# 1.4 Spiritual Creature

## **Nature of Existence**



## Eternity

#### Uncreated, Infinite

- No Beginning, No End
- Eternal Now
- Duration of that which does not change



## Created

#### Creation

Mortal, Finite

#### Matter

- Matter occupies Space
- Matter changesChange defines **Time**

#### Time & Space

- Has Beginning & End
- Successive Now
- · Duration of Time

#### Creation

- · God created:
  - · things of Matter, mortal creatures
  - things of Spirit, immortal creatures
  - one creature of both Matter and Spirit
- Whereas we create from something, God creates from nothing

In the beginning God created heaven, and earth. Gen i.1. Of Him, and by Him, and in Him are all things. Rom xi.36

## **Æ**viternity

### Immortal, Finite

- Has Beginning, No End
- Successive Now
- · Duration of accidental change
- One
- Single, pure Form, indivisible
- The Infinite, the Uncreated
- One Nature: Divine, Eternal
- Creator of all things, visible and invisible
- from nothing
- St Thomas' Five Ways: The unmoved Mover (Change) The uncreated Creator (Supreme Cause) The non-contingent Being Degree of Perfection The Supreme Architect
- Aristotle (thence St Thomas, et al): The Efficient; Exemplar; First & Final Cause of all things
- Etc

## **Material Creature**

	Created Matter
Composition	Composite of Matter & Form
Nature	Mortal Contigent soul
Change	Ceaseless accidental change Substantial change possible
Duration	Time
Limitation	Anchored to matter, fixed in time

## **Spiritual Creature**

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Created Spirit
Form only, no Matter
Immortal Contigent soul
Substantial permanence Accidental change
Æviternity Self-relative chronology
No anchor to matter, self-relative chronology

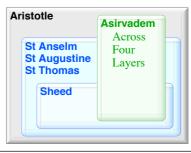
## God

G.G.G.	
Infinite Spirit	
Single pure Form	
Eternal Subsistent	
Utterly changeless	
Eternity	
Utterly limitless	

- Possesses Being
- **Self-subsisting**
- Essence = Existence
- Uncaused

## Source

- · This merely paraphrases the work of the great apologist Francis 'Frank' Joseph Sheed, Theology and Sanity Imprimatur № Morrogh Bernard Vicarius General, Westmonasterii, 1946
- Sheed's work is based heavily on our Angelic Doctor, St Thomas Aquinas' Summa Theologiae 1270
- Ss Anselm; Augustine; & Thomas use the formal concepts established by Aristotle in 350BC



## **Formal Logic**

- Language, Semantic (Aristotle; St Thomas)
  - Demonstrated herein, without formal introduction
- Abstract concepts
  - The Infinite cannot be defined, let alone by a finite mind
  - The Infinite, God, cannot be drawn in a circle, or on a page
- At best, this is knowledge by analogy, per St Thomas, constrained by Formal Logic