

MATEUSZ PENCUŁA

Unaffiliated Researcher

pencula@gmail.com

*Wolniewicz on Religion and Christianity*

The aim of the article, which is a part of my dissertation entitled *Atheistic Apology of Religion in Contemporary Polish Philosophy*, is to present the views of the late professor Bogusław Wolniewicz on religion and Christianity. The story of Bogusław Wolniewicz is very peculiar indeed. While he did not believe in all of the Christian dogmas (in particular in the Christian God and the possibility of life after death) he persistently called himself a Roman Catholic. Which lends itself to the following questions: what shaped his stance and philosophical outlook? Is there any strong claim that would support the idea of an atheistic Christianity?

The article consists of two major parts. In the first part, we analyse Wolniewicz's views on religion itself, presented by him in the paper *O istocie religii*. While doing so, we are trying to get to the essence of his religion and religiously inspired outlook according to which Wolniewicz was guided, and whether or not his theory can be properly described and explained as the phenomenon of religion. In the second part, we combine Wolniewicz's philosophy of religion with his views on Christianity. This, eventually, gives us the idea of how Wolniewicz perceived himself as a Roman Catholic, and what his theory can bring to the philosophical debate regarding religion.

Keywords:

philosophical anthropology, atheistic apologetics of religion, Christianity, religious feeling, Bogusław Wolniewicz, Polish philosophy, philosophy of religion, death