



Name: _____ Date: _____

Words to know:

radically (*extremely*), capacity (*ability*), causality (*the ability to cause things to happen*)

PRIMARY CAUSALITY

Unlike every creature, God simply _____.

He is _____ himself.

He is not simply in our world; he is the very _____ of the world itself.

Everything else radically _____ on God for their very being.

This means that God is a radically different kind of _____ than every other thing, because he gives to other _____ their very being. He makes them to be what they are, and therefore, he is the source of their very _____ to cause.

We call this special causality of God, God's _____ causality.

SECONDARY CAUSALITY

The causality that _____ have is called secondary causality because they are _____ by God.

Every cause that we encounter in the world (except miracles) is a creaturely cause, a _____ cause.

The fact that God gives secondary causality to creatures is a result of two things:

- 1) The _____ of his power: that God would give to others the power to be a cause.
- 2) God's _____: He desires creatures to have the perfection of being real causes, even causes of goodness in others.

This distinction between primary and secondary causality prevents us from falling into two common errors:

MISTAKE #1	MISTAKE #2
The first error says that God is constantly and _____ bringing about every effect in the world, so that the causality of things around us is only an _____.	The second error says that God does not have any real _____ in the universe. Worldly causation can _____ everything.

THOMISTIC SYNTHESIS

St. Thomas Aquinas' view of primary and secondary causality permits him to explain how God is the _____ of the world, and at the same time give to creatures in the world the power to be _____.

This is the foundation of a right understanding of the relationship between _____ and _____.

Comprehension question: Who caused you to exist, God or your parents? Explain.