

Contents

Preface	vii
1. Why is the Philosophy of Religion Important?	1
2. Is God Real?	9
Thomas Aquinas, <i>Summa Theologiae</i> , “Five Ways” (all)	11
Anselm, <i>Proslogium</i> (excerpt)	17
William Paley, <i>Natural Theology</i> , Chapter One, “State of the Argument” (all)	34
3. How Can God Be Known?	39
René Descartes, <i>Meditations on First Philosophy</i> , “Third Meditation: Of God: That He Exists” (all)	43
4. Faith and Reason or Faith vs. Reason?	55
G.W.F. Hegel, “Hinrichs-Foreword” (excerpt)	59
5. What is Religious Experience?	75
William James, <i>Varieties of Religious Experience</i> , Chapter One, “Religion and Neurology” (excerpt)	78
6. Who is Religious and What is Faith?	89
Blaise Pascal, <i>Pensées</i> , “The Wager” (excerpt)	90
W.K. Clifford, “The Ethics of Belief,” Part One, “The Duty of Inquiry” (all)	93
William James, “The Will to Believe” (excerpt)	99
William James, “Is Life Worth Living?” (excerpt)	102
7. What is God?	103
Boethius, <i>Consolation of Philosophy</i> , Book Five (excerpt)	104
René Descartes, “Letter to Princess Elisabeth, January 1646” (excerpt)	110
8. Does Religion Need the Supernatural?	111

Immanuel Kant, <i>Religion Within the Bounds of Mere Reason</i> , Part Four, “On Service and Pseudo-Service Under the Control of the Good Principle, or, on Religion and Clericalism” (excerpt)	112
9. Do Miracles Occur?	117
David Hume, “Of Miracles” (all)	117
10. What is Evil and Why Does it Exist?	133
Gottfried Wilhelm Freiherr von Leibniz, <i>Theodicy</i> , “Summary in Syllogistic Form” (all)	136
11. What Happens After Death?	145
Plato, <i>Phaedo</i> (all)	147
John Stuart Mill, <i>An Examination of Hamilton’s Philosophy</i> , Chapter Seven, “The Philosophy of the Conditioned as Applied by Mr. Mansel to the Limits of Religious Thought” (excerpt)	202
12. What is Spirituality?	203
Plato, <i>Euthyphro</i> (all)	203
Josiah Royce, <i>The Philosophy of Loyalty</i> , Chapter Eight, “Loyalty and Religion” (excerpt)	217
13. How Does Religion Affect Personal Ethics?	221
David Hume, “On Suicide” (all)	222
John Stuart Mill, <i>On Liberty</i> , Chapter Four, “Of the Limits to the Authority of Society over the Individual” (excerpt)	228
14. How Does Religion Affect Social Ethics?	233
James Fitzjames Stephen, <i>Liberty, Equality, Fraternity</i> , Chapter Six, “Fraternity” (excerpt)	236
15. What is a Religious Life?	245
John Stuart Mill, <i>Autobiography</i> , Chapter Two (excerpt)	246
For Further Reading	253
Index	259
About the Author	264