

"NATURAL" THEOLOGY.

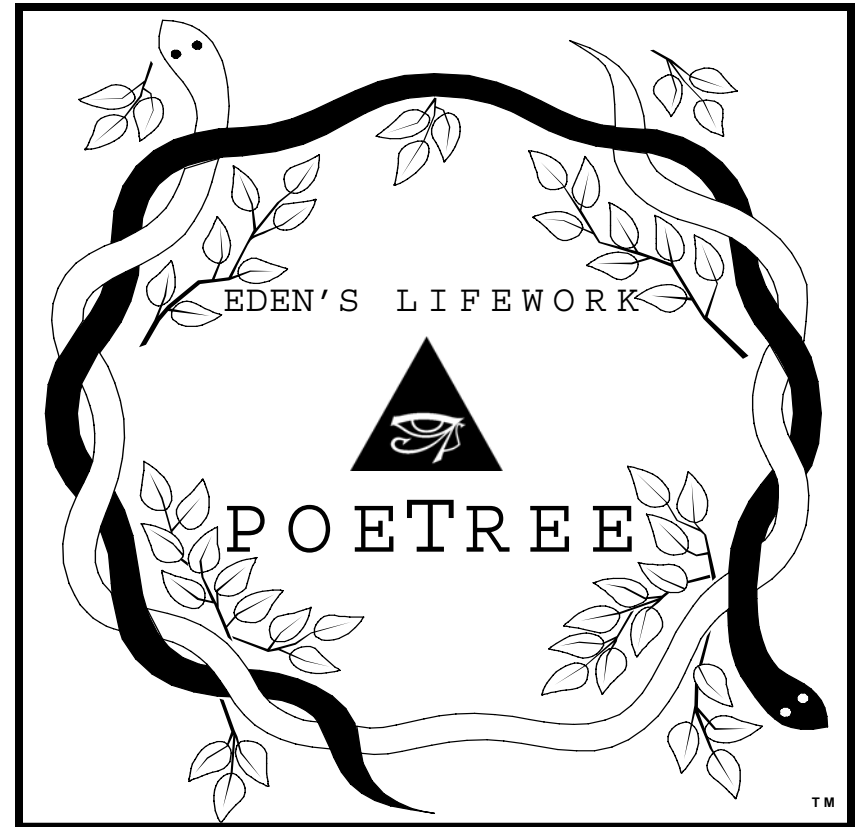
Can there be such a thing as authentic theology that is not "natural" ? *Nature* doesn't lie to theology, nor does *authentic theology* lie to or about Nature. Since theology is human concepts/words expressing the Creation/Creator relationship, the natural/divine relationship is misconceived and misstated except *humans get Nature right*; life's link to God is through and in Nature. Divine Providence provides *naturally*. One can conclude then that no pursuit is more "religious"—more *theological*—than getting it right with Nature.

Nature is so fundamentally related to theology that except we do/get Nature right, we do/get theology wrong. In the face of our accustomed theological/religious arrogance toward Nature, that can be a shocking thought for many of us.

Nature is Earthlife's Ecology, life's *essential continuity* of cosmic "coincidence". Quantum Science is humankind's contemporary window into the *essential continuity* of the cosmos, and by "hypostatic necessity", humankind's window into divinity. Spirituality (theological consciousness) relates to Nature as soul relates to substance; life's spirituality is nothing other than the *essentially continuous*, universal complex of self-conscious Nature.

Religion (theology) that makes God a sugardaddy who can be manipulated by self-obsessed children is religion that puts God to the test. It childishly toys with God. It's time for theology to grow up, for humankind to stop its childish toying. Its time that we mature religiously. The Creator cannot be arbitrarily manipulated by Creation, notwithstanding human culture and expectations to the contrary.

There are any number of issues that relate to manipulative theology. Not the least of which is the reality of Nature's "tough love" practices, i.e., Nature's way of exacting retribution for the arbitrary misbehavior of codependents. How, for example, does the overload of interventionist *technology* impact on human populations and how does its overload impact on network life? How might excessive human overload be curtailed so as not to destroy irreparably essential network life? Answers to these shadow the future.



.....  
SEVENTH BOOK  
.....

I : THEOGENESIS  
"Wisdom's Choice"

S Y L V E S T E R L S T E F F E N

## CHRISTIANITY'S GOLDEN CALF.

Cultural obsession for money is now so brazen, so in God's face, that we dare to cast on our coins the words "In God we trust". On its face, this boldness is a pretense, for trust we give is more in money than in God. Jesus' word is stark, "You can't serve God and money". Nowhere does Jesus counsel the "virtue" of money-raising. We must ask, "When good work is bureaucratized (capitalized) does it represent *faith-in-God*?" Or does it become an act of self-aggrandizing pride and greed—yet another idol? Calcutta's Mother Theresa offers us insight. The Knights of Columbus offered to endow her works financially so as to secure means for their future continuance. However, she refused the offer because in her belief money-capitalizing shows trust in money, not in God.

When we are conscionably faithful to God's Providence, to network life's ecology/economy, daily needs are met. Base-Community Churches seem yet committed to this faith—which confronts the unsustainable commercializing of *kingdom-building*, of money-raising. May their numbers increase. Jesus lashed out against the use of the Temple for money-raising. What would he say today about the money-raising passion of Christian Churches? Is the raising of money for/by institutions ever an honest substitute for Sacrament, for personal service to needs at hand? Personal conscience must give the answer. For me personally to profit on my writings would vitiate the integrity of purpose. Doing is integrity's test.

## WE MUST ASK.

*"Are we practicing un-awares idolatry in the liturgy and creeds of our Churches?"* We can't escape the hard evidence that we seem ready to pay more regard to symbolism than to reality. The efficacy of Sacrament isn't in the sign but in the effect represented in the sign. The living reality of life-in-process is the effect we celebrate in the stopped time-frames of religious ritual, symbol and creed. The presence of God in the growing *grain and grapes* (fact and metaphor) is too easily slighted in ritual concentration on bread and wine transubstantiation. It is idolatry to give higher regard to the feather than to its working in bird-flight. It is idolatry to value the fur more than the animal. Religion that alienates spirituality from substance is guilty of divisioning what God has joined.

Unless ritual, symbol and creed edify to Sacrament's *conscionable work* in real-life relationships, they are ineffectual in their religious purpose. Disconnected exercises (words *without* work) are spiritually fruitless even if they make the convinced ego feel good.

## PERSPECTIVE

I stand on the shoulders of Teilhard de Chardin whose Christocentric spirituality indicts the sterility of theological staticism. Chardin is the pre-eminent Christian evolutionist.

Evolution (transformation) is a natural force forging plurality from unity, unity from plurality. Herein is life's most profound mystery, the "unity of the many". It is capsulized in the axiom "ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny". The potential of "the many" is particularized in the individual. Complex life, from our present perspective, is a unity-mosaic detailed in the particularity of "the many". The more finely consciousness perceives particularity, the more "truthfully" the unity is understood. No one person possesses the full human potential of phylogenic DNA, but taken in total, the DNA of all human beings contain the ocean of human potential, *from* the past, *for* the future. Individual potential unfolds one day at a time in the contexts of time (history) and place (environment, Chardin's "milieu"). Social interaction grounds consciousness/conscience in the time/place complexity.

I understand Chardin's "Omega" to be what I call "essential continuity", Einstein's  $MC^2$ . If Einstein's **E** is the whole of universe-energy, then,  $MC^2$  is the whole of universe-energy, *quantum electrically substantiated in time*, at any given time.

Chardin's scientific openness was frustrated by Church officialdom's obtuseness; his knowledge of cosmic energy (physical) convinced him that it was also "psychic" energy, soul energy, and that there should be comparative research of both. (C. Cuenot, Teilhard de Chardin, 1965, Helicon Press, Baltimore, MD. Pg 350ff).

I understand Chardin's "milieu" to be St. John the Damascene's "sea of infinite substance". In this transformational "sea" life's potentials diversify by the inherent dynamics of *Nature* and the coherent dynamics of *Nurture*. Nature/Nurture unity (Sacrament) sustains the bondedness of transformational continuity, the consciousness of conscience—Chardin's "Christogenesis".

The Word of Natural Scripture is the Logos of our personal consciousness—the Word-made-flesh calling aware life to conscience—to rebirth in Christ.

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NOVOGENESIS  
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The **Quantum-Faith** Trilogy

METAGENESIS  
PROCESS METAPHYSICS  
The **Quantum-Hope** Trilogy

THEOGENESIS  
PROCESS THEOLOGY  
The **Quantum-Love** Trilogy

THE HOUSE OF BREAD  
ESSENTIAL EUCHARIST  
The **Quantum Continuity**

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THE GENESIS OF REASON-BASED RELIGION

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**A Continuing Work-in-progress**

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**CONSCIOUSNESS—INTELLIGENCE  
IS SOUL/SUBSTANCE'S SELF-AWARENESS  
EXPRESSED IN TIME.**

**Cosmology is to Philosophy  
what communication is to consciousness;  
communication is to consciousness  
what Faith is to Hope.**

**Philosophy is to Theology  
what consciousness is to conscience;  
consciousness is to conscience  
what Hope is to Love.**

**Reason is to Religion  
what truth is to wisdom;  
truth is to wisdom  
what Nurture is to Nature.**

**Nurture is to Nature  
what the Creator is to Creation,  
TRANSUBSTANTIAL CONTINUITY.**

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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LIGHT KEEPERS.

Religious Rightists  
Filter Too Bright Or Too Dark  
Sight Seeking Vision.

QUOUSQUE TANDEM?

*How Long? Will God Suffer  
Our Thankless Disregard?*

*How Long? Will God Suffer  
Inhumane Arrogance?  
Idolatry's Raising Of Self  
Above Nature's Order  
To Holy God's Domain?*

An Arrogant Disposition Toward Nature  
Is A Self-Chosen Hell;  
Nature's Patience  
Running Out  
Registers In  
The Desperation Of The Degraded Self.

In Trust Of Holy Nature  
All Becomes Possible;  
Spiritual Fullness  
Is The Experience Of Natural Nurture,  
Wholistic Living,  
Humble At-One-Ment  
With Creator/Creation.

CORPORATISM.

(Usurious or Uxorious?)

Patriarchism Opts  
Monovalency. Nature,  
Multivalency.

# THEOGENESIS

COMMUNAL SUBSIDIARITY



CHRISTIAN LOVE  
AND

THE THEOLOGY OF SOCIAL CONSCIENCE

**THE NEW THEOLOGY**

ENFLESHING CONSCIONABLE TRUTH

CONTINUITY IS THE RELIGION OF COSMIC COMMUNITY.

ECCENTRIC DOGMA.

Presumption's Arrogated Dogma Of Centric  
Locus For Earth In Cosmos,  
For Man In Creation,  
Is Erroneous On Many Counts  
Including The Denial Of Common Origin  
In Common Soul/Substance,  
Whether, *Living Or Nonliving.*

*In*

*Memory of*

*Maurice J. Dingman*

*Bishop of the Des Moines Diocese*

*Who Confirmed My Grail Quest*

*With The Instruction:*

*Write.*

*Rewrite.*

*Rewrite.*

*Rewrite.*

THE BEACHED BARK.

On The Seashores Of Time  
The Determined Winds Of Authoritarian Mind  
Collect The Driftwood Of Broken Barks.

On The Wind-Battered Beach  
Lies Stranded Peter's Bark, Violently Captained,  
Company To Driftwood By Its Own Doing.

The Creator Of Living Waters,  
The Calm Whisper Of Jahweh Silently At Work  
Is Swamped By Furies Of The Lesser Gods.

Who Ventures On Calm Waters Is  
Frustrated In Questing The Profound By Storms  
Fomenting In Minds Of Authoritarian Airs.

The Silence Of The Spirit Still Works,  
And God Breathes Refreshed Hope In Water  
Actively Conceding New Resurrections.

Seek Renewal In The Soft And Quiet  
Tidings Of The Sea, Not In Authoritarian Turmoil;  
Willingly Be Part Of God's Working.

MINDGAMES.

The Picturewords Of Gamemasters  
 Paint Pointless Fears In Peoples' Minds.  
 Two Sometimes Troubling Big Ones  
 Are Predetermination/Predestination.  
 The Not So Subtle But Groundless  
 Implication Of Sinister Force Outside Ourselves  
 Is Made That Personal Future  
 Is Insubordinate To Personal Control.  
 It Isn't So, Eventhough Every Species  
 Is Made To Climb Its Own Rope-Braided Ladder  
 Essentially Knotted In Proven Patterns  
 Passed On By Parents.  
*Predetermination* Is In The Cue-Cord  
 Advanced By Ancestors.  
 Everybody Is Predetermined  
 To The Extent That Everybody Is Qualified  
 By The Genetic Queue  
 Unbrokenly Connecting To Proto-Antiquity.  
 Equally Qualifying,  
 Is The Progressive Perfecting Of Mind/Body,  
 Advanced, Generation Upon Generation,  
 As Much By Nurtural Accommodation  
 As By Natural Determination!

