

# Preface

This volume brings together eleven studies on the Christian philosophy of John Locke. Most of them are not new: five were previously published; three others were delivered as lectures or addresses and now appear in print for the first time. The origin of each of these studies is disclosed in a footnote at the beginning of each of these chapters. Three of the chapters are entirely new.

None of the studies previously published or delivered appears in its original form. I have revised them all, in some instances substantially. I have also tried to make this set of studies, each conceived and executed on a different occasion, cohere in a single book whose chapters develop a common theme and follow generally along a single line of argument. I have revised and rearranged them all with this end in view. This has been a pleasant task and less difficult than I first imagined it would be, for it seems, in retrospect, that I have been aiming at the same goal in all of them: to recover the mind of John Locke. What I present here, then, is original work on Locke in a form that may be taken as authoritative, at least for the time being, for it is my hope that what is presented here may not only be instructive, but may also open pathways that lead to new discoveries about Locke's mind that will necessitate revision of prevailing opinions, mine and others'.

I am grateful to Sarah Hutton for suggesting that a collection of my studies on Locke would be of interest to scholars, for providing me with the opportunity to produce one, and for giving me encouragement and support along the way. Her generosity and good will have put me immeasurably in her debt.

There are many others to whom I am indebted: Michael Ayers, Peter Anstey, Stanley Bates, Jim Berg, Melanie Bigold, Dan Brayton, Jane Chaplin, Marina Frasca-Spada, Mark Goldie, Douglas Hedley, Kareem Khalifa, Sue Killoran, John Milton, Paul Monod, John Rogers, Paul Schuurman, Paul Sigmund, Luisa Simonutti, Lesley Smith, Christopher Star, Tim Stanton, Richard Yeo, and John Walsh. There are others, I am sure, that I have overlooked.

Grateful acknowledgment is given to Middlebury College for grants from its faculty emeritus research fund, and for providing me with a study in its magnificent new library, to the Principal and Fellows of Harris Manchester College, Oxford, for never failing hospitality and friendship, and to the Andrew Mellon Foundation for awarding me a Mellon Emeritus Fellowship, which has sustained my research for nearly 4 years.

Thanks to the Keeper of Western Special Collections, the Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, for permission to include transcriptions of the following manuscripts: Locke 16. 25 (Locke's interleaved English Bible): transcriptions of a selection of notes by Locke from the writings of Nicholas Gibbon (Ch. 2); MS Locke c. 43, 'Adversaria Theologica', pp. 1–7 (Ch. 3); MS Locke c. 27, 'Dubia circa philosophiam orientalem', fos 75–7 (Ch. 10).

Middlebury, VT  
19 July 2010

Victor Nuovo

<http://www.springer.com/978-94-007-0273-8>

Christianity, Antiquity, and Enlightenment  
Interpretations of Locke

Nuovo, V.

2011, XX, 276 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-94-007-0273-8