CREATION: A SCIENCE FANTASY.

CHAPTER 1,

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and after He considered that Evolution had proceeded far enough, He created Man in his own image. Meister Eckhard in the 14th century declared that God had made the human soul infinite, like Himself; and that was why we could say that He had created us in His own image, because the human soul was infinite like Himself.

Goethe asked about infinity:-

"Was ist unendlichkeit? What is infinity?

Wie kannst du dich so qualen? How canst thou so torture thyself?

Geh' in dich selbst. Look within:

Entbehrst du drin Unendlichkeit If there thou lack'st infinity in being and

in Sein und Sinn thought,

So ist dir nicht zu helfen". No help for thee.

More recently Mr.J.R.Lucas has reminded us in an eloquent exposition of Godel's Theorem that the human mind can always out-trump any machine you confront it with, constructed or imaginary. So the two worlds of Natural Science and the mind and imagination lie side by side; science will continue to produce its mechanical descriptions of creation, which may well be illuminating, and the human mind will continue to indulge in the infinite variety of its inventions untroubled by pedestrian science.

Godel's Theorem simply states that in any consistent system, which is strong enough to produce simple arithmetic, there are formula which cannot be proved-in-the-system, but which we can see to be true. Godel's second Theorem states that it is impossible to prove in a consistent system that it is consistent. In ordinary English, if you feed a problem into a computer, and the computer says the answer is XYZ, it does not go on to say, "And you have my personal assurance that this is the correct answer". Or if it did, you would know that some bright spark had fed this addition into the computer, and it was not the computer genuinely speaking.

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There were of course difficult problems facing the Creator, prior to the creation of Man. For example, there were the problems of unicellular division, and later the much more difficult problem of division of cells by the operation of male and female components. Probably it would be wrong to think that when the time came for these miracles to take place, the Creator devised His answer, and gave Nature or Evolution a little push in the right direction; rather that He had devised the correct answer at the beginning of time, and potentially the answer was already there when the need for it arose. Some people might say that the answers to these problems were worked out by natural selection and survival of the fittest, whatever that means. (Who survive? The fittest of course. Why are they the fittest? Because they survive of course. And so we go round the mulberry bush, and allow the meaning of words to dictate our views). But I understand it might have taken longer to achieve the solution by those means, than creation has existed. How much longer? I don't know; perhaps a million times longer, than the $4\frac{1}{2}$ billion years that we think our earth has been here. Probably it is best to think that Space, Time, Matter was all created at the beginning; and potentially, Man was created then too, although it took him a very long time to make his appearance on the world stage. Although Man has only been around for a million or two million years, potentially he was planned from the beginning.

Was Man planned as he is, or might he have been different? Well the Neanderthals were different; and informed opinion seems to be that we are not descended from them; indeed the two races lived side by side until the Neanderthals were wiped out. Nor are we descended from Pithecanthropus, rather from a cousin of his, who unfortunately has left behind no fossil remains.

Yet Nature has reached Man by a circuitous route; other creatures have dominated the earth before us. The dinosaurs were dominant for a long time; many of them were small, but a few species were so vast and terrible that Man would have had no chance against them. Yet they could never have evolved into

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Man, however long Nature had allowed them. Every species, except Man, has apparently gone down an evolutionary cul-de-sac, from which there was no possibility of retreat. Man has so far avoided this mistake; but dear me, he shows every capacity to repeating the mistakes of his friends in the animal world, most obviously in the adoption of intolerant single faith creeds.

So I opt for the belief, because it can be nothing more, that God created Space, Time, Matter in the beginning; and potentially all the problems of Nature were already solved in that instant. What happened before? It is meaningless to ask. You might as well ask, "In War, is the plan of battle blue or green?" Again Meister Eckhard says it is wrong to call God good, because God is the source of all goodness; and it is wrong to describe Him in terms of what he created. You can know God; at least countless men and women have claimed to know Him, and to have an indwelling with the God who lived in their imaginations. But assuming this claim is true, and I for one would question such a claim with the greatest reluctance, it would be very foolish for the individual concerned to ask God to explain what the relationship amounted to. It would be like Adam in that lovely story eating the apple in the Garden of Eden. I believe, because it cannot be more, that you can know God, but you cannot know about God. There is no insight into Eternity, if it exists outside space and time, except possibly in Hell. Although Moses says in Deuteronomy that one should love God with all the heart, the mind, the strength; the psalmist says that it is the fear of God, which is the beginning of wisdom, not the love of God. Both are correct. You cannot know about God, only about His creation and His promises; and those who claim to know about Him are deluding themselves. And even if we know a bit about the earthly Jesus, how much do we know about the Risen Christ?