

Reality, Truth, and the Operation of the Law

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The theme of truth is often lauded as a spiritual virtue, and today humanity is placing increased attention on the concept of truth, and particularly what is perceived to be a deficit of truth in the public and political sphere. The term post-truth has now been coined to denote a time or era in which objective facts are less relevant to public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief. This recognition of the lack of factual truth in our social discourse presents humanity with several crises.

It brings into question the value of the virtue of basic honesty. When dishonesty can result in immediate political, economic, and social gain, to what extent will society continue to value truth and honesty? Are we willing to sacrifice economic and political gain as well as ideological self-righteousness in the name of truth? What other virtues are suppressed at the expense of selfish gain?

It also presents us with a crisis of discrimination. In a world where you cannot trust all sources of information, how does one decide what is true and what is false? Must we all become experts in every field? Who can we trust?

On another level, it is a crisis of emotional control. If one's emotional body is so easily stimulated into activity by others, we remain vulnerable to manipulation and being ruled by ideas and suggestions rather than our own conscience—our own minds and hearts. How can humanity hone its collective psyche, emotions and mind, and build the foundations of personal agency and free will?

Similarly, how can one detach from closely held personal beliefs so that truth may be seen free from prejudice? These prejudices, subtle and gross, ideological or otherwise, are inherent in the human condition, yet they prevent us from the fullest manifestation of our spiritual power. This is the power of right vision which sees oneself and one's ideas in right proportion to the whole. It is the power to heal divisions, to create in alignment with divine intention and thus to wield in small measure the spiritual energy which permeates all forms of life. To awaken to the reality of one's own soul is to awaken also to the reality of that same soul in others and likewise the soul in all. It is the soul that sees and knows the good. Every human being is potentially a soul in incarnation and thus a light bearer. One bears the light by becoming the light; he then carries that illumination to others and lights the way before them.

The Ageless Wisdom teaches that illumination and the perception of truth are synonymous. And it is important to be clear that this illumination, of which the spiritual literature teaches, is not the perception of the abstract or "pure" truth of the spiritual planes but rather that truth which is knowable and can be formulated in concrete terms. Esotericism sees the constitution of man inclusive of those higher realms of abstract truth, yet through alignment and mental development every man or woman becomes potentially a soul in incarnation and a lighted bridge whereby the archetypes and principles so perfectly expressed in those higher worlds can be clarified and brought down to Earth.

Glamour distorts the manifested world, and it requires the light of truth to dispel it. Such work is not easy for it requires one to "face the truth," to abandon the glamour, and quite often to admit wrong. This seems very easy in theory, but in practice it is much more difficult. It requires self-mastery and a cold and dispassionate approach to all phenomenon as well as the cultivation of true humility. The Tibetan writes

that humility is “one of the most potent factors in releasing the illuminating power of the mind, as it reflects and transmits the light of the soul.” True occultism which is the path of the highest altruism requires the total renunciation of self. It leads not only to illumination and knowledge, but to the fullest wielding of the law of love through which one becomes a beneficent force in nature.

Though much of the discussion about our so-called “post-truth era” focuses on the deficit of factual truth rather than rational or moral truth, there seems to be a definite recognition of the close relationship between the two. Though conceptually distinct, both factual and rational truth have fundamentally to do with *Reality* either in this physical realm of material manifestation or in the higher realm of ideation and spirit. HPB throws light on this relationship in a comment she made regarding the law of correspondences: “there is but ONE LIFE AND LAW; and he that worketh it is ONE. Nothing is Inner, nothing is Outer; nothing is GREAT, nothing is Small; nothing is High, nothing is Low, in the Divine Economy.” Spirit and matter are but two expressions of the one great Immutable Principle. Factual truth, moral truth, and divine truth are equally the operation of the same great principle though in different spheres

Triangles is a means of working with the light of the soul and illuminating human consciousness with love and spiritual direction. It is a dispelling light which clarifies the operation of the Law on all three planes of human manifestation—the physical plane where we live and move, the emotional plane where we dream, imagine and vision the way forward, and the mental plane whereby knowledge of the mundane world and spiritual law are at last reconciled.