

Part IV

Kierkegaard's Creed of Faith: Contemporaneity and Repetition

If God himself had not willed repetition, the world would not have come into existence. Either he would have followed the superficial plans of hope or he would have retracted everything and preserved it in recollection. This he did not do. Therefore, the world continues, and it continues because it is repetition.

(Repetition, p. 133)

In Part IV a further elaboration of the notions of faith, repetition and contemporaneity in Kierkegaard's thought is presented. Chapter 7 concerns the discussion of *repetition* as a religious movement towards faith as it can be derived from Kierkegaard's homonymous book. Two celebrated biblical stories – Job's ordeal and Abraham's sacrifice – are also discussed as examples of true repetition, while they serve as instances of the development of a primordial understanding of repetition. In Chapter 8, we attempt to relate the concept of repetition with Kierkegaard's idea of being contemporaneous with the paradox of God's coming into existence. This allows us to address once more, from yet another perspective, the meaning of the passage quoted above and in strategic moments of this book.