

## Acknowledgments and Translator's Note

The ideas in this book developed over a series of seminars: initially, in a shorter format, at the Collège International de Philosophie in Paris, in October, 1998; then at the University of Verona, in Winter 1998–99; finally, at Northwestern University, in April, 1999, and the University of California, Berkeley, in October, 1999. The book represents the fruit of these seminars and is indebted to discussions with participating students and professors. The form of the leading idea remained constant throughout each seminar: it always consisted in a commentary *ad litteram*, in every sense of the word, on the first ten words of the first verse of the Letter to the Romans.

In the transliteration of Greek terms, I have simplified diacritical marks and only indicate long syllables in the Greek by the use of a macron over the corresponding vowel. The reader may, however, find those passages of selected original Greek texts that were closely analyzed and immediately linked to this seminar in the Appendix. The Greek text used is that of Eberhard Nestle (*Novum Testamentum graece et latine*, edited by Erwin Nestle and Kurt Aland, United Bible Societies, London, 1963). The interlinear translation is that of Morgan Meis.

[*Translator's note.* In accordance with the desire of the author, all citations of Paul's Letters were translated into English as closely as

possible with regard to the author's personal translation. Various translations were consulted, used, and modified, including the King James Version, the New International Version, the American Standard Version, the Interlinear Greek New Testament, and the International Standard Version. A special thanks to Morgan Meis for his time and meticulous interlinear translation of the Greek in the Appendix, and to Arne de Boever, Alessia Ricciardi, Dana Hollander, Gil Anidjar, Stathis Gourgouris, and Neslihan Senocak.]