

Daily Meditation 04/05/2022

Eddie Kneebone on the Dreamtime & Creation Spirituality

Good morning.

We're discussing the wisdom of indigenous peoples. And today, that of Eddie Kneebone, an activist among the Aboriginal Peoples of Australia; he's now deceased. But in this interview that I offered today, there were some things he said that we did not have room to include in the essay, but I really want to stress: that indigenous wisdom, as I say, is filling in the gaps.

There are big gaps in modern consciousness and Western modern consciousness. But the biggest one being this: the loss of the connection between psyche and cosmos.

Remember that Thomas Aquinas says that the greatest thing about the human being is our capacity to relate to the universe. What if no one ever told us we relate to the universe, and that it matters, and that is how morality and behavior is developed, proper behavior?

Well, I think very few people in the West have had an education where they were taught that psyche and cosmos are made for each other. Unfortunately, not just education but religion has utterly, utterly failed us in this regard.

So one of the questions that Eddie Kneebone answered was "What aspects of creation spirituality are you most comfortable with and tie in best with the dream time?"

And I repeat the first part of that answer, the aspect of being at one with the universe: not just our country, not the environment around us, but the universe. And he elaborates on that, and this is what he says:

"During the daytime, we can look outside, and we see trees, birds, rivers, the wind and the clouds in the sunshine. This is the environment that is revealed during the daylight hours, that we take for granted."

...that we take for granted, see, we're taking nature for granted. And of course, it shows with the eco-crisis of our time.

"But at night," he says, "at night, the other half of our environment is revealed: the universe. The universe comes out at night. You might see, every clear night we can look up and see billions of stars."

Of course, this is in the outback in Australia, not in the cities.

"That is also a part of our lives, you see the millions of stars in the sky. It is an important part of our lives that we forget about and don't include in our way of thinking.

"In Aboriginal spirituality, however, it certainly was included.

We look up and see the stars shining above and we say 'they are the bright suns and around them there are planets, possibly with people that we will never see.'

"The Aboriginals looked up at night and they didn't see the stars, they never saw stars. They only saw the campfires of their ancestors on their journey. The bright stars were the ancestors who were not long gone. The dimmer stars were the ancestors further on the journey. They imagine that the ancestors sitting around their campfires were looking back and seeing the campfires of the living physical Aboriginals at their own campsites. The Aboriginals look up and really believe that their eyes could meet..."

...that their eyes could meet.

"As for me, creation spirituality as Matthew Fox talks about it is like the dream time in the way that it brings the entire cosmos into our lives, making it a part of us and us a part of it."

...Psyche and Cosmos. mirroring again.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.