

Just a conversation on YouTube

Cartesian dogmatic Rationalism versus Oneness

Recently, I watched a video on YouTube with a talk by Rupert Spira. You can find it [here](#).

In it, Rupert Spira, a well known spiritual teacher of nonduality from London, explains that after 40 years of studying Eastern traditions, he finds himself falling back into the Christian roots in which he grew up. He describes Christian Mysticism in particular to be perhaps the most powerful expression of the non-dual understanding for him. (Also, he advertised on of his upcoming online retreat weekends in this way.)

I fully agree with Rupert that the teachings of Meister Eckhart are in no way inferior to those of the Advaita Vedanta and Mahayana Buddhism of India, the teachings of Jesus in the Bible, the Zen Buddhism of early China (the days of the Zen Patriarch's, like in the Hsin Hsin Ming) or the early Chinese Dao De Jing. Nonduality in official Christianity is harder to discover, although the Gospel of John holds many nondual thoughts, and when looking skillfully, like Marshall Davis has been proving in his books and talks, there is actually a lot of nonduality to be found in the Christian philosophy as well. So, I was not surprised about Rupert's excursion (or homecoming?) to early Christianity.

There were a lot of comments on this video, most were favourable and enjoyed Rupert's take on this. And there were also some critical notes, which were very enjoyable as well.

One of the commentators was some one going by the great name of *Renatus Cartesius*, which is the Latinized version of René Descartes, the famous French philosopher who coined the saying "*Cogito, ergo sum*", meaning "I think, therefore I am". He was the founder of rationalism and modern scientific thinking, a reaction on the mystical and doctrinal philosophy of the official Christian church. He reacted in several lines, of which I participated in three, which I will show in this Tale. This commentator Renatus reacted from a skeptic point of view, apparently from a more dogmatic Christian background (or playing like that), and tried to deny that this Christian mysticism of Meister Eckhart had anything to do with Christianity as we know it (which, in a way, is correct), and should not be called Christian at all (which is nonsense).

I reacted on the comment of Renatus from my realization of Oneness¹ (which is not specifically Christian, but founded in Perennial Philosophy), and three interesting lines of conversation unfolded, that are typically showing the misunderstandings from the personal rationalizing mind, not the least when coming from a viewpoint of dogmatic Christianity and the ceramic God-model, when confronted with the impersonal philosophy of Oneness that is taught by many

¹ Read our soon to be published book "[Tales & Paintings from Oneness](#)" about our realization and clarification. Check our website for the free pdf download soon.

Eastern systems of thought, and also by prophets from early Christianity, like (in this case) Meister Eckhart. His questions in red, my answers in blue.

(This first line of questioning clearly shows the inability or perhaps unwillingness of the personalizing mind to listen to or accept any notion of an impersonal Oneness as the source of All, let alone the source of Christianity.)

Line 1 started like this:

If my being is that of Christian god, how come I'm different from him?

You are not. You are God. Not Christian, but universal. Enjoy this divinity it is who you are. You take God personally. That God model is not sustainable, atheists are right about that. But throwing god away completely is not the intelligent answer either. Go one step further is. Improve your understanding of God as the creative impersonal power behind all manifested and unmanifested. Then find out this is who you are.

So, I shouldn't take the Bible as the officially codified doctrine of Christianity?

Of course you should, but this official reading has nothing to do with the early philosophy of Christianity as Jesus taught, which was more like Buddhism. The Bible as it is now is much more a product of the Paul of Tarsus, then it is of Jesus of Nazareth. Go and watch some videos of Marshall Davis, then report back.

Oh, I see. And, how come I'm unaware of people's prayers directed at me this very moment?

Prayers can be made. They can also be directed to an external God. But this God does not exist, so universe will redirect the prayer to the God in ourself that we all are. In a way, he who prays, prays to himself. The quality of the prayer will determine the power of the effect. Meditation and silent contemplation, being present with what is, is the most powerful form of prayer. It will immediately reveal the present reality. This is waking up.

Impersonal power is not the god of Christianity. Haven't you read the Bible? This should be Christian mysticism, not our own invention.

What is the evidence that Jesus taught about the four noble truths, the noble eightfold path, samsara, nibbana, karma, etc?

