

## **Spontaneous Encounter with the Reality - God variations in the novels of Philip K. Dick**

The opinion of the famous science fiction writer – repeatedly quoted ever since – matters very convincing, according to which “reality is that which, when you stop believing in it, doesn’t go away”. It is convincing in a sense, if we take a look at the pluralist conceptions of the post-industrial societies, where in the worlds of quasi-realities increased by virtuality, even the skilled spectacular cannot find his or her way confidently, especially regarding the boundary-questions of religion. In addition to the attempt to investigate the question raised in the title, in the below study I observe Philip K. Dick’s answers to these boundary-questions in three of his novels.

It may seem strange to approach the science fictions of a post-modern author from the view-point of the study of religion, on the other hand, we can consider science fiction as a specific way of expression of the contemporary thinking that was and is used by not so insignificant thinkers, such as Vonnegut, or even Calvino. Since sci-fi, owing to its nature, is able to sketch the future vision of the “ideas” moving our world, thereby it becomes able to embrace the evolutionary opportunities of the given phenomenon, the potential hidden in the form.

In the social vision of the future, the “destiny” of religion acts a relevant role almost exclusively, and science fiction is concerned with those problematic issues on a unique and on theoretical level, that how the future of religion shapes; will it remain or disappear or maybe transform radically? The thematic questions of the applied study of religion concerning with contemporary processes coincide with it, the difference is primarily due to the field and the methodological considerations. It is obvious, that in the course of understanding science fiction, primarily literal theoretical, furthermore –historical matters are the main view-points, but while this topic can represent relevant part of other scientific fields either (philosophy, cultural studies, social sciences), it may expect the interest of the study of religion.