

## Abstract

The aim of the paper called “Relevance of the Lonergan’s Theory of Understanding for the Method in Theology” is to present the contribution of the Lonergan’s original epistemological studies for a method, not only in theology. In the base of the paper, there are a question how much is important or even necessary for theology to consider its own methodology in the context of interdisciplinary dialog between philosophy, theology and natural sciences.

Lonergan’s Transcendental Method is based on his epistemological understanding, especially his so called “Cognitive Structure”. He describes our cognitive operations and classifies them in several levels. First three are empirical, intellectual and rational. According Lonergan, from the last level we normally move to ethical campus. Then he realizes that in human lives there are phenomena which we could call intellectual, moral or religious conversions. These are fundamental for the Transcendental Method. Lonergan then defines eight steps of the Method: research, interpretation, history, dialectic, foundations, doctrines, systematics and communications. Some critics object that Lonergan’s methodological investigations are too general to be a theological method. Nevertheless, we have to recognize his inspiring attempt to find an adequate way to do research in theology in this time.

Theological Method – Epistemology – Transcendental theology – Cognitive Structure – Bernard Lonergan