

Inhalt

Acknowledgements — IX

Abbreviations — XI

Introduction — 1

Part I Conceiving divine simplicity

1 Divine simplicity: orientation to current discussions — 9

- 1.1 Introduction — 9
- 1.2 Simplicity as a regulative category — 10
- 1.3 Simplicity as a metaphysical category — 11
- 1.4 The theological deployment of simplicity — 14
 - 1.4.1 Simplicity and the Creator–creature distinction — 14
 - 1.4.2 Simplicity and the multiplicity of divine names — 18
 - 1.4.3 Simplicity and Trinity — 23
- 1.5 Conclusion — 29

2 Simplicity in Christian doctrine: Gregory of Nyssa, Augustine, and Thomas Aquinas — 31

- 2.1 Introduction — 31
- 2.2 Gregory of Nyssa on the *adiastēmic* plenitude of the simple God — 34
 - 2.2.1 *Creatio ex nihilo* as a regulative principle in discerning the divine — 34
 - 2.2.2 *Propria* and perfections — 37
 - 2.2.3 Infinity, simplicity, and *diastēma* — 41
- 2.3 Augustine on the self-same (*idipsum*) triune God — 45
 - 2.3.1 Augustine's exposition of divine simplicity — 46
 - 2.3.2 Predication and divine simplicity — 48
 - 2.3.3 Simplicity and Trinity — 49
- 2.4 Thomas Aquinas and the pure actuality of the simple God — 54
 - 2.4.1 Simplicity, apophasis, and creation as causal relation — 55
 - 2.4.2 Prior unity, participation, and the one and the many — 61
 - 2.4.3 Simplicity and Trinity — 63
- 2.5 Simplicity, prior unity, and the Creator–creature distinction — 67

2.6 Conclusion — 71

Part II Divine simplicity in the revisionary metaphysics of Robert W. Jenson

3 The contemporary crisis of divine simplicity — 75

3.1 Introduction — 75

3.2 Scripture, metaphysics, and the problem(s) with divine simplicity — 76

3.3 Robert Jenson on the task of metaphysics — 82

3.3.1 Situating Jenson — 82

3.3.2 Scripture and revisionary metaphysics — 83

3.4 Promise: developing a Christian revisionary metaphysics — 89

3.5 Jesus Christ and created being — 93

3.5.1 Election and predestination: Barth and Jenson's revisionary metaphysics — 93

3.5.2 Being and the horizon of the future: Heidegger and Jenson's revisionary metaphysics — 94

3.5.3 Being human: Christ and the communal concept of 'nature' — 97

3.6 Dramatic unity — 99

3.7 Conclusion — 103

4 Simplicity and Trinity in Robert Jenson's theology — 104

4.1 Introduction — 104

4.2 Divine simplicity as lively event — 106

4.2.1 Divine persons and divine temporal infinity — 107

4.2.2 Identity of essence and existence — 112

4.2.3 Impassibility and God's being as lively event — 114

4.3 Simplicity and Trinity — 118

4.3.1 Subsistent relations — 118

4.3.2 Jesus in the Trinity: the body of God — 122

4.3.3 The Holy Spirit in the Trinity: the simple event of futurity — 125

4.4 Divine simplicity and divine names — 130

4.5 Conclusion — 134

Part III Toward a dramatic theology of divine simplicity

5 Divine simplicity and the triune identity — 139

- 5.1 Introduction — 139
- 5.2 Metaphysics, divine simplicity, and dramatic unity — 141
- 5.3 Jenson on divine simplicity — 145
- 5.4 Critical engagements — 150
 - 5.4.1 Divine simplicity and the names of God — 151
 - 5.4.2 Divine simplicity and the question of God's availability — 159
 - 5.4.3 Divine simplicity and the relations of God — 170
- 5.5 Conclusion — 181

6 Conclusion — 183

Bibliography — 188

Index of Names — 206

Index of Subjects — 209