

B. Lonergan and J. Metz in Dialectical Conversation

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After he completed *Method in Theology* in 1972, Bernard Lonergan turned the attention of the remaining years of his life to the project of a renewed study of economics. This was largely a result of comments made by Gustavo Gutierrez requesting that those who were able to construct an economic theory with an eye toward justice should do so. Yet this emphasis on justice in terms of systematic-theoretic economic reflection did not translate in Lonergan's own work into a dialogue with so-called 'political theologies' focusing on the theological ramifications of and grounds for particular socioeconomic and political orders. This paper takes a step in that direction by placing Lonergan's thought into dialogue with that of Johann B. Metz, a proponent of a so-called 'mystical-political' theology.

Following an initial introductory overview of the paper's contents, Blackwood will present an account of the scale of values, including Robert M. Doran's developments linking the scale with the cognitional-intentional anthropology developed by Lonergan. Then, Horstkoetter will offer an explication of Metz' mystical-political theology linking it, as was done with Lonergan's scale of values, to its anthropological base. Returning for a third section, Blackwood will outline the benefits of Lonergan's construal of the scale of values and the related anthropology, noting where it is complementary to or could be corrective of Metz' position. Finally, Horstkoetter will likewise offer an analysis of Lonergan's scale of values from a Metzian perspective, noting complementary and corrective loci from that point of view.

By placing Lonergan's thought into a dialectical analysis with that of Metz, the contributions of Lonergan can be brought to bear on the issues recognized and addressed by explicitly political theologies, while the contributions of explicitly political theologies can aid in the broadening of the horizon of Lonergan scholarship in terms of the theological analysis of socio-economic situations.