

# A Healing Vision for Our World

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In the year 2000, the Orientations of the Daughters of Wisdom acknowledged **Wisdom as the Source of Life** and committed themselves to participate with her in the birthing of a new world.



This vision continues to be a challenge to all of us as our world continues to become more and more fragmented. The images that held the scope of this vision were nothing less than a galaxy of the cosmos and an earth image of water flowing over mountain rock. The belief underpinning that vision is: "Wisdom is always precariously poised in the deep, chaotic turbulence of a constantly changing world. Today, the question remains: *Can we engage Wisdom at the edge of this chaos?*"

## Relationship to the Cosmos

The conscious and unconscious images that we hold about the true nature of the universe, of culture, of religion, of spirituality, and of the human person all have a profound impact on our conduct on this planet. To respond to the global crisis of our day and, therefore, to bring healing to our world, will require first and foremost, a transformation of the images we hold concerning the nature of the cosmos and our place and relationship to it. Our worldview must radically shift if we are to address the root causes of global problems, and not just the currently manifesting symptoms of war, poverty, hunger, pollution, violence and planetary destruction.

We need a healing vision. We need Wisdom's vision! We need a vision, which respects diversity, sees common ground and looks for unity. Such a vision calls us to see the world as a living, organic, sacred reality. Such a vision calls us to see our interconnectedness with every aspect of her being and functioning. Only such a vision will effect the change needed. The call is to a Wisdom-knowing of our participation, belonging, and identity in the Cosmic-Christ, in Wisdom. It is a vision of **unity consciousness** once the domain of mystics. And if it is the consciousness of mystics, then mystics we must be!

## Transformation of Consciousness

We need effective models of change that address ecological and environmental issues as well as political, economic and social structures. However, most essential for transformative change, are the approaches of sacred psychology and Wisdom spirituality. It is these disciplines that address how we are to understand and relate to humankind and all life forms in the cosmos.

We know that for the first time in human history, humans cause all major threats to survival. Attention to psychological and spiritual development is no longer the luxury of a few but rather an imperative for all of us and our planet. The change required at this time in history is nothing less than a transformation of human consciousness—a human-psychological-spiritual task.

Transpersonal theorists believe that the state of our world is a reflection of the state of our individual and collective minds. They tell us that the major factor we must deal with is fear, which is caused by a wrong view of reality and the place of humankind in it. We have taken a dominating and controlling stance toward the earth and her resources. This must change. We must identify and challenge thoughts, beliefs, and assumptions that blame, dehumanize, and diminish others and self.

Dominance, greed, ignorance, and denial contribute to destructive competition, division, and death. So does lack of personal reflection and disregard of spiritual practice. We must do our inner work if we are to be conscious enough to have healthy interactions with each other. We must do our spiritual work if we are to transcend our fear and self-preserving instincts and recognize our true spiritual identity

### **Reclaiming Mystery**

Can we engage Wisdom at the edge of chaos by entering the deep, trusting the unknown, and reclaiming mystery within ourselves and the universe? The major dynamics we need to address in ourselves are fear of emotional chaos, fear of loss of identity, fear of bodily diminishment, and fear of the collapse of current institutional forms - death in all its forms. This dynamic is at the very heart of the mystery of the Cross, and the heart of all mystical paths.

In our need for security, we become compulsively attached to the need for clarity. To attain true wisdom, we must experience confusion and paradox. We must embrace mystery and enter the tomb and womb of not knowing, where new life is formed and birthed. We must let it be ok not to know. Political ideologies and religious fundamentalism are destroying our planet. Objectivity and infallibility are illusions. Being able to sit with not knowing is part of the spiritual challenge of our day and part of Wisdom's path and practice.

### **Contemplation**

When we refuse to enter into the chaos of our bodily awareness, emotional process, and the mental discomfort of not knowing, we repress the very experiences in our life that bring us to transformation and deep inner wisdom. All of the mystics were brought to this path of not knowing. They risked entering and exploring an "inner cosmos." They chose compassionate presence to life's pain, fertile emptiness, and mysterious chaos. There, they encountered the fullness that is Wisdom. The very survival of our planet demands on this presence to our depths, and, thereby, to the deep interiority of all life forms by compassionate identification. Only a contemplative practice can sustain such a healing vision, and only such a practice supports reconciling forms of justice.

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