

antecedents and consequents, and if its occurrence is distinct from any evaluating mind.

- (2) Potentiality brings an object or an event out of the realm of possibility into the realm of potential existence.

To say that something is potential is to say that it will come into existence, but has not yet done so. Potentiality is a stage on the way to actuality. Events that are definitely going to come to pass are potential events, not simply possible events.

- (3) Actuality brings an object or event out of the realm of possibility or potentiality into the realm of existence.

To say that something is actual is to say that it exists, either subjectively (in an evaluating mind) or objectively (distinct from any evaluating mind).

Possibility brings non-being into the realm of possible being.

Potentiality brings possibility into the realm of potential being.

Actuality brings potentiality into the realm of actual being.

The accomplishment of the atonement of Christ brought into the realm of possibility the reconciliation to God of all sinful human beings. Reconciliation of sinful human beings is now a possibility.

The accomplishment of the atonement of Christ brought into the realm of potentiality the reconciliation to God of elect human beings. Reconciliation of elect human beings awaits only actualization.

The application of the atonement of Christ brought into the realm of actuality the reconciliation to God of elect human beings. Reconciliation to God of elect human beings is now actualized in the case of those who are united to Christ through the instrument of saving faith.

Thus the cross of Christ makes the reconciliation to God possible for all human beings, and makes reconciliation to God potential for elect human beings before they believe and actual when they believe.