

1) Research the Manicheans. Describe briefly their theory of dualism (regarding good and evil).

2) Read Ch 1-5 noting the frequency of A.'s contrast of the **nature** of angels (fallen or not) with their **choices**. In light of the Manichean dualism what point is A. making about the fallen angels?

3) In Ch 2 note the "Chain of Being" argument. This carries through to the line at the end of Chapter 8, "a man...makes himself bad by gaining something good and sad by losing something better." Explain this line in terms of the Chain of Being.

4) Why does A. contrast the "efficient" cause of evil with the "deficient"? What is the cause of evil?

5) Why does A. feel that it is illogical to hold, as Apuleius does, that the universe has always existed (i.e. there was no creation)?

6) Having been created A. examines what the universe must be like. A. says that we cannot conclude that its history is cyclical? Why not?

7) Why is it significant that all mankind was created from a solitary individual (not from a pair of individuals)?

8) What is flawed in Porphyry's claim that the soul must free itself from all matter?

I have read Book XII

I have not read Book XII

Signature