

## The Creation of the Physical Universe – The Plato's Demiurge

In Colossians 1: 15-17, the text referring to Jesus says: *The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*

Also the text of John 1: 3 says that *all things were made through him, and without him nothing was made that was made.*

In a preliminary analysis of these texts, we are led to think that Jesus is the author of the whole creation of this universe, both of the spiritual (invisible) creation and of the material (visible) creation.

However, there are many who question how a perfect and good God can create a creation so corruptible and imperfect in many ways.

Jesus is the Word of God, as John 1: 1 and 2 says, which is also called the "*Word of life*" as 1 John 1: 1 says. The verb means action and each grammatical phrase needs a verb to be complete. Even if the verb is hidden, its presence can be perceived through the action performed.

As the Word of God, Jesus is the action of God, always able to fulfill the will of the Father and his purposes. If the parallel were done with any individual, the verb would be the motivating impulse that leads him to perform a certain task.

In the Universe exists the principle of Action-Reaction. The physical postulate says that for each action corresponds a reaction, with the same intensity and opposite direction.

Therefore, in logical terms, if we admit that Jesus is the executing Word of the actions planned by God, we must also admit that there is an "anti-verb" corresponding to the opposite reaction, responsible for all attempts to neutralize the actions planned by the God Father.

This concept is not to be confused with the principle of *Ying-Yang*, which is very widespread in the esoteric currents, which presupposes a HARMONIC contrast between the antagonistic forces that govern the Universe, through a continuous balance between the opposites.

It is not the case that we are considering here, because the Father's action is ALWAYS BENEFICIAL, while the adverse reaction is always contrary and reactive to his purposes.

According to Genesis 2: 7, Elohim (which means "gods") together with Jehovah (JHVH), formed the man FROM the dust of the earth. Like man, woman was not created from "nothingness," but she was formed FROM the rib of man, as we read in Genesis 2:21 and 22.

It is interesting that recently genetic science has brought the concept of laboratory "creation" from a given organism, which is the generation of organs through stem cells, which however was already recorded in the biblical text of the Garden of Eden since many time ago.

Note that in material creation there was the interference of Elohim-Jehovah, who manipulated the vital elements to generate imperfect and corruptible organisms in the Universe.

In the biblical text of John 1: 3, which says that "*all things were made through the Son, and without him nothing was made*" I believe that Jesus was the author of the fundamental elements of nature, which include the chemical elements that gave rise to air, water, as well as the basic compounds essential for the formation of

minerals and plants, but I do not believe that He was necessarily the creator of the organisms that were generated from the basic substances, that is, from the raw material.

On the other hand, Elohim-JHVH (gods + Jehovah) cannot be considered the **CREATOR** itself, but rather the **MANIPULATOR** of the raw material for the creation of man and other living organisms. It is quite similar to the pharmacist who manipulates the basic chemicals combining them according to a certain formula in order to produce a certain drug.

According to the account of the first two chapters of Genesis, Elohim-Jehovah was the creator of the first man (Adam) with all his imperfections, who failed and frustrated Jehovah's plans, for his design was corruptible and susceptible to failures.

Therefore, if we think about the creation of the essential and vital elements of this Universe, it is certain that the Father created all things through his "executory action," that is, Jesus, the Word, but only as regards the basic structure of elements.

As for the arrangement of the elements that gave rise to living beings, including humans, I do not believe that it is the exclusive responsibility of God the Father, because we see that material creation is imperfect, as we actually perceive it through bacteria, viruses, parasites, mosquitoes transmitters of diseases and other harmful organisms, which would discredit the absolute perfection that is attributed to the Most High God.

As an example, one can make analogy with the civil construction. Thus, for example, if a company is responsible for the raw material (cement, bricks, sand and iron) and another company is responsible for carrying out the work, although the materials are of excellent quality, construction will risk falling if execution is of poor quality.

The summary of what I am saying is that a construction is only successful if the raw material and the execution are equally of good quality.

My opinion is that the true God, the Father (ABBA) created through Christ all the raw material for the building of a perfect and incorruptible universe, similar to the heavenly Garden of Eden. However, there was the interference of a manipulator, which Plato called **Demiurge**, the mystics call him **Yaldabaoth** and Marcion identified him with **Jehovah**, the god of the Old Testament.

It is obvious that all creation has suffered the consequences of this catastrophic and fatal interference of the manipulators in the creative processes of the Universe. That is why Paul said in Romans 8: 19-22 that all physical creation is still groaning, waiting to be delivered from the corruption that enslaves it, as it is written ... ***For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.***

According to this text, we can conclude that physical creation, which includes living beings and also the environment, was subverted by its constructive project by someone who subjected it tyrannically, leading it to a condition of pain and anguish, and this is why the text states that the creation is awaiting its redemption with pain, just as a pregnant woman is on the eve of her lying-in.

Although Plato did not know the true God, which was only manifested through Christ four centuries later, I believe that he must have intuited the concept of a demiurge distinct from the absolute God, based on the fact of the difference of natures of the human being, since every human being shows in the same body an inclination for good and another for evil.

By this Platonic concept, when a person reveals an inclination for good, he is manifesting his identification with the "greater" God, whereas an inclination of that person for the evil would manifest his identification with the

demiurge, that is, the "smaller god". The Demiurge was able to endow man only with the *psyché* (sensitive soul), whereas the *pneumatic* (rational soul) would be added only by God.

That **DUALIST** concept that Plato intuited was later adopted by Marcion, and later by the Cathars or Albigensians. However, we also see it in the words of the apostle Paul.

Even after his experience with the true God, Paul admitted in Romans 7: 15-20 that there was a force within him to do what he did not approve. Thus he said: ... *I do not understand what I do. For **what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.** And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. For **I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature.** For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For **I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do**—this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but **it is sin living in me that does it.***

What can be seen is that as a person approaches God, he tends to manifest the fruits of the Holy Spirit of God reported in Galatians 5:22 and 23 ... *love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control*, and to the extent that he moves away from God and allows the growth of the instincts of the flesh reported in Galatians 5: 19-21 ... *immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like.*

Oswaldo Carvalho