

The search for understanding the relation of science and spirituality is gathering momentum
Thus these.....

thoughts gleaned from online inflow of news and views in just one day, 9-7-20

THE SINGULAR GIFT OF BOTH/AND

Can we recognise the singular gift
of championing eternal knowledge
with equal parts conviction and humility?
The first finds evidence to investigate,
the second retains a sense of wonder
at so vast a fruitful universe about us.

Cosmic creativity flows ever between
slight pulses here and there
and magisterial evolution everywhere.
Yet we're up against a wall of jargon
mystifying science and other disciplines
withholding treasured access to integrity.

At its most searching, science is 'informal worship',
its endless exploration of enlightenment is sacred.
The word 'religion' comes from 'binding together'
all the law and the ligaments of life itself
to end all sundering apart, so
all in every culture need a sense of awe.

Let not that awe be possessed, just persistently sought,
sensing cosmic religious feeling as the
strongest and noblest motive for
both scientific and spiritual research.

Hand in hand in mutual respect
they bring us nearer to that evocative, vocative,

even provocative force hiding in the shadows
of our ambiguous, all too human metaphor, 'God'.
Science, religion, hand in hand moving forward,
not toe to toe holding each other off.

Religion is the felt sense of science's love of
humbly, tentatively discovering elements of integrity.

Among a number of immediate warm responses

- ".....this is just wonderful! It sums up my understanding in words I would never have found" J,O'n .
- "Hey- that is beautiful mind-stretching, humble, simple and good." Canon BS in Donegal
- RS: Loved reading this Peter. I've read it over and over again, and each time discover a new truth. Thank you!
- ???? this one: "Oh, what a feast of words! I'm glad the Socrates quotation provides the pinch of salt that needs to be taken with it!" Peter 10

GR from USA: I love the English language, and your poem put a smile on my face... "they bring us nearer to that evocative, vocative, even provocative force hiding in the shadows".. your poem is full of musical flow with depth of meaning which is true art. "Religion is the felt sense of science's love of humbly, tentatively discovering elements of integrity." Such an elegant way of saying both science and religion are a study of God's creation, not enemies, but brothers.

But, where is the sense of relationship with the creator of that science? The blood of Jesus brings us into that relationship, which we strive to understand better with each passing day. And yet, so many Christians forget to ask: Lord, what would you have me do... today, in this situation, for my career, in this relationship, in my pain. Most of the time we say: Lord, I want to do this, so please bless it. I myself am so often in the front line of that movement... but I pray for more wisdom, and more obedience.

- Also some 27 affirmative others since the posting on 10-7

[See: Poetry of pertinence](#)

SINGULARITY by Marie Howe (after Stephen Hawking)

Do you sometimes want to wake up to the singularity
we once were?

so compact nobody
needed a bed, or food or money —
nobody hiding in the school bathroom
or home alone

pulling open the drawer
where the pills are kept.

*For every atom belonging to me as good
Belongs to you. Remember?*

There was no *Nature*. No
them. No tests
to determine if the elephant
grieves her calf or if
the coral reef feels pain. Trashed
oceans don't speak English or Farsi or French;
would that we could wake up to what we were
— when we were ocean and before that
to when sky was earth, and animal was energy, and rock was
liquid and stars were space and space was not
at all — nothing
before we came to believe humans were so important
before this awful loneliness.
Can molecules recall it?
what once was? before anything happened?
No I, no We, no one. No was
No verb no noun
only a tiny tiny dot brimming with
is is is is is
All everything home