And So Shall Continue  
 The Conscious Unity Of Mind/Body Interacting,  
 Probing, Choosing, Discarding,  
 Even Now Predetermining And Predestinying  
 The New Charactering Of Future Life.  
 The Moral Is:  
 If You Seem To Dangle At Rope's End,  
*Tie A Knot And Hang On!*  
 On Your Ingenuity Is The Future Suspense.

FOREWORD

Roman Catholicism claims historical continuity back to the Scriptures which have Jesus telling Peter (*Petrus*: "rock") that he is the "rock" upon which he (Jesus) will build his Church. The succession of institutional Catholicism claims to continue in Pope John Paul II.

Rocks and crystals, the substance of mountains, solid as they seem, are charged batteries of *electron*-dynamics. Human ingenuity is discovering that "solid-state" *electronics* are effective in communication (witness the technological explosion of solid-state "chips" giving power to the modern computer). The technology of *electronics* is *quantum*-different from the technology of electricity; the latter is harsh, high voltage, whereas, the former is soft, low voltage. The energy analogy is especially suited for its potential to defuse the destructive polarities of global societies, for it suits not just as metaphor but as fact with respect to cyber realities and micro-causes that escalate into macro-fields and warring polarities.

The "old " brain of *old* Church is "high voltage", *hard-wired* in hierarchical (serial) linearity, whereas, new Church theology is (should be) *soft-wired* in the open, parallel grid of cortical brain tissue. Blind obedience to old-brain instinct doesn't work to run today's complex societies. *Quantum* Cosmology, *Quantum* Philosophy and *Quantum* Theology establish the edification-bases upon which new Church can structure a quantum leap up from the hard wiring of old-brain instincts to the softer intuitions (process-religion) of new-brain openness.

The "signs of the times" should remove any doubt that the hyper-charged polarities of dogmatism, of absolutism, cause the release of discharge-spikes—lightning flashes—that burn out the channels of communication. When the soft-wiring of electronics is exposed to hot spikes it is zapped—melted down. Earthlife's network continues to be zapped by the lightning discharges of institutional power-hype. Entropy is globally accelerating from the dead-shorts of hyper-polarity; the subtle potentials of life are made dysfunctional by the macro discharges. Cultured in male traditions of dominion and greed, the modern version of the *golden rule* is "do unto others before they do it unto you". In ignorance and arrogance, a public "religious" animus trashes and crashes faith, hope and love.

The root sin of professionalism is destructive arrogance—calculated elitism. The state of network life now is such that environmental insult spares not even the eagle's nest, literally and figuratively. The arrogant appropriation of nature is a violation of priesthood. Human

failure to nurture nature wastes natural intelligence and victimizes the innocent and the guilty with disease and waste. Healing begins with the admission of our violent arrogance—beginning with priesthood—that is, with the admission of male-arrogated alienation and of the need for the *nondiscriminate* restoration of priesthood's holy mission to natural body and nurltural mind.

The "Book of Nature" is still the original book of divine revelation—to read it is to discover the divine at work. The arbitrary portioning of divine favor and disfavor is not in the Creator/Creation relationship. The human experience of divine impartiality is in the divine/natural law of reciprocity; natural law's cause-and-effect is the expression of divine law in the cosmos—the Old Testament Decalogue is an early, practical statement of divine expectation in the natural order of social relationships. In personal/social relationships, the "hypostatic union" is the economic mystery of reciprocity; in the mystery of reciprocity, grace (E, spirit, Nurture) supposes Nature (MC<sup>2</sup>), and Nature (substance) supposes grace. Human consciousness, for being composed of/in "the sea of infinite substance", experiences God directly. In the real-world economy of soul/substance, natural law validates and is validated in divine law. The call of "universal priesthood" is the call of *intentional* accommodation (*ex opere operantis*) to the "Sacrament of hypostatic relationship", i.e., to conscional accommodation in the reciprocal economy of the Creator/creation relationship.

The God of creation is soft-wired in the subtleties of space/time qualifications; diversification has dissipated electrical harshness in favor of electron-softness—the parceling of energy by electron-exchange/sharing in atoms and molecules. Network life depends wholly upon the micro-subtlety of "soft-energy", as especially, do human well-being and consciousness. *Quantum* subtlety *hides* God in its micro intentions until the fullness of time reveals the day of divine intention. God is quintessentially present also in the grace-potential of the electron-clouds contained in *hard rocks*. Except for *soft energy*, intelligence/emotion and consciousness/conscience are turned to ash. Jesus rebuffed Peter for his grandiose brashness. Our idolatrous fix on "orthodox" absolutism, on institutional kingdom building, is blind to the relativity that essentially qualifies and quantifies subjects/objects. In transubstantial Nature, all soon enough turns to ash without the cataclysms of mindless obsession.

Rightly or wrongly, Pope John Paul II may be remembered as the "recidivist pope" who capitulated to the Tridentine drummers—who lust for old Roman heavy-handedness—which has been energized (e.g., the re-installation of the Latin Mass) in patriarchy's aversion to

DISTRIBUTIVE TRUTH.

The more things differ  
 The more things are the same,  
 For all starts from the same pointcenter.  
 Even as things become more complex  
 They are moving toward simplicity.  
 And so it must be  
 For if it were not so  
 We would be hopelessly weighted with out-of-placeness.  
 The bird's wing would be flightless;  
 The bird's song would be singless;  
 The bee's buzz would be pointless;  
 The mind's excitement would be dulled;  
 Words wouldn't communicate;  
 Thoughts wouldn't cogitate;  
 Love wouldn't agitate.  
 These reveal truth: communication,  
 Cogitation and agitation. So.  
 Where is truth? What is truth?  
 Truth is grounding's center.  
 Original centeredness is truth's ground.  
 Truth is where centeredness is now found.  
 Its objectivity began  
 In the density-point of the Big Bang.  
 Now it is vibrationally nuanced, chaotically enriched  
 In the Unified Wavefields' cosmic stitch;  
 Spiderwebbing neurally sited, dendrite-spread  
 Tangles of roothairs expand explosive pointdensity's far-red,  
 The singular original centeredness.  
 And where are they now, centeredness and truth?  
 Everywhere and nowhere. The Sea of Soul/Substance.  
 Particulately distributed is centeredness, is truth.  
 Truth is nowhere absolute. Neither is centeredness,  
 Nor gravity, as they were before the Big Bang.  
 Truth is transformational subjectivity, not  
 Pointdensity objectivity. Truth is interrelational  
 Revelation. We come to it by its coming  
 To us when we are open.  
 When we discover and honor each other's truth  
 Justice will follow. The heart's center is *divinity truth*;  
 There is the experience of rest and restlessness.



## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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Self-Extinction  
Driven By Humans  
In The Pursuits Of Possessive Imaginings?

And Did I  
Find What I Expected?  
The Original Word Nailed To A Dead Tree?

GOD OF ABRAHAM.  
( Genesis 22 )

Fearing A Bolt From God's Finger,  
Lightning Out-Of-The-Blue,  
(A Meme Religiously Patterned),  
Abraham, Though Psychically Torn,  
Minded To Follow Through  
And Sacrifice Isaac His First-Born.

But As He Agonized And Lingered  
In Search Of A Place For The Altar  
On Which To Shed His Son's Blood,  
He Memoried Instead  
*A Meme More Fit,*  
Namely, That The Sacrificial Gift  
The Creating God Expects Is To Be Found  
In The Ambit Of Personally Defining Horizons.

So, From The Psychic Bramble  
Abraham Liberated The Tangled Ram  
And The Conscience Of All The People!  
Now With His Live Son,  
Abraham And His Progeny Can Prize  
And Praise The Newly Realized  
Providence Of Open God.

"The People Church" of John XXIII, of Paul VI and John Paul I—the Church of the Second Vatican Council.

Tridentine "hard-wiring" toward micro-management seems to possess Pope John Paul II. He politicizes this instinct in his episcopal choices. And, uncharacteristic of the Christian call, he lets his vitriole against Liberation Theology gnaw at him, and he openly vents his animus in public. It seems almost to be his Achilles' heel. There are, after all, valuable grains of truth to be found in every movement—even in Communism. Institutional Church has its sins, too; historically, Church consciousness cannot claim credibly to be more conscientious in environmental responsibility than can Communism.

Arguably, after the death of Pope John Paul I, Karol Cardinal Wojtyła was found "papabilis" because of his proven Tridentine predisposition, which still seems more natural to him than a disposition toward implementing Vatican II.\* In fairness, however, with respect to his "Tridentine recidivism", it should be observed that Pope Paul VI's non-collegial promulgation of *Humanae Vitae* (the "anti birth-control" encyclical) was a first step back to a re-affirmation of the Tridentine culture of "czarist" primacy. The religious/political consequences of papal/curial doggedness (Tridentine) in the matter of their joined counter-reformational mindset are still unfolding.

THEOGENESIS, the *Quantum* Theology, attempts to engage human consciousness in its coming to the discovery of God hidden in the quiet, the small, for we are perishing from exposure to the *gross god* driving the delusions of our passionate obsessions. The "revelation" as to which god/God is purposeful to wellbeing is manifested in the *signs of the times* and so is the directive for personal conscience. Discover God's face—now and in the future—as the "Word revealing", for today is the day of God's revealing in *Eartheology*. *Natural Order is Scripture's open page where revelation happens for those who have eyes to see.*

Natural grace is sound grounding; nurture that disregards natural grace produces disturbed grounding. The tree rooted in disturbed grounding is a disturbed tree; the fruit of a disturbed tree is disturbed fruit. Greed and our arrogance-induced *disturbance* are deeper than we realize. Soil is salve for insight—the very soul/substance of our being. From Earthdust we arise, in it we subsist and to it we return. But, because of our *supernatural* arrogance we treat our substance as "dirt", we demean our very own being and we suffer collectively from the sacrilege. After the example of our "traveling Pope" we ought in imitation of him embrace the earth that faithfully firms our feet.

The cult of *supernaturalized* elitism is a practice of alienation,

a divisive form of radicalization. The fragmenting of knowledge and learning cultivates individual isolation from wholistic consciousness. When individuals conspire in self-interest against other-interest, they empower radically destructive forces. The groupings of cults around conspiratorial despotism witness personal/communal fragmentation, especially in troubled times. For a presumptive good, radicalized cults, including theological, corporately justify self-aggrandizing exploitation and proceed with an anti-social agenda.

Old Rome was an idolatrous theocracy. Caesar's coin, the denarius, declared him "the divine one". The caesarist ambition of kingdom-building was also Peter's, the first *pontiff's*. Exasperated with Peter's caesarist ambition, Jesus told him, "Get behind me, satan". The emulation of caesarist Rome is what Machiavelli urged on the Church of Rome. Absolutism, ambition and control still dog the Church of Rome which envisions its kingdom as a global theocracy wherein all bow to Rome. This *lording instinct* of patriarchy is not from God. Politically—philosophically and culturally—we in the Western world carry the hard wiring of a psyche that is "Roman", namely, caesarist, apocalyptic, legalistic, patriarchal, mercenary, exclusionary and conquest-driven—traits of Tridentine orthodoxy. Catholicism, *Curially* mentored, is now characteristically "Roman". Papal primacy functions much like a despotic *pontifex caesar*. Even today, in imitation of caesarist Rome and czarist Europe, absolutist-minded bishops (and priests) conduct themselves despotically toward the people. Catholicism needs to acculturate itself to the "cosmic" (phylogenic) psyche that is more universal, amenable, sapiential, tolerant, sharing, non-obsessive, proletarian and familial; such social traits harbor less ambition for theocratic kingdom-building and tune in more to the cosmic harmony of the "Sacramentum Ordinis Naturale"—the sustainable continuity of civil society, of all life on Earth. *The "collegial" sense of Vatican II recognized caesarism, in-the-least, as counter-Christian.*

Corporate violence against open truth is like green tomatoes genetically altered for harvest convenience. Corporate convenience easily trashes naturally validated qualities. The theocratic absolutism of Church/State means to control the dispensation of spiritual/material wealth (grace) and build power kingdoms for the purpose of controlling it. In a conspiracy of corporate empowerment, Church and State have arbitrarily and conveniently cleaved spiritual grace from its material bases. Social havoc (the disempowerment of the people and feudal dominion over land and Earth resources) is the outcome.

The corrective for corporate exploitation is witness to God who owns equally the "hedgehog" as well as the "fox" and accommodates

## WHAT IS TRUTH?

Question  
That Pilate Asked  
But Didn't Wait To Have Answered?

Jesus Christ,  
Divine Exemplar  
Of The Way, The Truth And The Life?

Cornerstone  
Rejected By The  
Corporate Bureaucracies Of Every Age?

Essential Food  
For Life Of The Spirit  
And For The Continued Perfecting Of Life?

Terror  
And Dread For The Wizards,  
The Ungrand Knights Of The Dark Ages?

What Is A  
Continuing Crisis Of Faith  
For Those Held Captive To Others' Belief?

Pretenses,  
The Practiced Faith  
Of Governments, Law Courts And Churches?