If an external god does not exist, Christianity is false. How can we practice Christian mysticism and reject Christian doctrine at the same time?

Christian mysticism like of Meister Eckhart is not official Christianity. The Church almost crucified him for his talks.

Where can I find nondualism in the Bible?

I haven't encountered the notion of oneness in Christianity. Could you let me know which Bible verse teaches about it?

Most oneness can be found in the gospel of John. But you have to translate this old vocabulary to make this visible. Current official interpretation of the Bible is dual. If you want to hear more, listen to the videos of Marshall Davis. Listen to Marshall Davis's video "Nonduality and the Bible".

If I'm the God of Christianity, I'm omniscient. Why would I need to read anything?

You are God. Meaning One. Christianity is a concept of the deluded mind.

So, what makes his mysticism Christian?

Only the time and place when he lived and the context of his intuition. If he had been born in Iraq, he would have been a Sufi. If in India, a Hindu. If in China, a Daoist. If in Israel, a rabbi. If in the Netherlands, a Calvinist. Christian is only a label of convenience., look into the term Perennial philosophy, it might broaden your experience. Don't attach to labels, they impair your view.

It seems to me you failed to notice that I'm not the one who has labeled that person as a 'Christian mystic'. And it's more than obvious that all this stuff has no foundation whatsoever in the officially codified doctrine of Christianity. So, labeling these teachings as Christian is deceptive and shameful.

Well, "Christian" is not an official or patented term. What the Church calls Christian is quite different from what Eckhart experienced as such. Don't get hung up on labels. They are always deceptive. Find out for yourself. Current official Christianity should be ashamed of using this word for themselves. That is what is deceptive and shameful. What is your own position in this all? So far you only repeat official dogmas and complain that this channel is deviating from that. So what? It's called thinking for yourself. Show me your own original thought and experience. Perhaps then we can really talk. Don't give me your ego, show me your Self. If you know the difference that is. If you don't, start listening and try to get wiser, not smarter.

My own position is that truth is objective, not relative. Do you understand?

I do. But the truth of the separating Cartesian mind is not the truth of reality.

In what way is 'Cartesian mind' relevant to this discussion?

In that Cartesian is separating and separation is what prevents the seeing of oneness in Christianity.

Thank you for the recommendation. However, since I'm Mr. God, I'm the highest authority on my nature, and thus I don't need to listen anyone's explanations. Marshall Davis should listen to me, not the other way around, since I'm Mr. God

God, nor you, nor Marshall Davis exist. There is only the One. If your God can speak, it is not Oneness.

Meister Eckhart's god can speak, don't you remember the quote which has given rise to this discussion? And if I don't exist, who are you talking to?

Meister Eckhart's God is a different one than your imagination has created. His is a God of realization. When Eckhart speaks of God, he speaks of the God that we all are. You speak about an imaginary product of your mind whom you think to be a super personal, omniscient entity. That is why your God can't be realized, only experienced in the illusion of the mind. Your God is a grandiose mirage. Eckhart's God is Oneness, the unpersonal substratum of all manifested and unmanifested, which is who and what we all are and can't not realize, just by being. It is very simple actually and quite common. It is in your face. Yet, you don't see. It is what you hear, yet you don't hear. In your current state of mind, this God is obviously not for you to realize. Drop the mind and it will all get clear and undisguised. You, being in the mind, will never get this. It is no thought or feeling or imagination. It is was already always is and who you are. What you are looking for, is where you are looking from. St. Francis said this. Remember him?

You've got a bit confused. Namely, the God I write about is the product of Christian doctrine, not the product of my mind. And my mind can't be an obstacle for realizing God, because, according to you, my mind doesn't exist. And, according to you, I don't exist.

Doctrine is always the product of mind. All illusions exist and cause delusions in the mind until they are seen through, then they vanish. It's like walking towards a fata morgana in the desert. The teaching of Oneness is about the dissolving of these illusions. It only works if the mind stops searching and resisting. Have you listened already to Marshall Davis? You might also want to read "the impersonal life" by Joseph S Benner. It has Christian roots, you might find it enlightening. .

