



## Aquinas on Matter and Form and the Elements: A Translation and Interpretation of the De Principiis Naturae and the De Mixtione Elementorum of St. Thomas Aquinas

By Joseph Bobik

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Joseph Bobik offers a translation of Aquinas's *De Principiis Naturae* (circa 1252) and *De Mixtione Elementorum* (1273) accompanied by a continuous commentary, followed by two essays: "Elements in the Composition of Physical Substances" and "The Elements in Aquinas and the Elements Today." The *Principles of Nature* introduces the reader to the basic Aristotelian principles such as matter and form, the four causes so fundamental to Aquinas's philosophy. *On Mixture of the Elements* examines the question of how the four elements (earth, air, fire, and water) remain within the physical things composed from them.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“This book offers a translation of Aquinas’s *De Principiis Naturae* (circa 1252) and *De Mixtione Elementorum* (1273) accompanied by a continuous commentary, followed by two essays: “Elements in the Composition of Physical Substances” and “The Elements in Aquinas and the Elements Today.” The unity of the volume rests in the question of the composition of natural things (whether out of matter and form, or out of the elements). . . . Bobik’s translation is remarkably clear.”

(*Review of Metaphysics*)

“Congratulations and thanks to Joseph Bobik for having provided a translation that is both accurate and readable of Thomas’s *De principiis naturae* and *De mixtione elementorum*.”

(*The Thomist*)

“This work is a companion to Bobik’s earlier translation and commentary on Aquinas’s *On Being and Essence*. *The Principles of Nature* introduces the reader to the basic Aristotelian principles such as matter and form, the four causes so fundamental to Aquinas’s philosophy. *On Mixture of the Elements* examines the question of how the four elements (earth, air, fire, and water) remain within the physical things composed from them. Bobik gives probably the first published English translation of this work by Aquinas. He includes a section that puts some of the issues raised into a broader context by relating Aquinas’s theory both to modern physics, especially the Big Bang theory, and to the work of a little-known medieval Jewish philosopher, Nahmanides.”

(*Religious Studies Review*)

#### Language Notes

Text: English, Latin (translation)

Original Language: Latin

#### About the Author

The late **Joseph Bobik** was professor of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

##### Ernest Keeler:

As people who live in the modest era should be revise about what going on or data even knowledge to make these people keep up with the era that is certainly always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to a

person is you don't know what kind you should start with. This Aquinas on Matter and Form and the Elements: A Translation and Interpretation of the De Principiis Naturae and the De Mixtione Elementorum of St. Thomas Aquinas is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and want in this era.

**Jennifer Wetzel:**

Precisely why? Because this Aquinas on Matter and Form and the Elements: A Translation and Interpretation of the De Principiis Naturae and the De Mixtione Elementorum of St. Thomas Aquinas is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will shock you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who else write the book in such awesome way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book have got such as help improving your skill and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I had been you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

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