Ancient Wisdom

Σημειωσεις – Notes

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***Christian's Mind & the World* – https://alicealexandrasofia.com**

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Σ1 Through the **Hebrew Prophets** [1500–1000 B.C. – fifth century B.C.], God

1/ granted the knowledge, which sustains life and death of men, controls existence or disintegration of their establishments

2/ set up the foundation for evolution of a human being as optimization–perfection–development of the highest potential according to the original design (in 1500–1000 B.C. – fifth century B.C.): the Hebrew Prophets prepared the foundation for the teachings of Lord God Jesus Christ.

The Prophets were the actual rulers of pre–king Israel. They are the most extraordinary people who ever existed:
– they manifested abilities inaccessible by the others
– none of hierarchies, authorities, other social and political factors had any power over their mind.

The phenomenon of the Hebrew Prophets remains the unexplained mystery and unsolvable problem for the contemporary sciences, which have no choice but to denounce the Holy Scriptures as a collection of myths and allegories.

The mind, which accepts the Holy Scriptures as the truth, knows that the Prophet speaks and acts by the Spirit of God, and the impossible does not exist for him {e.g., in: *Joshua 10:12–14; 3 Kings 17:19–24; 18:41–44; 4 Kings 1:9–15; 2:8, 19–22; 4:1–7, 32–35, 39–44; 5:8–15, 20–27; 20:9–11; Zechariah 4:6; 2 Peter 2:21*}:
– Joshua the son of Nun cried to God, and as he asked, the Sun and the Moon stood still until the people finished the battle
– Isaiah the Prophet asked God to confirm his prophecy to the king by sending backward the shadow of the Sun on the sundial, and it was done
– Eliu the Prophet revived the dead, called rain and fire from the heaven, parted water when he needed to cross the river
– Elisaie the Prophet purified the poisonous water and destroyed the poison, multiplied oil in a house of the poor widow and the food for people, revived the dead, healed and sent leprosy
– the Prophets predicted the Future, and their predictions became the actuality.

When the Prophets act on behalf of God, they have the **complete control** over the forces, which maintain existence of the material world. The texts of the Holy Scriptures reveal that the Hebrew Prophets
– changed nuclear structures and transformed the existing matter into another substance (destruction of the poison, purification of the water)
– created the perceivable matter directly from the non–perceivable universal energy–source of creation of the matter (multiplied food and oil)
– controlled destruction of the matter (survival within burning flame, healing of the sick, sending disease and death)
– restored the set of the energy fields, which accommodates existence of a living human being at the specified time–space point of the Universe (reanimation of the dead)
– controlled the forces of the Nature (movement of the planets, rain and fire from the sky)
– controlled the energy fields, which create and direct the force of gravity (e.g., water was parted to let the Prophet cross the river)
– ascended to the level where the time–space–complexity limitations do not exist (the ability to see the Future)**.**

The Gospels allow understanding of the prophetic phenomenon. Before the Apostles of Lord Jesus Christ began their mission, they received the same abilities, which the Hebrew Prophets manifested: they became able to heal the sick, resurrect the dead, and accomplish many other things, which the people name "miracles." Behind the two phenomena – the Hebrew Prophets and the Apostles – is the same Power: the Holy Spirit of the Almighty God. This Power has no limits.

For instance, if to analyze the deeds of Elias, which also his successor – Elisha has done {*3 Kings; 4 Kings*}, the one might infer that, in the current terms, the prophets operated with the complete power over the matter and elements of the world (parted the water, purified the poisonous water and destroyed the poison, multiplied oil and the food, revived the dead, healed or sent leprosy, and punished the evil ones). For such works, Elias and Elisha had to be enabled

1/ to change nuclear structures of the existing matter transforming it into another substance: destruction of the poison, purification of the water spring

2/ to create the structured matter directly from the universal energy: multiplication of food and oil

3/ to control functions of a human body – to reverse disintegration: healing of the sick ones, and to initiate disintegration: sending disease (leprosy) on the corrupted and sinful ones

4/ to restore the set of the energy fields, which accommodates existence of a living human being at the specified time–space point of the Universe: reanimation of the dead

5/ to manipulate the forces of the Nature: to bring down rain and fire from the skies

6/ to manipulate the energy fields, which control the force of gravity: water was parted to let the Prophet cross the river

7/ to ascend to the level where the time–space–complexity limitations do not exist: the abilities to see the Future, to know intentions of the people, and to know that what they have done or said.

Perhaps, the technical side of the abilities of the prophets might be at least partially understood with the systems concept of the Universe.

For example, the healing power of the prophet is the consequence of the ability to control transformations of the universal energy. Every living being exists within the focus of the energy fields. These fields accommodate the purposeful wholeness of specific cycles of energy transformations. The results of these transformations are the energy formations, energy–information, and energy–information matter, which compose a particular system and maintain its existence in a form of a purposeful and evolving being. If the transformations of energy are consistent with the universal law, the system/being functions properly and achieves the state of optimum – develops and realizes own maximal potency. If the transformations of energy deviate from the universal pattern, they produce the energy forms with insufficient complexity, and the consequent intra–system processes become distorted or insufficient: the system becomes unable to scan and to embody/materialize the universal code adequately. The insufficiency has the domino effect, which results in subsequent distortion of other processes and culminates in the perversion of the system's nature. The perversion of the nature triggers alteration in the parameters controlled by the energy fields. Change of the controlled parameters triggers the unspecified response of the energy fields, which activates the system's self–annihilation. In the apparent stage of self–annihilation, a human being might experience lethal physical illness (e.g., leprosy so many times mentioned in the Holy Scriptures) or serious mental disorders (e.g., "possession with unclean spirits" and spirit of divination, insanity, hallucinations, etc.). The healing of diseases is possible through the correction the intra–system processes, which results in subsequent adjustments of the parameters controlled by the energy fields. Thus, when the prophet heals the sick, he works as the transceiver–transmitter of a specific form of the universal energy with the highest levels of complexity sufficient for restoration of the normal energy regime of a sick being/insufficient system. At the level of the matter, restoration of the normal energy regime might be detected as restoration of the normal behavior, correction of DNA, dissolution of tumor, unexpected recovery of patients with incurable diseases, etc.

However, the power over the energy of the material world is not the main feature of the prophet. The transcendent abilities and control over the forces of the nature are the auxiliary features: they accompany a prophet as the special extraordinary being — in fact, just a normal being who lives in accordance with the original nature created by God in His image and likeness — whose life is focused on God, who loves God, and who lives by the law/will of God.

The phenomenon of the Hebrew Prophets confirms that a human being was created to be the temple–dwelling of God, and when the Holy Spirit descends unto the mind, it comes to Own house. It means that

– there are no limits for a human being created in the image and likeness of God

– we, the ordinary people, have distanced ourselves from our Father and Creator in such a long way that our own normal abilities became the unbelievable phenomenon; we even the special term invented – "supernatural abilities"

– each of us might become the member of God's household, receive our divine inheritance, and the innate abilities manifested by the Hebrew Prophets, Apostles, and other servants of God.

***Σ2* The Christian Concept of man:**

During the earthly phase of existence, a human being is a temporal life–carrying unity of spirit—flesh, or soul–heart–mind—body, or energy—matter, accommodated within the realm composed of the units of the structured matter, which are the energy derivatives created/arranged at different levels of complexity.

The essence of man — *the inner man*, of whom St. Peter the Apostle and St. Paul the Apostle write: ο κρυπτος της καρδιας ανθρωπος – the hidden heart of man {in: *1 Peter 3:4}*, and the inner man who is being renewed – ο εσωθεν ανακαινουται – day by day, while the outer man (body of flesh) is being decayed {in: *2 Corinthians 4:16*} — is the soul–heart–mind, which carries the image and likeness of God. St. Paul the Apostle refers to such a new ***[[***renewed***]]*** creation of Christ and in Christ as to the one who is enabled to act as the co–worker of God – Θεου γαρ εσμεν συνεργοι {*1 Corinthians 3:9*}, who is the God's field and God's building/construction – Θεου γεωργιον, Θεου οικοδομη {*1 Corinthians 3:9*} – the space prepared for the works of God.

The Greek theologians discerned three parts/components ***[[***subsystems***]]*** of the human essence, or it might be said that they assumed that the soul–heart–mind operates at three levels of complexity ***[[***that is with different derivatives of the Divine energy: wisdom, knowledge, information***]]***:

intellect – νους
↓
reason/intelligence – διανοια
↓
the reasoning, or the faculty of deliberation – γνωμα–φρονημα–λογισμος

The intellect – νους is the highest level of human essence, or "the depths of soul" or the core of "the heart" in different works of the theologians, or, in the contemporary terms, the cognizing core/center that carries life – the power (received from God) to initiate and to control/maintain operations of a system.

Through νους, the mind knows God – Λογος – and receives from the Creator the spiritual knowledge – γνωσις – and wisdom – σοφια. Γνωσις and σοφια both are the gifts of God.

The spiritual knowledge – γνωσις – might be envisioned as a result of silent contemplation of God by νους – the core/essence of soul–heart–mind. During this state, the mind accesses the divine energy of creation, which sustains life.

Hence, wisdom – σοφια – might be described as the state–condition–being–existence of being connected with God and absorbing the power/energy, or the state of being empowered with the Divine Energy {as it is said in: *Psalm 17(18):2* – Κυριε ισχυς μου – the Lord my strength/power/might}, which is coming from God and which is enabling the human reasoning. During this state, the mind accesses the divine energy of creation, which sustains the mind's life, while wisdom empowers the reasoning and makes possible cognition of God's creations.

The Reason/Intelligence – διανοια is the state–being of cognition, in which the divine energy of creation received from God is transformed into the human thoughts and human knowledge. Διανοια is translated as ***the mind*** {e.g., in: *Matthew 22:37*}.

Hence,

1/ the heart is a definition for the spiritual center, the essence of a human being, the singularity, in which the union between the divine and the human is consummated, or in which the divine becomes thoughts, words, and deeds of man

2/ cognition is the state, during which the divine energy of creation is transformed into the thoughts and knowledge.

See the following **Chart 1. The Mind** ***[[reprint*** from ***The Mind]]***:

The concept of human essence (soul–heart–mind/inner man):
the Mind

GOD THE FATHER
Ο ΘΕΟΣ
↓ ↓
THE WORD–GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT
Ο Λογος, Αγια Σοφια Ο Παρακλητος, το Πνευμα το Αγιον
↓
THE HEAVENS – SPIRITUAL REALM, THE KINGDOM OF GOD

↓
THE HUMAN MIND
(*Soul–Heart–Mind*)
Νους
Intellect
Γνωσις ←↓→Σοφια
Knowledge Wisdom
↓

Διανοια
Mind/Reason/Intelligence
↓
Γνωμα —Φρονημα—Λογισμος
Consciousness–Thinking–Reasoning/Faculty of Deliberation

↓ ↑
Αισθητηρια Οργανα
Sensory Faculty – sensory perception/parameters of the matter

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↓ ↑
THE EARTH/MATTER, THE REALM OF MAN:
the world composed by derivatives of the Divine Creative Energy
that enters the universe to create the derivatives
[[e.g., structured matter – water, earth, tree, plant, fish, man; oxygen, iron, gold; atom, proton, quark***]]***
within the set of the energy fields,
which makes possible and accommodates existence of the temporal arrangement
of the temporary structured matter – carrier of spirit–life
[[a human body***]]***

Chart 1. The Mind

Four Greek and Byzantine theologians developed the **Christian concept of man in relation to God** – St. Maximus the Confessor, St. Gregory of Nyssa, St. Basil the Great, and St. Gregory Palamas [St. Gregory Palamas (1974) 121–122; St. Maximus the Confessor, St. Gregory of Nyssa, and St. Basil the Great, ref. in: St. Gregory Palamas (1974) 122]:

1/ when the Word of God lives and acts within man, the man is unified with the grace of Lord God Jesus Christ; this incomprehensible grace illuminates the human nature and elevates it above the natural laws: man becomes uncreated as the grace of God is uncreated

2/ everything that is moved by the Holy Spirit becomes alive, eternal, and sacred: through Lord God Jesus Christ, man (who before was dust, the human clay) receives the anointment of the Holy Spirit to become "the child of light" destined for the eternity

3/ when the Holy Spirit dwells in man, the man oversteps the limits of his temporal worldly existence: from the mortal he becomes immortal, from the temporal becomes eternal; he receives the dignity of prophet and apostle and, through Lord God Jesus Christ, he becomes a child of God endowed with the potency to create.

St. Gregory Palamas (1296–1359) considers the act of creation as the only moment when a human being discovers the image of God within own soul/mind, and actualizes own essence (through the act of creation).

Therefore, the essence of a human being unfolds as the dwelling and the rest of God within the created by God Universe.

A human being exists to accomplish the following purposes:
— to receive the Spirit of God during the earthly existence
— to abide in love and light
— to fulfill the will of God at the Earth
— to dwell with God throughout the eternity.

Other theologians, philosophers, and researchers invented additional definitions for the mind–intellect–heart–soul–spirit, mostly, as for the different facets of a human being; for instance,

— the heart is the spiritual center of man – the temple, in which the Divine is united with the human

— the intellect is the "eye of heart" or the faculty of contemplation by which man perceives God and learns the knowledge given by God

— the intelligence is the operating faculty of the intellect

— the reason or mind is the center responsible for logic, conceptualization, and discourse – all the functions, which manifest the main human ability – reasoning that defines purposeful behavior within the world of the temporary structured matter, and so on [e.g., St. Diadochos of Photiki *On Spiritual Knowledge* §§9, 79, 88, and *Glossary* 362–365, and the others in: *Philokalia,* v.1–4].

