

What Can We Know

Can We Know Anything? How Can We Know What God Means Philosophy and Religion Imperial Bible Dictionary A Handbook of Agriculture Woman's Work for Woman The People's Bible: John The Roman Missal adapted to the use of the laity The Electrical Engineer Parliamentary Debates Mr. Lockyer's Logic. [A Criticism of His "Science Primers. Astronomy".] Dedicated to the Members of the London School Board A concise harmony of the four Gospels Benedictus Dominus. A Course of Meditations for Most Days of the Year Irish Monthly Magazine Chronicles of the Schoenberg-Cotta Family An Illustrated and Popular Story of the World's First Parliament of Religions ... (The daily Psalms, meditations, by the author of 'The daily round'). The Banner of Gold Littell's Living Age Truths versus Shadows, or the Real and the False Bryan Frances J. Gracia Strong Patrick Fairbairn Wisconsin Farmers' Institutes Joseph Parker William Carpenter (of Greenwich.) Richard Meux Benson Elizabeth Rundle Charles Thomas Benson Pollock Eliakim Littell F. R. Waring

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in this book michael huemer and bryan frances debate whether and how we can gain knowledge of the world outside of our own minds starting with opening statements the debate moves through two rounds of replies frances argues that we lack knowledge because for example we cannot rule out the possibility that

we are brains in vats being artificially stimulated in such a way as to create an illusion of living in the real world huemer disagrees that we need evidence against such possibilities in order to gain knowledge of the external world maintaining instead that we are entitled to presume that things are as they appear unless and until we acquire specific grounds for thinking otherwise the authors go on to discuss how one should think about controversial issues wherein the experts persistently disagree frances argues that we should generally withhold judgment about such issues or at least greatly reduce our confidence huemer agrees that people are often overconfident about controversial issues but tries to carve out exceptions wherein one can rationally hold on to controversial views accessible whilst also detailed and substantial this thoughtful debate is suitable for readers at all levels from those encountering the topic for the first time through those who are deeply familiar with the issues key features showcases arguments from two leading philosophers in standard form and in clear language presents definitions in an easily accessible form summary boxes recap key arguments includes an annotated bibliography and glossary of all specialized vocabulary

in spite of the growth of secularization technology and science statistics tell us that religious conversions are on the rise and the number of people who take religion and divine revelation seriously is at an all time high this phenomenon curiously enough has increased rather than decreased both inter and intra religious conflicts protestants fight catholics in northern ireland serbian greek orthodox fight with kosovo moslems in yugoslavia jews fight with moslems in palestine hindus fight with moslems in india and the list is seemingly endless there is bitter disagreement also in dealing with revelation even within the same religious traditions and with regard to the same scriptures liberal christians reject the literal interpretation of the christian scriptures favored by evangelicals many protestant groups do not accept the role of tradition in interpretation which roman catholics consider essential orthodox jews strictly follow eating regulations presented in the torah but reformed jews take these in a different sense the sources of these disagreements vary considerably some are rooted in historical events and traditions but quite often they signal deep confusions concerning the interpretation of what believers take to be divinely revealed in recent years the author claims the confusion has been compounded by the rise in the number and variety of interpretational approaches that are used to understand revelation one can now take a culturalist sociological literary psychoanalytical historical political philosophical or feminist interpretations to name just a few approach but do these all necessarily make sense when applied to religious texts these and other questions cry out for answers which seldom are even attempted in the pertinent literature this book offers a novel and sustained philosophical treatment of religious hermeneutics in which the author considers the main alternatives

available in today's marketplace the book is neither ideologically partisan nor thematically narrow and should be of interest to anyone concerned with interpreting the divine word it offers a sensible roadmap to a topic that continues to draw heated debate in philosophy theology sociology history and literary studies

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