Record Nr. UNINA9910818559803321 Autore Smith John H. <1954-> Titolo Dialogues between faith and reason: the death and return of God in modern German thought / / John H. Smith Ithaca,: Cornell University Press, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8014-6328-9 0-8014-7762-X 0-8014-6327-0 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (321 p.) Disciplina 231.0943/0904 Soggetti Death of God theology God (Christianity) - History of doctrines Theology, Doctrinal - Germany - History Philosophical theology - Germany - History Atheism - Germany - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Introduction: Logos, Religion, and Rationality -- 1. Erasmus vs. Luther: Philo-logos vs. Faith -- 2. God and the Logos of Scientific Calculation (Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Pascal) -- 3. Kant: The Turn to Ethics as Logos -- 4. Hegel: Logos as Spirit (Geist) -- 5. Logos and Its Others: Feeling, the Abyss, Willing and Kritik (Schleiermacher, Schelling, Schopenhauer, Feuerbach) -- 6. Nietzsche: Logos against Itself and the Death of God -- 7. Being after the Death of God: Heidegger from Theo- to Onto- logos -- 8. Dialectical Theology (Gogarten, Barth, Bultmann) -- 9. "Atheistic" and Dialogical Jewish Theologies of the Other (Rosenzweig and Buber) --10. Fides et Ratio: "Right Reason" and Europe in Contemporary Catholic Thought (Benedict XVI) -- Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto The contemporary theologian Hans Küng has asked if the "death of God," proclaimed by Nietzsche as the event of modernity, was inevitable. Did the empowering of new forms of rationality in Western

culture beginning around 1500 lead necessarily to the reduction or privatization of faith? In Dialogues between Faith and Reason, John H.

Smith traces a major line in the history of theology and the philosophy of religion down the "slippery slope" of secularization-from Luther and Erasmus, through Idealism, to Nietzsche, Heidegger, and contemporary theory such as that of Derrida, Habermas, Vattimo, and Asad. At the same time, Smith points to the persistence of a tradition that grew out of the Reformation and continues in the mostly Protestant philosophical reflection on whether and how faith can be justified by reason. In this accessible and vigorously argued book, Smith posits that faith and reason have long been locked in mutual engagement in which they productively challenge each other as partners in an ongoing "dialogue." Smith is struck by the fact that although in the secularized West the death of God is said to be fundamental to the modern condition, our current post-modernity is often characterized as a "postsecular" time. For Smith, this means not only that we are experiencing a broad-based "return of religion" but also, and more important for his argument, that we are now able to recognize the role of religion within the history of modernity. Emphasizing that, thanks to the logos located "in the beginning," the death of God is part of the inner logic of the Christian tradition, he argues that this same strand of reasoning also ensures that God will always "return" (often in new forms). In Smith's view, rational reflection on God has both undermined and justified faith, while faith has rejected and relied on rational argument. Neither a defense of atheism nor a call to belief, his book explores the long history of their interaction in modern religious and philosophical thought.