhoeffer – *Wolf Krötke:* Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Martin Luther – *Wayne Floyd:* Encounter with an Other: Immanuel Kant and G.W.F. Hegel in the Theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer – *Christiane Tietz:* Friedrich Schleiermacher and Dietrich Bonhoeffer – *Geffrey Kelly:* Kierkegaard as »Antidote« and as Impact on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Concept of Christian Discipleship – *Ralf Wüstenberg:* The Influence of Wilhelm Dilthey on Bonhoeffer's Letters and Papers from Prison – *Peter Frick:* Friedrich Nietzsche's Aphorisms and Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Theology – *Martin Rumscheidt:* The Significance of Adolf von Harnack and Reinhold Seeberg for Dietrich Bonhoeffer – *Peter Frick:* Rudolf Bultmann, Paul Tillich and Dietrich Bonhoeffer – *Andreas Pangritz:* Dietrich Bonhoeffer: »Within, not Outside the Barthian Movement« – *Josiah Young:* Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Reinhold Niebuhr: Their Ethics, Views on Karl Barth and African-Americans – *Stephen Plant:* »In the Sphere of the Familiar:« Heidegger and Bonhoeffer

Mitleid

Konkretionen eines strittigen Konzepts

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth u. Andreas Hunziker unter Mitarb. v. Andrea Anker

Volume 28
2007. XXV, 376 pages.

ISBN 9783161494307
sewn paper 89,00 €

Is compassion an emotion or a virtue? What characterizes a Christian understanding of compassion? What is its relationship to the Passion of Christ, to mercy and to the love for one's fellow human beings? The authors of this volume examine these issues from the perspective of cultural studies, philosophy and theology. In discussion with the Aristotelian definition of compassion, biblical traditions such as the story of the Good Samaritan and the views of Luther, Nietzsche, Bonhoeffer, Nussbaum, Murdoch, Roberts and Winch, among others, they attempt to delineate the complex landscape of the manifold uses of a controversial concept.

Survey of contents

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Ingolf U. Dalferth/Andreas Hunziker: Einleitung. Aspekte des Problemkomplexes Mitleid – *Eberhard Herrmann*: Emotions as Part of Making Reality – *Rebekka A. Klein*: Die Phänomenalität von Mitgefühl im Rahmen der Emotionstechnologie der Sozialen Neurowissenschaften – *Johannes Fischer*: Menschenwürde, Rationalität und Gefühl – *Johannes Corrodi*: Compassion Democratized. A Study in Secular Faith – *Stephen Leighton*: On Pity and Its Appropriateness – *Robert C. Roberts*: Compassion as an Emotion and Virtue – *Christoph Ammann*: Wer sagt, was 'christliches Mitgefühl' ist? Einige Bemerkungen im Gespräch mit Robert C. Roberts' Compassion as an Emotion and Virtue – *Hartmut von Sass*: Spontane Reaktionen und menschliches Mitleid. Über die Allgemeinheit und Verschiedenheit unseres Handelns im Gespräch mit Peter Winch – *Mariette Willemssen*: Impersonal Love Iris Murdoch and the Concept of Compassion – *Dirk Evers*: The Other as Neighbor. Theological Considerations – *Karin Scheiber*: Vergebung und Erbarmen – *Andrea Anker*: Am Leiden Gottes teilnehmen? Eine kritische Auseinandersetzung mit dem Thema Mitleiden in Bonhoeffers Briefen aus der Haft – *Christoph Strebel*: 'Mitleid' aus gestalttheoretischer Perspektive – *Philipp Stoellger*: »Und als er ihn sah, jammerte es ihn« Zur Performanz von Pathoszenen am Beispiel des Mitleids – *Simon Peng-Keller*: Christliche Passionsmeditation als Schule der 'Compassion'? – *Rebekka A. Klein*: Mitleiden und Predigt. Emotion und Rhetorik

Hermeneutik der Religion

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth u. Philipp Stoellger

Volume 27
2007. VIII, 295 pages.

ISBN 9783161493164
sewn paper 74,00 €

Hermeneutics and religion are closely related. It was, after all, religion which brought hermeneutics into existence. This was neither a useless invention, nor was it selfless, since religion needs hermeneutics in order to explain itself. In a world with many and often conflicting religions, hermeneutics becomes especially necessary, not only in order to enable each religion to understand itself but also in order to understand the other religions and those aspects which are unfamiliar. In the essays contained in this work, the authors question whether or not this applies the other way round as well, i.e. whether hermeneutics is also dependent on religion. Is it not possible that hermeneutics is as much in need of religion as religion is in need of hermeneutics?

