

Daily Meditation 11/09/2021

Bede Griffiths on Hinduism, Wisdom & the Sacred, continued

Good morning.

We continue our meditations this morning with Father Bede Griffiths and his perspective that he's learned from living in a Hindu culture for many years.

And notice that he says in today's meditation that every particle of matter, every atom, and every electron contains the Divine.

Well, this is the teaching of the Western mystics, as well as the Hindu teachings.

So Hildegard of Bingen said that there is no creature that lacks a radiance. And she says that when we look at creatures, we see God there; we see God in all creatures. And one name for this archetype is that of the Cosmic Christ: that the Cosmic Christ is a light in all things. It is the Christ in all things. It is also the Buddha nature in all things; that's other language from the East. And from Judaism, there's the teaching that the image of God is found in all beings.

So all these three teachings --the Cosmic Christ, the Buddha nature, the image of God -- they're already saying the same thing. They're saying what Father Bede is saying about the intrinsic sacredness and holiness of all being,

Thomas Berry also speaks this way in his own language. And this is how he puts it.

“If St. John and St. Paul could think of the Christ form of the universe (which they do), if Aquinas could say that the whole universe together, participates in the divine goodness, more perfectly, and represented better than any single creature, whatever, (that includes the human).

And Aquinas does say that. Aquinas says: ‘The most excellent thing in the universe is not the human. The most excellent thing in the universe is the universe itself.’”

And if Teilhard de Chardin could insist that the human gives to the entire cosmos its most sublime mode of being, then it should not be difficult to accept the universe itself as a primordial, sacred community, the macro phase mode of every religious tradition... “

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"...the context in which the divine reality is revealed to itself in that diversity, which in a special manner, is, as Aquinas says, the perfection of the universe.

So the very word universe means unity, everything together, we're in this together. And of course that is literally true. Science's new creation story tells us that if we run the movie of the universe backwards to its beginning -- it's a 13.8-billion-year movie -- run it to its origin, it was all one at the beginning.

And it has been ever since. it is a single being that is expanding. And that has been expanding for 13.8 billion years and that birthed us in our capacity to talk about it, to remember it, to celebrate it, and to participate with it, following its instructions about justice and balance, homeostasis, and how we should not step out of those boundaries, but should contribute to co-create within those boundaries."

So all these great souls -- I was going to say great minds, but they're more than minds; they're souls -- all these people we're talking about, right up to today, Father Bede and Thomas Berry, are inviting us to truly celebrate the Cosmic Christ, the sacredness in the light, the divine light that's in every being and that's in the whole being, which is the cosmos.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.