

PHILOSOPHY

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On the subject-matter of philosophy of religion

The article is devoted to the consideration of the object and the subject-matter of philosophy of religion. Religion in its universal form is considered to be an object of philosophy of religion by way of comparing of an object of philosophy to the objects of theology and religious studies. The development of the subject-matter of philosophy of religion from essence and nature of religion (in classical philosophy) toward specificity of the religious experiences (in post-classical philosophy) and value of religious beliefs (in philosophy of the 20th century) is noted in the article. Analytical philosophy of religion and phenomenology of religion are considered specially, as the examples of non-essentialist discourse in philosophy. Therewith it is stated that the question on essence and nature of religion constitutes the subject-matter of philosophy of religion in spite of the historical transformations of the subject-matter.

Key words. Object of research, philosophy of religion, religion, religious beliefs, subject-matter of research.

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