

Ask the beasts and they will teach you,  
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;  
ask the plants of the earth and they will teach you;  
and the fish of the sea will declare to you  
Who among these does not know  
that the hand of the Lord has done this?  
In his hand is the life of every living thing,  
and the breath of every human being. (Job 12:7-10)

The unicorn, a missing leg of the stool

Creation, evolution, natural-spiritual division

Creation with evolution? How did the line from being...

III. Theological wisdom: creation

*creatio originalis, creatio continua, creatio nova*

And in this [Christ] showed me something small, no bigger than a hazelnut, lying in the palm of my hand, as if

it were a ball. I looked at it for a long time, and I thought that because of its littleness it would suddenly have tumbled into

nothing. And I was answered in my understanding: It lasts, and always will, because God loves it, and thus everything

~ Julian of Norwich, *Showings*

... makes an animal and needs nothing else to be made, for it is made from nothing, and it is made from nothing

... without anything else. ... God, Christ and us

... the highest and best power have kindled every human spark and I have dreamed of burning that can only

... be hidden in these things and they blaze from me.

~ Hildegard of Bingen, *Mystical Writings*

God is in all things, not as part of them, but as their cause, for he is the cause of their being, and he is in them  
which it works. ... Now since God's very essence is being, created being must be God's proper effect; as to ignite is  
the proper effect of fire. Now God causes this effect in things not only when they first begin to be, but as long as they  
are preserved in being, as light is caused in things as long as they remain illuminated. Therefore as  
long as a thing has being, God must be present to it, according to its mode of being. But being is innermost in each  
thing and most fundamentally innermost in all things. ... Hence it must be that God is in all things, and uniformly.

Let your mind roam through the whole creation; everywhere the created world will cry out to you: "God made me!"

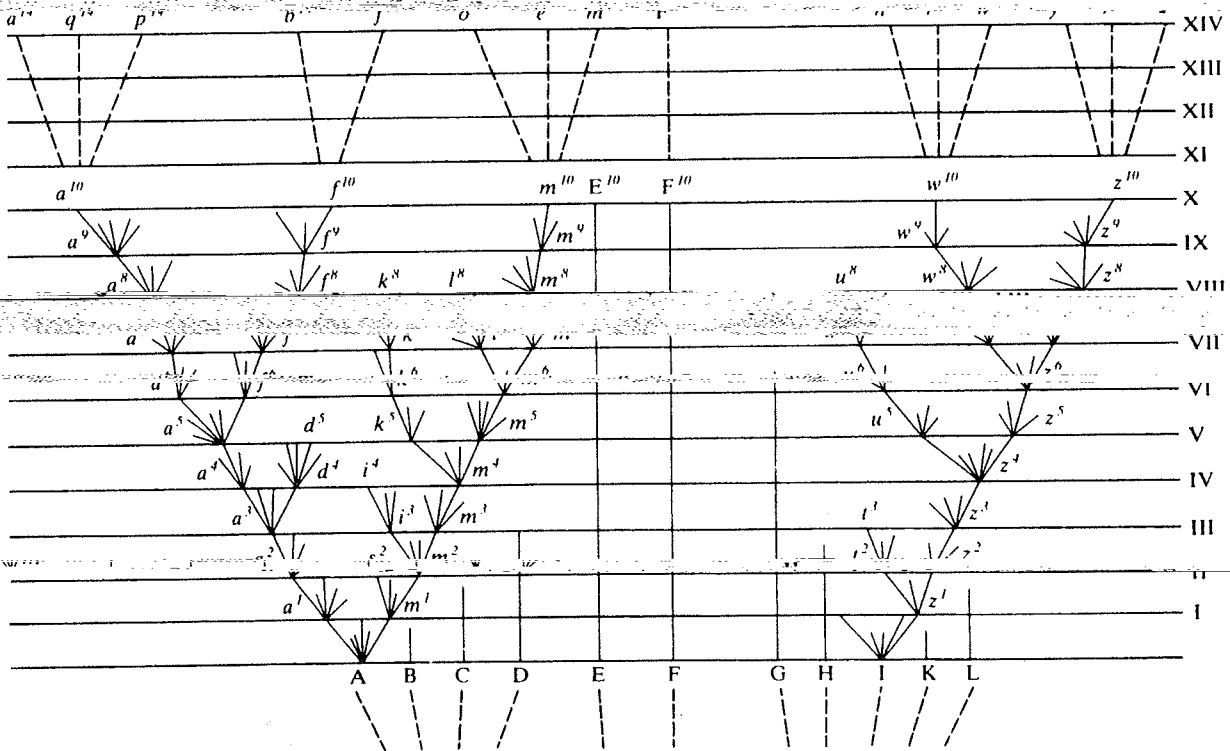
... created things are as it were the voices with which they praise their Creator

[Creation's praise is not an extra, an addition to what it is, but the shining of its being, the meaning it has in pointing

The community of creation - The tree of life is the dwelling place of God, a sacrament of divine goodness, a book  
that reveals God's wisdom and power, the bearer of a great promise.

It is interesting to contemplate an entangled bank, clothed with many plants of many kinds, with birds singing on the bushes, with various insects flitting about, and with worms crawling through the damp earth, and to reflect that these elaborately constructed forms, so different from each other, and dependent on each other in so complex a manner, have all been produced by laws acting around us. (489)

Scheme of the tree of life:



Then imagine, if you can, this mass of life, with its several powers, having been originally breathed into a few forms or into one; and that, whilst this planet has gone cycling on according to the fixed law of gravity, from so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being, evolved. (490)

“Hurrahing in Harvest,” Gerard Manley Hopkins  
 These things, these things were here and but the beholder  
 Wanting, which two when they once meet,  
 The heart rears wings bold and bolder