

A Feminine Theology For Islam and Catholicism

By Daniel Raphael, PhD

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A FEMININE THEOLOGY FOR ISLAM AND CATHOLICISM

A Feminine Theology for Islam and Catholicism

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Daniel Raphael, PhD

— *opus unius hominis vitae* —



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Introduction

We will know without any doubt there is no theologically legitimate basis for the mistreatment and neglect of women in any religious context, or any other context, when we understand the reasons The Creator created the Infinite Universe, finite mortal beings (us!), and the relationship It has with each of Its mortal children.

Here, the Divine Feminine becomes grounded in a feminine theology to become an enlivened part of creation. The popular phrase “The Divine Feminine” can be shown to emanate from the Creator Itself. The divinity of God is shared with the feminine as women were created by God with Its primary characteristics. Women have mind, will, self-determination, and the ability to create with just a thought. The Creator is nurturing, benevolent, and generous by Its nature and God created women with these same characteristics, all of which are prerequisites for responsible, ethical social behavior. ¹ This is the foundation for a God-centered social theology.

Explaining the above will require us to develop a logic-sequence that begins with a “Pre-Creation Theology” to explain why God created the Infinite Universe in the first place. [Those who wish to understand this in the context of spiritual metaphysics and sub-atomic particle physics may wish to examine the companion paper, 47.02.05 *Spiritual Metaphysics, The Quantum Foundations*, which is provided in the author’s Google website.]

<https://sites.google.com/view/danielraphael/free-downloads>

The basis for all monotheistic theologies begins with three tenets.

¹ Raphael, Daniel 2018
Making Sense of Ethics — A Unique, Unified Normative Theory of Ethics, Morality, and Values

THREE FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS —

1. **God exists.**
2. **There is only one God.**
3. **God is eternal.**

DERIVATIVE BELIEFS —

- A. **God is whole.**
- B. **God is complete.**
- C. **God is perfect.**
- D. **God created the Infinite Universe and Everything in It.**
- E. **God is all-powerful.**
- F. **God is pure will.**
- G. **God is spirit.**
- H. **God is all-knowing.**
- I. **God is present everywhere.**
- J. **God created “time.”**

These basic tenets are essential to understand the groundwork for a feminine theology for any religion — particularly for Catholic Christians and Muslims. Historically, God-centered theologies have generally excluded the feminine aspect of God’s relationship to Its mortal children. And this has caused a tremendous distraction to God-centered religious faiths, and to their members.

To have a holistically consistent God-centered religion that gives equal importance to women as it does to men requires us to logically and rationally explain the chain of events beginning *before the creation of the universe* to the present time. This is the most definitive place to start!

We will begin where The Creator began, before creation, before religions, and before prophets. Any theology that has its beginnings after creation has blind assumptions about God, God's situation after creation, the universe, and all that follows up to the era where traditional theologies

begin. These blind assumptions are the cause of the great difficulty contemporary Christians have in explaining contentious social, religious, moral, and ethical issues today. By beginning before creation we will leave no era unexamined and no religious issue unchallenged.

If by some way we were able to witness and observe all that took place before creation to the present time, the development of the universe and God's actions and lack thereof would make sense to us. But because we are latecomers in the universe (scientists tell us that we are about 13 billion years late!), we do not have any record of what actually occurred. Because of that, we must ask questions that place us in those moments and then strive to answer them, much as Detective Sherlock Holmes would do to unravel a complicated case. Some questions will yield great wealth of knowledge while others will yield little. The important thing is to ask questions and strive to answer them.

Let us begin by asking a series of important questions.

Why did The Creator create the universe if The Creator was complete and whole before creation?

What does the universe give God that God could not get without it?

Is there a limit and, if so, what is it that limits The Creator's ability to experience the universe?

Why did The Creator create imperfect, short-lived, material human beings?

What is the role of individuals in their relationship to The Creator and the reasons God created them and the universe?

What is God's relationship to the universe?

Am I supposed to take the creation of the universe personally?

What is God's relationship to me?

What is my relationship to God?

What is my relationship to the universe?

Is there some sort of agenda or purpose for my life?

Does God have a plan for my life? If so, what is it?!

These may sound like very weighty and tedious questions to answer, but they are necessary to help us understand what our existence in the universe is all about: Existence is a personal experience for The Creator

and for The Creator's human children. It becomes even more personal and intimate when we consciously invite The Creator to share in our experiences of living.



1

Understanding the Nature of God

All religions are based on certain beliefs that cannot be proven. We simply accept them as true. Being beliefs, they are what separate the secular from the non-secular. No amount of empiricism will ever prove there isn't a God or that It didn't create the Infinite Universe.

The following beliefs provide the bedrock upon which God-centered religions are built, and provide the matrix for the holism of God-centered religions. It is upon this bedrock that the foundations of a Pre-Creation Theology and a Loving-god Theology are built, with both providing the structure for the oneness of all God-centered religions.

THREE FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS —

1. **God exists.**
2. **There is only one God.**
3. **God is eternal.**

DERIVATIVE BELIEFS —

- A. **God is whole.**
- B. **God is complete.**
- C. **God is perfect.**
- D. **God created the Infinite Universe and Everything in It.**
- E. **God is all-powerful.**
- F. **God is pure will.**
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EXPANSION OF THE THREE FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS —

1. God exists.

God's existence and presence are not dependent upon those who conceive of It. God is, exists, and is universally present whether people think of God as existing or not. God does not exist solely because people think of God.

Centuries ago several philosophers came to a conclusion that if people *thought* of God, God could exist, and that if they did not think of God, then God would not exist. Both statements are silly because if that were the case, then the universe could not have come into existence until after God was thought of. So, we say God's existence and presence are not dependent upon those who conceive of It.

2. There is only one God — God is without gender.

There is only one God. God was not brought into existence by any other power or being. God has no gender or reproductive system, either to produce or create other beings or as a remnant of Its existence. God, therefore, is neither "he" nor "she," but more accurately an "it," an "it" that more perfectly combines the attributes of father and mother without the biological and social hassles of hormones and sex organs. In the text, using "He," "Him," and "His" are used only when they involve Jesus' relationship to God; and when the discussion involves the Apostle Paul. The male gender pronouns are metaphors that Jesus used intentionally so that we could understand our personal relationship with our Creator-parent.

