INOCENT-MÁRIA V. SZANISZLÓ OP

FUNDAMENTAL MORAL THEOLOGY

Study about integral moral human acting in classical and modern interpretations

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CONTENTS

Introduction 9
Abbreviations 11
List of Table s..... 13
1 What is a Moral Theology and what is its basic question 15
2 Relationship between philosophical and theological ethics 25
3 Roles, objectives and sources of the Moral Theology and academical theological research inside the Church ... 45
3.1 Role and objectives of Moral Theology 45
3.2 Primary sources of Moral theology 49
3.3 Secondary sources of Moral Theology 52
3.4 Ecumenical dialogue with separated brothers on the basis of moral theology 60
3.5 Moral Theology methods 64
3.6 The relationship between the theologian and the magisterium of the Church 67
3.7. Problems of Autonomous Moral Theology 79
3.7.1. The Answer of the Encyclical *Veritatis Splendor* of Pope John Paul II 86
4 History of Moral Theology in the ecclesiastical context 97
4.1 The Positive Period (Patristic period of the Fathers) summarizing the material of the Bible and Tradition (lasting until the 12th century) 98

4.1.1 Pastoral directives 98
4.1.2 Eastern Fathers - Alexandrian School 100
4.1.3 Western Fathers 103
4.1.4 Early Middle Ages (*Libri poenitentiales*) 105
4.2 The speculative period (the great scholasticism, centered in the 13th century) 106
4.2.1 The Doctrine of St. Thomas Aquinas 108
4.2.2 Franciscan Nominalism 110
4.3 Casuistic period 112
4.3.1 The period before the Council of Trent 112
4.3.2 The period after the Council of Trent (separation of Moral Theology from Dogmatics) 113
4.3.3 Modern Age 119
4.3.4 Pre-Conciliar period of the 20th century to 1930 123
4.3.5. Pre-Conciliar period of the 20th century after 1930 125
4.4 Period of Renovation (associated with Council Vatican II) 129
4.5. Contemporary Problems of Moral Theology 131
5 Moral conduct as the basis for unifying man with God 139
5.1 God's action, his challenge and the calling of man 139
5.1.1 Man as the image of God 139
5.1.2 The historical-biblical dimension of God's call in the history of salvation 141
5.1.2.1 Old Testament Ethics 141
5.1.2.2 New Testament Ethics 144
a) The Synoptic: 144
b) Ethics of St. Paul 152
c) Ethics of St. John 155
5.1.2.3 God's call in the liturgy 156
5.1.3 Ontological dimension of God's call to man .. 157
5.1.3.1 Moral order 158
5.1.3.2 About the ultimate goal of man-thomistic Eudaimonism 160
5.2 Man's Response to God's Call. Morality of Human Action (Intention and Decision) 167
5.2.1 Elements (criterion, norms) of moral conduct 169

5.2.1.1 Normative theories in justification of human action 172
5.2.1.2 Person's goodness as a Moral Theological criterion. Teleological personalism of Weber 182
5.2.1.3 *Veritatis splendor* view of teleologism 186
5.2.1.4 Günthör's critique of the teleological confrontation of goodness 190
5.2.2 Human act and its division 192
5.2.2.1 Sources of morality of human action (relation of human act to Moral order) 193
(a) Sources of the external act 193
(b) Source of the internal act 195
5.2.2.2 Freedom 197
Right to freedom 200
The Scripture's View of Freedom 200
5.2.2.3 Obstacles to human acts 201
5.2.2.4 The imputability of the act (responsibility) and effect 204
5.2.2.5 Cooperation with another person's external act 205
5.2.2.6 Dual effect principle (*principium duplicis effectus*) 206
5.2.2.7 Passions 206
5.2.2.8 Merits and certainty of merit 208
5.2.2.9 *Optio fundamentalis* (Basic and preliminary decision) 209
5.2.2.10 Community influence on the Basic decision 212
5.2.2.11 Motive (intention, thinking) and requirement of acts 214
Bibliography 223

INTRODUCTION

This study, which we prepared as part of the lectures of Fundamental Moral Theology at the Faculty of Theology of the Catholic University of Ružomberok in Košice, Slovakia, and significantly updated during the lectures of Fundamental Moral Theology for the Mater Ecclesiae Institute at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas Angelicum in Rome, we focused on finding a definition of moral theology with the help of several personalities, especially of European moral theology (many of them we had the opportunity to know and listen in person).

