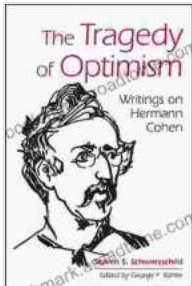


Writings on Hermann Cohen: Exploring the Legacy of a Jewish Philosopher



The Tragedy of Optimism: Writings on Hermann Cohen (SUNY series in Contemporary Jewish Thought)

by Mary Stone

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3589 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 337 pages



Hermann Cohen (1842-1918) was a German Jewish philosopher who is widely regarded as one of the most important thinkers of the early 20th century. His work has had a profound influence on Jewish thought, religious philosophy, and ethics. Cohen's writings offer a unique and insightful perspective on the nature of religion, the relationship between Judaism and modernity, and the meaning of human life.

Cohen's Religious Philosophy

Cohen's religious philosophy is based on the idea that religion is a form of knowledge that is distinct from both science and metaphysics. He argues that religion is not about belief in supernatural beings or doctrines, but rather about the experience of the sacred and the ethical. Cohen's philosophy of religion is often referred to as "neo-Kantianism," as it draws

heavily on the work of Immanuel Kant. However, Cohen's thought also contains significant elements of Jewish mysticism and existentialism.

For Cohen, the central concept of religion is the idea of the "holy." The holy is that which is beyond the realm of human understanding and experience. It is the source of all meaning and value in life. Cohen argues that the experience of the holy can be transformative, leading us to a deeper understanding of ourselves and the world around us.

Cohen's Ethics

Cohen's ethics is based on the idea of the "categorical imperative." The categorical imperative is a moral principle that requires us to act in such a way that our actions could be universalized as a law for all rational beings. Cohen argues that the categorical imperative is not a mere abstract principle, but rather a concrete guide for action. He believes that we can only truly be moral if we act in accordance with the categorical imperative.

Cohen's ethics has been influential in a wide range of fields, including social ethics, political philosophy, and business ethics. His work has been used to defend a variety of social and political causes, including the civil rights movement, the anti-apartheid movement, and the movement for economic justice.

Cohen's Jewish Thought

Cohen was a deeply committed Jew who believed that Judaism had a unique contribution to make to the world. He argued that Judaism is a religion of reason and ethics, and that it can help us to create a more just and compassionate world. Cohen's Jewish thought has been influential in a variety of ways. It has helped to revive interest in the study of Jewish

philosophy, and it has provided a new perspective on the relationship between Judaism and modernity.

Cohen's work continues to be a source of inspiration and challenge for philosophers, theologians, and scholars of Jewish studies today. His writings offer a unique and insightful perspective on the nature of religion, the meaning of human life, and the relationship between Judaism and modernity.

Writings on Hermann Cohen

Writings on Hermann Cohen is a new collection of essays that explores the work and legacy of Hermann Cohen. The essays in this volume are written by leading scholars in the field of Jewish philosophy, and they offer a comprehensive overview of Cohen's thought. The essays cover a wide range of topics, including Cohen's religious philosophy, his ethics, and his Jewish thought. This volume is an essential resource for anyone interested in the work of Hermann Cohen.

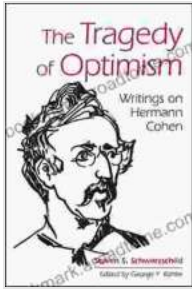
Hermann Cohen was a brilliant and influential philosopher who made significant contributions to Jewish thought, religious philosophy, and ethics. His work continues to be a source of inspiration and challenge for scholars and thinkers today. Writings on Hermann Cohen is a valuable resource for anyone interested in learning more about Cohen's thought and its relevance to contemporary issues.

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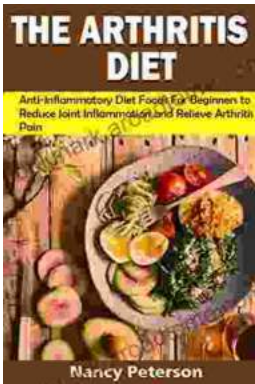
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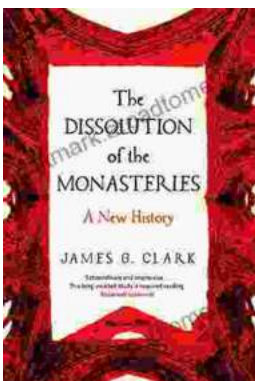


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