3. God is eternal — God existed before creation.

We can say this as a fact, dependent upon the third original belief statement, "God is eternal." Before creation, God existed in the Eternal NOW, when there was no "when," where there was no "where." God existed in the nothingness that was only God — all undeveloped potential — and that leads us to a very ponderable situation. When we think of a state of existence before creation, we must realize that there was NOTHING. Nothing, except God.

It boggles the mind, doesn't it, to think that before time there was absolutely nothing: no universe, no galaxies, no stars, no sun, no planets, no moon, and no air. Nothing, not even time or space. There was no expanse of the universe. No then, no now, no future. No place, no here, no there. Only God. Only God in the Eternal NOW, in the Eternal HERE. All the potential of the universe existed in God — the totality of all potential that would be material and invisible, temporal and spiritual, existent and undeveloped potential.

‡ **Eternal means without beginning or end. It is outside the dimension of time.** Infinite, on the other hand, means a beginning with no ending and exists as an infinite unfolding of developments that we all “time.” ²

DERIVATIVE BELIEFS —

A. God is whole.

The universe is a form of God's expression, yet God is complete without the universe. Creating the universe did not take anything from God. Just as thinking does not take anything from us, will and creation do not take anything from God. God was whole before creation and is even now whole. God is intact and undivided. God is not in need of anything to be or to become whole.

B. God is complete.

That is, God is not in need of anything, anyone, or any state of being to sustain Its existence. There is no symbiotic relationship between God and that which God created for God to be complete. Further, God is not flawed and has no need to prey upon that which God brought into existence. God is self-sustaining in sole existence.

² Time is thoroughly explained in the author's paper *Quantum Spiritual Metaphysics*. In essence, time does not exist. It is an invention of humans to measure the passage of events. In the final analysis of time, there is only the Eternal Now, the Eternal Now where God is present. And because It is eternal, God is always present ... now!

See author's bio for URL link for free PDF downloads.

C. God is perfect.

We know this is so from several perspectives. God exists in eternity. If God were not perfect, God would be imperfect, flawed, and susceptible to degeneration and eventual death. God would not exist. The universe would not exist.

Implicit in the statement, "God is eternal," is that God is perfect. Though the three statements, "God is whole," "God is complete," and "God is perfect," are closely related, the first two were presented first to lead our logic to the point where we understand that God is perfect, too. All have their proofs within our original three statements of belief.

Further, we logically know that since God exists in eternity, outside of time, God would be aware of the beginning of the universe and any possible "endings" of it. Knowing this, God would have been aware of any flaws before they began and would have eliminated any flawed processes. Time-bound creatures do not have this eternal advantage to know and feel with assurance that there are no flaws in the function of the universe.

Human observations of the universe are very limited and our recorded history of it is very, very brief. However, because the universe is so huge and so old, if there were any mechanical or physical flaws inherent in its design, they would have developed over the eons and be in evidence around us.

Rather than chaos, we see order and patterns in the universe. And it is self-organizing and self-perpetuating in its unfolding. What we see is benevolent, humane, and even magnanimous when we appreciate the abundance around us. There is beauty in the appearance of a confusion of evidence. Picture a colorful butterfly in the warm sun — iridescent segments on the wings of a creature that appears to float effortlessly in the air and on the tides of breezes — spectacular, incredibly beautiful, and good.

The terms "good" and "beauty" are our interpretations and conclusions of what we see in the universe. That is, we see the universe and how it operates, and perceive it as a "good" place to live, with "beautiful" experiences around us. If the universe were not this way, we would as easily say that the universe is cruel and ugly. What we are seeing on the grand scale of the Infinite Universe is self-organizing, self-sustaining, self-perpetuating, benevolent and "good." Processes such as these, which continue into infinity or which originate in eternity, must, then, be perfect.

If God were not perfect, the universe would exhibit that imperfection and it would pervade all creation.

The universe is the canvas of God's artwork. We know the ability and depth of an artist by what he or she produces, yet we do not know what unfathomed and unproduced works yet lie within that artist's creativity. So, too, with God, as far as we can see of the universe. It is beautiful. It works. It is without evidence of inherent self-defeating flaws. This is the outward evidence of God. It is the outward evidence of what God is capable. Yet, the universe does not express all the capability of God's potential.

With God's unlimited power, existence outside the confines of time, and an unlimited creative potential, The Creator appears to have only begun to express Itself!

D. God created the Infinite Universe and Everything in It.

It does not matter whether it was created by fiat in 6 days or by evolution over the eons. It does not seem relevant to know whether God created the universe in 6 billionths of a second, 6 days, or 60 billion years. Creation of the universe is not a closed-end event, but continues on and is a timeless phenomenon.

From our first statement of belief, "God exists," and from our observation of the universe around us, we draw the belief-conclusion that God created the universe. That is, we believe in God. We believe the universe exists. We believe God created all of it, including all the spiritual beings on all spiritual planes; all physical and material aspects known and unknown to us; and all other aspects of the four dimensions and all other dimensions known and unknown to us.

E. God is all-powerful.

From God The Creator, all was created. All energy before creation was contained in the Creator's being, and God's power was not diminished one erg by bringing creation into existence. (An erg is far less energy than is required to snap your finger and thumb together.) Just as one thought, or the effort to will a thought, does not diminish our power and energy,

God's power and energy was not diminished by the act of Creation or any later acts of will.

Though the physical universe is the most immediate and immense manifestation of energy visibly evident to us, physical objects are only a small portion of the total sum of energy that exists in the universe. There exist many forms of non-visible energy that we have no way of measuring. Astrophysicists tell us there are vast cubic light years of dark energy and great tenuous clouds of nearly invisible hydrogen. How many subatomic particles are there in the universe? And how many galaxies would they make? Very possibly, there are whole galaxies of invisible forms of energy. It is apparent that energy is everywhere and fills all of what we call "empty" space. ³

And God created it all! That was and is the most powerful act ever. It follows, then, that God is all-powerful, and can do anything God *wills* to do that is consistent with Its nature. We do not know of any limit to God's capability, except as God wills to limit Itself. We can say, therefore, that God is all-powerful and without limit as to what God can do.

