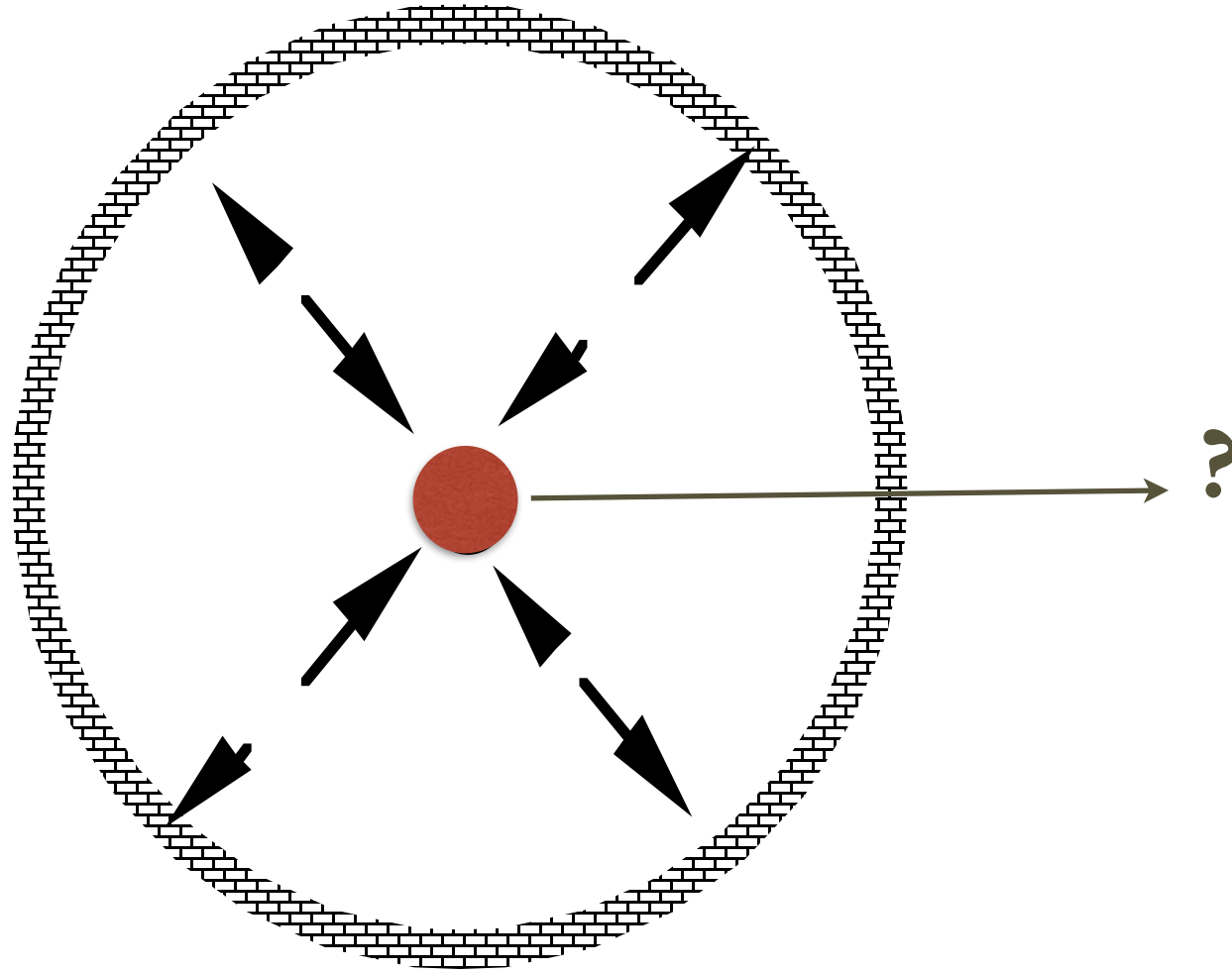


Religious

Experience



Religion Re + ligare To bind back

Christian Belief

Christian Living

Church

Creation

Education

Fundamentalism

God

Islam

Jesus

Liturgy

Mission

MSC

New Testament

Old Testament

Pope Francis

Prayer

Priesthood

Religious Life

RCIA/Cursillo

www.mbfallon.com

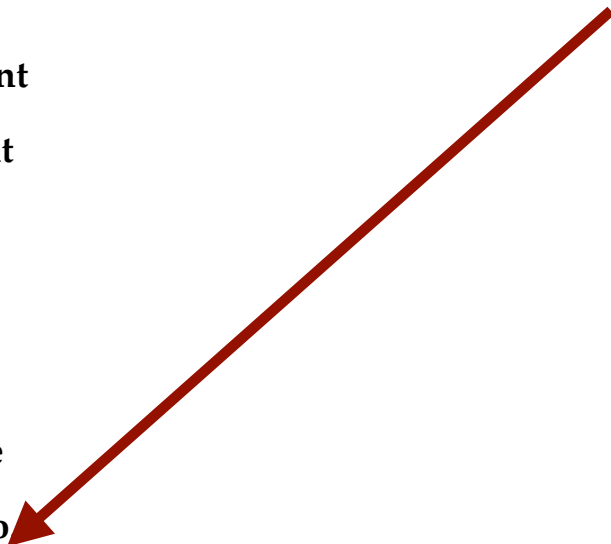
A u d i o C D ' s H o m i l i e s A r t i c l e s

Welcome to my site

Index of Topics

Click on "RCIA" (left menu)

n. 1. Religious Experience



God Sanskrit **Ghu** ('called' 'calling') + **To** ('The one')

God 'The Heart and the Beyond of Everything' (Teilhard)



Sacred

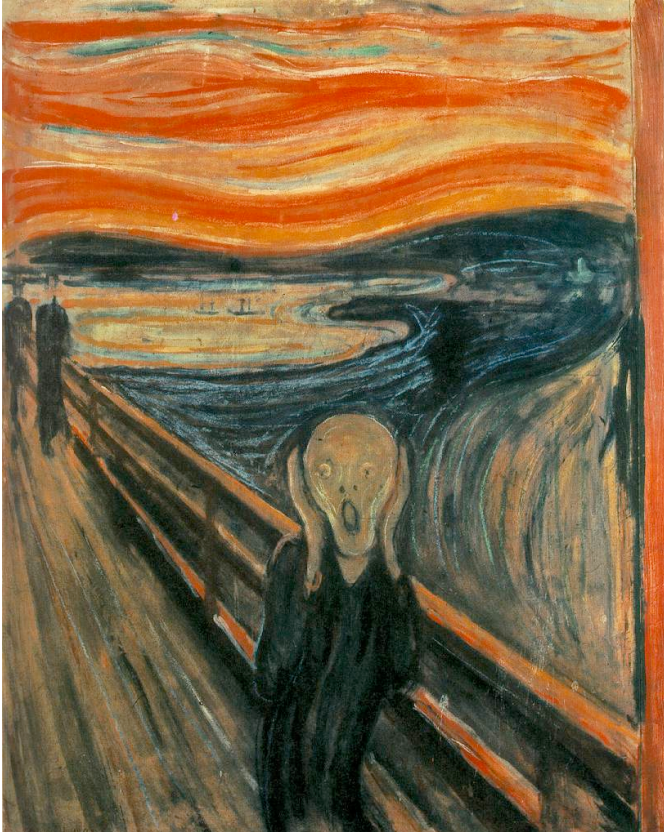
Religious
Experience is

God
Centre - Heart

Experience of
Communion with God

God

Sanskrit **Ghu** ('called' 'calling') + **To** ('The one')



Religious
Experience is

Experience of
Communion with 'God'

God 'The Heart and the Beyond of Everything' (Teilhard de Chardin)

Holy

John-Paul II Mission of the Redeemer, 1990

‘We must have respect for human beings in their quest for answers to the deepest questions of life, and respect for the action of the Holy Spirit in people ... Every authentic prayer is prompted by the Holy Spirit who is mysteriously present in every human heart’ (n. 29).

‘Dialogue with those of other religions is demanded by deep respect for everything that has been brought about in human beings by the Spirit who blows where he wills’ (n. 56).

