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Bernard Bolzano; translated by Paul Rusnock & Rolf George

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Nota di contenuto Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- Want of Enlightenment

(Ignorance and Error) Must be Seen as the True Cause of the Evils that Beset our Fatherland: Read on the second Sunday after Easter, 1817 [April 20] -- Several Very Important Consequences and Duties that Follow from the Conviction that Want of Enlightenment (Ignorance and Error) is the Cause of the Evils that Beset our Fatherland: Read on the third Sunday after Easter, 1817 [April 27] -- On Ways and Means of Already Bringing about a Better Shape of Things at the Present Time: Read on the last Sunday after Pentecost in the year 1816 [November 3] -- On Correct Conduct towards Enemies of Enlightenment: Read on the Feast of the Epiphany, 1816 [January 6] -- On Correct Conduct towards Enemies of Enlightenment (conclusion): Read on the first Sunday after Epiphany, 1816 [January 7] -- On Duties towards Unjust Authorities: Read on Palm Sunday in 1812 [March 22] -- On the Relations between the two Peoples of Bohemia -- On the Relations between the two Peoples of Bohemia (continuation): Read on the eighth Sunday after Pentecost, 1816 [July 28] -- On the Relations between the two Peoples of Bohemia (conclusion): Read on the ninth Sunday after Pentecost, 1816 [August 4] -- On Conduct towards the Jewish Nation: Read on the Feast of the Presentation of our Lady at the Temple, 1809 [Nov. 21] --On the Mission and Dignity of Womanhood: Read on the Feast of the

Ascension of Mary, 1810 [August 15] -- On the Right of the Clergy to obtain their Livelihood from Persons not of their Faith (selections) --Selections from the Treatise of the Science of Religion: On the Concept of Religion, on Different Kinds of Religion and our Obligations with Respect to Religion -- There are Truths -- There are several, and indeed infinitely many truths -- We humans are in a position to know truths, and actually do know some -- We do, indeed, sometimes err in our judgments; but under certain conditions we can be more or less assured that we do not err -- Human beings are capable of being virtuous and happy -- Many of the concepts and opinions people hold have an influence on their virtue as well as on their happiness -- We sometimes wish that we had certain beliefs -- We sometimes wish that we had certain beliefs -- The concept of a moral proposition --Concept of the word religion -- Concept of the most perfect religion --A person's highest duty with respect to his religion -- A more detailed exposition of the particular duties contained in this highest duty --Natural Morality: Contents of this part -- Concept and existence of a highest moral law -- Derivation of this highest moral law -- Objections against this highest moral law -- Brief assessment of the most common differing opinions on the highest moral law -- Uncertainty of all human virtue -- What leads us to be untrue to our virtuous principles? --There are means of promoting virtue. -- There are means of promoting virtue. -- Several rules that may be applied in determining the relative worth of various cultivators of virtue. -- Foreword -- Introduction --On the citizens, the extent and the divisions of the state -- On legislation -- On government -- On means of coercion -- On freedom -- On equa.

Sommario/riassunto

Celebrated today for his groundbreaking work in logic and the foundations of mathematics, Bernard Bolzano (1781-1848) was best known in his own time as a leader of the reform movement in his homeland (Bohemia, then part of the Austrian Empire). As professor of religious science at the Charles University in Prague from 1805 to 1819, Bolzano was a highly visible public intellectual, a courageous and determined critic of abuses in Church and State. Based in large part on a carefully argued utilitarian practical philosophy, he developed a nonviolent program for the reform of the authoritarian institutions of the Empire, which he himself set in motion through his teaching and other activities. Rarely has a philosopher had such a great impact on the political culture of his homeland. This volume contains a substantial collection of Bolzano's writings on ethics and politics, translated into English for the first time. It includes a complete translation of the treatise On the Best State, his principal writings on ethics, an essay on the contemporary situation in Ireland, and a selection of his Exhortations, dealing with such topics as enlightenment, civil disobedience, the status of women, anti-Semitism and Czech-German relations in Bohemia. It will be of particular interest to students of central European philosophy and history, and more generally to philosophers and historians of ideas.