

Fakultet filozofije i religijskih znanosti Sveučilišta u Zagrebu

organizira predavanje

TRACTARIAN ETHICS - WAY OF LIFE

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Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus is not a scientific treaty, as generally acknowledged, but an answer to *how* one should live. In this regard, we cannot overlook the influences of Leo Tolstoy on Wittgenstein's life and writings.

In the same way, as Tolstoy was searching for the true meaning of life, Wittgenstein was concerned with the same question in his early writings, namely, with the *purpose* of life or the world. (NB, p. 73) If Tolstoy enquired about the subject matter from a religious perspective, Wittgenstein posed the question from an ethical, aesthetic, spiritual and epistemological point of view. If religion reveals "the true meaning of life", the ethics of a happy man shows in his *way of living*, namely in his actions and attitudes. Accordingly, both religion and ethics treat "the true meaning of life" by investigating "the meaning of the world". For Wittgenstein, ethics and religion are in close association, as they both disclose the fundamental *sense* of life and the world, without which human existence becomes unbearable. When "the true meaning of the world" is taken hold, despair is overcome, and one can hope to live happily.

The lecture focuses mainly on Tractarian ethics and maintains that the *Tractatus* is not only a philosophical writing on ethics but also a righteous deed.