

Re: [OT] The stupidity of being too clever by half...

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From: Scott Stephens (*scottxs_at_comcast.net*)

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Mark Ferguson wrote:

> *Rich Grise wrote:*

> > *These are the kinds of questions I'm looking for the answer to.*

>

> *You're making the dangerous assumption that "the answer" exists. That*

> *way lies religion (pun intended).*

Both science and religion are based on a premise.

The premise of religion is "because God says", so to know why, understand God.

The premise of science is the universe acts according to principles amenable to logic and reason.

Perhaps it could be said that in the course of Nature taking the path of least action to thermally equalize, structures and systems of particles emerged which have the emergent properties of consciousness and reason.

Living systems which optimize their logic and reason (philosophy) the way lower organisms optimize metabolic processes, the way lower molecules crystalize, the way lower particles form atoms and molecules...

So Nature gives us Reason, Reason gives us 1st religion "because God says so" (based on crude reasoning and magical thinking, which is cheap for me to say in light of my 21st century education), then later science gives us more powerful tools (which we can use to refute much of religion's sick magical reasoning & scientific conclusions).

It reduces to the Anthropic Principle – if the universe wasn't such as it is, we wouldn't be conscious to examine it. But that doesn't tell us how or why the universe is, just that it is.

What if the principles of science change tomorrow, and the space-time manifold becomes chaotic? Who says the fundamental constants of physics, or how they relate to each other can't change? What if the value of Pi

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were to change?

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Scott

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<http://home.comcast.net/~scottxs/>

POLITICS, n.

A strife of interests masquerading as a contest of principles.

The conduct of public affairs for private advantage. - Ambrose Bierce
