

# Eyes That Cannot See, And How They Can See Again

## The Nature of Spiritual/Psychological Blindness

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The greatest ally and the greatest enemy of the human race is the individual mind and imagination of each and every human being. We should never fail to remember that our human minds, not our organic brains, but our thoughts, feeling and imaginations that run through our brains serve as filters which in every single case interpret for us absolutely everything that we interact with and perceive in our experiences in the world and within ourselves.



Our perceptions and our experiences of inner and external reality are all subjective. Essentially everything that we know is only our perceptions of a thing and may not be the accurate reality of a thing. We never see reality as it is, we only see reality as we interpret it to be. And as our perceptions of reality change, so too does our awareness of it. The question is what is really real and how can we ever acquire knowledge of what is really real if everything we perceive is only our present subjective perception. This is rather a frustrating reality, but then again, our perception of this being frustrating is also just another subjective perception.

Objective reality we proclaim is a state that can be known only to the Creator. We His creation live in a world that is forever “colored” by our personal perceptions. Whenever we allow our thoughts and feelings to influence our thinking, our conclusions and our actions, we continue along a path that is nothing other than illusional. How we can ever release ourselves from this seemingly never-ending prison of the mind is one of the greatest pursuits along the spiritual path. Indeed, the very essence and definition of spirituality is the path of emancipation and liberation from the slavery induced upon us by our very own selves.

Where did this subjection to subjective mental slavery originate? You guessed it, in what the Bible refers to (in Genesis) as Adam & Eve’s “eating of the forbidden fruit from the Tree of Knowledge, Good and Evil.” The nature of this primordial act forever blemished the human race and everything else in the universe. Not that the universe has become blemished, but rather because our vision of the universe is blemished, thus our interaction with it is equally blemished.

Therefore, humanity messes up everything it touches simply because it cannot see things clearly enough to deal with them properly and correctly. This is the nature of what the Bible calls sin and what later religious literature calls klipot, the husks or the shells.

Our present state of living in a real world, but only being able to experience its reality through a veil of illusion, has actually caused the creation of a split in the human mind. The human mind originally was a concentric whole. Now it is split into two sections referred to in psychology as the unconscious and the conscious. Essentially, there is the part of the mind that we know, and the extremely vast part of the mind that we do not know. Although the greater part of the human mind which is the unconscious is unknown to us, it is still the dominant major part and it influences and directs the conscious mind. Here is where all of our illusions originate and here is where we can transcend beyond them.

The forbidden fruit spoken of in Genesis is understood to be a metaphor for something so bizarre that I am not sure that anyone understands what actually what it was and what really happened in the Garden of Eden. What we do understand from it is that somehow the original unified mind of Adam (and thus humanity) became split between awareness of what we now call the spiritual world and what we know today as the physical world.

Originally the Garden of Eden was a domain where the spiritual and physical worlds were united as one. There was no separation between the worlds. Body and soul existed together unified in a state that will not again be experienced until the resurrection of the dead. Indeed, restoring this union and return to the original state is why there will be a resurrection at all. This is why the concept of the resurrection of the dead is central to Biblical theology. It is the last step that restores the first step, after we have learned not to misstep.

Until the resurrection, humanity exists in two worlds, existing simultaneously in both, but with the one world (the physical) being almost completely oblivious to the existence of the other world (the spiritual). Mind you, we are not at all cut off from the spiritual world. On the contrary, our unconscious selves reside in that domain, like it always has. Yet, we are cut off from the spiritual domain, not because we have no access there, but rather because access to it resides in the unconscious and as long as we have no access to our personal unconscious, we have no access to the spiritual domain and a greater and truer understanding of ourselves.

Without access to the spiritual world to give us insight into objective reality, all we can rely upon for information is our conscious minds receiving input and information from the outside world. And this information has to go through the filter of the conscious mind that is being influenced by an unconscious that it does not understand. As such the unconscious places inside our minds all kinds of thoughts, feelings and ideas. These in turn are not properly understood because we lack the access into the unconscious to grant us such revelation. Therefore, our conscious minds are subject to influences beyond their control. These influences then take everything that we experience and interprets it according to whatever is going on inside the conscious mind at the time. Therefore, the conscious mind is not able to perceive external reality in any objective form. This again, is the result of the split that resulted because of what originally happened in Eden.

