

# Contents

<i>Preface</i>	vii
Introduction	1
1. History of Religion as Critique of Religion? David Hume and the Consequences	10
2. Religious Experience and the Theory of Signs	31
3. Ritual and the Sacred: On the Anthropology of Ideal Formation	58
4. Multiple Forms of Ideal Formation or Process of Disenchantment? Attempts at Synthesis by Ernst Troeltsch and Max Weber	88
5. Transcendence as Reflexive Sacredness: The “Axial Age” as a Turning Point in Religious History	154
6. Fields of Tension: A New Interpretation of Max Weber’s “Intermediate Reflection”	195
7. The Sacred and Power: Collective Self-Sacralization and Ways of Overcoming It	234
<i>Notes</i>	275
<i>Bibliography</i>	347
<i>Name Index</i>	379
<i>Subject Index</i>	385