



Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas

Steven J. Jensen

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas

Steven J. Jensen

Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas Steven J. Jensen

Modern philosophy has long dismissed the traditional moral notion that some actions are inherently good or evil, claiming rather that actions lack clear boundaries and have no set nature, whether good, evil, or anything else. We might expect to find resources to rebut these consequentialist assertions in the perennial philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas. Unfortunately, the analysis of the moral species within Aquinas confounds even the most resolute. Thomists are far from unanimity on the very questions at issue, such as the role of intention in moral judgment and the importance of the exterior or "physical" act. One influential reading of Aquinas assigns intention a central role; another extols a return to teleology and to the physical nature of the action.

In *Good and Evil Actions*, Steven J. Jensen navigates a path through the debate, retrieving what is of value from each interpretation. Intention receives its proper due, while leaving room for physical causality and teleology. Jensen provides a novel explanation of self-defense and develops a much needed account of the dignity of the human person. With exceptional clarity, he identifies the essential issues, resolves conflicting views, and reveals the truth as conveyed by Aquinas.

In his foreword, Ralph McInerny praises the book as "a remarkable compendium of the status quaestionis of a large number of prickly issues associated with Thomas Aquinas's theory of human action, a fair look at proposed solutions, and finally Jensen's own best thought on the matter."

Steven J. Jensen is associate professor of philosophy at the University of St. Thomas in Houston and specializes in the areas of ethics and medieval philosophy.

Praise for the Book:

"An extraordinarily clear and complete synthesis of the philosophy involved in St. Thomas's understanding of the specification of human acts. Jensen delivers a compact presentation both of Thomas's thought on the topic and of the main current interpretations thereof."?Stephen L. Brock, Professor of Medieval Philosophy, Pontifical University of the Holy Cross

"A significant original contribution to a currently robust conversation in contemporary ethical debates. Jensen offers a novel interpretation of Aquinas's position on how to define an act as good or bad."?Thomas A. Cavanaugh, Professor of Philosophy, University of San Francisco

"A remarkable compendium of the status quaestionis of a large number of prickly issues associated with Thomas Aquinas's theory of human action, a fair look at proposed solutions, and finally Jensen's own best thought on the matter."?From the foreword by Ralph McInerny, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Michael P. Grace Professor of Medieval Studies, University of Notre Dame

"In recent years a very great deal has been written (mostly in English) about Thomas Aquinas's understanding of the moral specification of human actions. . . . Steven Jensen has taken on the daunting task of synthesizing this bulk of material, answering the questions, and explaining why he finds the major alternative answers unsatisfactory. In my opinion he has carried out the task with great success, substantially advancing our understanding of the matter. His book is rigorous and dense, but it is also very clear, concrete and linear, and it is not at all technical. Its readability and relative brevity belie the amount of labor and thought that must have gone into it." ?Stephen L. Brock, *Acta Philosophica*

"[The book] brings clarity to an ongoing contemporary debate on the specificity of human actions. The author offers a convincing interpretation of Aquinas's positions." ?Lucien J. Richard, OMI, *Catholic Library World*

"Jensen. . . walks readers through labyrinthine debates about what makes human actions good or evil. He traces rival positions surrounding the prickly issues of intention.

 [Download Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Tho ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint T ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas Steven J. Jensen

From reader reviews:

Jo Daigneault:

What do you concentrate on book? It is just for students as they are still students or that for all people in the world, what the best subject for that? Only you can be answered for that query above. Every person has various personality and hobby for every other. Don't to be obligated someone or something that they don't desire do that. You must know how great and also important the book Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas. All type of book could you see on many solutions. You can look for the internet sources or other social media.

Susan Tokarz:

In this 21st one hundred year, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make these people survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice through surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a e-book your ability to survive increase then having chance to stand up than other is high. In your case who want to start reading any book, we give you that Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas book as starter and daily reading guide. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Linda Pinkerton:

Now a day individuals who Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources in it can be true or not require people to be aware of each info they get. How many people to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Reading through a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information specifically this Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas book as this book offers you rich details and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

Debra Durso:

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got students? We believe that that query was given by teacher to the students. Many kinds of hobby, Every person has different hobby. Therefore you know that little person including reading or as reading become their hobby. You should know that reading is very important along with book as to be the factor. Book is important thing to include you knowledge, except your personal teacher or lecturer. You find good news or update with regards to something by book. Amount types of books that can you choose to use be your object. One of them is actually Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas.

**Download and Read Online Good and Evil Actions: A Journey
through Saint Thomas Aquinas Steven J. Jensen #ENOB316DIMF**

Read Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas by Steven J. Jensen for online ebook

Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas by Steven J. Jensen Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas by Steven J. Jensen books to read online.

Online Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas by Steven J. Jensen ebook PDF download

Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas by Steven J. Jensen Doc

Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas by Steven J. Jensen Mobipocket

Good and Evil Actions: A Journey through Saint Thomas Aquinas by Steven J. Jensen EPub