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0521782783 - Dostoevsky and the Christian Tradition

Edited by George Pattison and Diane Oenning Thompson

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DOSTOEVSKY AND THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION

Dostoevsky is one of Russia's greatest novelists and a major influence in modern debates about religion, both in Russia and the West. This collection brings together Western and Russian perspectives on the issues raised by the religious element in his work. The aim of this collection is not to abstract Dostoevsky's religious 'teaching' from his literary works, but to explore the interaction between his Christian faith and his writing. The essays cover such topics as temptation, grace and law, Dostoevsky's use of the gospels and hagiography, Trinitarianism, and the Russian tradition of the veneration of icons, as well as reading aloud, and dialogism. In addition to an exploration of the impact of the Christian tradition on Dostoevsky's major novels, *Crime and Punishment*, *The Idiot* and *The Brothers Karamazov*, there are also discussions of lesser known works such as *The Landlady* and *A Little Boy at Christ's Christmas Tree*.

GEORGE PATTISON is Dean of Chapel at King's College, Cambridge. He has published widely in the field of philosophy of religion and his books include *Kierkegaard: The Aesthetic and the Religious* (1992), *Anxious Angels: A Retrospective View of Religious Existentialism* (1999) and *The Routledge GuideBook to the Later Heidegger* (2000). He has also taught at St Andrew's Biblical-Theological College in Moscow.

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Note on conventions and abbreviations

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Contributors using English translations of Dostoevsky's works provide the names of translators and editions in notes, with page numbers being indicated in brackets within the text of their chapters. Contributors' ellipses within quotations are indicated by < . . >. The transliteration system used has been divided into two parts: (1) the British Standard is used for proper names, hence, Dostoevsky rather than Dostoevskii; (2) the Library of Congress system has been used to transliterate all quotations of Russian words as well as proper names and titles for publications cited or available only in Russian.