

Understanding the Expression "Born Again, Again" [see footnote*]

Being a child of God by grace, one is subsequently "born again" when the mighty religious impulse of the sixth adjutant impels a hand upward into the upper domain--while the feet remain planted on the bottom of the lower domain, the level of fear--and this upreaching hand takes a faith grasp of the sixth level of meaning. Having been born again, into an evolutionary religion of fear, the faith son of God begins to be grown into adolescence, as the fourth adjutant--the scientific impulse--gently nudges the other hand upward from the second level into the third level of meaning. From that level, the seventh adjutant--the philosophic impulse--opens up one's individuality focus on the parts into a budding recognition of the encompassing context of the whole. Then this same philosophic impulse gently nudges the scientific hand further up, into the upper domain, to the fourth level of meaning.

As this gradually upreached hand takes firm hold of the first cosmic intuition, the logical acumen, a maturing adolescence is founded on this reflective level of genuine scientific consciousness. And throughout the entire growth process with the scientific hand, the religious hand has maintained a firm grip on the sixth level of meaning, as the anchor of a religious life which has been mostly compartmentalized away from the ever expanding scientific life. However, eventually, there is a superadditive consequence of the relationship across the differential between the two hands. A genuinely cosmos-based moral consciousness is founded on the fifth level of meaning; and subsequently, with a top-down orientation, a genuine religious consciousness is reflectively founded on the sixth level of meaning. The adolescent is "born again, again", as an adult of God--now with the feet planted on the top of the upper domain, the level of real love. So, having been born again, again, into a revelatory religion of love, it is literally true: "old things are passing away; behold, all things are becoming new." (TUB 100:7.18)

* The above explanation utilizes the hourglass analogy of the levels of meaning, of one's mindal self: with levels 0, 1, and 2 in the lower domain; level 3 in the neck; levels 4, 5, and 6 in the upper domain; level 0 on the bottom of the lower domain; and level 6 on the top of the upper domain. The above "hands" and "feet" are relational metaphors.

(reflections by Chris Halvorson)