I'm sorry, it's impossible for me to listen to any of that wise stuff, because I don't have a mind. I thought there was no mind...

And still , you keep answering. Is it your intuition? and what do you think now?

(to be continued?)

2. In a second line of conversation, someone started with a different comment (a quote from Meister Eckhart), :

"The very best and noblest attainment in this life is to be silent and let God work and speak within." ~Meister Eckhart

... and a different conversation unfolded like this when I took Renatus' name seriously and answered as if I was talking to René Descartes:

If we take the concept of one being as true, how can we resolve its contradiction to Meister Eckhart's quote, which implies the existence of more than one being?

Renatus, when you said *cogito ergo sum* you only found the truth of the personal thinking brain called ego/mind, not the much larger function of the brain called task positive network. There God and creation are realized as one. So, redo your homework and reconsider your mistake. Then you will find the dissolving of all seeming contradictions that you are so troubled about now. Mind you, you will never understand this with the small ego mind, for this is unknowable. But the clear brain, the Unborn mind can know this intuitively. This is what all the great mystics talk about and what some of them even realized.

Would your 'clear brain, the Unborn mind' be so kind as to explain to me how is the proposition "There is only one being" not in contradiction to the statement "There is more than one being"? Btw, I'm not the actual René Descartes. I'm the God of Christianity, if these teachings are true.

Gladly. Meister Eckhart's quote does not imply more than one being, since God and the being are one. You are God. We are all one God.

So, the statement "Be silent and let God speak within" doesn't imply two beings. Ok, but how can I speak while being silent? Does that mean that my omnipotence is not limited by the laws of logic? If that is the case, can I also be a married bachelor? God, please tell me.

You can be anything you want. You are everything. You are God, remember?

Why did he use words for something that cannot be explained by words?

He did more than using words. He lived a life of nonduality as well. And he was silent very profoundly too.

Trying to convince me that I am the God of Christianity is the most stupid thing anyone has ever attempted to make me believe.

You are not the God of Christianity, for that God does not exist. You are however the God of nonduality.

So, Christian mysticism teaches that there is no God of Christianity?

In covert words this is what Meister Eckhart tried to say, yes indeed. It is also that for which he was prosecuted by the official Christian authorities.

So, if Christian mysticism teaches 'in covert words' that there is no Christian God, what qualifies it as Christian? Its non-Christianity?

Only the time and place of the words. If Meister Eckhart had lived in Israel, he would have been a Rabbi. If in Irak, he would have been Sufi. If in the Netherlands, Calvinist. If in India, Hindu or Buddhist. If in China, Daoist or Zen Buddhist. Don't get hung up on labels, it is the content of his findings that is crucial, they point to oneness, as do all of the mentioned philosophies as well. Christian is just a label, and is has been misused much.

3. In the third line I want to mention here, which suddenly ended unexpectedly well, he started with the following comment:

How can one follow Christianity and reject one of its basic tenets? God is male, the Bible is clear on that.

Who's Bible? Taking the Bible literally is the work of the devil.

The official Christian Bible, of course. What is the evidence that biblical literalism is the work of the devil? And if there is only one being - God - doesn't that imply devil is God?

What is the evidence that the official Bible is actually about Christianity? And yes the devil is god as well.

Are you serious? If devil is god, and god is benevolent, devil's work is good. So, why does it have a negative connotation in your comment?

Of course I am serious. There is only One. So all is it and equal. And the devil is not negative, just different.

You keep asking questions in the form of "if,... Then" without checking if what comes after the "if" is correct. But mostly in your questions, it is not. God is not benevolent. There is only God. How could it be anything if there is nothing standing out as an opposite? There is only one. It is neverything. It has no qualities or attributes. It is beyond. You won't get anywhere near the One if you only ask dual questions . Listen There was a man who had a dream where he meditated about knocking on the door of the One. On the question Who is there, he answered It is me. The reply was Go away. He woke up in a sweat. Later he fell asleep again and knocked

on the door of Oneness again. Now on the question Who is there? he answered It is You. And the One said: Come in. You have to learn to ask the right questions in stead of many. And try to think about the right answers before asking a new question. It is called learning. What you do is trying to solve with a separating mind what can only be dissolved with a unifying heart.

