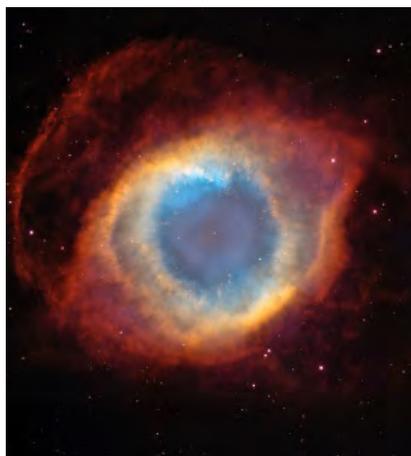


## Creation and Evolution is Process returning to its First Principles

by Edward F. Sylvia, M.T.S.



"Eye of God" – Hubble Telescope – NASA

The concept behind the title of this post was intended to illustrate the impotency of a merely materialistic ideology (the natural sciences). Science has yet to discover the key to the nature of causal agency in the universe because it has not successfully identified first principles. This is what hinders a meeting of the minds between scientists and theologians. On the positive side, physicists are starting to come to the conclusion that the dynamics ruling the universe on a fundamental level are non-physical and beyond the spatio-temporal arena. Both quantum physics and the essential singularity of the Big Bang theory lead us to this conclusion. Both theories are beyond satisfactory geometrical description.

The other positive news is that physicists do seem to accept the notion that the universe is unified and therefore, all the laws of nature must somehow be unified (called a "Theory of Everything"). This means that there is unity at the very beginning of creation and continued unity as a manifested or realized end result in the

cosmic process. This theme of unity is not only operational within the process of creation but also with evolution. The emergence of living forms with greater complexity continuously promotes an ecological pattern of unification via profound interconnectedness, interrelationship and interdependence between all organisms and their environment.

This unifying pattern is continued into the increased intelligence and consciousness of the human species. In order that humans can live in a more perfect society, they too, must adopt this blueprint. This includes living in harmony with nature and living in harmony with other humans. So the concept of unity continues into the higher order dynamics of human mind.

Many scientists (but not all) do embrace the idea that the mind works beyond time and space. So then, if first principles operate beyond time and space and the noblest concepts of the human mind are to seek for and live in common community, is this a cosmic clue for determining the ultimate non-material nature of reality?

Hmmm? This sounds like religion might actually be God's lawful strategy to take this pattern into the human psyche (heart and mind). One of the basic and fundamental tenets of religion is to "love the neighbor" and form a more intimate relationship with God.

All religion basically promotes the idea that God lives beyond time and space. Religion also promotes the idea that humankind can, by adopting God's tenets, also live beyond time and space after the death of the physical body. This non-physical realm is called heaven—a kingdom of mutual love.

God's creative action seems to descend from a non-material realm into a realm of matter, then, return by men and women who choose to continue to evolve their hearts and minds from spiritual principles! So what does this tell us about the nature of first principles that promote unification from a psychical beginning to things physical and back again to the

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psychical? The answer according to scientist/theologian Emanuel Swedenborg is LOVE! He also called "love" spiritual substance and the ultimate creative cause of creation and process. Swedenborg described the whole (holy) completing process of first principles returning to first principles (spiritual love returning to spiritual love) as the Circle of Life.

Such a theistic model of reality is too "buttoned-up" and too "fine-tuned" for most scientists to handle. But it is where science and religion will ultimately interface in the future.

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Edward F. Sylvia, M.T.S. is the author of *Sermon From the Compost Pile: Seven Steps Toward Creating An Inner Garden*. His newest book, *Proving God*, fulfills a continuing vision that God's fingerprints of love can be found everywhere in the manifest universe. He also lectures and presents workshops on a variety of subjects, always making connections between the topics of today and timeless spiritual insights. ©2010 Edward F. Sylvia, M.T.S. Staircase Press. For more information, visit <http://www.staircasepress.com>.

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