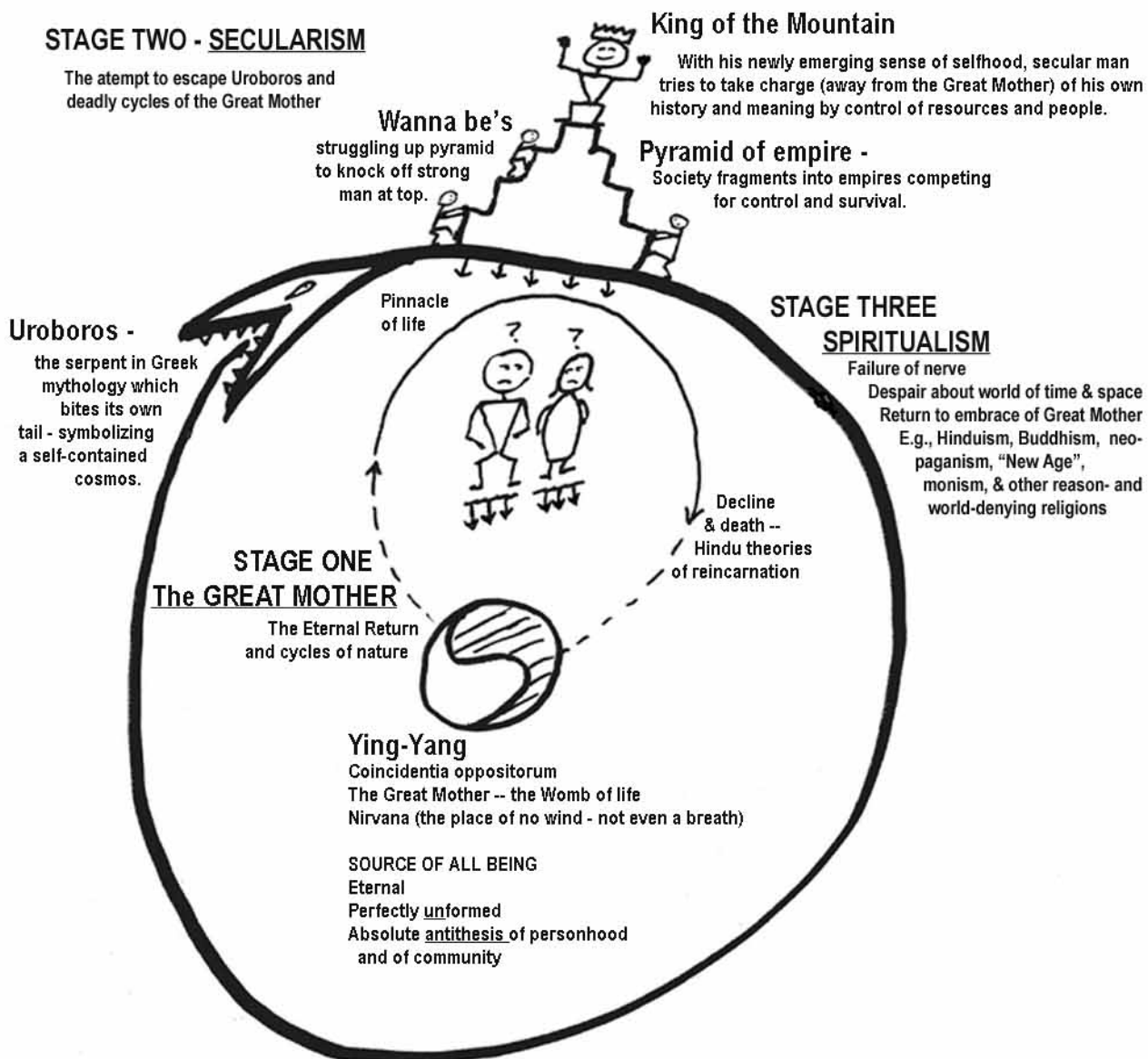


Pagan/Secular (Perennial) Worldview

Worldview of the Fall: Closure of the Cosmic Circle Loss of Hand and Voice. Separation of feeling from relationship. Our walls of defense against relationship become our tomb.

No Discernible Hand of God: God still holds us, but we feel no cosmic or personal stability. Stability and order are imposed by strongest and smartest. All existence is accidental. All ground is "sinking sand".

No Audible Voice of God: God still exists and speaks, but no discernible purpose for existence or moral principle. No cosmic or personal Intelligent Design (ID).



The SECULAR/PAGAN WORLDVIEW is much more complicated than the Biblical because it typically cycles through three permutations.

(1) The GREAT MOTHER -- All things emerges out of the ineffable, unknowable womb of the Great Mother, the "coincidence of opposites". Life cycles through birth, growth, pinnacle, decline, and death - recycling back into death, the womb of the Great Mother. All theories of "evolution use this pattern.

(2) SECULARISM -- As life emerges out of primitive animism, we begin to grow beyond dependency on the Great Mother or "Mother Earth", assert our individuality, hoisting ourselves up over the rim of Uroboros, to escape the downward spiral into death. We want to take charge of our own history, and give life meaning, which we do by empire building, controlling resources to prolong our survival.

(3) SPIRITUALISM - but the human race tires of the emptiness of impersonal and competitive secularism, seeking solace by return to the Great Mother through world-denying religions -- as in the collapse of modern secularism into post-modernism and neo-paganism. There is no escape from the closed circle of Uroboros.

The only alternative to this endless cycle of despair is the Biblical worldview -- Biblical history and the Incarnation of the Son of God. In Jesus, God opens again the closed circle -- and leads us back to Himself.