



TESI ACCADEMIA ALFONSIANA

Forbes Cameron Alexander

The Augustinian Foundations of the thought of Paul Ramsey on Just War



Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	9
Abbreviations.....	11
A Note Regarding Style and Sources.....	13
Introduction	15

Chapter One

Paul Ramsey the Moral Theologian

1.1 Paul Ramsey: a life.....	23
1.2 The context of Ramsey's work.....	25
1.3 Ramsey's intellectual profile.....	31
1.4 Ethicist or moral theologian?.....	40
1.5 Influences upon Ramsey.....	44
1.5.1 St Augustine.....	44
1.5.2 H. Richard Niebuhr.....	45
1.5.3 Reinholt Niebuhr	48
1.6 Why this thesis focuses on Augustine	52
1.7 Chapter summary.....	53

Chapter Two

Ramsey's Gradual Path Towards Just War Advocacy

2.1 The first phase	56
2.1.1 The importance of 'Basic Christian Ethics'	56
2.1.2 God's covenantal relationship	58
2.1.3 The kenosis of Jesus Christ	59

2.1.4 Agape defined as love of neighbour	60
2.1.5 Ramsey's conception of <i>agape</i>	62
2.1.6 The tension between freedom and the law	65
2.1.7 "Love and do as you then please": Ramsey's misattribution to St Paul	66
2.1.8 Fixed moral absolutes and the natural law	69
2.2 The second phase.....	71
2.2.1 The need for principles and norms	72
2.2.2 Reasons for the shift of emphasis.....	80
2.2.3 Can <i>agape</i> still be incorporated?	81
2.2.4 How this change in thought relates to just war.....	83
2.3 Chapter summary from an Augustinian perspective.....	85

Chapter Three

Introducing Just War

3.1 The concept of just war	89
3.2 Augustine, political philosopher and 'father' of just war.....	92
3.3 Augustine's specific writings on just war	96
3.3.1 Pacifism and the Early Church	97
3.3.2 Ramsey's account of the Early Church.....	100
3.3.3 The texts themselves	101
3.4 Ramsey's representation of Augustine's just war writings.....	107
3.4.1 Transforming the virtues through love.....	107
3.4.2 Justice and the 'just' war.....	110
3.4.3 An appreciation of Augustinian realism	112
3.5 Augustine and Ramsey on non-combatant immunity.....	114
3.6 Chapter summary.....	118

Chapter Four

The City of God and Augustinian Realism

4.1 The <i>City of God</i>	121
4.1.1 Structure and purpose of the 'City of God'	122
4.1.2 Augustine's Two Cities.....	123
4.1.3 Peace and order	127
4.2 Ramsey as Augustinian realist.....	129
4.2.1 Reinhold Niebuhr's Augustinian political realism	130
4.2.2 Ramsey's "uses of power"	136
4.3 Chapter summary.....	139

Chapter Five

Paul Ramsey's Augustinian Approach to Statecraft

5.1 A biblical basis for statecraft	141
5.2 Three scriptural narratives on statecraft and the basis for government ...	143
5.2.1 Cain and Abel	144
5.2.2 Noah and the Flood	146
5.2.3 The Tower of Babel	150
5.3 Chapter summary.....	155

Chapter Six

Paul Ramsey and the Catholic Magisterium

6.1 <i>Pacem in terris</i>	157
6.1.1 The contents of 'Pacem in terris'	158
6.1.2 The historical climate	160
6.1.3 Ramsey's Augustinian critique	161
6.2 <i>Gaudium et spes</i>	164
6.2.1 War and peace in 'Gaudium et spes'	165
6.2.2 Condemnation of total war	166
6.2.3 The morality of deterrence	166
6.2.4 Ramsey's theological synthesis of 'Gaudium et spes'	168
6.3 Chapter summary.....	171
Conclusion	173
Bibliography	177