# The Religious Experience of Mankind

NINIAN SMART



# **Religious Experience Of Mankind**

Paul K. Moser, Chad Meister

#### **Religious Experience Of Mankind:**

The Religious Experience of Mankind Ninian Smart, 1976 The Religious Experience of Mankind, by Ninian Smart Ninian Smart, 1971 Law, Freedom and Story John C. Hoffman, 2013-11-30 Rarely has an author illuminated in one book an aspect of religious study with attention to so many disciplines John Hoffman skilfully interrelates the fields of psychology mythology anthropology literature and New Testament studies to show their common use of narration techniques Hoffman explains how the storytelling nature of myths parables and psychotherapy seeks to heal and to bring wholeness to both the individual and to a social grouping Bringing into this discussion the tension between law the stabilizing factor of a society and freedom the spontaneous and creative urges that move outside of social order Hoffman shows how rituals function to affirm the order of the culture in which they exist yet as they open up the realm of the imagination they provide the possibility for disruption For as long as fantasy is a part of narration both in telling and hearing the social order can be both criticized and superseded Hoffman clearly sets his work within the genre of Crossan Perls Jaffe Turner Grimes Buechner and Eliade Carefully examining the work of Tom Driver and John Cobb he expresses the need to go beyond traditional structures and formulations in order to move theology closer to narrative A narrative form Hoffman argues can both affirm faith and invite believers to transcend its expression and break free of its strictures providing for an ever more dynamic The Religious Experience Ninian Smart, 1991 Well known and respected this comprehensive history of religious theology experience explores the major world religions within a consistent framework based on the author's paradigm six dimensions of religion It tells the story without entering unduly into technicalities and focuses on how the major religious traditions relate to human experience It extends beyond information about the traditions to distill the essential patterns of both feelings and ideas that animate religious practice contains photographs that evoke the flavor of religious rituals or experiences and maps that orient students to the geographic context of religious traditions An Introduction to Religious and Spiritual Experience Marianne Rankin, 2008-12-10 This comprehensive new introduction looks at spiritual experiences from past to present from the experiences of the founders of the major world religious traditions to events in the lives of ordinary people today Mystical and Near Death Experiences are included Examples are drawn from a variety of sources including original accounts from the Alister Hardy Religious Experience Research Centre Archive at the University of Wales Lampeter as well as many given to the author in person Interpretations of these experiences follow from religious philosophical and scientific viewpoints Various questions are considered Is there a common core to spiritual experience Do these experiences offer proof of the existence of God or of the possibility of survival of death This fascinating work concludes with an evaluation of what can be learned about consciousness religion and what it is to be human *Understanding Religious Experiences* J. Harold Ellens, 2007-11-30 Today most people feel less interested in religion and more interested in spirituality. If you ask what they mean they will tell you that organized religion tends to turn them off but nonetheless they feel a hunger in the heart that they

cannot seem to fill They do not mean that they would rather have disorganized religion they mean that institutional religion does not seem to satisfy their spirits and feel there must be something more some better way of experiencing whatever that is for which they are hungry Much new experimentation is going on as a result Some of it is a search for the meaning to fill the soul and satisfy the spirit much of it is a search for meaning on the spiritual level itself Spirituality reaches always toward the question about the meaning of God the meaning of relationships with others the meaning of intimacy and the meaning of soul gratifying insights into truth Here Ellens carefully and sensitively explores the full range of our spiritual natures and the variety of spiritual experiences of which we are capable describing the way our souls and psyches work in our hunger and thirst for meaning He explains in an enlightening and unconventional way why and how every human desires to reflect upon learn and share a heartfelt experience of God and of others Readers will find in this book a description of the meaning of the biblical stories about spiritual experiences in addition to descriptions of the kinds of spiritual experiences that ordinary people are having how they are achieving them and the ways in which they are filling their lives with meaning that goes beyond the horizons of material life The author paints this picture in such a way as to let us in on what biblically based authentic spirituality and spiritual experience really is and why it may or may not necessarily have anything to do with traditional institutionalized religion He carefully and vividly explains the notion of spirituality as it is illustrated in the Bible and discusses spiritual experiences such as prayer epiphany visions and other experiences He considers whether spirituality is mainly a connection with God with others or with both Readers hoping to get a better sense of what it means to be spiritual will have many of their questions answered in these pages The Cambridge Companion to Religious Experience Paul K. Moser, Chad Meister, 2020-07-16 For centuries theologians and philosophers among others have examined the nature of religious experience Students and scholars unfamiliar with the vast literature face a daunting task in grasping the main issues surrounding the topic of religious experience The Cambridge Companion to Religious Experience offers an original introduction to its topic Going beyond an introduction it is a state of the art overview of the topic with critical analyses of and creative insights into its subject Religious experience is discussed from various interdisciplinary perspectives from religious perspectives inside and outside traditional monotheistic religions and from various topical perspectives Written by leading scholars in clear and accessible prose this book is an ideal resource for undergraduate and graduate students teachers and Ninian Smart on World Religions: Religious experience and philosophical analysis. I. scholars across many disciplines Autobiographical. 'Methods in my life' Ninian Smart, 2009 Ninian Smart came to public prominence as the founding Professor of the first British university Department of Religious Studies in the late 1960s His pioneering views on education in religion proved hugely influential at all levels from primary schools to academic teaching and research An unending string of publications many of them accessible to the general public sustained a reputation that became worldwide Here for the first time a selection of Ninian Smart's wide ranging writings is organised systematically under a set of categories which both

