

Anglická anotace

The Concept of Freedom of Nikolai Berdyaev

The present work focuses on the concept of freedom of Russian religious philosopher Nikolai Berdyaev, whose work dates back to the first half of the 20th century. The thinker was expelled from Russia by Lenin's regime in 1922 and died in France in 1948.

Berdyaev's concept of freedom stems from his introspective and intuitive approach while undervaluing and deliberately overpassing the significance of rationality. In this concept, an important role is played by the idea of objectification, which, according to Berdyaev, is the gnoseological interpretation of the original sin and the fallen state of the world. Liberation comes from the world of spirit, which is put into contrast to the world of nature and necessity. Objectification (thesis) and the freedom of spirit (antithesis) find their synthesis in a creative act, which is a divine-human act. In Berdyaev's concept, freedom is absolutised, growing from the meontic principle. God himself is drawn into the mystery and tragedy of freedom. Berdyaev's freedom achieves its completion in the concept of active eschatologism. God together with the man defeats the evil stemming from the meontic principle.

The present work looks upon Berdyaev's concept of freedom from the point of view of Christian and Catholic teaching. It shows that the meontic principle Ungrund and the idea of uncreated freedom and objectification stemming from it are in contradiction with the Christian view on God and the world. Berdyaev undervalues the ontological nobility of the created material world. The contribution of Berdyaev's concept lies in the accentuation of the religious and spiritual principle of freedom as well as the creative concept of freedom and emphasis on the active side of Christianity.

Keywords:

Russian religious philosophy of the 20th century
Nikolai Berdyaev
freedom
Russian personalism and existentialism
active eschatologism