

ON GOOD (DISCUSSION)

The editor of ETYKA asked philosophers, moralists, and ethicists to address the problem of the "presence of the good".

The authors were confronted with the following questions: What is good from the point of view of different philosophical positions? Does the idea of the good have any currency and significance today and, if so, what do the currency and significance consist in? Are there any areas of public life in which the concept of the good has any special meaning? Does the good have any motivational functions in human action? What is the contemporary ideal of a good human being? Is there a good life now and did it exist in the past?

We have received many interesting answers which, quite understandably, did not cover the whole spectrum of problems.

Prof. W. Stróżewski's opening article concerns metaphysical problems of the concept of the good. Prof. Stróżewski develops the thought that Good is a foundation of being and a reason for what exists. Other papers (those by Prof. D. Dembińska, Prof. W. Galewicz and Mgr. A. Różewicz) describe, with insight and originality, the ancient conceptions of the good: the visions of Homer, Plato and Socrates. Prof. M. Przełęcki writes about the idea of goodness as the only grounding for and measure of normative ethics. Prof. K. Tarnowski confronts the experience of the good with the experience of evil. In his paper "Duty and Value", Dr. P. Łuków makes the surprising claim about the axiological (and not – deontological) nature of Kant's ethic. In the last paper, Mgr. Paweł Wołak addresses the problem of "the good life" in the recent developments of R. Dworkin's political philosophy.