[intro] The Human Person

What makes a human person a human person?	to promote moral responsibility, use god-given gifts to contribute to society
- created in the image and likeness of god	
- what is deserving of the person	
- essence of a person, a human person (to promote good)	

Church Perspectives

Imago Dei	a person is not just something, but someone
	intersubjectivity: treating people like objects
	both corporeal and spiritual: animated by a spiritual soul

Christian Thinkers

St. Thomas Aquinas

1) embodied spirit	body + spirit = human person. Inseparable
2) rational creature	can make choices to contribute to moral responsibility
3) relational being	social creatures
	we learn more about ourselves when we're with the people we love/hate
4) historical being	bounded by history, influence from the past
	we have a past to learn from, a present to apply these learnings to, and a future to look forward to

Christian Thinkers (cont)

5) unique though fundamentally equal	equality: from human dignity
	created from image and likeness of God
	we have diff dreams and perceptions in the world

Edit Stein

1) union of body and soul, embodied spirit

2) humans should be seen in the context of their inner motivations (human dignity)

3) role of empathy and understanding in human relationships (not a hierarchy)

Teilhard de Chardin

1) human beings are evolving toward a final spiritual unity

2) universe evolves toward a state of greater complexity

3) humans are led to cosmic redemption (spiritual quality)

Gabriel Marcel

1) who we are is influenced by others

Christian Thinkers (cont)

2) fundamentally a being in a relationship

GK Chesterton

1) needs philosophy for their own good

2) it is important for a human person to have something to believe in

3) reason is how individual and society advance

4) church is the meeting place and guardian of truth

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