



Parmenides (Studies in Continental Thought)

By Martin Heidegger

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Parmenides, a lecture course delivered by Martin Heidegger at the University of Freiburg in 1942-1943, presents a highly original interpretation of ancient Greek philosophy. A major contribution to Heidegger's provocative dialogue with the pre-Socratics, the book attacks some of the most firmly established conceptions of Greek thinking and of the Greek world. The central theme is the question of truth and the primordial understanding of truth to be found in Parmenides' "didactic poem." Heidegger highlights the contrast between Greek and Roman thought and the reflection of that contrast in language. He analyzes the decline in the primordial understanding of truth and, just as importantly, of untruth that began in later Greek philosophy and that continues, by virtue of the Latinization of the West, down to the present day. Beyond an interpretation of Greek philosophy, Parmenides (volume 54 of Heidegger's Collected Works) offers a strident critique of the contemporary world, delivered during a time that Heidegger described as "out of joint."

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Editorial Review

Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: German

From the Back Cover

This text, as one might expect in a book on ancient philosophy, is heavily flavored with Greek and Latin. It is giving away no secret that Heidegger decried the Latinizing of things Greek, and one of the central themes of the present volume is the impoverishment in the understanding of Being concomitant with such "transporting". To the reader unfamiliar with Greek, certain passages might appear rather formidable, then. For the rest, the book's format and content very closely match the source text. This text, as one might expect in a book on ancient philosophy, is heavily flavored with Greek and Latin. It is giving away no secret that Heidegger decried the Latinizing of things Greek, and one of the central themes of the present volume is the impoverishment in the understanding of Being concomitant with such "transporting." To the reader unfamiliar with Greek, certain passages might appear rather formidable, then. For the rest, the book's format and content very closely match the source text.

About the Author

André Schuwer (1916-1995) was Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Duquesne University and co-translator (with Richard Rojcewicz) of Plato's *Sophist* and *Basic Questions of Philosophy* by Martin Heidegger and *Ideas II* by Edmund Husserl.

Richard Rojcewicz teaches philosophy at Point Park College, Pittsburgh.

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