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ABSTRACT

JUDAISM AND THE JEWS IN THE WORKS OF VASILY ROZANOV

Vasily Rozanov belongs to the group of prominent representatives of the Russian religious and philosophical renaissance at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, also known as the "silver age" of Russian culture. An important role in the work of this writer played the Jewish theme, still so little studied in literature. This work is an attempt at an integral study of Rozanov's views on Judaism and Jews, detailing theological issues such as: Israel's vocation, "hardening" of Israel, waiting for the coming of the Lord, the role and durability of circumcision, the meaning of the Sabbath, the importance of the Talmud, Kabbalistic themes.

The purpose of this dissertation is to present the factors influencing the formation and evolution of Rozanov's views on the Jewish issue, to point to individual texts in which the author touched upon the subject under study, to show their significance against the background of his entire work, and to analyze the aspects discussed there - which would help to understand this works, full of paradoxes, which previous commentators described as a manifestation of philo-Judaism and anti-Semitism.

The topic of the dissertation is presented in twelve chapters corresponding to the periods in the writer's life, crowned with chapter thirteen (synthesis). Using the biographical method, the author of the study looked for factors shaping Rozanov's views on the Jewish question, and using the genetic method, he followed how these views changed.

The study covered Rozanov's views on Judaism and Jews, expressed in his texts, published in the 30-volume series "Collection of Vasily Rozanov's Works", published in 1991-2010, edited by Alexander Nikolukin. The theological themes mentioned above played a key role in the selection of source texts.

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