

## **The Idea of Silence in Ludwig Wittgenstein's Philosophy**

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Wittgenstein's *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* ends with a quote [7] «Whereof one cannot speak, thereof one must be silent.» The speech will concern the idea of silence in his writings. Values cannot be spoken but shown like everything else what is connected to religion and sense of life.

The world consists of facts. That was explicitly said in the first statement: [1] The world is all that is the case: [1.1] The world is the totality of facts, not of things. These statements express ontology. But the ineffable exceeds the ontology. If so, what is it then?

Three interpretations of the seventh statement could be distinguished: (1) logic, (2) as closure of philosophy, (3) metaethical.

When it comes to the first one, it is very close to neopositivistic attitude. Philosophical statements are senseless and they stand in contradiction to the statements of science.

The *Tractatus* ending statement could be seen as the closure of philosophy as well. In other words, it shows the way to the proper method of philosophy that provides knowledge about the world (that consists of meaningful statements). To do that, the knowledge ought to describe facts. Wittgenstein analyzes a few starting points of philosophy considered in that manner: logic, math, ethics, aesthetics, Great Questions of Philosophy.

Finally, the seventh statement could be considered as metaethical thesis. Knowledge itself provides logical information about the world and as that is included in wisdom. Beyond that, wisdom gives way to achieve values through practical application of knowledge.