The **Numinous** dimension of religious experience

Word

Judaism

Islam

- Prophet - Moses

- Prophet - Muhammad

- Book - Torah

- Book - Qur'an



- Obedience

- Submission

God is experienced

- in nature
- in people & events
- in movements of thought & feeling
- in words spoken & written
- in works of art

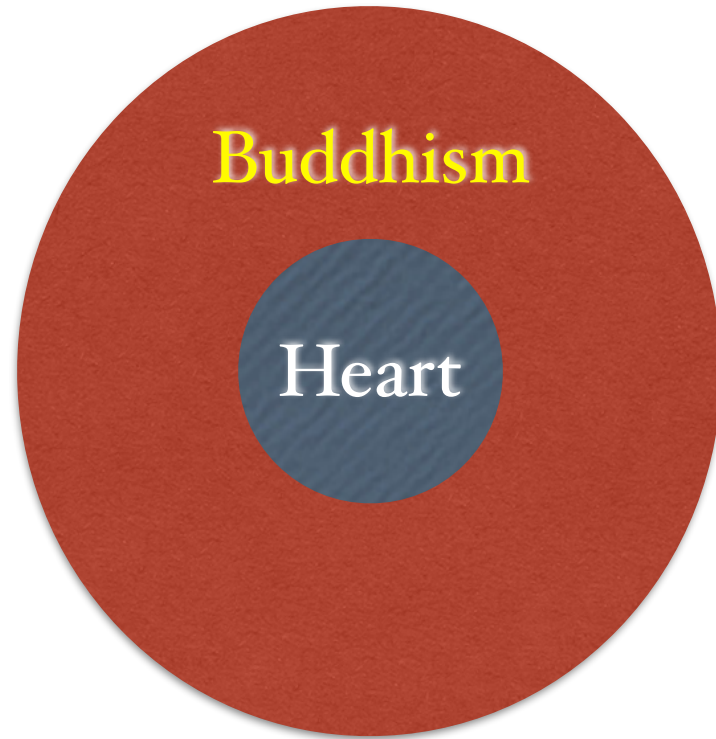
They reveal something of the truth, beauty & goodness of the transcendent & mysterious God

God is revealed in

- the Vedas & Upanishads
- the sayings of K'ung-fu-tzu (Confucius)
- the sayings of Gautama the Buddha
- the oracles of the Hebrew Scriptures
- the New Testament
- the Moslem Qur'an
- the mystics, poets, artists of all cultures