Just as an architect and contractor can conceive of and build a home or subdivision, those acts of construction do not diminish their creative potential. Architects can still conceive of many more homes and subdivisions. As humans, the only limitation to what we can bring into being is whether we have the resources and time to build what we conceive. If we had the unlimited resources and unlimited time, as God has, and an infinite expanse of three-dimensional space, we too could build houses until we died. But God, who exists outside of the dimension of time, has no such limitation. God's only limitation is that which God places upon Its will. God is therefore unlimited in power.

F. God is pure will.

Just as we have *will*, so does God. Our will has energy that emanates from within us, yet it is without form. Many aspects of ourselves exist without form, yet we *know* with certainty they exist. God is a fully developed being and has no need of form in the physical sense, but exists as a

³ *ibid.*

spiritual being. In order to create the universe, God must be pure will and without form.

The universe is an expression of God, an expression of God's will. Looking out upon the universe, what we see is an impressive, grand, and generous experience. Looking upon the universe in this world, whether we see clouds, flowers, or personalities, is also a generous experience. Looking within DNA molecules, again viewing what little we can, and understanding even less, we are overwhelmed by the care and thoughtfulness of these creations and developments of the original creation. These narrow views are but small fragments of the magnificent and thoughtful expressions of the nature of God. If we could view all dimensions of time and all the facets of physical and spiritual creation at once, how would we feel? Surely, we would be filled with awe and great humility to be a part of this creation.

We are extensions of God's power when we will to create. Here, at this juncture of our existence, we come face to face with the spiritual responsibilities of our will to create: to treat, care, and nurture God's manifold creation, including our planet, Earth, as well as we care and nurture the products of our own creation, whether a painting, a garden, a child, a house design, or a poem. Doing so, we create sacred relationships with all else around us, whether with our planet Earth or with other people. Our attitude is the same for both. We are in awe of what is created; we feel immensely humble in comparison to what God has created; and we are immensely humble for being able to create, and for what we have created.

Whether male or female, our will to create is an exact image of God's will to create with the same proportional capability of being a creator. The implications of this statement are truly profound as they apply to our sacred relationship to this planet and each individual regardless of their gender. That potential capability exists within each of us. We can more fully unlock that potential when our beliefs about ourselves are in full alignment with God's true nature. Then we can see God's true nature in us — our true nature! This is the source of the "Divine Feminine."

In the moments just prior to creating something, what existed before we *willed* to create? Nothing. By examining the non-event before creation

we can gain a better idea of what God's situation was like before God willed the universe into existence.

How can anyone explain how the universe came into existence? Probably the best we can do is draw a parallel between God willing the creation of the universe into existence and us willing one of our thoughts into existence. There exist no equivalents to measure the energy that was necessary to bring the universe into existence, or the energy to will the creation of one of our thoughts. To think is the easiest and most effortless act of creativity, and I suspect that God created the universe as easily as having a thought. This parallel provides us with a fairly accurate estimate of the relative difference of magnitude between our power and authority, and God's. As we explore the idea of an unlimited, all-powerful, eternal, all-knowing being, The Creator and sustainer of the Grand Universe, the more interesting and complete our concepts and understanding of God will become. Remember, God was and is in sacred relationship with Itself, and extends that sacred relationship to the universe and to each every one of us. all of its inhabitants.

G. God is spirit.

Because God was not created and did not evolve, God does not have a body. God is without form. Without form and without substance, God is pure spirit. God is spirit that has *will* and is capable of creation and much more. Without form, God can *will* to be anywhere as a whole or as the essence of Itself.

H. God is all-knowing.

God encompasses the sum of all existent knowledge. Being in the Eternal NOW of the past, present, and potential future, and able to be everywhere at once, God is aware of all. God knows everything. Being outside the continuum of time, God knows everything whether in time or out of time, in space or out of space, temporal or spiritual. God created the universe and understands and knows the universe, its existence, and its operation. God knows all there is to know of the *existent* universe.

I. God is present everywhere.

That is, God can be in one location, or two, or the extent of all creation at once. God is everywhere God *wills* to be. God, being in the Eternal NOW, can be anywhere or everywhere at once. Because God lives in the Eternal NOW outside of time, God can be present anywhere. If it doesn't take any time to go anywhere, the Creator can be everywhere at once!

J. God created "time."

When God created the universe, the four dimensions were created. Time is the starting point of chronology, sequences of events, developmental initiations, and the infinite perspective. We say, "in the beginning," this is when time began. "Time" is the word we use to define that series of developments. "Time" is a description for the sequence of events that follow one right after another. The word "time" is the objectification of that ongoing series and sequences of events. "Time" does not exist. You cannot buy time. You cannot bottle up time and save it.

Because God created the temporal dimension of time, God existed before time. A temporal universe offers God a means of understanding the process of evolution of moving from imperfection to perfection. Because God is perfect, God created the Infinite Universe as a means for understanding that which is not God, that which is not perfect. Our life and living provides God with the understanding of the process of becoming perfect where we, in the eventuality of all time, can emulate God's perfection.

Having created time, God can function within, or outside, the dimension of time and the universe. The Creator's usual habitat is outside the dimension of time, since time is limiting and linear. Since God exists in eternity, a place with no time, with no past or future, God's presence exists in the Eternal NOW. And we are privileged to have as our infinite guest and guide, that ethereal essence of the Presence of God.



2

Questions and Answers about God and Creation

There are ultimate, universal realities that are eternally existent: 1) God exists; 2) God is love; 3) you are truly important to The Creator. Your existence is precious to God, and you are cherished *every* moment of your life. What this means is that God already has a personal and intimate relationship with you. God truly loves you, for only *through you* can God gain the experience of existence as a process of living and becoming perfect.

God does not withhold Its love from anyone. It is equal for every mortal being whether they are male or female. For God, the experiences It gains from men or women is equal. God does not differentiate between the genders, and sets a universal, eternal model of oneness for everyone, which is the basis for a equitable feminine and masculine theology for every religion.

God cares for you and has provided a generous universe to support and assist you individually to have a meaningful and fulfilling life. There is no positive benefit for God when you suffer the harsh difficulties of life, but only when you overcome those difficulties with positive, constructive, and loving effort. Though you may challenge this eternal fact, that is the underlying reality of God's relationship to you and to each of us.