The fruitful imagination of the generations of theologians and use of different terms for definitions of the same phenomena, sometimes, initiated theological disputes as St. Paul the Apostle warned {for instance, in: *1 Timothy 6:20–21; 2 Timothy 2:16–17*}, and therefore, brought forth discord and facilitated rising of heresies.

In general, if the one has understanding of the words of Lord Jesus Christ {in: *John; Matthew, esp. 5; 6; 7; Mark; Luke, esp. 6; 12*} and perceives God as the Perfect Love without fear and suffering, as the Absolute Good of man and for man, all human inventions–doctrines and verbal embellishments–classifications–definitions–etc., are not needed.

When the theological subtleties are not a subject of consideration, I use a brief contemporary and all–including (because a human being is the wholeness) definition – "*the mind*."

Σ3 **Wisdom** is the power of reason/intelligence, with which a human being survives and evolves into a child of God. This power is given by the Holy Spirit Who comes because of the Word–God, the Holy Wisdom of God – Λογος/Αγια Σοφια – to the one who has faith in Lord Jesus Christ, the Word–God, who loves God, who accepted the knowledge of God, and who proved his love to God with observance of His commandments and with the deeds of good {*John 14:14–26; 15:10–17; 17; 1 John 3; 4*}.

In *1 Corinthians 2:6–16*, St. Paul the Apostle writes of the Holy Wisdom given by the Holy Spirit, of the power of God, which is the foundation of faith, and of intelligence, reason, mind of those who just/exactly follow the reasoning of Christ {δε νουν Χριστου εχομεν – *1 Corinthians 2:15–16}*.

Human wisdom is the state of empowerment, when a human being, who has been receiving the Divine Energy and knowing the Law of God, becomes the co–worker of God and creator of works that actualize the will of God within the world given into the dominion of man {*John 14; 15; 16; 17; 1 Corinthians 3:9*}.

Wisdom might be also defined as comprehension of the Law of God and the subsequent ability to observe the Law: to live according to the Law of God, to embody the Law of God into daily life – the reality of own existence. As such, wisdom initiates and sustains human evolution, which is the process of transformation into the immortal child of God prepared for the eternity in the presence of God.

At the level of the human mind, wisdom is the power that enables the mind

a/ to comprehend the Law of God that controls existence of the world and to exist in compliance with the Law of God

b/ to create invincible establishments/systems for achievement of the purposes that actualize the will of God within the human world

c/ to accomplish own evolution, for instance, as development–achievement of the maximal potency of reasoning, comprehension and creation of knowledge.

In brief, **wisdom is the power that secures existence, evolution–development of the highest potency, and accomplishment of the purposes for the sake of which a human being has been created**.

In the systems terms, wisdom defines the ability to operate with the knowledge that sustains the highest level of complexity, to which the mind might be empowered to evolve at the earth.

In general sense, *complexity* is the universality of knowledge, which is embodied/actualized into the entirety of processes defining life of the world; hence the one might envision wisdom as

1/ the power to act in compliance with the law of God that controls life, the human nature, and the nature of the world that accommodates life and evolution of the human reason

and

2/ the power to evolve for the next phase of existence – eternity.

Consequently, at each level of complexity, the meaning of wisdom is inseparably linked with the abilities to complete the life–cycle according to the nature and to evolve

either

for the next phase of existence

[[e.g., a human being evolves into the immortal child of God***]]***

or

for achievement of purposes at other levels of complexity

[[e.g., the state established with the purpose to secure existence of a small nation evolves into the mighty empire;
a small business enterprise evolves into the multinational corporation***]]***

For instance, for three levels of complexity — ***the human mind → a human being → a human establishment*** — the meaning of wisdom is preservation of life↔existence↔process of accomplishment of purposes at the time–space–complexity settings a human mind, human being, and human establishment are accommodated, and evolution/development of potency to accomplish the purposes at another level of complexity:

a/ at the level of human mind, wisdom is the power that enables and sustains survival and evolution of the human mind and makes possible successful accomplishment of purposes, for the sake of which the mind creates systems – societies, kingdoms, states, empires, civilizations

b/ at the level of a human being, wisdom is a component of human nature created in image and after likeness of God, the state/condition of intellect, which reveals itself through the ability to accept the life–sustaining energy and power from God and to embody them into own actuality; for instance, to accept, to absorb/assimilate, to create, and to use knowledge necessary for creating, maintaining, and using systems and establishments, with which a human being sustains life, accomplishes purposes, and evolves for the next phase of existence; in other words, wisdom is an ability to accomplish the will of God and the works, for the sake of which a human being has been created

c/ at the level of human establishment–system, wisdom is the synergy of the forces that maintain the system's existence and development according to the creator's design, and secure accomplishment of the purposes for the sake of which the system has been created.

Wisdom has the greatest significance for the one's life and well–being, because it defines the main factors controlling human existence and leads to accomplishment of the main purpose – obtaining life everlasting in the presence of God:

G o d
↓
Faith ←→ Wisdom
↓ ↓
Freedom ←→ Knowledge
↓ ↓
Invincibility ←→ Evolution
↓ ↓
Survival @ the earth Life everlasting in the presence of God

Sometimes, words *wisdom* and *knowledge* are used as synonyms; however, there is a difference.

Knowledge is the power to think, to speak, to act reasonably, for achievement of a purpose. The essence of true knowledge – the knowledge given by the Word–God, Lord Jesus Christ Who is the Truth {*John 14:6*} – is the Divine energy of creation embodied into the human reasoning–mind, which brings forth the fruits: thoughts that are created on the foundation provided by the knowledge of God.

Only if the mind comprehends the law that controls the nature (the nature of man, the nature of the world that accommodates existence of man, and the nature of events and things that might be a subject of interest), the mind obtains the actual power to act and to achieve its purposes. If human knowledge is true (adequate to the actuality), it gives the actual power to act purposefully, efficiently, and successfully.

Only if the mind comprehends the law that defines and controls the nature ***[[***the nature of man, the nature of the world that accommodates existence of man, and the nature of events and things that might be a subject of interest or are needed for achievement of purposes***]]***, the mind obtains the actual power to act and to achieve its purposes.

From the practical point of view, human knowledge is true – adequate – reflection of the complete reality of human existence and comprehension of the laws that sustain and control the world of men, only if it gives the actual power to act purposefully, efficiently, and successfully; all these in compliance with the laws that control **a/** the world and **b/** the reality, within which the knowledge is applied for accomplishment of some purposes.

For instance, a human being obtains everlasting life – enters the reality of eternal kingdom of God, only if he has true knowledge of God and lives in compliance with His law/commandments {*John 14; 15; 16; 17*}.

Hence, the knowledge of truth is the knowledge of God Who created the Law, and the knowledge of Law, on which the world is built. Sin is violation of the Law, therefore, an inability to accomplish the purposes man was created to accomplish. Sin as failure to accomplish purposes of creation of the good always is based upon false knowledge.

General inference: **knowledge** is associated with the abilities to act consistently with the nature of the world, or at least, a part of it, to which the mind is related by the nature and purposes of its activities.

There are plenty of definitions of knowledge; usually, they reflect the purposes of the researchers.

For instance, knowledge is defined as

— the systematized concept of the world determined as an objective truth, or the actual world itself as it is unveiled to the self–consciousness mind [Harris, 243]

— causal revealed by "universals" [Daston, 40].

In my works, knowledge usually denotes the **state of knowing as readiness/having the power for reasoning, creation of thoughts, devising of purposes, and accomplishment of actions**: knowledge sustains the power/potency to think, to speak, to act reasonably, for achievement of a purpose.

The mind exists and accomplishes its purposes by operating with knowledge ***[[***see ***The Mind]]***, through cognitive activities, perception, absorbing–learning, creation, and dissemination of knowledge.

Knowledge is the central stratum of the logical reality that consists of **wisdom, knowledge, and information**.

Wisdom, knowledge, and information belong to the different **levels of complexity**.

For instance,

– **information** is a set of data – quantitative parameters, simplified verbal descriptions, and definitions of a particular event, phenomenon, action, of everything consumed by the mind for the purposes of self–orientation, for making decisions, and for preparedness to act or to refrain from actions

– **knowledge** is a set of assumptions created by the mind from the analysis of information and data; possession of knowledge signifies cognition of the reasons and laws, which make possible existence of facts, events, systems and understanding of their origin, co–relations, and the results/end; as such, knowledge is seen as the state of preparedness to act accompanied with the justifiable expectations of the definite outcome, for instance, a particular Future

– **wisdom** is the power that secures the mind's existence, operations, development of the highest potency – evolution, and accomplishment of the purposes with the means that include creation and application of knowledge and use of information.

In theological interpretation, wisdom is the gift of God bestowed upon the mind that serves the purposes of God. Only the normal mind that operates in compliance with the law of God – according to its nature and the nature of the world – may obtain wisdom, firstly, as understanding of the nature of the world and all its components, and then, as the power to apply this knowledge for achievement of the purposes.

With each day, the world becomes hungrier for information and knowledge identified with the foundation of the technical progress and seen as the source of elimination of all problems of mankind. Books, magazines, media, all nodes of the world–wide web – all of them are about information and knowledge: knowledge–based societies, information infrastructures, data centers, knowledge creation, data–knowledge–intellectual property transfer, protection, availability, limitation, etc., etc., etc.

The information streams sustain (and mirror), feed, empower/deprive of power, enable/disable to function, and create/destroy the financial, political, social, religious, scientific, and educational establishments.

The political, social, research, educational, and other systems have accumulated data, information, and some kinds of knowledge in the scales unimaginable for the previous generations.

Everything is immersed and entangled into the information flow: everything consumes information, generates additions to existing streams, and arranges–intertwines them into the information webs and networks.

Information and particular kinds of technical knowledge have grown into the most valuable and most sought after assets. Seemingly, information underwent transformation into the meaning of reasoning, into the main currency, and into the main weapon of destruction. Unauthorized access, use, and theft of data and information became the most dangerous ***[[***after total physical annihilation***]]*** threats to the wealth and well–being of the states, nations, societies, markets, corporations, and people.

However, the skills to describe the streams of information by physical parameters and by the terms of quantity and directions of movement, to accumulate multitudes of the sets of data and to arrange interactive databases, to apply the primitive language of mathematical symbols for description of mental processes

during the work with information, – all these accomplishments do not result in creation of true and comprehensive knowledge, which is necessary for decision of the current problems.

For example, cyber crimes, unauthorized access and use of digital information confirm insufficiency and inadequacy of the existing knowledge of the cyber realm.

Another problem: is mankind happier, or more intelligent, or more humane today than it was, for instance, three thousand years ago? The increased scale of information and its fruit – technical progress – have not exterminated suffering, hunger, poverty, diseases of mind and body, crimes, wars, inhumane laws, persecutions of the different–minded, environmental pollution, which plague the entire world without discrimination. Now, the richest countries began to experience the same set of problems as the poorest countries have, although some of them, still, in the lesser scales. The spiritual life of the contemporary societies is not different from, for instance, the Phoenician civilization: the different appearance of idols and rituals of idol–worship, interpretation of symbols, and dream worlds does not mean that the essence has been changed.

The ocean of data has not increased the inner good and has not improved the disposition toward neighbors – those living next door and those living behind the sea.

The current common perception of knowledge and information and their correlation is based upon two assumptions:

1/ this something that now is referred to as *knowledge* demonstrates the complete cognition of the laws stipulating origin, existence, development, and termination of phenomena, events, conditions, systems, which in the entirety of their co–relations compose the mankind's universe

2/ accumulated mega–collections of metadata will eventually ***[[***somehow, with some magic intervention, perhaps, or, as the Marxist logic postulates, because of the "law" of transformation of quantity into quality***]]*** become knowledge needed for advanced security, improvement of life, and desirable social and cultural progress.

These assumptions are wrong. If to judge by the contemporary conditions of life, levels of development of states, societies, and nations, wars, violations of the basic human rights, problems with health, education, quality of life, safety, children, families, investments, integrity of information – with everything, which defines the meanings of happiness and might cause sorrow, the only logical inference could be made that the true knowledge of actuality (as well as the archaic *wisdom*, which the sages of the Past named the source of *knowledge*) seems to be not the actual possession of

— those who control–rule–govern–maintain–guard–educate the contemporary societies, states, and nations

— the ordinary people, who allow the ignorant ones and the hypocrites to stand at the place of the wise and to deprive all the others of the knowledge of God, who allow the blind leaders/rulers to lead the blind followers/subjects into the pit {*Matthew 15:14*} of poverty and destruction, and who allow the propagandists fighting for access to the power of coercion and self–enrichment to treat people as the human herd–slaves without the faculty of deliberation by defrauding then with false praises, false promises, slogans, and words empty of reason.

In summary, possession of information does not mean possession of knowledge, and possession of knowledge does not mean that it may be used wisely.

Concerning systems terms (e.g., complexity, system), see ***Introduction to the Systems Logic***.

See also

– ***The Mind***

– **Note 8** ***[[***complexity and time–space–complexity settings***]]*** to this file

Σ4 The **Christians** are the small group of the ones who know and worship the Triune God, the only One True God, and who live, or at least attempt to live, by His commandments/law – by love and mercy to the others. Presently, some of them are identified as the Orthodox Christians: they have accepted the original Christian Teachings given by the Word–God – Lord God Jesus Christ, and they keep the traditions established by the Apostles of Lord God Jesus Christ.

