SYMBOLIC AND METAPHYSICAL VALUE
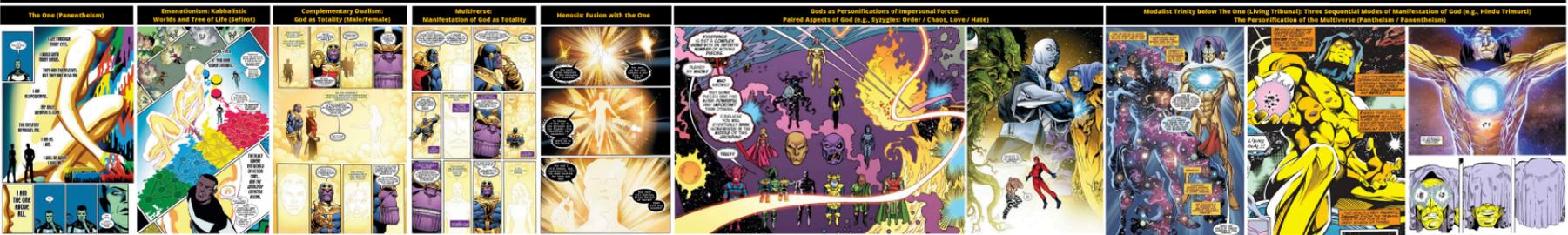★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Influence in Popular Culture

Years: 1939 (as Timely Comics) – Ongoing.
Popularity: Comic book market share of 38.8%.
73+ Movies based on Marvel characters.
21+ Animated films.
Ever growing list of TV shows (animated/live action) and videogames.
Franchise Net Worth: $53 billion.
Parent Company: Disney Publishing Worldwide.

Worldview and Influences

Monism: Pantheism / **Panentheism.**

Influenced by: Kabbalah; Eastern Mysticism; Hermeticism; Alchemy and Western Esotericism; Theosophy; Neoplatonism; Gnosticism; Ancient Greek Religion and Mythology; Norse Mythology; Science (especially Theory of Evolution) and Transhumanism.

Main Metaphysical Concepts

- **The One:** the Absolute, All-Possibility as Ultimate Reality. Probably a Personification of an Impersonal Principle. **Minor gods:** Personification of Universal Forces and Functions. **Living Tribunal:** derived from the One. Not a Trinity but Three Aspects or Modes of Existence of God (e.g., Hindu Modalism: *Trimurti*).
- **Emanationism:** Creation as a part of God through emanations (Panentheism). Possibility of Self-Transcendence by merging again with *the One*.
- **Non-Duality (Pantheistic / Panentheistic version):** as Re-Union of Opposites, presupposed by a God that includes everything: *the All /Absolute*.
- **Dualist Cosmology / Union of Opposites (Male/Female, Good/Evil):** Evil as an aspect of God. Everything has its Shadow counterpart, including God (Kabbalah).
- **Plurality as enemy of the One:** Particularity necessarily Dualistic, involving suffering (Pleasure/Pain). Macrocosmic/Microcosmic correspondence (*As Above, so Below*).
- **Gnostic Re-Interpretation of Christian Concepts:** Heavenly Rebellion as legitimate battle of *"Otherness"* against the absolute simplicity of God. Old testament God as Intermediate flawed Being. Logos (equivalent to the Living Tribunal) as the Union of Opposites through a Mediator (*Filioque* clause).

The One (Panentheism)

Emanationism: Kabbalistic Worlds and Tree of Life (Sefirot)

Complementary Dualism: God as Totality (Male/Female)

Multiverse: Manifestation of God as Totality

Henosis: Fusion with the One

Gods as Personifications of Impersonal Forces: Paired Aspects of God (e.g., Syzygies: Order / Chaos, Love / Hate)

Modalist Trinity below The One (Living Tribunal): Three Sequential Modes of Manifestation of God (e.g., Hindu Trimurti). The Personification of the Multiverse (Pantheism / Panentheism)

The Living Tribunal's faces: Equity, Vengeance, Necessity

Complementary Dualism (Order / Chaos): Union of Opposites / Non-Dualism (In-Betweener)
Logos: Fusion between Opposites thanks to Mediator (Filioque Structure of Trinitarian Being)

Gnostic Inversion of Creation Myth (Rebellion): Heroic Battle of Particularity against the Undifferentiated Homogeneity of the One. Creation as Needed for Multiplicity to Exist.

Complementary Dualism in the Godhead (Good / Evil): God as Totality, Union of Opposites. Lurianic Kabbalah's Creation Myth and Inverted Hollow Realm (Qlippoth)

Complementary Dualism in Creation (Wrath of God (Hulk) / God`s Mercy): Personification of God`s Impersonal Attributes (Sefirot). Everything has an Inverted Counterpart

Emanationism

Complementary Dualism (Good / Evil): Gnostic reinterpretation of Christian Old Testament God

Complementary Dualism in the Godhead (Good / Evil): The One Above All is also The One Below All (Mirror Images, As Above so Below)

Panentheism: All as Part of God
Theosophy (Esotericism)

Complementary Dualism in the Godhead: Absolute Identity of God and the Devil (Union of Opposites). Evil as Mirror Image of the Good, the Movement back to absolute Oneness and Homogeneity, the End of All Individuality