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## REVELATION AND THE GOD OF ISRAEL

*Revelation and the God of Israel* explores the concept of revelation as it emerges from the Hebrew Scriptures and is interpreted in Jewish philosophy and theology. The first part is a study in intellectual history that attempts to answer the question, what is the best possible understanding of revelation? Norbert M. Samuelson draws on his extensive knowledge of western philosophy and explores the conception of the God of revelation as classical or medieval Jewish philosophers such as Maimonides and modern Jewish theologians such as Buber and Rosenzweig subsequently interpreted it. The second part is a study in constructive theology which asks whether it is reasonable to affirm belief in revelation. Here Samuelson focuses on the challenges given from a variety of contemporary academic disciplines, including evolutionary psychology, political ethics, analytic philosophy of religion, and source-critical studies of the Bible. This important book offers a unique approach to theological questions and fresh solutions to them and will appeal to those interested in the history of philosophy, religious thought, and Judaism.

NORBERT M. SAMUELSON is the Harold and Jean Grossman Chair of Jewish Studies and Full Professor of Jewish Philosophy in the Religious Studies Department at Arizona State University. He is an internationally renowned scholar of Jewish philosophy and the author of six books including *Judaism and the Doctrine of Creation* (Cambridge, 1994) and most recently *A User's Guide to Franz Rosenzweig's Star of Redemption* (1999). He has published over 200 articles and is the co-editor of three collected volumes of essays. Professor Samuelson is the founder and secretary of the Academy of Jewish Philosophy.

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*Arizona State University*



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*To my beloved Angelica*

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“There was (a conversation) where he bet I couldn’t tell him anything that was absolutely true. So I said to him, ‘God is love.’”  
“And what did he say?”  
“He said, ‘What is God? What is love?’”  
“Um.”  
“But God really is love, you know,” said Miss Faust, “no matter what Dr. Hoenikker said.”

From *Cat’s Cradle* by Kurt Vonnegut

## *Contents*

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>page ix</i>
Introduction	I
<b>PART I THE GOD OF REVELATION</b>	
1 The God of Israel	11
Equivocalities	11
A history of “God”	14
2 The God of the philosophers	22
The rabbinic turn to philosophical commentary	22
The theology of Maimonides	24
3 The God of the theologians	42
The discreditation of rationalist theology	42
Hermann Cohen	48
Martin Buber	51
4 Franz Rosenzweig	63
The God of the elements	66
Creation as a bridge from philosophy to theology	68
The God of the ways	69
The God of revelation	70
Is the God of Rosenzweig believable?	81
<b>PART II IS THE GOD OF REVELATION BELIEVABLE?</b>	
5 The challenges of political ethics – issues of racism and the irrational	93
Truth tests: consistency, coherence, and historical falsification	93
Moral objections to normative religious observance	96
The logic of ethical challenges to revelation	98

viii	<i>List of contents</i>	
	The question of racism	101
	The question of irrationalism	110
6	The challenges of modern science	121
	Review	121
	Physical cosmology – rethinking the world	124
	Evolutionary psychology – rethinking the human	133
7	The challenges of modern philosophy – rethinking God	170
	Review	170
	Does God speak?	173
	The philosophy of religion – proofs that God exists	176
	Proofs that God does not exist	207
	Conclusion	217
8	Are the Hebrew Scriptures revealed?	221
	Review	221
	The Bible as a pious fraud	223
	Is the Bible believable?	232
	Conclusion	236
	<i>Works cited</i>	242
	<i>Index of names</i>	248
	<i>Index of subjects</i>	250

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Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

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Frontmatter  
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