

Dialogue on Enlightenment with J. Krishnamurti - Part 2

The questioner, mentioned in Message 484, had further doubts. (It is interesting that his questions were all good questions, emerging from his observation of what he was seeing and not from second hand borrowed concepts). He asked:

“When you say ‘this has been the teaching of ‘true religion’ (does it not) .. create the camp of professionals and specialists versus the rest of the world. Do you mean, then, that religion is separate from life?”

J. Krishnamurti replied:

“Religion is not separate from life; on the contrary it is life itself. It is this division between religion and life which has bred all the misery you are talking about. So we come back to the basic question of whether it is possible in daily life to live in a state which, for the moment, we call enlightenment. Enlightenment is a state of negation of false ‘I-ness’. Negation is the most positive action, not positive assertion. Most of us so easily accept positive dogma, a positive creed, because we want to be secure, to belong, to be attached, to depend. The positive attitude divides and brings about duality. The conflict then begins between this attitude and others. But the negation of all values, of all morality, of all beliefs, having no frontiers, cannot be in opposition to anything. A positive statement in its very definition separates, and separation is resistance. To this we are accustomed, this is our conditioning. To deny all this is not immoral; on the contrary to deny all division and resistance is the highest morality. To negate everything that man has invented, to negate all his values, ethics and gods, is to be in a state of mind in which there is no duality, therefore no resistance or conflict between opposites....

...To deny all this is to deny oneself, and oneself is the conditioned entity who continually pursues a conditioned good. To most of us negation appears as a vacuum because we know activity only in the prison of our conditioning, fear and misery. From that we look at negation and imagine it to be some terrible state of oblivion or emptiness. To the man who has negated all the assertions of society, religion, culture and morality, bliss and benediction of Freedom dawns. The man who is in the prison of social conformity is a man of sorrow.

Negation is a state of enlightenment which functions in all the activities of a man who is free of the past. It is the past with its tradition and its authority, that has to be negated. Negation is freedom, and it is the free man who lives, loves and knows what it means to die.”

Perceptions:

1. Freedom from the conditioned assertions that constitute what we call “I”, brings about freedom from opposites — for Omnipotent, Omnipresent to be.
2. When there is non-action of the mind-ego complex, there is the real living - the highest action of Life-Love.
3. Religiosity - or true religion - is living life from moment to moment - free from the stranglehold of fanciful concepts and imagined postulates.