History, civilization, culture: the experience of philosophical interpretation

St. Petersburg, 2011

The book examines different manifestations of culture in the modern world, develops the idea of the special status of philosophy in the European culture. Philosophy is interpreted as “time and space of culture”, “way of human consciousness in freedom”, “dialogue about the truth”. The author gives a description of national culture in the era of globalization, the relationship of culture and state. The author examines the prospects for Russia in search of its civilization identity, the possibility of intercultural dialogue between Russia and Europe, the phenomenon of the “Russian idea”, cultural factors of Russian modernization, problems and difficulties of Russia’s advance towards the universal civilization.
A peculiar interpretation of the phenomenon of loneliness is already revealed in the ancient Greek philosophical culture. Since man in antiquity is understood as living in the physical world, then, accordingly, the phenomenon of loneliness is primarily interpreted by Greek philosophers as the physical state of man, as the degree of spatial isolation of the individual from the social whole. It invites every person who is in search of divine truths to follow his example from birth to death, accumulating in his life the experience of religious loneliness. Recognition of the need for religious loneliness can be traced in the medieval philosophical and theological tracts, in particular, in the works of Blessed Aurelius Augustine.