Hence, the Christians are the ones who

– **accept** The Ten Commandments and commandments of Lord Jesus Christ as the law of God the Creator {*Matthew 5:17–20, 21–48; 6; 7; 19:16–26; 22:36–40; Mark 12:29–34; Luke 10:27–37; John 13:34–35; 15:12, 17; Exodus 20:1–17*}

– **believe** in Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Word–God Who gives knowledge that is the everlasting life {*John 3:16–21, 31–36; 6:28–58, 63–69; 11:25–26; 17:3, 6–26*}

– **live** by the words–commandments–law of God and accept the Word–God and His words as the Absolute Truth {*John 14; 15; 16; 17*}

– **worship** the Triune God, the only One True God in Spirit and Truth {*John 4:23–24; 10:30; 12:44–50; 14:6–28; 15; 16; 17*}

– **love** Lord Jesus Christ and accomplish the will of God by observing His commandments–words–law and embodying them into own daily life {*Matthew 7:21–23; John 14:15–17, 23–24*}

– **confess** the Christian faith according to ***The Nicean Creed***, which defines the essence of the monotheist Christian religion; ***The Nicean Creed*** was composed in 325, by The First Ecumenical Council of Nicea.

The Nicean Creed

"I believe in one God, the Father, Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages.
Light of light, true God of true God, begotten not created, of one essence with the Father, through Whom all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven and was incarnated by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man.
Crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and He suffered and was buried, and on the third day He rose according to the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will have no end.
And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father,
Who together with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets.
In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.
I expect the resurrection of the dead. And the life of the age to come, Amen."

See ***CHRISTIANITY***

Σ5 See ***The Law of God*** – Supplement 1 to this file.

The Holy Scriptures speak of the law of God – the law on which the universe is established, and according to which a human being was created, lives, and dies as of the main definition of life. According to the law, all things come into being, exist to accomplish the will of God, and then, either complete/end/exit their time–range of existence or evolve (develop and reach the higher complexity – the potency to accomplish other purposes of the Lord).

Knowledge of the law of God enables the mind to compose own knowledge of the world and to cognize the nature of things, which God created for man: as the prophet says: **Αποκαλυψον τους οφθαλμους μου, και κατανοησω τα θαυμασια εκ του νομου Σου** – unveil Thou my vision, and I shall perceive the wonders out of Thy law {*Psalm 118(119):18*}.

As soon as the mind comprehends the law of God, it becomes able of foreseeing the future of those things that are open for its observation, analysis, and cognition. In a process of cognition of the law of God and analysis of things out of the law (**εκ του νομου** – out of the law: the law is the reason why the things came into being), the mind creates new knowledge, which it uses for own development, for comprehension of the world, and, if it is empowered, for control and improvement of things that compose the world given into the dominion of man {*Genesis 1:26–28; 2:7–8, 15, 19–20; 9:1–7*}.

The common view is that one of the most valuable (because it is the most sought after) results of knowledge of the law of God is knowledge of the future.

So, what is the law of God? Then, how the mind that is devoted to God and is seeking knowledge of His law could be enabled to know the future?

Only God the Creator knows the future of the world He created and the future of His creation – man whom He made for accomplishment of His purpose. The chosen ones, the prophets – messengers of God and the apostles of Lord God Jesus Christ, received revelations of the future, so, they conveyed the particular knowledge – prophecies forewarning of the future things to come, particularly, if some ways and conditions of life are not changed ***[[***for instances, warnings, "curses," and signs of Moses {*Deuteronomy, esp. 28:45–47*}; prophecies in the Books of Prophets {*Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Malachi*, and other Old Testament prophets}; and then, culmination in the times of The New Testament {*Matthew; Mark; Luke; John; Epistles of the Apostles; Revelation*}***]]***.

With this knowledge, the mind received the guidance, became capable of evaluating own progress/failure, and, by learning the consequences of violations of the law of God, was enabled to perceive the future as the outcome of thoughts, words, and deeds of men who act according to their knowledge, for achievement of their purposes, and within limits of their potency.

[[For instance, if to accept that everything within the world perceivable by the mind is embodiment of knowledge of the good and of the evil, it could be acknowledged that

a/ the mind works with **two sets of possible futures**: development/evolution, and collapse/disintegration

b/ the future is a definition of a particular state of a particular human being and his creation(s) – system(s)/establishment(s) into which he embodied the knowledge of the good/evil he obtained and which he made for accomplishment of some purpose(s)

c/ the future is the open system, which, although has the universal law as the definition of the nature (creation, existence, evolution, termination, maximal time–range of existence, maximal potency, etc.), might evolve/collapse differently, reaching the different levels of complexity/simplification, because the operating knowledge (operating knowledge, or the power to act, is the summary of cognized/absorbed knowledge of the good and the evil that the mind uses for embodiment into words, actions, systems, establishments), which it applies for own works and conveys to the others, is defined with many variables. The variables include parameters of the time–space–complexity point at which the mind came into being, exists, and evolves or degenerates. The main factor is complexity defined by knowledge of the good and the evil, which the mind cognized/absorbed/created.***]]***

In brief, knowledge of the law and consequences of its violations sustain survival of men and define the meaning of the proper life leading to achievement of the main purpose of existence – accomplishment of the will of God.

The significance of the law can be inferred from the dogma that everything in the world came into being, exists, and comes to the natural completion according to the will of God the Heavenly Father.

Thus, the human mind comprehends the will of God as the being/life consistent with His purposes, consummated/evolving according to His plan/design issuing from and accomplished through manifestation of the Uncognizable Absolute – the Unity, from Whom the Almighty Divine Power, Divine Energy, and the Divine – Universal – Law come to create, to sustain, and to lead to completion the world perceivable by man. Anything that deviates from the way consistent with the will of God (violates the law of God) comes to the unnatural and violent end – deprivation of reason, insufficiency, hunger, suffering, collapse, annihilation, death; all these evils come through corruption, immorality, wars, unrest, revolutions, crimes, lethal diseases, natural disasters (drought, flood), perplexity and darkness, fearful, weak, and debilitating heart–mind that worships visible perceivable idols because it is unable to perceive God {cf.: *Deuteronomy 28:15–68; Isaiah 5:24–30*}.

The law out of which the world is (the universal law) reveals to the human mind the way through which the will of God the Father is accomplished within the world of men. This law is definition of the nature, and its revelation to man is manifestation of the Perfect All–forgiving Love of God {cf.: *Deuteronomy 4:13, 39–40; 6:1–9, 13–19; 7:7–15; 30:1–20; Matthew 22:36–40; John 3:16–18; 6:38–40; 1 John 4:16–21*}:

a/ knowledge of the law (therefore, cognition of the good, and comprehension of the nature of things, through which the mind cognizes the good and the evil and into which it embodies knowledge created as the result of cognition of the good and of the evil) triggers the human evolution at the earth as the process of obtaining the life everlasting {e.g., *Ezekiel 33:8–20*}; this evolution is completed when a creature of dust becomes a child of God born of God {cf.: *John 1:12–13; 3:5–7; 1 John 5:1–4*}

b/ the essence of the law is love: love to God and love to the others {*Matthew 22:36–40; Mark 12:28–34; Luke 10:25–37; John 13:34–35; 15:12–13*}

c/ the purpose of observance of the law is development of the ability to perceive the Absolute Good – the attribute of God, which man has to imitate through imitation of mercy and perfection of God {*Matthew 5:44–48; Luke 6:35–36*}: cognition and observance of the law is cognition of the good that is necessary for transformation into the embodiment of the good of man capable of dwelling with God – the living temple into which the Holy Spirit comes {*John 7:37–39; 14:15–17, 23–26*}; without such a transformation – birth of God the Spirit, a human being is not able to obtain the everlasting life in the presence of God {cf.: *John 1:12–13; 3:3–7; 4:24*}

d/ man enters the life everlasting only accepting and accomplishing the words of Lord God Jesus Christ Who came to fulfill the law revealed through the prophets and Whose earthly life is manifestation of the Absolute Good – the Perfect Love of God: He committed His Soul ***[[****"την ψυχην αυτου τιθησιν" – John 10:11; τιθησιν from τιθημι (*also *θη – John 15:13)* – put, place, offer, commit; the primary word is either ancient Θεω – to run or Θεο – complete, as the root of words defining Θεος – God***]]*** for salvation of man and declared knowledge of God the Father that is the everlasting life {*Matthew 7:21–27; 18:11–14; Mark 10:45; Luke 6:46–49; John 1:1–18; 5:24–25; 10:11; 15:13; 17:1–3, 23–26*}.

In the very beginning, when the law was given, man learned that God instructs and corrects man as a man instructs and corrects his son, and that God has pity on man as a merciful father has pity on his son; so, man shall keep the commandments of God and walk in His ways, and to fear Him {*Deuteronomy 8:5; Psalm 102(103):8–13*}.

With coming of Lord Jesus Christ, the Word–God, the Savior and the Redeemer, man was given the authority to become a child of God born of God; he also learned the meaning of the perfect law of freedom and perfect love in which there is no fear {*James 1:25; 1 John 4:14–21; 5:1–4*}. After the one has learned the commandments/words of God and began to embody them into own thoughts, words, and actions, he become able of comprehension the true meaning of freedom – freedom from evil and sin. Along with evil and sin, fear vanishes, and the one dwells with God and in the love of God according to the promise of the Word–God {*John 8:31–36; 1 John 4:7–21*}.

In summary, one of the interpretations of the law of God, which assists in comprehension of the Perfect Love of God, is fostering of development/evolution of the creations of God: any human being is expected to evolve into a child of God capable of withstanding the presence of God during the eternity. Such development (or evolution) begins with observance of the law – commandments of God {*Matthew 19:16–19; Luke 10:25–37*}, proceeds through imitation of perfection and mercy of God {*Matthew 5:36–48; Luke 6:27–36*}, and is completed with development of the ability to love the others as God loves His creations {*John 13:34*}.

In conclusion, as it can be inferred from the Books of the New Testament, the purpose of the law is

to secure the normal growth of the seed planted by God (the Word–God accepted by the human soul–heart–mind)
into the mighty tree (a child of God destined for the eternity with God)
with the great branches under the shadow of which the birds of heavens are able to roost
or, in other words, to transform the dissipating structure of dust into the indestructible temple of God
built on the precious Stone and destined for the eternity
{*cf.: Mark 4:2–33; Luke 17:20–21; John 1:12–13; 14:23; James 1:18, 21; 1 Peter 2:4–10; 1 Corinthians 3:16–17*}

As soon as the most visible consequences of violations of the law of God are suffering and death, some theologians came to the blasphemous doctrines, which portray God as the source of the evil [e.g., Thomas Aquinas *Summa Theologica* I Q.48 a3; Q.49 a1 ro1, a2, a3; Q.103 a7; I–II Q. 93 a3 ro2, a4; III Q.6 a1 a; *Truth* Q.3. a4 ad7, ad8; Q.5 a2 r, ad4; *Summa Contra Gentiles* III 4, 6, 7, 10, 11]. They not only absorbed heathen philosophy and practices of the heathen diviners: they invented heresy that is much worse than the ancient heathenism is. They asserted the rights of man to overthrow the law of God with own decrees, to usurp the place of God in His temple, and to modify the meanings of the good and the evil transforming freeman–creation of God into a slave of worldly corrupted establishment striving for the world domination. Ultimately, they began to persecute the true (Orthodox) Christians and burn at stake the different–minded ("heretics"). They have lost the remnants of understanding of the nature of the good and the nature of the evil and, therefore, became incapable of discerning the embodiments of the evil within the world of men. As Isaiah the prophet has foreseen {*Isaiah 59:3–15*}, their ways became crooked ways of wickedness, bloodshed, and iniquities.

However, God did not create death, and the evil does not exist in the presence of God. By committing himself to the evil – that is by violating the God's law–commandments, man commits himself to death {cf.: *Isaiah 28:15–19; Ezekiel 18:31–32; Romans 6:23*}. The direct connection between sin and death is the meaning of the law for the unrepentant sinners who

1/ do not believe in Lord God Jesus Christ
2/ do not observe the commandments of God
3/ do not cease doing the works of the evil.

The law of God is the universal law: it controls the nature of the world, including the human nature, because the law enables the direct connection

between the good and the continuing life for accomplishment of the will of God
and
between the evil and annihilation/death

It means that within the world created by God, only a being that accomplishes the will of God (therefore, exists and evolves in compliance with the law) enters the next phase of life: only the one who lives by observing the commandments of God and doing the works of God, becomes the child of God and enters the life everlasting.

The power of law could be inferred from the words of Lord God Jesus Christ Who came to fulfill the law revealed through the prophets according to the will of God the Father:

everything exists for the sake of accomplishment of the will of God the Father
↓
all those who accomplish His will are connected into the multitude serving God the Father
↓
everything will be accomplished in full compliance with the will of God the Father,
and in the time allotted by God the Father
{*Matthew 5:17–18; 24:33–51; 26:38–39, 42; Mark 3:34–35; John 4:34; 6:38–40;*
Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14; Revelation 21:1–8; 22:1–5, 12–15}

Furthermore, the power of the law over the creations out of the law is absolute, because only this something that is in full compliance with the will of the Creator and that works according to His purposes is empowered to complete a natural phase of existence and to reach the fulfillment according to its nature. God warned His followers that the earth and the heavens will cease their existence, yet the entire law shall be fulfilled – He himself came to fulfill the law and the prophets (through whom the law was revealed), not to annul it {cf.: *Matthew 5:17–18*}.