The Jealously  
Polarized Deceptions  
Prided In The Taught Professions?

Another Victim  
To The Adversarial Presumptions  
Of Teachers, Attorneys, Politicians And CEOs?

Earthlife  
Aborted At The  
Hands Of Culturally Sanctioned Idolatry?

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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### WHAT I FOUND.

Ownership Adversary To Soul And Soil;  
Corporate Mind  
Adversary To Public Interest;  
Dogmatized Humbug In Corporate Bureaucracies;  
Religious Sanction Of Corporate Plundering;  
Indentured Education  
Conformed To Corporate Profiteering;  
Fratricidal Exploitation Of Land And Life;  
Public Health Traded On The Stock Market.

### PIOUS PRETENSE.

True Religion Is True Sense  
And Practice Of Relationships Proven  
Not By Word Or Dogma  
But By The Consequences Of Actions.  
Nor Is Love True  
Except Also Practiced In Actions.

The Mouthing Of God's Name  
In Gilded Structures Of Human Fabrication,  
Without Fidelity To Real Relationships,  
Is The Taking Of God's Name In Vain!  
A Thunderous Lie!  
A Blasphemous Bolt!

Ritual Sacrament  
—Except In Affirmation Of Nature/Nurture—  
Is Purely Pretentious.

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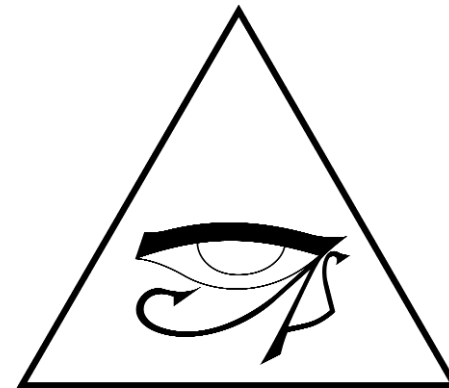
"Nurture" may be understood as all naturally occurring influences, physical and psychical, that qualify biological processes and structures, including human. Natural qualifications of life, insisted by nurture, may, under pressures of repetition come to be programmed *mementally* (neurally) and in time perhaps become transmissible in genetic disposition.

both in the context of essential continuity. Religious ritual that is true and wholistic celebrates peoplework (*leitōs ergon* : liturgy) which witnesses the relational presence of God in the Natural Order. Focus is needed in the Natural Order, not in extra-natural speculations given to delusional purposes. It is for The People Church to substantiate its witness of God in the authentic, participatory nurture of Nature. The transubstantiation of word/work is more than corporate stewardship, it is the hypostatic, Divine Connection in/with enfleshed soul/substance .

In religious expectation and action we must be faithful to divine impartiality. The remedy for corporate arrogance and elitist kingdomizing is the local/global whole-making of fragmented learning into sustaining webs of continuity, and, the respectful affirmation, in word and work, of equal human worth and right. Trinitarian vision engages the whole of human consciousness in the discovery of the divine. The animate dialogue of communication/consciousness/conscience allows that with always fresh eyes, faith, hope and love are ever revisioned to deal with contextual realities. May our blindness discover healing en-fleshed in the salvific balm joining Earth Ground and *Eartheology*.

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\* D Yallop, "In God's Name", 1984, Poetic Products, Inc., Bantam Books, 666 Faith Ave., New York, N.Y. 10103



1998. sigillum sylvae vestrae steffeni

**Wisdom's Inspiration Is the free flight of Arrow Truth, A Comfort to the Disturbed, but a Disturbance to the Comfortable.**

**SEVENTH BOOK**

I. THEOGENESIS

W i s d o m ' s C h o i c e

PERSONAL RELIGION IS CONSCIONABLE  
CONFORMITY TO EARTH CON-SCIENCE.

REALITY.

With Less Migratory Sense  
Than Birds  
Humans Suppose Cerebrally To Know  
The Electrical Markers Staking The Pilgrim Paths  
Made Reliable In Directing Decisions.

But, Trashed Markers,  
Changed And Rearranged By The Planks  
And Posts Of Human Meddling,  
Make Difficult Minding And Mending  
Nature's Fences And Guideposts.  
The High Tension Of Scrambled Fields  
Confuses Even Neural Messaging.

With Cause, Even Birds  
Now Distrust People-Fabricated  
Rearrangements Of Reality  
Whose Unproven Markers Dissemble  
Nature And Fashion Her  
To Fit Their Cultured Deceptions.

HAND-ME-DOWNS.

This Bare Body,  
Birthed In Water To Grow In Possibilities,  
This Baptismal Robe,  
Is Now Nearly An Accomplished  
Burial Cloth  
Whose Skein Is Stretched Bare  
Ready To Be Unwound  
And Again Recast,  
For Its Time Of Belonging To Me  
Is Soon Past.

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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### THE WASTELAND.

Hardened Competition's Mortal Price  
Is The Harvest Of Waste.  
Even As Depletion Converts Land  
To Sand  
Bloodletting Cries For Vindication.  
Is Animus Between Brothers  
Humankind's Tragic Future?  
Can't We Learn From Cain And Abel?  
From Esau And Jacob?  
*That With Sensitivity For Sustainability  
Land Friendly Farmers And Ranchers  
Can Salvage A Better Future  
For All.*

### PAYING TRIBUTE.

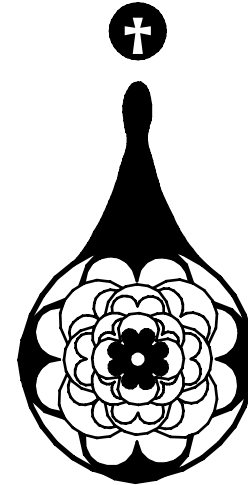
Caesar Collected "Tribute,"  
And So Does "Uncle Sam."  
Only Now It Is Called "Taxes."

How Is "Tribute" Properly  
"Paid" To Ancestral Hosts?  
Is It By Offering A Stipend For A Mass?  
Is It By Treasuring And Preserving Earth,  
The Place Of Transubstantiation? Yes.

As We Are Thankful To Our Parents  
For The Gift Of Life,  
So Our Children Will Be To Us!

Perish The Thought Of Breaking Trust  
With Past And Future Generations  
By Prostituting Life And Earth's Resources  
For Personal Or Institutional Gain!

The Tribute Needed Is Personal Zeal  
To Heal The Hurt Suffered By Mother Earth  
For Centuries From Prostitution.



**Love is the Middletree  
Faithful to Wisdom's  
Earth-Conscience**

The Greater Good is Wisdom's Every Choice

Nature's powers are truly *miraculous* for their horizons are not walled-in except by the cultured limits put on human intelligence. *Knowledge's too-tight "snakeskin" needs to be shed so as to make room for the growing potential of "miracles"*.

Divine inherency essentially presupposes natural coherency; it *chooses* to reveal the Divine Self in the natural context of open reality; thus, the revelations of Divine Purpose in consciousness, and its agency in the inherency of natural coherency, are "teleological", that is, dependent upon the continuity-complex of contingent purposefulness and revealed as "outcome". In this respect, the "process of perfecting" is a process belonging to Nature and is not a *super-natural* process of disconnected, external intervention.

The role of the divine in human perfecting is the subjective doing of interagencies; thus, Divine Power finds its greatness in the subtle diversifications of the least subjectivities that drive transformational reality from within. Divine consciousness is providential in its implicate subservience, and it becomes the ultimate attraction toward which all consciousness strains in the trials of self-perfecting; only the coherent centeredness of inherent attraction ultimately satisfies consciousness and locates the place of "rest for the human heart".

If we would enjoy the full possibility of "divine intervention" we must seek to connect our coherent subjectivity (ontogenic self) with the deep *Sea of Coherency* (the phylogenic self) from which all individuality originates. While the origin of personal self is a gratuity outside our individuality, the fulfillment of self happens not by presumptive prayers that put God to the test (in the continued expectation of gratuitous intervention), but by the full-hearted focus of consciousness that puts the personal self to the test in the application of personal conscience.

"Civility" is a divine expression. Its materiality and spirituality must remain joined. For civility to remain joined (non-dualistic) it must include the altruistic virtues, or else it is soulless. "Civil rights" are more than *equal justice under law*. The soul of equal justice is individually and communally exercised in trimorphic consciousness. In faith, hope and love, we originate and are sustained; in the wisdom of their genetic scripture life centers and truth and justice are experienced. Ask for Nature's scripted wisdom and you shall receive; seek it and you shall find it; knock and it shall open up to you. All are commissioned for a lifetime to learn and teach trimorphic wisdom.

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\* Reference: Robert McAfee Brown, Gustavo Gutierrez. An Introduction to Liberation Theology. 1990. Pp 62-74. Orbis Books, Maryknoll, NY 10545.

*IN LOVE I DEFER*

*To Muse Euterpe,  
To the Throne Angel Chorus  
And  
To God-Revealed Truth.*

participation; personal liberation from "self-sufficiency" begins with the discovery of the "truth in other", which leads to the *discovery of freedom* from obsession with self. Thus, the "dispossessed" are the way to God for the "self-possessed", for truth remains unrevealed except in the accommodation of justice and in the mediation of the middle ground between polarities; in mutual regard, wellbeing is sustained in truth and in justice. "Objectivity" discovers its true self in the coherency of its own subjectivity *wholly* connected. The fruit of distributive truth is distributive justice—commitment to the equitable sharing of resources. Obsessed to possess, we self-disintegrate in caldron lakes.

The philosopher/theologian of modern totalitarianism is Hegel who conjoined the absolutisms (objectivity) of state and religion (Christianity). His totalitarian *philosophy/theology of history* has spawned despots of many colors, as the past century-and-a-half documents, who self-obsess in religious/secular institutions. But, it is the theology of the *under-people* (subversives) who offer the hope of divine revelation/participation to the self-obsession of the *over-people* (superversives).\* In the light of this truth, the misdirection of the misinformed presumptions of the past has to be exposed and corrected.

*Essential continuity*, in all its diversity, documents a certain *equality* amongst all subjectivities. Notwithstanding subjectivities' many qualifications, its nature is to remain open to taking creation in unanticipated directions. "Openness" is essentially characteristic of *inherency*. While there may be a "hierarchy" (subsidiarity, interdependency) laddered in relational complexities, there is no evidence of arbitrariness involving divine intervention. As the Big Bang is originally the *wave-energy* of distributed gravity (centrism), so are all the interactivities of subjectivities; communication, consciousness and conscience are, in their distributive complexity, *wave* characteristic in implication. While wave-expansion now suggests the "centeredness" of the original pointdensity beginning, centeredness itself is open to the omnidirectional expansion of subjectivities' implications. Even subjectivity expands from within as did/does the Big Bang. Thus, from any location in the universe, expansion is omni-directionally outward; and so it may be said with equal correctness that the center of the universe is *everywhere* (omni-centric) and *nowhere* (non-centric). *The same may be said for truth, for justice and for liberation.*

Earthsoul is coherently equipped to speak the voice of its inherency and to share its cosmic potentials by reason of the parallel linkages in all life. Grace, health and healing do not come by single-line *vertical* wiring; they come by the redundancies of wavefield inherencies built in natural interdependencies through the millennia.

