On the Mystery

The first question is about the higher instance (HR) / Creator/ God:

1. Does HR exist or not?

1=Yes -> Theism, Deism, Gnosticism, Demon of Descartes, Matrix, Simulation...

1=No -> Materialism / Naturalism, Scientism, Magism

1=0 -> Skepticism, Agnosticism, I do not care

2. If 1=Yes, does HR deserve reverence, trust, love, devotion?

2=Yes -> Theism, Deism (some). Those are mystics, talking about the mystery.

Re-ligion is a mysterious connection between me and the God.

2=No -> All other.

 $2=0 \rightarrow None ?$

Mystery, Pro:

- 1. Laws of nature are <u>just right</u>: life-friendly, beautiful, effective and discoverable (Pythagorean argument).
- 2. Cosmic religious feeling was a condition of discoveries (Einstein).
- 3. Free will may be supported (free will).
- 4. Ethics and meaning of life are highly supported (Kant practical reason argument).
- 5. None of the fathers of science and great philosophers denied that, many expressed their mystic views; many poets and artists were religiously inspired, very few were anti-religious (sage argument).
- 6. Great civilizations were associated with religions and grown from religious seeds (Toynbee).
- 7. The worst crimes against humanity were committed by those who denied Mystery. The common death toll of Marxism and Nazism exceeds, by the most conservative estimation, 100 million; WWII has to be included. Both were culturally disastrous/devastating. Anti-religious teachings were never productive in history (atheist practice).
- 8. There would be nothing wrong to thank the Author if He did hot hear or even did not exist, while I would feel ashamed if I did not thank the existing and hearing Author of the world and my Heavenly Father (my gratitude argument, a modification of Pascal's wager).

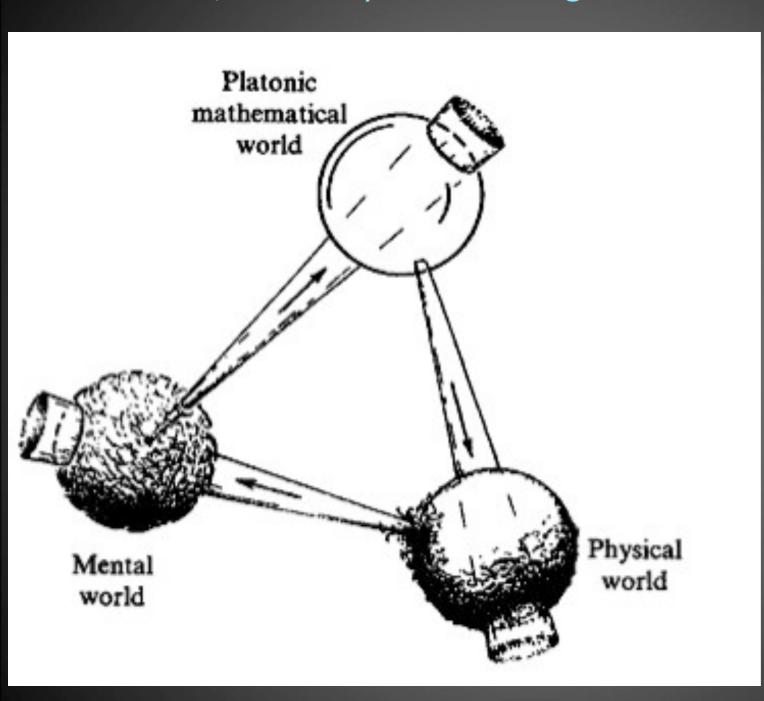
Mystery, Contra:

- 1. I cannot believe in that. It's too good to be true (wishful thinking argument).
- 2. There is too much pain and injustice in the world (pain and injustice, Ivan Karamazov).
- 3. All religions provoke hate crimes and freedom suppression (religious evil).
- 4. There are many contradicting religions, so they all are human inventions (religious contradictions).
- 5. Everything must be explained by the laws of nature (scientism).
- 6. God cannot explain the world, because then he has to be explained too (bad infinity of explanations)
- 7. Mysticism discourages science; God explains everything, so science is not needed (science demotivation).
- 8. Religion reduces pain, but provokes stagnation and spiritual slavery (the opium of the people, Marx).
- 9. I hate the idea that there is a mind extremely superior to mine. I hate to consider myself being obliged, being transparent and judged by HR (pride argument, Nietzsche).

It is up to me to decide, what to choose.

I am free; the conclusion is important.

Three Worlds, Three Mysteries of Roger Penrose





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