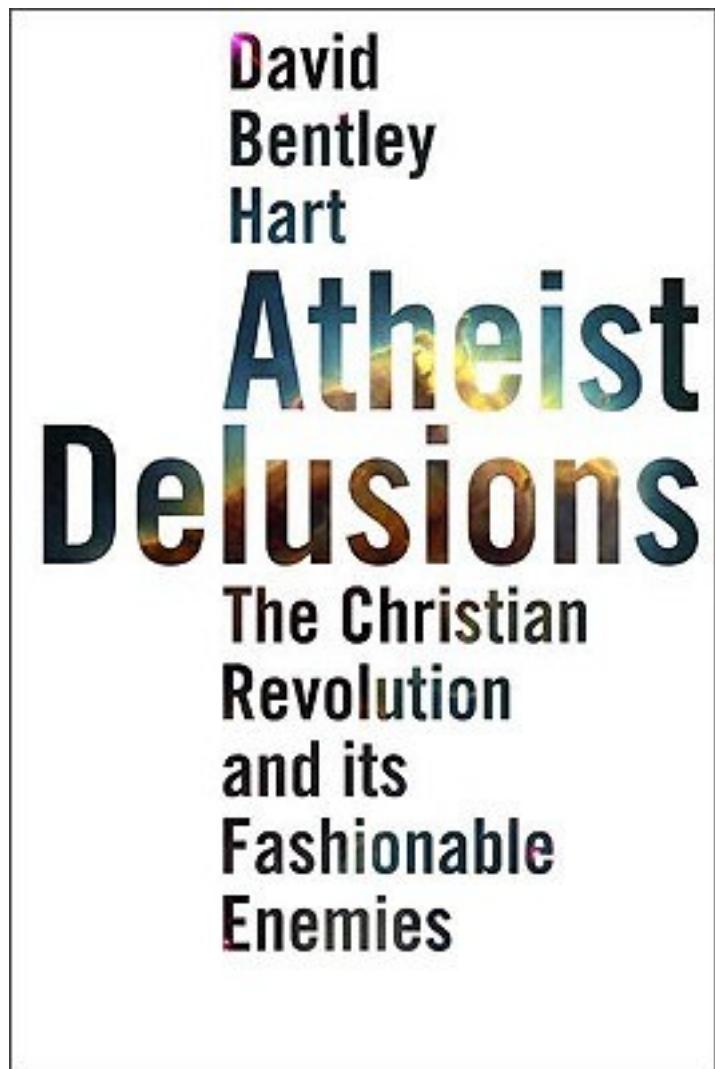


Atheist Delusions



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Currently it is fashionable to be devoutly undevout. Religion's most passionate antagonists - Christopher Hitchens, Richard Dawkins, Daniel Dennett, Sam Harris, and others - have publishers competing eagerly to market their various denunciations of religion, monotheism, Christianity, and Roman Catholicism. But contemporary antireligious polemics are based not only upon profound conceptual confusions but upon facile simplifications of history or even outright historical ignorance: so contends David Bentley Hart in this bold correction of the distortions. One of the most brilliant scholars of religion of our time, Hart provides a powerful antidote to the New Atheists' misrepresentations of the Christian past, bringing into focus the truth about the most radical revolution in Western history. Hart outlines how Christianity transformed the ancient world in ways we may have forgotten: bringing liberation from fatalism, conferring great dignity on human beings, subverting the crudest aspects of pagan society, and elevating charity above all virtues. He then argues that what we term the 'Age of Reason' was in fact the beginning of the eclipse of reason's authority as a cultural value. Hart closes the book in the present, delineating the ominous consequences of the decline of Christendom in a culture that is built upon its moral and spiritual values.

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评论

作者有一些不错的见解，比如对尼采对当代社会的决定性的影响，还有世俗伦理的局限。可惜作者是个天主教徒，而从天主教的教条出发来攻击人本主义是没有希望的。韦伯说过，天主教不是一神论，教皇，圣徒，圣母这些都是偶像崇拜，是人本主义的才会有 的现象。现代西方社会天主教的相对繁荣和新教的完全没落都是人本主义崛起的产物罢了。

列数近来站在无神论立场反对基督教的作品并毫不客气的——反驳，梳理现代的精神特质和对基督教的常见误解，回顾历史指出基督教诞生之初的革命性及其对西方文化深入的影响，并回到现代的视角讨论了现代性与“后基督教时代”下的人性、价值和未来的道路。作者应该挺喜欢尼采。语言犀利，结论审慎，可以一看。

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书评

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