

Daily Meditation 03/07/2023

Merton, Eckhart & the Search for Our True & Deep...

Good morning.

In today's meditation we continue our quest for truth. And in this case for the true self that is in each of us. Each of us has our own being, our own selfhood, our own uniqueness and our own expression, or version, or face, of the Divine Presence within us. That spark of the soul that develops into a fire and a light, that is also called the Cosmic Christ.

During yesterday's meditation, we spoke about both Thomas Merton and Meister Eckhart, and St. Paul, too, talking about that inner person, as distinct from the outer person; the true self, as distinct from the false self. And here's how Meister Eckhart elaborates on that theme: the inner self, the word of God being accessed within us, and then coming forward in our work and words and relationships and citizenship, and the rest.

Eckhart says, and I'm quoting now from my Merton book, *A Way to God*, page 231:

*In this word, the Father speaks my spirit, your spirit, and the spirit of every person who resembles the Word. In this utterance, you and I are true sons of God, or daughters of God, as the word itself is son of the Father. As I've said before, the Father knows of no separation between you and him, and no preference as to Father and Word. Because the Father in you and everything that is, and the Word are one and the same light.*

And he goes on (this is Meister Eckhart again):

*The nature assumed by God is common to all people, without distinction of more or less.*

In other words, God becoming human, is in common with all human beings.

*Therefore, it's given to every person to become the son of God, substantially indeed, in Christ, but in himself or herself, by adoption, through grace. Humanity and divinity are one personal being in the person of Christ.*

But he says,

*It's not enough that we be other Christs, we also have to imitate him. We need to be doing Christ's works, and behaving exactly like Jesus. So, Jesus, who says, Follow me -- 'follow' is a command to act: mold yourself and all your works on his pattern.*

...Mold yourself and all your works on his pattern. So again, Eckhart is celebrating that deep level in us of the true self of our being. That being that leads to action, action that is not coming out of our outer self or our false self,

but derived from the inner self, which is very close to our being. And that being is the power of love and compassion, and justice making. It belongs to Christ and to all of us when we make that connection, in our deeper self, our true self. That way truth spreads itself and the world becomes the kingdom and queendom of God.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.