

THE DESCENT OF GOD

Divine Suffering in History and Theology



JOSEPH M. HALLMAN

The Descent Of God Divine Suffering In History And Theology

Richard Norton



The Descent Of God Divine Suffering In History And Theology:

The Descent of God Joseph M. Hallman, 2004-01-20 This is a fascinating study which confirms that there is as much support in the Fathers as in heterodox sources though different for the idea of a suffering God Louis Dupre Yale University Joseph Hallman here makes a significant contribution to the perennial theological dilemma how can an unchanging God relate to a changing world The author displays a mastery of the patristic sources as well as familiarity with contemporary philosophical approaches to the issue The Greek philosophical assumption of the immutability of God has retained a profound influence on Christian thought until modern times despite the attempts of patristic writers to harmonize the Incarnation with God's immutability Hallman suggests that the most promising resolution to this dilemma comes to us in the work of Whitehead Carl A Volz Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary Hallman's book is unusual and timely Hallman is a systematic thinker not a historian yet he has taken the time to read the early Christian sources attentively and his conclusions are surprising and provocative In a sense this book is a theological version of candid camera it sets forth those things that early Christian thinkers are not supposed to have said In an age in which historians of Christian thought ignore contemporary thinkers and systematic theologians act as though Christian thought began with the Enlightenment *The Descent of God* is a challenge to both brands of obscurantism Robert L Wilken University of Virginia [Asceticism and Christological Controversy in Fifth-Century Palestine](#) Cornelia B. Horn, 2006-03-09 *The Life of Peter the Iberian* by John Rufus records the ascetic struggle of a fifth century anti Chalcedonian bishop of Mayyuma Palestine Cornelia Horn presents a historical critical study of the only substantial anti Chalcedonian witness to the history of the conflict in Palestine and analyses the formative period of fifth century anti Chalcedonian hierarchy theology and its ascetic expression Important themes are pilgrimage as an ascetic ideal and asceticism as source of theological authority Archaeological data on many places in the Levant and textual sources in Syriac Coptic Greek Armenian and Georgian are examined This book contributes to our understanding of the origins of anti Chalcedonian theology and the influence of asceticism on its development the Christian topography of the Levant and the history of the anti Chalcedonian movement in Palestine *Abraham Heschel and the Phenomenon of Piety* Joseph Harp Britton, 2013-10-24 Piety is often regarded with a pejorative bias a pious person is thought to be overly religious supercilious even Yet historically the concept of piety has played an important role in Christian theology and practice For Abraham Heschel piety describes the contours of a life compatible with God's presence While much has been made of Heschel's concept of pathos relatively little attention has been given to the pivotal role of piety in his thought with the result that the larger methodological implications of his work for both Jewish and Christian theology have been overlooked Grounding Heschel's work in Husserl Dilthey Schiller and Heidegger the book explores his phenomenological method of penetrating the consciousness of the pious person in order to perceive the divine reality behind it The book goes on to consider the significance of Heschel's methodology in view of the theocentric ethics of Gustafson and

Hauerwas and the post modern context reflected in the works of Levinas Vattimo Marion and the Radical Orthodoxy movement

Does God Suffer? Thomas Weinandy O.F.M.,2000-02-15 The immense suffering caused by sin and evil within the modern world especially in the light of the Holocaust has had a profound impact on the contemporary understanding of God and his relationship to human suffering Since the early part of this century there has been a growing consensus among theologians that God himself within his divine nature suffers in solidarity and love with those who suffer This present theological position contradicts the traditional Christian understanding of almost two thousand years that God is impassible and so does not experience negative emotional states such as suffering Thomas Weinandy O F M resolutely challenges this contemporary view of God and suffering Calling upon scripture and the philosophical and theological tradition of the Fathers and Aquinas Weinandy creatively and systematically addresses all of the contemporary concerns He strongly advocates the incarnational truth that the Son of God actually does experience as man all that pertains to living an authentic human life and so does indeed suffer This book is both a challenge to much received contemporary philosophical and theological wisdom and a scholarly original and refreshing account of the Christian Gospel It is one of the most comprehensive Christian presentations of God and human suffering available today