The **Mystical** dimension of religious experience

Spirit



Enlightenment

Danger

Projecting a 'God' limited by our human experiences

Creating a 'God' in our own image

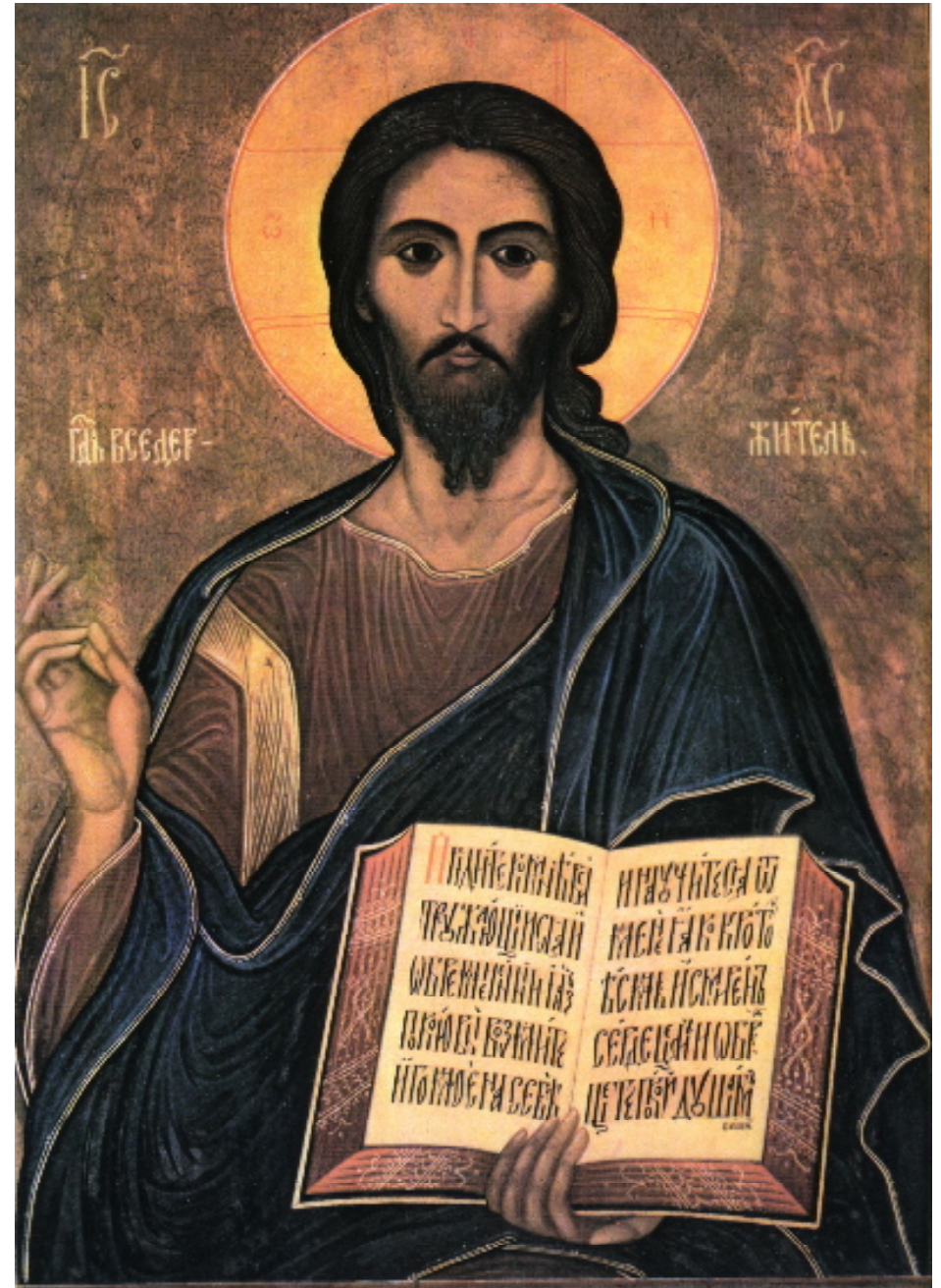
This spawns

atheism: the rejection of a limited God

agnosticism: failure to explore the implications of our experience

John 1:17

‘The Law [Torah] indeed was given through Moses; the gift of Truth came through Jesus the Christ.’



1John 1:1-3



Matthew 11:28-29

We declare to you what we have heard,
what we have seen with our eyes,
what we have looked at and touched with
our hands, concerning the word of life —

this life was revealed, and we have seen it
and testify to it, and declare to you the
eternal life that was with the Father and
was revealed to us. We declare to you what
we have seen and heard so that you may
have communion with us;
and truly our communion is with the
Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

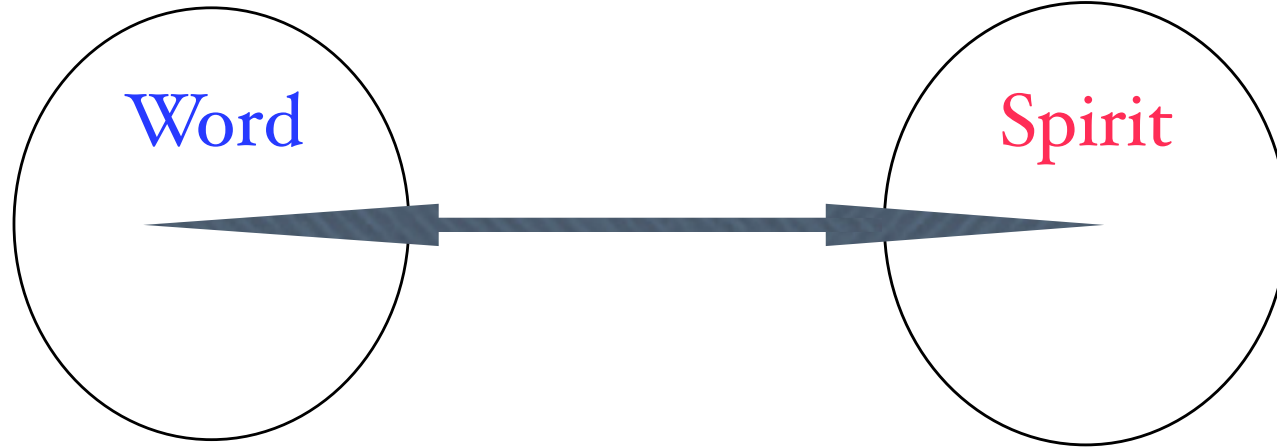


‘God’s love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us’ (Romans 5:5)

