

Essay

God in Religion & Science: A Chemist's View

Shivender S. Saini*

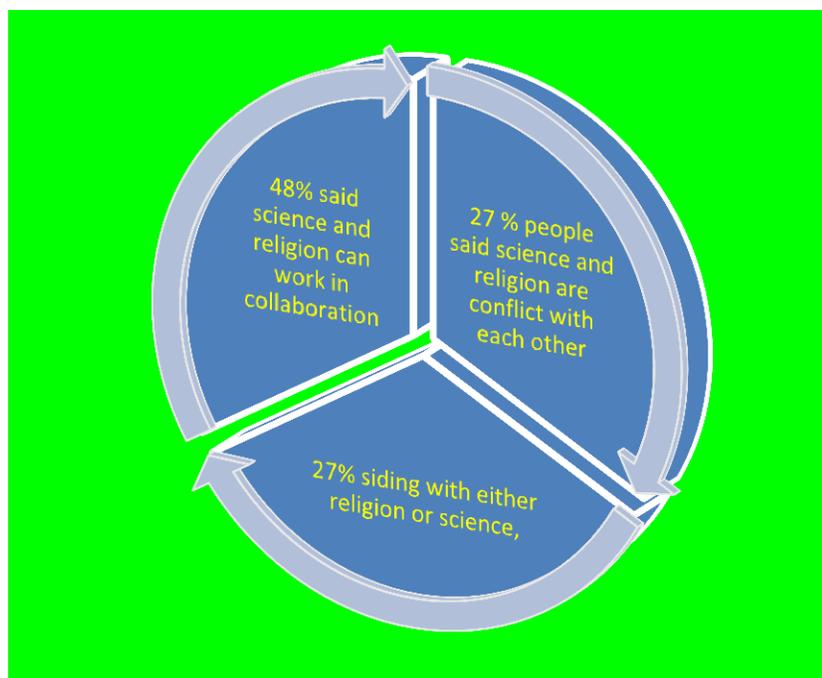
Abstract

God has made the cosmos scientifically and systematically under certain protocol. Science is trying to understand that protocol. Science and Religion probes God differently. If God is water, three forms of water (solid, liquid & vapour) are three different manifestations of God and the different routes (cooling, melting & heating) are the different religions to God.

Key Words: God, Science, Religion, chemist.

Why do people concern so much about the debate over science and religion? Does science alone have all the answers? Does religion alone have all the answers? Being a chemist in training, I offer my view and outlook in this essay.

Let us have a glance on, one of the largest surveys of its own kind, the American views on religion and science, commissioned by the AAAS Dialogue on Science, Ethics and Religion (DoSER) project, presented on February 16, 2014 in Chicago. The survey suggests that the scientific and religious communities may be less pugnacious than is commonly portrayed in the politics and in media. The survey results are shown below:



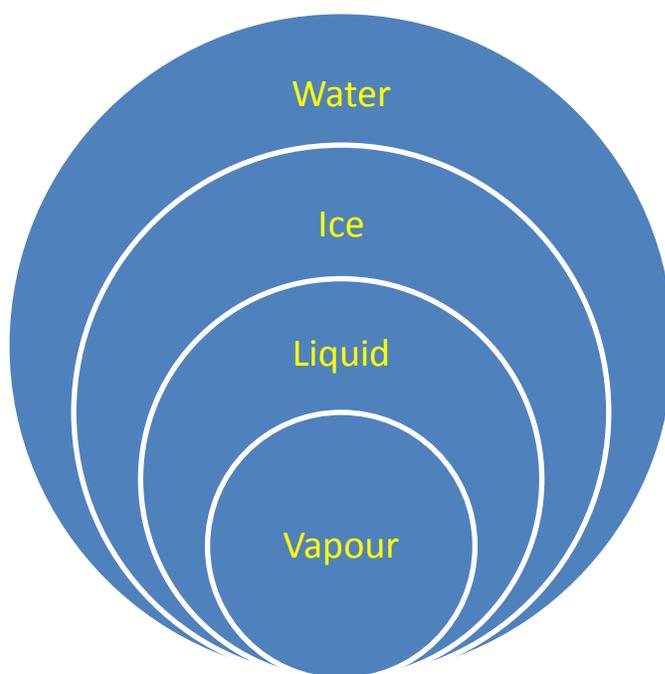
* Correspondence: Shivender S. Saini, PhD candidate in chemistry, India. Email: shiv_algal2007@yahoo.com

Now, I will attempt to conceptualize God as the perpetual existence of whole being (from planets, galaxies, electron and quarks to mystical secrets of life and creation), absolute truth, and highest scientific and religious knowledge.