Consequently,

– in the world of man, whoever violates the law, therefore deviates from the human nature, is doomed to disorder (mental and physical abnormalities, ills, diseases), and premature death (annihilation), because he has no power to complete existence according to his nature and to reach the level of development needed for the next phase – the kingdom of God

– in the world, which accommodates existence of mankind, is the similar setting/pattern: whatever deviates from own nature loses the abilities of normal functioning and normal reproduction, and perishes.

In the contemporary terms, *law* might be defined as the main code for creation, maintenance, control, and annihilation of purposeful developing entities–systems–living beings.

The Universe is an embodiment of the creative energy of God. At the levels accessible for the human mind, the divine creative energy is the source of the universal energy: this energy is available for creation and maintenance of existence of realities and systems within the world perceivable by human senses.

The universal/main pattern–code of energy transformations – the law – defines the nature, time–range of existence, way of disintegration, and other parameters of the universe composed of the energy and its derivative – the matter structured at the different levels of complexity.

The law might be envisioned as the main code according to which, within the chaos/pool of reserves, the purposeful system–reality–universe is arranged/comes into being. The chaos/pool of reserves consists of the derivatives of universal energy: the energy forms, reversible units energy←→matter, reversible and irreversible structured matter – elements, force fields, and other components necessary for creation and sustaining of life.

Life is the purposeful cycles of transformation of the divine energy of creation/universal energy at the different levels of complexity; these cycles of energy transformation are completed with creation of purposeful developing wholenesses/living beings accommodated within time–space–complexity settings.

The unity of three inseparable correlated components is needed for any act of creation ***[[***creation is actualization of the law–code***]]***, including creations of a living being:

1/ law→code that is defined by the will→purpose and accomplished with power↔wisdom↔energy

2/ energy→source of all forms of the energy and its derivatives, such as energy fields and energy–information–matter, from which the perceivable visible universe/world consists having been created according to the will→law and by the power→wisdom

3/ power→force→will→wisdom→ability to transform↔apply↔use energy according to the law/code:

LAW
↓
ENERGY ↔ POWER

The law controls the nature of each wholeness/system/reality/living being that exists for a purpose; a purpose is to actualize the set of transformations of the universal energy at particular level(s) of complexity. The essence and meaning of purposes, conditions, and results of energy transformations define the system's nature.

In general, the law has **three main functions**:

1/ creation of a purposeful wholeness

2/ maintenance of the compliance–harmony–compatibility of all components of a **system → reality ←→ universe ← wholeness** to the conditions, which sustain life and make possible **development → evolution** of the **system → reality ←→ universe ← wholeness**

3/ annihilation of the **system → reality ←→ universe ← wholeness**, which deviated from the law and became incompatible with the (**super**)**system ←→** (**super**)**reality ←→** (**super**)**universe** that has accommodated its creation and within which it was intended to accomplish the purposes for the sake of which it was created.

When a being/system deviates from the main pattern/code/law that describes the meaning, conditions, and results of its existence, it perverts own nature and becomes unable to access the energy that otherwise would sustain its existence. Hence, the main pattern/code/law stipulates not only the life–sustaining processes; it carries the program of annihilation, which is activated when the being/system perverts own nature and becomes incompatible with the supersystem that accommodates its existence. Therefore, the universal law defines life and death of each being/system:

existence → evolution/development of optimal potency
and
degeneration → annihilation

The universal law also is referred to as the universal law of perfection, because it defines the optimum – e.g., the highest potency of creation of the highest good – of each system/being and directs each system/being toward the optimum; it provides one universal standard – the pattern of perfection as a derivative of the Absolute Good for each level of complexity ***[[***for instance, for a human being: to be perfect, as heavenly God the Father is perfect {*Matthew 5:48*}***]]*** defined by the Word–God, Λογος/Αγια Σοφια {*Matthew 5:17–19; 22:37–40; John 14; 15; 16; 17*}.

Consequently, the meaning of universality and perfection is compliance with the commandments–words of Lord Jesus Christ, the Word–God Who is the only Truth, the only Law, and the only Way of reasoning and fulfilling the law for the human mind that aspires to enter the eternity in the presence of God {*2 Peter 1:2–11; 1 John; Ephesians 1; 2; Colossians 1; 2; 1 Corinthians 2:16; Revelation 22:1–5*}.

Σ6 See **The Offense and a Child** – in ***Selections_&_Reprints. Part 2 "The Words of God"***

Σ7 In general sense, for the mind, **complexity** is the universality of knowledge, which sustains the entirety of processes defining life of the world. Life then, might be seen as the totality of cycles of transformations of the divine/universal energy of creation at the different levels of complexity, while process of growth–evolution is purposeful change of the complexity levels; for example, development of the mighty tree capable to produce fruits with seeds from the smallest seed *{Matthew 13:31–32}.*

Complexity is the general setting correlated to **Λογος** – the universal code of creation: increase of complexity ***[[***advancement in knowledge: learning, creation, dissemination***]]*** signifies advancement of the evolving system – a human being – toward the desirable ultimate parameters, within which the being will be empowered to enter the next phase of existence – eternity.

The mind increases its complexity by creating knowledge of the actuality–truth – the knowledge adequate to the actual settings and parameters, with which the mind perceives–identifies–comprehends

— the reality–world–cosmos–universe that accommodates existence of the mind

— the laws that control the reality–world–cosmos–universe that accommodates existence of the mind.

In general, the reality of the mind might be conditionally described with the following chart

GOD THE CREATOR
↓
THE WORD – ΛΟΓΟΣ
↓
Complexity
↓ ↓ ↓
Time ↔ MIND ↔ Space
↓ ↑
Knowledge
↕ ↕
World–Earth–Cosmos–Universe

For the mind at levels of consciousness and faculty of deliberation ***[[***see **Chart 1. The Mind** in **Note 2** to this file***]]***, *complexity* is the universality of knowledge, which sustains the entirety of processes defining life of the world. Life then, might be seen as the totality of cycles of transformations of the divine/universal energy of creation into creations of man similar, for example, to development of the mighty tree, which can bear the fruits (with seeds) from the smallest seed *{Matthew 13:31–32}.*

For the mind as for an evolving system, **complexity** might be envisioned as the unity of three co–related and mutually enhancing phenomena, which (the unity) sustains the abilities to choose/set and to accomplish a particular purpose:

a/ the possession of knowledge
↕ ↕
b/ the abilities to perceive–absorb/learn–create new knowledge
↕ ↕
c/ the power to apply knowledge –
to embody it into the structures of the matter needed for achievement of some purposes
within the world composed of the structures of the matter

The ancient philosophers came to the conclusion that the world of living beings should be described in the terms of **time–space–complexity**–bound singularity: positions within dimensions of time and space and possession of the knowledge of life – complexity stipulate the Past, Present, and Future of any purposeful system. This world was created by God for a specific form of life initiated and accommodated within the vortex of the energy fields, which the human mind perceives through their manifestations–settings: time, space, complexity.

Within the settings, the divine energy issuing from God creates temporary structured matter, which is temporarily enabled to carry the eternal indestructible energy – the breath of God that makes the living soul of a body formed of dust {*Genesis 2:7; Job 33:4*}.

Time and **space** are the temporary settings, which are not the part of the eternity: they accommodate temporary maintenance of the mind as the system evolving for the next phase of existence – the eternity.

In the terms of systems–complexity theory, **time** might be defined as the system, whose essence is described with the correlation among the purpose, information, complexity, and irreversibility. This correlation not only constitutes the meaning of time; it determines the range of existence and the meaning of time for any system/reality within the time–bounded Universe.

Any hierarchical level/system/reality has own duration of time, as a period of movement from the point of creation for achievement of specific purposes through the accomplishment of purposes and to the consequent transformation or destruction.

As soon as the purpose exists, exists the time: the systems/realities advance by the irreversibility of cognition throughout their dimensions of the time toward their finite states, which had been designed as καιρος – completion achieved with accomplishment of purposes of their existence.

The purpose, knowledge, complexity, and irreversibility of cognition determine the essence of the dimension of time and constitute the nature or essential properties–features of any reality/system within the dimension of time.

The evolution, as an increase of complexity of the world of the matter, can be realized only within such a setting as the dimension of time, and only under the law of irreversibility of cognition. Irreversibility unifies a purpose, knowledge, and complexity in the logical chain:

the **Purpose** is adequate to the irreversible **Complexity** of the **Knowledge** created by the system
↓
the process of creation of **Knowledge** is irreversible
↓
the **Knowledge** is created with and transmitted through the intra–system **Information** flow
↓
the intra–system **Information** flow sustains the **Cohesive Power**, which maintains the **Wholeness/System**
↓
the **Wholeness/System** exists as a result of the **Irreversible** system's life–sustaining processes
(e.g., the irreversibility of cognition)
↓
the **Irreversible** system's life–sustaining processes are the processes of achievement of the **Purpose**

Concerning **irreversibility** and the **law of irreversibility of cognition**:

— **Irreversibility** is impossibility to stop, decelerate, reverse, or interrupt the interminable purposeful transformations of the energy and processes of cognition governed by the universal law. Irreversibility in its exact meaning – impossibility to reverse a process – manifests itself when the structured matter is enabled to carry and to absorb the purposeful information.

In other words, irreversibility is the inseparable feature of the matter, which was structured for the achievement of a purpose

— the **law of irreversibility of cognition** controls the dimension of time; without irreversibility of cognition, the optimization and development as the increase of mind's complexity are not possible (the increase of complexity is the development, also referred to as optimization and evolution).

— the law of irreversibility determines the possibility to accomplish the purposes, thus to achieve finality–definiteness of the results consistent with the system's nature and assumed–created–conveyed knowledge.

Some researchers attempt to disprove the permanent character of irreversibility. For example, they refer to experiments with thermodynamic equilibrium in limited portions of the space, where elementary processes involving elementary particles can be reversed under specified conditions [e.g., Prigogine and Stenger 301]. Such property of quanta as existence in two forms – energy and matter – or discernible ability of transformation of the energy into the matter and the matter into the energy *(…wave→ particle→ wave→ particle…)* confirms that reversibility is the natural property of the energy, which is the source of the matter.

The living wholeness, which is our time–space–complexity–bounded earth–universe composed of the infinite multitude of the energy–information–matter systems and realities, indeed, should have reversibility of the elementary components because the components of this wholeness undergo countless transformations in the constant (constant within the temporary singularity – time–space–complexity–bounded world) cycle of

... creation → transformation → disintegration → creation → transformation → disintegration → creation →...

In general, reversibility should work only at the levels of complexity where the purposeful structures of the matter do not exist yet, or where reversibility is the natural property of energy, which has been transformed into the energy derivative ready to participate in creation of the matter. Perhaps, at the lowest level of complexity, reversibility is correlated with timelessness and therefore, with inability to serve any definite purpose within the world of the structured matter ***[[***see **Concept of Time** in *The Invincible Empire*, Chapter 2; or ***reprint*** in **Note 20** to ***Introduction to the Systems Logic]]***.

Two **laws of irreversibility** control the processes of evolution →development and stagnation →degeneration →collapse →ruin of civilization and any other system/establishment:

— the law of irreversibility of cognition
and
— the law of irreversibility of the matter, which has been structured (arranged into the purposeful system) for achievement of a particular purpose.

The **law of irreversibility of cognition** controls the dimension of time; without irreversibility of cognition there is no possibility to have

1/ arrangement of the time as the division between the Past and the Present, and between the Present and the Future

2/ the optimization and development as the increase of mind's complexity: increase of complexity is the result of accumulation–learning–cognition–absorbing life–sustaining knowledge; the increase of complexity is the development, also referred to as optimization and evolution.

The law of irreversibility determines the possibility to accomplish the purposes, thus to achieve finality–definiteness of the results consistent with the system's nature and assumed–created–conveyed–disseminated knowledge.

In accordance with the law of irreversibility of cognition, once learned knowledge does not perish; it sustains expansion: the knowledge of the good leads to the optimization–perfection–evolution; the knowledge of the evil results in stagnation–degeneration–collapse–ruin; with each new generation, the knowledge of evil demands more sacrifices and consumes more lives and resources.

Within the wholeness of the human mind, knowledge, complexity, and time–space dimensions are unified by the law of irreversibility of cognition, which sustains advancement of the mind – either on the way of development–evolution (cognition and actualization of the good) or on the way of degeneration–perversion/anti–evolution (cognition and actualization of the evil).

The law of irreversibility of cognition and the law of irreversibility of the matter are the laws, with which the temporal world of men is built: within the wholeness of the human mind, knowledge, complexity, and time–space dimensions are unified by the law of irreversibility of cognition

Furthermore, when the mind perceives, creates, or learns knowledge and accepts it as truth, it absorbs knowledge like soil/dust absorbs water; then, this knowledge

a/ becomes the part of the mind — one of the components, from which the fabric/substance of the mind is arranged

b/ defines the subsequent thinking–cognition–creation–learning–disseminating of knowledge.

