



Living in Relational Wholeness

Coalesce Podcast

Episode 022 – Everything Is Holy, One Wholeness

Note, terms, scripture, practice



Our job as humans is to make admiration of reality and adoration of God fully conscious and intentional. Then everything is a prayer and an act of adoration.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945) “religionless Christianity”

God wisely makes the problem itself part of the solution.

Christ has something in common with all creatures. With the stone he shares existence, with the plants he shares life, with the animals he shares sensation, and with the angels he shares intelligence. Thus all things are transformed in Christ since in the fullness of his nature he embraces some part of every creature. –Bonaventure (c. 1221-1274)

Emanation—We come forth from God bearing the divine image; our very DNA is found in God.

Exemplarism—Everything, the entire chain or nest of being, is an example and illustration of the one God Mystery in space and time, by reason of its “origin, magnitude, multitude, beauty, plentitude, activity, and order.”

Consummation—We return to the Source from which we came; the Omega is the same as the Alpha, and this is God’s supreme and final victory.

honest self-knowledge—awareness of how you are processing your reality moment by moment

[Psalm 42:7](#)

John Duns Scotus (c. 1266-1308) *the univocity of being*; we can speak “with one voice”

[Deuteronomy 6:4](#)

[Ephesians 4:3-5](#)

[Colossians 3:11](#)

[1 Corinthians 15:28](#)

Holon - Each of us replicates the Whole and yet has a certain wholeness within ourselves—but we are never entirely whole apart from connection with the larger Whole

[1 Corinthians 12:12-30](#)

What you seek is what you are

[Philippians 2:12b-13](#)

[John 15:4-5](#)

Practice: Seeing Our Brothers and Sisters

We've explored how Contemplative spirituality clears away the illusion of separateness. The contemplative mind can help us see how everything belongs to the One Wholeness, which we call God, Creator, Being Itself. God is Love. Love is the source, the sustenance, and the goal. It is indeed one sacred world. Believing and experiencing this to be true, we discover natural, though often challenging, consequences for such a unified reality. We must ask, as Francis did, "Lord, make me a channel of your peace."

Thich Nhat Hanh, the renowned Buddhist peacemaker, identifies the practical need for awareness of our union:

"We need to rise above [dualistic choosing of sides] to look at a conflict the way a mother would who is watching her two children fighting. She seeks only their reconciliation.

"'In order to fight each other, the chicks born from the same mother hen put colors on their faces.' This is a well-known Vietnamese saying. Putting colors on our own face is to make ourselves a stranger to our own brothers and sisters. We can only shoot others when they are strangers. Real efforts for reconciliation arise when we see with the eyes of compassion, and that ability comes when we see clearly the nature of interbeing and interpenetration of all beings.

"In our lives, we may be lucky enough to know someone whose love extends to animals and plants. We may also know people who, although they themselves live in a safe situation, realize that famine, disease, and oppression are destroying millions of people on Earth and look for ways to help those who suffer. They cannot forget the downtrodden, even amidst the pressures of their own lives. At least to some extent, these people have realized the interdependent nature of life. They know that the survival of the underdeveloped countries cannot be separated from the survival of the materially wealthy, technically advanced countries. The fate of each country is linked to the fate of all others.

"When will the chicks of the same mother hen remove the colors from their faces and recognize each other as brothers and sisters? The only way to end the danger is for each of us to do so, and to say to others, 'I am your brother.' 'I am your sister.' 'We are all humankind, and our life is one.'"

The Franciscan official motto is *Deus Meus et Omnia*, "My God and all things." Or as Francis might say, "We are all creations of the same God and thus all life is one."