I. Claudius Ptolemaeus (Ptolemy), 100-178 AD

- Geographer, astronomer, astrologer, musical theorist living in Alexandria, Eygpt (Africa)
- Geocentric view of the universe

II. Dante Aligheri, 1265-1321

- Dante and Petrarch = "Fathers of the Renaissance"
- Humanism
- *The Divine Comedy* (1308-1321)
- From Shattuck: The truth you seek to fathom lies so deep in the abyss of the eternal law, it is cut off from every creature's sight.

And tell the mortal world when you return what I told you, so that no man presume to try to reach a goal as high as this.

(Divine Comedy, Paradiso, XXI, 94-102)



spero, espero, esperienze, experience \rightarrow to look for, to seek, to hope for, to await, to fear

From Shattuck: "Death has not reached him yet," my master answered, "nor is it guilt that summons him to torment; but that he may gain full experience, *I, who am dead, must guide him here below. . . . "* (Divine Comedy, Inferno, XXVIII, 46-49)

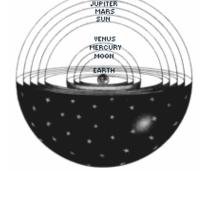
> . . . to this brief waking-time that still is left unto your senses, you must not deny <u>experience</u> of that which lies <u>beyond</u> the sun, and of the world that is unpeopled. (Divine Comedy, Inferno, XXVI, 114-17)

III. Nicolaus Copernicus, 1473-1543

- The scientific revolution begins
- De revolutionibus orbium coelestium (On the Revolution of Heavenly Bodies), 1543
- Heliocentric view of the universe

IV. Michel de Montaigne, 1533-1592

- The Age of the Skeptics
 - o "What do I know?"
 - Which is the right path to God?
 - o Who is right?
 - How can anyone know anything for certain?



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