1. Why did The Creator create the universe?

God created the universe for similar reasons that you go on vacations by yourself, and sometimes with others. You enjoy a personal experience. You enjoy getting to know who you are in larger terms. You gain experience in doing so and learn more about yourself. In that way, it probably was not much different for The Creator than it is for us. But, for The Creator, that situation is in other ways profoundly vast and eternally different.

First, you, as a women, have become aware that you want an experience that is broader than what you have been having. Second, you think about what it is you'd like to do and make plans. And third, you actually do something to bring that new experience into existence. It is reasonable that God was in much the same situation before creation. Before creation, there was just God, only God – God alone. God had not yet expressed Itself as The Creator.

2. What attribute did God have to want to create the universe?

In the situation before creation, God could only experience Itself by being conscious of Itself. God had *consciousness*. Consciousness is the essential common attribute of God and us! Consciousness is thinking and wondering about our existence and experiences. Being conscious expands our ability to live consciously, to experience more of life and living. To experience more than consciousness, God had to *express* Itself. Doing so, God created the universe and became "The Creator."

Without the first step, consciousness of the undeveloped potential that lies within each of us, we cannot become more than we are, or express ourselves in ways that fulfill all the potential that lies within us, just as God did. Consciousness is a God-like attribute that each of us possess. Consciousness leads us to the awareness that we have options and choices for living when we have the equal opportunity to express that potential.

Women of the two most powerful religions in the world are denied the opportunity to express the potential within themselves, simply because of their gender. Because the God Presence in God's gift to everyone, limiting the potential of women to experience their full potential in worship to God limits God's ability to experience the blooming of the full potential within those women.

Our journey of life is very similar to what God must have experienced before creation – an awakening awareness of needing to experience more of ourselves. The next step is to *choose to express* our will to bring our undeveloped potential into existence – and then experience and enjoy what we have created, ...even if that is a vacation.

We can surmise that the first experience of the universe was The Creator's awareness of Itself as solely alone without extension into any dimension

beyond Itself. From this position, The Creator expressed Its innate capability — to create. And from this thought sprang the expanding universe, as we see and experience it today.

Surely, The Creator must have enjoyed watching the universe unfold, develop, and expand. Yet, a difficulty became apparent, if we can call it that. God existed and enjoyed the *finite* universe from the "outside" looking in. For us, it would be much like being in an airplane looking out the window. You are inside and everything else is outside. The only thing you can experience is what is inside the airplane. To experience the sky, you would have to become a bird.

3. What does the universe provide that The Creator could not get without it?

The creation of the universe gave The Creator the *experience* of expressing Its potential to create. And, it gave The Creator the *experience* of creating.

Of all that existed and now exists in the universe, the one thing truly new that is added to the universe is experiences of those who live in it. Look at it this way: if The Creator knows all there is to know, nothing would be new to know. As you probably realize, The Creator is a curious being, a characteristic of people "created in God's image" on all planets. If you are curious, you too will wonder about your life and ask, "Is this all there is?"

Do you see that simple point? Before creation, God had no way of experiencing, beyond self-awareness. God's existence was neither dead nor alive. The Creator was not dead for it had not lived. The Creator existed but was not living. In such a situation, you would ask, "Is this all there is?" The Creator probably did, too, and in less than an instant the totality of all-potential of a dimensional universe sprang into existence and will continue to expand into the Infinite Ages.

4. Once the physical universe was created, did this new relationship help The Creator experience Itself?

In that instant immediately following the initiation of Creation, which you would estimate at less than a nanosecond, God knew all that could be known about Its relationship to the dimensional universe and the totality of the universe that would come into being. All matters of the

dimensional universe are predictable when you know all the laws of physics and you are also the "Grand Absolute Actuary" of the universe. Perhaps an overly developed metaphor is that the dimensional universe, devoid of sentient beings, is a grand, four-dimensional billiard table that is not limited by gravity, other than that which emanates from the center of the physical universe, and by the rotational motion of the whole of the universe.

In that moment, God knew that to experience the universe in a more intimate relationship it would be necessary to exist simultaneously *as an experiential being inside the dimensional universe*, as well as being outside of time and the dimensional universe as the Eternal Creator in Paradise. Doing so, to continue the metaphor, God could simultaneously enjoy the experience of flying as a bird in the clouds, while still being "inside the air-plane," i.e., the eternal universe, Paradise.

Although The Creator could observe all that was existent within the universe, God was, nonetheless, separate and apart from it. God resides in the Eternal Now of Paradise (without dimension or time), while the physical universe exists in time as a finite, developmental, material presence.

The physical universe and its three dimensions provide measurable boundaries, while the fourth dimension, time, provides a way of measuring the process of existence, i.e., living. Living is a process of experiencing all that is around us from one development to another, as events come and go. Without the universe, without some expressed form or manifestation of The Eternal Creator's potential The Creator would have no process of existence to experience Itself and know Itself. The process of existence is what we call living; living provides experience for knowing ourselves. And God in us provides God with the experience of the process living.

While God The Creator encompasses all *existent* knowledge, even the omniscient God, the One who knows all, cannot know that which has not taken place, i.e., God cannot know that which does not exist. The future is predicated upon the present and what occurs in the present. The decisions we make today will affect the rest of our lives. If no one made any new decisions, the future would not change. You see, the future is predictable but only if no changes are made in the present. Any decisions

and actions that are taken today cause the future to become different. Think of it in terms of making a cake. Mix the ingredients together and pour the batter into a pan. If the batter is not placed in the oven, it will remain the same almost indefinitely. But, put the pan of batter into the oven, and the future of the batter changes. Soon you have cake! The actions taken thirty minutes earlier changed the outcome.

5. Why did The Creator create imperfect beings who would make errors?

The answer is rather simple. Without imperfection, there is no learning from experience, no learning to overcome problems and to expand our intelligence. Because God is not material, has no dimensions, and exists outside of the finite physical universe, the element that was needed for God to experience the process of living was an extension of Itself *within* people who would live within the Infinite Universe. This extension is an ethereal wisp of God's Consciousness — something very distinct and identifiable of God in every aspect. Some people call this fragment "the Presence of God," "the Kingdom of God," "the Father Fragment," or the "Holy Spirit." Because the word "father" excludes the feminine gender, God The Creator will be referred to as the "Presence of God" in the rest of the book. It is through the Presence of God in each of us that The Creator personally experiences the universe as a *process of existence – living*. The Presence of God resides in us and experiences living through us!

