

Platonism Gnosticism Universalism

Eschatology: Study of God
Developing People in His Image
Dr. Leon L. Sanders

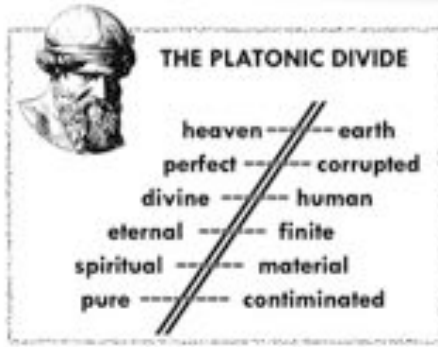
Origins of Platonism

- Pythagoras (570-495 BC)
 - Pythagoreanism – Development of his “natural philosophy” based upon his synthesis of Eastern and Western thought
 - Natural observations
 - Synthesis of various pantheistic religions and mythologies
 - A view of eternity that stood (stands) in antithesis to the Bible’s Gospel
 - His words, written by his disciples were influential to later Greek philosophers
 - Philolaus
 - Socrates (who also wrote nothing)
 - Plato

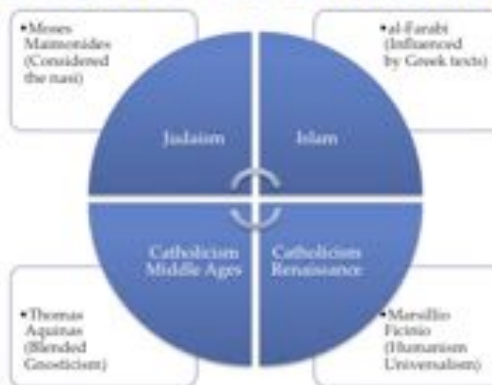
Plato the Corner Stone

- Plato became the foundation of much that is known as Gnosticism today though it grew in stages
 - Ancient Platonism (347-267 BC) (His life)
 - Middle Platonism (90~250 AD)
 - Neo Platonism (~250-529 AD) (Actually extends into today as gnosticism)
- This has influenced the monotheistic religions and contaminated the true Gospel leading to a false gospel that seeks to prevent God’s truth today

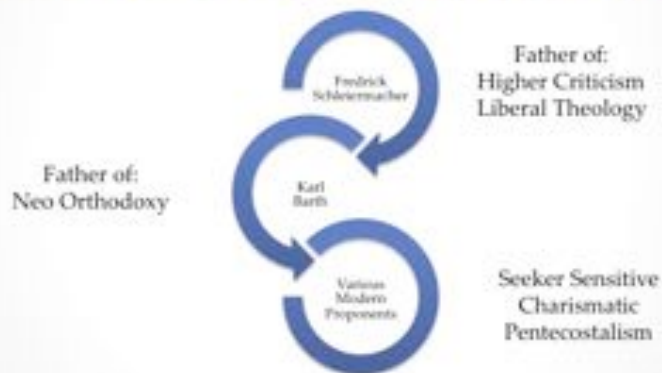
Material Mirrors Spiritual



Influence of Platonism



Protestant Platonism



Platonism to Gnosticism

- Platonism is predominately a secularization of Pythagoreanism probably due to Socrates' influence upon Plato
- Gnosticism is the religious interpretation of Platonism
 - Spiritual is the "Perfect" while Material is the inferior
 - Man finds fulfillment by knowledge of and assimilation with the Spiritual
 - Includes ALL faiths EXCEPT Christianity (Salvation by faith in Christ)
- Gnosticism/Platonism has its own form of logic

Gnostic Logic Diagram

Generic Tetralemma

A	Both A and B
Neither A nor B	Position B

Gnostic Gospel Tetralemma

Gnostic vs. Christianity Tetralemma

Spirit Only (Completion of Journey - gods)	Pathway of Material to Spiritual (Journey of Truth)
Christianity (Rejection of Gnosticism - Annihilation)	Material Only (Beginning of Knowledge)

Platonic-Gnostic Tetralemma

Gnostic
Platonic
Tetralemma

Gnosticism (Religious expression of Platonism)	Secular requires religious expression (Truth of Babel)
Christianity (Rejection of Gnosticism - Platonism)	Platonism (Secular (Science) view man's existence)

Judaism Tetralemma

Judaism vs.
Christianity
Tetralemma

Orthodoxy (Talmudic Judaism)	Pathway from Secular to Orthodoxy (Journey of Growth)
Christianity (Rejection of Judaism - Annihilation)	Zionism (Secular Judaism)

Physical Relationships Tetralemma

Physical vs.
Christianity
Tetralemma

Hedonism (Riotous Flesh (1Co 6:18))	Pathway of asceticism and hedonism (Path of Depravity)
Christianity (Rejection of sexual immorality - all forms)	Asceticism (Rejection of sex, strengthens the flesh (1:20-23))

<p style="text-align: center;">Aristotelian Logic</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Law of Identity</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Null Set (Law of Excluded Middle)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Either Here Or Here</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Law of Non-Contradiction (Either-Or) Law of Logic Inferences</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Lost or Saved.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lost (Old Man) Saved (New Man)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">There is no "third" option</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Mutually Exclusive Gospels</p> <p>Gnostic Gospel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excludes Christians• Promises Universalism <p style="text-align: right;">Violates LNC</p> <p>Christ's Gospel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ALL may come• Those who come are reborn	

The Mark is Citizenship

Spiritual

Gnosticism is the only gospel that allows allegiance to the "image" of the beast and the receiving of his "mark"

Social

All who receive his "mark" are allowed to participate in his society; i.e. equivalent of a passport or citizenship

Economic

Only those who are legal members of his society can participate economically, have the means to sustain life and prosperity

Gnosticism is the Matrix

- Platonism/Gnosticism is the "glue" that joins secular and religious understandings together in such a manner that only those who accept gnosticism will be allowed as citizens of the coming world order
- Nationalism, coupled with modern philosophies, has only been a step on the path to developing this new order which will replace nationalism as nationalism replaced kingdom monarchies

Stay Above the Fray

- Christians need to be above this fray as Paul shows by his example
 - A citizen of Rome who do not promote or condemn governments but used their legalities to spread the gospel message so some might be saved
 - Christians today must refrain from squandering their energies in promoting governments that will only detract from the gospel message
 - During the coming time all governments will persecute Christians for spreading a gospel they see as antithetical to their platonic/gnostic quest for universal salvation for all mankind (Tower of Babel)