Survey of contents

Ingolf U. Dalferth und *Philipp Stoellger*: Einleitung: Religion zwischen Selbstverständlichkeit, Unselbstverständlichkeit und Unverständlichkeit – *Hendrik J. Adriaanse*: Das Religionsthema in Husserls Phänomenologie – *Dieter Mersch*: Die Frage der Alterität. Chiasmus, Differenz und die Wendung des Bezugs – *Philipp Stoellger*: Vom Nichtverstehen aus. Abgründe und Anfangsgründe einer Hermeneutik der Religion – *Ben Vedder*: Eine Interpretation der Gegebenheit – *Pierre Bühler*: Kommunikationspragmatik als Zugang zur Hermeneutik der Religion – am Beispiel Kierkegaards – *Jürgen Hädrich*: Wie Religion funktioniert. Grundzüge einer Religionshermeneutik bei Ernst Cassirer – *Hubert Knoblauch*: Transzendenzerfahrung, Kommunikation und populäre Religion – *Klaas Huizinga*: Gestische Kommunikation. Theologie als Gesten- und Medienwissenschaft – eine Annäherung an Aby Warburg und Co. – *Günter Thomas*: Die Multimedialität religiöser Kommunikation. Theoretische Unterscheidungen, historische Präferenzen und theologische Fragen – *Wilhelm Gräb*: Massenmedien – Religion – Hermeneutik – *Thomas Erne*: Phänomenologie des Rhetorischen und gelebte Religion. Perspektiven für die Praktische Theologie – *Werner Stegmaier*: Religion als Stärkung der Moral? Eine Fallstudie zur Irak-Krise 2003

Corrodi Katzenstein, Johannes

God and Passion in Kierkegaard's Climacus

Volume 26
2007. VIII, 251 pages.

ISBN 9783161491955
sewn paper 69,00 €

Johannes Corrodi Katzenstein offers a contribution to the current debate on Kierkegaard, mostly concerning the rationality of religious belief and the presumed religious neutrality (»autonomy«) of philosophical and scientific thought. More specifically, his book is an attempt to relate Kierkegaard's theory of the »stages of life« (aesthetic, ethical, religious) to issues that have been of utmost concern to Anglo-American (analytical) philosophy, such as the nature of truth, rational knowledge, objectivity, etc. From this angle, Kierkegaard turns out to be not the irrationalist he has often been made into but rather the outspoken witness of a passion that guides all thinking, i.e. the passion to think what cannot be thought. An attempt is made to show that for Kierkegaard, anticipating some of the arguments of contemporary postsecular philosophy, the ideal of »pure« or autonomous reason inevitably has its basis in a pre-rational, often tacit commitment to an origin whose primary home is in religious faith. Rather than precluding dialogue, awareness of these deeper forces and starting-points of our various philosophical and scientific outlooks is a critical requirement for mutual understanding between secularist and religious perspectives and traditions competing for cultural and political dominance.

Subjectivity and Transcendence

Ed. by Arne Gron, Iben Damgaard and Soren Overgaard

Volume 25
2007. VIII, 255 pages.

ISBN 9783161492600
sewn paper 74,00 €

Modern philosophy begins with Descartes' discovery of an apparently indubitable realm of *subjectivity*. The Cartesian approach confronts philosophy with the problem of *transcendence*: At the same time as we appear to have secured an immanent realm of subjectivity, it becomes a problem how we can establish the existence of something outside this realm. What could possibly force – or even motivate – a subject, in possession of itself, to recognize a God, a world, or a peer outside itself? Thus, Descartes' philosophical legacy is a problem rather than a solution: the problem of subjectivity and transcendence. How is it possible to combine a post-Cartesian emphasis on subjectivity with a strong conception of transcendence? What notions of *subjectivity and transcendence* will we have to commit ourselves to? Despite the fact that the problem is central to modern philosophy and theology, no single volume has so far been dedicated to the problem of subjectivity and transcendence. This volume thus fills an important gap. The 12 chapters address the problem of subjectivity and transcendence from a variety of different perspectives: historical, philosophical, theological, and psychopathological.

Contents:

Arne Grøn and Søren Overgaard: Introduction – *Arne Grøn*: Subjectivity and Transcendence: Problems and Perspectives – *Ingolf U. Dalferth*: Beyond Understanding? Transcending Our Limits and the Limits of Our Transcending – *Josef Parnas*: Subjectivity in Schizophrenia: The Minimal Self is too Small – *Merold Westphal*: Intentionality and Transcendence – *Søren Overgaard*: In Defense of Subjectivity: Husserl, Levinas, and the Problem of Solipsism – *Henrik Vase Frandsen*: Transcendence of the Appeal – Sovereignty of the Subject – *Dan Zahavi*: Subjectivity and Immanence in Michel Henry – *Claudia Welz*: The Presence of the Transcendent – Transcending the Present? Kierkegaard and Levinas on Subjectivity and the Ambiguity of God's Transcendence – *Iben Damgaard*: Passion for the Possible: A Kierkegaardian Approach to Subjectivity and Transcendence – *George Pattison*: Desire, Decreation and Unknowing in the God-Relationship: Mystical Theology and its Transformation in Kierkegaard, Simone Weil and Dostoevsky – *Caspar Wenzel Tornøe*: God and the Demiurge: Subjectivity and Transcendence from a Theological Perspective – *Saskia Wendel*: The Emergence of Transcendence in Self-Consciousness: Towards a Rehabilitation of a Transcendental Position of Philosophy of Religion

Pecina, Björn

Fichtes Gott

Vom Sinn der Freiheit zur Liebe des Seins

Volume 24
2007. XIV, 410 pages.

