

Article 139: Even More About Enlightenment - part 2

If you expect enlightenment to relieve your problems, illnesses, shortcomings, and misunderstandings, how do you expect to see and live your enlightened understandings while encumbered by difficulties and afflictions? And if you lift your burdens from your self and life, in that, have you not enlightened yourself about your own creations? What greater enlightenment than that do you desire? Now, on top of these undesirable self-creations, will you add the burden of a search for enlightenment? With self-awareness, would you seek enlightenment? ...would you have any desire for, or need for, enlightenment? If not, maybe you should focus on yourself (quite a bit different than traditional enlightenment ...isn't it?), for just maybe, that alone will reveal the truth of the universe in ways you can genuinely understand.

But you still believe that enlightenment has to do with the truth of life ...while self-awareness is involved with ego and cravings, ...right? Well, don't be so foolish as to believe this, for how could the truth of the universe, especially your universe, be different or other than the truth of yourself? ...for you can only know the infinite truth of the universe by particularizing truth to yourself and living that, ...only then can you expand that self-knowing to infinite-knowing. Besides, if you know the universe (which you do) without knowing yourself (which you don't), how can you know what you know? ...or even know that you know? If enlightenment is other than self-awakened-self-awareness, by destroying your knowing-I, you trap yourself out of true enlightenment.

Do you seek enlightenment to reunite yourself with the blessed fulfillment of God? If so, why don't you stop separating yourself?

Are you seeking enlightenment in order to be respected and loved? ...to be accepted and acknowledged? ...to be supported and cared for? ...to be comforted? Then offer yourself and others respect, love, acceptance, acknowledgement, support, caring, and comfort, ...for what more could you expect from enlightenment? ...for surely you don't believe that enlightenment or truth has more to offer you and others than this, ...do you?

What is frequently mistaken for a "flash of enlightenment" is an awareness not previously acted upon which, later, emerges as an impulse or sense or awarenesses without being recognized as a memory. Ideas, suggestions, and awareness occurring during normal sleep are also recorded and stored ...only to arise later, seemingly spontaneously formed, and again not recognized as a "considered" awareness. Are these "flashes of enlightenment" to be dismissed merely because they come through memory? Couldn't it be possible that all enlightenment is, in fact, memory? Doesn't that indicated the importance of self-awareness? ...and that enlightenment flows through conscious awareness ...not through lack of

awareness? If you destroy your awareful self or deny your remembering-self, what self will be enlightened? ...and live that enlightenment? Are you awakening to enlightenment? ...or unblocking the enlightenment that is already yours?

Isn't it possible that you are actually filled to overflowing with enlightened awarenesses that were far too intense and compelling to be forgotten, but which may have lived within you for years, or many lifetimes, without giving evidence of their existence? ...maybe because of many previous judgments and criticism? And couldn't it be that your burdens, problems, and afflictions in life resulted primarily because your physical life did not match the enlightened inner-visions you've been carrying ...and struggling to manifest? Could it be that you are manifested and enlivened enlightenment itself? What do you believe will happen to your enlightenment without your manifest self? Is it possible that you could uncover enlightened understandings buried in your memory simply by **setting all judgments aside** and talking about whatever comes to mind ...and wandering into whatever ideas and areas of life this enlightened association takes you? Enlightened awarenesses, even if buried for many years or centuries, retain their original power ...and can come forth in new manifestations.

Such intense and compelling enlightened-understandings could not have easily passed away from active conscious awareness into passive memory, nor is it likely to have just quietly faded away and become obscure, ...there must have been a powerful force or emotion at work to withhold such enlightened awarenesses from active consciousness ...while you continued struggling and distressing under the burdensome weight of your judgments, difficulties, afflictions, and discomforts. Could it be that, just as you take experiences and emotions which are too painful to endure out of conscious awareness and store them away, you stored away enlightened-awarenesses simply because they were also too painful to endure? It seems, then, that these concealed or expelled ...and ultimately denied enlightened-awarenesses or understandings must bear directly upon yourself ...and your views, opinions, and *unfortunately* your judgments of yourself, for only that would be too painful to endure. What could those awarenesses views, opinions, and judgments possibly be?