

## Günter Bader

*Die Emergenz des Namens. Amnesie – Aphasie – Theologie.* (The Emergence of the Name. Amnesia – Aphasia – Theology.) Mohr Siebeck, Tübingen 2006, 398 pp.

Starting from Martin Luther's digression *De nomine dei tetragrammaton* (and its context within Renaissance Theology and Reformation Theology) and the space that is kept for the hand-written Hebrew tetragrammaton, Günter Bader analyses in this remarkable study God's name in different aspects. He argues for emergence as the way the yet revealed name announces itself – and is present even when it is not mentioned.

The first aspect, the amnesia of the name, is treated in the first chapter in which Bader explains God's names (referring to Thomas Aquinas who interprets the *tetragrammaton* as relating to God's incommunicable substance), divine names (mainly analysing the position of Denys the Areopagite and his quadrupel of theology – noetical, symbolical, kataphatical and apophatical) and finally the names of the gods in Plato.

Since language is needed if amnesia occurs, the problem of aphasia has to be dealt with as well which Bader does in the second chapter. Therefore, he explains firstly the onefold aphasia in reference to Kurt Goldstein and Ernst Cassirer and secondly the twofold aphasia in exposing Roman Jakobson's position. He argues thus for searching the name at the aphasic poles of language.

Finally, the author turns in the third chapter to the relationship of name and language – or to theology as what is taught by the *tetragrammaton* beginning with texts by Walter Benjamin and Gershom Scholem concerning language and cabbala of name. After that he approaches revelation and deletion of name in the works of Franz Rosenzweig and Emmanuel Levinas and finally analyses praising and desertification of name by Jacques Derrida.

Thus, Günter Bader not only offers in his interesting book valuable insights into the writings of the different authors and aspects mentioned above but also impresses by his range of erudition and knowledge.

(Thomas Fornet-Ponse)