

Everything Is Connected

By W. Bro. Rob Lund

Theosophy, the ancient and ageless wisdom teachings, the perennial philosophy, the Divine Wisdom, also known as the Secret Doctrine, teaches certain basic principles. One of these principles states that: *the universe, and all that exists within it, are one interrelated and interdependent whole; every existent being, from atom to galaxy, is grounded in the same universal life-creating Reality; this Reality reveals itself in the purposeful, ordered and cyclic processes of nature, and in the deepest recesses of the mind and spirit; this Reality is all-pervasive, but can never be summed up in its parts, since it transcends all its expressions.*

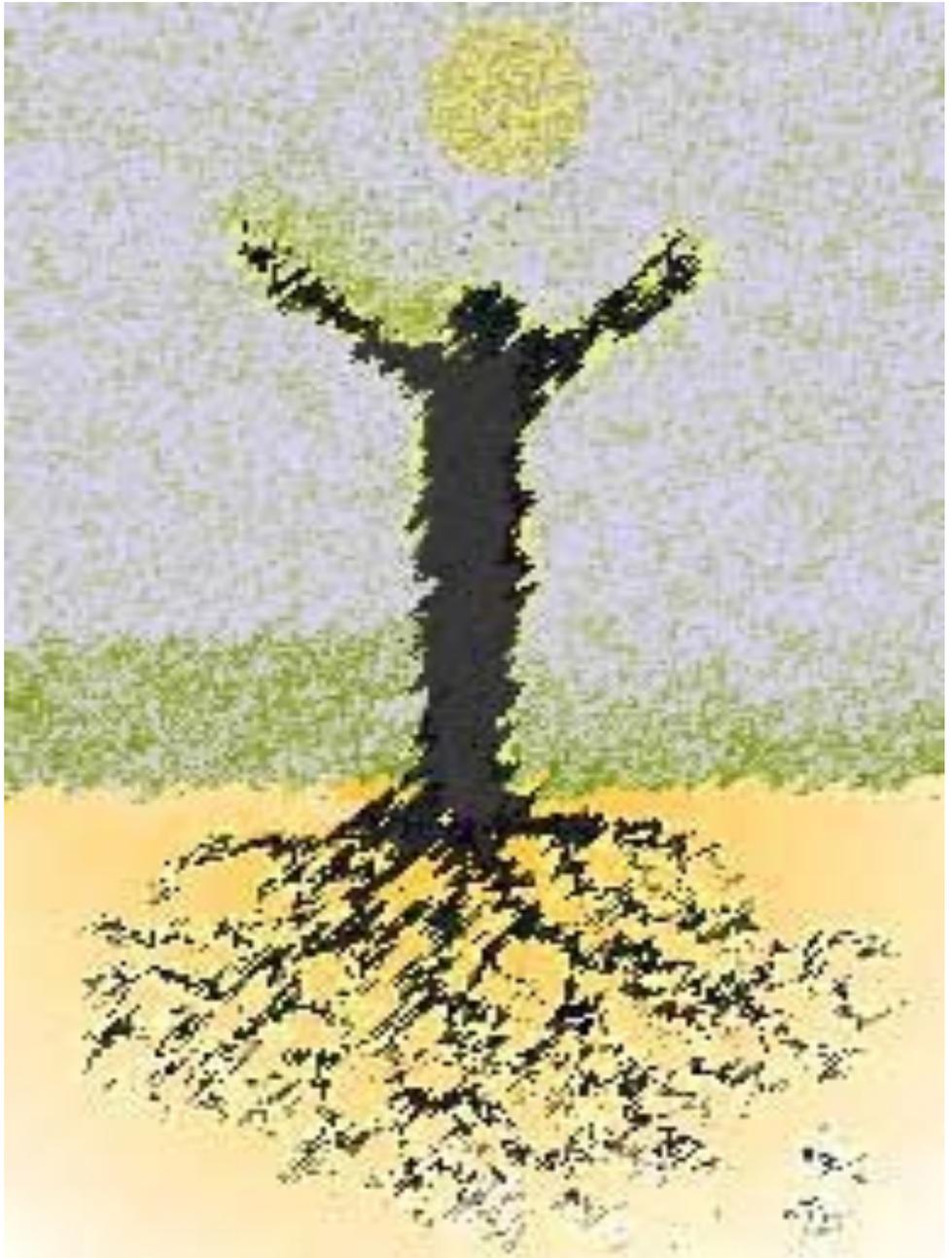
This basic idea implies that there is no differentiation between matter and consciousness, and that everything in the universe is conscious and connected. That is to say: everything (mineral, vegetable, animal, human, and beyond) has its own kind of consciousness and its own kind of perception, and is related in some way to everything else.

