Scientism and Values

Van Nostrand - Science and Scientism in Biology: The Origin of Morality



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What Is Scientism?

My nurse was expressing the view called scientism.

What Is Scientism?

Man is best understood, so the scientistic expert holds, when seen from the level of a rodent eager to learn the ins and outs of a maze. Christian Leadership Ministries and Ravi Zacharias Ministries, Addison, Texas, and Norcross, Georgia, 2003.

What is Scientism?

Instead, I believe, we must use a functional definition of science. And other people--really deep intellectual thinkers--have been pointing this out from the Social Science side, is that science has a tendency to go towards a religion. But in human action, the free-will choice of the human consciousness is the cause, and this cause generates certain effects.

The Mantle of Science

We therefore begin by fully knowing the abstract axioms, and we may then build upon them by logical deduction, introducing a few subsidiary axioms to limit the range of the study to the concrete applications we care about. Politics is a field, if there ever was one, that is the complete contradiction of what scientists seek in nature. This is true apart from historical findings that the Scholastics of the Middle Ages were the forerunners, rather than the obscurantist enemies, of experimental physical science.

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- Letter of consolation of Maimon, son of Josef, father of Moses Maimonides