ISBN 9783161490149
sewn paper 104,00 €

Björn Pecina reconstructs Fichte's philosophy of religion in its evolution from a practical self-consciousness to the theory of love and affects, which he developed late in life. He shows that the early conception of the ego and of freedom is maintained in the mature philosophy of religion in »The Way Towards the Blessed Life« and that it can be deduced from its fundamental principles. Fichte's ontology and his theory of affects thus proves to be the reason for transcendentalism. The author enlarges upon Fichte's philosophy in the strained relationship between the patterns of interpretation developed in a theory of meaning in religious self-consciousness and an ontology which is centered around the absolute as being and love. He thus pleads for a philosophical theology which is always nurtured by the interpretational process of the religious subject but which knows that these interpretations are at the same time a part of absolute being.

Kritik der Religion

Zur Aktualität einer unerledigten philosophischen und theologischen Aufgabe

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth u. Hans-Peter Großhans

Volume 23
2006. X, 420 pages.

ISBN 9783161490262
sewn paper 89,00 €

Present-day experiences with religion are ambivalent. The critique of religion in the modern age has to a large extent become religion's critique of the modern age. While it is true that a wholesale critique of religion hardly receives any response nowadays, what still matters is the development of differentiating arguments for dealing critically with religions and the religious practice of individuals and communities. The contributors to this volume of 18 essays discuss various approaches from the fields of philosophy, psychoanalysis and theology. Their goal is to establish criteria for doing a critical examination and evaluation of religion and the practice of religion in order to determine what is better and worse, acceptable and unacceptable about them.

Survey of contents

Mit Beiträgen von:

Josef Simon, Jan Rohls, Malte D. Krüger, Jure Zovko, Elisabeth Heinrich, Heiko Schulz, Arne Grøn, Brigitte Boothe, Douglas Hedley, Folkart Wittekind, Christiane Tietz, Christian Danz, Tom Kleffmann, Reiner Wimmer, Christoph Türcke, Matthias Petzoldt, Patrick Horn, Dewi Z. Phillips, Tilman Beyrich

New Perspectives on Martin Buber

Ed. by Michael Zank

Volume 22
2006. VIII, 280 pages.

ISBN 9783161489983
sewn paper 64,00 €

This volume brings a range of perspectives to bear on the writings and thought of Martin Buber (1878–1965). The contributing authors include renowned Buber specialists who take a new look at Buber's legacy, as well as younger scholars who work in a variety of academic disciplines and contexts, including biblical studies, religious studies, philosophy, intellectual history, sociology, the study of education, and Jewish thought. By relating the legacy of Buber to their respective area of research, they are able to articulate what they find of enduring relevance in Buber's thought and writings. The purpose is to explore new perspectives on Buber and on themes and issues on which he had something to say that continues to engage us. The sixteen essays are grouped in six parts, roughly proceeding in the chronological order of Buber's work, reflecting shifts in his preoccupation and changes in his orientation. The larger themes also represent different approaches to, and perspectives on, Buber's writings in general, including critical retrospectives on his philosophy of dialogue, his political utopianism, and his approach to Hasidism.

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Contributors:

Martina Urban, Michael Zank, Asher D. Biemann, Zachary J. Braiterman, Jules Simon, Leora Batnitzky, Andrea Poma, Ilaria Bertone, Gesine Palmer, Yossef Schwartz, Paul Mendes-Flohr, Judith Buber Agassi, Joseph Agassi, Micha Brumlik, Steven T. Katz

Scheiber, Karin

Vergebung

Eine systematisch-theologische Untersuchung

Volume 21
2006. XII, 332 pages.

ISBN 9783161488931
sewn paper 74,00 €

What is forgiveness? Is God entitled to forgive the injuries a person inflicts upon another human being? Can God forgive at all? What does it mean to say that God forgives *sins*? Is human repentance a prerequisite for God's forgiveness? What is the church's role concerning the forgiving of sins? Does contemporary moral theory offer a morally viable account of human forgiveness? Which are the constitutive conditions of forgiveness? Is 'unconditional forgiveness' a tenable ideal of Christian forgiveness? How is forgiveness to be distinguished from related concepts such as reconciliation, condonation, or excuse? Are we morally obliged to grant forgiveness if asked? What is the relation between divine and human forgiveness? In critically dealing with these and further questions Karin Scheiber develops an analytically coherent and novel account of divine and human forgiveness.

Evers, Dirk

Gott und mögliche Welten

Studien zur Logik theologischer Aussagen über das Mögliche

Volume 20
2006. XII, 438 pages.