The unconscious mind, exposed as it is to a greater domain and realm of reality, has greater insight into the objective reality that surrounds our subjective veils. The unconscious mind is by no means detached or separate from the conscious mind (as the conscious mind is so split from it). Yet, the unconscious, being aligned to another world, sees things differently and communicates in a form common to its world, but foreign and strange to ours. This mode of communication from the

unconscious is through the usages of images and impressions, the likes of which we all experience in a deep dream state.

The unconscious is always communicating with the conscious mind. It is just that the conscious mind cannot fathom what exactly it is that the unconscious is saying to it. The conscious mind receives all the input it does from the unconscious and then filters it, using the tools of intellect used for interpreting the external world. By doing this the conscious mind fundamentally shifts the message and meaning of the unconscious contents, and integrates information and a message that the unconscious did not intend. These layers upon layers of misconception gave rise to the metaphoric term used in later religious literature referring to these “mistakes of the intellect” as klipot, or husks or shells, that surround the truth and cover it over.

The conscious mind becomes clouded, filled with ideas, thoughts and feelings, the source of which cannot always be understood. This lack of clarity gives rise to emotional states of fear, prejudice, and other emotional imbalances, which then become the actual and true motivation behind a great deal of our behaviors. Now, no one likes to admit that they are acting upon irrational emotions and that such states are what motivate them. Therefore, everyone seeks to rationalize their behaviors with one kind of excuse or another. The need for excuses is intense and gives rise to all kinds of philosophies, ideas, propaganda, doctrines and other types of thought which are declared, embraced, held on to in faith, and proclaimed to be above rational argument. When a mind-set is elevated to be above the mind, then those embracing it act based upon it and reinforce their subjective perceptions of the world, now squeezed ever so tiny into their small picture of what reality is supposed to be.

Needless to say, when members of one subjective reality group make contact with members of another, the two groups find that their realities do not coincide. Instead of each allowing the other the freedom to be and think as they do, accepting the realities of parallel subjectivism, each group, clouded as it is by its klipot (shells), thinks it is the only right and true way and that everyone else is definitively and definitely wrong. Worse than wrong, because the other guys see things differently, such differences challenge the fundamental views of those in their shell, unleashing from inside them terrible fears, suggesting that maybe indeed they are wrong. Such doubts cannot be tolerated, and therefore with fanatic zeal, those in shells seek to destroy the alternative beliefs of others unlike themselves. This is not only the cause of wars on the large scale, it is also the underlying cause of personality conflicts that each of us experience daily.

The husks and shells that surround our conscious minds only enable us to receive an unclear glimpse of the insights of truth arising out of the unconscious. So blocked are they that the conscious mind only receives small fragments of truths, which are not full enough for the conscious mind to form the proper, right and correct understanding of a thing. Therefore, all the conscious mind is left with are fragments. These have been referred to in later religious literature as “sparks” or “shattered vessels.” This small, indiscernible, yet ever present and real influence from the unconscious into the conscious mind is the motivating factor underlying almost all human behavior. This is how the unconscious pretty much controls the conscious mind.

When the conscious mind however chooses to discard the contents arising from within its own unconscious, the unconscious does not take too kindly to this. When blocked out of the conscious mind by all kinds of rationalizations, the unconscious turns to dreams and speaks to the conscious mind when asleep and fills it with all kinds of premonitions and fears. Such a disengagement between the unconscious and the conscious mind, caused by a conscious repression of unconscious content usually leads to the numerous kinds of mental, emotional and psychological issues that plague so many.

Our modern society seeks to overwhelmingly deny anything it cannot touch, analyze and control. Therefore, unconscious content is considered an intrusion into consciousness and something that needs to be dominated. This is why psychiatry is the preferred way to address psychological issues, rather than reintegrating an individual's psyche, unconscious with conscious. The modern world wants answers quick and simple. So rather than work on the problem, they seek to cover it over.