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|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. "A Parable"..1               | <b>Doing Theology..2</b><br><b>Impulsive Child..3</b><br><b>Word Transmission..4</b><br><b>Call/Answer..4</b><br><b>Primordial Alchemy..5</b><br><b>Symbiotic Theology..5</b>   | <b>The Heart of the Parable..6</b><br><b>Authenticity..7</b><br><b>Judgment Day..8</b><br><b>Daydreaming..8</b><br><b>Multiplying Sin..9</b><br><b>Minding Matter..9</b>  |
| 2. "The Substance of Truth"..10 | <b>Earthly Piety..12</b><br><b>Fishing for Truth..12</b><br><b>Teilhard de Chardin..13</b><br><b>De Imagine Dei..13</b><br><b>Tablets in Sandstone..14</b><br><b>Holy Thursday, 1992..15</b>  | <b>Ask. Seek. Knock..16</b><br><b>Transubstantiation..17</b><br><b>Patchwork Learning..18</b><br><b>On Eagle's Wings..18</b><br><b>The Truth Will Out..19</b><br><b>Eden's Twining Serpents..20</b>                                   |
| 3. "Who Killed God?"..21        | <b>Denial of Death..25</b><br><b>Red. Green. Purple. Gold..25</b><br><b>Joseph..26</b><br><b>The Needle Test..27</b><br><b>Malady..28</b><br><b>Prostitution..28</b>  | <b>Daily Communion..29</b><br><b>Imaging God..29</b><br><b>Religion's Sin..29</b><br><b>Faith Disabled..30</b><br><b>Critical Thinking..30</b><br><b>Tangled Wing..30</b>   |
| 4. "The Male God"..31           | <b>Generational Sin..33</b><br><b>Wisdom's Edification..34</b><br><b>Eden Prostituted..34</b><br><b>Power Outage..35</b><br><b>Clouded Judgment..35</b><br><b>Temple Elders..35</b><br><b>Sign of the Times..36</b><br><b>Cult of Isms..36</b><br><b>Parallel Society..36</b> | <b>The People Steeple..36</b><br><b>Iconoclasm..37</b><br><b>Priestself..37</b><br><b>Turning Point..38</b><br><b>Doubting Thomas..38</b><br><b>Faith in Faith..38</b><br><b>Bitterness Cycle..40</b><br><b>Lambs &amp; Lions..40</b> |
| 5. "Divine Revelation"..39      | <b>The Wasteland..45</b><br><b>Paying Tribute..45</b><br><b>Reality..46</b><br><b>Hand-Me-Downs..46</b><br><b>What I Found..47</b><br><b>Pious Pretense..47</b><br><b>What is Truth?..48</b><br><b>God of Abraham..49</b>   | <b>Distributive Truth..50</b><br><b>Mindgames..51</b><br><b>Eccentric Dogma..52</b><br><b>The Beached Bark..52</b><br><b>Light Keepers..53</b><br><b>Quousque Tandem?..53</b><br><b>Corporatism..53</b>                               |

## 1. A Parable.

In the long gone past when the people was content to travel only as far as its feet were pleased to go, folks lived close to the land and in places where the land's bounty sufficed their needs. In their intimacy with the land they had no concern about knowing the neighboring nations nor about their manner of living and believing. And so the peoples of the world lived divided from each other, and in their own preferred ways as if isolated by real walls. Each separated people thought itself preferentially "chosen" by God. But of all the peoples, there was one truly distinctive, for in the soil they found a special substance of great wonder that they prized highly. But this land was different by another count for it was truly isolated from all others by more than invisible walls. Surrounding the land on all sides were mountains, steeped in jagged peaks that were capped in snow and obscured in the clouds. At the edges of the snowcaps the snow melted into streams and channeled into ravines that joined and sent the waters thundering and foaming into the valley-rich plains below before emptying into lakes and the ocean.

This substance of great wonder they found reflected the sun's great brilliance without loss and mirrored objects more precisely than the quiet lakes. The people learned to fashion this substance into the shapes of nature—into the likenesses of birds and fishes and all the other animals and plants they found on the land and even to their own likenesses. In this substance God was seen. They prided themselves in their inspired artistry. And because they found plenty around them for all life's necessities the people found leisure to cherish the silver substance and to give it splendid grace that welled from the creative depths of their souls. And in perfecting the craft of their preferred profession, they produced objects great and small, of refined intricacy and artistry that gave to the silver a greater perceived value than its natural virtue. And they became ever more fond of it. They surrounded themselves with marvelous objects made of it which they thought spoke to them of God's preference for them. And in their happy circumstance the people grew in numbers and populated the whole land, supremely confident of being cupped in God's hand. They raised wondrous cities that glistened with silver under the provident sun.

Beyond the borders of their land, and separated by mountains, the other nations also flourished and vied with one another to possess the land's riches needed for food and shelter. And in their competition they allowed animosities, and even hateful violence toward each other because of the desperation caused by their own inattention to their de-

circumstances, and in their self-authentication which confronts the evil-doing of dispossession. Possession/dispossession is the reciprocal, inverse relationship of "haves" and "have-nots". The experience of "love's full measure" is the consciousness of divinity revealed in the contingently experienced authentication of personal/communal faith, hope and love processed in communication, consciousness and conscience. *To Mary, the teenager alone in her pregnancy and uncertain of the future for herself and for her unborn child, came the revelation of divinity in her conceptus; the child still continues to be God's privileged coming.*

In the Trinitarian Process of Faith, Hope and Love, consciousness creatively amplifies the diversification of experience in the here and now! Reflective experience in the here and now is the uninterrupted process of Divine Revelation which authenticates the "centeredness" of truth and justice inherent *in all life*. The awakening of this consciousness is a *divine force of conscience* that works to narrow the chasm between possession and dispossession, and to discharge the destructive gravity of obsession.

When the diversification of consciousness is thwarted by the arrogance of obsessive exploitation, so is divine consciousness/revelation. Characteristically, revelation happens in the place of intense struggle where communication (faith), consciousness (hope) and conscience (love) constitute the process of personal/social survival; it less likely happens where self-sufficiency and the surfeit of possessions dull true-heart emotions. Arrogance's insidiousness originates in ignorance of Natural Necessity—before which all must bend the knee.

While it is true that the *truth makes one free*, liberation is nevertheless a "process" that has its communicational beginning in consciousness. The "coming to truth" itself begins in communication. Not until truth engages conscience does conscience move into dialogue with justice; the conscionable application of justice brings about the real-life experience of freedom. *The experience of God is in the "justice-process", that is, in the dialogic action of truth/justice (faith/hope) which culminates in liberation (communion/love).*

"Religion" is *the doing of God's work*, which begins in the discovery of "truth in other" and advances to the "justification action" that liberates others' truth. This happens in daylong, interpersonal encounters, in the here and now judgments of conscience. In the personal engagement of the *trinitarian process* God comes to each person, moment-by-moment; and, in the process a sufficiency of divine revelation/participation is experienced. An obsessed self-possessiveness removes the self-sufficient individual from the loop of divine revelation/



## 5. Divine Revelation.

The principle of the "homeobox" is the principle of *subsidiarity*. Nature advances its inventions in codes of redundancy. Nature doesn't reinvent the wheel—divine agency conforms to the laws that Nurture informs. God's own inherency is Nature/Nurture's power to edify. Revelation is "soft", i.e., *bite-size*; absolutism is now softening. Eyebrows raised when the Pope stated that evolution is "more than theory". Divine Power totally subserves Natural power and is content to be revealed in time in the subtle strategies of diversified subjectivities. Because God isn't arbitrary faith has certitude.

The power in natural subjectivities is an inherency whose virtue functions *ex opere operato*, that is, by its own inherent potentials that are repetitive yet open in their strategies. The twists open to electron-travel offer options totally surprising to human expectations and are nothing short of being "miraculous". Contrary to all human expectation, things can and do happen in Nature that have appearances of being impossibilities, particularly with respect to mind/body potentials. There are natural powers greater than our knowing.

In real ways "divine interventions" happen because of the "ex opere operato" workings of potentials in natural inherencies and even more so by the "ex opere operantis" *conscience* of the agent; when these happen outside human expectations we call them miracles. Miracles do not happen in violation of natural inherency, rather, *because* of natural inherency. When humans petition God in the expectation of divine intervention of Natural Laws, they commit the sin of *putting God to the test*, of expecting God to set aside Natural Law and go against divine designs. Such sin is the sin of *presumption*.

Divine revelation is not an interventionist act of God outside the natural context. *Natural outcomes* are the qualified bases upon which subjectivities proceed and interact. *Natural complexification* is a process of experience (communication/consciousness). As a phenomenon of human consciousness, the revelation of God is the personally lived experience of *reflective action* authenticated in *communal reflection/action*. Divine revelation occurs where the reflective *action of love* is most intense, namely, in the lives of the "least" whose experience and consciousness feel most deeply the disconnect of possession and dispossession. "Dispossession" is in the experience of the consequences of exploitation and marginalization inflicted on others by the power and authority in control. "Possession" is in the experience of communal love by those under impoverished circumstances struggling to achieve their full measure of divine participation in their *de minimis*

dependencies on plants and animals co-inhabiting the land. And in their obsession they wasted the resources needed to build their homes and to secure food and clothing. Oblivious to all that was going on around them in other places in the world, the people who loved silver continued to furbish their homes and public buildings with the special craft that distinguished them from all the others. Not suspecting any threat to themselves from the desperation of peoples surrounding and closing in on them, the professional "silver people" continued to live in pre-occupation with their singular blessing and talent. Then suddenly and to their great surprise, it happened that not even the mountains surrounding them could any longer restrain the peoples on the outside from spilling onto their land—agitter with silver in the hearts and homes of the residents. And it came to pass that great ruin and terror overcame the residents whose high profession was to craft and polish the silver.

*The exclusionary profession of chosenism chrisms its own soul in a mysticism of division and invests its priesthood in short-sight dispensation; its faith grounds in preferential animus; its hope grounds in the expectation of divine intervention; its love grounds in the selective and favored parceling of nature's Sacrament.*

## DOING THEOLOGY.

In The Circadian And Seasonal Rhythms  
Life Individually Dances To The Sea Change.  
Personal Rising Is Dance-Step Dialogue  
Advanced On The Trimorphic Word—  
Faith/Hope/Love's Unity.  
Microcosmically Etched In  
Striated Silicone Glass  
Truth's Enduring Message  
Endears Its Resonance Softly,  
Everlastingly In Transparent Simplicity.  
"Nothing New Under The Sun."  
Flow With The Tide's Rhythm.  
Endear The Dancing Waves.  
Experience Love's Softness.  
Endure The Hard Rocks;  
Watch Them Melt On The Shores.  
Venture To Surf The Net.

IMPULSIVE CHILD.

All Of Creation Is An Impulsive Child  
Whose Shadow Qualifies Every Beginning,  
Every Ending And Everything In-Between.  
In Brilliances More Astounding Than Rainbows,  
Uncertainty Gives Nuance To Destiny.

Color And Creativity Are Given Not Merely  
To Seascapes, To Land And Sky,  
But Also To Body And Mind That Are Of  
And Take Place In All Of These.

In Body And Mind We Are  
The Beauty And Mystery Of The Universe;  
In Ourselves, We Possess  
Its Conception And Completion.  
We Are Creation, For We Possess  
The Infinite Fullness Of Uncertainty  
And Its Unfathomable Achievement.

We Are Creator,  
For From The Open Oceans Of Uncertainty  
Cosmic Mind Has Assumed Forms Of Playful Diversity  
More Imaginative Even  
Than That Which Logical Structuring Gives;  
In Human Intuition, Divine Playfulness Lives.

And The Most Exceptional Realization Of All  
Is That Fully Expectant Christmas  
Is A Confident Infant Sharing  
The Uncertain Manger Of Life.

Though The Thought Is Wild,  
It Is True That Earth Is A Top  
That Spins On the Fingertips Of Every Child,  
As Does Every Parent  
Aware Of The Divine Child Within.

BITTERNESS CYCLE.

Elemental Glucose,  
C-HOH,  
Sweet Food Chlorophyllled  
From Solar Atmosphere,  
Fuels All Life.  
It Takes Effort To Sour  
Natural Sweetness.  
But We Do It Regularly.

The Sardonic Quip:  
*"Why Be Difficult  
When With A Little Effort  
You Can Be Impossible,"*  
Seems To Be The Mean Whip  
By Which We Beat Life's Miracles.

Can't We Agree?  
That Transformation *For Better* Covers  
The Worseness Of Bitterness-Cycle?  
And That We Should Recognize  
*The Good*  
For A Change?

LAMBS & LIONS.

Love/Hate Qualifies  
Emotions Of People And  
Their Institutions.

Life/Death Qualifies  
Relations Of People And  
Their Institutions.

Lying Together,  
For Better, For Worse, Their  
Fates Accommodate.

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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Sun,  
Radius-Held Apparently To Circle Earth,  
Prompted Belief In An Earth-Centered Universe,  
And In Divine Intention Demanding Even  
Heavenly Bodies To Bow  
To The Demanding Whims Of Earthlings.

But,  
The Later Suspicion That Earth Circles  
The Sun, And That Both Are Incidentally  
Merest Specks In The Vast Cosmos,  
Became Fact-Established And  
Unsettling To Prevailing Church Science.

Still,  
The Habit Of Linear Culture Perdured  
In The Dogmatized Belief Of *Flat-Earth*;  
But The "Crazy" Suspicion Of *Global Earth*,  
And The Intention To Test It, Necessarily  
Opened Awareness To Circular Relationships  
And Challenged The Linear Presumptions.

Earth,  
As We Now Know, And All  
Transformational Processes Originated  
Incidentally From Cosmic Singularity.  
This Truth Of Cosmic Continuity  
Chastens Intelligence To Be Less Arrogant  
In Self Claiming, And To Be More Humble In Accepting  
Other And Our Own Incidental Dependency  
On All Our Cosmic Peers.

True,  
Thomas Was Perceptive Enough To Know  
Flat Earth's Doubtful Grounds Upon Which  
He Reasoned His Propositions,  
And The Less Than Christian Use  
Being Made Of Them By Power Obsessed Church.  
His Abrupt Conscional Decision To Stop Writing  
Shouldn't Surprise Us.

## Wisdom's Choice

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### WORD TRANSMISSION.

The Obligation To Teach,  
The Commissioning Of Word  
On Sound Wavelengths, Is Event  
Transcending Horizons,  
Whether Of Land Or Sea,  
Of Church Or State.  
Word Is Subject To No  
Wall Of Separation,  
Nor Is Church And State,  
Whose Public Duty Is Obligated  
By Common Ethics,  
By Common Rights  
And Interests Of Living Communities.

