

*Preface*      *vii*

Introduction: The Study of Religion as Cultural Criticism      1

I. Paradigm Shift: Exploring the World's Religions      14

1. A New World: Religions Unthinkable      14
2. A New Science: Explorers of Religions      24

II. *Respublica Hebraeorum*: Biblical Religion and European Culture      39

1. *Antiquitates judaicae*: The Early Modern Study of Israelite Religion      39
2. *Homeros Hebraios*: Homer and the Bible at the Origins of European Culture      49

III. From Biblical Philology to the Study of Judaism      62

IV. Biblical Myth, Religious History, and Idolatry      77

1. Noah's Sons and the Religious Conquest of the Earth      77
2. Idolatry and Its Roots      88

V. Iranian Religions and the Idea of Dualism      101

1. The Prophet of Iran and Zoroastrianism      101
2. The Birth of Manichaean Studies      113

VI. From *Mobammedis Imposturae* to the *Three Impostors*: The Study of Islam and the Enlightenment      124

VII.	From China to Rome: The Discovery of Civil Religion	145
1.	Chinese Atheism and the <i>Querelle des Rites</i>	145
2.	Enlightenment Perceptions of Roman Religion	149
	 Epilogue: From Ritual to Myth	 158
	 <i>Notes</i>	 169
	<i>Acknowledgments</i>	215
	<i>Index of Nantes</i>	217
	<i>Index of Subjects</i>	221