

Daily Meditation 04/06/22

Aboriginal Spirituality, the Dreamtime, & Creation Spirituality

Good Morning.

We continue our meditations on the Dreamtime: the very rich category of the Aboriginal peoples of Australia, which essentially means creation, the ongoing creation to which we all belong.

And I propose that it's not unlike some very important Christian themes, the theme of the kingdom and queendom of God being here now, or of Jesus' prayer that we make earth and heaven come together. And the idea of realized eschatology, the future as already here.

And also, the important idea that we should not be living in the past: that we should bring the past along and be very aware of our ancestors, our human ancestors. But also the ancestors that brought us here, the supernova explosion, birth of our sun, our planets, the original fireball that got everything going. These are our ancestors too, our physical ancestors, that are within this long train, this long caravan of 13.8 billion years that has brought us this far.

Of course, today, science helps us to see this in a new light and with new images. And now we're on the verge of the Webb telescope, soon to be sending back pictures of light. And its first origins, perhaps, in the universe.

And remember, even when the Bible says "Let there be light," it was not talking about the sun. It's not the sunlight. There was light that preceded the sun, even in the Bible. It preceded the sun. And the same is true in today's creation story. Our sun is far younger than 13.8 billion years. The fireball was original light, and everything was cooked in that: the beginning of everything was cooked in that, hydrogen, helium and so forth.

So it's useful to take these ancient stories, and philosophies and theologies of creation and to mirror them with a new story from science. And that way we realize that our ancestors were asking similar questions we're asking; they were researching too, and they came up with big answers, like Dreamtime, beautiful term, that summarizes a lot of what we ought to be serious about today, such as I talk about in the essay, about the eternal Now, about the Now being so important, the past was very important.

The past isn't here anymore as past. It's here as part of us and every other being that is happening still, we're all happening; the Dreamtime is a verb. Creation is a verb. Creation wasn't done in the past, it's still going on every day as a new creation. All of this, I think, floods us with awe and wonder, reverence and gratitude. Therefore with a springboard for wisdom, springboard for our mystical lives.

No wonder Meister Eckhart says that "If the only prayer you say in your whole life is Thank You, that would suffice."

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.