



Nine Theories of Religion

By Professor Daniel Pals

Oxford University Press, United Kingdom, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 3rd Revised edition. 202 x 138 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Why do human beings believe in divinities? Why do some seek eternal life, while others seek escape from recurring lives? Why do the beliefs and behaviors we typically call religious so deeply affect the human personality and so subtly weave their way through human society? Revised and updated in this third edition, *Nine Theories of Religion* considers how these fundamental questions have engaged the most important thinkers of the modern era. Accessible, systematic, and succinct, it considers the Victorian anthropology of E. B. Tylor and J. G. Frazer, the reductionist social science of Sigmund Freud, Emile Durkheim, and Karl Marx, the non-reductionist approaches of Max Weber, William James, and Mircea Eliade, and the alternative paradigms that have arisen from the work of E. E. Evans-Pritchard and Clifford Geertz. The third edition features a new chapter on William James. Each chapter offers biographical background, theoretical exposition, conceptual analysis, and critical assessment. Ideal as a supplementary text in introductory religion courses or as the main text in theory and method in religious studies or in sociology of religion courses,...

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