

Daily Meditation 02/13/23

Sacred Light & Creation in Buddhism, Christianity, Science

Good morning.

Today we're continuing our meditation on the Cosmic Christ and the Buddha nature. And I tell the story of meeting a Buddhist monk in South Korea a few years ago, and how he was excited about the concept of the Cosmic Christ and wanted to start preaching about the Cosmic Buddha.

Also, we had dinner together one night, and he had a fellow monk with him. They did not speak any English, and they were kind of down the table a bit from me, but I heard them laughing. And their laughter carried on a bit, so I asked my translator to ask them what was so funny.

They said that they were in their 50s, young 50s, I think, and I was in my late 70s, and they said they were just talking and they realized they both left home at about 17 to become monks. And they felt that meeting me, that because they had left home at that young an age, they felt they never really had a father as adults. And they felt that meeting me made them their fathers. So they wanted to kind of adopt me as their father.

That's what they were laughing about. Here, I am laughing, six years later. But it was fun.

And then he took me to his monastery, which was on a mountain actually, and we climbed up to the top of the mountain. And he said, the next time I come to Korea he's going to take me up there to meditate all night long, because it's a beautiful view and he says it's a very special place to meditate.

But along the way, going up the mountain, there were many caves, and he would take them into them and show me that monks would often live in these caves, and they had carved statues of the Buddha and so forth inside the caves over the centuries.

So it was a very special and holy, holy place. And it was a wonderful dialogue that was a surprise to me. I didn't know that I was going to meet such an interesting Buddhist monk on my trip. But it left me with a very good feeling.

When it comes to the Cosmic Christ, Hildegard of Bingen, of course, is one of many Christian mystics who knew the Cosmic Christ, applied with a variety of languages, diversity of words to the concept. So I

have a chapter in my book on Hildegard, on Hildegard. And it's called "Living Words and the Cosmic Christ: Hildegard Meets Mary Oliver."

So in this book, I have her meeting a different person in each chapter right now. In one chapter, Hildegard meeting Einstein. And in another she's meeting Dorothy Solle, and in another she's meeting Clarissa Pinkola Estes. And I think in another she's meeting Howard Thurman.

But I think this is a fine way to bring medieval mystics into our 21st century, is to put them in the room with some of our more enlightened thinkers and philosophers and theologians.

So here's just something that Hildegard says about the Cosmic Christ. She talks about how word is music and music is word. She says, "A resounding melody is inherent in every being and in every corner of the universe. The whole universe is vibrating with music and making melody," she says. And I think that is backed up by today's science. Where there's vibration, there's music.

And especially she zeroes in on John's gospel, the first chapter about the Word of God. "In the beginning was the Word." And she combines music and words. She hears words. She, as I say, feels them as resounding melody. She says, "Without the word of God, no creature has being. God's word is in all creation both visible and invisible."

So that "logos" is the word for "word" in Greek and in John's gospel, and it's often applied to Christ. And that too is part of the Cosmic Christ tradition, Chapter 1 of John's gospel. But here she's applying it to the experience of music and the experience of, what she says, "All verdant green, all creativity."

"The Word is living, being, spirit, all verdant green, all creativity."

So it's everywhere. And that is the Cosmic Christ. archetype at work.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.