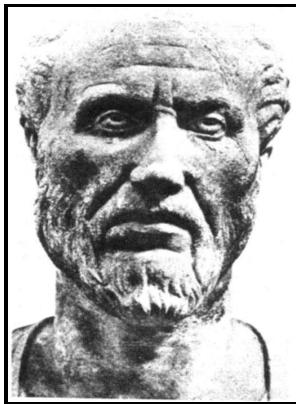


# Plotinus on number

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Description: -

- Symbolism of numbers

Many (Philosophy)

One (The One in philosophy)

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Notes: Includes bibliographical references (p. ) and indexes.

This edition was published in 2009



Filesize: 64.110 MB

Tags: #Plotinus #(c. #205

## Plotinus on Number

How comes the total to be unitary and any particular number to be brought under unity? But the body and bodily life weight the individual down and hamper him in his ascent. Multiplicity in the real intelligible world is not evil, though lower than the One, because it is determined and unified by the One; but it is the infinite undetermined which is limited.

## Plotinus (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

Objects of sense are not unlimited and therefore the Number applying to them cannot be so.

## The Internet Classics Archive

Plotinus was preoccupied with body, and he engaged in heated conversations with other philosophers of his time who disagreed with him about the value of bodies. But they alone pursue true good, who rise to intelligible beauty, and so far only tend to good itself; as far as they lay aside the deformed vestments of matter, with which they become connected in their descent.

## Plotinus on Number

There is a strange parallelism between matter and the One, because both are entirely indeterminate. But how do you come to have a number to place? In like manner, all those who are called to suffer what would make cowards and poltroons weep may say, 'God has deemed us worthy instruments of his purpose to discover how much human nature can endure'. In our view, Unity and Number are precedent.

## Sixth Tractate. On Numbers.

If persons recognize their true identity, they would not be oriented to the objects of their embodied desire but to the objects of intellect. Neoplatonism enjoins an ascetic life, but no harsh self-mortification. And he thought of life very inclusively; even rocks and soil have life.

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