

Abstract

Philosophical Aspects of Aquinas's Doctrine on the Trinity in Summa Theologiae.

The work has the goal to disclose a philosophical background of Aquinas's doctrine on the Trinity in Summa theologiae. The Dogma of the Trinity of Divine Persons is one of the fundamental truths of faith. This fact transcends human reason, yet it is a topic with its position and content, so it was always exciting and theologians tried to cope with this paradoxical claim of a single God in the Three Persons. St. Thomas Aquinas was no exception in this. His scholastic approach uses abundant philosophical material to help him to disclose this reality which exceeds philosophical science as incontrovertible and therefore credible. In his famous work for beginner theologians, he systematically presents his solution based on the analysis of the category of relation. The distinction between being (esse) of relation and its own nature (ratio) will make it possible to distinguish the three Persons in God's only reality. He concludes that divine persons themselves are the relations they represent and that the relations are subsistent. Ultimately, such an understanding of the existence of divine Persons reveals the reason for creation and helps us to understand our salvation, which is according to the Angelic Doctor the ultimate goal and fruit in knowledge of this Mystery.

Keywords

Thomas Aquinas, Trinity, Medieval philosophy, aristotelian thomistic philosophy