

(b) Summary of Van Til's View

[1] Diagram of Van Til's View

GOD: ETERNAL ONE & MANY (UNITY OF ESSENCE, DIVERSITY OF PERSONS)

CREATION: TEMPORAL ONE & MANY (SUBORDINATION OF ASPECTS)

MORAL ASPECT (LAWS & FACTS)

INTELLECTUAL ASPECT (LAWS & FACTS)

ORGANIC ASPECT (LAWS & FACTS)

MECHANICAL ASPECT (LAWS & FACTS)

[2] Philosophical Analysis of Van Til's View

Van Til's view is also a two-level or two-layer view of being.

On the eternal (Creator) level, the view is quantitatively monistic, in the sense that God is a unity; qualitatively, it is a form of idealistic monism. On this level therefore, it is a form of monistic idealistic monism.

On the temporal (creature) level, the view is quantitatively pluralistic; qualitatively it is not clear whether Van Til holds to a dualism (laws and facts, or spirit and matter) or to a pluralism (the various aspects of created reality).

If he holds to a qualitative dualism, then on the temporal level the view is a form of pluralistic dualism. If he holds to a qualitative pluralism, then the view is a form of pluralistic pluralism.

However, it is clear that Van Til does not reduce the Creator and the creature to some more ultimate kind of being. He also is committed to a two-level or two-layer view of being.

(3) The Formulation of Francis Schaeffer

(a) Relevant Quotations from His Writings

. . . we need a personal-infinite God. That is first.

Second, we need a personal unity and diversity in God.

. . . On the side of God's infinity, there is a complete chasm between God on the one side and man, the animal, the flower, and the machine on the other. . . . He is the Creator; all else was created. He is in-