

Table of Contents

<i>Preface</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xv
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xvii
1. Spinoza in Context	
1.1. Spinoza's Writings	1
1.2. Reconstructing Spinoza's Thought from his Writings	5
1.3. What Students of Spinoza's Thought Need to Know about his Life, and What They Need Not	8
2. Judaism Naturalized	
2.1. Searching the Scriptures: Interpretation and Criticism	13
2.2. Revelation as Practical, not Philosophical	21
2.3. Judaism and Christianity	26
2.4. The New Science as Key to True Religion	32
3. <i>Cogitatio</i>	
3.1. The New Way of Ideas	36
3.2. The Structure of Representative Ideas: Descartes's Examples	41
3.3. Ideas as Affirmations: Spinoza Emends Descartes	46
3.4. Ideas and Words	49
3.5. The Linkage of Ideas: Behind the Geometrical Method	53
4. The Elements of the Idea of Nature as God	
4.1. Reinterpreting Necessary Existence	57

4.2. Causation: Immanent and Transient	60
4.3. Cognition, Conception and Causation	64
4.4. The Fundamental Disjunctions	65
4.5. Substances in General	69
4.6. Necessity: a note on Spinoza's Rationalism	73
5. God as Absolutely Infinite Substance	
5.1. Spinoza's Principle of Plenitude	77
5.2. What the Proofs of <i>Ethics</i> , I, 11 Prove	80
5.3. The Rejection of Monadism	84
5.4. The Constitution of God's Essence	86
5.5. Panentheism	89
6. God as Cause and as Effect	
6.1. Perfection Naturalized	96
6.2. The Modal System and its Causation	102
6.3. Motion, Eternity and Time	107
6.4. The Non-Contingency of Finite Modes	113
6.5. Spinoza's Dualism: Pairing Within the Divine Attributes	116
7. Human Beings (I): Cognition	
7.1. Human Individuals: Body and Mind	122
7.2. Representation Without Adequate Cognition	125
7.3. Extra-Cogitative Parallelism (I): Imagination	130
7.4. Extra-Cogitative Parallelism (II): Reason	135
7.5. Intra-Cogitative Parallelism: Ideas of Ideas	140
7.6. Human Error	142
8. Human Beings (II): Action and Passion	
8.1. Human Individuals as Functional Entities	146
8.2. Persevering in One's Own Being	152
8.3. The Derivation of Affects that are Passions	155
8.4. <i>Servitus Humana</i>	161
8.5. <i>Ductus Rationis</i>	163
9. Human Freedom	
9.1. Living by the Dictates of Reason	169
9.2. Why Free Human Beings Need to Live <i>in Statu Civili</i>	173

Table of Contents

ix

9.3. Liberty and Political Stability	180
9.4. The Mind's Power Over the Affects	183
10. Last Things	
10.1. Problems in Interpreting <i>Ethics</i> V, 21–42	190
10.2. The Identity of Individual Human Minds	191
10.3. God's Cognition of Non-Existent Individuals	194
10.4. The Human Mind Without Relation to the Human Body	197
10.5. <i>Mentis Humanae Summa Beatitudo</i>	200
<i>Bibliography of Works Cited by Short Titles</i>	208
<i>Index</i>	215