### CALL/ANSWER.

God Has Made A Pact With Me  
And With All Living Creatures.  
With Equal Concern S/He Cares For Us All,  
Great Or Small.  
S/He Clothes The Lilies With Beauty  
And Counts Each Sparrow.  
The Hairs Of My Head Do Not Fall  
Except S/He Knows.  
S/He Breaks Bread For Her/His People  
And Drinks Wine With Them.

I Have Made A Pact With God.  
I Waste No Life.  
I Give The Same Concern To All Creation,  
Great And Small.  
I Spoil Not Land, Nor Air, Nor Water.  
I Enter The Creative Work Of God  
With All My Heart, Soul And Strength.  
I Taste God In Bread And Wine  
And Find Myself In A Few Earth Years,  
For My Hands Belong To God.

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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### PRIMORDIAL ALCHEMY.

The Male's Hard Fixing Of Female Softness,  
His Arrogance  
Against Her Sense Of Earth-Temperament,  
Is Now Challenged By Maternal Undertone  
Whose Harmonal Role  
Is As Primordial Pacifier Of The Chaotic  
Impulse In Tantrum Testosterone.  
The Sometime Unpredictable Retort  
In Living Crucibles  
Is Caldron Report Of Fluid Estrogen  
That Blocks The Masculine Conceit  
Latticed In Molten, Crystalline Heart.

Patriarchy's Havoc Is Technology's Wild Oats,  
Polluting Everywhere, Soil, Water And Air.  
There's No Salvation In Scapegoats.  
His Own Determined Pride  
Is Sterilizing The Sperms Of The Macho Prince  
And Of Sorry Frogs.

### SYMBIOTIC THEOLOGY.

To Be Healthy,  
The Body's Commerce Must Be Practiced  
Else It Atrophies  
And Becomes Dysfunctional,  
Less Realized Than Its Real Potential!  
The Exercise Of Good Biology  
Is The Exercise Of Good Theology—  
Both Are Personal Necessity And Social Virtue.

This Truth Applies Bodily  
To All Organs And Functions.  
Storehouses Cannot Be Restored  
Except They Are Emptied.  
Aerobic Purging Keeps Body/Mind Practiced.

## *Wisdom's Choice*

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### TURNING POINT.

Inclusionary Theology Stirs In Every Heart  
Honest Turn Toward God.  
But The *Cultured*  
Exclusionism Of The Professional Theologian  
Diverges From This Deep-Fixed Turn.

For My Part, The Conviction  
To Turn From Becoming A Professional Priest,  
Was Confirmed In Class,  
In Disbelief Of The Apparent  
Arrogance Of The Far-Fetched  
Arguing Of A Dogmatic Theology  
Politically Anchored To Rome.

### DOUBTING THOMAS.

Thomas Aquinas  
Like "Ike" After Him  
Awoke Late  
To The Deceit Of Professionalism,  
And After The Fact,  
Sought To Stay The Harm Of Delusional Faith  
By The Disavowal  
Of His Argued Summa Of Political,  
Military/Industrial, Religious Complex.

### FAITH IN FAITH.

The Premising Of Belief-Expectation On  
The Presumption Of What's Been Believed  
Leads To Religious Absurdity  
Wherein The Implausible Presumes  
To Be Plausible,  
Even To The Upside-Down  
Planting Of Vegetable Seedlings.

ICONOCLASM.

The Illuminary Icon Serves  
To Mark And Measure For Soul  
The Sacraments' Preserves  
And To Exemplify Life-Limits  
And Possibilities. Special To Each,  
Garden Patches Color-Splash With Icons  
And Sacraments  
The Face Of Cosmos-Born Earth.  
God's Imagination Put In Place  
The Variety Of Earth/Heaven Subjects  
Unique And Essential To Each Eden.  
Invaders From Outside Gardens  
Come With Knowledge Narrowed  
By Limits Of Local Experience;  
And By Implant Of Outside Orthodoxies  
They Devastate The Special God-Placed  
Icons And Sacraments  
Proper To Other Edens.  
*So The Colonial Christian!*  
With Cross And Sword In Hand  
Ignorantly, Arrogantly He Trashes  
And Crashes Global Earthsacrament.  
The Enormity Of Christian Sin  
Is Too Fearsome To Comprehend;  
But Try We Must! And Repent!  
For God's Earthplace Is Not To Be  
Divided and Conquered To Satisfy  
Tasteless Human Greed.

PRIESTSELF.

A Revealed Sense Of Duty Was Early Light  
Of My Conscious Dawn  
Whose Imprint Persists Until Now.

My First Memoried Ambition Was To Be A Priest,  
Which, In My Consciousness,  
I Believe I've Always Been.

THE HEART OF PARABLE.

To Keep The Game Alive,  
Opposing Teams Have Opposite Expectations  
Of The Tortured Ball Between Them;  
In The Literal, Metaphorical And Anagogical Mix  
Tossed Words  
Make Vegetal Salad Of Tossed Heads.

A Common Mistake Is To Extrapolate  
And Fix The Literal Limit Of The Material Word  
Upon The Spiritual  
And To Kill Truth With Absurdity.

Jesus Taught By Parable.  
He Put The Ball In The Listeners' Court  
And Left Truth Open To Their Perception.  
We Too Must Learn To Keep  
The Literal Open  
To The Metaphorical  
And Find The Anagogical Message.  
Fullness Of Mystery Is Revealed  
In The Open Word.

Profound Truth  
Is In The Opposing Realities  
By Which We Are Literally Bound  
And Metaphorically Free.  
The Closed Literal  
Is Isolated From The Nurtural Bond;  
The Open Metaphorical  
Allows Diversification Of The Natural Bind;

And In Their Play,  
Religious Games Begin  
To Make Sense Again.

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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### AUTHENTICITY.

Minotaur,  
Literally Traditioned Myth  
Of God-Preferred Patriarchy,  
Spectre At The Garden Gate,  
Is The Effective Dark Psyche  
Who Shades Still The Human Will  
And Imprisons Sea-Born Life.

Waves Of Hooves Litter Oceans  
With The Driftwood Chaos Of Uncaptured  
Vessels Rolling Aimlessly,  
Violently Tossing On Waves  
And Entombing Authenticity In Depressions  
Under Black Flags Cowing To The Beast.

Mentalithic Beastiary Bull  
Devours Natural Grace,  
The Green Grass Of Life  
Into Which Each Is Born,  
And Denies The Freedom  
Even To Browse Eden's Greenery,  
*Woman,*  
The Ground Of Spiritual Being;  
And Trashes With Impunity Her Person  
And Her Will For Life  
By Herding Her  
To A Merely Reproductive Role.

Even The Children  
Are Denied A Roll In The Grass.  
The Will Of Nurture  
Has Been Bullied From Nature;  
Authenticity,  
The Personal Affirmation Of Trinity,  
Alone Slays The Beast.

## *Wisdom's Choice*

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### SIGN OF THE TIMES.

Funny Folks Losing  
Laughter When They See Frogs And  
Salamanders Die.

### CULT-OF-ISMS.

The Cults Of Science And Religion,  
By Their Dogged Polarizing Of "Isms",  
Have Created Schizophrenic Legions  
Who Tragically Trash Nature And Self.  
The Dogmata Of Scientism And Religionism  
Are A Deflated, Unleavened Sour Dough  
That Intervenes  
The Essential Unity Of Nature's Ambiguities  
And Infests Eucharist With Mold.

### PARALLEL SOCIETY.

Simplistic Explanations Of Obvious Complexities  
Are From The Authoritarian's Faulty Mindset,  
Wired-In-Series.  
A Short-Circuit Anywhere  
Shuts His System Down.

Series-Wired Church  
Is Irrelevant In Society  
Parallel-Wired.

Except It Ties In To The Grid,  
Church Is Largely Inconsequential.

### THE PEOPLE STEEPLE.

Speechless Deity,  
WORD, Cell-Toned In Spiral Rungs,  
Gongs Our Belfry Brains.

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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### POWER OUTAGE.

Series-Wired Church  
Is Broken Off From Nature,  
Parallel-Wired.

### CLOUDED JUDGMENT.

Ernest Hemingway Deserves Consideration,  
No More, No Less  
Than Other Grains Of Sand On The Beach;  
And So Does Joseph Campbell.  
The Exaggerated Attention  
Given To Some Few Truths  
Instigates Heresy By Obscuring  
Other Equally Weighty Ones.

### TEMPLE ELDERS.

Elders Probably Need Education More  
But Probably Crave It Less  
Than Children;  
Naively Trusting Their Welcome,  
I Came To Discourse With Them;  
They Hear With Apparently Open Ears  
But Without Opening Their Minds;  
I Know Not To What Avail I Speak Mine,  
That I Disbelieve The Learning  
Of Those Who Rail That Faith/Reason,  
Religion/Science Are Adversary;  
Faith/Religion,  
Speculated On Uninformed Bases,  
Is Unmeritorious.  
Well, At First, Even Jesus' Elders  
Seemed To Shine Up To Him;  
But In The End, They Conspired Darkly  
And Destroyed Him.  
Darkness Serves To Make Light Appear  
All The Brighter.  
Jesus Is Remembered, His Elders Are Not.

## Wisdom's Choice

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### JUDGMENT DAY.

In The Ephemeral Continuum  
The Necessity Of Choice  
Presents Itself To Personal Decision.  
Wisdom's Outcome,  
Opting Always *For The Better*,  
Is Revealed In The Non-Ephemeral  
Rightness Of Daily Options.  
Wisdom's Revelation  
Is Judgment's Daily Momenta  
Freshly Revealing God  
In The Theology Of Phenomena.

### DAYDREAMING.

The Dreams I Allow Proceed  
From A Common Convergence Of Heart,  
From The Radius Centers Of Cultural Circles.  
The Recurring Query  
That Is Demanding An Answer Is:  
*"Today, What Would Earth's Condition Be  
If Affirmative Nurturing Of Original Grace  
Had Been In Place  
Instead Of The Negative Nurturing Of Original Sin?  
If Person Had Been 'Put Up'  
Instead Of 'Put Down'?"*

Affirmation Charges Female Energies!  
Negation Discharges Them!  
The Personal Positive Is Enabled  
By The Culturing Of The Virtuous Circle.  
The Personal Negative Is Empowered  
By The Culturing Of The Vicious Circle.  
The One Credits,  
The Other Debts Life.

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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### MULTIPLYING SIN.

Church Orthodoxies  
Multiply Codependent  
Traps Of Guilt And Sin.

### MINDING MATTER.

Car-Care Hardly Qualifies  
As Auto-Immuno-Care.  
Tuning The Timing In Living Engines  
Is More Than Synchronizing The Spark.  
Health And Healing  
Are Outcomes Of Conscious Body-Care  
That Keeps In Sync The Inner Systems.

Immunities Are Lubricants  
Coaxed In Happy Cells By Harmonic Purring.  
The Tuned Mind Smooths Combustion  
And Keeps In Harmony The Inner  
Workings Of Positive Engines.  
The Out-Of-Time Firing Of Negative Dispositions  
Is Environmental Insult,  
A Disorder That Jars Immuno-Works  
And Causes Body Breakdown.

In Words And In Actions  
Your Body Needs To Know  
That You Love It,  
If You Expect To Experience A Happy Trip.  
Without Harmonics  
There's Neither Health Nor Progress.  
Like The Roughness Of Dysfunctional Brakes,  
Disharmony Bumps,  
Rattles And Shakes.

*Ignorance Trashes.  
Arrogance Crashes.*

## Wisdom's Choice

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### WISDOM'S EDIFICATION. (See Proverbs 9 1-10.)

Seven pillars are her supports;  
Her table is spread with food and drink;  
Her daughters are everywhere positioned.

From above She speaks to the gathering:  
"Here is the place for the unpretentious.

To him who seeks understanding I say:  
*'Eat at the table I have spread;  
Avoid foolishness and find life;  
Follow the Way of Understanding  
For in Wisdom your days multiply  
And your life grows in length.*

*Who corrects the arrogant  
Is thanked with insult;  
Don't bother with the arrogant,  
All you get from them is odium;  
To reprove the pretentious person  
Is to earn a reward of grief.*

*Instead, offer correction to a wise person  
And you get back love; instruct  
The wise person and she becomes wiser;  
Inform the wise person  
And she progresses in Wisdom.' "*

Wisdom begins in devout regard for *Parenthood*.  
*Understanding* is knowing the Sacred Unam/Unum.

### EDEN PROSTITUTED.

Adam Institutes  
Himself In Graceland God-Given  
To The Middletree.

Blind To Love's Law, We  
Waste Conscience, God's Apple Eye,  
The Middletree Fruit.



pression. Divinity-Grace is Faith, Hope and Love, the Expressive Virtue of the singular, whole Creative Self; as participants in the Creative Self's Expressive Grace, humans are conscious witnesses to divinity. "Objectivity" is Self-Expressed Divinity in Allness; "subjectivity" is the Creative Self's individual expression in "smallness". The sin of (male) *subjectivity* is persistence in inauthentic behavior, now revealed in the consciousness of its inauthenticity.

