

## Can Religion Be Scientific?

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And so, our subject this morning, I will not keep you too long, is: "Can Religion Be Scientific?" "Can Religion Be Scientific?"

True Religion can be scientific; not dogmatic religion. True Religion can be scientific, because the Universality of Religion is scientific. That's the point. And to know God is the science of all sciences. Realize that, that the Universality of Religion is that which is scientific; not dogmatic religion.

Religion means, "that which binds us to God," or binds us to the Great Spiritual Consciousness beyond this body. That is True Religion; not dogmatic religion. That can be scientific.

Now, in the ordinary sciences there must be something that's common to everybody, a universal experience. And so, in the ordinary sciences – of physics, chemistry, astronomy, atomic sciences, relativity – in that you will find something that's common to everyone. But it's common to sensation, intellect, mind, inference, and reason. Now realize that. In physics, for instance, we see a flash of lightening, and then, after a certain length of time, we hear the noise. And so, we know that there's a certain distance, by taking the time between the flash and the sound. Those things are common to all experience. Everybody sees that flash of lightening, and hears that, and they can compute, through inference, the distance between the flash and the sound. That's just one illustration.

We can take sodium and chloride put them together, we get common salt. That's a common experience, a universal experience. And in relativity, of course, we have many things that are not exactly easy to understand, but they are known through sensation, intellect, inference, and so forth. And so, there is a universal point upon which science can be understood, and the order and arrangement of events, can be known universally. Just like when that lightening flash takes place, the sound comes, and everybody can see and hear it, and realize what it means – the underlying law of physics, and so forth.

Relativity, of course, is, is quite an intricate thing to understand. But nevertheless, nevertheless, its events, events of relativity, can be understood by everybody through sensation, and through mind and intellect, and inference, and reason. And so, you see, there's a common ground, and we will find, as we

go along, that in religion, there's a Universal Understanding. There's a Universality of Religion that is scientific. Not the orthodox religions.

Now, if there is a Universal Understanding in the ordinary sciences, is there such a thing in religion? Yes, there is; in True Religion. But realize this difference; in the sciences, they are understood by sensation, and by thought, by intellect, and by inference and reason. Now realize that one point. But in True Religion, the Universality of True Religion is understood not by sensation, mind, and intellect and reason, but by intuition. Intuition is the Soul's knowing, cognizing power. It is that which understands the Universality of Religion.

Now, if you take religion in that light – the Universality of Religion – it is absolutely scientific, because to know God is the science of all sciences. That's why you can't fool around with meditation, and go to sleep, and dream about other things. No. You don't get God that way. To have God contact you must be very scientific. And to be very scientific, you have to use your intuition. You cannot know God by outward means: by the senses, by the mind, and by the intellect. But by the Soul's power, which comes when you mean business with God. When you become really scientific, and not dream away your time; then you will find the Universality of Religion, right there waiting for you, and you will find it to be absolutely scientific. Why? Because everybody, irrespective of color, race, or creed, sees the same thing through intuition.

Now, you can see why religion can be scientific; every one of you here. I don't care who or you come, who you are, or where you come from, if you look in the right place, and still the waves of the mind, you will see the same thing that I see, or the greatest saint ever saw – the Presence of God as the Spiritual Eye at this point [in the forehead between the eyebrows]. That's the Universality of Religion. It is as simple as that. But look at the churches, look at the dogma, look what goes on between the Baptists and the Methodists and the Presbyterians and the hard-shelled and soft-shelled Baptists and everything. Well, what is it? Dogma! That's not scientific. But each one of those hard-shelled Baptists, or soft-shelled Baptists, or any of them, if you sit them down, and quiet the mind, they will see the same Light of God at this point [between the eyebrows]. That's the Universality of Religion. Try and tell them that. Watch out! You'll have to start running, unless you follow their dogma, and their creed, and so forth.

And so, there is a comical side to this dogma. We might as well face it. It's there, but don't get caught in it. Now for instance, let us take, for instance, God; God. We read in the Bible, Jesus' words, "I and my Father are one.<sup>1</sup>" Jesus said that. All right, that's one aspect of it. That's a dogmatic aspect. Jesus said so; it must be so. All right, you follow that. But the Universality of God is this; that, if you look at this point [between the eyebrows] you will see the Spiritual Eye; you'll see the Spiritual Light. And the

Master told me one time when he was leaving Boston, and I said, “What am I going to do, Sir? You’re going away.” He says, “Never mind what happens to me. That light which you see is far greater than I am. That’s God Himself.” Now that’s the Universality of Religion. That’s the scientific aspect of religion.