"God is not benevolent." I'm amazed at the level of ignorance in this discussion. Namely, according to the Christian teachings, after their fusion with Greek philosophy, their God is omnibenevolent. That's a basic fact. On the other hand, if we read about their deity in the Bible, we can see that he's a genocidal maniac. Which makes him unworthy of worship and of any effort in trying to know him. And he's an external being, not some kind of our shared inner being. Any claim to the contrary has no foundation in Christianity, so all this business of 'Christian mysticism' is quite strange.

What is left for me to experience, if I'm God? I'm omniscient, don't you know my attributes?

Oneness is not omniscient, it has no attributes or qualities. For (you as) Oneness there is no personal experience. Only realization of neverything. It is complete. Full of emptiness.

1. Oneness is not omniscient. 2. God is omniscient. 3. Therefore, oneness is not God.

God is not omniscient. It is not knowledge that underlies all.

If I'm God, then it's quite unusual if anyone else teaches me about my attributes

If your God has attributes, it is a product of your ego/mind and it has nothing to do with Oneness.

If god is the product of my mind, then I'm greater than god. And if god is that which nothing greater can be conceived, then I'm God. So, the philosophy you're sharing is flawed.

No, the God you created in your mind, in your imagination is greater than you. But your mind is an illusion and so is the God you have created.

If my mind is an illusion, what creates my replies to you?

Bad habits. It's a reflex like sneezing.

What is it that has bad habits, if there's no mind?

The virtual mind you think you have and you think you are. This is your delusion. It is filled with habits and convictions, most are wrong and cause suffering and separation.

So, I don't have a virtual mind, I only think I do?

Indeed. Now go beyond all thinking, virtual or other. What do you find?

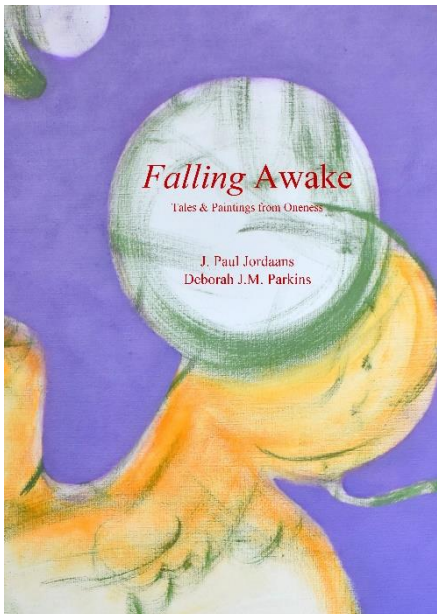
When I give up all rational thought, I find Christian mysticism 😊

(he was making a great joke, in which I found an opening and jumped in, head first:)

Now you are talking 😊 Enter Zen from there. And not only you find Christian mysticism, you find the One. That is, you will be found as the One.

Now, don't get me wrong. Only go beyond the mind (which is thoughts about I, me, mine, time). These are useless, for the mind is an illusion. You are not who the mind thinks you are, so all thoughts about that are illusory and wrong. You are the One. But you don't have to go beyond all thinking. Impersonal thoughts are very useful to solve problems, to be creative, to find your way around the thousands thing of the world. To find the car keys, put together the Ikea furniture even when a crucial piece seems missing, fill in you tax return, find your way home, recognize your family, spot nonsense on the tube etcetera. You seem to have a very clear and intelligent brain and your skepticism is a great tool - cherish it. But use it wisely, not for personal thoughts or quests, only for impersonal thinking. Personal thoughts need not be solved by the brain, for the brain is not interested in your person (only in the body). Personal thoughts can't be solved by the mind, for the mind doesn't know who you really are. So, never give thoughts like this to the mind or the brain. Ignore these thoughts, they will vanish by themselves when you don't feed them. If you want to have some scientific theory behind this all, find Gary Weber on the net. He researches the neural aspects of the differences between mind and brain. Look for "task positive network" and "default mode network". I think you will like it. Have a good life, Renatus, I enjoyed this conversation.

Thank you for an interesting conversation 😊 I wish you all the best 😊🌸🌻❤️



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