Science says evolution, based on facts and evidences; and Religion says creation, based on faith and beliefs. I suggest creation by evolution. God has made the cosmos scientifically and systematically under certain protocol. Science is trying to understand that protocol. Science and Religion probes God differently.

There are different religions. On the other hand, there are different physical forms of water:

- ◇ Liquid water
- ◇ Solid Ice
- ◇ Vapour



Now there are different ways to get three different physical forms of water:

- ◇ At normal temperature, water is liquid
- ◇ At 0⁰C water is solid ice
- ◇ At 100⁰C water is vapour

If God is water, three forms of water are three different manifestations of God and the different routes – cooling, melting & heating - are the different religions to God.

Water is in all three forms, yet all the forms are not in water! This remind me of Lord Krishna telling Arjuna that

न च मत्स्थानि भूतानि पश्य मे योगमैश्वरम् ।

भूतभृन्न च भूतस्थो ममात्मा भूतभावनः ॥

na ca mat-sthani bhutani

paśya me yogam aisvaram

bhuta-bhṛn na ca bhuta-stho

mamatma bhuta-bhavanaḥ

Shrimad Bhagwat Geeta (9.5)

Yet everything that is created does not rest in Me. Behold My mystic opulence! Although I am the maintainer of all living entities and although I am everywhere, I am not a part of this cosmic manifestation, for My Self is the very source of creation.

So simple to grasp the point, water is in all three forms (liquid, ice & vapour) but yet all the forms are not in water.

In certain sense, Universe is written in mathematics and nature speaks of mathematics. In the 10-digit system, there are 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. Now, let us suppose that 0 is the God's digit.

In Yajurveda of Vedas, it says:

ॐ पूर्णमदः पूर्णमिदम् पूर्णात् पूर्णमुदच्यते ।

पूर्णस्य पूर्णमादाय पूर्णमेवावशिष्यते ॥

Om poornamadah poornamidam

poornaat poornamudachyate

Om poornamadah poornamidam

poornaat Poornamudachyate

Isha Upanishad (Yajurveda)

Om (sound of God), that is complete, from the completeness comes the completeness, If completeness is taken away from completeness, only completeness remains.

On the other hand, in mathematics 0 is the digit that is complete in itself, it is the only digit from which if it is subtracted, its completeness remains:

$0-0=0$	$0+0=0$	$0\times 0=0$	$0\div 0=\text{indeterminate}$
---------	---------	---------------	--------------------------------

The concept of nothingness or emptiness is the physical significance of 0. Indeed, all the digits, infinity (∞), words, concepts, great inventions exist already in the universe. When we put our mind on the ideas, facts, evidences of science, they already exist and we are just searching them in certain way.

Physics searches the physical laws of universe. When I was a child, I remembered a TV program on Einstein in which different scientists were giving their opinions on Einstein and one of them said that "*Einstein was so genius that he knows the mind of God*". So scientists should be closest to God. The more we study science, the closer we should be to God.

Einstein once said "*Science without religion is lame; religion without science is blind.*" Indeed, Science and Religion are two aspects of God.

I end this essay with the following quote:

इदं ते नातपस्काय नाभक्ताय कदाचन ।

न चाशुश्रूषवे वाच्यं न च मां योऽभ्यसूयति ॥

idam te naatapskaaya naaabhaktaaya kadaachana /

na chaashushrooshave vaachyam na cha maam yobhyasooyati II

This confidential knowledge may never be explained to those who are not austere, one without penance, one who is not a devotee, one without service nor to one who is envious of Me (God).