

This thesis concerns Buber's concept of YHVH. According to Buber, immediate, dialogical relation with YHVH is best exemplified by the prophets in contrast to the official cult. Buber is an original and text-orientated Biblical interpreter. The author of this thesis is of the impression that Buber is perhaps too selective in his use of source material in his argumentation. This selectivity can lead to the formation of a somewhat subjective picture of historic Judaism, Christianity and Hasidism. Buber's I-Thou and dialogical philosophy can be seen as a reaction to the scientific world-view at the beginning of the 20th century. Connected with this is his intended anti-systematic approach, echoed in the anti-institutionalism and anti-legalism of his Biblical theology. Buber also applied it to fields such as education and psychotherapy. Nevertheless, although Buber presents himself as an anti-systematic thinker, the author finds that knowledge of Buber's major works and intellectual problems current in Buber's time reveal broad concepts that repeat themselves in various lines of his thought. These form an implicit system of thought no less demanding than those of his intellectual peers.