

Dogmatic Realism

It will be well to begin from a type of realism that is, not at all philosophic, but religious, ecclesiastical, and theological. It consists in two elements: there are true propositions; ~~then~~ true propositions correspond to reality. These two elements are not explicit but implicit in the general character of the Old and New Testaments, in the dogmas of the Catholic Church, and in the basic technique of mediaeval Scholasticism. In the light of such origins the name, dogmatic realism, would seem to be quite appropriate

then there are at least four main philosophic positions and, of these, at least the fourth must reject the unilinear scheme that recognizes the possibility of no more than three.

One may say that no more is at issue than a schematic image. In a sense that is true. But it happens that, associated with that image, there is a tacit assumption regarding the range of possible philosophic differences and, resting on that assumption, there is a series of major premisses ^{to} on which polemicists appeal to construct implicit arguments.