In the MIND OF THE ALL: Our Conscious Universe

By Rev Barry King

We in the Interfaith Movement, who embrace a path which celebrates a unifying and universal approach to our understanding of God, are the benefactors of a philosophy which is thousands of years old. In this philosophy, we are aware that there is but one Ultimate Reality which is known in the world’s religions by many names. This fundamental consciousness is the foundation of the universe.

Representative of this philosophy, we see in Hermetic Philosophic Tradition, that this Ultimate Reality is called “THE ALL”. It is stated in *The Kybalion*:

*“THE ALL must be ALL that REALLY IS. There can be nothing existing outside of THE ALL. Else THE ALL would not be THE ALL..... THE ALL is also INFINITE, ETERNAL, UNCHANGEABLE and can be called INFINITE LIVING MIND or SPIRIT..... THE UNIVERSE, AND ALL IT CONTAINS, IS A MENTAL CREATION OF THE ALL. Verily indeed, ALL IS MIND!”*

This philosophical view lays a foundation for us to understand how the physical reality we live in was created. It also provides a way for us to understand the “God Head” or “Ultimate Reality” that we see reflected in the world’s many religious traditions and cultures. Whether there is one or many universes, this foundation affirms the “spiritual truth” that we are all children of - or part of - this “Universal Consciousness.” We exist in the MIND of THE ALL.

If we exist as a thought in the MIND OF THE ALL, how can life or the universe for that matter be purposeful? Are we destined to go through the motions following a pre-written script? Is there no free-will? I believe that we do indeed have free-will and that the universe has been set in motion with natural and spiritual laws which allow us and the universe to evolve. Each of us is a “Spirit” spark, temporarily separated from THE ALL – the Source – to experience and grow over many lifetimes within the physical and other realities. THE ALL lives in all living things and experiences the richness of a physical reality through us. This truth is articulated in many ways through many cultures. An ancient text from India states: *“He manifested Himself as creation. It is He alone who is born into the world. He lives as all beings; it is only Him everywhere.”*

Until recently, the belief that we are the creation of God or “the MIND OF THE ALL,” was a matter of faith and was not reflected in our scientific understanding of the Universe. This is no longer true. Astrophysicists Bernard Haisch notes in his book *The Purpose-Guided Universe: Believing in Eistein, Darwin and God* that the creation of our physical reality by consciousness is already built into “Quantum Physics” and that this has received validation by vigorous and ingenious experiments over the last fifty years or more. The two most prominent and accomplished astrophysicists of the last century were Sir James Jeans and Sir Arthur Eddington. Both expressed the view that consciousness was likely the foundation of the universe itself. Sir James Jeans wrote in his book *The Mysterious Universe*: “The universe itself begins to look more like a great thought than like a great machine.” The understanding that consciousness is the foundation of the universe we live in is gaining more and more acceptance and is the foundation of Quantum Physics.

Haisch tells us that the universe we live in has the perfect natural laws for the creation of the conditions which would allow for life to evolve. For example, if the ratio of gravity to the electric force was stronger, it would have resulted in smaller stars with shorter lifespans and crowded galaxies. This would have not allowed the time for the evolution of life as we know it. Also the conditions in our universe are just right for the formation of carbon and oxygen with the correct energy resonance allowing stars to form. In our universe, water has unusual properties when compared to other liquids making its boiling point unusually high allowing for it to remain a liquid for critical biological processes. Water also has the special quality of being less dense when frozen allowing it to float on top of liquid water. This has obvious advantages when we consider that life as we know it evolved in the oceans. These are just a few of the coincidences which make life in our universe possible. In his book *The Purpose-Guided Universe: Believing in Eistein, Darwin and God*, Haisch discusses a number of the “just right” conditions which science has found which makes our universe perfect for life.

He notes that if the universe does not have as its foundation a guiding consciousness, then it’s laws must have occurred by chance. If this is the case, then we live in a multi-verse and there are many universes with all possible combinations of laws guiding their development. The challenge with the notion, that our universe is one of many and that chance has created the perfect conditions for life, is the incredibly low probability that it could happen. The chances of it happening statistically are 1 in 10 to the power of 500. To understand the magnitude of this unlikely possibility, one must understand that the number of atoms in our universe is 10 to the power of 80. That means that the likelihood of our universe being as it is by chance is 1 in 5 times the number of the atoms found in our universe. That is an unimaginably low probability. It would seem that it is no less probable that the universe was created by a conscious act of creation using physical laws to allow for the development and evolution of life.

We are blessed to live in an amazing period in human history. As our understanding of the universe and its foundations grow, the line that separates science from our spiritual understanding is becoming less defined. As our understanding of the world’s many religious and spiritual traditions grows, we become more aware that we share a common fundamental spiritual truth which unites us all. The Interfaith Movement is a natural and necessary development in the healing of the world we live in.

Readings:

*The Purpose-Guided Universe: Believing in Eistein, Darwin and God by Bernard Haisch*

*The Perennial Philosophy by Aldous Huxley.*

*The Kybalion by Three Initiates*