

ENGL 220 Milton
Professor John Rogers

Milton, Books 7 and 8 of *Paradise Lost*

Paracelsus (1493-1541)

And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply the earth. And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so. (Genesis 1:20-24)

"Why should Raphael be so tied up to the Letter in Genesis, who makes this narrative thousands of years before Genesis was writ?"

--Richard Bentley, *Notes on Paradise Lost* (1723)

The Competing Sources of Authoritative Knowledge

theology	science
masculine muse	feminine muse
anthropomorphic theology	vitalist science
God the Father	Mother Earth
Genesis	Ovid
Adam	Eve
(geocentrism)	(heliocentrism)