

Cambridge Elements

Elements in Religion and Monotheism

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MONOTHEISM AND RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY

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Monotheism and Religious Diversity

Elements in Religion and Monotheism

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Abstract: If there is one God, why are there so many religions? Might all be false? Some revert to a relativism that allows different ‘truths’ for different people, but this is incoherent. This Element argues that monotheism has provided the basis for a belief in objective truth. Human understanding is fallible and partial, but without the idea of one God, there is no foundation for a belief in one reality or a common human nature. The shadow of monotheism lies over our understanding of science, and of morality.

Keywords: diversity, relativism, transcendence, polytheism, toleration

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