The Revelation of the Glory Frans Jozef van Beeck,1993 In Volume Two 2 catholic theology treats some of the great Western attempts at reflecting on the nature of God it also takes on modern Western religiosity both as it professes belief in God and as it has settled for various forms of atheism But more importantly the book discovers and rediscovers the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob of Moses and the prophets the God of Jesus Christ Frans Jozef van Beeck born in the Netherlands in1930 a Jesuit since 1948 and a priest since 1963 has lived and learned and taught in the United States since 1968 He is a senior professor of theology at Loyola University Chicago

Julian of Norwich and the Problem of Evil Richard Norton,2023-10-26 Julian of Norwich s Revelations of Divine Love grapples with the same fundamental question that has vexed philosophers and theologians since the advent of monotheistic religion and continues as a barrier to belief for many today Namely if God is so good how can natural disaster genocide trauma and my present suffering occur Historically there have been two apparently very different approaches to the problem the pastoral or practical on the one hand and the systematic on the other However Richard Norton suggests that these two lines of thought may not be as separate as they seem and may indeed be dependent on one another for their cohesion Drawing on Julian s medieval experience of personal and population wide suffering alongside that of more recent theologians such as Dorothy Solle and Jurgen Moltmann Norton constructs a compassionate model of theodicy that can be of use to both pastoral and systematic theologians Throughout he remains sensitive to the raw atrocity of evil while preserving a vision of God as the one who ensures that all shall be well

The God Who Risks John Sanders,2009-09-20 If God is all knowing and all powerful can he in any way be vulnerable to his creation Can God be in control of anything at all if he is not constantly in control of everything John Sanders says yes to both of these questions In The God Who Risks defends his

answer with a careful and challenging argument He first builds his case on an in depth reading of the Old and New Testaments Then Sanders probes philosophical historical and systematic theology for further support And he completes his defense with considerations drawn from practical theology The God Who Risks is a profound and often inspiring presentation of relational theism an understanding of providence in which a personal God enters into genuine give and take relations with his creatures With this book Sanders not only contributes to serious theological discussion but also enlightens pastors and laypersons who struggle with questions about suffering evil and human free will The Death of Classical Theism and the Subsequent Rise of Atheism Shane Himes,2025-03-18 Modernity has seen the rise of atheism and a rejection of classical theism In this book Shane Himes argues that the two realities are largely dependent on one another Many modern Christian apologists are not fond of classical doctrines such as divine simplicity and impassibility and thus they happily reject these ideas The ramifications of doing so however have not been fully appreciated especially as they relate to Christian arguments for God s existence Himes gives an overview of the arguments for God s existence by examining the work of both scholars who reject classical theism and those who embrace it An analysis of these arguments demonstrates that modern models of God make his existence a mere possibility as opposed to a logical necessity As such the arguments given by these scholars leave them susceptible to atheist critiques given that they do not answer the question of why anything exists Without classical theism God becomes one possible answer as to why our particular universe exists the way that it does but apparently this has not been convincing to many as atheism has seen an unprecedented rise in the last two centuries Paradoxically if Christianity is to become dominant once again in academia and Western societies more generally a recovery of classical depictions of God as the ground of all being is paramount *The God Biographers* Larry Witham,2010-07-01 The God Biographers presents a sweeping narrative of the Western image of God since antiquity following the theme of how the old biography of God has been challenged by a new biography in the twenty first century The new biography has made its case in free will theism process thought evolutionary doctrines relational theology and open theism a story of people ideas and events that is brought up to the present in this engaging narrative Readers will meet the God biographers in the old and new camps On the one side are Job Augustine Boethius Anselm Aquinas and Calvin On the other side is a group that includes the early Unitarian and Wesleyan thinkers the process thinkers Alfred North Whitehead Pierre Teilhard de Chardin and Charles Hartshorne and finally a new breed of evangelical philosophers This story looks closely at the cultural and scientific context of each age and how these shaped the images of God In the twenty first century that image is being shaped by new human experiences and the findings of science Today the debate between the old biographers and the new is playing out in the forums of modern theology courtrooms and social movements Larry Witham tells that panoramic story in an engaging narrative for specialists and general readers alike **The Consolations of Theology** Brian S. Rosner,2008-04-29 Proceedings of a conference held in 2006 at Moore Theological College Sydney Australia

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