Abstract: This paper examines contemporary theological epistemology within the ecclesiastical and university contexts, drawing insights from the International Theological Commission’s 2011 document „Theology Today: Perspectives, Principles and Criteria”. It focuses on the concept of „participatory knowledge,” emphasizing theology’s unique position as a discipline that integrates ecclesiastical tradition with academic inquiry. The study explores the dual identity of theology, highlighting its challenges and opportunities in bridging faith with reason. It contrasts theological methods with those of religious studies, arguing for a participatory approach that transcends empirical analysis by engaging with the divine mystery through a lived ecclesial faith. Conclusively, the paper argues for theology’s vital role in academic discourse, advocating for a deeper understanding of divine mystery that is rooted in participatory knowledge and the Church’s mission.

Keywords: theological epistemology, concretization of the Logos, epistemological voluntarism, sensus fidei, spiritual experience, theology and religious studies.

Kulcsszavak: teológiai episzemológia, Logosz konkretizálódása, episzemológiai voluntarizmus, hitérzék, lelki tapasztalat, hittudomány és vallástudomány.

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