Giving someone a psychiatric drug forces changes in brain chemistry that further repress the unconscious content, not giving it access to the conscious mind. Essentially, in the eyes of the modern person this "cures" the psychological problem. But on the contrary, it does not such thing. I believe that it is a definitive medical fact that absolutely no psychiatric drug has even cured a psychological problem. The drug may alleviate the symptoms, but once the drug is no longer used, the symptoms return with a vengeance. The lesson to learn from this is that problems of the mind cannot be addressed with drugs for the brain. At present, very few are even willing to consider this, therefore the problem only grows larger and more dangerous.

That which today we recognize as psychological truths were always known in the past. Yet this knowledge was not in ancient times considered a part of science, as we would judge science today, but rather problems of the mind and their healing were the domain of the spiritual leaders, whose job it was to join together the physical and spiritual worlds. In their positions as spiritual guides, they eventually came into contact with what we call the spirit, or the unconscious. Through centuries of revelation, experiment and experience, many of the ancients were able to produce religious/spiritual systems that successfully addressed the psychological needs and deficits of the members of their populations.

Religious systems and especially their mystical components served as the psychoanalysis of the past centuries. They created (or better to say, had revealed to them) systems and structures that when adhered to properly enabled its followers to live safely, securely and mentally balanced. It is in this context, that the commandments of the Torah were given to Israel. Their proper practice enables (to this day) those who embrace them an avenue of expression for unconscious contents to manifest into conscious reality in a healthy and fulfilling manner.

The conscious mind left to its own devices, disconnected from its own inner and higher, unconscious self is lost and floats without direction, aim or purpose. All the conscious mind experiences, without insights from the unconscious to properly provide intuitive inner awareness of the true nature of a thing, leads the conscious mind to always misinterpret, misunderstand, confuse and to project from one thing on to another, essentially trying to fit square pegs into round holes. Not understanding the nature of such incongruence, the conscious mind bereft of inner guidance continues to make a mess of things, further distancing itself from awareness of the spiritual reality that surrounds it. Without access to objective reality, all the conscious mind has left is subjective reality. When two subjective realities clash, we have the reason for all the world's problems.

In spite of however desperate and terrible this psychological situation is, there really is a solution to help first alleviate the problem, and then, with time and effort to solve it conclusively. Yes, we can actually fix the "sin of eating the forbidden fruit" that happened long ago in Eden. It is a long, hard and arduous road, but it can be traversed and its end can be in sight. All one has to do is persevere.

And persevere in what, pray tell? Persevere in the pursuit of inner knowledge and exploration of one's own unconscious. Only by taping within, can we expect any results of positive change in the

outside world. Essentially the only fix for outside comes from inside. It has always been this way. Fix the individual and we fix the society the total of individuals create.

Spiritual blindness is a psychological problem whose origins go back to the dawn of man. While we may not be able to correct this spiritual blindness or psychological short-sightedness, we can still nevertheless apply to it the equivalent of spiritual/psychological glasses (or contacts). We can learn to see. By following the Biblical example of placing emphasis on the heart, which is the Bible's reference to one's innermost self, what we today call one's unconscious, one can teach oneself to readjust, reconnect and be in tune.

The path of external repair begins within. The first step is not up and out, but rather down and into one's own unconscious for self referral, self reflection and inner contemplation. Ancient religion recognized the value of this and so too are many schools in modern psychology. Once this path catches on with the majority of people, then we stand a real chance of changing and transforming our world and for the first time ever seeing it as it really is, as G-d created it to be, instead of through the husks and shells that presently blind our eyes.

The path to within has been given to us since ancient times. Religious rituals give expression to the language of the unconscious. Therefore, to understand religion and its rituals psychologically is its fundamental and proper expression. For far too long has religion been marginalized as an academic field of philosophy and theology. This is not what the authors of the Bible intended or desired. By going back into the original Biblical texts and viewing them in Biblical eyes without the veils, husks, shells and projections of later authors and commentators, we can return to the ancient, the source and see what our Divine Creator gave for us to see in the first place.

We have eyes now, but do not see, but the blind can be made to see again. All we have to do is stop seeing with the eyes in our head and start again to see with the eyes in our hearts. With this we can awaken every slumbering soul. Indeed, the sleeper must awaken, if redemption is ever to come into the human heart, and from there into the world.

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