

Your Conception of Spirituality

“I don’t believe in religion, but I believe deeply in spirituality”

Have you said something like this? Many have; it is a common, and unfruitful, half-measure of true spirituality. It is a half-measure in that it is seen by most as a profound new way of looking at God. It is really just another way of having a spiritual identity without succumbing to what you abhor about joining an organized sect.

This philosophy is of no more use to you than any philosophy employed by the highly religious. It is a religion too; with just a single member. It is a very grandiose and self-centered religion, that I suggest not joining.

This custom-made religion has beliefs and concepts just like any other structured creed. It is a religion in the simple fact that it compares itself to other religions, as being NON-religion. In many ways it is of less value than the organized type in that it usually has no real work attached to it. It leaves everything up to your mind to devise and change, as it prefers. At least most organized religions require some work on the part of its parishioners. In that they may be a step ahead.

See that it is a compromise that you have settled upon for your own comfort. It gives you permission to say you are spiritual, without sacrificing any of your current thought possessions. In other words, you want to be spiritual, just in your own way. How is this any different than any other religion on earth?

It is not even *yours* in the sense that you believe it is, nor is it unique, as you’d like it to be. Is it not true that you have developed your brand of spirituality by watching others and adopting...or adapting their beliefs to be yours? Is it not true that YOU have decided which of these ideas is right for you? How can that be spiritual and not egotistical?

For years you have asked of other religions, “What makes them think they have the answer to God?” And yet you believe you have it for yourself. You think that your concepts and ideas are better because they are more open and inclusive. But aren’t they ideas just the same? Ideas are your problem. You think, therefore you err.

Spiritual ideas are traps that fool you into believing that you are *on* the path, when in reality, you haven’t even gotten *to* the path. Thinking you understand can be more dangerous than being completely asleep. While asleep you may finally be jolted into seeing True Reality. While under the guise of pseudo-spirituality, you have partial knowledge that keeps you insulated from critical life-changing jolts and this may keep you stuck in a sort of purgatory.

What can you do if you are stuck there?

Wake up by questioning everything you believe. Stop having a “way.” Instead, dedicate yourself to seeing Truth’s way, no matter what the personal consequence might be. If you cannot see it, do not make the mistake of thinking that you can. Just live without seeing it for the moment, only then can it be revealed to you.

Remember that Truth will not enter the space still occupied by the false. The false must go first. It is a spiritual law that you will see for yourself if you proceed to drop something false. You are currently conditioned to think the opposite- that you can ramble through life stockpiling truths, later to be so full of them that the false ideas will be pushed out. This does not work. What you are stockpiling are merely quotes and profound ideas filtered by your personal discretion. Look at what you have truly gained thus far—it should serve as proof of this law. See that your discretion is faulty.

In the same way, an idea can never occupy the same space as awareness. The idea is a dream, a supposition of what may or may not be. Awareness is a keen understanding of what truly is. If you can have Reality, why would you choose the dream? The answer is that you still prefer the dream. And this is exactly why you have an imaginary spiritual identity. You prefer it to Reality.

See that you refuse to do the work required to see Reality in all of its glory because you imagine it to be unsuitable for you. This is the problem—that you imagine everything as being either suitable for you or not. It would only be helpful to you to see that your idea of spirituality is a dream just like all of your other ideas about people, about the world, and about you.

Work to clear your mind of all *ideas of spirituality*. Concentrate on awareness, which is the true foundation of the Good Life. With awareness will come the understanding that you seek. Stop imagining what spirituality is and see it for yourself. Live it and stop speaking of it.

Stop fearing all that you fear about the Truth. Stop worrying about what it will take from you. Everything you fear losing isn’t real anyway. Stop nervously describing your life as you wish it were, hoping that will make it real. Just once, let go and see the Truth as it truly is. Be truly brave for the first time in your life.

Spirituality is simply the state of living in the Truth. Truth has no tenets, no characteristics, and no concepts about it. It is the Ultimate Absolute. While considering it in terms of tenets, characteristics and concepts you are not living it. It needs not be argued, considered nor sold to anyone. If you want to have it, you can.

Work to see that your words do nothing for you in discovering the Truth. No, you must live it, a moment at a time. And this you can do, beginning now.