We have all the necessary attributes of God that make this possible. Consider your own being. You are innately *curious*. You are also invested with *self-will*, will that is totally supported and guided by your own *intelligence, wisdom, and spontaneous insights*. Your will expresses in ways that are truly God-like, many of which you have only partially explored.

All the attributes of The Creator are primary to our being like The Creator. Yet, the attribute that is foundational to the development of our conscious, co-creative relationship with the Presence of God is the attribute that is foundational to God: *consciousness*. Our consciousness is the frontier where we become aware that we are not alone, but are accompanied by "the other" who travels with us in our life's course. The ethereal wisp of God's Consciousness in us, and our own consciousness provides the

window and doorway for a conscious and intimately personal relationship between God and us!

Though you have a finite beginning, you are given the possibility of an infinite life. You can live into the future for as long as The Creator will, if you make that choice and act on it. You have the innate capacity to learn, to grow, and to guide the evolution of your own spiritual development, which is inherent with the ascendant spiritual career. Lastly, you have choice of all that is in you and surrounding you, notwithstanding congenital physical and mental problems of some individuals.

Primary to our development is our ability to be self-aware — *consciousness*. When we are self-aware, we begin to question our existence, probably as God did before the universe was created. Only when we question our existence, and become aware of ourselves as having the God-like abilities to choose, decide, and act to change our lives, can we truly, consciously experience life as a conscious process of living. Until then, we will be dependent upon what the world and what the universe dishes out to us.

Only through the willing participation of imperfect humans, who aspire and strive toward perfection of being, while interacting with all aspects of the universe and each other, can The Creator experience the process of what it is like to *become* perfect. God has never had that experience! God was and is eternally perfect, but to learn what it is like to *become perfect* is radically different.

Look at it this way: as a child you looked at yourself and knew yourself as who you were, not knowing any differently. But through your curiosity and your desire for an easier and more fulfilling life, you began to explore your being and to express its potential. Through experience and interacting with life and all its challenges, you became aware of who you were as fulfilled and unfulfilled potential. So, too, it was the same for God The Creator.

The joy of God's perfection of being can only be achieved and understood through the process of living from imperfection to perfection, if we accept the challenge. God can only experience this through us! And though this may take billions of years involving trillions upon trillions of ordinary people and created beings over the span of an immense dimensional universe that continues to expand, there is no necessity to hurry the

process, but to enjoy it — both for all of us who engage the challenge and for God The Creator, and all Its helpers. No one loses, as it is to every creature's benefit to win, if you wish to put it into a win-lose context.

If you are a women and a member of a religion that limits the expression of your innate potential and God's desire for you to become perfect, then who do you follow? What do you become with that limitation?

Only through imperfect beings, who have total freedom and total responsibility for their lives through the choices they make as they wrest a living in each moment, could The Creator experience existence AS a personal process of living. If you are denied that freedom to make choices that have the potential to expand and develop your potential, then God is also denied the potential experience of your self-exploration of becoming.

Only through the most imperfect of beings who choose to become perfect as God could The Creator experience the process of becoming perfect — and only through those people who make decisions to survive, then perpetuate their survival, learn, gain experience, and make wiser and wiser decisions to create a more profound life. We learn to live in harmony with others, then with our planet, and then the universe. Some do not succeed, but only because they consciously decide not to continue, which is unfortunate but wholly their choice.

You can see then that life has purpose but only you can give it meaning. The purpose of life is to live and grow. The meaning you give it is your own life's expression of how you live your life to the fullness of your potential.

6. Why is our imperfection important to The Creator?

Almost immediately after the creation of the dimensional universe, God could predict all that could be known about the universe, even into the ageless infinity of the future. Though God knew all, God could not experience a relationship with Itself, or know Itself other than as The Creator in all of Its perfection. The creation of material beings who would live on habitable worlds was initiated, whereupon began the "seeding" of the universe with the Presence of God in each individual.

The Presence of God contains all of the attributes of The Creator to promote growth and the eventual development of attributes of God-like qualities in the lives of material beings in the dimensional universe. Thus, The Creator could participate in the settling and development of the universe *not only through but also in and with* those individuals. The investment of so many God-potential attributes provides us with an ever-expanding potential. This, too, is necessary for God to experience the process of becoming perfect through our imperfection as we approach perfection through the expression of all of our potential capabilities.

This plan could only provide results approaching perfection if humans were in many ways created in The Creator's image with many of Its attributes inherent in their being, with total freedom of will, and total responsibility for their will and their actions, similar to The Creator. That is why The Creator did not create automatons or perfect beings for this task, but imperfect beings. Is this not an ingenious solution and absolute paradox of sorts? The Creator did not create the feminine gender as automatons, but thinking partners with their masculine counterparts. Neither were created as less than the other, and neither subservient to the other. Each is equal, the perfect plan expressed by the Creator for all of Its mortal children.

Reasonably, the all-knowing Eternal Creator was curious enough about a personal relationship with Itself that It brought into existence short-lived, unknowing, and imperfect material beings to assist in that pursuit, and is loving enough to share it with us. By doing so The Creator also created an infinite and loving personal relationship with each of us. Each of us is personally needed, wanted, and loved by The Creator as though we were the only person in the universe that God loved. The relationship of The Creator with Itself is oneness, wholeness, and complete eternal love of self. In order for God to *experience* and enjoy this relationship, God extended that relationship to each of us, and we get to enjoy the benefits as our own. Take heart! God enjoys you, and me, and every person. And we can best support that relationship when we strive to attune our lives to God's — as creators of oneness, wholeness, and unselfish love of self and others.

The benefits for both partners in this relationship are similar. The Creator receives the experience of living through the lives of each person, totally at risk that he or she may never aspire, let alone strive, to become like The

Creator. We receive the opportunity to use all of these attributes as a finite creator to make decisions and take actions that will propel us along an infinite spiritual journey of life that will never end even after we are in the very presence of The Creator in Paradise. Then we will reside in eternity, in Paradise, with God as active, co-creative partners ready to serve God and those who are still on their ascendant journey.

