

## Essay

# A Simple Explanation of Religion

Cyd Ropp\*

### ABSTRACT

When the Bible speaks of a person's spirit, this refers to the Self's Unit of Consciousness. This UC is "made in the image of God," and is a replica of the spirit of God, or the Holy Spirit. As such, God's Law is written on the heart of everything in creation. The problem with religion is that too often, ritualized memes have replaced personal communion with the Holy Spirit. Religious doctrine or dogma falls into the category of meme chords. Merely surrounding oneself with religious meme chords and performing works out of duty to the meme chords does not grant access to God.

**Key Words:** true meaning, religion, memes, unit of consciousness, gossip, forgiveness, Holy Spirit, God.

## The Problem with Religion

The problem with religion is that too often, ritualized memes have replaced personal communion with the Holy Spirit. Religious doctrine or dogma falls into the category of meme chords. Yet memes obscure access to one's spiritualized Self or governing unit of consciousness. Since it is the Self Unit of Consciousness that seeks union with God (the universal Unit of Consciousness), beclouding the Self UC with meme chords is the last thing the seeker wants. Merely surrounding oneself with religious meme chords and performing works out of duty to the meme chords does not grant access to God.

Here's how the Bible puts it in Matthew 7:

**21** Not everyone that said to me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that does the will of my Father which is in heaven. **22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name? and in your name have cast out devils? and in your name done many wonderful works? **23** And then will I profess to them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity.

What does it mean, to "work iniquity"? It means putting your body's desires ahead of God's will (or the metaversal plan). When a Unit of Consciousness puts its own well-meaning-but-limited plan into action, a karmic debt is created. Seekers after God desire absolution from sin/karma/iniquity. Building even more karmic debt out of personal effort is the last thing the seeker wants.

---

\*Correspondence: Cyd Ropp, PhD, Independent Researcher. <http://asimpleexplanation.blogspot.com>

E-mail: [cropp7@hotmail.com](mailto:cropp7@hotmail.com) Also see: Ropp, C. *A Simple Explanation of Absolutely Everything* (Bluebird Books/lulu.com: Encinitas, 2012-2015).

Here is how the Tao Te Ching puts it in Verse 18:

When the Tao is lost, there is goodness.  
When goodness is lost, there is morality.  
When morality is lost, there is ritual.  
Ritual is the husk of true faith,  
the beginning of chaos.

This verse describes ritual's fall from grace. The highest state is to be at one with God and God's plan, called herein the Tao.

The Tao Te Ching, or Book of the Way, is an ancient Chinese collection of 81 wisdom verses. In “The Simple Explanation” model, the Tao spoken of by Lao Tzu refers to the metaversal information and principles of organization that have informed our universe since the moment before creation.

When one loses touch with the universal UC, one loses the Tao's information pipeline. But, says Verse 18, even if your UC has lost its way, you still know goodness when you see it, and your heart may still be in the right place.

But, once your heart loses its way, you no longer have true goodness. Morality is what you are left with once love departs. Morality is a system of rules meant to engender Godly behavior in those who no longer know God.

Once morality is lost, empty ritual takes its place. Ritualistic behavior no longer serves to bring one closer to God. At this stage, the Way to God has become replaced by meaningless gestures. “Ritual is the husk of true faith.” Lifeless, dried-up memes have replaced morality, goodness, love, and access to God. Verse 18 declares this state to be chaos, anarchy, entropic, because when the Word of God cannot pass its organizing principles through your UC, the opportunity is lost to accomplish whatever part your UC was to play in making things better. This is the last thing the seeker wants.

## **A Simple Explanation of Christianity**

The Simple Explanation can be applied to traditional spiritual teachings, including Christianity. For those of us who are Christians, here is how this would work:

When the model speaks of “the metaverse,” this is God the Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth, infinite energy and non-localized consciousness.

When the model says the metaverse “vibrated with every organizing principle needed to shape and sustain space and time, energy and mass,” this is God the Son. “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” The Word is Logos, Greek for information and principles of organization—The Law.

