

Pollard (Chance & Providence)

Determinism (based on sci. causality) vs. divine providence.

1- Providence (ideas):

a) by way of intervention - N.G., bec. that places q-d & Nature in opposition to each other. N.G.: Nature can present w.o q-d.
→ unsatisfactory Sci. for.

b) anthropology: physical domain determining; human-providential (cf. Man made on animal-human). Difficulty: Sci. knows no justification to arbitrary divisions.

2- Sci.

- a) infinity nat. proc: 2^n alternative responses. Probability of occurrence. Statistics in place of certainty. (ex: Kussay, accident prediction, rates gene mutation)
- b) Quantum mechanics based on probability + indeterminacy as inherent in nature - Heisenberg. [ex: radium disintegr.]
- c) But in many cases (most quantum approx, identical w. classical mech. [class. is limited case of quantum] when all other possible alternatives have prob. rates $\rightarrow 0$. (This called "principle of correspondence").

d) This inherent complexity: chance, alternative, prob.

- a) primary & historical branch Sci - is Hist. not purely prob. prov.
- b) Nature: universe will have had different history.
- c) Hurdles - turning pt Hist.
- d) chance (sc-horiz.) & accident (vertical chance in random collisions) as feature of provid.

Miracle

- i) prob. actualized only w. lg. no. events - not indiv.
- j) but History does w. non-repetitive singular events - hence prob. irrelevant
- k) diff. bet. sc. time + hist. time (w. open future)
- l) Einsteinian Relativ. - T as 4th dim. - completely det. - window-shade analogy.
- m) uncertainty princ. introduced Hist T into Sc. T.
- n) Bible - exclusively concerns Hist T.
- o) Miracles (which do not violate sc. laws) are act of provid. in Hist. T. w. special category of significance

Freedom

- p) Paradox of freedom + providence - a real paradox
- q) Paradox as universal character, all fields thought
Ex: criminal law - Einstein's revolution in Phys.
- r) Bible comprehends both one view reality
Ex: Joseph's story
- s) in physics (result Heisenberg principle): Bohr Principle Complementarity
Ex: wave-particle of light + ~~subatomic~~ electrons etc [complementary aspects single reality];
- t) classical mechanics: me-to-me correspondence reality; world can be known. (photography analogy).
- u) Compl. psi-functions walked backwards novel distinction. world not knowable as is. (photog. lenses).
- v) other example compl.: Biol. (psycho-chem - vitalistic); Med (psycho-somatic); Hist (movements - great men); and - Freedom-Princ.; and how I-It.
- and - Science + Religion!