

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

DIVINE DETERMINISM AND ITS ALTERNATIVES

The chart below compares divine determinism with other possible positions with respect to the issue of ultimate causes:

	<i>Physical events that happen mechanically in accord with natural laws and that do not cause harm to anyone</i>	<i>Physical events that happen mechanically in accord with natural laws and that do cause harm to someone</i>	<i>Morally good actions by humans (or superhuman beings) for which they are typically morally responsible</i>	<i>Morally evil actions by humans (or superhuman beings) for which they are typically morally responsible</i>
Natural Determinism	NATURE	NATURE	NATURE	NATURE
Non-Determinism	NATURE	NATURE	FREE WILL	FREE WILL
Limited Determinism*	NATURE GOD	NATURE SATAN GOD	FREE WILL GOD	FREE WILL SATAN GOD
Divine Determinism	GOD	GOD	GOD	GOD

* When more than one ultimate cause is indicated, it means primarily that an individual limited determinist will assign a different ultimate cause to the same category of cosmic events on a case-by-case basis. So, for example, he may designate the ultimate cause of natural physical event A to be *nature*. At the same time, he may designate the ultimate cause of natural physical event B to be *God*. Events A and B belong to the same class of cosmic events, but they are assigned different ultimate causes. This reflects the primary difference between limited determinism and non-determinism. The limited determinist's God is "sovereign" over his creation and can, as he wills, intervene. Secondly, the list of multiple causes is intended to reflect the fact that there are differences among different limited determinists. One limited determinist may be inclined to assign a particular ultimate cause to a class of cosmic events more readily than

would another limited determinist.

*When more than one ultimate cause is indicated, the causes are listed in the order of likelihood that a limited determinist would assign this cause to this category of cosmic event. (Likelihood is based on my own subjective judgment.)

*The limited determinist is willing to entertain the notion that different events have different ultimate causes. For example, the limited determinist includes *God* as a possible cause of harmful natural events, because he can allow that on some occasions—for example, the divine judgment of a person or nation—God may use nature to do harm. But the limited determinist, unlike the divine determinist, is unwilling to maintain that God is the ultimate cause of any and every harmful event in nature.