If the mind rejects the knowledge offered as the true knowledge, because it judged such knowledge to be false ***[[***for instance, to be heresy***]]***, the rejected knowledge does not influence the core knowledge – the knowledge of the Absolute – the knowledge of God, upon Whom the mind exists and by Whom it lives; however, the rejected false knowledge becomes the part of knowledge of the potency of the evil that facilitates survival within the world of the material things controlled by the evil.

In accordance with the law of irreversibility of cognition, once learned knowledge does not perish; it sustains expansion: the knowledge of the good leads to the perfection; the knowledge of the evil with each new generation demands more sacrifices and consumes more lives and resources. Within the wholeness of the human mind, knowledge, complexity, and time–space dimensions are unified by the law of irreversibility of cognition, which sustains advancement of the mind – either on the way of development–evolution (cognition and actualization of the good) or on the way of degeneration–perversion/anti–evolution (cognition and actualization of the evil). Once accepted as truth, false knowledge does not vanish: it penetrates all creations of the mind and sustains irreversible process of

degeneration →perversion →collapse →ruin

The law of irreversibility of cognition and the law of irreversibility of the matter are the constant part of the laws with which the temporal world of men is built: within the wholeness of the human mind, knowledge, complexity, and time–space dimension are unified by the law of irreversibility of cognition.

When the ancient heathen philosophers encountered the phenomenon of irreversibility, they invented a special deity: the inexorable Fate, the embodiment of the power that keeps everyone in his very own inferno of fixed destiny as a slave is kept in fetters by his ruthless owner.

In the heathen world, the destiny is inexorable indeed, because, if there is no knowledge of the Law of God – the main Law that defines the human nature, each thought and each action might violate the Law. The violations of the Law lead to the perversion of the nature, that is to suffering, mental and physical illness, disorders of all kinds, and premature death. The way of the evil is the same for everyone and it has the same stages and the same end: nothing can be changed, because the main pattern of the evil always is unvarying:

degeneration–→disorder–→collapse–→death–→disintegration

In summary,

the **time** is the developing supercomplex chaotic reality/dimension

– where the universal law governs transformations of energy, which accomplish the purposes of evolution

– that accommodates system–creative and system–driving forces, which sustain existence, development, and optimization of the world of the matter

– that consists from the infinite multitudes of derivatives of the universal energy – systems, realities, and supercomplex chaotic realities in pursuit of the maximal potency and the state of optimum

– where each purposeful system/reality has three subsystems – the Past, the Present, and the Future. All three subsystems are formed by the energy transformation codes, by energy itself, and *(at the discernible by the mind levels)* by the products/results of energy transformations: energy–information and energy–information–matter

– where the law of irreversibility secures existence of the Past, Present, and Future and determines their correlation

– where information is the carrier of irreversibility, which supports continuity of existence, interconnections, and interactions among three subsystems (the Past, Present, Future)

– that accommodates any purposeful system/reality and provides the settings for realization of the universal pattern of creation for any purposeful system/reality.

Therefore,

– three main features of finite and definite material structures, which come into being for a purpose, describe the nature of the world and all its inhabitants ***[[***a purpose is accomplishment of a particular cycle of energy transformation→manifestation→release***]]*** – **time, space, and complexity**: time–space–complexity dimension/point(s) accommodate(s) existence of any being/reality/system created/arranged for a purpose(s) within the temporal world of mankind

– complexity might be envisioned as perception/identification/reading of the energy fields that sustain life and operations of the mind within time and space.

See

– concerning complexity and systems terms and definitions – ***Introduction to the Systems Logic***

– **Concept of Time** and **The Universe and Survival of Man** – in *The Invincible Empire*, Chapter 2, or ***excerpts*** in **Notes 221**, **92** to ***Selections_&_Reprints***

Σ8 For the Christians, "fear of God" is the fear to violate the Law of God by own thoughts, words, and deeds. God is love, and the one abiding in love abides in God, and God in him. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear, because fear has punishment, and the fearing one has not been perfected in love {*1 John 4:16, 18*}.

For a Christian, God is perfect Love; fear does not co–exist with perfect love, because perfect love casts out fear. Fear is linked with punishment: those who have fear have not been perfected in love, yet, those perfected in love have confidence in the Day of Judgment {*1 John 4:16–18*}.

If the one loves God and loves his brother, he fulfills both main commandments of God and becomes the dwelling–temple of God: on love to God and on love to brethren all the Law and the Prophets are hung {*Matthew 22:37–40; John 14:23*}. For such a man, the Day of Judgment will be the day of joy, because for him it will be neither fear nor punishment – he is protected and saved by the perfect Love that is by God.

The teachings of love is the cornerstone and the essence of Christianity; it is the foundation of freedom granted by God to all who accepts His Word and comprehends His truth {*John 8:31–35*}. To the contrary, the world, which rejected God and hates His followers {*John 15:18–19, 23–25*}, has another foundation: slavery with its inseparable companions fear and hatred. The world founded on slavery perceives freedom – and especially, freedom of the fearless spirit – as the greatest threat to its very existence: fear makes possible enslaving and sustains slavery. There is no possibility to conquer the world without fear, and those who have no fear cannot be transformed into – in Aristotle's definition – human chattel or social animals–property–slaves of their own creations: political, religious, and social institutions.

Consequently, the greatest attack on Christianity began with modification of the teachings of perfect love that has no fear. In the third century, heresy of Origen initiated the open introduction of fear into the Christian theology ***[[***see ***Origen]]***. Following Gnostic traditions, Origen asserted existence of the secret knowledge hidden within Christianity – the knowledge intended only for the saints and for the mature, fearless, and bold souls of "guardians," which have to supervise the "small and undeveloped souls" of the ordinary believers.

Origen's perception of other men essentially, does not differ from Plato's vision of his contemporaries: all the others are the inferior creatures, which need supervision.

Consequently, "the enlightened philosopher" Plato designed the Nocturnal Council – pre–cursor of the Inquisition to supervise the others' beliefs and behavior and to punish for deviation, for instance, to imprison and to execute atheists and heretics: the heathenism also has its very own heresies, for instance, freedom of spirit and free thinking such as those for which Socrates was executed.

Origen introduced division into the Christian communities – the elite/guardians and the others; he implied necessity of a new kind of treatment: the others (the brethren whose sins were expiated by Lord God Jesus Christ) comprise the flock of "small and undeveloped" souls, which should live under supervision of the guardians – "doctors of the church or angels." Moreover, a "small and undeveloped soul" should not be nourished with the words of God. The "small and undeveloped" souls must be kept in fear as children; the mystery of all–forgiving love of God should remain hidden, and they must be "fed on images" – the "spiritual milk" of images created for them by their guardians – theologians and "doctors of the church." Such feeding makes the soul acquainted with "a taste of greater things" because anyway, the soul cannot desire something it know not [Origen *God IV.953–958* 342–343; *Spirit III.638* 240].

Consequently, if all–forgiving perfect love of God must remain mystery, the small souls should be kept in obedience through fear and firstly, through fear of punishment. Punishment and suffering occupy the special place in the Origen's world. With the unhealthy lust, he discusses the intensity of pain and the Future of sinners. Concerning punishment of "the impure," which as Origen believes would be "something worse than hell," he commands to St. Paul the Apostle: "Name it, O Paul! Say what the punishment is!" [Origen *God IV.912–919*, *962* 332–333, 347].

In fact, Origen created his own god: his god "torments the wicked," but like a devoted father, "mitigates the torment with mildness" [Origen *Soul I.54* 51; *Spirit III.448* 185; *God IV.919* 333]. The Origen's description resembles fantasies of the heathen philosophers who knew and judged their gods and who exalted themselves as "the tutors of humankind" [e.g., Seneca in: *The Wisdom of Stoics* 27]. Origen's image of the punishing and torturing god and Origen's self–mutilation are consistent with mentality of the ancient heathens–authors of Greek and Egyptian myths, yet they are not compatible with Christianity.

If to compare the Origen's image of his god and his assertion of the necessity of fear [Origen *God IV.912–919*, *952–954; 962* 332–333, 342, 347] with the texts of the New Testament, it is evident: Origen does not comprehend the essence and meaning of Christianity. His perverted concept of god who punishes and tortures his creations is completely incompatible with the Gospels and evidently has the roots in the heathenism. Origen's thought operates within framework of Gnosticism, which conveyed many heresies into Western theology and facilitated advancement of the mentality of the inquisitors (for instance, the Plato's second death of heretics and Cicero's double punishment imposed by gods – mental tortures during life and such ignominy after their death that people joyfully approve the extermination of criminals [Cicero *De Legibus* II. xvii.44]).

Origen's version of the Platonic–Gnostic doctrine of secret knowledge of the initiated and the assertion of necessity to conceal all–forgiving love of God, because the ordinary people must be kept in constant fear before the punishing and torturing god, inspired the consequent generations of "guardians" of the "small and undeveloped" souls. Origen's adaptation of the heathen concept of torturing god not only facilitated incorporation of the heathen doctrine of fear and punishment into the teachings of the Western Roman Church; it began a new stage of degeneration of human societies, which initially had been granted the freedom of Christianity. Fear became the comprehensive foundation of all spheres of religious, social, and political life: heads and leaders of communities, churches, societies, and states kept the "small and undeveloped" souls of their subjects in constant fear before physical punishment and death of body in this world and in fear of eternal punishment and suffering in the after–life's inferno governed by the sadistic "god" invented by Origen and embellished by his followers. Generally speaking, Origen and his followers deprived of true knowledge of God all those who had no other source of knowledge: the heathen teachings of fear took the place of Christian teachings of love.

As the history illustrates, interpretation of the fear to violate the law of God as the fear of God Himself ***[[***Who was portrayed by some heretics as a punishing dreadful Superbeing***]]*** became the root from which the worst heresies sprung. One of them is the infamous doctrine *Compelle Intrare* devised by Augustine the former Manichean who became the bishop of Hippo and one of the "fathers" of the Western theology. Augustine's *Compelle Intrare* ***[[***see ***Works of Augustine of Hippo]]*** contributed into the foundation, upon which the special institution – the papal Inquisition was created. The papal Inquisition ***[[***during many centuries, the popes had the title of the Prefect of the Inquisition***]]*** unleashed unspeakable evil upon the earth because of terror by persecutions, tortures, and executions of the heretics, the different–minded, and the Christians ***[[***e.g., such as Ian Hus the priest***]]*** who rejected the heresies of papal theologians, did not recognize the papal faith as Christian teachings, and did not accept the pope as vicar/substitute of God at the earth

For the Christians, reference to the "fear of God" – the fear to violate the Law of God by own thoughts, words, and deeds – is the reminder that a human being should always be very discreet and cautious in his thoughts, words, and deeds, especially concerning the others. Conscience and issuing feeling of responsibility for own thoughts, words, and deeds might facilitate development of the ability to foresee the consequences of own words and actions.

The fear of God is, in fact, the fear

to violate the law of God by own thoughts, words, and deeds

↓

to became unable to live in the free world of Love, Wisdom, and Light

↓

to take the path into the eternal darkness of separation from God – into the realm of eternal death

{*Deuteronomy 28; 29; 30:10–20; 32:8–42; Isaiah 59:2; Matthew 25:31–46; John 3:16–21, 36; Revelation 22:14–15*}

Such fear, in fact, is the means of self–preservation, because any violation of the Law of God inevitably is followed with the distortion/perversion of the human nature, then, degeneration→ perversion, and untimely death.

The perverted human nature

pollutes the earth
↓
poisons all creations connected to men
↓
activates the laws of disintegration
↓
has to be wiped out from the face of the earth

Σ9 See **meaning of life as wholeness** might be explained with the terms of systems theory.

Any living being is **wholeness** – a system with components/subsystems that came into existence for the sake of accomplishment of some purposes. The original name of the general systems theory ***[[***1930s, creator – Ludwig von Bertalanffy (1901–1972), Austria–born researcher; Austria–Canada–USA [von Bertalanffy (1968)***]]]***, from which systems logic has been derived, is *the science of wholeness* (see ***Introduction to the Systems Logic***).

What then, is the wholeness/life, what is needed to live – that is to sustain/maintain the wholeness/life?

The Old Testament provides a hint that could lead to understanding how life is maintained and what does it mean to live.

It is written in the Book of Daniel {*Daniel 12:10*}: **και ανομησωσιν ανομοι, και ου συνησουσι παντες ανομοι, και οι νοημονες συνησουσι** — the lawless ones shall stay lawless, and none of the lawless ones shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

Therefore,

the law – **νομος** is inseparably connected with
↓
understanding – **συνεσεως** of the wise one – **νοημων**,
where **συνεσεως** is a derivative of **συνιημι** →→ **συνησω** – future tense of **συνιημι**;
νοημων – the thinking/reasonable/wise one – from
either **νοημα**
or **φρενος**, – thought, consciousness, thinking
derived of **νοησις** – thinking, faculty of deliberation
↓
the lawless one/s – **ανομος/ανομοι** – shall not understand (**ου συνησουσι**)

The mental powers defined with words understanding → comprehension → being wise/prudent have the common feature, which, in Greek, is conveyed with word **συνεσις/συνεσεως** – reasoning, understanding, knowledge, common sense/sound judgment (also **φρονησις**).

This common feature is ability to perceive→ synthesize→ create a system/wholeness from the identified–perceived elements/pieces/parts/subsystems of the reality, within which the mind exists. This ability is manifested with

understanding → application of knowledge of the law–foundation of the world
↓
comprehension of the parts/subsystems of this world,
which the mind
has encountered → will use for the sake of survival, evolution, and other purposes

In Greek, all mentioned above words referring to wholeness have the same source of origin: the **Minoan symbol *V***.

