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The Idea Of Phenomenology

Edmund Husserl

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Edmund Gustav Albrecht Husserl (1859-1938) was a German philosopher who established the
school of phenomenology. He was born into a Jewish family (which later caused him to lose his academic position when the Nazis came to power in 1933), but was baptized as a Lutheran in 1886. He wrote many books, such as Ideas: General Introduction to Pure Phenomenology, On the Phenomenology of the Consciousness of Internal Time, The Crisis of European Sciences and Transcendental Phenomenology, Cartesian Meditations, etc. He says in the first lecture, åœThe METHOD of the critique of cognition is the phenomenological method, phenomenology as the general doctrine of essences, within which the science of the essence of cognition finds its place. What sort of method is this? How can a science of cognition be established if cognition in general, what cognizing means and can accomplish, is questioned? What method can here reach the goal?... Right away we become dubious whether such a science is at all possible. If it questions all cognition, every cognition chosen as a starting point is questioned. How then can it ever begin?â•

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