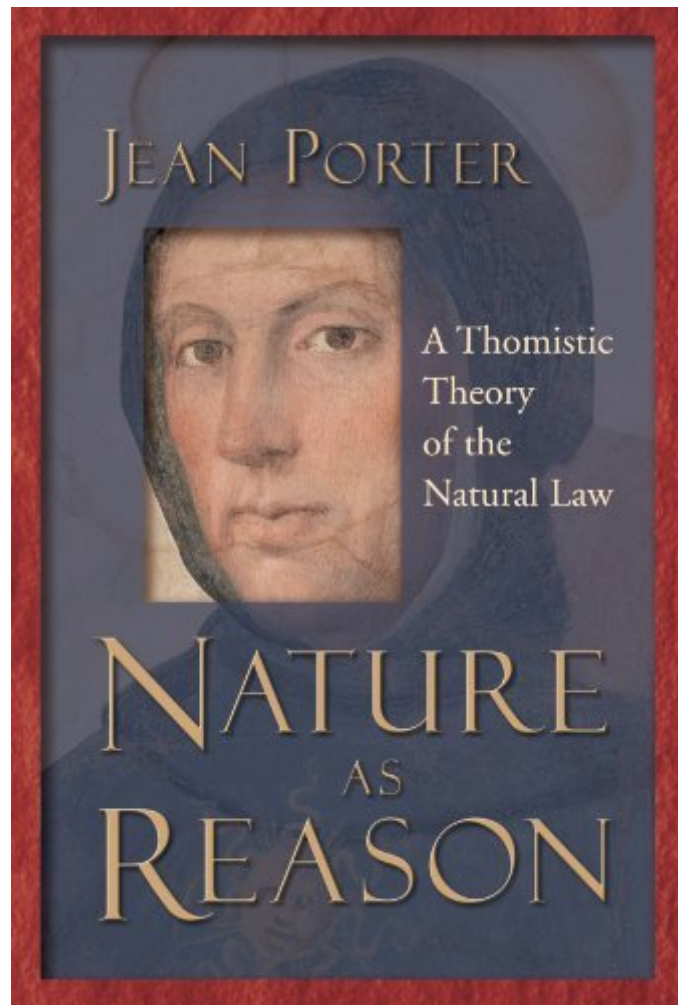


The book was found

Nature As Reason: A Thomistic Theory Of The Natural Law



Synopsis

This noteworthy book develops a new theory of the natural law that takes its orientation from the account of the natural law developed by Thomas Aquinas, as interpreted and supplemented in the context of scholastic theology in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Though this history might seem irrelevant to twenty-first-century life, Jean Porter shows that the scholastic approach to the natural law still has much to contribute to the contemporary discussion of Christian ethics. Aquinas and his interlocutors provide a way of thinking about the natural law that is distinctively theological while at the same time remaining open to other intellectual perspectives, including those of science. In the course of her work, Porter examines the scholastics' assumptions and beliefs about nature, Aquinas's account of happiness, and the overarching claim that reason can generate moral norms. Ultimately, Porter argues that a Thomistic theory of the natural law is well suited to provide a starting point for developing a more nuanced account of the relationship between specific beliefs and practices. While Aquinas's approach to the natural law may not provide a system of ethical norms that is both universally compelling and detailed enough to be practical, it does offer something that is arguably more valuable -- namely, a way of reflecting theologically on the phenomenon of human morality.

Book Information

File Size: 3553 KB

Print Length: 432 pages

Publisher: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing (December 20, 2004)

Publication Date: December 20, 2004

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00EP8VVYM

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #442,137 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #14

inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Law > Perspectives on Law > Natural Law #48 inÂ Books >

Law > Legal Theory & Systems > Natural Law #118 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Religion &

Customer Reviews

In this detailed and carefully researched work, Jean Porter examines St Thomas's theory of natural law, and examines how it can apply to contemporary moral questions and issues. Fortunately Porter's work is refreshingly clear of the apologetic tone much work on natural law takes, especially in Catholic circles. Many people appeal to the natural law to defend the teachings of the Catholic magisterium (teaching authority of the church), particularly in more controversial areas like sex, gender and bioethics. Such writers often appeal to the thought of St Thomas, when in fact they are simply appealing to what the Pope or a Vatican congregation has said about the matter in a doctrinal document or encyclical. While such an approach may have its uses (i.e. in training seminarians) it doesn't constitute real scholarship. Porter's work avoids two-dimensional apologetics and instead tries to retrieve the substance of St Thomas's teaching in contemporary language. The result is a refreshing and open-minded interpretation of Thomas and his natural law theory. The biggest stumbling block is the teleological view of nature underlying St Thomas's theory. Doesn't evolution and physical science show clearly the universe really has no direction or purpose? How can human life have meaning in the face of a seemingly cold and hostile universe, of which humans are like specks of dust? Even Blaise Pascal seemed to realise this when he said the infinite, cold spaces of endless time and space caused deep fear and anxiety in him. Even so, St Thomas is worth taking seriously, even if only because he uses rigorous argument rather than appeals to authority to work out a position.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Nature as Reason: A Thomistic Theory of the Natural Law Wisdom in the Face of Modernity: A Study in Thomistic Natural Theology (Faith and Reason: Studies in Catholic Theology and Philosophy) The Idea of Natural Rights: Studies on Natural Rights, Natural Law, and Church Law 1150 1625 (Emory University Studies in Law and Religion) The Mystery of Union with God: Dionysian Mysticism in Albert the Great and Thomas Aquinas (Thomistic Ressourcement Series) Between Authority and Interpretation: On the Theory of Law and Practical Reason Natural Remedies for Dogs : 101 Safe & Natural Essential Oils' Remedies for Your DOG: (Natural Remedies For Dogs, Essential Oils Remedies For Dogs, Natural Dog Care, Recipes For Dogs, Home Remedies) The Natural Navigator: The Rediscovered Art of Letting Nature Be Your Guide (Natural Navigation) Beyond All Reason: The Radical Assault on Truth in American Law Natural Law and Human Nature Natural Relief from Asthma (Natural Health Guide) (Alive Natural Health

Guides) Bringing Nature Home: Floral Arrangements Inspired by Nature Wonders of the World:
Mother Nature at Work: Nature Books for Kids (Children's Mystery & Wonders Books) FISH: Fun
Facts and Incredible Pictures on Animals and Nature: Fish (AGE 7-12) (Children's Books on
Animals & Nature, fish,) IP6: Nature's Revolutionary Cancer Fighter: Nature's Revolutionary
Cancer-Fighter Genetically Engineered Food: Changing the Nature of Nature Genetically
Engineered Food: Changing the Nature of Nature: What You Need to Know to Protect Yourself,
Your Family, and Our Planet It's Just My Nature! A Guide To Knowing and Living Your True Nature
Nature Conservation in Greenland: Research, Nature and Wildlife Management := Naturbevaring I
Grønland: Forskning, Naturog Vildtforvaltning := ... (English and Danish Edition) Beyond
Ecophobia: Reclaiming the Heart in Nature Education (Nature Literacy Series, Vol. 1) The Nature of
Theoretical Thinking in Nursing: Third Edition (Kim, The Nature of Theoretical Thinking in Nursing)

[Dmca](#)