

## CONTENTS

Preface .....	IX
Acknowledgements .....	XI
<b>PART ONE: YANG TINGYUN'S LIFE</b> .....	<b>1</b>
Chapter I. Official sources .....	5
1) First Period: district magistrate (1592-1599) .....	7
2) Second Period: censorship (1602-1609) .....	12
3) Third Period: various positions (1622-1625) .....	16
Appendix: Writings of Yang Tingyun .....	17
Chapter II. Private sources .....	22
1) Social and intellectual life .....	22
2) Family life .....	30
3) More about official and political life .....	34
4) Religious life .....	38
5) Interest in education .....	42
Appendix: Writings according to private sources .....	50
Chapter III. Chinese religious biography .....	51
1) Yang Tingyun's Buddhist past and the anti-Buddhist character of the biography .....	52
2) The history of Yang Tingyun's conversion .....	53
3) Christian life .....	60
Appendix: Christian writings .....	69
Chapter IV. Western sources .....	74
1) On Yang Tingyun's official career .....	79
2) Social status and family situation .....	85
3) Christian life .....	88
Appendix: Note on Yang Tingyun's picture .....	95
Chapter V. Some aspects of Yang Tingyun's biographies .....	97
<b>PART TWO: YANG TINGYUN'S THOUGHT</b> .....	<b>107</b>
Chapter I. Yang Tingyun's Thought .....	109
A) Heaven .....	109
Yang Tingyun's cosmogony .....	109
God as 'Great Father-Mother' .....	116
Incarnation .....	123
Yang Tingyun's view on history .....	126
Heaven and Hell .....	131

B) Man .....	141
The goodness of nature .....	141
Objective morality .....	145
The source of goodness .....	149
Practicality .....	152
Christian morality in practice .....	155
 Chapter II. Buddhist criticism of Yang Tingyun .....	 162
General criticism .....	163
Origin of Buddhism in China .....	165
On the authority of Buddhism .....	169
Confucian arguments .....	172
Discussion about the <i>Bianxue yidu</i> .....	175
 Chapter III. Jesuit criticism of Yang Tingyun .....	 183
History of the treatise .....	183
Authenticity and forgery .....	186
Interview with Doctor Michael .....	188
Comments on Doctor Michael .....	194
The Three Sects versus the Two Teachings .....	203
 Conclusion: The Sages of the Eastern and Western Seas .....	 210
Neo-Confucian, Buddhist or Christian? .....	210
Neo-Confucian Orthodoxy .....	212
Christian Orthodoxy .....	219
Significance .....	224
 List of Abbreviations .....	 227
Notes on the references to literature used .....	228
Bibliography .....	229
Primary sources .....	229
Secondary sources .....	235
 Index .....	 245