

Article

## The Spiritual Meaning of the OA and the Matrix in the Context of Genesis

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### Abstract

In recent years, popular culture has been trying to wrap its collective mind around the spiritual nature of consciousness. Twenty years ago we had the Matrix as an expression of spiritual seeking, and today we have the OA. Both of these expressions of spiritual seeking are trying to explain how consciousness creates a world for itself as a sort of virtual reality it can experience. The central metaphor of the Matrix is entering the darkness as depicted by the wearing of dark glasses. The motto of the Matrix is Know Thyself. The central metaphor of the OA is seeing the world from an ascended or God's Eye point of view. The motto of the OA is Who Am I? These two metaphors come together in the story of Genesis, which tells us that God divided the light from the darkness. In spiritual terms, the darkness is the source of the light of consciousness.

**Keywords:** The OA, The Matrix, light of consciousness, darkness.

### The God's Eye Point of View of the OA

The season 2 ending of the OA perfectly illustrates the Who Am I? question of spirituality. In the finale, the detective Karim reaches the rose window in the attic of the mystery house on Nob Hill, which gives him a God's Eye view of the world. With this God's Eye view, Karim is able to see across all dimensions. What he sees is the world depicted in the OA is like a movie, and all the characters in the movie are like actors on a stage. Karim is literally watching the staged production of the movie. This God's Eye view of the world that Karim experiences during the finale is crucial for understanding the spiritual message of the OA.

With the God's Eye view, Karim sees that all the other dimensions, which are all alternative realities, are no more real than a theatrical staged production. There is no reality in any of these alternative realities. They are all imaginary, like the images of a movie projected from a movie screen or the images of a virtual reality projected from a computer screen. The people in these alternative realities are no more real than the perceived characters in a movie or actors on a stage. This view of the world as being imaginary is essential for the spiritual message of the ending.

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The dove piercing the Eye of God in the finale represents the Holy Dove, which descends on one when one dies to the flesh. One dies to one's false self-identification with the body of one's character in the movie of the world one is watching, and one is reborn of the spirit. One knows one's true spiritual identity is the consciousness represented by God's Eye that is watching the movie, which is one's true spiritual being. This spiritual presence of consciousness must be present for the movie even to appear to come into existence. When this spiritual presence is not present, the movie disappears from existence. This spiritual being is called *I Am*, as it is called in Before Abraham was, *I Am*; or Be Still and Know that *I Am* God; or *I Am That*.

All the characters in the movie have bodies that appear to be born and die, but the *I Am* consciousness watching the movie from its ascended point of view outside the movie is never born and never dies. It can only be present to watch the movie or not be present. When it is not present, it returns to its source. The dove represents freedom since the born again experience is liberation from the bondage of identifying oneself with one's character in the movie one is watching. One is imprisoned in a state of emotional bondage when one emotionally identifies oneself with the body of one's character in the movie. This is essentially the same explanation Plato gave in the Allegory of the Cave, and is the underlying spiritual message of the Matrix.

There is only One Being, of which everyone's *I Am* spiritual being is a fragment. The One Consciousness is watching the movie of the world from many different points of view and is identifying itself with the forms of many different characters. Each point of view knows itself to be *I Am*. When the movie of the world comes to an end and disappears from existence from any particular point of view, that *I Am* fragment of the One Consciousness can only return to and reunite itself with the unlimited, undivided, unchanging and formless One Consciousness.

## **Dark Glasses: the Central Metaphor of the Matrix**

The wearing of dark glasses in the Matrix is the central metaphor for the metaphysical meaning of the Matrix. Through wearing dark glasses, the Matrix depicts the self-destructive process of ego-death that is at the heart of the awakening process. This is the central metaphor of turning off the light of one's consciousness and entering the darkness that is the source of the light of consciousness as a way of reuniting the *I Am* consciousness with the One Consciousness.

Genesis states that in the beginning, darkness was on the face of the deep. The deep is a way of describing the void or abyss or formless darkness of empty space that is the source of the light of consciousness. The face of the deep is a surface of space like the surface of the ocean. Deep within the ocean, the ocean is at rest, but on the surface of the ocean, the ocean is in motion due to the action of waves. The face of the deep is a way to describe one's mind, which is a mental screen that displays the movie-in-the-mind, which only consists of wave activity. The observer of the mental screen is the mind's eye, which Genesis calls the spirit of God. This spiritual presence of consciousness is called the *I Am* consciousness. When Genesis states that God

divided the light from the darkness, this refers to the observer's light of consciousness being divided from the darkness that is the source of the light of consciousness. It is the *I Am* consciousness that is divided from the One Consciousness with the creation of the observer's world.

The nature of the virtual reality depicted in the Matrix is the movie-in-the-mind, which only consists of mental images projected from the observer's mental screen to its point of view outside the screen in the audience of empty space. The observer, which is a spiritual presence of consciousness, is in a state of bondage due to the observer emotionally identifying itself with the animated form of its character, which is the central character of the movie of the world it is watching on its mental screen. The observer's self-identification with its character is the meaning of being a prisoner. This is a false identity since the observer is always out in the audience of empty space, only watching the movie. The nature of the ego is a false self-concept that arises in the observer's mind as the observer emotionally identifies itself with the emotionally animated form of its character in the movie. Images of that movie of the world are projected from its mental screen to its point of view outside the screen and animated like the frames of a movie. It is the observer's light of consciousness, like the light of a movie projector, that is projecting the images from the screen and allowing the images to become emotionally animated.

The observer's light of consciousness is what is creating and destroying the appearance of its world from its own point of view, like the light of a movie projector that creates and destroys the images of a movie. This light emanates from the observer and is reflected off the screen as the observer perceives the projected images. Until observed, the observer's world only exists in an unobserved state of potentiality. The observer must be present for its world to appear to come into an actual state of existence. If the observer is not present, its world disappears from existence. Being present is the nature of an observer that focuses its attention upon and shines the light of its consciousness on its world. The observer's light of consciousness illuminates its world and mind, like the light of a movie projector illuminates images projected from a screen.

The observer's light of consciousness could also be called its life-force, which is the creative power that gives rise to the animating flow of energy that animates all mental images projected from its mental screen like the frames of a movie. The observer's world is only energized and emotionally animated because the observer perceives it. Until perceived, both the form of things and the flow of energy that animates things only exist in an unobserved state of potentiality. To come into an actual observed state of existence, the observer must perceive both the form of things and the flow of energy that animates things. The observer's world only appears to come into existence and is observed from its own point of view if the observer focuses its attention upon and shines the light of its consciousness on its world. The observer's world disappears from existence from its own point of view if the observer withdraws the focus of its attention away from its world and no longer shines the light of its consciousness on its world.

The observer's light of consciousness is its life-force that is creating and destroying the appearance of its world from its own point of view as its light of consciousness illuminates its mind and projects and animates all mental images displayed on its mental screen. One is only a prisoner if one emotionally identifies oneself with the animated image of one's character in the movie-in-the-mind one is watching. Freeing oneself from this state of emotional bondage, which is called spiritual awakening, is a self-destructive process of ego-death, as one no longer identifies oneself with one's character in the virtual reality movie of the world one is watching.

In order to awaken to one's true spiritual being, one must become willing to turn off the light of one's consciousness and turn off one's life-force that is emotionally animating one's ego. This is inherently an emotional deanimation. This deanimation of ego is the meaning of ego-death. One must become willing to turn one's focus of attention away from one's world and shift one's attention onto one's own sense of beingness and the true nature of what one is. One must become willing to enter the darkness that is the source of the light of consciousness. That is the only way the *I Am* consciousness can return to and reunite itself with the One Consciousness.