

(4) A Formulation Modestly Proposed by Robert J. Dunzweiler

(a) Diagram of the View

It would seem that the most crucial element in a Xn view of being is that of CREATION. Creation divides reality both horizontally (temporally) and vertically (uncreated/created):

Horizontally:

PRECREATION REALITY POSTCREATION REALITY

Vertically:

	C	
	R	
GOD	E	CREATOR
	A	
	T	
	I	
	O	
	N	CREATED BEING

Creation (the bringing into being of that which is not the Creator) divides reality into pre- and post-creation phases. At the same time, creation brings into being a created being which is distinct from, other than, the Creator. Thus the precreation phase of reality contains one level of reality, whereas the postcreation phase contains two levels, the level of the Creator and the level of created being.

(b) Philosophical Analysis of the View

This proposed view is a one-level view of being prior to creation, but a two-level view subsequent to creation. In the precreation phase of reality, the view is quantitatively monistic; qualitatively, it is a form of idealistic monism. Combining these components give us a monistic idealistic monism.

In the postcreation phase of reality, the view posits two levels of being. On the Creator level of being, the situation is just the same as before creation: monistic idealistic monism. On the created level of being, the view is quantitatively pluralistic; qualitatively, it is either dualistic or pluralistic. If spirit and matter are the basic kinds of being on this level, then the view gives us pluralistic dualism. If, however, biological life is not simply a complex form of chemical and physical organization, but a kind of being in its own right, then spirit and life and matter-energy (at least) are the basic kinds of being on