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Free Will in Analytic Theology

Abstract

In recent years, a movement known as Analytic Theology--which attempts to use the methods of analytic philosophy to explore and understand theological topics--has gained considerable momentum. Here, we summarize a number of issues in analytic theology where philosophical reflection on the nature of free will is especially relevant. In particular, we consider a number of interesting insects where philosophical commitments may constrain the development of theological formulations and where doctrinal commitments may limit philosophical thinking. Though not intended to be exhaustive, our list of topics includes providence, the problem of evil, sin, eschatology, grace, and the incarnation. Along the way, we point to some of the secondary literature that provides a good point of departure for these topics.