

The last half-century is marked by research on Jewish-Christian relations in the Middle Ages based on historical-political interactions and theological dependencies, both on the conceptual level (categories that passed into the Christian dictionary from Judaism) and on the general level how to perceive Christianity in its relation towards Judaism. However, in the description of these accounts, medieval commentaries to the Letter to the Hebrews were ignored, especially those from the 12th and 13th centuries, although it was at that time that a number of innovative exegetical methods appeared at the universities, the relationship between literal and spiritual sense was established, *quaestiones* were introduced, and the achievements of the Jewish exegesis of the Bible were used alongside new Aristotelian interpretative tools. The relationships between them, visible in references, borrowings or discussions on *veritas hebraica*, indicates rich interactions which later determined social practices. A witness to these changes is the unique commentary on the Letter to the Hebrews by Saint Thomas Aquinas.

The project will fill existing gaps and analyze the historical and theological aspects of the medieval commentary on the Letter to the Hebrews, focusing on the ignored commentary of Thomas Aquinas, the greatest of the theologians of the Middle Ages, to the Letter to the Hebrews. The commentaries to Hebrews before St. Thomas, which could be his potential source of inspiration, offer insights on the originality of Aquinas' contribution. At the same time his references to the value of the old covenant (often quoting Old Testament explicitly and treating it in a typological way, as a figure of the New Testament) or sacrifices of Jewish temple worship, shows the differences between Christianity and Judaism, both regarding salvation history and specific aspects of theology of both religions (e.g. soteriology, anthropology).

The research will consist in identifying medieval commentaries to the Letter to the Hebrews, and analyzing their use by Aquinas (explicitly as implicit) in his commentary. This historical line of research will be expanded to include theological studies that will concern categories common to both religions (e.g. satisfaction, sacrifice, covenant, etc.).

The expected fruit of the project will be a comprehensive account of Aquinas' commentary on the Letter to the Hebrews (identification of manuscript traditions, relationships between different versions of the commentary etc.), analysis of the patristic and medieval reception of the Letter to the Hebrews and their use by Thomas Aquinas. This will require analyzing all medieval commentaries on this New Testament book not only from the theological point of view, but also from the exegetical one. In the third step, the theological content discovered in the commentary will be placed within contemporary Jewish-Christian dialogue. The reconfiguration of the ongoing dialogue could be beneficial if it included the theological message of the Letter to the Hebrews and its interpretations. The results of the project will be presented in a multi-author monograph, prepared by the best specialists in the field of biblical exegesis of the Middle Ages.