

Development of Pascal's Doctrine on Grace of God.

ABSTRACT

Blaise Pascal wrote on the grace of God and human free will in *Les Lettres Provinciales*, composed of 18 letters, from January 1656 to March 1657. He treated this subject in the first step: 1st to 3rd Letters, and the second step: 17th and 18th Letters. He presents three important doctrines of this subject, that is, the doctrine of Molina, that of Calvin and that of Saint Augustine. Molina insisted on the predominance of human free will, but Calvin denied it and emphasized that salvation of the human beings depends on only God's grace. Pascal rejects those two doctrines as heresy. He agreed with Saint Augustine's doctrine, that is, the predominance of God's grace, which drives human free will to the good or the bad; the work of human free will is not dead.

In writing this subject, Pascal has made better progress in the second step (17th and 18th Letters) than the first step (1st to 3rd Letters).

Key words: Pascal, St. Augustine, grace.