In the "Light of Truth", the fraudulent icon of male egoism must be retired to history. To conceive of divinity as subserving inequitably male chosenism is a blasphemous presumption, for by such inauthenticity males expect consideration that is not rightfully owned. The truly "religious" soul acknowledges human subjectivity for what it is and responds with *piety*; that is, she is infinitely grateful to the past which makes her presence real, she is infinitely aware of the essential continuity inhering/cohering present subjectivities and she is infinitely conscientious toward the future. Essentially, this is Wisdom's continuity grace that remains forever modern; it is *sacrament's ambivalent agency working ex opere operantis in live female/male expression*.

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\* Reference: John Dietzen, "Status of Women", published in the *Question Corner*, THE WITNESS, October 24, 1982, p. 4, Dubuque Archdiocesan Weekly, Dubuque, Iowa 52004-917. (See the complete reprint of this reference at the end of Book Eight.)

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#### GENERATIONAL SIN.

Genesis Instructs:  
*"Consume Not The Middletree Fruit."*  
 In Its Darkness Of Mind  
 Ignorance Is Unaware Of The  
 Consequences Of Its Activity;  
 In Its Meanness Of Mind  
 Arrogance Is Hardened To The  
 Consequences Of Its Incivility.  
 In Ignorance And Arrogance  
 Witless Adam Chooses  
 To Waste *The Middletree Fruit*.

#### 2. The Substance of Truth.

The substantive working of truth—like sunshine—is also at the atomic/molecular level. Truth like falsehood is buried in the deep details; attention to details causes truth to surface, while the neglect of details sparks chaos. Truth is in the here-and-now contingencies that require personal decisions day-in and day-out. None can dodge the daily event-streams that require decisions—*choices*. Rather than letting the flow of events control one's life, we can by conscious attention, exert some control over the daily flow of events. Too many of us are by habit accustomed to the *appearances* of things and are complacently tuned to live in conformity with the conventional wisdom. When we fail to exercise prudent control over the habits of convention, then, little by little, we lose control over our own lives and our own authenticity, for our actions and reactions reflect not our own insights but our habituated accommodation to the conventions put in place by others.

No one should be content to live by nothing more than "moonshine", by light that belongs to others. Moonlight is appearance, the reflection of sunlight that is drained of substance. Reflected light is ineffectual to life's purposes. "Truth" that is pretended in appearances but is lacking in substance is a sham, a deceit, a borrowed illumination. The "light of truth" is the energy of intelligence that powers-up individuality by virtue of the individual possession of reason. This particularly and necessarily applies to that aspect of social personality that we categorize under the term "religion". Religion is the *relational* agency motivating the individual person, not a complex of formulae codified in institutional dogmata. Yet, for many of us religion is institutional moonshine—codified dogmata.

When the ground of one's personal religion reflects light coming from sources outside of oneself, absent light empowered by *personal truth*, then one's religion is no more than appearance, no more than "moonshine". Collective religion that glows only in reflected light and not in the radiance of personal authenticity is also insubstantial, only moonshine. The *substance of light* belongs to the character of individual soul. The commonsense of wellbeing is grounded in personal and collective experience—in the experience of the truth that greater hurt results from the shredding of the social fabric of faith, hope and love (when people are polarized on islands of opposing "orthodoxies") than when people seek without confrontation to understand the truths behind their various orthodoxies, but without the surrender of one's own truth.

Institutional religion is structured for purposes of sustaining it-

self and of increasing its membership, which means that it first and foremost functions as a "*marketing organization*". When competing religions broadcast a plethora of "truths" attached to hidden agenda, truth itself becomes prostituted, that is, used for institutional gain. Each religion creates its own dogmata which are calculated to persuade and hold membership, and in the dogma-mix, angels and devils, heaven and hell, expectation and fear, sin and guilt become ploys used to persuade and hold peoples' minds. None of these dogmata bears directly on "*Eartheology*"—the commonground connectedness and interdependency that gives integral meaning to universal truth, not just in *appearance* but in *substance*.

Institutional dogma intends to be conscience for people—to make choices for them; but in its disconnect from Eartheology it is little help to people in realworld urgencies. [Orthodoxies, the cults of fundamentalism and patriarchy, have *dogmatic theologies* in common. If there was a single issue that definitively clinched my decision to desist from my pursuit of the institutional priesthood (late summer 1957) it was what I saw as the *trivialization of truth* done with serious intent in the trivial argumentations of Dogmatic Theology, i.e., in the "Romanizing" agendum of Catholicism.] Speculative dogma that locates *conscience/choice* outside the day-to-day flow of Earth-events is fraudulent; the frustration of conscience and its usurpation by institutional religion have contributed heavily to the cumulus of local and global crises threatening the wellbeing of life and the very credibility of institutional religion itself. The obligation of personal intelligence, of personal conscience, is a daily dilemma that escapes no one and that cannot be surrendered to institutional insistence. Daily choices belong to personal conscience, not to some fixed institutional consensus.

Even for primitive parents in the "Garden of Eden", the dilemma of choice was daunting. The *First Parents* seemed unable to reconcile the options confronting them, namely, on the one hand, to *increase and multiply*, and on the other to avoid degrading Garden Life by the consumptive excesses of human appetites. In the Genesis story, Adam faults Eve for eating of the Middletree, and Eve blames the serpent (the symbol of life's grounding—its ambivalence toward good and evil) for life's compulsion to self-reproduce.

*The necessary restraint of human excesses—to stop the ultimate waste of The Garden—is an overriding moral demand also on religion. The compulsion to proliferate life—a one-sided truth—ignores network life's limits of sustainability, i.e., its ability to support the excessive prolixity of one life-form without the radical degradation of network life, the other side of truth—the "religious dilemma".*

cludes that the celibate male-hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church, its unyielding patriarchy, its unrepentant exclusion of women from Godhead/priesthood, its arrogation of superiority over laity and its self-elected place in the economy of divine grace, all ground in the same "science" fact, namely, in a wrong characterization of human sexuality—and a neglect to correct the error even when knowledge of it is possessed that exposes its misdirection.

*Patriarchism* is the politicized agendum behind the male characterization of *male deity*. Patriarchal theology intends to "fence out" (alienate) woman from Godhead, from formal leadership in Church, and intends to "fence woman in" to political/social subserviency—which it effectively has done.

A god-conception originated in an error of fact must, on the face of that fact-error, grow into some kind of biological anomaly that is nonsensical and absurd on its face. Good-faith piety aside, the institutional roots of male hierarchy are now grounded in *commercial corporatism*. The patrimony of inheritance can be a messy problem (like "choice") which the corporate church "religiously" avoids by requiring its clerics to "marry" the corporation and not another human person. Thus, the institution, not a spouse or children, becomes the contractual beneficiary of the cleric's lifetime benefices. (No aspersion is meant to be cast on the good faith altruism of sincere and saintly men and women through the centuries for their service to God and man in their personal commitment to celibate religious community—and to institutional dominion.)

Christianity is now confronted with a crisis long-in-the-making which it can no longer avoid without harming its credibility. Myths of "father-heaven" and "mother-earth" are absolutized in theological presumptions. Hyped male self-arrogation is a two-faced coin; its reverse side depreciates woman and nature. What can be done to remove the deceptions advanced on male egoism? It belongs to The People to confront male idolatry by removing it from public life wherever it is. For example, in a matter as simple as making the *sign of the cross*, Catholics might use the words "In the name of Faith, Hope and Love", which is a non-sexist confession of Trinity gracing human spirituality. Hostaging the Godhead to the misconceptions of human sexuality is wrongheaded and terribly hurtful.

God is *virtual* (virtus:power)—Spirit inhering in all creativity, whose likeness is the grace (virtus) revealed in and revealing Creation-in-process. God is neither male nor female, but in their virtual expression, God empowers both male and female. The Grace of Divinity is, as the expression of Earthlife perfection, female/male ex-

4. The Male God.

Cultural beliefs that become sacred in tradition have their roots in the "science" of their times; if the *science* is wrong in its facts, then, the beliefs which are traditioned in misinformation will eventually be exposed for their fundamental error. This "law of consciousness" directly applies to the "hallowed" Christian concept of *the male god*. The *all-male* trinity of Christianity testifies directly to the "science" underlying its tradition—to the mistaken characterization of human sexuality behind the male godhead-conception. It seems that the patriarchal cultures of history, and those predating recorded history, have their explicit grounding in the dominance-instinct practiced by the male over the female, and in father-heaven/mother-earth mythology.

What *explicit error of fact* continues in the Christian elaboration of trinity that excludes *woman* from equal status in the Godhead? It goes to the presumed biological *science* of sexual difference between man and woman. An ancient and seemingly uninterrupted male presumption and belief has been that the man alone creates within his body a whole and entire "seed-male", which is a wholly and perfectly formed, viable male-in-the-miniature. The woman is nothing more than a "seedbed", a field, a *property*, the *ground* in which the male "plants" his (god)like male-miniature so that it may grow into viable independence. Whence arises the female? She is a *perversion of the male seed!* The female infant is an imperfection, a flawed result caused by some intervention that happens during the growth of the male seed in the female body. *This biological presumption persists in the theological scholasticism of Thomas Aquinas.\**

This male-presumptive insight of sexuality, when applied analogously to divine trinity, may be argued along these lines: *as God created Adam "man", and from him his helpmate "wom(bm)an", so even now, "the man" is, in the divine order, also the creator of (god)like males. The male child (in the male-conceptioned god) becomes the "second" divine person, the Father is first. In the spiritual dialogue between father-son (Father-Son) arises their mutual bonding "Spirit" who is the personification of (male) Love, the Third Person of the divine Trinity.* This rationale would explain and justify woman's alienation from Godhead, for by her doing (it argues) the first man was caused to sin. It is because of her inducing him to "original sin", and her continuing sin, that the male *conceptus* in her body is corrupted to become female; such *macula* is absent from the Godhead, so *also must woman be absent from the Godhead!*

In the face of male-trinity's presumptive reasoning, logic con-

EARTHLY PIETY.

I Move By Passion  
As Much As Any Other.  
Not The Stuff Of "Saints"!

FISHING FOR TRUTH.

In Pursuit Of Those Fast  
And Flashy Characters  
—Rainbow Colored Truth—  
I Stir The Waters  
To Put In Motion The Hiding Fish,  
Able Now Perhaps  
To Hide In The Mud Clouds  
That I Make;

Unique Fish  
That Usually Rest  
Rather Than Risk  
Being Misappropriated  
To A Purpose Less  
Than Becoming.

The Beauty Of Truth  
Can Be Possessed  
Without Appropriation  
And Consumption.

Spiritual Delight Is In  
The Satisfaction Of Discerning  
—Only Truth—  
And After That  
To Let Swim Away  
That Special Fish  
To Be Found Yet Again  
By Some Surprised  
Future Fisher.

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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TEILHARD DE CHARDIN.

The Writings Of This Jesuit Priest/Scientist  
Are Monumental  
Even If Unappreciated By Church;  
They Resonate The Big Bang  
And Its Transformational Aftermath,  
Including The Evolution Of Human Life,  
From Complexity To Consciousness,  
Out Of The Arrangements Of Original Quanta,  
Structures Common To The *Nonliving*  
As Well As To The Living.  
His Sense Of Urgency  
For A New Religious Beginning  
Is Premised In A Newly Informed  
Consciousness Of Cosmic Science.

DE IMAGINE DEI.

COMMUNICATION Authenticates Faith.  
CONSCIOUSNESS Authenticates Hope.  
CONSCIENCE Authenticates Love.  
(The Process Of Word.)

The Experience Of Being Is In Communication:  
(Nature—The Horizontal Arm.)  
Seeing, Touching, Tasting, Hearing, Smelling,  
Commonsensing Are Consciousness' Signalings.  
(Nurture—The Vertical Ascent.)

Love Thus Awakened  
(At The Intersections Of The Horizontal And Vertical)  
Works The Word And Imprints Conscience.  
(Incarnated Rationality.)

Beatific Vision Is Coming To Trinity-Living  
(To Moral Personality)  
By Process Of Faith, Hope, Love,  
By Assent, Commitment And Altruism,  
The Sacraments Of Rationality:  
Confession, Confirmation, Priesthood.

## *Wisdom's Choice*

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FAITH DISABLED.

Secure Wellbeing  
Necessitates Constraints Against The Excess  
Exercises Of Liberties;  
But The Excess Constraints Of Authoritarianism  
Too Long In Place  
Is Itself A Fatally Disabling Retrovirus  
Dissolving The Immunities Of Individual  
And Social Wellbeing.

The Religious Sanction Of Authoritarianism  
Is A Sacrilege Of Incomparable Impiety  
Precisely  
Because Of The Special  
Vulnerability Of Good Faith  
Given Over To Authoritarian Religion.

CRITICAL THINKING.

With Ambivalence  
History Records Right/Wrong.  
Untangle The Snarl!

TANGLED WING.

From The Window I Watched  
As A White Quiver Of Shivers  
Pelted The Ground;  
Under The Shelter Of A Shrub  
Huddled A Bird,  
Winged And Unable To Fly.  
"How Like," I Thought,  
"Winged Woman,  
*Spirit-Grounded By The Discriminating  
Sanction Of Tokenism.*"

DAILY COMMUNION.