This is neither a predatory nor vicarious relationship for either partner on this journey, but one that is highly beneficial and personal to both. The Presence of God is a guide, much like a pilot on a ship who guides the ship into safe harbor when the captain (your will, in this case) relinquishes control of the ship (your life) to the pilot. When we offer full cooperation to the Presence of God, we have engaged the journey with the most possible benefit to each of us.

7. Does God control everything?

Surely not, for that would be far less than The Creator's profound generosity. God has no need to control us, as that would limit God's ability to experience the universe through us. We are effectively controlled by our material nature and the decisions we make. While our material nature limits us, our spiritual nature provides us with a means of liberation through the use of our will and the decisions we make. Thus, we have the capacity to liberate ourselves when we make decisions that contribute to the expression of our God-like attributes. There is a balance at work: While our material limitations provide for stability at the expense of progress, our spirit alliance liberates us from the physical level. Individually, as we gain universal insights and begin to comprehend the cosmic aspects and responsibilities of our decisions, we become more and more stabilized as a part of the larger universe. Doing so, we have less and less need for a material body to stabilize our reckless nature.

The stability of our life's course is important because our biological evolution has provided us with an immense lack of self-restraint. On one hand, that can be very detrimental to our finite existence, yet, on the other hand, it provides us with an immense capacity to try anything, and everything, to grow. Individually, it allows us to have a tremendous number of experiences from which we can gain vast treasures of wisdom, provided we use our mind to examine those experiences for wisdom. And because of the energetic nature of our mind, this wisdom is

imprinted and passed on epigenetically to others through the universal mind function of the Infinite Spirit that connects everyone on our planet. The wisdom we gain after we beget children is not lost but passed on through this energetic circuit.

8. What was God's intention in creating other creative beings?

God's intention for creating all of the other creative beings, and humans, too, was to share the wealth and participate in the joy, love, and the "fun" of creating. It is much like parents watching their children and neighbor children play in a large park or playground. For the parent, it is both a vicarious thrill and one of great personal pleasure to experience. For God, there is the pleasure of being in and with each child and parent as they experience their world, themselves, and each other. God is available to each of us as the Presence of God and gets to enjoy our creativity without overbearing our consciousness.

God is omnificent, but God has chosen not to be omnipotent concerning Its mortal children who have self-will. The Creator has chosen to share the joy of creating and doing what needs to be done in a large universe with many others. Look around you. Do you see only one type of flower, one animal, one plant, and one type of body of water? What you see is an abundance of everything around you. Our Creator is generous, vastly generous, and is not selfish with anything. Even you can create. Be assured that it delights your Creator to share Its creative abilities with many creatures. In order to fully create using the potential that lies within each person, you must be free of limitation, and you must be free to express your inner potential with every opportunity that is in alignment with God's will through you. No limitations!

There is one order of creative beings called "Creator Sons." They create similarly as The Creator and they have created vast arrays of worlds, stars, systems, and whole galaxies of stars and systems. What The Creator put in motion, however, was original and all else flows from that event to Creator Sons, and to you.

9. Does creation continue?

Yes. Is new energy created? Yes. The original expansion of the Infinite Universe continues to be fed by the eternal center of the universe, never ending. Creation continues.

Our scientists look in the heavens and witness the birthing of stars from clouds of gasses, gasses that were formed from free atoms and molecules, and these having been formed from one of the five states of quantum particles. For scientists and yourself, these formations of stars appear to come from nothingness, and so creation is seen to continue. When you are more fully aware of material formation, you will know that this is simply one evolutionary step of many – from nothingness through the super novae explosions that disseminate material far and wide that becomes you.

Creation, from our perspective, is the manipulation of universe energy to form new phenomena. While The Creator controls universe energy, The Creator generously encourages many beings to manipulate that energy.

10. Are we alone in the universe?

There are far more creatures in this large universe than just humans on our planet and on other planets. There are beings that God created. They were not born as humans are.

Angels, for example, are God's children of light. They are messengers, though message carrying is an activity they do only occasionally. They work for God in the long chain of delegation of universe organization. We do, too, when we have decided that is what we want to do for the duration of our infinite existence. And in doing so, we not only do God's will but learn, grow, develop, and evolve to become more. Doing for us is the mechanism of learning how the universe works, how to work in harmony with the flow of the universe, which some call Tao.

When we live this way, doing, growing, and being in harmony and alignment with the flow of the universe, becomes a way of life. It can be named any name you want, but it is the way that leads to God. Angels help us learn this first by guiding us into learning situations that support our universe path of growth.

11. Do angels guide us into difficult situations?

Yes, but only when we have not learned our lessons earlier and have previously dedicated our will to do God's will. When we make right decisions that are qualified by being moral, ethical, and of loving service, answers come forward letting the flow of good order, alignment, and harmony with the *ALL* flow to us. We let it flow through us by making right decisions followed by actions that follow through on those decisions.

Intentions precede decisions and actions. Intentions, contrary to popular opinion, count for something when they are made sincerely. In and of themselves, intentions are neither "bad" nor "good." Intentions only point to a desired and preferred course of action. They are preliminary to making decisions and preliminary to taking action. Intentions are inherent in anything that is done, even by The Creator. If you intend to make a cooked meal to your neighbor who is ill, but your employer asks you to stay late at work and you are not able to cook that meal, that does not indicate that you have done anything wrong. But in fact, your good intention is an indicator of your loving and generous nature.

12. If God knows everything and is all-powerful, doesn't that mean that our lives are a part of God's plan for the universe and that the course of our lives is predestined?

As The Creator living outside of time, in eternity that is timeless, God has an awareness, omniscience, of all that exists and happens. Yet, foreknowledge of events does not mean that what occurs is *foreordained*. Just as God has free will, we have free will, too. It is free and unfettered by any set course.

Though God has given a predestined plan of life to everyone, how we live out that plan is totally up to us. Although it is a predestined plan, does not mean that we are *foreordained* to follow it. God has no need or desire to interfere in our free-will decisions. As the way of the universe is the flow of harmony, God granted each person the freedom to make decisions to become a part of that harmony, or not, and ultimately totally responsible for the exercise of our free will decision-making.

