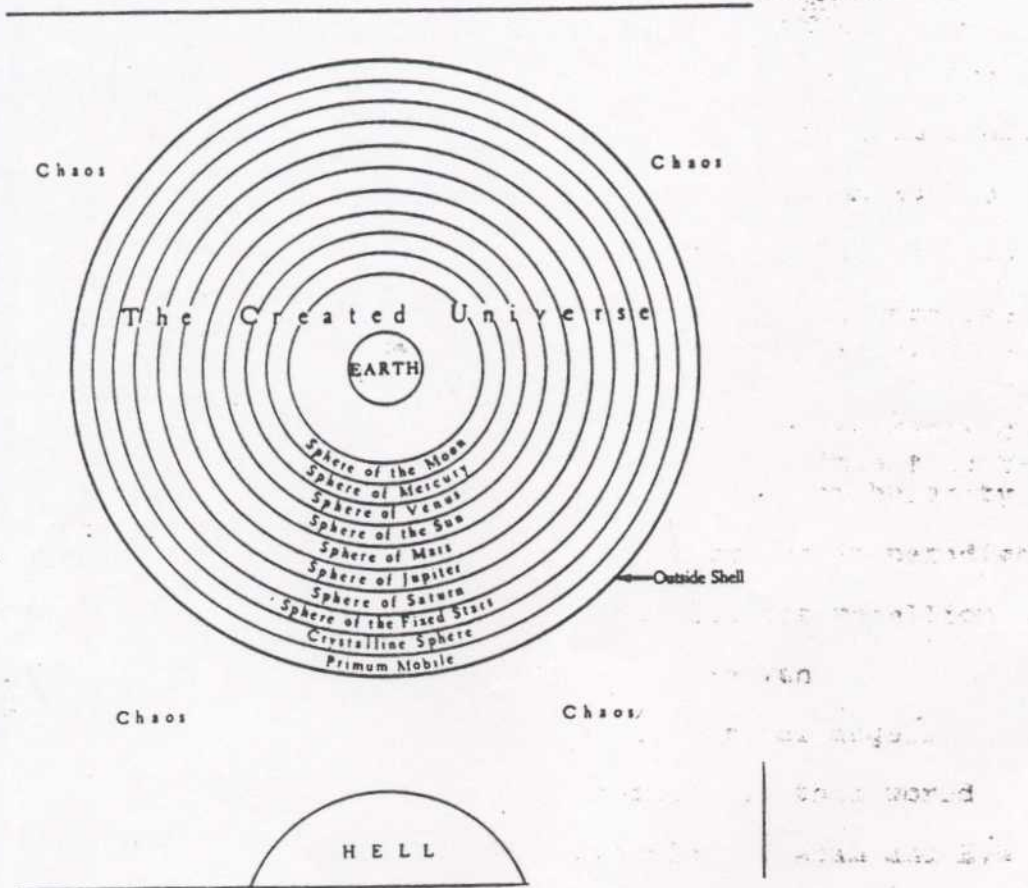


A Diagram of Milton's Universe

HEAVEN OR THE EMPYRAEAN



ges helpful for grasping the physical structure of Milton's universe:

Hell: II,570-628

Chaos: II,890-967

The Created Universe: II,1034-1053; III,418-735; V,171-208; VII,205-547

Heaven: III,56-79; V,563-587; Book VI

Causeway from Hell to Earth: X,272-324

Eden and Paradise: IV,208-87

Physical Changes after the Fall: X,651-714

Rival Astronomical Theories: VIII,15-168

Scale of Nature and Forms of Life: V,469-490; VII 387-547

Milton's Cosmos

Hell: Located at the bottom of the cosmos. Also a psychological state. Enclosed by a vault, like a dungeon, with gates where Sin and Death keep watch.

Chaos: Chaos is bounded by heaven above and hell below. It is a "wild abyss" (2.917) where there are warring atoms with no order. Utter confusion which is personified in the "nonruler" figure, the anarch Chaos. Sin and Death help Satan in his "project" by building a "bridge of wondrous length / From hell" to the world (2.1028-9).

World: Located between Chaos and Heaven. Created when God scooped a hollow out of Chaos, thereby creating order out of chaos. Also known as the universe. The world hung from heaven by a "golden chain" (2.1005). A staircase or ladder leads to an opening in heaven's outer shell.

Heaven: The abode of God and the angels. The empyrean--a realm of pure good and light where there is perfect order and perfect happiness.