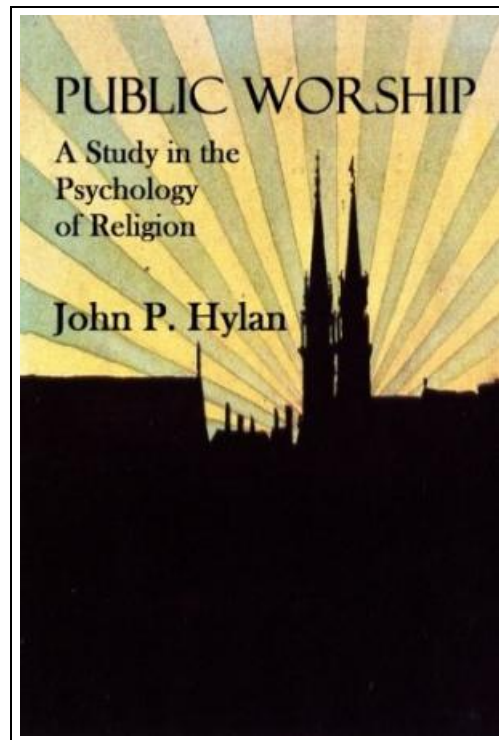


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PUBLIC WORSHIP: A STUDY IN THE PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION



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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. The decrease in church attendance, the decline of the influence of the church on the masses, the growing tendency towards Sabbath desecration, the extreme moderation of present-day theological conceptions, are conditions upon which the present volume endeavors to throw some light by a psychological discussion of the nature and meaning of public worship. In an historical retrospect, the author finds two typical Sabbaths: (1) Recreative, held by the Jews until their captivity, viz., a day of recreation as well as rest. (2) Christian or worship conception, held by later Jews and by Christians, viz., a day for worship as well as rest. A study of the historical conditions that brought about the transition from the Recreative conception to the Christian reveals the psychological states involved in worship. As long as the Jews were prosperous, the Recreation view prevailed, but after the captivity, when misfortunes of all kinds assailed them, a transition to the Christian conception was quickly effected. Believing in Jehovah, they naturally attributed the severity of the conditions of life to His displeasure, and accordingly, in order to win again His favor, they eagerly betook themselves to worship. In humility of spirit they throng the temples and with receptive minds receive instruction in spiritual and practical life. Thus are open immense possibilities of moral reformation by means of which the race can better adapt itself to its environment; this is the great function of the Sabbath of the Christian type. In brief, while the Recreative Sabbath aims simply to preserve functions already acquired, the Christian conception aims at the establishment of new functions (p. 45). The essential element in producing worship, and the consequent moral reformation...



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