

This short work, written by an influential philosopher of religion, shows how systematic theology is itself largely a philosophical enterprise. After analysing the nature of philosophical inquiry and its relation to systematic theology, and after exploring how theology requires that we talk about God, Vincent Brümmer illustrates how philosophical analysis can help in dealing with various conceptual problems involved in the fundamental Christian claim that God is a personal being with whom we may live in a personal relationship. Special attention is paid to the reason why theodicy arguments often appear insensitive to those who suffer, and therefore fail to offer them consolation, and in this connection the work of recent philosophers such as Richard Swinburne and D. Z. Phillips is evaluated and compared.



SPEAKING OF A PERSONAL GOD



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An essay in philosophical theology

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