

# The Basics of Divine Foreknowledge and Human Freedom

## Handout for Lecture 4

### Antony Flew

- (1) If theism is true, then predestination is true.
- (2) If predestination is true, then humans cannot act otherwise than they do.
- (3) If humans cannot act otherwise, then they cannot be morally responsible.
- (4) If theism is true, then humans cannot be morally responsible. (from 1-3)
- (5) Some action is freely performed if and only if one is morally responsible for that act.
- (6) If theism is true, then no action is freely performed.

### Critique

- (2') If predestination is true, then humans can either act otherwise or not act otherwise.
- (4') If theism is true, then human acts could be morally responsible.

And (4') combined with (5) only yields

- (6') If theism is true, then human acts could be freely performed.

### Jean-Paul Sarte

- (7) If humans are indeterministically free, then humans cannot have a preexistent essence.
- (8) If theism is true, then humans have a preexisting essence.
- (9) If theism is true, then humans cannot be indeterministically free.

### Critique

- (10) If humans have a preexisting essence, then indeterministic freedom is meaningful.