

Annotation

The aim of this thesis is analysing the very problem and meaning of human suffering. First of all it is the testimony of Scripture itself that is used as a means of fulfilling our task, secondarily also the comparison with understanding of suffering and its mystery as presented in the apostolic letter of John Paul II.

Furthermore, the thesis concentrates on the differences between suffering in male and female experience and also on examining the meaning and mission of suffering in the lives of two contemporary saints, Father Pio and Mother Theresa. The analysis is undertaken with the help of the tools offered by the International Theological Commission document *Communion and Stewardship: Human Persons Created in the Image of God*.

At the closure of the work, there are described several concrete cases of people who went through the experience of suffering in their lives.

Human suffering, the suffering of women, the suffering of men, Father Pio, Mother Theresa, *Communion and Stewardship*.