13. If God doesn't control everything and we have creative powers similar to God, why are we so incapable?

We are so incapable because we are so immature in our awareness of the consequences of our thoughts, decisions, and actions. It is our material

nature that limits us. Fortunately, we are in possession of a mind to make rational decisions to remain as we are, grow, or regress. By the use of our mind mechanism we can enrich and develop our spirit-potential, or not. Our spirit-potential is that new, budding, and emerging spirit-being that can become fully existent after our material death. Developing it in this lifetime helps us be a part of the flow of the universe and the advancement of our spiritual ascendant career after our death. Doing so, we become capable members, partners, in the universe.

14. Does this mean that the whole race of humanity becomes more and more mature as each individual does?

Yes, and to the contrary, too. The consciousness of genocidal warfare that has spread among our kind is to the contrary and now infects most of our species. Positive, constructive decisions contribute to the maturity of our species, while negative, destructive decisions do not. Using wisdom is the application of past constructive experience, yet even destructive experiences can contribute to wisdom. Destructive, past experiences give us the wisdom to say, "Not this way!" while positive experiences give us the wisdom to say, "This way!" It is still a matter of individual mind-decision. Each decision in our life is truly one that contributes or tears down our life and others.

For women who are obligated to their religion and who are unable to consciously and voluntarily contribute to the decision-making of their family, community, or to humanity, God is ignored as being involved in the experience of these women to explore their innate potential individually and as it would contribute to their family, community, and humanity.

15. If genocide, for example, is spreading won't the planet eventually be lost due to destructive imprinting on human consciousness?

Yes, except for new spiritual efforts to give us a broader spectrum of choices for decisions.

16. Does this mean that there is more "outside" spiritual influence at work on our planet to help guide its development toward the flow of the Universe?

Yes. Larger cosmic insights are more readily available to each of us so we can make effective contributions to our own individual growth and that of humankind. This is not a "quick fix" or patchwork repair but a remedial program of very long duration so that the wisdom of more right decisions by individuals becomes invested in the consciousness of our species.

This influence became more evident in the late 1980s when the Berlin Wall came down, dictatorships were overturned, and apartheid in South Africa came apart. Many more positive influences have come into being, such as the many angel incidents, angel television shows, books on developing our inner awareness, the development of incredible advances in communications technologies, global commerce, and finance, all of which help tie our basket of nations together more closely and interrelatedly. Yet, influencing the course of humankind and advancing the mechanisms of societal evolution do not abrogate or violate in any way the self-will decision-sovereignty of individuals, but aids all to make more globally and cosmically responsible decisions. Everybody wins.

17. Are illnesses, genetic flaws, and physical, mental, and emotional degeneration a part of God's plan for us?

Although God The Creator is ultimately responsible for the consequences that creation set into motion, our bodies are susceptible to damage by processes that are also a part of creation. At the grossest level, we can fall down and break bones, pulverize muscle tissue, snap tendons, and crush ligaments. At the most definitive level, chromosomes can break due to exposure to harsh conditions. Radiation and chemicals inside and outside the body can affect gene structure so that when chromosomal splitting and gamete cell-fusion occur the problems are passed onto the next generation. It is not personal.

In a very elementary parallel, the problems of physical health are not much different from the physical problems of a house. Yet, people in our cultures do not assign responsibility for the problems of their house, such as a leaking roof, to God. People have separated the house from themselves. So, too, will people on our planet ultimately understand that their body is not who they are and that God is not using their bodies as a medium of discontent with them. Our illnesses and degenerative problems were not assigned to us personally or generally, but are a result

of the evolutionary development of our species. As these problems affect every human being, it is a general affliction of being a material, evolutionary being on an undeveloped material planet. We could say that God is disposed to hurting humans in general, and we could say that God is disposed to hurt us individually, since we take our illnesses and problems personally. But neither case is true. The reason God does not interfere in our lives individually or in general is because of the gift of free will.



“I have learned so much from God that I can no longer call myself a Christian, a Hindu, a Muslim, a Buddhist, a Jew.”

Hafez — Persian poet, Sufi Muslim, 1315-1390

Born Khwāja Shams-ud-Dīn Muḥammad Ḥāfeẓ-e Shīrāzī, in Shiraz, Iran

3

Questions and Answers about God and Religions

1. How did religions come into existence?

Almost all religions have come into existence after a charismatic, ecstatic spiritual experience of one person: Abraham, Jesus, Muhammed, Luther, several Reformation evangelists, Joseph Smith, and Mary Baker Eddy being the only woman-founder. Yet, not everyone is able to achieve this level of intimacy, whether between themselves and another person, or with God. Early religious practices and religions came into existence when people attempted to satisfy their deep yearning for a close relationship, even the embrace and union, with The Creator that brought their world into existence.

Many who experienced the ecstasy of personally experiencing God in Its eminence began to worship God, and founded religions to help others have a similar ecstatic relationship. When we acknowledge the yearning that develops within us to become closer to God by ritual or ceremony, and to be like God, we have begun the practice of religion. Soon, the religions' rituals and rules began to crowd out the personal relationship and experience they were meant to initiate and support. Women have particularly been ignored by their religions from openly experiencing an intimate relationship with God, even within their own church, temple, synagogue, or mosque.

2. What is God's relationship to religions?

Because most religions have come into existence as a result of a person's experience of knowing God through a personal experience, they are all man made. None have come into existence as a *fait accompli* by God. God's relationship is to the individual as it has always been. It is the

individual that God loves. Religions and their churches, temples, synagogues, and mosques are organizations that have no soul, no personality, and no survivability factor to continue their existence after members leave.

In a church filled with God-conscious individuals, God is present in a capacity that most cannot understand. God's presence is powerful, even palpable in the hearts of those present. When church rituals infuse fellowship, communion of souls, and friendship, know that God is present. God is the multiplying factor in the communion of individuals when they seek to worship God, to find joy in God's presence, and to find God's presence in others. God is that factor that raises the ante of commitment when you feel exalted in your rituals. It is God in you that flows out to all others.