Jesus said, “I and my Father are one.”<sup>2</sup> When he said that, he spoke from God’s Consciousness in him, as the Christ Consciousness. Those who follow – follow in a dogmatic way, in a theoretical way – they are religious in that sense. But those who see the Light of God at this point [the Spiritual Eye], and all of those who follow the techniques of the Master, who was one with God; all of those will see that Light. They are scientific religionists. Religion to them is scientific. It’s a universal thing. And everybody – that’s the beauty of it – everybody, whether you’re from India or America, or North or South America, any place in the world; if you sit down and really want God, and follow the right techniques, you will see the Light of God. Isn’t that scientific? Isn’t that scientific religion? Yes. Why? Because the Universality of Religion is scientific, nothing else; the Universality of it; that which is common to everybody. In ordinary physics we see the results, the events of physical law. It’s common to everybody through the senses, and inference, and intellect. And so, with religion, the true aspect of religion, True Religion, the Universality of it is common to everybody, and can be perceived by everyone.

Now the dogmatic religions – I have to just pick out the important points this morning – the dogmatic religions are based on what? Experiences of particular people. Hinduism, experiences of the Vedas; Buddhism, the experiences of Buddha; and Christianity, the experiences of Christ. Now, they experienced the Universality of Religion, without question of a doubt. Jesus said, “...thine eye is single...”<sup>3</sup> We know that, and so, the Universality is there, but it is experienced by another. Don’t you see? You, you have to make it your own. You have to make religion scientific to yourself; a Reality. You have to know the Universality of Religion just like Buddha, and the Vedas, the Great Rishis of India, and Christ knew the Universality of Religion. So, we have to know the Universality of Religion. So don’t be side, don’t be sidetracked by the theoretical aspect or the dogma.

Now, there are many arguments that religion is not scientific. Two of the most important ones are these, which I think you should know, because it will come up in your experience with people. For instance, the experiences of the sages of India, and of Buddha, and of Jesus Christ are not possible at this time. Why not? Just because the customs have changed since the time ten thousand years ago or whenever those great Rishis lived, and they did things a little different than they do now. If you sat down and looked at the right place, and followed the right technique, you would see the same Light of Christ Consciousness at this point thousands of millenniums ago. Same Christ Consciousness; same Light at this point which Isaac saw, and Jesus, and David, and Moses, and Buddha, Krishna, Arjuna; same Universality of Religion. Isn’t that wonderful? Why? Because it’s above time and space. When you speed up this body – the cells of this body, the vibration in this body – when you speed up to the speed of light,

time vanishes. And what do you find? You find that your consciousness has become the whole Body of God; the Omniscience of God.

That's relativity in the real sense. That's scientific relativity, if we can call it that. Einstein found it and put it down in his equations. He knew it in that way. But the humble devotee, who doesn't know anything about relativity, knows it in the Real sense, because he can see the Light of God right at this point. Isn't that wonderful? Isn't religion scientific? I'll say it is. If you follow one who knew scientific religion, who knew the Universality of Religion, as our Master did, you, too, will know religion in a scientific way.

Now, the other objection is this: that those experiences were only possible to the founders of different religions; they set the example. That's right. But what did Jesus say? "The things I do ye shall do and greater things.<sup>4</sup>" The things I do you shall do and greater things. Why? Because the same Universality of Religion is in each and every one of us; the same Light of Christ is in us; the same Christ Consciousness is in us. And when we become one with that, then we can do the things which the saints have done. We can do the things which Jesus did. As the Master said, "Forget me," he meant personality "and that Light which you see is far greater than I am. That's God Himself."

And so, this Universality of Religion is in each and every one of us. We have to use scientific means to know it. Just like in physics, in chemistry, they use external means to know these things, with their test tubes, and their Bunsen burners, and their cyclotrons, and their betatrons, and a whole lot of "trons." What do they find out? They find out things by external means. But in religion we have to use internal means. We have to use internal instruments. And the greatest internal instrument which we have is the Presence of God in us; our own omniscience, our own consciousness, manifesting as intuition, the power of your own Soul, my Soul, to know Truth and Reality. And so, when we look at religion in that light, it is very scientific.

And so, in conclusion, belief in God is not enough. Belief in God will help, there's no question. But consider the belief in God and with that, with actual contact with God. There's no comparison. Because when you contact God you find your own Self, and you'll find your Self is One with God. When you remove the separation, by using scientific means which the Master has left to us; when you do that, you'll find your own consciousness expands through the same laws which Einstein found out, but which the yogis knew years, and years, and ages ago. You'll find your own consciousness, your vibration, expands into that Light which God created. In the beginning God created light.<sup>5</sup> That's the Burning Power of His Consciousness. That's the Universality of Religion, and everybody who merges in that – it

doesn't make any difference what the bypath has been, whether it has been Methodism, or any of the bypaths, the same Light is there.

