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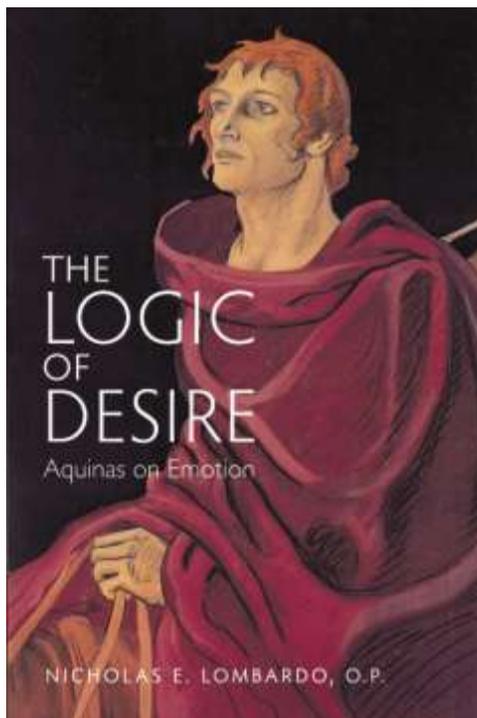
The Logic of Desire

Aquinas on Emotion

By Nicholas E. Lombardo, O.P.

Winner of the 2011
John Templeton Award
for Theological Promise

“Nicholas Lombardo’s beautifully argued and carefully documented book is a persuasive retrieval of what Saint Thomas himself obviously regarded as essential to our understanding of the moral and spiritual life—even more important now than in his own day.”—*Fergus Kerr, O.P., Honorary Fellow, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh*



A critical study of
Aquinas’s account of
emotion and its
enduring relevance

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When Thomas Aquinas completed his *Treatise on the Passions*, it was likely the longest sustained discussion of the emotions ever written. His influence on medieval and early modern philosophy was enormous, overshadowing every other medieval author on the topic of emotion. **Although Aquinas’s account of emotion merits attention for its historical significance and enduring value, it remains neglected by philosophers and theologians.**

With emotion emerging as a focus of interest in many disciplines, the **time is ripe for a reconsideration of Aquinas’s contribution. Desire and emotion are central to Aquinas’s theological project, and his views on many topics, including the relationship between cognition and emotion, show remarkable prescience in the light of recent developments.** Emotion is particularly important to his understanding of virtue and vice. Focusing on the *Summa theologiae*, Nicholas Lombardo contributes to the recovery, **reconstruction, and critique of Aquinas’s account of emotion in dialogue** with both the Thomist tradition and contemporary analytic philosophy. It **considers Aquinas’s thought on emotion in its historical context and inner logic, and shows how it bears on larger issues in his anthropology and ethics.**

The Logic of Desire is a winner of the 2011 John Templeton Award for Theological Promise given by the Research Center of International and Interdisciplinary Theology, University of Heidelberg, Germany.