We the world now face, if we survive the eco-crisis, (a) atavism (retreat into some past), (b) amnesia (rejection of all pasts and therefore of their structures of "reason"), (c) the gradual emergence of a planetary syncretistic consciousness having a functionally adequate structure of "reason," and/or (d) the revalorized recrudescence of particular historic faiths each with its own revision of its own structural "reason." As a human being I work and pray against (a) and (b) and for (c); as a Christian I work and pray for (d), a persuasive present-ing (i.e., "making present," contemporary) of my own faith both historic and personal. I conclude against a future for anything that does not take the left hemisphere of the human brain (i.e., ratiocination, analytic-syntheitic processing of data and ideas) seriously; therefore, (a) and (b) are nonviable options: "reason" in some form is as here to stay as is (through the right hemisphere) "imagination"*(i.e., doing conscious as well as unconscious business with images both static and dynamic, stories, symbols). Here are a few diagrams to visualize where we've been and where we are and where we might be going. (For a master guide on the history, see the writings of Gabriel Moran. At least have a look at his article in 160ct74 XnC. 964-8.)

DIAGRAM #1: THE POSSIBLE DISPOSITIONS OF "REASON" Play with this theoretic display, first with the pure types. Imagine "A," somebody (perhaps in literature?) who supposes the world must be rational, but does not experience it as so. ... And "B": the schizophrenic?.... And "C": the obsequious?... And "D": the libertine? (Add your own imaginings; then try the compounds....) (NB: "Logos"=, better, "correspondence.")

DIAGRAM #2: THE WESTERN-HISTORICAL DISPOSITIONS OF "REASON" The components are designated as in Diagram #1.)

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(Period 1 is repeated in 4, 2 in 6, 3 in 5--and 11?) (Of the dozen possible arrangements of the components, only these are unused in this Western development and

the 4 simplex being excepted (See Diagram #1.). Possibil ities: 1, solipsism; 2, alienation, paranoia, identity loss; 3, minitism.)

EXPANSION of periods-description: The first 3, pre-Christian; 2, Greek philosophical, Greek religious being like 1; 3, Hellenistic (Greek-philosophical) Jewish; 4, prephilosophical Christian (i.e., the earliest Church); 5, early and medieval Christianity (revelation/reason); 6, Renaissance (reason/revelation, a significant reversal--between 2 and 5 but leaning toward 2); 7, Enlightenment (rationalism; retreat of revelation into faith, replacing reason/revelation with reason/ faith); 8, decreasingly confident secularism, replacing reason/faith with reason/experience but losing "faith" in "fact" and so tending to subjectivistic, even solipsistic and nihilistic, "reason"-interiority--now increasingly open to the nonrational, the antirational, the occult, the esoteric, and the exotic (especially Eastern religions and Westernized versions thereof); 9-11, my speculations about near and far tomorrows.

USE OF THE DIAGRAMS: Of course the component-categories and periods are overneat, the reality being a complex flow with whirlpools, backwaters, differential rates across variegated inner and outer terrains, so that visuals can be only suggestive. They do provide, however, a space-systematic for interfacing components/periods and refining perceptions-conceptions of both. "faith"

("reason")

How this looks on the diamond diagram: process-control PRACTICAL QUESTIONS: Significance for (a) current theologies (the secular, liberation, etc.), (b) neo-feminism, (c) theological education (and the "new" pedagogies: storytelling, visuals, etc.)?

MSP appreciative insight B ("intuition") "fact"

LOCATION

objective

cause)

gu

meani

rationalityR

experience

"fact"

subjective

reasoning

"faith"

PRODESS(ground)

("cosmos")("individual")

S: spirit B: body P: psyche M: mind





