

Freedom As The Basis Of Social Life In Priest Józef Tischner's Thoughts

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English summary

This thesis is intended to analyze Tischner's thoughts about freedom. It was the key value for him, but not the essential one – good was the most important. However freedom was defined variously by him, he treated it mainly as the way of existence of good. Tischner was an active participant in important events in Poland in the second half of the twentieth century. He showed his attachment to freedom many times. His thought was rooted in the oeuvre of philosophers, mainly those Christian, German and Jewish ones. John Paul the second had a great influence on him. He agreed with the pope as for the need for defense of human dignity. Tischner valued economic freedom and free market. However, he was emphasizing the necessity of solidarity with those in need. He warned against blaming freedom for pauperizing society or attacks against the Church. He was a strong supporter of democracy, but the one which has the ethical basis. He valued such abilities as living in community, dialogue, caring of common good and patriotism. His view was related to Lord Acton's and Mirosław Dzielski's thoughts, who were considered Christian liberals. On the other hand, he was opposed to some views of classical liberalism: abortion and customary easiness. He did not find freedom to be an absolute value. His thought was mostly concurrent with Catholic social teaching after the Second Vatican Council.

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