

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910780793903321
Autore	Hart David Bentley
Titolo	Atheist delusions : the Christian revolution and its fashionable enemies // David Bentley Hart
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2009
ISBN	1-282-35266-0 9786612352669 0-300-15564-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (272 p.)
Disciplina	909/.09821
Soggetti	Church history - Primitive and early church, ca. 30-600 Civilization, Western Christianity - Influence Atheism
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 243-249) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Faith, reason, and freedom : a view from the present -- The gospel of unbelief -- The age of freedom -- The mythology of the secular age : modernity's rewriting of the Christian past -- Faith and reason -- The night of reason -- The destruction of the past -- The death and rebirth of science -- Intolerance and persecution -- Intolerance and war -- An age of darkness -- Revolution : the Christian invention of the human -- The great rebellion -- A glorious sadness -- A liberating message -- The face of the faceless -- The death and birth of worlds -- Divine humanity -- Reaction and retreat : modernity and the eclipse of the human -- Secularism and its victims -- Sorcerers and saints.
Sommario/riassunto	In this provocative book one of the most brilliant scholars of religion today dismantles distorted religious "histories" offered up by Christopher Hitchens, Richard Dawkins, and other contemporary critics of religion and advocates of atheism. David Bentley Hart provides a bold correction of the New Atheists's misrepresentations of the Christian past, countering their polemics with a brilliant account of Christianity and its message of human charity as the most revolutionary

movement in all of Western history. Hart outlines how Christianity transformed the ancient world in ways we may have forgotten: bringing liberation from fatalism, conferring great dignity on human beings, subverting the crudest aspects of pagan society, and elevating charity above all virtues. He then argues that what we term the "Age of Reason" was in fact the beginning of the eclipse of reason's authority as a cultural value. Hart closes the book in the present, delineating the ominous consequences of the decline of Christendom in a culture that is built upon its moral and spiritual values.

---