Probably, in the very beginning ***[[***when the memory of knowledge that existed before the Babylonian confusion {*Genesis 11:1–9*} still lived, and the heathenism did not ruin minds of all thinkers yet***]]***, the Minoans created the peculiar system of communication: the set of symbols intended to convey the fundamental blocks of life – in the contemporary terms, systems and realities, with which the world was arranged into the living perfect wholeness {*Genesis 1; 2*}. With this set of symbols, the Minoans attempted to convey comprehension of the super–complex reality capable of sustaining multitudes of living wholenesses created, unified, and controlled by one Law, sustained by one Power, and evolving into completeness of perfection according to the One Absolute Standard – the Absolute Good of God the Creator.

However, the main legacy of the Minoans became the false knowledge – the heathenism. Similarly to destiny of mysterious **Σορ**, which was located on the island in the entrance of the sea and perished in the heart of the sea, and the prophecy concerning the prince of Tyre who set himself as god {in: *Ezekiel 27; 28*}, they took pride in their wealth and beauty, accepted dreams of imagination as truth, deified their kings, and thus, destroyed wisdom for the sake of the vanity. Then, the fire came from their midst, their mountains were moved into the hearts (depth) of the sea {similarly to as it is said in: *Psalm 45(46):3; Ezekiel 27:26–27; 28:15–19*}, and their civilization was annihilated.

The Minoans who survived destruction of their civilization [about 1100 B.C.] settled in different lands of the Mediterranean region, including Samos and Khios and in a coastal strip in West Asia Minor, where they fostered development of the Ionian civilization. The Ionians – **Ιωνες**, one of four ancient Greek tribes, were named after **ιωνια** – a field covered with **Ιον/Ιων** – dark–navy flowers (probably, violet); it is held that their civilization existed from 1150 B.C.; the end of it is not known.

The Minoan–Ionian language became the language of Homer's poems [*Iliad*, *Odyssey*, and *Hymns*], and ultimately, formed the Alexandrian dialect and the Koine.

The Alexandrian dialect was the common version of the Greek, through which the diverse population of Alexandria (the city was founded in IV B.C., after the Alexander of Macedonia's conquest of Egypt, and named after the conqueror) communicated, and into which the Old Testament was translated to become the Septuagint.

With the Koine – the common Greek, the New Testament was written down.

The traces of Minoan language of the realities still can be found in the original language of the Septuagint and the New Testament.

So, the Minoan symbol ***V*** signifies the unity of three most significant inter–connected concepts (intelligence/reasoning ←→ law ←→ spirit/life) that define the fundamentals of human life conveyed by the first tier of words derived from this ancient root:

V

==========

↓ ↓ ↓

νο→ νοη→ νε→ νευ/νι/νη

==========

↓ ↓ ↓

νοος ***νομος*** ***πνευμα***

intelligence, mind **law** **spirit, life**

power/force of reasoning

[[The consequent tiers of words that belong to the same reality include, for instance,
νο–μευω – to shepherd/pasture sheep →→ **νομη** – grazing land, grazing flock, food, distribution, part →→ **νομευσ** – shepherd, giver; the frame of ship
νο–μαιον – common tradition, custom →→ **νομαιος** – something customary, common →→ **νομιμος** – set by the law, observing the law
νε–μω – to distribute–allocate–ascribe and to shepherd–guide–propel →→ **νεμησις** – distribution–assignment →→ **Νεμεσις** – goddess of just retribution.***]]***

Therefore, the Minoan reality conveyed with symbol ***V*** encompassed all relevant to law, reason, and life elements/parts of life, which were indicated with words derived of the same root: ***V → νο→ νοη→ νε→ νευ/νι/νη***.

Συνεσις is a compound world, which consists of
– **συ**(**ν**) – union, being together; as a part of compound words, **συ**(**ν**) – carries the meaning of completeness
– the derivatives of the mentioned above ancient root ***[[***Minoan symbol ***V]]*** that originates words, which convey meanings of mind/intelligence/reason, law, spirit/life:

συ(***ν***)

+

νο→ νοη→ νε/νι/νη

[[for instance, in ***φρονεω/φρονημα, διανοημα*** –
mind, thinking, contemplation, understanding***]]***

==========

↓

συνιημι **–** to put together mentally, to comprehend, to understand, to consider, to be wise

↓

συνεση **–** prudence, good reasoning, discretion, caution, judgment, good sense, wisdom, discrimination

↓

συνεσις/συνεσεως – reasoning

Thus, the law, the intelligence/mind, and the spirit/life are the components of the wholeness – reality, which the Minoans conveyed with the symbol ***V***: the reality of life.

Consequently, the one could assume

1/ life as the wholeness might be envisioned as the unity of the intelligence, law, and spirit

2/ if
νομος – law – is the main code that defines the wholeness: its elements, operations of the elements, terms and parameters of operations – the range, conditions, and terms of life ***[[***see **Note 5** to this file***]]***
πνευμα – spirit – is the life–giving and life–sustaining energy
νοος – intelligence/reason – is the force that sustains the wholeness–system arranged into the interactive unity of elements/components/subsystems, — then,

wholeness/life is created by the energy *πνευμα* with the power *νοος* according to the law *νομος*

3/ creation of life is actualization of the interactive unity of

LAW

νομος

↓

ENERGY ←→ POWER

πνευμα ***νοος***

So, the one might comprehend the general idea of the inevitability of the choice between life and death in the warning that Moses {*Deuteronomy 26:16–19; 28; 29; 30*} gave to his tribesmen:

either
"blessing" — life–abundance–prosperity–peace–protection from the enemies,
because of adherence to the law
or
"curse" — insufficiency–suffering–plagues–dishonor–slavery,
because of violations of the law

Indeed, if the wholeness/system/being ***[[***e.g., a human being***]]*** does not use/apply its power/force ***[[***intelligence/mind***]]*** according to the law ***[[***the law of God by which the mind should live***]]***,

the connection among the law, the power/force, and energy is broken
preventing actualization of the unity of the law–power–energy
↓
the issuing incoherence of the elements/components/subsystems
makes the normal functioning of the wholeness impossible
↓
disintegration of the wholeness is initiated:
the energy is released with dissolution/disintegration of the structured matter, I
nto which the energy was embodied
↓
the wholeness is no more and its remnants must be consumed–assimilated–cleaned out
by those allotted for this task:
enemies, conquerors, rivals, forces/acts of the nature (e.g., flood, fire, famine)

The precise moment of disintegration of a wholeness/system is defined by the time–space–complexity parameters, which determine the range–limits–meanings–terms of life/functions/operations/achievement of purposes. The ancient thinkers invented a special term to identify such moment: καιρος.

[[Καιρος is the moment–state–condition of actualization of the Law of God – the completeness either of evolution or destruction:
a/ the point, at which the system reaches the maximum either of its potency or of its weakness, which both result in impracticality/inability to exist at the present conditions and at the present level of complexity
b/ the moment, when the system achieved all possible results it was capable of achieving within the allotted to it time–space–complexity settings, with the resources it was enabled to access, and through material things it was enabled to create–use–modify–consume–destroy
c/ the moment, when, within the present settings, further existence of the system is inconsistent with the purposes of the Creator.***]]***

It was told from the beginning: violation of the law *(***ανομια***)* burns as fire; because of their transgressions, people would be as those burnt by fire, and the earth would be set on fire {*Isaiah 9:18–19; Malachi 4:1*}.
The warning of St. Peter the Apostle concerning the end of the earth {*2 Peter 3:10–11*} explains the meaning of the "burning fire of iniquities" and illustrates the process of the release of the energy during disintegration of the wholeness that has broken the law, therefore, has to be destroyed: the heavens with rushing sound will pass away, the elements having burned will be dissolved, and the earth with all its works will be burned up.
Such end is possible if

the firmament – *στερεωμα* – within which the earth has been created {*Genesis 1*},
and which is the vortex of the energy fields/forces
that sustain circulation and transformation of the life–creating and life–sustaining energy,
is destroyed
↓
the energy fields/forces, which were set within the *στερεωμα* and maintained the unity of law–energy–power,
are dissolved
↓
the energy, which was the essence of the structured matter – the earth and all its works,
is instantly released with dissolution of structures and destruction of the elements as by the fire

In general, ***στερεωμα*** is the framework or foundation for the set of energy fields made for transformations of the divine energy into a particular structured matter (e.g., water of the sea, dust of the land): the components of the world accommodating existence of mankind. Within the ***στερεωμα*** {also called the Heaven – ***ουρανον*** in: *Genesis 1:6–10*}, the evolving world came into being {*Genesis 1*}.
So, ***στερεωμα*** might be envisioned as the framework–firmament–heaven, which embraces the totality of time–space–complexity entities/networks composed with the energy fields controlling the cycles of energy transformation: life is a purposeful cycle of energy transformations. These settings or specific networks of the energy fields might be seen also as the unity of the interconnected worlds, which accommodate the developing totality of the cycles of creation {*John 5:17*} and sustain life of different kinds of living beings–embodiments of the divine energy accomplished according to the universal law and with the universal power. The unity of energy–law–power maintains the Heaven and the world of men.
From another angle of consideration, the one could envision the ***στερεωμα*** of this world as a particular manifestation of the universal order/arrangement, or the reading of the Universal Code of creation – ***Λογος*** – on the particular levels of complexity. This reading of the Universal Code defines, creates, and sustains the arrangement of the energy fields allotted for the cycles of energy transformations, which create the perceivable structures of the matter at different levels of complexity. Life of particular beings – inhabitants of the world created because the Word–***Λογος*** was spoken by God – is accommodated under the Heaven: within the ***στερεωμα*** – fixed arrangement of the energy fields with the limits, which humans could perceive, for instance, with such parameters as pressure, temperature, light, darkness, radiation, and so on.
The connection between the law and normal operations of the establishment/system, which the law controls, is known from the beginning: all establishments/systems (e.g., empires, states, societies) of the Past and the Present have enabled at least some maintaining–defensive–protecting subsystems (e.g., services, armies, departments) charged with responsibilities
a/ to control significant (or even all) operations, behavior, transactions, and interconnections of the members/subjects, subsystems
b/ to conduct comprehensive surveillance
c/ to initiate the preventive, correcting, and punitive actions.
So, the ruling authorities/centers/leaders have understanding that the main laws, which secure survival and development of the establishments/systems they control, must not be violated, if disintegration of the establishments/systems is undesirable and has to be prevented.
If so, the strange puzzle comes to the light: why *Homo sapience* – the crown of creation, the man of reason, assumes that he can violate the law of God the Creator ***[[***especially, the source/main law, on which all the Laws [The Ten Commandments] and revelations of the prophets hang {*Exodus 20:1–17; Matthew 22:37–40; Mark 12:29–31; Luke 10:27–28*}***]]*** and still have happy–healthy–wealthy life of dignity in abundance of all things?
Then, if the first book given to a child is the book that explains the Law of God, and the main course in all educational institutions is the study of the Law of God, from the beginning, the mind is introduced to the actual reality of life – the reality of inseparable connection of the cause and the consequences, of the thoughts–words–deeds and responsibility for their results, for instance, impact onto the others.

Then, the mind would

– understand that the connections between observance of the Law of God and life, and between violation of the Law of God and suffering and death are unbreakable

– think–act–live by the actuality of the **wholeness**: law–reason–spirit/life.

Σ10 In Daniel 12:10 — και ανομησωσιν ανομοι, και ου συνησουσι παντες ανομοι, και οι νοημονες συνησουσι — the lawless ones shall stay lawless, and none of the lawless ones shall understand, but the wise shall understand:

the law – νομος is inseparably connected with
↓
understanding – συνεσεως of the wise one – νοημων,
where συνεσεως is a derivative of συνιημι →→ συνησω – future tense of συνιημι;
νοημων – the thinking/reasonable/wise one – from νοημα, or φρενος, – thought, consciousness, thinking
derived of νοησις – thinking, faculty of deliberation
↓
the lawless one/s – ανομος ανομοι shall not understand (ου συνησουσι)

The mental powers defined with words *understanding – comprehension – being wise/prudent* have the common feature, which, in Greek, is conveyed with word συνεσις/συνεσεως – reasoning, understanding, knowledge, common sense/sound judgment (also φρονησις). All of them have the same ancient root – Minoan ***V [[V →*** νο→ νοη→ νε→ νευ/νι/νη***]]***, from which three most significant words (intelligence/reasoning ←→ law ←→ spirit/life) that convey the meaning of humaneness are derived

V
==========
↓ ↓ ↓
νο→ → νοη→ → νε/νι/νη
==========
↓ ↓
νοος ←→ νομος πνευμα
intelligence, law spirit, life
reasoning, mind

Συνεσις is derived from

– συν – union, being together; as a part of compound words, συν– conveys the meaning of completeness

– the mentioned above ancient root that originates words, which convey meanings of reason, law, spirit/life:

συν
+
νο→ νοη→ νε/νι/νη

for instance, in

φρο*νε*ω/φρο*νη*μα, δια*νο*ημα – mind, thinking, contemplation, understanding
==========
↓
συ*νι*ημι – to put together mentally, to comprehend, to understand, to consider, to be wise
↓
συ*νε*ση – prudence, good reasoning, discretion, caution, judgment, good sense, wisdom, discrimination
↓
συ*νε*σις/συ*νε*σεως – reasoning

This common feature is an ability to **perceive→ synthesize→ create a system–wholeness** from/with/within the identified–perceived elements/pieces/parts of the reality, in which the mind exists; this ability is manifested as

understanding:
application of knowledge of the law–foundation of the world toward comprehension
of the parts/subsystems of this world, which the mind has encountered,
and which it has to use for the sake of survival, evolution, and other purposes

Σ11 Complete knowledge — επιγνωσεως in: 2 Peter 1:3 — is the state of complete–abundant–carrying consequences cognition.