comprehend and also illuminate his varied output over a career spanning half a century The editor John Shepherd was Principal Lecturer in Religion and Philosophy at the University of Cumbria He first met Smart as a postgraduate student and Psychosis or Mystical Religious recently helped establish the Ninian Smart Archive at the University of Lancaster Experience? Susan L. DeHoff, 2018-02-13 This book presents a new paradigm for distinguishing psychotic and mystical religious experiences In order to explore how Presbyterian pastors differentiate such events Susan L DeHoff draws from Reformed theology psychological theory and robust qualitative research Following a conversation among multidisciplinary voices she presents a new paradigm considering the similarities differences and possible overlap of psychotic and mystical religious experiences SCM Studyguide to Religious and Spiritual Experience Jeff Astley, 2020-02-28 This Studyguide provides a succinct and lucid introduction to the subject for those studying and teaching religion at both undergraduate and GCE AS A level By exploring the key areas of both the empirical and theoretical study of religious and spiritual experience the Studyquide will serve as an accessible and nonpartisan quide to enable its readers to explore the range of challenging data debates approaches and issues that relate to the study of this widespread and significant phenomenon Behaviour and Spiritual Experience Ashit Chandra Chakraborty, Swami Priyavratananda, 2015-12-23 Spiritual life and its experiences seem to elude ordinary understanding Can spiritual truths be investigated by scientific techniques Why do people take to spiritual life Is there a scientific truth behind supra normal experiences This book published by Advaita Ashrama a publication centre of Ramakrishna Math Belur Math India deals with scientific exploration of spiritual experiences and answers these questions Religious Experience in World Religions Victor C. Hayes, 1980 Reenchantment without Supernaturalism David Ray Griffin, 2018-08-06 The process philosophy of Alfred North Whitehead and Charles Hartshorne has made many distinctive contributions to the philosophy of religion David Ray Griffin now offers the first full scale philosophy of religion written from this perspective discussing such topics as the relationship between science and religion the validity of religious experience the nature and existence of God religious pluralism creation and evolution and the problem of evil Griffin's clear and comprehensive book also serves as a valuable introduction to process philosophy itself In his vigorous defense of a worldview that is fully naturalistic and fully religious Griffin shows not only how this position reconciles naturalism with freedom genuine religious experience and even life after death but also how its naturalistic theism reenchants the world in the sense of providing cosmic support for moral values Highly original and sometimes controversial Griffin s book develops its stance in conversation with influential proponents of other philosophical positions including William P Alston J rgen Habermas John Hick Colin McGinn Alvin Plantinga Hilary Putnam Willard Quine Ninian Smart Jeffrey Stout and Bernard Williams Theological Writings / Theologische Schriften Gert Hummel, 2020-03-23 No detailed description available for Theological Writings Theologische Schriften Regnum Dei Archibald Robertson, 1901 The Varieties of Religious Experience William James, 2023-11-17 In William James The Varieties of Religious Experience the

author delves into the subjective nature of religious experiences emphasizing individual perspectives and the diversity of religious beliefs and practices Through a collection of lectures James explores the psychological aspects of religion drawing on a wide range of examples to illustrate his points. The book is written in a clear and engaging style making it accessible to both scholars and general readers interested in the intersection of psychology and religion Published in 1902 The Varieties of Religious Experience is considered a seminal work in the field of religious studies and continues to be referenced by scholars today William James a pioneer in psychology and philosophy was influenced by his own personal experiences with religion which inspired him to explore the ways in which individuals interpret and experience the divine This book is recommended for anyone seeking a deeper understanding of the complexities of religious belief and the human psyche Isma'il Ragi A. al Farugi,1967-01-01 Comparative Historical and Interpretative Study of Religions Michael P. Adogbo, 2010 The slimness of Comparative Historical and Interpretative Study of Religions belies its contents and it is a truly historical and interpretative study of religions in human history It is specially designed for students in tertiary institutions Although the topics reflect the current National University Commission NUC undergraduate programme in Religious Studies in Nigeria the work provides a thorough methodological discussion and more on specific themes historical figures and movements in study of religions Book Jacket Perspectives in Religious Studies: Volume I Adelowo, E. Dada, 2014-08-23 Perspectives in Religious Studies is in three Volumes It is a product of expertise of specialists from universities in Nigeria and abroad The book is a response to the lack in Nigerian universities of relevant books in the various branches of Religious Studies Topics covered by the volumes include Church History Philosophy of Religion Islamic Studies generally Biblical Studies History of Religions Comparative Religion African Traditional Religion Sociology of Religion Ethics and Phenomenology of Religion One World John C. Polkinghorne, 2009-07-23 John C Polkinghorne's renowned trilogy on the compatibility of religion and science is back in print One World originally published in 1986 introduces issues in science and religion that Dr Polkinghorne subsequently continued in Science and Providence and Science and Creation The books have been widely acclaimed individually and as a series In the new preface to One World Dr Polkinghorne assesses his original writing of this book pointing to themes that have remained important to his thinking and topics that have been expanded and modified through recent scientific discoveries In fact he contends in today s postmodern culture the issue of what we can know and how we can gain knowledge is one of even greater criticality than it was in 1986 Both science and religion explore aspects of reality providing a basis for their mutual interaction as they present their different perspectives onto the one world of existent reality Polkinghorne argues In One World he develops his thesis through an examination of the nature of science the nature of the physical world the character of theology and the modes of thought in science and theology He identifies points of interaction and points of potential conflict between science and religion Along the way he discusses creation determinism prayer miracles and future life and he explains his rejection of scientific reductionism and his defense

of natural theology Science does not have an absolute superiority over other forms of knowledge nor does religion have all the answers Both are searching for the truth Both explore the universe as it is and submit to the evidence before them And both must be open to continual correction We live in one world Polkinghorne's insights continue to illuminate it as a world in which science and religion can stimulate and benefit each other

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