When the model says that consciousness wrapped itself around our universe and took on a shape, this is God the Holy Spirit, hereinafter referred to as the "Universal UC" in the *Simple Explanation*. At the macro scale, the Holy Spirit surrounds all of creation at the border of the metaverse. This "shape" of God's mind can be visualized as the universal Unit of Consciousness. Within our universe, the Holy Spirit instantiates an echo of God's mind at the birth of every subsequent UC. Thus, the universe is pervaded, within and without, by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

When the Bible speaks of a person's spirit, this refers to the Self's Unit of Consciousness. This Unit of Consciousness is "made in the image of God," and is a replica of the spirit of God, or the Holy Spirit. As such, God's Law is written on the heart of everything in creation.

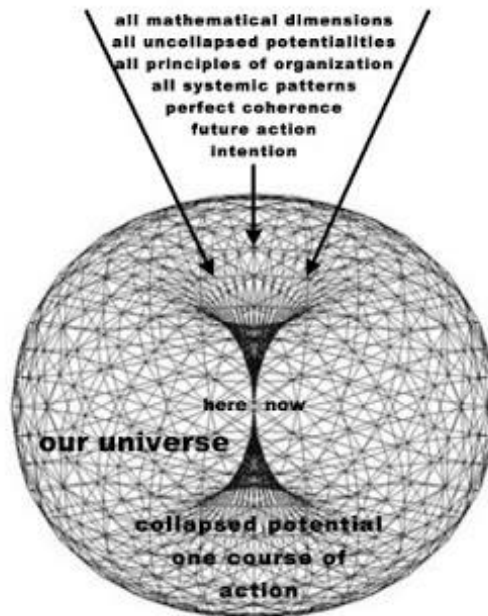
According to the New Testament, Jesus the Christ was "fully human" and "fully God." This means that the Unit of Consciousness associated with Jesus of Nazareth was a fully realized copy of the Unit of Consciousness of the Holy Spirit. Jesus never allowed his personal will to contradict the will of God streaming in from the metaverse. As a fully-realized Unit of Consciousness, Jesus was entirely coherent with God's will, which is to say, Jesus was without sin. Thus, Jesus never accrued karmic debt. Since Jesus did not live for himself but for God alone, he never enshrouded his UC with personal meme bundles and karma.

When asked his central message, Jesus responded that we were to "Love God and to love one another as we love ourselves." In terms of this model, God would like us to embrace the information and patterns streaming in from the metaverse whenever we make a decision; when we do this, we are "loving God." Then, God would like us to love ourselves. This means that we are to love our flesh's aggregate Units of Consciousness and do what is best for our organism. We are also to love our Self's Unit of Consciousness and act with wisdom in concert with God's will. Finally, we are to take the focus off of ourselves and our treasured memes, and to reach out laterally with love and information to our brethren UCs.

Jesus came that we might not perish because of the law (of karma) but that we might live life more abundantly. He demonstrated through the example of his life that it is possible to be a fully-realized Unit of Consciousness, living moment-by-moment in the service of God's will. "Believing on Christ" for salvation is an invitation for the UC of the Holy Spirit to dwell in fullness in your UC—to allow the energy of God to shine unobstructed through your Unit of Consciousness. To be "Born Again" is to make a decision to lay down your personal meme bundle and to allow the Holy Spirit's UC to live through you. Baptism is a ritual enactment of washing away your undesired meme chords so that God's memes may flow through you.

Metaverse -- God the Father

This Universe—"The Word"



## A Simple Explanation of "The Great Commandment"

Known as "The Great Commandment" in Judaism, Leviticus 19:18 states: "Love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD." This commandment is reiterated by Jesus and Paul several times in the New Testament, as here when Jesus counsels the rich young ruler in Matthew 19:19, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Commentaries on this commandment usually focus on its Golden Rule aspect--to treat others as you would wish to be treated.

The Simple Explanation puts it this way: "In order for units of consciousness to join and work together for the greater good, they need relevant information (including shared meme chords), they need to be willing to channel coherence from the metaverse, and they need to love one another."

While we human-level Units of Consciousness often struggle with loving others, many of us also struggle with loving ourselves, so how do we accomplish the Great Commandment?

