

Ancient Christian Objections to Hellenic Philosophy

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There are certainly peripheral philosophical aspects weaved into Christian theology by later theologians and commentators. Primarily Platonic and Stoic. But these ideas are not the basis of Christian thought. They may enhance certain aspects of the theology, but not the overall narrative of the Gospel.

Plato and Zeno’s ideas have nothing to do with the miracles of Jesus healing the sick and resurrecting the dead. They have nothing to do with a Messiah in the lineage of David. They have nothing to do with the coming Kingdom of God. They have no part in the resurrection of the dead. Plato and Zeno certainly did not understand if you are a sheep at God’s right hand or a goat at his left. Nor did they understand that the tree of life that was denied to Adam is at the center of the new Jerusalem.

These ideas are the basis of Christian thought. It’s not philosophy at all.