ISBN 9783161488856
sewn paper 94,00 €

Following an introduction into Leibniz and his model metaphysics of possible worlds, Dirk Evers deals with the concepts of possibility and necessity in modern modal logic. The discussion on quantified modal predicate logic proves to be central to the objectives of the analytical philosophies of religion. By studying the semantics of W.V. Quine, D. Lewis, S. Kripke, A. Plantinga and others, the author identifies those concepts, options and problems which are crucial for any theory of the possible with reference to God. The last part of the book deals with these questions from a theological perspective.

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1. Kapitel: Leibniz' mögliche Welten

- A. Leibniz' Modalbegriffe
- B. Mögliche Welten
- C. Gott, der Schöpfer
- D. Das Geschöpf
- E. Die Theodizee und das *fatum christianum*
- F. Ergebnis

2. Kapitel: Modale Logiken

- A. Die Entwicklung der Modallogik
- B. Die Diskussion um die Modallogik und ihre Semantik
- C. Modallogik und Metaphysik: Ein Fazit

3. Kapitel: Gott und mögliche Welten

- A. Gottesbegriff und Modalitäten
- B. Welten und Individuen
- C. Glaube und Vertrauen
- D. Glaube und Möglichkeit: Zusammenfassender Rückblick

Meuffels, Otmar

Gott erfahren

Theologisch-philosophische Bausteine zur Gotteslehre

Volume 19
2006. XII, 269 pages.

ISBN 9783161488948
sewn paper 59,00 €

Otmar Meuffels asks how religious human beings can experience God in a responsible manner today without falling victim to naive concepts of God. Modern theology must be prepared to face postmodern philosophies. Thus the question of how it is possible to experience God as reality and not only as a projection or a model of thought. The possibility of experiencing reality and God requires a perspective for communication and interpretation, a perspective which provides important interlocutors (Brandom, Gadamer, Ricoeur) for a critical theology. The author combines the results with examples from the Old Testament. Due to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the New Testament reveals a changed perspective for experience and interpretation. Biblical experiences and experiences with Easter have to be put into present-day terms by making use of crucial experiences in our time.

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1. Kapitel: Gotteserfahrung und Rede von Gott in der Gegenwart ein Problemaufriss
 - § 1 Die Gottesrede des Menschen in Geschichte und Gegenwart
 - § 2 Die Situation der Postmoderne
 - § 3. Der Neuaufbruch der Postmoderne als theologische Chance
2. Kapitel: Gotteserfahrung als Möglichkeit des Menschen heute – theologische Überlegungen auf philosophischem Hintergrund
 - § 1 Die Möglichkeit einer Wirklichkeits- und Gotteserfahrung
 - § 2 Die Fähigkeit der Erfahrung
 - § 3 Die Bedeutung der Kommunikation
 - § 4 Die Notwendigkeit der Interpretation
3. Kapitel: Der Gott der Bibel
 - § 1 Alttestamentliche Vorgaben
 - § 2 Christologische Neubestimmung
4. Kapitel: Gott als Geheimnis erfahrbarer Liebe
 - § 1 Die Verantwortbarkeit christlicher Gotteserfahrung
 - § 2 Dimensionen christlicher Gotteserfahrung

Krisen der Subjektivität

Problemfelder eines strittigen Paradigmas

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth u. Philipp Stoellger

Volume 18
2005. XXXI, 668 pages.

ISBN 9783161487736
sewn paper 99,00 €

For more than 350 years, subjectivity has been at the center of philosophical and theological discussions, and opinions on this differ considerably. The subjectivity paradigm is the shibboleth of a modern theology for some; for others the concentration on subjectivity is a dead end for modern theology. Both of these exaggerations are unfounded. The contributors to this volume attempt to clarify what is under discussion here and why. This is not possible without being confronted with the crises of subjectivity, which accompany the subjectivity paradigm as its shadow.

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Mit Beiträgen von:

Sergio Sorrentino – Matthias Neugebauer – Thomas Wabel – Hans-Peter Großhans – Werner Stegmaier – Georg Lämmlin – Markus Mühling-Schlapkohl – Michael Welker – Christian Danz – Cornelia Richter – Wilhelm Lütterfelds – Carla Danani – Emil Angehrn – Doris Hiller – Pierre Bühler – Philipp Stoellger – Arne Grøn – Heinrich Assel – Friedrich Lohmann – Gonsalv K. Mainberger – Matthias Petzoldt – Markus Enders – Michael Zichy – Roderich Barth – Brigitte Boothe – Matthias Heesch – Wolfgang Vögele – Günter Thomas

Scientific Explanation and Religious Belief

Science and Religion in Philosophical and Public Discourse

Ed. by Michael G. Parker and Thomas M. Schmidt

Volume 17
2005. VIII, 189 pages.

