

ABAILARD'S CONCEPTUALISM:

The Glosses on Porphyry

Thesis:
Extreme Realism

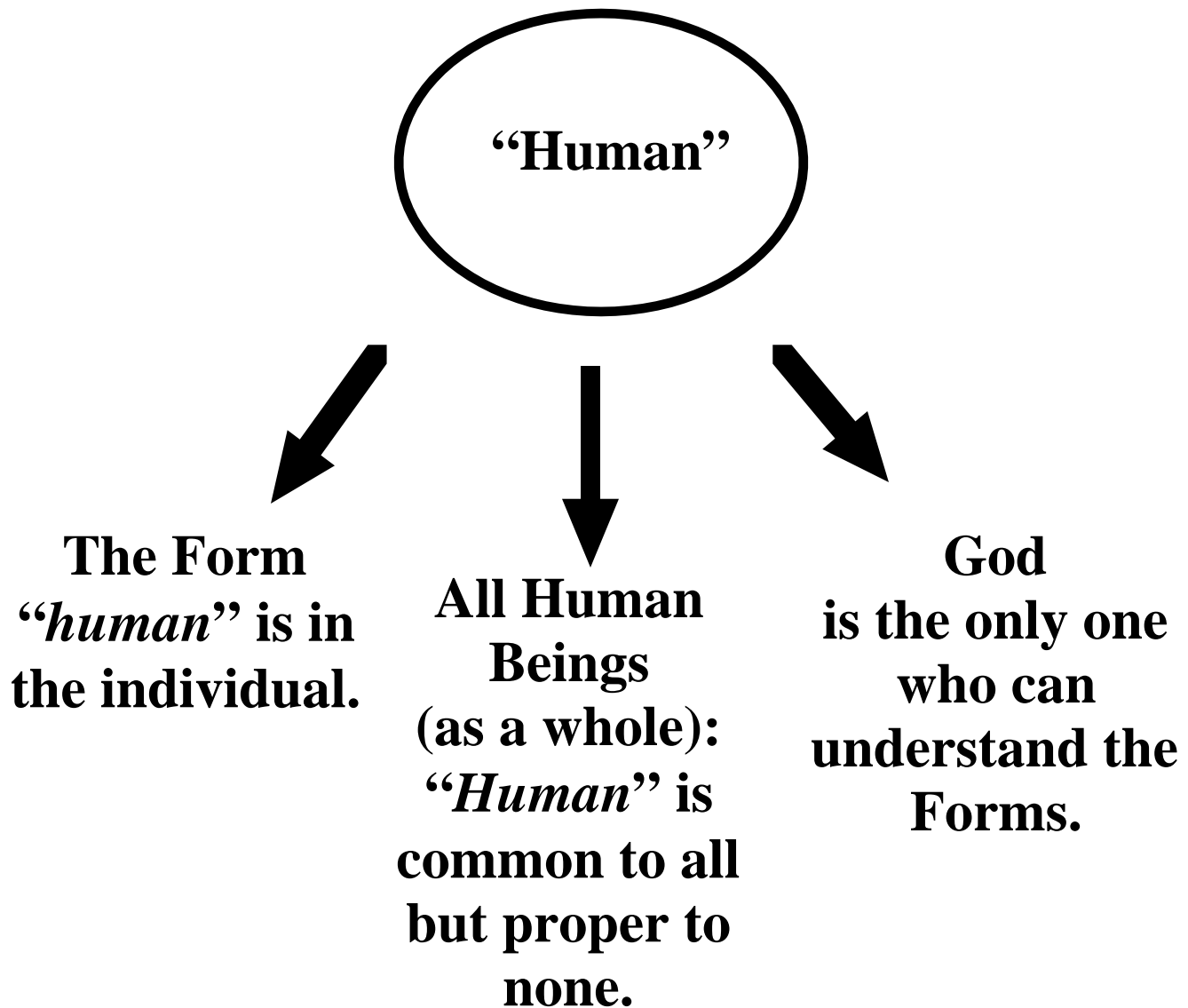


Antithesis:
Extreme Nominalism

The synthesis is “*conceptualism*”

3 meanings to universals:

1. God = Plato Form; *only* God understands the Forms in contrast to Plato who believes we can come to understand the Forms.
2. Universal thought: It is common to all but proper to none.
3. The universal exists in the human being (the form *is in* the individual; Aristotelian notion).



A Medieval Tenet: Never deny, rarely affirm, and always distinguish!”