

Plumbing Wisdom's Well

If we believe that everybody inherits a unique and authentic well of wisdom, what consciousness is, we will not only accept others' differences but we will seek to learn from them. The cosmic insight of "essential continuity" persuades us to believe that the faith insights of others are authentic even if different from ours.

If we want to deepen our faith sensitivity and insight into human nature we need to seek understanding of, from and in others. To confine our own faith understanding within the limits of our singular faith culture is to shut ourselves out from the wisdom of others and to subject ourselves to tunnel vision and self-deception.

If the authentication of consciousness involves interpersonal growth in consciousness and conscience, we will be eager to understand the faith of others and the wisdom also behind what they believe.

Divinity Consciousness

How do we come to understand "God"? Humankind's notions of God have arisen along with sense of self and of person. The wells of consciousness hold the sense of self and the sense of God. Notions of self-understanding come from sense-experience and from interpersonal communication. Sense communication is a complex process of information exchange driving change, evolution. The consciousness of organic life, including human self-consciousness, belongs to web life.

In what direction does knowledge of "human/ divine understanding" flow? Organic life communicates by means of sensing, and consciousness is fed information by sensing. Sensing occurs in and between the organisms that make up the organic webs of life. The place and evolution of all understanding, including the concept of and the understanding of God, is a self-reflective consciousness of humankind. The revelation of God-consciousness is a high refinement of collective human wisdom that continues to grow in experience and insight over time.

How and why so? Just as the whole cosmos is a great mystery, so is all life, so is all consciousness. Religion seeks to give answers to these questions. Answers surely lie in the realization that humankind needs to pursue lofty purposes in life if it is to rise above the caldron of conflict by which place and subordination occurs in unreflective animal life.

The sense of civility tells us we need religion, we need God as purpose and objective in life and the pursuit of communal and personal fulfillment. We miss an important aspect of God-consciousness if we presume to objectify God in our likeness and entertain the notion that God needs us. Because we need each other, and because all life interdepends within intricate webs of reliance, we need to cultivate a high sense of divinity if we would avoid descent into violence, self-destruction and the waste of other life.

The direction of flow of God-consciousness is **"from nature to the human, from the human to the divine"**. Consciousness like grace supposes nature. Dialogue with the divine happens in the inner self-consciousness of the individual person who is informed within the order of nature through the senses and by way of the evolution of

consciousness. **God speaks in nature to consciousness**; divinity presence inheres in the whole of creation. Insight into the way of coming to consciousness is insight into the way of coming to God-consciousness — what is “revelation”. **Theology is a quantum-process of evolving experience/ consciousness.**

The cultured notion within institutions of patriarchal theology and imperial ecclesiology that the Self-revelation of God occurred at one or only several times in the past and to only a few chosen people, isn't satisfying or even believable to modern consciousness. The notion of resident spirituality in cosmic consciousness and the holiness of spirituality — Spirit — at work in every aspect of evolving creation is more consistent with the sense of Second Enlightenment and Postaxial religion.