



St. Anselm and His Fools in Today's World

By Otto Guggemos

GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 36 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.5in. x 0.1in. Seminar paper from the year 1998 in the subject Theology - Systematic Theology, grade: A, Regent College, Vancouver, B. C. , Kanada, course: The Gospel in the World of Thought: Christian Perspectives on the History of Philosophy, language: English, comment: , abstract: Not long ago, I met with some friends, Christians and non-Christians, for a philosophy discussion. We discussed Anselm of Canterbury's ontological argument for the existence of God. None of us was convinced that Anselm's proof was valid. In the beginning of the evening, we agreed with Schopenhauer who called Anselm's argument a charming joke, but we went on talking and found ourselves challenged by Anselm's argument. It triggered a discussion that clarified various issues of our thoughts. This paper will be an investigation of the implications of Anselm's argument in the context of the contemporary western world -- an investigation of the multiple tangents from Anselm's philosophy to the streams of the popular mindsets of our time. Anselm (1033-1109), archbishop of Canterbury, lived in a time when many people felt that philosophical method possessed an intellectual respectability which theology lacked. Some theologians called Dialectics,...



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