

---

# Piero Coda's Theology of History as ongoing memory of Humanity's participation in the Trinitarian kenosis

**Autore:** Brendan Purcell

**Fonte:** Sophia

**This essay was originally delivered as a paper at a symposium on the topic of *Translatio Imperii* at the University of Hong Kong in February 2010. After the ideological horrors of the 20th century, participants were asked: ‘Can one still speak in any legitimate way of a divine providence in history?’ Piero Coda’s work, particularly his *Evento Pasquale, Il negativo e la trinità*, and *Il logos e il nulla*, could be read as a development of a humanism expanded to the dimensions of a participation in the Trinitarian kenosis. His grappling with Hegel shows the centrality of Jesus’ forsakenness and of the Trinity to contemporary culture, while his *Il Logos e il nulla* indicates how the intra-Trinitarian kenosis becomes the context for dialogue with the great oriental religions. Finally, his ‘Towards a Theological Foundation for a Political Category of Fraternity’ develops a Trinity-based understanding of fraternity as an experience overcoming religious, social, and anthropological divisions in contemporary culture. Shining through Coda’s work can be discerned a profound rethinking of divine providence in a history however deeply scarred by evils such as the Holocaust.**

Perhaps Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn’s most powerful single response to the Bolshevik coup d’état and consequent ideological revolution in Russia was his novel, *In the First Circle*<sup>1</sup>. His answer to the *Inferno* of Stalin’s anti-world of betrayal is the *Paradiso* of Nadya’s and Gleb’s faithfulness, all the more heroic when neither are aware of the other’s fidelity overcoming the temptation to be unfaithful. The novel focuses on those good souls – who despite being externally bound by hell’s “first circle” – have yet achieved a spiritual freedom allowing their participation in the mutual love that is the key to Dante’s *Paradiso*. As we know, Dante’s journey from *Inferno* through *Purgatorio* to *Paradiso* culminates in his vision of the mutual love of the Trinity.

(per leggere l'intero articolo, scarica il PDF cliccando sull'icona)