

individual is an immortal spirit and that when the body decays and disappears into nothingness the spirit continues. It seems to me altogether reasonable to think that the body can be conceived of to some to a very considerable extent as merely a machine that the spirit uses. Through this machine the spirit gains awareness of the external world. By means of it he fit communicates with the external world. By means of it it can make changes in the external world. The body is a very wonderfully designed machine with tremendous capabilities. In it (nc?) however, fundamentally anything really different from the body of an animal, except that it ~~is the body of an~~ has possibilities of greater and more accurate accomplishment and can be made to fit various circumstances better than most animal bodies.

Where does the spirit come from? This is a vital question. Christians believe that it is created by God. Yet Chns^o on the question there is great difference as to the time of origin of the individual spirit. On this theologians usually divide into three groups: those who hold to pre-existence preexistence, those who ~~hold~~ hold to creationism, those who hold traducianism. The first of these holds that God created all spirits at one time and then assigns an individual spirit to a particular body. The second holds that God creates an individual spirit for each body at the some time in the course of the original or development of that body. The third holds that spirits come into existence except (?) the same way that bodies do--by an interrelation of the two previous spirits, two parent spirits, in some way comparable to an and at exactly the same time as the beginning of the life of the individual body.

To me the third of these is utterly unthinkable. It seems to me quite unreasonable.

If traducianism is not adopted, the question arises, when is the spirit united with the body? This is a question that , as far as I know, has never been given great consideration. Perhaps this is just as well for I know of no way to make a determination of it. Perhaps it differs in the case of different individuals. Surely God has a right to create a ~~spirit~~ spirit and give it the use of ~~body~~