Given the challenges of some important moralists (e.g., Prof. Peschke, Weber, Schockenhoff, etc.), we also focused on removing the dichotomy between theological and philosophical ethics in finding a place for moral theology at the heart of modern civil society. In the third chapter we tried to point out the importance of individual tasks and sectors of moral theology within other scientific disciplines as well as the position of the moral theologian in the complex of Catholic theological research and the role of the Magisterium of the Church. At the same time, we also addressed some modern directions of moral theology (e.g., autonomous ethics) and their critical assessment by the Magisterium of the Church, or even the Pope John Pau II himself.

In the fourth penultimate chapter, we tried to bring readers closer to the short history of the scientific subject of Moral Theology, which clearly shows the historical development not only of this scientific department, but also of the whole Church. Finally, in the last fifth chapter of this first part of our study, we focused on a comprehensive interpretation of the holistic action of man with the help of biblical and systematic dogmatic theology.

After completing this study, we would like to focus on its continuation in the second part, where we would like to point out the scientific elaboration of individual elements of Fundamental Moral Theology, which we have not yet published. In 2021, we published the study *Moral and Theological Virtues: From Moral Theology to Social Ethics* at Angelicum University Press. We therefore have to administer the fundamental elements of Moral Theology, such as Moral Law, Moral Conscience, and Sin.

Inocent-Mária Vladimír Szaniszló OP

ABBREVIATIONS

AAS	=	*Acta Apostolica Sedis*
AA	=	*Apostolicam Actuositatem*
Ex, Lv, Dt, etc.	=	Biblical abbreviations after Holy Bible, URL: https://www.catholic.org/bible
CCC	=	Catechism of the Catholic Church
CCL	=	Codex of Canon Law
D	=	The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Instruction Donum Veritatis, On the Ecclesial vocation of the theologian
DS	=	Denzinger Heinrich - Schönmetzer Adolf, *Enchiridion Symbolorum, definitionum et declarationum de rebus fidei et morum*
DV	=	Second Vatican Council, Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, *Dei Verbum*
FC	=	Apostolic Exhortation of Pope John Paul II, Familiaris Consortio
FR	=	The encyclical letter of Pope John Paul II, *Fides et ratio*
GS	=	Second Vatican Council, Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, *Gaudium et Spes*

HV	=	The encyclical letter of Pope Paul VI, *Humanae Vitae*
LG	=	Second Vatican Council, Dogmatic Constitution of the Church, *Lumen Gentium*
NA	=	Second Vatican Council, Document *Nostra Aetate*
OT	=	Decree on Priestly Training of Vatican II, *Optatam Totius*
PH	=	Congregation for The Doctrine of The Faith, Persona Humana, Declaration on certain questions concerning Sexual Ethics
RH	=	The encyclical letter of Pope John Paul II, *Redemptor Hominis*
SC	=	Second Vatican Council, Constitution on the sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*
VS	=	The encyclical letter of Pope John Paul II, *Veritatis Splendor*

LIST OF TABLES

1.1. Summary of seeking a definition of the scientific discipline of Moral theology
2.1. Summary of the relationship between Philosophical and Theological Ethics
3.1. Summary of roles, objectives and sources of the Moral Theology and academical theological research inside the Church
4.1. Summary of History of Moral Theology in the Ecclesiastical Context
5.1. Summary of Moral conduct as the Basis for unifying man with God

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