In Greek word επι–γνωσει,

— επι– is a particle that conveys meanings of superimposition, staying upon something, moving toward something, abundance, consequence, and causality

— γνωσει – the derivative of γνωσεως from γιγνωσκω, which originates cluster of words with meaning of perceiving, discerning, understanding, comprehension, cognition, knowing ***[[***including γινωσκωσι in John 17:3, that is a derivative of Ionian/Dorian form of γιγνωσκω***]]***.

Therefore, the synergy of επι– and γνωσεως ← γιγνωσκω creates the meaning of complete–abundant–carrying consequences cognition: the state of empowering to act according to the will of God. In the context of St. Peter the Apostle text {*2 Peter 1:2–3*}, such consequences are the act of the Divine Power

bestowing upon the one, who is in the state of complete cognition, all of life and godliness – that is firstly, the power to think, speak, act according to the Truth and to accomplish the words of Truth making them the essence–fabric of own

a/ thinking
↓
b/ actions
↓
c/ the entire life

The one could comprehend the meaning of complete knowledge by reading the Second Epistle of St. Peter the Apostle also mentioned and explained by St. Paul the Apostle {*2 Peter 1:2–11; Colossians 1:10–23*}.

Complete knowledge might be envisioned/explained as ***the state*** of complete–abundant–carrying consequences cognition: the state of having been empowered to think, to speak, and to work according to the will of God that is with the knowledge of the Absolute Truth Who is the Word–God, Lord Jesus Christ the Redeemer and the Savior {*2 Peter 1:2–11;* conf. in: *John;* esp. in: *John 14; 15; 16; 17*}.

Thus, the essence of επιγνωσεως – complete knowledge of God, is manifestation of the Divine Power bestowing upon the one all of life and godliness {*2 Peter 1:3–4; Colossians 1:10–23*}.

Επιγνωσεως reveals itself ***[[***or might be identified***]]*** as possession of the mental power to achieve the purposes, for the sake of which the one has been born:

to survive, that is to preserve life of reasoning–intelligence–mind
by protecting it from the false knowledge, deceit, and enslaving with false religions
↓
to come to the complete knowledge of the Absolute Good
↓
to evolve for the next phase of existence in the eternity with God

If the one's mind obtained the complete knowledge–επιγνωσεως, επιγνωσεως reveals itself ***[[***or might be identified***]]*** as possession of the mental power to achieve the purposes, for the sake of which the one has been born:

to survive, that is to preserve life of reasoning–intelligence–mind
by protecting it from the false knowledge, deceit, and enslaving with false religions
↓
to come to the complete knowledge of the Absolute Good
↓
to evolve for the next phase of existence in the eternity with God

The mind that has obtained επιγνωσεως or, in other words, entered the state of complete knowledge of God, receives from the Word–God – Λογος/Αγια Σοφια and from the Holy Spirit the special power: **wisdom** {*John 14:1–27; 15:1–17, 26; 16:7–16; 17; Colossians 1; 2; Proverbs 2:3–12; Wisdom 1; 3; 6; 7; 8; 9*}.

See also

– **Note 3** to this file
– ***The Absolute***
– ***The Mind***

Σ12 The teachings concerning **the Holy Trinity** is given in the Holy Scriptures: initial or introductory knowledge – by the Books of the Old Testament, and completed knowledge sufficient for preparation for the eternity – by the Books of the New Testament.

The first Ecumenical Councils (431–870) composed The Nicean Creed and established it as the Absolute dogma of Christianity – confession of the Christian faith, which is the unchangeable and which is forbidden to assail by human modifications.

The Nicean Creed conveys the foundation of the monotheist Christian religion as it is revealed by Lord Jesus Christ, Who spoke of the only One True God {τον Μονον (only one) Αληθινον Θεον – *John 17:3;* Κυριος ο Θεος ημων, Κυριος εις (one–only/unified) εστι – *Deuteronomy 6:4–5*; *Mark 12:29*}, and as it is written down in the Holy Scriptures. The Nicean Creed reflects the following perception of the universe that embodies the unity of God with His creations granted through Lord Jesus Christ, accommodates existence of mankind, and reveals the wholeness of life:

THE ONLY ONE TRUE ALMIGHTY GOD THE CREATOR
Ο ΘΕΟΣ ΠΑΝΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΠΟΙΗΤΗΣ
_____
GOD THE FATHER
Ο ΘΕΟΣ
↓ ↓
THE WORD–GOD **THE HOLY SPIRIT**
Ο Λογος, Αγια Σοφια **Ο Παρακλητος, το Πνευμα το Αγιον**
_____
↓
The Human Mind ←→ The World

Lord Jesus Christ explained {*John*} **the Only One True God** as the **Triune God**, the inseparable indivisible **Unity** of

– **the Word–God** begotten by the Father and working the works of the Father: the Word–God, Λογος, Who is the Glory and the Absolute Power of God the Father, Who is One with the Father, carries out the Law/will of God, and has everything that the Father has

– **the Holy Spirit**, by Whom the word lives, Who dwells with and within the children of God empowering them to accomplish the will of God and to live by God and in God: the Holy Spirit takes from the Word–God, because everything that the Father has is His

– **God the Father**, from Whom the Word–God and the Holy Spirit come.

The act of accomplishment of the will of God is synergism – manifestation of the unity of the Law, the Power, and the Energy, when, according to the will of God the Creator, the Power applies the Energy to actualize the Law. As the result, new universe, new world, new living being, new life comes into being {*Genesis 1; 2; Psalm 146(147):2, 3, 4; John; esp., John 1:1–18; 3; 4:23–24; 6; 10; 14; 15; 16; 17; James 1:17–18; Ephesians 2:10*}.

The nature of human mind created by Lord Jesus Christ and living by the Holy Spirit is the unity with God the Creator {cf.: *John 17*}, and only with God, the mind finds wisdom, completeness and happiness of accomplishment.

Hence,

– Christianity is knowledge of the Triune God, the only One True God, given only to those who accept the commandments–words–law of the Word–God, who are empowered to receive the Holy Spirit, who live by the words of the Word–God by embodying the law/will of God the Creator into the actuality of their life – the ones who worship God in Spirit and Truth {*John 1:1–18; 4:23–24; 6:28–63; 10; 12:44–50; 14; 15; 16; 17*}

– Christianity is the realm, in which a human being breathes by the breath of life and lives by the Divine Law, Divine Power, and Divine Energy Whose Unity transforms the mortal creature of dust into a new being capable of everlasting life in the presence of God:

GOD –
The Uncognizable Unknown Supreme Being
==========
↓
Who revealed Himself to His creation–man
as
the Omnipotent Spirit,
Whom Jesus Christ, the Messiah, identified as God the Father –
the Absolute, the Source of Life, Light,
Law, Power, and Energy,
by Whom His creations live, and
Whose acts of creation are perceived by the mind as
the Unity of the Law and the Energy and the Power
==========
↓
from Whom come
↓ ↓
The Word–God The Holy Spirit
==========
↓
and Who man worships as
The Holy Trinity, Triune God –
the inseparable indivisible Unity of
God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit,
Who is the Creator and the Source of life,
and Whose attributes revealed to men
are the Absolute Good and the immortality within the eternity

The inseparable unity of the Word of God, the Spirit of God, and God the Father Whose Law is the Perfect Love {*Matthew 22:36–40; John 13:34–35; 15; 17*}, creates and sustains existence of the world, in which the human mind has to mature–evolve: to cognize love and mercy of God, to acquire wisdom, to comprehend the Absolute Good, and to fulfill the will of God. By the Word of God the human mind is fed, by the Spirit of God it exists, and by the Law/Love of God it matures {*John 6:28–63; 14:15–17; 15:26; 16:7–16; Luke 12:49*}: reaches the perfection–optimum–readiness for immortality that is for the next phase of existence in the eternal kingdom of God.

The omnipotent almighty Power – Law – that is Love of God, sustains life–existence of the world and all created by God. This Power–Law–Love creates the wholeness of the mind and its world by giving the abilities to imitate love and mercy of God, therefore, to live, to survive, and to accomplish the purposes for the sake of which a human being exists. Without the wholeness of the undivided in its righteousness heart/mind, which knows and loves God and lives by His Law – the Law that opens the eternal life {*Deuteronomy 30:11–20; Malachi 4:4–6; Matthew 5:17–18; Luke 1:17; John 5:38–42, 46; 12:44–50*}, the mind is not able to accommodate the words of God and therefore, is not empowered to became the temple–dwelling of the living God {*John 14:15–23*}**.**

Consequently, without the Word–God,

the mind has no power to acquire wisdom in its Present
↓
the mind does not have the Future – the life everlasting
{*John 12:46–50*}

See
– ***CHRISTIANITY***
– ***The Absolute***
– ***The Works of God***

Σ13 **Sin** is a violation of the law of God {*1 John 3:4*}: the lawlessness, the failure to achieve the purposes, an inability to create the good that is to fulfill the Law/will of God; thus, sin is an inability to accomplish the mission of man.

In Greek, **sin** is **αμαρτια** – missing the mark, inability to get something needed or desirable or proper.

Any violation of the law of God by thought, by words, or by actions is a perversion of the human nature ***[[***e.g., idol–worship, assassination, adultery***]]***, therefore, the crime against God, own nature, and other human beings. The law of God is the essence of the human mind–heart; thus, sin as ανομια – lawlessness, iniquity, illegality, wickedness – is anomaly or perversion inconsistent with the human nature: the one who is able to intentionally commit sin is not of God {*1 John 3:8–10*}.

Consequently, the sinner's own mind becomes his judge and executor: violation of the Law of God initiates the disorder or illness (mental or physical), which leads to degeneration, further perversion, impairment and collapse of the immune system, abnormal offspring, premature death.

The mind of a sinner, who violated the Law by the actions/words/thoughts inconsistent with the human nature, triggers off the abnormal mutation, which may result not only in lethal illness of the sinner himself: it may be transferred to his children. This simple link is known since revelation of the law ***[[***The Ten Commandments***]]*** accompanied with Moses' warning to his tribesmen concerning life–blessing to those who live according to the law of God and curse–death for those who disregard the law of God. Only mercy and all–embracing Perfect Love of God annihilates sin/evil and restores heath of the sinner {*Exodus 34:6–7; Deuteronomy 30:11–20;* also cf. in: *John 9:1–41; 1 Peter 2:1–10; 1 John 2; 3; 4; 5*}, if he comes to understanding the he has committed sin, repents, and turns to God asking for forgiveness and healing. If unacknowledged, forgiven not, and unhealed, sin multiplies and the measures of the evil are filled by each consequent generation until the καιρος of the reality, in which the sinner lives, or which he has created and filled with his sin, comes before God {e.g., see: *Isaiah 6:8–13; Matthew 13:10–16; 24; Mark 4:11–12; John 12:37–43; Genesis 6:12–14; 15:13–16*}.

Sin also might be envisioned as the conditions of life, which make thoughts, words, and actions sinful ***[[***or, from another angle of consideration, insufficient – giving no chance to achieve perfection, which is achievable only if a human being evolves according to the human nature: by accomplishing the law of God ***]]*** that is committed in unrighteousness, immorality, with evil intentions.

For instance,

– in the terms of immorality, sin signifies intentional disregard of knowledge of the virtues ***[[***e.g., for media spreading corruption, perversion, and violence, which are inconsistent with the law of God***]]***

– in the terms of evil intentions, sin is any act — whichever justification their originators assert and in the name of whichever deity they commit it — leading to detriment, deprivation, and injury of any kind, which could result in depriving of the others of well–being, possessions, good repute, life.

Everything and anything that contains the seed of the evil, for instance, false assumption, becomes the evil and leads to the evil by making someone to sin.

Sin also might be identified as an illusion of own righteousness, self–identification as the one above the laws of men, indifference to the others and disregard of their needs and misery – physical or spiritual, and self–ascribing possession of abilities to achieve the purposes when there are none.

The thoughts, words, and actions are sinful, if they are not originated by love to God, because of love to the others, and upon knowledge of God; then, they are lawlessness, and the one who creates–does them either has no knowledge of the law or disregards the law. Hence, the one who has such illusions is a dreamer ***[[***e.g. as dreamers in Jude 8: ενυπνιαζομενοι – the ones giving the power of life to the dream/spirit of night***]]***, the one with the dreaming mind that creates phantasm and fantasies – figments of imagination, and lives by them.

For instance, the dreamer assumes that he is rich and powerful while he is poor and weak {e.g., in: *Revelation 3:14–21*}; he assumes that he would be able to survive, to live in prosperity and abundance, and to accomplish his purposes without observance of the law of God within the universe that was created according to the law/will of God.

Such assumptions are illusion, dreams, figments of imagination. Their creator and their consumers are sinners who operate with false knowledge, live by non–existing artificial worlds, and therefore, fail to achieve the purposes, which determine the meaning of human existence.

In other words, a sinner escapes into the imaginary world because either of his ignorance or of his unwillingness to accept the responsibilities before God and before His creations.

