

Relative Points of Reference, Free Will, and Absolute Pre-destination

(An abstract)

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Gene Chase, the Christian mathematician, tries to resolve the paradox of free will and predestination with the solution to Skolem's Paradox in the set theory. He asserts that Skolem's Paradox would no longer be seen as a paradox when viewed in a different frame of reference. In a similar vein, Wes Morriston, the philosopher of religion, approaches the paradox of free will and pre-destination by re-defining the concept of freedom as relative to conditions. This article points out that the preceding arguments, by way of the philosophy of mathematics and the means of science, are inadequate in resolving the paradox. In the first place, using Skolem's Paradox as a way to solve the issue is problematic because Skolem's philosophy of mathematics is constructivism, which regards the mathematical "language" as nothing more than a product of human construction. While it is all right for mathematicians to redefine constructs under different systems, they should be warned against equalizing theology with merely human construction. In the history of science, man has attempted numerous paradoxes, riddles, and contradictory theories, but we should learn from it to seek for a theory that has better explanatory power, instead

of evading the question and getting into relativistic definitions and systems.