



Living in Relational Wholeness



COALESCE

Coalesce Podcast

Episode 002 – Deep Wisdom

Note, terms, scripture, practice

“1) the metaphysic which recognizes a divine Reality substantial to the world of things and lives and minds; 2) the psychology that finds in the soul something similar to, or even identical to, divine Reality; 3) the ethic that places man’s final end in the knowledge of the immanent and transcendent Ground of all being. This is immemorial and universal. Rudiments of the perennial philosophy may be found among the traditional lore of primitive peoples in every region of the world, and in its fully developed forms it has a place in every one of the higher religions” (Aldous Huxley, *The Perennial Philosophy*, page vii).

[Ephesians 2:14-16](#)

“There is a variety of gifts, but it is always the same Spirit. There are all sorts of service to be done, but always the same Lord, working in all sorts of different ways in different people. It is the same God working in all of them” ([1 Corinthians 12:4-6](#)).

Universe—from Latin, *unus + versus*, “to turn around one thing.”

“unity of the Spirit which was given us all to drink” ([1 Corinthians 12:13](#)).

“The love of God creates in us such a **oneing** that when it is truly seen, no person can separate themselves from another person” (Julian of Norwich, *Showings*, p 65).

[Matthew 19:28](#)

[John 17:21-26](#)

[Isaiah 40:4.3](#)

“Wisdom is an ancient tradition, not limited to one particular religious expression but at the headwaters of all the great sacred paths.... One of the greatest losses in our Christian West has been the loss of memory (in fact, almost a collective amnesia) about our own Wisdom heritage” (Cynthia Bourgeault, *The Wisdom Way of Knowing: Reclaiming an Ancient Tradition to Awaken the Heart*, p. 4).

“The real Source of Wisdom lies in a higher or more vivid realm of divine consciousness that is neither behind us nor ahead of us but always surrounding us.... [Wisdom] seems to go underground for a while; one loses the thread. Then, in ways inexplicable to linear causality, it pops up again. It re-creates itself over and over, so it seems, in the minds and hearts of those who have been taught (or discovered on

their own) how to listen and see. It never really goes away, and it always comes back in a fresh new form, customized to the conditions of the world” (ibid, pp. 25-26).

[Isaiah 11:2](#)

[1 Corinthians 12:8](#)

[Romans 8:16](#)

[John 14:26](#)

[Jeremiah 31:33](#)

[Jeremiah 1:5](#)

[Isaiah 49:1](#)

[2 Peter 1:12-15](#)

[John 14:26](#)

“sift through the situation in front of them, throwing out all that is irrelevant, while zeroing in on what really matters. The truth is that our unconscious is really good at this, to the point where thin-slicing often delivers a better answer than more deliberate and exhaustive ways of thinking” (Malcolm Gladwell, *Blink*, p. 33).

[Matthew 21:28-32](#)

[Proverbs 9:1](#)

A generous orthodoxy is “a consistent practice of *humility, charity, courage, and diligence*. *Humility* that allows us to admit that our past and current formulations may have been limited or distorted. *Charity* toward those of other traditions who may understand some things better than our group.... *Courage* to be faithful to the true path of our faith as we understand it, even when it is unpopular, dangerous, and difficult to do so. *Diligence* to seek again and again the true path of our faith whenever we feel we have lost our way...” (Brian McLaren, *A Generous Orthodoxy*, p. 34).

Matthew Fox, *One River, Many Wells*, pp. 16, 18, 22

Practice: Lectio Divina

With the first reading, *listen* with your heart's ear for a phrase or word that stands out for you. During the second reading, *reflect* on what touches you, perhaps speaking that response aloud or writing in a journal. Third, *respond* with a prayer or expression of what you have experienced and what it calls you to. Fourth, *rest* in silence after the reading.

And now I understand everything, hidden or visible,
for Wisdom, the designer of all things, has instructed me.
For within her is a spirit intelligent, holy,
unique, manifold, subtle,
mobile, incisive, unsullied,
lucid, invulnerable, benevolent, shrewd,
irresistible, beneficent, friendly to human beings,
steadfast, dependable, unperturbed,
almighty, all-surveying,
penetrating all intelligent, pure and most subtle spirits.
For Wisdom is quicker to move than any motion;
she is so pure, she pervades and permeates all things.
She is a breath of the power of God,
pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty;
so nothing impure can find its way into her.
For she is a reflection of the eternal light,
untarnished mirror of God's active power,
and image of his goodness.
Although she is alone, she can do everything;
herself unchanging, she renews the world,
and, generation after generation, passing into holy souls,
she makes them into God's friends and prophets;
for God loves only those who dwell with Wisdom.
She is indeed more splendid than the sun,
she outshines all the constellations;
compared with light, she takes first place,
for light must yield to night,
but against Wisdom evil cannot prevail.

– The Book of [Wisdom 7:21-30](#) (The New Jerusalem Bible)