Ignorance of the mind makes the one insufficient that is capable of sin: insufficient knowledge, deprivation of the truth and insufficient love ***[[***as well as open hatred***]]*** to the others are the roots of sin ***[[***sin is any evil thought, word, action***]]***.

Lord God Jesus Christ {*John 8:31–36*} equated sinners to slaves:

everyone doing sin is a slave of sin
{*John 8:34*}

Hence, according to the words of God {in: *John 8:31–47*}, those accustomed to sin are the slaves of sin: the ones who live by the evil, who do the works of the evil, and who are controlled by the evil, because, within their mind, they do not have place for the words of God ***[[***see ***Concept of Slavery*** – Supplement 3 to ***Selections_&_Reprints]]***.

Sin is a disease of the soul, which wastes soundness of body; only after man acknowledges his sins before God (that is after he comprehended the reasons of his failure and imperfection), he receives forgiveness, and then, he might be cured {*Psalm 31(32):3–7; Luke 5:17–26, 30–32*}.

Furthermore, the sins of our ancestors, for which forgiveness of God was not sought, as well as our own sins {*Genesis 3:1–14; Exodus 34:6–7; Psalm 105(106):6*} are the reasons of our misery: we eat the spoiled fruits, grown by all those who lived before us, as well as those, which we ourselves have brought upon the earth.

The Greek theologians considered sin as a state of the freely chosen death – death of the soul, which rejected God: although the soul is immortal, without God it does not have life, because if it does not live in God, it dwells in death [St. Maximus the Confessor 34 in: *The Philokalia* 2:244; St. Gregory Palamas §8 in: *The Philokalia* 4:295].

In general, the essence of sin is a failure to create or to cognize or to do good.

Sin also is

making—giving place to—assuming—doing the evil

instead of creating—doing the good

Everything and anything that contains the seed of the evil, for instance, false assumption, becomes evil and leads to evil: makes someone to sin.

Σ14 The sad ending of the life of Moses whom God did not admit into the Holy Land, because he disobeyed His instructions {*Deuteronomy 32:48–52*}, should convince those who claim their way to God that exact following the instructions/commandments/words of God is the best way to arrange own life and to maintain the world (cosmos/universe) or a part of it given into own dominion.

In the New Testament, in *2 Corinthians 2:17*, St. Paul the Apostle says: "we are not as many adulterating the word of God (εσμεν ως οι πολλοι, καπηλευοντες τον λογον του Θεου) but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God, in Christ, we speak."

Greek word καπηλευοντες is a derivative of καπηλευω – to be engaged in petty cunning trade, to adulterate, to corrupt, to cheat, to swindle; to distort, to pervert, to misrepresent.

Similar thought is in *2 Corinthians 4:2*: "we have renounced hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness, nor adulterating the word of God, but by the revelation of truth…"

Deceit, perversion, misrepresentation and other kinds of adulteration of truth – lies – are the deeds of the arch–evil that is a liar and the father of it {*John 8:44*}.

If the soul had rejected the arch–evil, learned to live by the law–words of God, it becomes the temple of God. Such soul became incompatible with the evil: it has cognized Truth, it is unable to spread lies, it has rejected hierarchies of the world without God, and it obtained freedom promised by God {*John 8:31–32, 34–36; 14:15–17, 26–27; 16:13–15; 17; 2 Corinthians 3:17–18*}.

Indeed, for any Christian who loves God as it is stated by the first greatest commandment, who accepted God as the Highest Holiness, Light, and Life of own soul that is the temple–dwelling of God, any adulterating, modification, misrepresentation, perversion of the words of God is impossible, and not only because it is the heresy, blasphemy and unforgivable sin: words of God are revelation of the will of God the Father carried out by the Word–God and by the Holy Spirit Who proceeds from God the Father. Then, sin against the Holy Spirit is unforgivable {cf. in: *John 3:31–36; 5:63, 68; 14:26; 16:13–15; Matthew 12:30–36; 1 John 5:16*}.

Concerning death of Moses, see **The Lost World** – ***reprint*** follows

Reprint

"***The Lost Worlds***

…Go up to the mount… and die in the mount whither thou go up…
…because you disobeyed My word…
…because you sanctified Me not among the sons of Israel…
…thou shall see the land, but thou shall not enter into it…
{Deuteronomy 32:48–52}

It happened after the chosen nation received The Ten Commandments. The people came into the wilderness of Sin, and it was no water to drink for men and for their cattle. So, again, as it happened many times before, the congregation rebelled against Moses and Aaron (Aaron was brother of Moses and the anointed priest). The people reviled Moses and rebuked him saying that he brought them, the "congregation of the Lord," from Egypt ***[[***where – as they lamented – they ate flesh, bread, fish, onion, garlic, etc. – {*Exodus 16:2–3; Numbers 11:4–20*}***]]***, into the wilderness without fruits to eat and without water to drink. Moses and Aaron came to the doors of the tabernacle to meet the Lord. Lord God commanded Moses to take his rod (the rod of shepherd, with which Moses led the people from Egypt, was kept in the tabernacle; it was the symbol of authority given by God) and to call the assembly. Then, Moses and Aaron shall speak to the rock before them, and the rock shall give forth its water: they will speak and they will bring forth water out of the rock and give drink to the people and their cattle {*Numbers 20:1–8*}.

Moses took the rod; he and Aaron assembled the congregation before the rock, rebuked the disobedient people; and asked: "must we bring you water out of this rock?" Then, Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his rod twice; then, water came out of the rock, so the people and their cattle had water to drink {*Numbers 20:9–11*}.

However, Moses and Aaron did not follow the instructions of Lord God: the Lord did not say "strike the rock with the rod"; He said "speak to the rock." The word spoken by the prophet and by the anointed priest had to bring forth water out of the rock, not action. Why Moses and Aaron did not follow the instructions of God? According to the Holy Scriptures, Lord God said to Moses an Aaron that they did not believe Him; they disobeyed His word and did not sanctify Him among the people. For this, they will not lead the people into the Promised Land {*Numbers 20:12*}.

This particular event has the special significance, because it reveals the responsibility of those who have to convey knowledge of God to His people.

This event had

– to sustain faith in invisible, yet Omnipotent, God–Spirit – God–Creator Whose Word creates the world {*Genesis 1:1–31; 2:1; John 1:1–3*}

– to reveal the power of God–Spirit beyond the world of the matter

– to foretell the coming of the Word–God Who would give His followers the living water of everlasting life {*John 4:14*}

– to sanctify God among the people, which He chose to carry His Law, to preserve it for the entire world, and to become the seed of His kingdom on the earth.

This event had to become one of the first revelations of the Word–God, for Whom the holy nation and the kingdom of priests was to be established. This was an opportunity at the very beginning {*Deuteronomy 29:2–6*} to engrave into the human mind the crucial knowledge which defines the evolution of mankind: the power of the Almighty God–Spirit is the Absolute power that, in the world of men, comes through the Word {*Exodus 19:1–6; Psalm 147:15,19–20; 148:4–5; Zacharias 4:6; John 4:24*}.

To the contrary, Moses made physical move and acted with a material object – with his rod. This rod was well known to the people. When God charged Moses with the task to bring out His people from slavery, He gave Moses the power to use the rod to demonstrate the power of God:

1/ to ignorant people who did not know their God yet, and who did not begin their road to the kingdom of priests yet

2/ to the ignorant idol–worshipers who worshiped material objects (statues made from wood, clay, stone, etc.) and used sorcery and magic to deceive. As a result of actions of Moses and Aaron in Egypt, the people could assume that the rod reveals the abilities similar to the skills of the Egyptian sorcerers. At their disbelief, at their level of perception and knowledge of God {*Deuteronomy 1:26–33;* 29:2–6}, they, obviously, did not take into consideration the facts that only through Moses' prayers to God and communications with God (invisible to the people), the Egyptians' sufferings were relieved, the Egyptian army was exterminated, and then, water and food were given in the barren and scorched wilderness {*Exodus 4:1–5; 7:8–12,14–22; 8:5–15,28–31; 14:6–16,28–30; 16:11–15; 17:1–7; Numbers 11:1–32; Deuteronomy 29:2–6*}.

Therefore, the actions of Moses intervened with the will of God: they opened a possibility of doubt, because they re–focused the attention from the power of the word to the power of action with the material objects.

For instance, the people could assume that it was a hidden reservoir within the rock, and Moses' rod destroyed the obstacle – stone or even clay mass, which prevented water from flowing and kept it hidden under the rock's surface. Then, even if it was no hidden reservoir, this miracle could sustain the authority of mortal men – Moses and Aaron, whose power would be gone with their death; it did not reveal the power of eternal God, therefore, did not sanctify the Lord among His people. The world, which would come into being if Moses and Aaron follow instructions of God, never happened. Now it is possible only to ask:

— did the Moses' strikes destroy the wholeness of foundation on which the kingdom of priest would flourish?

— did one act of disobedience and disbelief bring forth the flow of acts of idol–worship and other violations of the Law {*e.g., those described in the Books of Kings, Isaiah, and Jeremiah*}?

The end of this story is very sad: Aaron died on the top of Mount Or; then, the time of Moses' death came. As the Lord God commanded him, Moses claimed the Mount of Nabau and the Lord showed him the Promised Land, yet, Moses was not allowed to enter into it, because he disobeyed the word of God and did not sanctify Him among the people {*Numbers 20:23–29; Deuteronomy 31:14; 32:48–52; 34:1–5*}.

There was no more prophet like Moses whom the Lord knew face to face and spoke apparently (not in a visions or in sleep as to the other prophets), who was faithful in the house of the Lord, who has done great wonders and revealed the mighty hand before all Israel {*Numbers 12:5–8; Deuteronomy 34:10–12*}. Even so, for his disbelief and disobedience Moses never entered the beautiful land – the world promised by God, the world in which the holy nation was given the chance to emerge, to live according to the Law of God, to evolve, and to reach the zenith of wisdom, spiritual power, and happiness.

And I think of the worlds that are lost when disbelief in God and disobedience to God's commandments close the possible Futures, in which something good and beautiful was expecting those who believe, who dare to have the power to enter the new world…"

The original post in Folder Archive_2010, Page 1_January_March_2010

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End of Reprint
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Σ15 **Conscience** is the natural attribute of the soul–heart–mind: the sense–perception of the good/right and the evil/wrong based in the law of God, which defines the meanings of the good and the evil and the meaning of human nature.

The essence of conscience is the pursuit of good and avoidance of evil accomplished through the unity of coherent correlated interactions among the following elements, on which the mind, especially the faculty of deliberation, operates:

the knowledge of the good and the evil
↓ ↑
the ability to recognize the good and the evil within each thought, action, event
↓ ↑
the ability to apply this knowledge for evaluation of own thoughts, words, and deeds
↓ ↑
the ability to change self–perception and self–evaluation according to committed deeds
(e.g., the expression "the pangs of conscience" defines the inner discomfort
issuing from understanding of inadmissibility of own actions,
their incompatibility with the purposes of existence, or their negative evaluation by the others)
↓ ↑
the ability to change mental and physical states according to changes of self–evaluation
(e.g., development of mental disorders, addictions, diseases, suicide)

Conscience focuses the reason of man on the truth, therefore, on the main purposes for the sake of which a human being was created: accomplishment of the will of God – creation of the good. Right (clean, peaceful) conscience confirms that the mind still is a being created in the image and likeness of God.

Sometimes, conscience is identified with the heart that knows the truth – the knowledge with which man evaluates his thoughts, words, and actions; for instance, St. John the Apostle's words {1 John 3:19–21} lead to the inference that the heart's judgment diagnoses the action's compliance with the truth.

In other terms, it might be said that

1/ conscience is the controlling system that

a/ monitors evolution of the mind (development of the ability to create the good) and identifies the failure, which could start the processes of collapse
b/ either confirms compliance with the Law of God or identifies violation of the Law of God
c/ either rewards the mind with peace (the state identified as happiness) or devoid the mind of peace, and therefore, signalizes necessity of correction

2/ conscience is the security system that

a/ debilitates the evil mind and makes it unable of achieving the purposes
b/ intervenes with the mind's ability of survival
c/ triggers self–annihilation of the mind, which became incapable of creation of the good, inclined to evil, chose the works of the evil and, therefore, developed into the threat to well–being of other creations of God.

It is not possible to rebel against own conscience and to force it to change its conviction. The only way to remove conscience from own life is to silence it: to make it irrelevant by renouncing God, therefore, by transforming the inner self into the living dead – a material being living only by the matter and for the sake of the matter. Then, such lawless deeds as murder, deceit, injustice become the daily routine, and men turn themselves into the beasts incapable of three main interconnected virtues that define the human nature:

a/ comprehension of the words of God
↓ ↑
b/ righteousness
↓ ↑
c/ possession with wisdom, which secures survival of man and his establishments

Without these three components, man is worthless predator who is capable only of devouring other living beings: he is an embodiment of arch–evil/death and all his actions result in destruction and death; he has no value even for those who control him and, with the power of coercion, force him to act according to their interests.

Such a phenomenon explains the most widely used practice of corruption: silencing and re–programming the conscience, so the good is turned into the evil and the arch–evil is accepted as the highest good. The history provides plenty of examples how such re–programming is accomplished and what are the results (e.g., totalitarian states, oppressive regimes, religious hierarchies, political parties, criminal organizations, politicized religions, propaganda, ideologies of death).

Σ16 See ***The Mind***

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