For Divine Comfort And Nourishment  
I Swim At Least Twice Daily  
The Sea Condensed In Apples,  
And I Plumb The Deepsea  
Workings Of Profound Communion;  
But Perhaps Best Of All,  
I Orbit All Night The Historied Word Of Healthy  
Visions In Dreams As Well,  
Drunk From The Wells Of The Orbs I Swim.  
So Doing, I Escape  
The Need To Visit Psychiatrist Or Physician.

IMAGING GOD.

To Pluck A Flower Or To Let It Grow  
Is Not An Easy Choice;  
For, Whichever I Do,  
Good Is Denied And  
Good Is Accomplished.  
My Dilemma Is  
Which Is The Greater Good?

RELIGION'S SIN.

Religion  
Simplistically Fixed In Childish Impressions  
Trivializes Reality In Its Neglect  
To Get Beyond The Surface Of Things  
To The Realworld Of Complexity.  
Surface Appearances Can Be Cultist Prisons  
Closed To Open Complexity;  
They Can Be Cell-Walls  
Blinding Minds Simplistically From Seeing  
Beyond The Dark Literalness To Window Light  
Reflecting The Panes Of Infinitely Open Metaphors  
Revealing God More Completely.

TABLETS IN SANDSTONE.

The Rosined Bow Sounds The Tensioned Heart;  
But To The Material Poor  
The Siren-Song Of Do-Gooding Rings Hollow.  
Popular Religious Creed  
Is Measured And Played  
On Institutional And Personal Greed  
By Those Who Know,  
How To Practice And Stretch  
Strings On The Posted Bridge Vibrating  
The Resonant Woodgrain Cavity,  
And How The Horsehair Bow  
Can Pull From Air Sympathetic Notes  
That Sooth Fears Even  
In The Face Of Fire.

But Spare The Poor The Contrived  
Triumphalism Of Corporate Religion—  
Lectures That Give Them Nothing They Need!  
Spare Them The Temptations  
Of Affluent Greed That Possesses The Power Broker.  
Take A Page From Jesus' Book.  
Popular Religions Are Desert Sands  
Driven By Officious Whims,  
Not By Law Divinely Carved In Granite.  
How Else Explain Religion's Dutiful Role  
In Colonial And Modern Exploitation?  
The Truth Is That Religion Too Often  
Is Only What Selfishness Wants It To Be;  
It Neglects To Get Down To  
The Conscionable Matter Of Institutional Altruism.

Prophetic Religion Labors To Raise  
The Conscionable Self  
Above The Sandstorms Clouding  
The Horizon-Limits Of Material Symmetries;  
And She Doesn't Feed,  
Rather, She Confronts Institutional  
And Personal Greed  
Whose Consequences Are Self-Destructive.

## FIRST THEOGENESIS

HOLY THURSDAY, 1992.

One Difference  
Culture-Set In Mind  
Can Institute A Thousand Islands Of Isolation.  
Against Idolatry, Ancient Wisdom Thunders!  
It Is Not Within The Authority Of Man  
To Specify Divinity In Certain Objects  
And To Disqualify Divine Presence In Others.  
It Is Informed Conscience That Compels Me  
To Shout So Others May Hear The Word  
And Search For A Way Out Of Commonly Cultured Sin.

Out Of Spiritual Necessity And A Desire  
To Commune With God, I Consume Bread And Wine,  
Eventhough The Consciousness Of Real, Divine Presence  
Torments My Conscience In The Act.  
My Torment Is The Tortured Consciousness  
*That Polarized Alienation Within Culture-Circles*  
*Is Conflagrating Their Centers.*  
The Invented Disharmony I See  
Is From An Excess Orthodoxy Nurturing  
Respect For Divine Presence  
In Bread And Wine,  
On The One Hand,  
And, From An Excess Culture Of Disrespect  
For Divine Presence Transubstantiating  
Body And Blood In All Nature,  
On The Other.  
This Hyper-Charge Of Opposite Polarities  
Is Aborting Life At Their Meiotic Equators.

When I Step Outdoors  
I See The Face Of A Tearful God  
And I Am Overwhelmed With Shame.  
Now I Think I Know How Eve Felt  
Wasted In The Garden.  
When I Step Into A Church  
I See The Face Of A Tearful God  
And I Am Overwhelmed With Pain.  
Now I Think I Know How Mary Felt  
At The Foot Of The Cross.

## Wisdom's Choice

MALADY.

Persistence In Cultured Deceit  
Uproots Person From Reality  
And Puts Her Adrift In Uncertainty.

This Old But Ever New Malady  
Is Perhaps Less  
The Lady's Doing Than The Man's.

Schizophrenia  
Will Work Its Ultimate Consequence  
Unless It Is Recognized And Healed.

PROSTITUTION.

Who Pretends To Serve Others,  
But Is In Fact In-Turned  
In Self-Service And Personal Gain,  
Is An Imposter!  
In The Place Of Woman He Substitutes  
His Imposing Towers.  
And In His Pretended Worship  
He Prevails On Female Energy To Serve  
His Lofty Arrogance Which Disdains  
The Ground-Level Worship Of God.  
His Elegant Narcissism Becomes  
Sanctioned Prostitution!  
The Fraudulent Institution Of Idolatrous Elitism!

As Life's Origin Is In Female,  
So Must Be Its Return!  
The Exploitation Of Woman By Man  
Is Sacrilegious Self-Abuse.

Prostitution,  
Virtually Unexcepted,  
Is A Male-Concepted Institution.

THE NEEDLE TEST.

The Only Safe Beam Allowed  
Through The Monocular Eye Of The Needle  
Is Light; Its Rainbow Thread  
Is Patterned By Woman's Weave.

Ambivalent Vision  
Is The Binocular Gift Of Bi-Sexuality  
Which Nature Focuses  
On The Saving Insights Of Symbioses.

Woman's Perspective Is Crystal Resonance  
That Diversifies With Clarity The Division,  
And With Sharpness That Sometimes Shatters  
Panes With Pitch Too High.

The Clarity Of Binocular Focus Over Singular Vision  
Is That It Escapes The Singular Scandal  
That The Bible-Dictum Would Correct  
By Plucking Out.

The Monoculism Of Male Monovalency  
Is A Self-Elected, Inflictive Injury  
That Inserts The Beam Of Self-Asserting Tunnel-Vision,  
Blinding To The Female Eye.

Contrary To The Cultured Presumption,  
Man Is No More Light Than Woman.  
Darkness Is From The Self-Grown Beam In The Eye;  
In His Denial Of Woman, Man Mutilates Authenticity!

When Will He Learn To Master The Needle-Pass  
That Even The Camel Can?

"ASK, SEEK, KNOCK."

This Scriptural Instruction To Trinitarian Prayer  
Is Generally Interpreted To Affirm A Personal God,  
A Father Figure, Who Hears And Acts Upon  
Every Prayed Request Of "His" Every Child.

More Frequently People Ask One Another Now,  
As If Wishfully Seeking Affirmation  
Rather Than Negation To The Question,  
*"Do You Believe In A Personal God?"*  
The Answer Is Generally Negative  
Because The God We Seek  
Is Made Object To Our Own Image.

*A Sugar Daddy.*  
In The Context Of Simplistic Expectations,  
My Answer, Too, Is, "No."

However, I Believe There Is  
A True And Proper Understanding  
Of Personal God As  
*Being-In-Relationship*  
With Whom Each Can Communicate  
Within One's Conscious Self.  
Prayer Is The Quiet Dialogue  
—Contact Of Heartword—  
Spoken Within The Soul,  
Conscious Internal Communication  
Connecting The Ground Of Personal Being.

Each Can Tap Into  
This Divinely Imprinted Wisdom,  
Which Gradually Unfolds Into  
Personal Consciousness And Reveals  
The Answer To Prayer, If Only  
We Persist In Our Quest.  
Personal Self Derives From Personal God  
Who Originally And Personally  
Enlightens The Deep Self Of Real Presence.  
This Is "Personal God",  
Not The "Santa" Answering The Cause  
Of Every Child's Request.

TRANSUBSTANTIATION.

R - O - M - A !  
Shed Your Zeal And Jealousy  
For An Imagined God,  
Long Since Outgrown!  
Communication Is A Property  
And Continuing Necessity Of Symbiotic Life.

Every Body Is Born A Pitcher  
Full Of Words,  
The Substances Of Pictures  
In The Minds Of Others  
Into Whom They Are Poured.  
The Wordvessel Never Empties.  
Its Contents  
Become The Substances Of Countless  
Other Vessels.  
Not Even The Ocean Can Contain  
The Contents Of A Single Vessel.  
By The Power Of Trinity,  
Each Is Its Own Authority Above  
The Merely Human.  
Realize!  
Communication Is An All-Pervasive  
Love Potion Emanating Constantly  
From Being To Being.

Individual Selves *Drink In Each Other*  
And Change Irreversibly In The Exchange.  
Turn Yourself Around And Recognize  
A - M - O - R !  
God's Ever-Changing Presence  
Active Within All.

JOSEPH.

Penultimate Son Of Jacob And Rachel,  
Dressed In Mind With Technicolor  
Brilliance Of Proven Fabric,  
Maternally Woven,  
Is Gifted In The Weave Of Dreams Told  
In The Experience Of Want And Plenty,  
Of The Future Negating The Past;

He Is The Keeper Of The Plenty,  
Of The Grain,  
Bread Daily Dispensed  
Against Hunger  
As New As Grain Is Old.

Now I, A Later Visionary,  
Penultimate Son Of Another Joseph,  
Am Confronted In Dreams,  
Seventy-Times-Seven Daily  
By Teenage Marys,  
Slaughtered Innocents,  
Victims Socially Sanctioned;

And I Cry Out  
Against The Ravaging Of Woman,  
Of Earth, And Of All Life,  
And Against The Use Of Granaries  
To Disenfranchise The Many.

Has The Rainbow  
Cloth Of Maternal Mind-Weaving  
Lost Its Brilliance?  
Where Are The Josephs  
Willing To Accept Today  
The Marys And Jesuses?



## FIRST THEOGENESIS

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### DENIAL OF DEATH.

Consciousness Wants To Reject  
The Decay Of Body That Causes  
Its Own Unseating;  
And So It Speculates Circumstances  
That Fulfill Its Wishful  
Thinking Of Unterminated Existence.

Resurrection Of Body! Intact!  
The Reconstruction Of Physical Symmetry  
Re-Establishes Place  
For Consciousness To Persist Endlessly.  
Megaliths Of Ancient Cultures  
And Contemporary Gravestones  
Testify To This Conscious And Ageless Dream.

### THE RED. THE GREEN. THE PURPLE. THE GOLD.

Red. Without Pretenses Of Predestiny,  
Without Caprice, The Cosmos Encodes Faith  
In The Infrarubrics Of Purposeful In-Tending.

Green. In Prism-Purposeful Consciousness,  
Conscience Waterlocks Electron Hope Lightly  
In The Talkback Words Of Photosynthetic Cells.

Purple. In The Pontifical Mandate Of Water,  
Symbioses Transubstantiate Love's Continuity  
In The Earth Veins Of Gene/Meme Harmony.

Gold. In The Male Masquerading Of God,  
The Institutional Mind Conceits The Religious Mind  
And Clings To The Deceits Of The Fool's Gold.

## *Wisdom's Choice*

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### PATCHWORK LEARNING.

Knowledge Derived From  
The Defended Isolation Of The Learning Disciplines,  
*"Professionalism"*,  
Whose Advocates Pretend To Truth  
In Their Pursuit Of Strands Shredded  
And Removed From The Seamless Garment,  
Is, In Fact, Quite Other  
Than The Speculated Expectation;  
Namely, It Is The Documentation Of Deceit  
Attending Fragmentation.

The Bloodied Victim Of Applied Deceit  
Is Today's Human Society; Everywhere  
Catastrophes Pock-Mark The Face Of Mother Earth.  
We Know That The Proof Of Cause  
Is In The Apparency Of Effects, So That,  
The Now Apparent Ecological Catastrophes  
Are Sufficient Conclusions To the Common Causes  
That Argue For The Need Of Interdisciplinarity.  
Belief In The Incidental Origin Of All Being *In Common*  
Is Based In Known Relationships-In-Common.  
So, I Ask, *"What Task More Important  
Can Theology Do Than Integrate Patchwork Learning?"*  
To Do Less Is To Be A Party To The Deceit!

### ON EAGLE'S WINGS. (Ex 19, 3-6)

Moses Took Flight To The Conscious Peak  
And Minded The Moral Word:  
*"Tell Jacob's House And All Israel  
How I Myself Lifted You Up From Egypt  
On Eagle's Wings  
And Put You Here.  
Respond! And Reciprocate!  
Tell Your Offspring To Keep My Kingdom!  
This Is Their Special Priesthood!  
You Must Teach Israel Thus For All Time!"*

THE TRUTH WILL OUT.

