

PHENOMENOLOGY OF RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE II: PERSPECTIVES IN THEOLOGY

Edited by

Dr. Olga Louchakova-Schwartz, Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley) and the Society for the Phenomenology of Religious Experience

Dr. Martin Nitsche, Institute of Philosophy, Czech Academy of Sciences (Prague)

Deadline for submissions: June 10, 2018.

DESCRIPTION

"Open Theology" (<http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/opth>) invites submissions for the topical issue "Phenomenology of Religious Experience II: Perspectives in Theology", prepared in collaboration with the Society for the Phenomenology of Religious Experience (www.sosphere.org).

The topic comprises phenomenological explorations of religious experience, with special focus on papers written from a theological standpoint or in relation to theology. This includes issues such as ethics and judgement of religious experience, generation of theology (the so called theologies of experience), contemporary theologies of social grace, theologies of nature and gender, and the use of the phenomenological approach in the investigation of theology itself (phenomenology of theology and related aspects of phenomenology of religion). The issue is open to critical philosophical appraisal of the category of religious experience per se, especially in the way such criticisms contribute to the formulation of modern theological discourse. Finally, we are interested in papers that address the role of experience in revelation, conversion, or spiritual awakenings in phenomenological approaches to theology.

The first volume from the series "Phenomenology of Religious Experience" was published in 2017 and it is available at <https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/opth.2017.3.issue-1/issue-files/opth.2017.3.issue-1.xml>

Authors publishing their articles in the topical issue will benefit from:

- transparent, comprehensive and fast peer review,
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- free language assistance for authors from non-English speaking regions,
- complementary membership in the Society for Phenomenology of Religious Experience.

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HOW TO SUBMIT

Submissions will be collected by June 10, 2018 via the on-line submission system at: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/openth/>

Choose as article type: "Topical Issue Article: Phenomenology of Religious Experience II".

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Further questions about this thematic issue can be addressed to Dr. Olga Louchakova-Schwartz at olouchakova@gmail.com. In case of technical or financial questions, please contact journal Managing Editor Dr. Katarzyna Tempczyk at katarzyna.tempczyk@degruyteropen.com.

RECOGNIZING ENCOUNTERS WITH ULTIMACY ACROSS RELIGIOUS BOUNDARIES

Edited by Jerry L. Martin (University of Colorado, USA).

"Open Theology" (<http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/opth>) invites submissions for the topical issue "Recognizing Encounters with Ultimacy Across Religious Boundaries", edited by Jerry L. Martin (University of Colorado, USA).

DESCRIPTION

A person who reads texts from other religious traditions sometimes encounters what the reader understands to be a transcendent encounter with ultimacy. Encounters with the ultimate – not only with texts but also with practices and persons – need to be taken into account theologically. Contributors will be asked to consider how this has happened to them in the process of reading, what texts captured their attention, and what 'marks of ultimacy,' if any, distinguished those texts.

Among the questions you might consider are: How could your encounter go beyond a personal report to provide evidence and insights about ultimacy? How does your encounter compare to those of others in the history of religion? Are such texts to be found only in religious canons, or also among literary and philosophical works as well? How does your understanding of marks of ultimacy compare to the accounts given by others? What does your encounter reveal about theological method? What theological insights resulted from this encounter?

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HOW TO SUBMIT

Submissions are due May 31, 2018. To submit an article for the special issue of *Open Theology*, authors are asked to access the on-line submission system at: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/openth/>

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All contributions will undergo critical review before being accepted for publication.

Further questions about this thematic issue can be addressed to Jerry L. Martin at jerry.martin@verizon.net. In case of technical questions, please contact journal Managing Editor Dr. Katarzyna Tempczyk at katarzyna.tempczyk@degruyteropen.com.

INTERSUBJECTIVITY AND RECIPROCAL CAUSALITY WITHIN CONTEMPORARY UNDERSTANDING OF THE GOD-WORLD RELATIONSHIP

Edited by Joseph A. Bracken (Xavier University, USA).

"*Open Theology*" invites submissions for the topical issue "Intersubjectivity and Reciprocal Causality within Contemporary Understanding of the God-World Relationship," edited by Joseph A. Bracken (Xavier University, USA).

DESCRIPTION

Relationality and intersubjectivity are terms frequently used in contemporary systematic theology. Both terms seemingly presuppose a more socially oriented approach to reality, a new awareness of the interconnectedness of everything with everything else in this world. Likewise, contemporary Trinitarian theology is being rethought in a more communitarian context. The divine persons are increasingly depicted as engaged in intersubjective relations both with one another and with all their creatures. But, given the attractiveness of this new communitarian approach to the God-world relationship, is it upon closer analysis anything more than a figure of speech? Could intersubjectivity instead be understood as the paradigm or governing concept for a new metaphysics, a new rational scheme for how individual entities, big and small, relate to one another in this world so as to constitute a universe or cosmic totality? Then, rethinking how human beings relate to one another on a daily basis, can one draw inferences as to how intersubjectivity could likewise be at work in the Christian God-world relation?

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HOW TO SUBMIT

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Further questions about this thematic issue can be addressed to Joseph A. Bracken atbracken@xavier.edu. In case of technical or financial questions, please contact journal Managing Editor Dr. Katarzyna Tempczyk at katarzyna.tempczyk@degruyteropen.com.

COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS AND THEOLOGY

Dr. John Sanders (Hendrix College, USA)

DESCRIPTION

Cognitive linguistics is an influential approach to language and cognition used in a wide array of disciplines from psychology to law. It has tremendous promise to help us better understand biblical and theological texts, explain what is going on in theological debates, and for understanding the difficulties of communicating religious meaning across cultures. Cognitive linguistics emphasizes the human body in interaction with our environment as the basis for the human mental tool kit. Cognitive tools such as prototypicality, metaphor, metonymy, blending, and perspectivization have been extensively researched and empirically studied.

This special issue will explore the benefits of using a cognitive linguistics approach to conceptual structures such as metaphor and categorization for theology. We welcome proposals that, for example, apply prototype theory or conceptual blending theory to theological topics or biblical texts.

Some possible research topics:

- In what respects does conceptual metaphor theory affirm and critique well-known approaches to metaphor in theology?
- Does it shed new light on old debates? Does cognitive linguistics provide a distinctive answer to how we should understand language about God? For instance, is the so-called doctrine of analogy rendered problematic now or can we better see what it was trying to achieve?
- Does blending theory help explain the Christological statements of the Councils of Nicea and Chalcedon?
- In what respects does cognitive linguistics enhance feminist, liberationist or other approaches to theology?
- What does cognitive linguistics contribute to our understanding of hermeneutics?
- Do notions such as idealized cognitive models and perspective provide insight into debates about contextualizing theology?

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