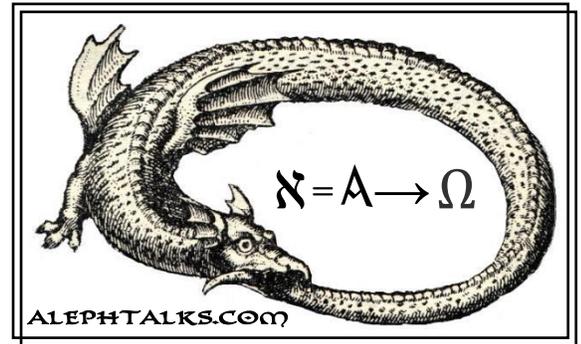


IS MYSTICISM WHERE SCIENCE AND RELIGION MEET?

Starting 7 October 2020—Wednesdays, 7:00–9:00PM

Instructors: Dr. Bart Stuck, Applied Mathematician & Physicist
Rev. Marjorie Partch, Jungian Astrologer & Poet



Today humanity is at a crossroads.

- ❖ Religion is an increasingly irrelevant part of daily life, with growing numbers citing their religious affiliation as **NONE**.
- ❖ Spirituality is becoming equally insignificant, with materialism ascendant, and more people questioning the meaning of life.
- ❖ At the same time, Western science, after five hundred years, finds that it has been studying five percent of the Universe.

Group discussions follow readings and lectures on ancient concepts and cutting-edge theories, referencing such sources as *The Tao of Physics* and the 26-year correspondence between psychoanalyst C.G. Jung and physicist Wolfgang Pauli, *Atom and Archetype*.

Religion

Some argue that all religions have a common root, in part based on the Sun, in part based on the heavenly planets and stars. This will lead us to examine astronomy, cosmology, and astrology as spiritual components of religion, drawing on principles from sacred geometry, the Talmud, the Analects, the I Ching (Book of Changes), the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali, the Abidhamma of the Buddha, Paracelsus (alchemy), and the work of Swiss psychoanalyst C.G. Jung, as well as others. Can science, which today debunks astrology, actually provide a link to Jungian astrology—which postulates a synchronistic connection between the motions of planets and stars and everyday life?

Science

More than five hundred years ago, Copernicus, Tycho Brahe, Kepler and Galileo set in motion the study of astronomy by observing the Moon and other planets with their moons; Newton provided the mathematical theory of gravitation to explain these observations. Today telescopes orbit the earth and provide evidence that more than 80% of all the 100B stars in the Milky Way Galaxy have planets, undoubtedly with myriad life forms; at the same time, astronomy has found remnants of evidence of the earliest days of the Universe. Five percent of the Universe is matter, while 95% is dark matter and dark energy. Can these observations connect to spirituality? We build on the fundamentals set forth in correspondence between Jung and the Nobel Prize winning physicist Wolfgang Pauli.

Mysticism and Spirituality

The Eastern traditions of Hinduism, Buddhism and Taoism stress the importance of spiritual practice, as a means of finding the proper path in life, rather than worship of given deities; Western religions such as Judaism, Christianity, and Islam stress faith and devotion to a higher entity as their spiritual foundations. Meditation deals with centering the individual, while prayer involves in part reaching out to other personified entities to provide guidance to find the proper path. The reconnection of the mind of the individual to their own spirit or soul through meditation can be an empowering spiritual experience, leading some to call enlightenment or true love the most powerful emotions ever encountered. Yet evil exists along with good: Why is this? What can be done to address evil?

To learn how to participate via Zoom, contact bartstuck@gmail.com.