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Elements in the Problems of God

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GOD AND NON-HUMAN ANIMALS

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God and Non-Human Animals

Elements in the Problems of God

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Abstract: This Element explores the relevance of non-human animals to theology. It suggests that while Christian theology has so far been a thoroughly anthropocentric discipline, there are good reasons for treating animals as subjects worthy of theological reflection in their own right. The Element considers animals in the context of Christian ethics, investigates whether the violence and suffering found in evolutionary processes can be reconciled with a good God, and surveys some of the ways key theological doctrines may need to be altered in the light of what contemporary science teaches about human animals and non-humans.

Keywords: theology, animals, non-humans, evolution, morality

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