

R-21.-347-(5)

THE HISTORY OF
WESTERN PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

VOLUME 1: ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

VOLUME 2: MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

VOLUME 3: EARLY MODERN PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

VOLUME 4: NINETEENTH-CENTURY PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

VOLUME 5: TWENTIETH-CENTURY PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

THE HISTORY OF
WESTERN PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

Edited by Graham Oppy and Nick Trakakis



VOLUME 5

TWENTIETH-CENTURY
PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

ACUMEN

© Editorial matter and selection, 2009 Graham Oppy and Nick Trakakis.
Individual contributions, the contributors.

This book is copyright under the Berne Convention.
No reproduction without permission.
All rights reserved.

First published in 2009 by Acumen

Acumen Publishing Limited
4 Saddler Street
Durham
DH1 3NP
www.acumenpublishing.co.uk

ISBN: 978-1-84465-181-8 (5 volume set)

ISBN: 978-1-84465-224-2 (Volume 5)

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data
A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

Typeset in Minion Pro.
Printed and bound in the UK by MPG Books Group.

CONTENTS

<i>Editorial Introduction</i>	vii
<i>Contributors</i>	xi
1. Twentieth-Century Philosophy of Religion: An Introduction CHARLES TALIAFERRO	1
2. William James RICHARD M. GALE	13
3. Henri Bergson JOHN MULLARKEY	27
4. John Dewey STEVEN C. ROCKEFELLER	39
5. Alfred North Whitehead and Charles Hartshorne LEWIS S. FORD	53
6. Bertrand Russell A. C. GRAYLING	69
7. Max Scheler QUENTIN SMITH	79
8. Martin Buber TAMRA WRIGHT	91
9. Jacques Maritain PETER A. REDPATH	105
10. Karl Jaspers KURT SALAMUN	119
11. Paul Tillich WILLIAM L. ROWE	133

CONTENTS

12. Karl Barth PAUL DAFYDD JONES	145
13. Ludwig Wittgenstein GENIA SCHOENBAUMSFELD	161
14. Martin Heidegger LAURENCE PAUL HEMMING	175
15. Emmanuel Levinas JEFFREY L. KOSKY	187
16. Simone Weil STEPHEN PLANT	199
17. A. J. Ayer GRAHAM MACDONALD	211
18. William P. Alston DANIEL HOWARD-SNYDER	221
19. John Hick PAUL BADHAM	233
20. Mary Daly ANNE-MARIE KORTE	245
21. Jacques Derrida KEVIN HART	259
22. Alvin Plantinga JAMES F. SENNETT	271
23. Richard Swinburne BRUCE LANGTRY	285
24. Late-Twentieth-Century Atheism GRAHAM OPPY AND NICK TRAKAKIS	301
<i>Chronology</i>	313
<i>Bibliography</i>	321
<i>Index</i>	337

EDITORIAL INTRODUCTION

Bertrand Russell's *History of Western Philosophy* (1946; hereafter *History*) provides a model for *some* of the significant features of the present work. Like Russell's more general history, our history of Western philosophy of religion consists principally of chapters devoted to the works of individual thinkers, selected because of their "considerable importance". Of course, we do not claim to have provided coverage of all of those who have made important contributions to Western philosophy of religion. However, we think that anyone who has made a significant contribution to Western philosophy of religion has either seriously engaged with the works of philosophers who are featured in this work, or has produced work that has been a focus of serious engagement for philosophers who are featured in this work.

Like Russell, we have aimed for contributions that show how the philosophy of religion developed by a given thinker is related to that thinker's life, and that trace out connections between the views developed by a given philosopher and the views of their predecessors, contemporaries and successors. While our primary aim is to provide an account of the ideas, concepts, claims and arguments developed by each of the philosophers under consideration, we think – with Russell – that this aim is unlikely to be achieved in a work in which "each philosopher appears as in a vacuum".

Again like Russell, we have only selected philosophers or religious writers who belong to, or have exerted a significant impact on, the intellectual tradition of the West (i.e. western Europe and the Anglo-American world). We realize that this selection criterion alone excludes from our work a number of important thinkers and religious groups or traditions, such as: Asian philosophers of religion, particularly those representing such religions as Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism; African philosophers of religion; and individuals, texts and traditions emanating from indigenous religions, such as those found in the native populations of Australia and the Pacific Islands. Clearly, the non-Western world has produced thinkers who have made important, and often overlooked, contributions