ISBN 9783161487118
sewn paper 39,00 €

The science-and-religion dialogue has now become an established part of the wider cultural debate about the respective roles of science and religion within democratic societies. Typically, science has usually been identified with the sphere of reason, fact and explanation, whereas religion has been located within the realm of experience, value and interpretation. But religions also prescribe beliefs and support these with metaphysical accounts of the self, world and God. Such belief systems are both identity-forming and comprehensive. But the pluralism of world-views within modern liberal democracies and methodological naturalism in the sciences would seem to require believers to suspend these deeply-held beliefs when engaged in public discourse or scientific inquiry. This raises a number of interesting philosophical and practical issues which this volume seeks to address. As a reflection on the matrix of science, religion and politics, this volume constitutes a major contribution to an important, but neglected topic. This book will open up new lines of research and communication not only among philosophers, scientists and theologians, but for all those interested in the larger cultural conversation about the relationship

between science and religion.

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Introduction

Philip Clayton: The Contemporary Science and Religion Discussion: A Transformation of Religious Knowledge Claims, or a Futile Quest for Legitimation? – *Roger Trigg*: Religion in the Public Sphere – *Thomas M. Schmidt*: The Contemporary Science and Religion Debate: Metaphysical or Political? – *Wesley J. Wildman*: The Resilience of Religion in Secular Social Environments: A Pragmatic Philosophical Analysis – *Christoph Jäger*: Warrant, Defeaters, and the Epistemic Basis of Religious Belief – *Nancey Murphy*: Is Theology Possible at the End of Modernity? – *Franz von Kutschera*: Scientism and Theism – *Delvin Ratzsch*: Intelligent Design: What Does the History of Science Really Tell Us? – *Ulrich Kutschera*: Intelligent Design Creationism versus Modern Biology: No Middle Way – *D. Z. Phillips*: Historical Versus Structural Understanding and the Fate of Transcendental Optimism

Freiheit und Menschenwürde

Studien zum Beitrag des Protestantismus

Hrsg. v. Jörg Dierken u. Arnulf von Scheliha

Volume 16
2005. VI, 337 pages.

ISBN 9783161487699
sewn paper 74,00 €

Freedom and human dignity are important concepts in the modern age. The achievements of modern history are embodied in them, but also a reminder of the problems involved in attaining them and the knowledge of their limitations. Protestantism was always aware of the religious dimension of living in freedom. It did however resist social and political freedom for a long time, although there were significant similarities between Martin Luther's *The Freedom of a Christian* and modern theories of freedom. The authors of this volume analyze, from an historical and systematic standpoint, the contributions which Protestantism has made to the interpretation of the concepts of freedom and human dignity.

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I. Freiheit als protestantische Leitkategorie

Martin Ohst

Reformatorisches Freiheitsverständnis. Mittelalterliche Wurzeln, Hauptinhalte, Probleme

Notger Slenczka

Der Freiheitsgehalt des Glaubensbegriffs als Zentrum protestantischer Dogmatik

Magnus Schlette

Zwang und Freiheit der Erzählung. Johann Arndts Frömmigkeitstheologie als Quelle narrativer Individuierung in der Moderne

Anton Knuth

Der Protestantismus als Religion der gläubigen Freiheit. Der Beitrag Kurt Leeses (1887–1965) zur modernen Christentumstheorie

Jörg Dierken

Freiheit als religiöse Leitkategorie. Protestantische Denkformen zwischen Luther und Kant

Folkart Wittekind

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Matthias Jung

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II. Menschenwürde als Auslegung von Freiheit *Christian Schwarke*

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Arnulf von Scheliha

»Menschenwürde« – Konkurrent oder Realisator der Christlichen Freiheit? Theologiegeschichtliche Perspektiven

Wolfgang Vögele

Menschenwürde und Gottebenbildlichkeit

Joachim Scholtyseck

Individuelle Freiheit als Leitmotiv? Religiöse Aspekte der Widerstandsbewegung im »Dritten Reich«

Christoph Enders

Freiheit als Prinzip rechtlicher Ordnung – nach dem Grundgesetz und im Verhältnis zwischen den Staaten



Huxel, Kirsten

Ontologie des seelischen Lebens

Ein Beitrag zur theologischen Anthropologie im Anschluß an Hume, Kant, Schleiermacher und Dilthey

Volume 15
2004. XI, 444 pages.

ISBN 9783161485244
sewn paper 94,00 €

One of the main concerns of Christian theology is to call attention to those experiences of faith which are related to the innermost part of a human being. This is the »place« which the traditional professions of faith addressed as the »soul« or the »heart« of a human being. The criticism of psychology, which started with the philosophy of the Enlightenment and which took a theological turn in the 20th century, has up to the present prevented theology from developing an ontology of spiritual life. Subsequent to a critical reconstruction of Hume's, Kant's Schleiermacher's and Dilthey's systems of thought, Kirsten Huxel outlines such an ontology.

Wahrheit in Perspektiven

Probleme einer offenen Konstellation

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth u. Philipp Stoellger

Volume 14
2004. VIII, 410 pages.

