

Zeitschrift: Revue de Théologie et de Philosophie
Herausgeber: Revue de Théologie et de Philosophie
Band: 47 (1997)
Heft: 4

Bibliographie: English summaries

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ENGLISH SUMMARIES

T. TUCKER, Sacrifice and authenticity : the ethics of Czech dissidence, RThPh 1997/IV, p. 305-319.

This article expounds on the ethics of Czech dissidence, centred on the notions of self-sacrifice and authenticity, based on Jan Patořka's practical commitment to human rights in the Charter of 77 and his philosophical writings. It shows in particular how Patořka draws his inspiration from the philosophy of Heidegger while reorienting it ethically from his reading of Dostoevsky's The Brothers Karamazov. Finally, it discusses the re-use of Patořka's philosophy by Václav Havel and the challenges to which it is exposed in the fulfillment of political functions.

J. VERMEYLEN, The emergence and the roots of apocalyptic literature, RThPh 1997/IV, p. 321-340.

When a community of believers is confronted with the prospect of its own disappearance, it is obliged to reinterpret its traditions and to risk new discursive reasoning. Jewish apocalyptic literature thus emerged at the dramatic moment of the persecution by Antiochus IV, which meant – to human eyes, at least – the end of Israel. This literature was a new interpretation of the entire Israelite heritage : Torah, prophets and wisdom literature.

I. GRAESSLÉ, Protestant identity reexamined, RThPh 1997/IV, p. 341-355.

An imposing and important reference book, the Encyclopédie du protestantisme offers tools for analysing and understanding the protestant tradition. Coming after numerous other critical studies, it begins with an overall view before presenting smaller headings followed by the greater issues. At every level exposition is aligned with criticism. The study ends with the central question of the book, that of Protestant identity.