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ENGLISH SUMMARIES

J.-P. LEYVRAZ, *The strange God of Mister Descartes*, RThPh 2003/III, p. 193-204.

Based on a description of Descartes' God, his unknowable character and his arbitrary power, the text considers the shadow of this absent God: the modern anguish before a nameless power and the loneliness of humanity on Earth. Finally, an attempt is made to show a way out of this loneliness and thereby a means to liberate us from Descartes' God and his modern shadow.

R. THEIS, Kant and Hope within the limits of pure reason, RThPh 2003/III, p. 205-222.

The question of hope in the works of Kant is approached from three complementary angles. After situating hope in the framework of Kantian thought, we investigate the content of hope, its object, that being beatitude in proportion to morality. Then we ask in what condition hope is possible for a fallible, even evil creature by nature. Finally, we analyse the visible "tracks" which permit hope, for the individual as well as for society.

P. GROSOS, The irreversible excess. On the phenomenology of J.-L. Chrétien, RThPh 2003/III, p. 223-239.

The work of Jean-Louis Chrétien, although well endowed by all of the philosophic tradition, belongs essentially to contemporary phenomenology. Thus Heidegger's influence on him is important. However, it is not just a prolongation. Taking advantage, on the one hand, of ambiguities in Heidegger, and, on the other, recalling to that line of thought the historic consequence of revelation, this Christian philosophy has found for itself a unique path: a whole way to respond to the basic excess of a call to itself.

O. BAUER, Open letter concerning *The spirit of liturgy* by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, RThPh 2003/III, p. 241-251.

*In the context of the ecumenical debate stirred up by the publication of John Paul II's encyclical, Ecclesia de Eucharistia, Olivier Bauer proposes a critical reading of the work Joseph Ratzinger contributes to *The spirit of liturgy*. In terms of practical theology, he shows how the President of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith envisions mass and takes apart his pretension to define true Christian worship.*

CARDINAL J. RATZINGER, Response to an Open Letter from Olivier Bauer, RThPh 2003/III, p. 253-256.

*In answer to an open letter from Olivier Bauer on the subject of the author's book *The Spirit of Liturgy*, he redefines the basic intention of this book and responds to certain critical remarks by O. Bauer, concerning, in particular, the practice of facing east when praying, the importance of liturgical space, sacred music, the origin of eucharistic practice in primitive Christianity, and the nature of the effect of eucharistic transubstantiation on the believer.*