

Abstract. The aim of this paper is to analyse some medieval tracts on *obligationes* and *sophismata*, in order to arrive at a general view of the concept of “doubt” such as it was understood by the Schoolmen in this particular context. In the case of *obligationes*, we will consider the variant known as *dubitatio*, in which the *respondens* must avoid the contradiction produced by acknowledging the same proposition, at the same instant, both as known and doubtful. The same topic is addressed by Richard Kilvington and William Heytesbury in their discussion of *sophismata* including the words *scire* and *dubitare*. From the analysis of these texts, we will show that some interesting remarks regarding the concept of “doubt” are not only valid within the narrow context of the training of young logicians in medieval universities; they are also of great interest for philosophical discussions that go well beyond academic disputations on strictly logical matters, reaching into epistemological and even theological matters.

Keywords: *Obligationes* - *Dubitatio* - *Sophismata* - Nicholas of Paris - William Heytesbury.

