

God and the Fourth Dimension:
Super Mario as a paradigm of Christ

Let me begin with a disclaimer. I am not God. Since I am not God, I do not know everything, indeed I know very little. Therefore, what is written here is not fact, and I have absolutely no evidence to back it up. This is written merely as a concept that perhaps can open the minds of those who don't believe.

Now then, this whole idea came about while I was mowing my lawn. Most of this essay was at least conceptualized by the time I finished. The last part is an exception; I thought of that one in the shower cleaning up.

I saw a line of ants marching across my driveway, and I stopped for a minute to watch them. It occurred to me that since ants might not be able to look up (I don't know, I've never bothered to research it) they might not be aware of my presence. In fact, they might not even know what "up" is. Since all of these ants are on the relatively flat surface of my driveway, they could easily have never thought of a direction other than front, back, left and right. This made me feel very intelligent and very powerful, neither of which is true.

Another, more accurate example is that of Super Mario, a character from an old (by which I mean 15 years) Nintendo video game. The plot is rather weak, but the gameplay is absolutely extraordinary. Human players control Mario to move forward, back, up or down, but because of the limited technology of the time, left and right are completely out of the question. He goes across the screen and interacts (usually violently) with other characters, which are completely controlled by the artificial intelligence of the computer.

From here, the concept gets a little more difficult to imagine, since it requires the characters of the game to have the same level of intelligence as humans, but bear with it. Since Mario is essentially an extension of the human player, we can assume that Mario knows he's different than the other characters, in that he does whatever the human wants him to do. Suppose Mario and one of the other characters have a conversation that goes like this:

Mario: I'm not like you. I'm controlled by humans.

Character: Humans? What are they?

Mario: Humans created everything you see, this shell, that pipe, even yourself.

Character: That's ridiculous! If humans created everything, where are they?

Mario: They're to the right of us.

Character: The right? What's that? I only know front, back, up, and down.

Point to right.

Mario: I can't.

Character: Uh-huh...well, if humans made everything, when was it and how long did it take?

Mario: It took six months, but since you don't see the sun, you don't know what a day is, and since you don't know what a day is, you don't know what a month is...your only concept of time is in levels. So to make you understand, I'll say it took about 6 levels, and that was about 12 levels ago.

Character: Ha! Everybody knows that there have been 50 levels, so you must be wrong!

It's obvious that Mario would have a difficult time explaining the concept of the humans to other characters. There's not much Mario can do about it, since he's stuck in a two dimensional world. In fact, probably everything Mario would say would seem very strange and confusing to the characters who do not know left and right. Even so, perhaps some of Mario's closest friends would be able to believe what he says and try to convince others of the same thing.

In this example, humans, Mario and other characters all have relations with each other, even if they choose not to believe it. In reality, God, Jesus, and humans all have relations. God is living in a fourth dimension. He created a three dimensional world, and told us how long it took in words that we would understand, even though they don't seem right. Jesus came into the world doing God's will, just as Mario is at the will of the human player. He told as many people as He could about God's kingdom, but when people asked how to get there, He had no way of pointing to it. The only way He could show people how to get to God's kingdom was to show His love for mankind when He was crucified. His closest friends believed Him, and continue to spread His message even today.

Obviously, this model of God begins to break down when it is closely scrutinized; that's why it's a model. Even though there are plenty of inconsistencies between my model and the truth, it can effectively answer some of the most basic questions about Christianity, such as how the earth was made in seven days, and where God physically exists. As I have previously stated, however, this is not fact. This is just an idea I had that can hopefully help to answer some questions that Christians and non-Christians alike often ask.