



Dharma Circle Summary May 2022

What do we know? We know that Love is real.

How do I know that's true?

Postmodernity says Love is a mere social construct.

How do we know that Love is not a social construct?

2 ways of knowing, both fall under Anthro-ontology:

Sacred text sources:

The Bible: "Adam knew his wife Eve" = To know is always carnal.

The Zohar: same word and meaning for Gnosis and Loving.

Maimonides = "when you know God, you want to tell everybody"

1), knowledge is Erotic - we know because we feel
That experience of Eros itself lives in all 3 persons.

2nd person - love lives in the space between I and thou

1st person - I am experiencing Love living in me - regardless of its object

The mystics call it the Love before creation
The love that lives in me as me and through me

3rd person - I look at Love between 2 persons, or the Love as all the bonds that make up Reality and I see I see there's a field of allurements which is Eros/Love

There's another triple distinction:

1) The eye of the senses - what I can see through the senses: If I open up the subtle field, what I can sense expands too. (In Kabbalah we talk about 12 forms of sense perception)

2) the eye of the mind - how my mind makes sense of reality (moral reasoning, math...)

3) Eye of the spirit, aka Eye of the Heart, or Eye of value: All 3 names to point to the ability to perceive and value what cannot be measured, or quantified (For example, radiance is priceless, and is seen with the eye of value).

We can't just say the eye of value looks at interiors, and the other 2 eyes, are looking at exteriors. We don't evaluate data and facts objectively, there's a subjective dimension too.

All 3 persons are always at play together. They can't live by themselves, they are experiences of interiors, and exteriors. And all three experiences apply both through interiors, and exteriors.

When we cross train all three eyes, they inform each other to access value.

We can't just measure exteriors, and look through the eye of the senses - that's the least developed surface means to access reality. Doing that, would mean that we exile all the other sensemaking ways we have to know reality.

There's a politics of the real, in which the real is colonized, when we exile our full range of knowing.

We want to be able to move between all of these perspectives, it's a dance, we look through the three eyes, and move from interior, to exterior, we use all ways of knowing, and all those together tell me without a doubt that Love is Real.