

Knowing the Unknowable Knower

By A. Ramana

Sri Bhagavan Ramana says, *“You have imposed non-existent limitations on yourself, or limits on your true nature of pure, infinite being. Now, you are displeased due to believing yourself to be a limited creature or character; and, you have started out doing spiritual practices in order to transcend these non-existent limitations. However, if your mind and practice themselves presuppose the existence of these invented limits, how can you ever transcend them?”*

Sri Bhagavan also says, *Understand, you already are, and always have been, the very Self that you are presently seeking.*” This means nothing needs to be done for this to be your “lived knowingness,” simply cease seeking it and just be! Let the mind stop and rest from its seeking.

If you ever come to understand the full significance and truth of these words of Sri Bhagavan, will you not have understood everything needing to be known or understood? Understanding this, IS EVERYTHING; that is, That which Knows *that it is*, and with that knowing sees and knows everything else *as itself*, is the Knowing Self; and, therefore, nothing else need be known.

Seen from the absolute: the very center, from which all perceiving emanates, cannot be an object of perception, just as the eyes cannot see themselves, or the pointing finger point to itself.

This Knowing center is not an object, and so cannot be known, it is *itself* Pure Knowing; in its very Light all that is objectively seen... all persons, places, things, events, experiences, happenings, etc... are themselves lighted.

Be reminded that in Truth the perceived *is* the perceiver. The real perceiver of all, including the apparent individual with its mind that thinks that it does the perceiving, is really a process occurring in the Ultimate Subject which is the True Perceiver, the Very Self, which cannot itself be an object of perception; it is that which perceives all. Again: the true perceiver cannot be perceived.

One primary “person” that is so illuminated is the ego, and self-image, along with the mind with all its thoughts, memories, concepts, preferences, and stories. It is this ego that is falsely taken to be the Self, having superimposed itself on the true Being, or unknowable Knower that EVER IS.

This unknowable Knower is here now, “enlightening” all present knowing NOW OCCURRING in the ever-present instant, or moment. It is aware of the reading of these words, the thoughts that arise from the reading, and the contemplation of the arising thoughts in the moment. It is like an all-reflecting mirror that silently remains beyond all reflections without itself being reflected.

It is like the unheard listener that hears all thoughts as they come rumbling by, or those that just quietly bubble up. It is the ever still point to which all movement appears. It is the innermost Presence that is the most significantly significant of all that IS, being pure IS-ness Itself.

T. S. Elliot said (to paraphrase), “It is the still point where past and future are gathered, where movement neither ‘from’ nor ‘towards’ occurs... yet, it’s where the dance is.”

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