

PERSPECTIVES IN PHILOSOPHY
Volume 2
Rethinking the existential

by Edward Holloway

The reader will find this volume of *Perspectives* much easier to read than the first booklet which, of its nature, was a critique of a system of philosophy, indeed of thought in general, which has become irrelevant to modern knowledge and modern man. It is now all but abandoned, even in the schools of the Catholic Church. In that abandonment however much that was utterly true in basic perception has become confused to the grave danger of the Church, even in the presentation of her theology. One rethinks, in the volume, the same basic relationships of God, Man, and Matter as occupied the minds of the Schoolmen, and of their mighty Greek precursors. In identifying the "noumenon" with the "phenomenon" and repudiating the basic Idealism behind both Greek and Scholastic thought, it is possible to answer Immanuel Kant convincingly. Both Teilhard de Chardin and Karl Rahner have already trodden the same "cosmic path" as we do in these meditations. Their conclusions are unacceptable to most scientists, and also, one thinks, to philosophers of science and to the theology of the Church. They both began their reflections within cosmic evolution with the identification of matter and intellect as grounded in one common order of being, and of energy. We do not. If one has the advantage of reflecting the problem of, "What is man: how much is matter and how much is mind?", from the viewpoint of a Unity-Law of Control and Direction unto an entitative climax, we can show the intimate and physical relationship between the brain as sheer matter, and the mind as true spirit, in the orthodox Christian sense.