

Flows and Intentions of Light

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For many of us, there seem to be two separate flows that guide our lives.

One, the physical flow, appears to have a clear direction and intention. There is great evidence that the physical flow was created by the Big Bang, which was then responsible for all of the energy, matter, space and time of our universe. We can observe the light from the Big Bang today, but there is no evidence of what caused it or what might have come before it. While many believe that God was the source of the Big Bang, there is no scientific proof of this. Brilliant researchers, like Stephen Hawking, believe that it could have been spontaneous or that our universe always existed or had no cause. While we may never know everything about our universe, we have discovered many of the laws that govern the behavior of our universe, our galaxy, our solar system and, most importantly, our planet. One of the most intriguing laws is Einstein's discovery that $E=mc^2$. Amazingly, it relates energy and mass through the speed of light, which is a universal constant. Not surprisingly, light plays a major role in the physical flow of our universe.

In addition to the universe, every person is affected by the physical flow and, depending on our circumstances, it significantly defines our lives. Our parents and our birthplace are major factors in determining our life's course. These two conditions have a major influence on our development, our education, our vocation and our wealth. If we are lucky or we work hard, we might become rich, famous, important and happy. Or we might be poor, mistreated, ignored, and unhappy. In any case, our lives are finite, generally 100 years or less and nobody has escaped death yet. If and what happens after death is often the intention of the second flow.

The second flow is spiritual and helps us deal with the uncertainties, complexities and mysteries of our lives. While our spiritual flow is often focused on what we believe is our afterlife, it generally helps us with our current life and often defines how we live our life. Not everyone is spiritual, but there is plenty of physical evidence that human beings have generally believed that there is something

additional to our physical self that affects our lives. The intention of our spiritual flow is to connect us to the meta-physical and non-physical aspects of our universe. For most, this is God, and our spiritual flow satisfies this need. The dilemma is that the two flows often seem unconnected and separate. The Harvard paleontologist Steven Jay Gould even proposed that these two flows are separate and parallel magistrates that together allow most human beings to successfully live out their lives.

While there are many spiritual pathways that guide most human beings, their intention is quite similar. Often these take the form of religions with very separate belief systems and many specific rules. Nevertheless, there seem to be a few common tenets at the core of most religious or spiritual practices. Most teach that there is a God, that this God loves us, and that this God wants us to love each other. However, many religious and spiritual practitioners believe that God is separate from our physical universe, or that God created our universe, and some, that God is our universe. Because we do or want to believe that God loves us, many believe that he has connected with us through prophets, priests or holy people. And most people, religious or not, believe that God does interact with us in some way. It is this belief that is particularly interesting with respect to intention and flow.

If we believe that our physical flow is God's intention and that our spiritual flow is also God's intention, then these two flows may not be completely separate and unconnected. After all, the spiritual is often called the metaphysical, that is encompassing physical. There is at least one aspect of both that seems to be common: Light. It governs our physical world, is the constant between energy and matter, and is a connection between space and time. Spiritually, it is often considered the manifestation of God's spirit and the way that God illuminates and connects with us. While physical light can be measured and defined in terms of frequency and wavelength, spiritual light is much more personal since it is the relationship between ourselves and God. Since both flows use light for transmission, there may be an overlap between the two which is at least worth exploring.

Physical light has been the subject of inquiry since the evolution of man. Neanderthal cave paintings dating back to 60,000 BC show light as an important part of their everyday life. Early man's brain evolved increasingly to process light.

As human beings became more sophisticated, light became prominent in their paintings, architecture, symbology and discussions. During the Age of EnLightenment, the scientific study of light became a dominant activity. Later, the electromagnetic spectrum and Maxwell's equations of light were discovered and developed. Today, physical light is well understood and is a major factor in the further exploration of our universe, our planet and ourselves.

Spiritual light and enlightenment are discussed and described in every major religion and philosophy. Christians believe that there are three elements of the Holy Trinity: God the Father, Jesus the Son of God, and the Holy Spirit, which is often depicted and described as God's Guiding Light. The "good news" gospel promises that even though Jesus, the Light of the World, died and was resurrected to return to God the Father, the Holy Spirit will be with us and will guide us with God's Light forever. Judaic and Muslim writings depict Yahweh and Allah as the Light of the world. Buddhism and Hinduism poetry, writings and practices all focus on the ultimate goal of enlightenment for human beings to be closer to God or perfection. There are very few religions or spiritual practices, past or present, that do not have light as a major aspect of their belief system.

Since physical light encompasses a broad spectrum of physical phenomena and spiritual light encompasses a broad spectrum of spiritual phenomena, could these spectrums overlap or be connected? While it is possible that they are not similar at all and that they operate completely separate from each other, might they interact in some interesting way? Since physical light has reflection, refraction, diffraction, dispersion and interference properties, the two lights could enhance or diminish each other. Enhancement or diminishment would suggest that under certain conditions, resonance of physical and spiritual light could produce a more powerful effect and anti-resonance could negate or reduce the desired effect.

Further examination and discussion of the relationship between physical and spiritual light might result in a new understanding of our connection with the universe and the creator of the universe. The last Age of EnLightenment resulted in a strict separation of mankind's physical and spiritual flows. And yet, most would argue that there must be a connection since the intention of the universe and the intention of Creator of the universe must overlap. Could that connection be Light?