



Nonbelief & Evil: Two Arguments for the Nonexistence of God

By Theodore M. Drange

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Can God's nonexistence be established by good, clear, objective evidence? It all depends on what is meant by "God." This book expands the frontiers of philosophy by exploring this nest of issues in more detail than ever before, while presenting a strong case for atheism.

The two major arguments in support of nonexistence, the more established Argument from Evil and the recent Argument from Nonbelief, are explored individually and in parallel development while defending both against the strongest objections.

Included are examinations of the free-will problem, the possibility of an afterlife, arguments by theists, and positive atheism. Drange also discusses specific concepts of the duty e.g. of evangelical and liberal Christianity, and orthodox Judaism to demonstrate how theological and atheological arguments depend upon the conception of God one accepts.

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- Sales Rank: #2638748 in Books
- Published on: 1998-08-01
- Released on: 1998-08-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.22" h x 1.37" w x 6.28" l, 1.53 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 403 pages

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Drange (philosophy, West Virginia Univ.) mounts a focused attack on belief in the existence of God based on the careful delineation of two arguments. Part 1 of the book sets forth the definitions of terms basic to the arguments that follow. The eight chapters of Part 2 are devoted entirely to refuting "The God of Evangelical Christianity," while in Part 3 only a chapter a piece is allotted to orthodox Judaism, liberal Christianity, and broad theistic belief. Drange sets out to refute the seven defenses against the Argument from Evil and the five defenses against the Argument from Nonbelief; his "overall aim is to show that each of the 12 defenses [of belief in God] is refuted by at least one good objection." Drange's goal is to provide material of interest to a "dichotomy of readers": evangelical Christians vs. everyone else and professional philosophers vs. lay readers. Within limits, he is successful. The arguments are clear and accessible but rigorous enough to interest scholars. Recommended for philosophy of religion collections. AEugene O. Bowser, Univ. of Northern Colorado, Greeley
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About the Author

Theodore M. Drange, Ph.D. (Morgantown, WV) is a professor of philosophy at West Virginia University.

Users Review

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