In the article "My Self, The Governor of Whoville," I explain that my governing Unit of Consciousness is associated with a veritable galaxy of aggregated UCs hierarchically distributed below it. "I" am not alone in this body of mine, but coinhabit this material space with countless other Units of Consciousness devoted to instantiating "my" body. The commandment to "love

myself" is a reminder to be kind and wise in the governance of the UCs that make up my Self's body. I am the ruler of their galaxy--I am the "Governor of Whoville," to borrow from Dr. Seuss. When I ignore the information coming "upline" from my aggregated UCs, my physical body may suffer emotionally and physically. If I ignore my aggregated UCs altogether, they are like sheep without a shepherd, and my emotional and physical body will surely suffer. I must be the wise ruler of this body, as it is my governing Self Unit of Consciousness that is responsible for this little galaxy. This can be considered the essential rationale for loving myself. It is not my Ego I am loving -- it is the Whoville galaxy.

If my Self UC cannot act with wisdom and love toward its own "mud" and meat, then how can it act with wisdom and love toward other Units of Consciousness at the lateral level--its "neighbor"?

The "neighbor" that I am commanded to love is any Unit of Consciousness that occupies the same level of complexity as my UC. It is the job of every UC, no matter its hierarchical level of complexity and sophistication, to reach out laterally to others of its level, working together for the good of all. A sub-atomic particle's neighbor would be other sub-atomics. A liver cell's neighbor would be other liver cells. A human's neighbor would be other humans, but also other complex life forms. My dog is not a citizen of Whoville. My dog is my neighbor.

All of creation is called upon to work together with others of like kind for the survival and benefit of all. This is a Simple Explanation of The Great Commandment.

### **A Simple Explanation of the Lord's Prayer**

When his disciples asked Lord Jesus how to pray, Jesus taught them the following prayer. Here is its most common translation, from the King James Version of the Bible (Matthew 6:6):

*Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever.  
Amen.*

For a few years now, I have only prayed the Lord's Prayer and no other. For me, prayer time is not a time to petition God for favors. I figure God already knows better than I do what needs I have. I also have an abiding faith that God/the Tao/the Universe has my best interests at heart, and so I trust in God/the Tao/the Universe to take care of me. My husband and I recite the Lord's Prayer out loud together after each morning's scripture study and meditation. We recite the King James version above.

I provide the *Simple Explanation* translation below, not as a replacement for traditional versions, but simply for mapping *Simple Explanation* terminology to Christian memes for purposes of clarification.

### **Here's my *Simple* Translation of The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father from the metaverse, we address you with humility and respect.

We invite your plans and principles to inform and bring order to our universe, trusting that your intention for us is best.

We acknowledge that you are the source of all that is needed to nourish and sustain our lives.

We realize that our karmic shortcomings can only be forgiven to the same extent we forgive others for their shortcomings.

We desire to avoid any memes that stand in the way of doing what is best for ourselves and others.

We trust you in all things, for your authority and power transcend this universe, and we are but humble echoes of your perfection.

Amen

### **A Simple Explanation of Forgiveness**

- **Everyone makes decisions that affect themselves and those around them.**
  - *See the Simple Explanation of "The Role of Karma."*
- **Sometimes these decisions create painful emotions in those affected.**
  - *Painful emotions--anger, embarrassment, sadness, fear--always involve a perceived loss of love or fearing loss of love.*
- **Forgiveness is a decision to let go of the memes that provoke painful emotional responses.**
  - *Emotions arise quickly and dissipate quickly, unless sustained through thought. Reviewing painful experiences keeps their associated memes active in your meme bundle. You must detach those memes from your mind in order to quell the emotions. See "Shed Unwanted Memes Here! Now!"*
- **Forgiveness is a free-will decision on the part of the offended party; it does not depend upon the repentance of the offender.**
  - *Here's the logic: Unwillingness to forgive another indicates an unwillingness to reestablish love; unwillingness to love indicates being out of phase with the Universal UC. If one's state of grace were dependent upon another's*

*willingness to repent, then your spiritual progress would be at the mercy of another. This is not possible. Therefore, it is upon each UC to forgive unilaterally.*

- **You will be forgiven to the same degree you forgive others.**
  - *This is such an important principle, it is stated in the Lord's Prayer: "...and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."*
- 
- **If you are not willing to forgive others, you will not be forgiven.**
  - *"Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself, for you who judge practice the same things." (Romans 2:1)*
- **If you cannot forgive yourself, you will not be able to forgive others.**
  - *This is a corollary of "The Great Commandment"--you are no more nor less worthy of love and forgiveness than any other UC.*

## A Simple Explanation of Gossip

Here's the wikipedia definition of gossip:

Gossip is idle talk or rumour, especially about the personal or private affairs of others. It forms one of the oldest and most common means of sharing (unproven) facts and views, but also has a reputation for the introduction of errors and other variations into the information transmitted. ...

