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more on

Friedrich Nietzsche

Julian Young's *Friedrich Nietzsche: A Philosophical Biography** (2010) was published by Cambridge University Press. Earlier biographies that offer a different slant on the sources and consequences of Nietzsche's thought include: R. J. Hollindale's *Nietzsche: The Man and His Philosophy** (Cambridge University Press, originally published in 1965 and revised in 2001); Ronald Hayman's *Nietzsche: A Critical Life* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1980); and Curtis Cate's *Friedrich Nietzsche* (Hutchinson, 2002). *The Cambridge Companion to Nietzsche** (Cambridge, 1996) contains eleven essays by Nietzsche scholars, including one entitled "Nietzsche and the Judeo-Christian Tradition." Erich Heller's *The Importance of Nietzsche** (Chicago, 1988) examines Nietzsche's thought in the context of Goethe, Rilke, Wittgenstein, Yeats, and others. As does Julian Young, Peter Berkowitz challenges the fashionable reading of Nietzsche as a prophet of postmodern epistemology. In *Nietzsche: The Ethics of an Immoralist** (Harvard, 1995), Berkowitz argues that "Nietzsche's fundamental concern with ethical and political questions is obscured when scholars make him over into a theorist primarily concerned with questions of how we know rather than of how we should live. . . . For Nietzsche, I shall argue, the chief question is not how we know but rather what we ought to do in response to the shattering knowledge within our grasp. . . . Nietzsche expounds an ethics of creativity that culminates in a radical exaltation of the human power to both understand and control the world." Moral philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre examined the shape of Nietzsche's approach to ethics in the book based on his 1988 Gifford Lectures, *Three Rival Versions of Moral Enquiry: Encyclopedia, Genealogy, and Tradition** (Notre Dame, 1990). In those lectures, MacIntyre compares three incommensurable approaches to moral thought and practice: the nineteenth-century confidence (evident in the Ninth Edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* and in Lord Adam Gifford's will endowing the lectures) that moral philosophy (and natural theology) was a science; the approach of Nietzsche (who insisted that there were "a multiplicity of perspectives within each of which truth-from-a-point-of-view may be asserted, but no truth-as-such"); and an Augustinian and Thomistic approach (exemplified in Leo XIII's encyclical, *Aeterni Patris*), which grounds the rationality

Disc 1

- 1 Introduction**
- 2 Julian Young**, on the historical context of Friedrich Nietzsche's ideas and on why he still believed in the necessity of religion
- 3 Perry L. Glanzer**, on the failure of American universities to adequately address the challenge of moral formation
- 4 Kenda Creasy Dean**, on why churches are to blame for the "moralistic therapeutic Deism" so common among teens

Disc 2

- 1 Brian Brock**, on how the centrality of technology in Western culture encourages us to see the gift of Creation as merely "nature" awaiting our manipulation
- 2 Nicholas Carr**, on how the distracted character of multi-tasking ruins reading and how social networking systems sustain a "transactional" view of relationships
- 3 Alan Jacobs**, on how the literary form of the essay reproduces the unpredictable way that our thoughts develop

*An asterisk means that the book is in print; if you wish to purchase it from our friends at Splintered Light Books, call 1.800.979.3310.

of moral reflection in revelation and an authoritative tradition. To approach Nietzsche more theologically, one might start with Stephen M. Williams's *The Shadow of the Antichrist: Nietzsche's Critique of Christianity** (Baker Academic, 2006). Williams's bibliographic recommendations include Tyler T. Roberts's *Contesting Spirit: Nietzsche, Affirmation, Religion* (Princeton, 1998); Tim Murphy's *Nietzsche, Metaphor, Religion** (SUNY, 2001); Giles Fraser's *Redeeming Nietzsche: On the Piety of Unbelief** (Routledge, 2001); *Studies in Nietzsche and the Judaeo-Christian Tradition* (UNC, 1985), edited by O'Flaherty, Sellner, and Helm; and *Nietzsche and the Divine* (Clinamen, 2000), edited by Lippitt and Urpeth. As to reading Nietzsche himself, Williams recommends (with some caveats) that beginners start with *The Twilight of the Idols* or *Beyond Good and Evil*.

more on

Other Works Mentioned

Perry L. Glanzer and Todd C. Ream's *Christianity and Moral Identity in Higher Education** (2009) was published by Palgrave Macmillan. Kenda Creasy Dean's *Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling the American Church** (2010) was published by Oxford University Press. Brian Brock's *Christian Ethics in a Technological Age** (2010) was published by Eerdmans. Nicholas Carr's *The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains** (2010) was published by W. W. Norton. Alan Jacobs's *Wayfaring: Essays Pleasant and Unpleasant** (2010) was published by Eerdmans.

The **MARS HILL AUDIO** Journal is produced at our studio in rural central Virginia, outside of historic Charlottesville. The Journal is one of several audio products we distribute, all of them intended to encourage greater wisdom about interaction with contemporary culture.

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