

#### **45. COGITANDO SIC, method of evolution**

*Submitted by Sylvester L. Steffen on December 21, 2007 - 3:28am. --- Everything under the sun ...*

The METHOD OF EVOLUTION, of "thinking more perfectly by perfecting thoughts", that is, working again what's been thought-through, and thinking through again what's been worked through" [cogitata perficiendo, cogitando sic perfecta] has been proposed in the earlier strand "cogitando sic, method of evolution".

To carry the above rationality of evolution a step further, I call attention to nature's method of accommodation (REFLECTIVE SYMBIOSIS), that is, "her" purposeful method of applying the "analogies of reciprocals" principle.

Louis Dupré says: "Reason...functions in a system [evolutionary] where everything has become end and means." ("The Enlightenment & the Intellectual Foundations of Modern Culture" pg. 17, © 2004, Yale University Press, New Haven and London) In effect, everything in an evolutionary system functions interactively as subject/ object, which is to say, "subject qualifies object as object qualifies subject". This states the principle of the ANALOGY OF RECIPROCALs and the METHOD OF EVOLUTION.

By this method of evolution, dialog is enabled by which polar opposites come to be accommodated and a middle ground established (reflective "symbiosis"). The example, "subject supposes object as object supposes subject" illustrates the "both/ and" rationale of accommodation as opposed to the "either/ or" rationale of stalemate and conflict. Case in point: objectivity supposes subjectivity as subjectivity supposes objectivity; absolutism supposes relativism as relativism supposes absolutism; and, the Religious Right supposes the Religious Left as the Religious Left supposes the Religious Right.

When polarized differences turn toward each other and acknowledge each other, the possibility of dialog and accommodation exists and the possibility of finding the middle ground of accommodation. Is this a possible path toward peace and reconciliation, toward the avoidance of violence and war, toward "social evolution"?

#### **46. From William Madges,**

*Submitted by Sylvester L. Steffen on March 3, 2008 - 9:35pm.*

From William Madges, "God and the World", copyright 1999, pg 123, Orbis Books, Maryknoll, N.Y., U.S.A.

"Like Kant, Hegel held that the mind stamps its seal on all knowledge... Hegel held that the rational is real and the real is rational. THINGS THOUGHT ARE COMPLETELY PRESENT IN THINKING; AND IN THINKING, THOUGHT IS COMPLETELY PRESENT IN THE THINGS THOUGHT. (Emphasis added.) Objective truth for Hegel, then, is the conformity of objects to their concepts."

#### **47. This strand (45 and 46) is important**

*Submitted by Sylvester L. Steffen on March 6, 2008 - 11:55pm.*

This strand is important because of the critical importance of social evolution to everyone. Cultured dogmatism eschews the fluidity of evolution; cultures stagnate and retrograde if they fixate in the past. That is a problem for dominion theology and patriarchal politics, which yet underlie Western (Abrahamic) cultures.

It is important that the philosophy (rationality) and theology (fidelity) of spirituality collaborate (dialog) pro-actively toward purposes of social betterment, human and ecological. The detour of subjective consciousness into side roads of ideological fixes is not conducive to personal/ social growth and wellbeing. Thus, attention and intention should be focused on the social purposes of evolution, and its "method". It's something in which we all need to participate actively.