ISBN 9783161482861
sewn paper 79,00 €

In the history of philosophical and theological thinking, there has scarcely been a subject which has aroused as much interest as the subject of truth, and scarcely a subject has remained as much in need of clarification as that of the truth of perspectives and perspectives of truth. Based on the history of the problem of perspectivity, from the origination of the central perspective, its decline in the modern age up to the present plurality of perspectives, the authors of the articles in this volume look into the dispute about the truth. Their objective is to ascertain how truth functions in various contexts and in practice, beyond the common distinctions between the concept of truth, the theories of truth and the criteria of truth, in order to avoid the aporia of a sweeping skepticism about truth as well as that of a mere emphasis on truth.

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Vorwort

Ingolf U. Dalferth und Philipp Stoellger: Perspektive und Wahrheit. Einleitende Hinweise auf eine klärungsbedürftige Problemgeschichte I. Wahrheit in semantischer Perspektive

Jan Rohls: Korrespondenz, Konsens und Kohärenz. Pragmatische und analytische Wahrheitstheorien – Armin Kreiner: Wahrheit und Perspektivität religiöser Rede von Gott – Lorenz B. Puntel: »Wahrheit« als semantisch-ontologischer Grundbegriff – D. Hugh Mellor: Wahrmacher

II. Wahrheit in pragmatischer Perspektive

Josef Simon: Horizonte der Wahrheit bei Kant – Alois Rust: Wo Wahrheit zum Problem wird – Eberhard Hermann: Wir Menschen, Wahrheit und Wirklichkeit – Matthias Jung: Wahrheit und Überzeugtsein aus den Perspektiven der ersten und dritten Person – Ingolf U. Dalferth: Religion und Wahrheit

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Barth, Roderich

Absolute Wahrheit und endliches Wahrheitsbewußtsein

Das Verhältnis von logischem und theologischem Wahrheitsbegriff – Thomas von Aquin, Kant, Fichte und Frege

Volume 13
2004. XI, 430 pages.

ISBN 9783161481802
sewn paper 89,00 €

Since the recent discussion about the conception of truth has not needed a theological or a metaphysical basis, Roderich Barth examines the possibility of reconsidering the idea of God as the eternal truth. The four studies in this book focus on the relationship between the concept of truth in the fields of theology and the theory of judgment. In his works, Thomas Aquinas shows the paradigm of a synthesis of both theory traditions, whereas in Kants critical revised version of the concept of truth in the theory of judgment he claims that in the theory of consciousness the truth is finite. Frege puts this concept of truth into a logical, semantic theoretical form which is crucial for the modern age. However the crisis pertaining to the concept of truth does allow a critical reformulation of the idea of an absolute truth, a reformulation which the author explains after dealing with the transformation of this same concept from the perspective of the theory of certainty in Fichtes works.

Deuser, Hermann

Gottesinstinkt

Semiotische Religionstheorie und Pragmatismus

Volume 12
2004. X, 352 pages.

ISBN 9783161483554
sewn paper 59,00 €

Due to the subjectivization of modern philosophy and its separation of nature and mind, it seems unusual to think of 'God' and 'instinct' in one context. It is mainly the history of the reception of Kant's transcendental philosophy which led to abstractions and distances in relation to natural religiosity. On behalf of *American philosophy*, pragmatism and semiotics, Hermann Deuser opposes this tradition. He argues in favor of a rediscovery of God's 'reality' and calls for the development of a theory of religion which is in keeping with the times. The consequence of this would be that the philosophy of religion and theology could discover common productive models of thought which could promote the dialog among religions and also serve to strengthen individual religiosity.

Herrmann, Eberhard

Religion, Reality, and a Good Life

A Philosophical Approach to Religion

Volume 11
2004. IX, 221 pages.

ISBN 9783161483752
sewn paper 59,00 €

In this book, Eberhard Herrmann deals with the problem of realism, which is one of the central issues in the philosophy of religion. Do we as human beings have access to a reality in itself, assuming that such an idea makes sense, or only to reality as it is conceptualized by us? The author rejects the approaches of metaphysical realism and of postmodern relativism. In their place, he develops and presents an alternative approach called pragmatic realism, which embodies two main lines of thought, the first being that reality is always reality as we conceptualize it, the second being that this does not rule out objectivity. In the case of a good life, that is to say a fulfilling life, a notion of objectivity is presented on the basis of certain reflections about how conceptualized reality can be said to offer us resistance in certain respects.

Survey of contents

I. The aim of the book and the nature of the problem

The nature of the enquiry – The philosophical problem formulated – Religion and philosophy – Philosophy

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Reasons for and against metaphysical realism – Critique of semantic realism – Pragmatic realism: realism from an internal perspective

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V. Views of life and a fulfilling life

Perspectives on views of life – The role of the emotions in our conception of reality – Emotions and the conceptualization of values

Religious Apologetics – Philosophical Argumentation

Ed. by Yossef Schwartz and Volkhard Krech

Volume 10
2004. X, 574 pages.

