

Philosophy and Knowledge of God according to Meister Eckhart

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Abstract

It is well known that Eckhart avoided calling God “existence” to the end. This issue -which many of his commentators considers it insignificant -should be considered important; because it can be the key to a comprehensive understanding of his thought, especially his theory of knowledge of God. Eckhart knows very well that if God is a kind of “existence”, he is the subject of philosophy. Therefore the philosophy includes everything, and this leads to the dogmatism of philosophers. Eckhart philosophically objects to the dogmatism of philosophy in his time by calling God as something beyond “existence”. According to Eckhart, God's freedom from existence is not only negative, but on the positive side, Eckhart seeks to introduce the idea of a god that is more compatible with the God of the Bible. Therefore, he uses words such as love, knowledge, detachment, logos, etc. to introduce God. Finally, by giving a mystical interpretation of the Bible, he considers mysticism to be the only way to know the God of Bible. This article is an attempt to shed light on Eckhart's transition from philosophy to mysticism for the knowledge of God.

Keywords: God; Philosophy; Dogmatism; Detachment; Mysticism; Meister Eckhart.

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