Religions are not necessary to worship God, but the fellowship and friendship that is shared in churches are a powerful force where God can work effectively to uplift downcast hearts. Mosques are a place where individuals go with the intention of sharing themselves with God, where they can receive God in peace, in love, in fellowship, and in communion with others. Yes, temples are not God's concern but they are places that allow people to come together, and that is what has enriched poor hearts and souls with eternal love.

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Some people believe that their religion is the chosen religion or that they are special people for being members of that religion. Yet, God is not in the business of picking and choosing among or between individuals or religions. God has already chosen each one of us, whether we are religious or not. God has given each of us the same opportunity to have a personal relationship with It as a Mother or Father has with his or her children. God has given every one of us the opportunity to choose and to become a real, active, and important part of the universe. No one is forgotten and no one is unimportant to God.

Look at it from God's perspective—God desires to have a religious experience with each of us. That is, God desires to be in personal relationship with each of us and has done the largest share of the work to begin and to support that relationship. That relationship is even far more

valuable to God when you realize and appreciate that God invested a fragment of Itself, the God Presence, in each of us. The God Presence is not dormant but active, though it is not intrusive to our conscious thinking. God does not tell you, "Go to the temple and worship," but God does open windows of awareness for you to look through to the other side where God is, to be in personal relationship, if you choose. This is the beginning of having a religious experience with God, and God with you. But you must choose, as in any relationship, to participate.



Conclusions

The ultimate, most personal relationship you will ever have is with God. And the most personal relationship God has is with you individually, and with every person individually. It is you who decides if you want an infinite personal relationship with God.

God is the final arbiter of our ascendant spiritual journey and our eternal destiny. No one else, not the priest, not the pope, or anyone else.

God created men and women without preference to either gender; and, it is without preference that each person will pass from their material life to the afterlife.

God empowered both genders equally, and gave each person many innate capabilities. It is by your own choice and decision whether you develop those innate capabilities or not. Not anyone else.

God is no respecter of men and women regardless of their gender, wealth, social, political, or religious position and title. All are loved equally by God.

Whether you wish to be limited by parents, partner, family, community, political orientation, social position, title, organizational authority, or religion is your personal choice. And no one else.

Choosing to accept the limitations of any of those qualifications is your choice. The limitations for which you accept is your choice. And it is a choice. There is always a choice to make.

To choose limitations, limits your capability to discover and develop that special and intimate relationship with the God Presence within you. Yes, you can live with those limitations as millions have done, then it is your choice to practice that intimate relationship with God in the privacy of your life, even within hostile politics, religions, families, and communities. Doing so is very personal.

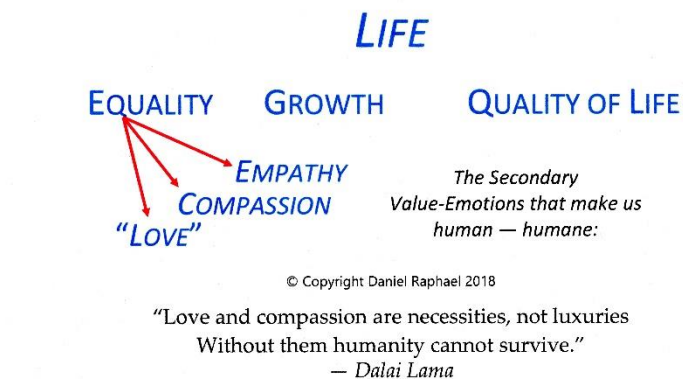
Living with limitations as these is something that hundreds of millions of women have to do every day, month, year, and decade. Yet, the

circumstances of life in every nation often provide developing situations that erupt and offer the opportunity to change the status quo.

The one essential and innate value of life and living is freedom, freedom to develop your innate potential just as any man would do in your nation. Self-determination is an innate value that is intimately connected to freedom, to be at liberty to express your needs for an ever improving quality of life, as you define it, but without jeopardizing the freedoms of others.

The innate values God gave to all people. ⁴

SEVEN VALUES HAVE SUSTAINED OUR SPECIES' SURVIVAL



The primary values of Life, Equality, Growth, and Quality of Life are the values that have helped societies flourish and grow, but only to the extent that each individual is able to enjoy the same opportunities of life — to grow into their innate capabilities equally as anyone else. Providing the equal opportunity requires that empathy and compassion of those who provide those opportunities. These seven values are gifts from our Creator. And, it is because of the three value-emotions that this brief paper is being offered as an opportunity to those whose lives are suppressed and limited by others.



⁴ Raphael, Daniel 2018 *The Values God Gave Us*.

BIO: Daniel Raphael, PhD

Daniel Raphael is an independent original thinker who does not work for, associated or affiliated with any organization. He is a Viet Nam veteran with 18 years experience working in adult felony criminal corrections; father of three and grandfather of four children; former volunteer fireman, small business owner, inventor, and manufacturer of a household sewing machine product; self-taught theologian, ethicist, and holistic life coach; principal of Daniel Raphael Consulting since 2003; and a remarkably unsuccessful self-published author of numerous books, papers, and articles. Daniel enjoys public speaking and has taught numerous classes and workshops nationally and internationally.

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Doctoral Dissertation: *A Pre-Creation Theology*



Achievements

- * Creator of The EMANATION Process, the core process of Stage 3 Democracies.
- * Creator of The Design Team Process, which incorporates the seven values and subsequent ethics and morality, the Raphael Design and Validation Schematic, and specific Design Team member roles.
- * Discoverer of the seven innate values of the Homo sapiens species
- * Creator of the Raphael Unified Theory of Human Motivation
- * Creator of the Raphael Unified Theory of Social Change
- * Originator of A Unique, Unified Theory of Ethics,

Morality, and Values

- * Creator of Learning Centers for Sustainable Families
- * Discoverer of the Four Foundations for Sustainable Civilizations
- * Creator of the Raphael Premise and Hypothesis for the Existence of Dark Matter and the Increasing Rate of Expansion of the Universe

SEVEN VALUES HAVE SUSTAINED OUR SPECIES' SURVIVAL



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"Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries
Without them humanity cannot survive."

— Dalai Lama

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Dream no small dreams for they have no power
to move the hearts of men [and women].

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 1749-1832