Whether he be Methodist, Protestant, Catholic, whatever he is; behind that is the same Light. Isn't that wonderful? And the same Light, which Jesus saw, Moses saw, the Great Rishis of India saw, ages ago, the same Light, the same Christ Consciousness, the Light of Christ. And that's the most wonderful thing.

And Einstein has shown, has showed, that matter resolves into energy; finally into light. But the yogis beat him to it. They did it, long time ago by meditation. And in meditation, what do they do? The same thing; they changed their body into electromagnetic waves, finally into light; and they have the Omniscient Consciousness of God, because that is God. God created Light. And, if we can expand our consciousness into that Light, our little body, limited body, with its consciousness squeezed in this little thing, expands into the Great Omniscient Light of God, that's real religion, isn't it? That's the Universality of Religion. That's True Religion.

But the dogma of even SRF, with all its theories; and its wonderful theories, and theories are wonderful; but, if you follow the dogma only, and miss the Reality – which is conscious contact with God through the methods of Self-Realization – you have not experienced True Religion. True Religion is wonderful, because it's absolutely scientific. And if you do so much meditation, follow the right meditation; if you do so much in the right way. Not with the mind running off to a baseball game, or to a movie, or anything like that. But, if you meditate, and mean business with God, and use scientific means followed, do you think that they could vary that cyclotron one, one degree and have it work? No! It has to be just right. I don't know the mechanism; I don't want to. It's too much bother. But it has to be just right, and then the little electrons shoot off. Then they measure their speed and such things. Why? Because they use scientific means. Why not use scientific means in knowing God?

And the Master has left those scientific means for us. And those who follow, who follow in a scientific way, without question of a doubt, will see the Universality of Religion – True Religion. They will find it to be absolutely scientific. Because, if you do this this way, and you do it right; if you do so many Kriyas this way, and you do them right, you'll get so much advance in evolution. And when you do enough, you'll be free from ego consciousness. Then you will be able to see your consciousness not limited to this body, but expanded into the Great Omniscience of God. God will take you into "a large place,<sup>6</sup>" as we read in the scriptures. Most beautiful, how, how the Psalmist has covered that up. When you feel the expansive Consciousness of God, you'll know you are in a large place all right! You'll know you are in the Omniscience God, the greatest large place you can get into, because that's your own consciousness. We have to break the limiting boundaries of our little ego consciousness; expand it into the Great Sea of God's Bliss. That's True Religion. That's the Universality of Religion.

And so, realize this, that in religion, we have to use internal means. And that internal instrument is your own Soul's power – Intuition – far above sensation. As long as senses are there, and the mind is operating in the intellect and the inference, it won't operate, because you're not doing it scientifically. But when you shut those things out, remove sensation; stop the thoughts and the intellect; then that's scientific. Then you know the Universality of Religion as God's Light through the Intuition within.

And so, the science of religion is to contact God. That's True Religion. Contact Him. See the Single Eye spoken of by Jesus, who knew Real Religion. He and the Great Word of God, spoken of by St. John: "In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, the Word was God."<sup>7</sup> That's True Religion. Not talking about it; but greatest of all, feel in your heart the Great Love, which all the saints manifested; especially, nearest and dearest to us, the love which the Master has shown, has shown for us, and still shows for us, by being with us and watching over us. That's True Religion. Know that Love; then you know the Real Love of God.

Now, if you do these things, if you follow exact scientific laws, which he has left for us to do, just as the physical scientist realizes the truth of his physics, so each and every one of us will realize the truth of True Religion, the Universality of Religion right within us; the Presence of God in us, as the Great Light at this point.

And so, finally, True Religion, or knowing God, can be scientific, if you use scientific means, left to us by our beloved Master. Using those scientific means, you contact the Universality of Religion, which is God Himself in each and every one of us as the great Cosmic Sound; the Great Cosmic Light; the Great Cosmic Love. Then there'll be no question about dogmatic religion, even though you're brought up in a dogmatic religion. Are you going to blight your own Soul by staying in it when you can see the Universality of Religion right within yourselves? Some come to me and I hear about it. They can't understand that they have to leave something which is given to them in childhood. What of it? You're leaving it for the greatest thing in your life: the Presence of God within you. Now that's the Universality of Religion. Do that! Do that! Then you'll know, without question of a doubt, that you have True Religion. You are a true child of God, and that religion, is absolutely scientific.

2 Ibid.

3 Matthew 6:22, "The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, they whole body shall be full of light."

4 St. John 14:12, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and great works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."

5 Genesis 1:3, "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."

6 Psalm 18:19, "He brought me forth also into a large place; he delivered me, because he delighted in me." Psalm 118:5, "I called upon the Lord in distress: the Lord answered me, and set me in a large place."

7 St. John 1:1