

Jan-Olav Henriksen

Psychology in Nietzsche's Criticism of Religion

On Splitting and Loss of Orientation

[Psychology in Nietzsche's Criticism of Religion]

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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.

Survey of contents

Chapter 1: Introduction: The Task

Chapter 2: Psychological Theories for Interpreting Nietzsche's Philosophy of Religion

Chapter 3: A Context of Discovery: Nietzsche's Early Years

Chapter 4: The Split

Chapter 5: The Death of God – the Loss of Attachment and Orientation

Chapter 6: The Ambiguous Ideal: Jesus and the Split

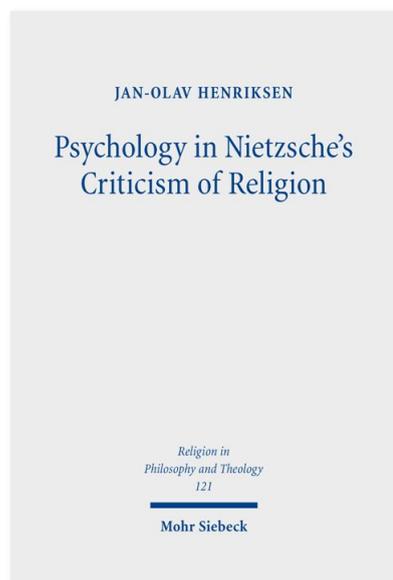
Chapter 7: Preserving the Split: Morality

Chapter 8: Nietzsche's Anti-Metaphysics: Psychological Consequences

Chapter 9: Human Beings and Their Religion

Chapter 10: Overcoming Dependence on others: Compassion, Love or Charity, and Ressentiment

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



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