

## ***What Is Vitalism?***

Vitalism, a term closely related to animism, is the understanding that creation lives. Alive because it is the expression of a living God. Galaxies, stars and planets; air, water and soil; stone, minerals and salts; all consist of uncounted numbers of living beings fastened in matter, awaiting redemption. This information is part of the messages, which the Lord, in the mid-1900s, dictated to Lorber, who penned them down.

Wikipedia delivers this definition. "Vitalism is the belief that living organisms are fundamentally different from non-living entities because they contain some non-physical element or are governed by different principles than are inanimate things." Not sure, what this means. Here the distinction is made of living organisms (humans, animals, plants, microbes, down to single cell organisms) and non-living entities (stone, steel, plastics... what about water, air and soil...?). The former contain some non-physical element (?). Non-living entities are governed by different principals (?). Looks like here we have it: Today's general view, not clearly defined, as it is.

Vitalism appears to have been a formalised school of thought from 1500 to the 1900s. Well-known proponents are van Helmont, Stahl, von Haller, de Bordeu and Blumenbach. With the advances of 19th century chemistry (and the simultaneous departure of religion from increasingly technologically oriented Northern societies) vitalistic and animistic thought seem to have been replaced by the entire absence of life in matter considerations. Mesmer and his magnetism also now seem to be a thing of the past. The last biologist, who perceived creation as animated apparently was Hans Driesch. He reintroduced Aristoteles' idea of an Entelechie (i.e. having a goal within). With growing knowledge and awareness of micro-biological processes, today a molecular vitalism is spoken of.

Come to think of it. Did Titian - or for that matter - all famous painters of the Italian Renaissance think of their work as inanimate? Sky and water, velvet and linen, stones and jewels were they mere materials? What about men on the street, in the field, on boats? What about Galilei and Descartes? About Faraday, Edison and Tesla? Did they perceive the world as being animated? What did the Church teach? Does general awareness hint at a living creation? And what is the message now, from the frontiers of microbiology, computing and math?

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