ISBN 9783161483103
sewn paper 89,00 €

Whereas apologetics has often been associated with negative connotations, it is dealt with in this volume as a form of narrative self-assertion as well as a form of critical self-reflection and as an individual and a collective need to justify oneself using religious and philosophical methods. The essays focus not only on the religious aspect in self-definition but also on the structure and the assertion of one's identity as a comprehensive self-creating act of »lifting oneself into a state of consciousness«. This volume shows how the boundaries and the transition between religious apologetics and philosophical argumentation are fading and indicates that they will have to be redefined in individual cases. It also combines historical and contemporary case studies from Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Bahr, Petra

Darstellung des Undarstellbaren

Religionstheoretische Studien zum Darstellungsbegriff bei A.G. Baumgarten und I. Kant

Volume 9
2004. IX, 332 pages.

ISBN 9783161481796
sewn paper 79,00 €

How can something which is absolutely unrepresentable be represented for the senses? In her studies of historical semantics of the concept of representation between 1750 and 1800, Petra Bahr shows that in the fields of aesthetics and religious theory this was a central question in the 18th century. From the perspective of the philosophy of religion, the significance of Baumgartens *Aesthetica* and Kants *Critique of Judgment*, two works which as a rule are perceived as competing philosophies of art, has been reconstructed here in such a manner that Kants lasting reference to Baumgartens insights remains visible even in his overcoming of them. The discussion concerning the role of the productive power of imagination and the redefinition of the understanding of symbols functions as a link between the two philosophers.

Subjektivität im Kontext

Erkundungen im Gespräch mit Dieter Henrich

Hrsg. v. Dietrich Korsch u. Jörg Dierken

Volume 8
2004. X, 240 pages.

ISBN 9783161482076
sewn paper 59,00 €

Subjectivity is not a fact; it refers to a rule of hermeneutic procedure on how to connect self-interpretation and self-justification with one another. This is why the explanatory power of the philosophical paradigm of subjectivity has to prove itself to be especially worthwhile in different contexts of our lifeworld, i.e. in religion, law and medicine. In a dialog with Dieter Henrich, the authors of the articles in this volume examine the paradigm of subjectivity.

Survey of contents

Arbogast Schmitt: Individualität in der Antike – von Homer bis Aristoteles – *Walter Sparr*: Fromme Seele, wahre Empfindung und ihre Aufklärung. Eine historische Anfrage an das Paradigma der Subjektivität – *Wilhelm Lütterfelds*: Das Andere seiner selbst. Fortsetzung einer Intention Dieter Henrichs zum Programm der rationalen Rekonstruktion Hegelscher Dialektik – *Dietrich Korsch*: Tat und Grund des Bewußtseins. Variationen des Subjektivitätsparadigmas – *Jörg Dierken*: »Bewußtes Leben« und Freiheit. Zum Zusammenhang von Subjektivität und Metaphysik – *Wilhelm Gräß*: Lebenskulturen von Selbstdeutungen. Religion und Kunst – *Michael Murrmann-Kahl*: Subjekt(ivi)tät und / oder System? Systemtheoretische Perspektiven auf ein »alteuropäisches« Thema – *Horst Folkers*: Subjektivität und Menschenrechte – *Thomas Fuchs*: Das Andere in mir. Selbst und psychische Krankheit – *Ulrich Barth*: »Letzte Gedanken«. Ihr epistemischer Status in Religion und Philosophie – *Dieter Henrich*: Religion und Philosophie – letzte Gedanken – Lebenssinn. Drei Versuche, auf Rückfragen von Ulrich Barth zu antworten

Richter, Cornelia

Die Religion in der Sprache der Kultur

Schleiermacher und Cassirer – Kulturphilosophische Symmetrien und Divergenzen

Volume 7
2004. X, 325 pages.

ISBN 9783161481604
sewn paper 74,00 €

Religion in cultural philosophy is a subject often connected with the names of Friedrich Schleiermacher and Ernst Cassirer. However up to now no attempt has been made to read them together. Cornelia Richter analyzes their common background in transcendental philosophy and presents the systematic symmetries and differences between their cultural philosophies, focusing on the status and function of religion. She deals in particular with Schleiermacher's *Dialectics* and *Ethics* and Cassirer's *Philosophy of Symbolic Forms*.

Schleiermachers Dialektik

Die Liebe zum Wissen in Philosophie und Theologie

Hrsg. v. Christine Helmer, Christiane Kranich u. Birgit Rehme-Iffert

Volume 6
2003. X, 324 pages.

ISBN 9783161479892
sewn paper 74,00 €

Schleiermacher's Dialectic offers a model for today that combines the pluralistic search for knowledge with knowledge as a regulative idea. Based on these two elements, an innovative concept of knowledge is developed, informed by the reciprocal relation between epistemological and ontological factors. In this volume, Schleiermacher's model for the 'love of knowledge' sets the stage for a dialogue between philosophy and theology.

