Medieval Philosophy

Faith and Reason III:
Saint Thomas Aquinas
Review

- Latin Averroism
- Eternity of the world
- Thesis: sometime faith and reason are truly contradictory
- Two truths
- Master of Arts
- Autonomy of philosophy
Saint Thomas Aquinas

- 13th Century, preeminent Dominican Theologian
- Student of Albert Magnus
- Integration of Aristotle
- Opposed to Latin Averroism
The Unity of Truth

• Truth is based on reality

• The consistency of truth

• *The same thing cannot be and not be at the same time and in the same respect*

• Impossibility of opposed “truth”: contradictory propositions cannot both be true
The Branches of Truth

Truth

Nature: known through reason

Arts and Sciences

Revelation: known through faith

Mysteries

Preambles of faith

Transcends reason

Revealed and knowable

By reason

Truth is unified and diverse
The Harmony of Faith and Reason

- Distinction of faith and reason
- Unity of faith and reason
- Conflicts are only apparent
- Mysteries are not contrary to reason
The Primacy of Faith

- Unity not equality
- Revelation is superior
- Unity through hierarchy
- Example regarding the eternity of the world
The Handmaiden of Philosophy

• Revelation is higher than nature
• Primacy of faith
• Primacy of theology
• Philosophy and theology really distinct
• Role and value of philosophy
Credits

• Picture slide 3: https://fineartamerica.com/featured/2-st-thomas-aquinas-granger.html

• Slide 6: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Aquinas#/media/File:Andrea_di_Bonaiuto._Santa_Maria_Novella_1366-7_fresco_0001.jpg

• Slide 7: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sassetta_-_St_Thomas_Inspired_by_the_Dove_of_the_Holy_Ghost_-_WGA20847.jpg

• Slide 8: https://www.istockphoto.com/illustrations/st.-thomas-aquinas?sort=mostpopular&mediatype=illustration&phrase=st.%20thomas%20aquinas