An interesting philosophy, you might say. Well, I am suggesting that it is an interesting truth, and that this truth is backed by science, and the more that science learns of our universe, the more it adds to this truth.

Let me try to explain my thinking behind this statement:

Humans and animals are obviously conscious: of themselves; and the world around them.

Plants, we know, can detect their environment, and adapt to it. If you've watched enough Nature videos, you'll know that plants have a kind of intelligence. That "intelligence" may not be the same as animal intelligence, but could still be defined as a kind of consciousness and perception.



What about mineral? Consider that all matter in the universe consists of particles. We may think of atoms as being these particles but, as we now know, there are much smaller particles than at-

oms. There are sixty one elementary particles defined, such as protons, electrons, neutrons, quarks, leptons, gluons, hadrons, fermions, neutrinos, photons, and more, right down to the Boson-Higgs particle. We know that these particles all have energy. Consider the atom again: it has a vibrating nucleus with electrons spinning around it. Now consider a rock: it is composed of molecules, which are various atoms in different configurations. With all that energy in the atoms, we then should not think of the rock as being void of life—since it's full of energy. A rock, being mineral, can also have a chemical reaction with some other matter (such as water) and produce something different, or a substance with the molecules in a different configuration. We know that a chemical reaction is the exchange of electrons between different atoms – not just any atoms: they have to be compatible. With the ability to change configuration in a selective way, we could consider this as some type of consciousness and perception, albeit low level. Extend this idea to the whole Earth and other planets, to the sun and other stars, to galaxies. Everything has energy, and can interact and therefore, everything is conscious, to some extent.

Think of the whole universe, everything, as one vibrating energetic mass. We are part of that vibrating mass. The individual atoms and molecules in our body are separated by vast distances, relative to the size of the atoms, and yet they work together to operate as a whole. Our molecules are constantly interacting. Planets, stars, and galaxies are separated by vast distances of space. We know, however, that space is not empty. There are particles of various kinds constantly moving around, there are electromagnetic waves and rays of various kinds (infra-red, ultra-violet, gamma, etc.) constantly travelling billions of light years across the universe. Some of these interact with the Earth, creating chemical reactions even in plant and animal life.

As we ingest food, water, and air, we are taking in molecules and atomic elements. Chemical reactions occur, and provide building blocks for new cells. Old and dead cells are expelled from our bodies, together with other waste. This waste is returned to the earth and is made use of by other organisms. Plants may absorb them in order to grow. These plants may become food for animal life, and becomes part of another cycle. The body that you have

now is not the one you were born with – so many cells have been newly created, expelled, died and replaced, that you have been “refreshed” several times over. You are part of the earth and, therefore, part of the universe, and the universe is part of you.

We use electromagnetic waves to communicate information across vast distances (radio, television, cell phones). We also use light, photons, to communicate (laser, fibre-optics). Science is only now learning how to use some of the other particles to communicate information. This science is called Quantum Mechanics. Then there is the strange phenomenon of Quantum Entanglement. For those who do not know what this is, I will try to briefly describe it. Sometimes an action on one particle can manifest that same action on another particle, instantaneously, even at a distance, without sending any messages between them. Einstein called this “spooky action at a distance”. He didn't like this phenomenon because it went against the laws of known physics. However, this phenomenon exists and is currently still unexplainable. I am of the conviction that soon Science will be able to explain phenomena such as telepathy and telekinesis using quantum physics. Based on the above, everything in the universe has the ability to communicate with everything else.

So, if we look again at the Theosophic principle stated at the beginning of this article, we can see that those principles are, in fact, supported by science. We have seen that particles can interact and interrelate physically, chemically, electromagnetically, and through entanglement. If waves and particles are constantly in motion, then these ideas provide a physical or quantum framework for communication between any two things. A world-wide experiment called the Global Consciousness Project, run out of Princeton University, seems to support this idea to some extent, as does the study on Morphic Resonance by Rupert Sheldrake.

This means that the idea of everything being connected is not just a fanciful philosophy, but a true scientific fact. This realization has made me look at the world, indeed the whole universe, in a whole new light. Hopefully, you will too.

