

This bachelor thesis deals with the conceptions of Guilt, Purification and Forgiveness. Based on the study of the writings of Karl Jaspers, Božena Komárková, Martin Buber and Helmut Weber, the thesis comes to an understanding of the issues of guilt, forgiveness and purification in both philosophical and theological terms. Furthermore, this work introduces other issues that relate to the chosen topic, for example, the concepts of Repentance, Penance and Conversion. Thanks to the acquired findings, I want to come to an understanding of the concept of guilt in Bernhard Schlink's novel *The Reader*. This thesis is concerned with Schlink's comprehension of guilt as well as with the foundation for reconciliation with guilt that Schlink outlines.