Particle Short-Life Isn't All Bad  
 For Destruction Keeps Creation Open  
 To Diversification.  
 The Trip From Infinity To Finity  
 And Back Again  
 Happens At The Least Particle Level,  
 By The Actions Of The Particle/Anti-Particle.  
 Newness In Resurrection Is Driven  
 By Their Mutual Transformation.

Wavefields Are Focal Forces  
 Controlling the Traffic  
 Of Travel-Excited Electrons.  
 Paired Photons Embody  
 The Fancy-Free Electron  
 And Are The Witting Agents  
 Illuminating The Purpose  
 And Shape Of Atoms And Molecules.

The Elusive Truth-Quark  
 Escapes Containment  
 By Arrogance And Ignorance  
 And Authenticates Itself  
 In The Short-Life  
 Consuming The Twining Serpents.  
 Among The Subtle Credits  
 Of The Original T-Quark  
 Are Its Spiriting Of The Nucleus-Mass  
 And Its Mentoring Of The Emotionally Coupled  
 Photons' Electricity,  
 Whose Light-Essence Edifies  
 The Symmetry Of Soul/Substance.

The Mutual Annihilation  
 Of The Truth-Quark And  
 The Anti-Truth-Quark Produces  
 The Gluon,  
 The Strong Force  
 Bonding The Atomic Nucleus.

in the Second Coming of Jesus "*in spirit and truth*". Scripture reveals Jesus in categorical opposition to the establishment of a political kingdom of religious dominion; "my kingdom is not of this world". In word and work, Jesus precisely commits to the sapiential paradigm; his endorsement of this paradigm is clear in his exchange with Nicodemus, in which Jesus represents the Second Coming not in the literal sense (going back into the womb), but in the spiritual, *in spirit and truth*. Jesus well knew that heavy centrism, e.g., Roman/Judaic, like excessive legalism and literalism, kills, while personally owned, open spirit gives life. While Jesus opts the *sapiential*, he accepts the material necessities of the human estate—and its natural catastrophes. Substance-symmetry's changing necessity shatters material idolatry; it is transcendent continuity that survives the iconoclastic necessity of transformation. *Sapiential Theology attends to the continuity of transformational consciousness while apocalyptic theology obsesses in the cataclysms of natural transformations.*

Bridging medieval history and modern, Hegel's theological perspective visioned historical destiny as the revelation of Christian Trinity; in his sense of history, the present era is that of the divine will (Holy Spirit) manifesting in politically centered state-sovereignty—particularly German. In his *theology of history*, Hegel believed that it was the German mission to implement globally political "objectivity" (state sovereignty=divine will) over "subjectivities" (the chaotic, self-interested populace). His is a theocratic society. This "Geist" of Hegel's political/theological absolutism dominated the *realpolitik* of his time and even now in our times. Pope Pius XII's perceived ambiguity toward Hitler's German apocalypticism is not without historied theological resonance (Tridentine) in anti-reformational absolutism, infallibilism, centrism, and, in anti-Semitism.

Truth requires it to be said that the centrism of apocalyptic orthodoxy is not unique to Christianity, nor to white Europeans. The intolerance of centrist orthodoxy plagues most religions, including Jewish, and agitates within and amongst nations. No matter our place or our persuasion, we will not be freed from our idolatry of chosenism except we first confess it. So long as we let personal, national and mercantile orthodoxies prosecute their absolutisms on others, we will not be personally/societally free of contentions and "religious" wars. The end of elitist-sponsored violence begins in the individual heart; it will not happen except with a personal change of conscience which acknowledges the same God belonging equally to all people, and the same universe belonging to all the living.

marginalization. More prisons, more police and harsher laws serve more to justify the status-quo of cultured orthodoxies and injustice than to humanize societies. So long as exploitive preference (elitism, sexism, racism, classism, chosenism, ethnicism) consciously arrogates itself in ego/group-presumptions, humans will continue their justification of ego/group-advantage and in codifying dogmata that lock-in elitist advantage to the disadvantage of others. The power-control voices that prevail in societies will continue to raise their towers of babelous deceit and will sanction arrogated privilege in the institutions of religion, education and politics. For centuries, Catholic Christians, as a people, have blamed the Jewish Nation for killing "their" God even while doing the same to other peoples. On the presumptions of its rationalized dogmata and on its self-justified orthodoxy, global Christianity is still guilty of unrepentance for its accusations of deicide against the Jewish people.

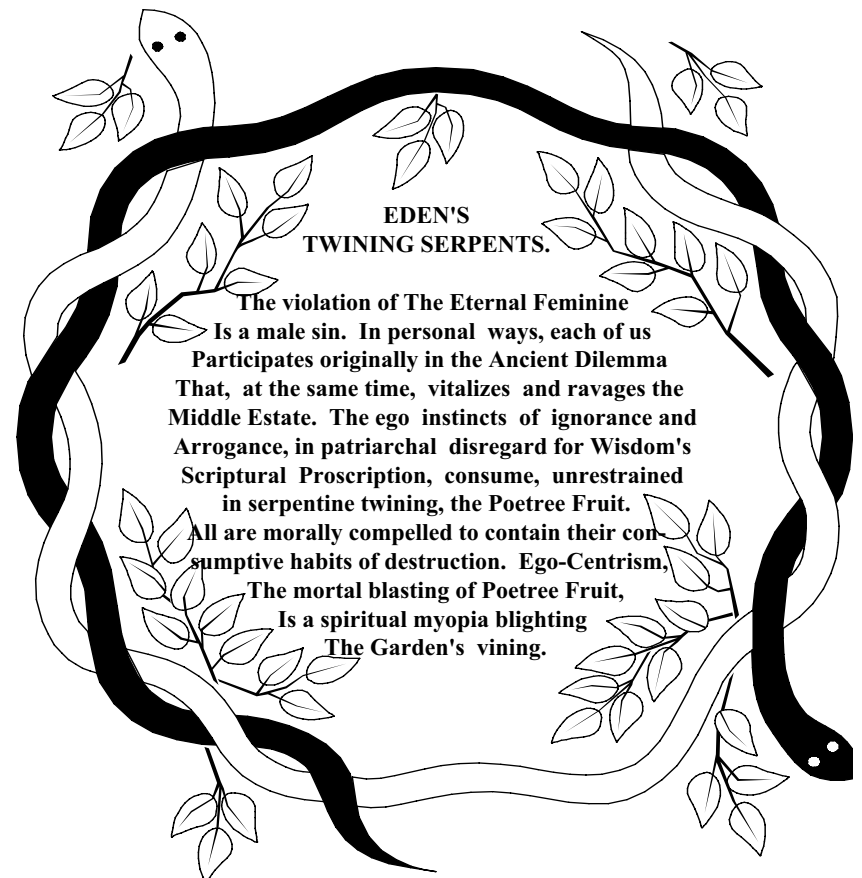
As a Catholic of German ancestry, I confess my sin of participation in a tradition of religiously claimed partiality and of male deism, which have contributed and yet contribute to the sanctions of violence against women, people of color, the Jewish people and against non-Christians. White European, Christian male preference still cultures kindred advantage in the towers of religion and academe, which both depend on the patronage of corporate mercantilism. The "righteousness" of every orthodoxy creates the polarity of an "unrighteousness" to justify its militancy and its culture of preference. So long as a rationalized superiority is religiously sanctioned, narrow self-advantage will be prosecuted over public advantage, and sanctioned orthodoxy will remain blind to its own wrongdoing.

Historically, polarized Christian theology agitates from philosophical/political centers. The energy of these poles is from opposing paradigms; at one extreme is the *apocalyptic/centrist paradigm*, at the other is the *sapiential/non-centrist paradigm*. As long as they remain polarized on dualistic presumptions they will never find a middle ground. Roman Catholicism has from its first theological institutionalizing held to political centrism. The "Roman" zeal of St. Paul and St. Augustine's theology of original sin have helped to direct Roman Catholicism's evolution into a political monarchy and to entrench its preference for the apocalyptic over the sapiential.

Hegel's statist philosophy/theology holds to the apocalyptic paradigm, that is, to the final expectation of a global cataclysm ushering in "the coming of the kingdom", and Jesus' dramatic return in Second Coming. The sapiential paradigm holds more to the expectation of perpetual human rebirth in consciousness and conscience, and

Take Heart!  
Even Human Untruthfulness  
Is Not Without Some Hope  
For A Better Outcome,  
*When It Is Annihilated.*

Reference: Christopher T. Hall, "Elementary Particle Physics," Robert P. Crease, "The Year in Science: An Overview", *Science And The Future - 1997 Yearbook*, Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc., 1996, pp. 372-375.



## 3. Who Killed God?

While the faith of most of us Christians is well away from the extremes of insolent atheism and naïve fideism, we, nevertheless, practice a religion that "kills" God, metaphorically speaking. The "killing" of God is a prideful, personal act. When we absolutize our relativity, we kill God; but, when we embrace our relativity, we empower the openness of divine agency in wholistic consciousness. Fixation in literal words kills, but openness to open word gives life.

We perhaps best understand pride as the absolutizing of relativity; or to make it personal, we give in to pride when we put excessive stock in our fixated self-awareness. In its absolutist fixation, pride frustrates communication, consciousness and conscience, and by so doing it defeats faith, hope and love. The defeat of this trinity is the defeat of divine agency in life, is the "death" of God.

Pride enthrones on consciousness a belief in preferential "chosenism". Conscious fixation on preference too easily attributes chosenism to mean divine favoritism. Self-satisfied chosenism takes another leap of faith that justifies dominion and powerplay over others. Genesis Scripture's "Eden consciousness" is of God's "anger" and peoples' alienation caused by the faulty consciousness that rationalizes consumerist rights to exploit the Middletree, thereby presuming foolishly on the Providence of Garden Life. The presumption of divine license is the sin of pride that precipitates The Fall.

The sin of Edenland is a global curse that echoes still in the childish taunt, "My God is greater than your God." Chosenism ultimately turns hellishly on itself. Judaic chosenism has been turned on by the violent cult of "Christian" Hitler's German chosenism [Deutschland über alles]. The true faith-sense of chosenism is common giftedness in the Natural Order. Natural giftedness, while multivalent, is inclusive, not exclusive. In Christian Faith, inclusive giftedness is the only acceptable form of chosenism, for exclusive chosenism is an idolatry that dominates violently and disempowers.

Idolatry begins with the conscious absolutizing of self-awareness; its cure is the conscious discovery of relativity in molecular soul/substance which is empowered to diversify in wavefield openness. Communication is the dialogic process that empowers diversely wavefield consciousness. Chosenism is a status-quo fixation of consciousness that intolerantly closes communication. When communication and consciousness are closed, so is love; and, if God is Love and love is closed, "killed", God is "killed".

God-consciousness is inherent in the wholistic consciousness

of the cosmic continuum, which comes in the human mind to its most focused self-reflection. But the human mind goes astray when it enthrones its consciousness and isolates it from the wholistic spirituality of all living consciousness. The divine agency of natural communication is frustrated when dependent agencies pretend to speak independently and with disregard for the wholly other. The presumption of self-only-dependence destroys the word and work of divine agency; the destruction of divine agency deals death to God's Word and Work.

Jesus witnessed against the kingdom-building idolatry of chosenism. His ministry is one of faith, not of fear, one of service, not of servitude, one of inclusiveness, not of exclusiveness. The kingdom that chosenism builds witnesses against chosenism. Like other ancient religions, Christianity too puts in place temples that dominate by hierarchically fixing people in states of inferiority and superiority, of servitude and dominion. Violence roots in chosenism. Globally, our times witness the hatreds of ethnic bloodletting. That Hitler's objective "Deutschland über alles" evolved on Hegel's theological politic of *Germanic destiny*, and that Hegel's *mission theology* of destiny manifest in preferential, statist interpretation of "the kingdom's coming" is linked with the *death-of-God* philosophy, the rise of atheistic communism, fascisms in Italy, Spain and Germany, with two world wars and ethnic blood-letting, are more than coincidental. Institutional Christianity's historical culture of presumptive chosenism has a cause-and-effect relationship with the societal tragedies of the Twentieth Century; and because the institutions of Western societies are still structured on the same presumptions of centrism, absolutism and divine chosenism, a move away from their evils will not come easily. Every religion insists on its self-advancing "orthodoxies". One people's denying another its God, diminishes God for all, for God is no one-culture genie singularly partial. The closed religious mind prosecutes spiritual suicide.

The answer to the title question answers other questions as well, such as, "Who pushes people to the margins of subsistence? Who foments cultural violence and societal degradation?" The colonial "mission" to indigenous peoples has rationalized its proselytizing on a presumed belief of Christian superiority and native inferiority. The continuing violence of whites against people of color is evidence that the prejudice even now obtains. Implicitly and explicitly, societal presumptions drive the overt/covert agenda of public institutions. Social correctives cannot be applied effectively except and until the engines of societal misdirection are identified and shut down. In shutting down the engines of violence it is a given that any further employment of violence serves only to polarize destructive opposition and to perpetuate