Here's the Simple Explanation's definition of gossip:

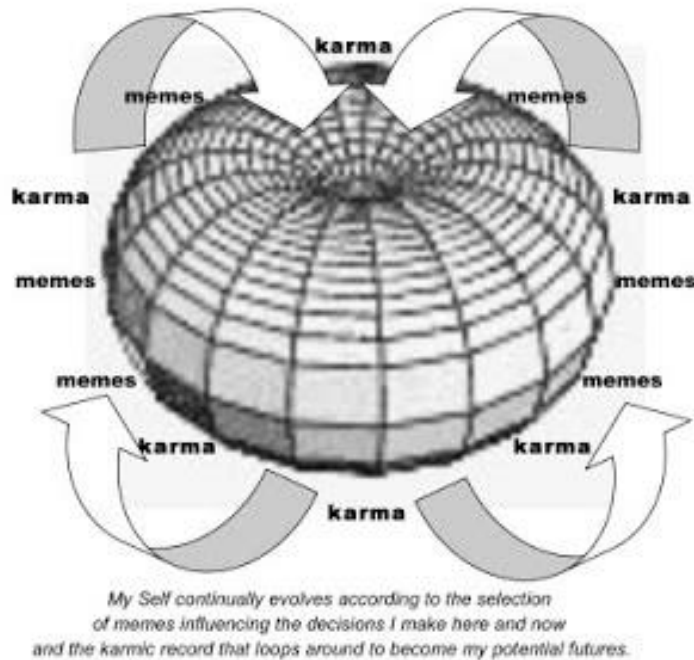
Sharing, from your point of view, another's personal memes and karmic deeds with the aim of strengthening their consequences.

Here's how it works: You either hear about or witness an event that you emotionally resonate to. Responding to that emotion, your mind quickly gathers up a chord of memes relating to the event. These memes will necessarily reflect your point of view, because that is who and where you are relative to the event. Even if the facts are accurate, i.e. correct retelling of the other's memes and of the karmic event, the meme chord also contains your personal assumptions, judgments, and position. In other words, you have added something to the equation.

Your ego then constructs a story--"the story of the meme chord"--and tells it to you. All of this activity is more or less out of your conscious control. Once you make a conscious decision to tell it to someone else, then it becomes gossip. Spreading gossip is like weaving meme chords and launching them into the air.

Why do people gossip? It is in order to keep that particular meme chord in play. If the gossip is pleasant and positive, then most people approve of it. If the gossip is slanderous and

negative, people disapprove. However, whether positive or negative, the memes and karmic consequences are still being strengthened through repetition and transmission. This is the purpose of gossip--to deepen the karma of praise or concern for the "righteous," and of shame and indignation for the "sinner." And the further the meme chord spreads, the less it reflects the truth of the situation and the more interference it brings to the here and now.



### **Spiritual Consequences of Gossip**

The Bible has many injunctions against gossip. Here's what the book of James has to say about it, in Chapter 4, Verse 11:

Speak not evil one of another, bretheren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?"

In *Simple Explanation* terms, the verse reads like this:

Fellow Units of Consciousness, it is not our job to share others' personal memes and shortcomings. Spreading unhelpful information out of egoic judgment does not contribute to the metaversal plan. The metaversal plan transcends ego. Ego is too limited to grasp the causes or the consequences of one's own behavior, let alone another's. Do not interfere with another's karma.

Personally, I think of gossip as keeping a situation alive in time. As the meme chord is strengthened through repetition, the event stays in the present rather than passing into the past. It



seems to me that God, or the Metaversal plan, or the Universal Unit of Consciousness, is not about shame or praise, but favors moving forward and doing what needs to be done here and now. "Onward and Upward!" I think the game plan is all about forgiving and picking up the pieces, looking around to see what needs doing next, and working in harmony to help one another make the best of things.