Survey of contents

Die Liebe zum Wissen

Manfred Frank: Identität, Korrespondenz und Urteil. Fragen an Schleiermachers Dialektik – *Eilert Herms*: Philosophie und Theologie im Horizont des reflektierten Selbstbewußtseins

Begriff und Urteil 1: Erkenntnistheorie

Christine Helmer: Schleiermachers exegetische Theologie. Urteilsbildung und Korrespondenz in der neutestamentlichen Wissenschaft – *Terrence N. Tice*: Schleiermacher's Use of Philosophical Mindedness in Theology – *Eilert Herms*: Schleiermachers Verständnis der exegetischen Theologie. Zugleich eine Studie über die Einheit von historischer und systematischer Theologie sowie über die Einheit von Glauben und Wissen – *Christian Berner*: Das Werden des Wissens. Zur Aufgabe des Denkens in Schleiermachers Dialektik

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Andreas Arndt: Die Metaphysik der Dialektik – *Denis Thouard*: Gefühl und Urteil in Schleiermachers Dialektik – *Hans-Peter Großhans*: Denken und Wirklichkeit. Zu den ontologischen Bedingungen von Begriff und Urteil in theologischer Perspektive

Wahrheit und Sprache 1: Erkenntnistheorie

Jan Rohls: Wahrheit, Dialog und Sprache in Schleiermachers Dialektik – *Federico Vercellone*: Bemerkungen über Gott, Welt und Wissen in Schleiermachers Dialektik – *Andrew Bowie*: Schleiermacher, Habermas, and Rorty

Wahrheit und Sprache 2: Ontologie

Shin-Hann Choi: Selbstbewusstsein, Subjektivität und Intersubjektivität – *Ralf Stroh*: Dialektik, Ethik und Ontologie. Überlegungen zur Funktion des »Darstellenden Handelns« für Dialektik und Ethik – *Christiane Kranich*: Selbstbewusstsein: Nähe zum und Mangel an Sein – *Birgit Rehme-Iffert*: Wahrheit und Wissen in der Dialektik Schleiermachers



Reece, Gregory L.

Irony and Religious Belief

Volume 5
2002. VIII, 175 pages.

ISBN 9783161477799
sewn paper 34,00 €

The concept of irony is difficult to pin down, difficult to capture. This book is a critical examination of how Søren Kierkegaard and the pragmatist Richard Rorty approach the complex subject of irony. Gregory L. Reece traces the development of the philosophical concept of irony from Socrates to Hegel, Schlegel, Kierkegaard and Rorty, while addressing the very question that is central for both Kierkegaard and Rorty, the question of the relationship of ironic philosophy to an ironic life. Must ironic philosophy result in what Kierkegaard calls infinite, absolute negativity or in what Rorty describes as doubt and meta-stability? Gregory L. Reece argues that the answer is no, and that the belief that it must is based on an important philosophical mistake which in different forms is committed by both the early Kierkegaard and by Rorty. The insights of these philosophers, as well as those developed by Wittgenstein, are used to develop the beginning of an ironic philosophy of religion. Specifically, this work follows Kierkegaard and pursues these questions with special concern for the relation of ironic philosophy to religious belief.

Ashdown, Lance

Anonymous Sceptics

Swinburne, Hick, and Alston

Volume 3
2002. X, 286 pages.

ISBN 9783161476792
sewn paper 69,00 €

At its deepest, philosophical skepticism questions the sense of language. Skepticism manifests itself in different forms, three of the most powerful being logical, external-world, and religious skepticism. How has philosophy of religion addressed these challenges? The attempt to answer this question leads Lance Ashdown to a consideration of three prominent contemporary philosophers of religion: Richard Swinburne, John Hick, and William Alston. The author shows that these philosophers are indeed open to the criticisms of the three types of skepticism mentioned above. According to Ashdown, they are rightly to be considered as 'anonymous skeptics'. Readers familiar with the work of the theologian Karl Rahner will recognize an echo of his famous doctrine that non-Christian religious believers are really 'anonymous Christians', i.e., Christian believers who do not recognize themselves as such. In a similar way, the philosophers of religion under consideration are skeptics who most certainly would not identify themselves as such. They are anonymous skeptics in the sense that their epistemologies create the very conditions that allow for the severe and, on their own terms, unanswerable challenges of skepticism. At the same time, none of these philosophers thinks that skeptical objections pose a devastating or unanswerable threat to their epistemologies. For example, each of them is an avowed believer in God and is fully aware of the challenge of religious skepticism, yet none believes that skepticism need cause a rational Christian to abandon his or her beliefs. Nevertheless, each of the three philosophers adheres to a philosophical theory that remains open to the devastating critique of Philo in David Hume's essay »Dialogue Concerning Natural Religion« – who argues at his deepest that talk of God is meaningless.

Vernunft, Kontingenz und Gott

Konstellationen eines offenen Problems

Hrsg. v. Ingolf U. Dalferth u. Philipp Stoellger

Volume 1
2000. X, 422 pages.

ISBN 9783161473654
sewn paper 59,00 €

Contingency confounds reason. If reason tries to reduce contingency, it will come up against its limitations. God on the other hand is more familiar with contingency, since contingency originates with him. If one thinks through the relationship between God and contingency, reason will also discover its contingency. Using modern approaches as examples, the authors of this work investigate the history of this unsolved problem.

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