

Daily Meditation 8-28-2023

The Original Blessing of the Cosmos

Good morning.

It's been quite a while since I've spoken to you by Zoom, and video. So my intention is to do this once a week.

And today I'd like to elaborate on our meditation on the Original Blessing of the Cosmos.

I'd like to share with you an observation from Jacques Cousteau, the French lover of the ocean.

He says, "the exhilarating quest for discovery, the search to find that magic lies beyond the stars and inside the atom, is at once wonderfully insatiable, and wonderfully satisfying."

Doesn't that echo beautifully, the statement from Howard Thurman in our essay, that curiosity of the mind is an inherent characteristic, not unique to any particular age, culture, or society. Contemplation is a part of the curiosity of our race. Particularly he's writing about contemplation about the origins of our universe.

But I love to see that in a theologian mystic, like Howard Thurman, and in a scientist explorer like Jacques Cousteau.

Jacques Cousteau goes on: "We cannot find happiness in contemplating ourselves."

What an insight: Contemplating ourselves does not deliver happiness. I think so much of American culture, in this economy, is about contemplating ourselves.

This is why the Universe is important, folks: get us out of our narcissism.

But we CAN find it: we can find happiness in contemplating infinity, reaching out with our imaginations toward its majesty. It will in turn, embrace us and inspire us.

Those are inspiring words from Jacques Cousteau, and I'm moved to share them with you.

Now, another point I want to make in this commentary on the Original Blessing of the Cosmos, is to bring up--sadly again, but I think it needs to be brought up as part of the Shadow, Western religion.

Bringing up what I call the naysayers to Original Blessing. The naysayers [say]: "Ohh, what's Fox doing talking about Original Blessing? We're in business to talk about Original Sin!" said Cardinal Ratzinger and his boss, and all the history they represent, those who put Original Sin first, even though--let me repeat what I've written--[Original Blessing] has never been disproved.

Number One, Jesus never once talked about Original Sin. He was Jewish, no Jew talks about Original Sin. Original Sin is not in the Bible. It was first spoken of in the 4th century, the same century that the church took over the [Roman] Empire by St. Augustine, who had plenty of problems, not just that of Original Sin -- sexuality, and women, especially.

So I'd say that the naysayers are so fixed on the obvious limits of humankind. Of course we're flawed as a species. Of course we are, and all religions admit it. The Buddhists talk about it, and so forth, but they don't call it Original Sin. And neither do Eastern [Orthodox] Christians.

So of course, we need to clean up our souls. We look at the world. We have to clean up our theological act also, and begin at the beginning.

The beginning is the Original Blessing of 13.8 billion years of the Cosmos before sin ever showed up on the scene. At least on this planet.

The Original Blessing is our Cosmos, Original Blessing is our home. Original Blessing is this Earth. And Original Blessing is 13.8 billion years of history of continuous creation.

And it's still going on, this continuous creation, and it is still a blessing. And it is still original.

Let me add that there's nothing original about sin. How do we know that? Because it's always repeating itself.

That's why we have language like avarice and greed, and power-over dynamics, and patriarchy, and envy, and violence, and fear, and pettiness, and more arrogance. These words we call "capital sins," these are reminders. They come up in every generation. And of course, we can add racism and sexism, which is all part of arrogance; homophobia too, and militarism.

All these "isms" are themselves Satan personified. And obviously they are with us, but where do we think we're going to get the energy and the imagination, the playfulness to move beyond sin?

That's the question. And this is where the Original Blessing of the Cosmos is so important.

Thank you. We'll see you next week.