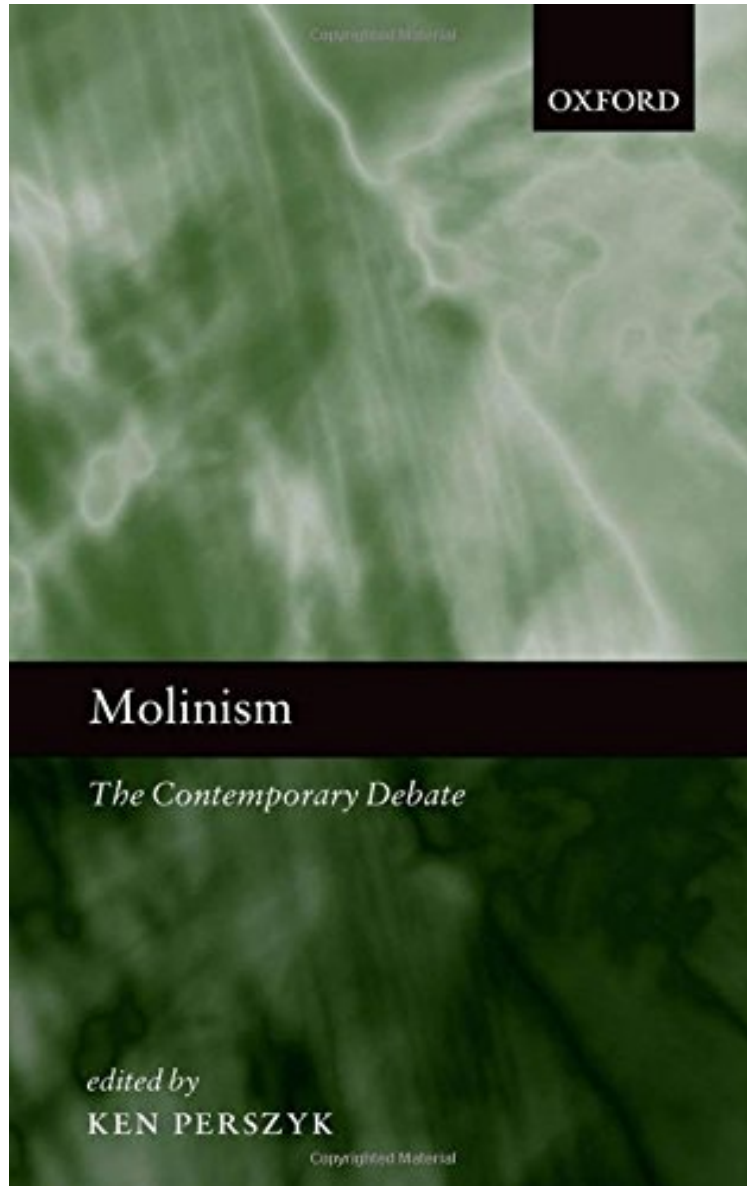


(Download ebook) Molinism: The Contemporary Debate

Molinism: The Contemporary Debate

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From Perszyk Ken EDT : Molinism: The Contemporary Debate before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Molinism: The Contemporary Debate:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Difficult and a lot of Work...But SOOO Worth It!By J Chandler Arnett IIII have to say from the get go that this book is a Molinist's dream! Dealing with page after page of arguments for the truth of Molinism with the top Molinists and anti-Molinists exchanging ideas is difficult but rewarding. I

actually pre-ordered this book so I could have it as soon as it was released. I still need to grow in my logic abilities to fully exhaust several parts of the material, but what I have been able to digest has been extremely helpful. Anyone who is interested in the issue of divine foreknowledge and human freedom needs to get this volume. Be warned however that this is certainly for the serious seeker or the academic philosopher of religion (which is not a bad thing)! I was very pleased to see most of the top Molinists contribute an article or two in this volume (William Lane Craig, Thoma Flint, etc.) as well as some of the top anti-molinists (such as William Hasker, etc.). The introduction by Ken Perszyk is an excellent one. I was disappointed that Alfred Freddoso (the translator of Molina's Part 4 of the Concordia into English) didn't have a contributing essay (although he is mentioned by name in the book). Anyway, as a Molinist and one who desires to ultimately do Ph.D. work in this area in the future I became giddy when I realized it had a section in the back titled, "Bibliography: Recent Work on Molinism!" What a list of reading material, and it will certainly keep me busy for a long while! I particularly liked the exchange between William Lane Craig and Dean Zimmerman in the book, although all of the essays were enjoyable (and many of them difficult because of my lack of skills in logic! Anyway, if you are serious about Molinism, pro or con, then you need to get this volume for yourself and work through the material.

Molinism, named after the sixteenth-century Spanish Jesuit Luis de Molina, re-emerged in the 1970s after it was unwittingly assumed in versions of Alvin Plantinga's Free Will Defense against the Logical Argument from Evil. The Molinist notion of middle knowledge--and especially its main objects, so-called counterfactuals of (creaturely) freedom--have been the subject of vigorous debate in analytical philosophy of religion ever since. Is middle knowledge logically coherent? Is it a benefit or a liability overall for a satisfying account of divine providence? The essays in this collection examine the status, defensibility, and application of Molinism. Friends and foes of Molinism are well represented, and there are some lively exchanges between them. The collection provides a snap-shot of the current state of the Molinism Wars, along with some discussion of where we've been and where we might go in the future. More battles surely lie ahead; the essays and ideas in this collection are likely to have a major impact on future directions. The essays are specially written by a line-up of established and respected philosophers of religion, metaphysicians, and logicians. There is a substantive Introduction and an extensive Bibliography to assist both students and professionals.

"This volume is, by any reasonable standard, a superb collection of papers.... In short, the collection is required reading for anyone working on Molinism in the future and can also be used effectively to gain a perspective on Molinism itself and the debates surrounding it of the last thirty years or so."--Ken Perszyk, Notre Dame Philosophical Studies
"Ken Perszyk not only provides interesting historical background; he restates the distinction between the theory of middle knowledge, its perspicuous statement, and the discussion of resources that may be called upon to overcoming objections to its deployment, on the one hand, and also its application to grace, predestination and free will, and other theological areas."--Themelios
About the Author
Ken Perszyk is Senior Lecturer in Philosophy and Head of the School of History, Philosophy, Political Science and International Relations at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand. His primary research interests are in philosophy of religion and metaphysics. He has published articles on a range of areas, including Molinism, the Argument from Evil, the metaphysics of modality, the history of early analytical philosophy and Wittgenstein. He is the author of *Nonexistent Objects: Meinong and Contemporary Philosophy* (1993).