**NECESSITY AND TRUTH**

What, in its true nature and possibility, is known?

It is clear that the sun is hot, and that the earth is round, and many other propositions of the same sort are known, not only by the powers of the mind but by the experience of the senses. These propositions are true, and they are known.

But there are propositions of a different kind, which are not known by the senses, but only by the powers of the mind. These are propositions of necessity, which are known by reason alone.

For example, it is known that if a proposition is contradicted, then it is necessarily false. This is a proposition of necessity, and it is known by reason alone.

But what is the nature of this kind of knowledge? How is it possible to know such propositions?

These are the questions that we will try to answer in this paper.

*St. Thomas Aquinas*