

Abstract

The presented doctoral dissertation titled „The Vocation of a Woman in the Philosophical and Theological Reflection of Edith Stein“ characterizes the development of the anthropological concept of Edith Stein (1891–1942), a philosopher of Jewish origin, and it concentrates particularly on this author’s philosophical and theological reflection of a woman.

This dissertation intends to comprehend, how Stein defined the mutual relation between philosophy and theology, or rather philosophical and theological anthropology, and how this comprehension showed in the particular stages of her creative work at formulating her anthropological concept. It also focuses on the understanding of the relation between the terms „natural“ and „supernatural“ in Stein’s anthropological concept.

The dissertation is divided into seven chapters including the introduction and the conclusion. It works with Stein’s texts that were published in the series „*Edith Steins Werke*“ and „*Edith Stein Gesamtausgabe*“. These texts focus on philosophical and theological anthropology (Chapter 4 and 5) and on theory of upbringing and education (Chapter 6). Stein’s autobiographical writings and letters became fundamental for composing her biography, which is pre-pended to the actual dissertation theme (Chapter 2). The biography should help to understand Stein’s intellectual development. The comprehension of the mutual relation between philosophy and theology, philosophical and theological anthropology and of the terms „natural“ and „supernatural“ according to Stein is treated in Chapter 3. Stein’s texts are analysed from the point of view of the observed theme, which is the woman’s personality and her vocation in the author’s philosophical and theological reflection. They are examined in the context of the research on Stein and of the contemporary state of theological cognition. The distinctions between Stein’s opinions and the contemporary state of cognition are mentioned in references to relevant theological literature.

Keywords

human, person, empathy, soul, body, spirit, woman, vocation, grace, nature, matrimony, maternity, virginity, priesthood, upbringing, anthropology, phenomenology, scholastic philosophy