Revelation

Numinous

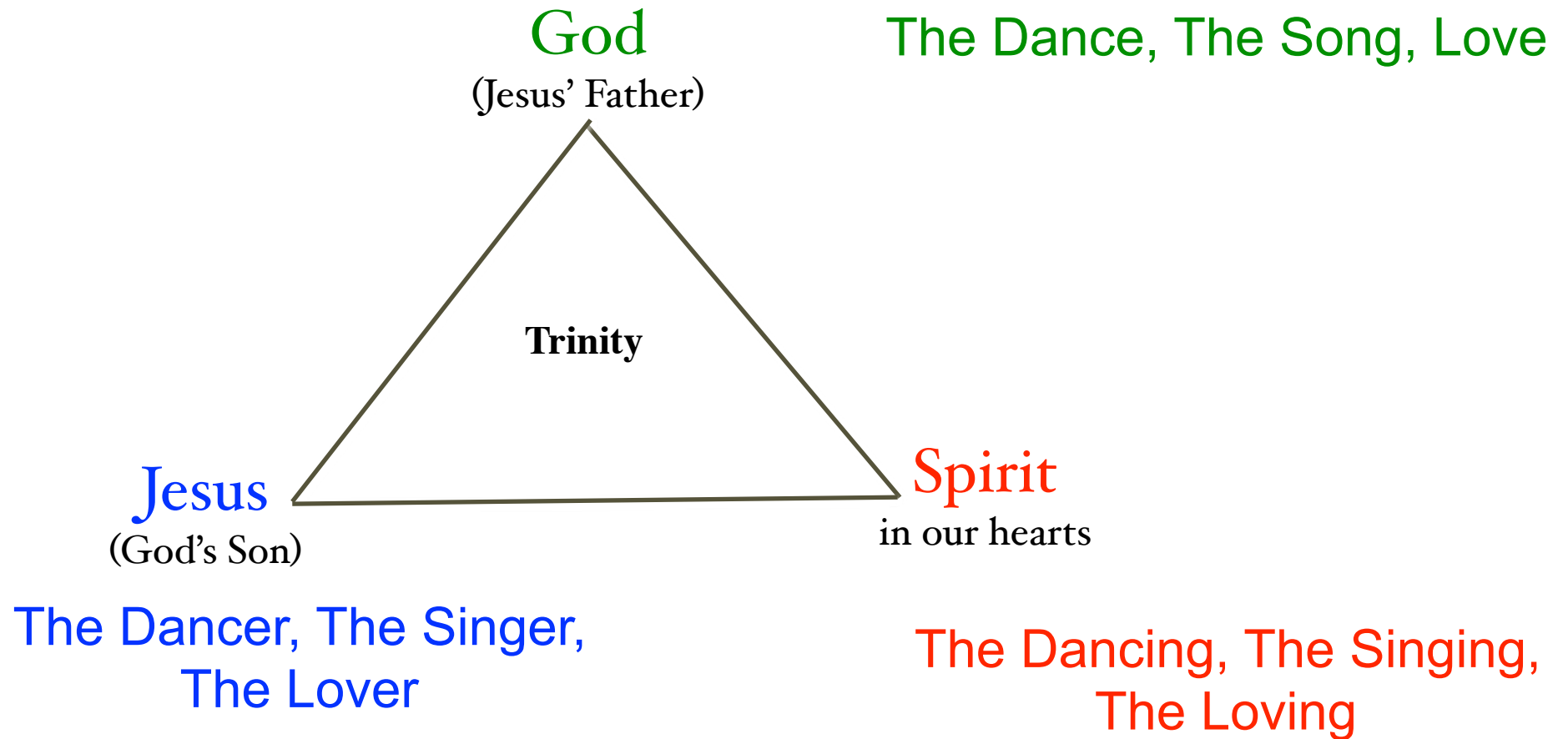
Mystical



Heart

speaks to

Heart



‘The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the hierarchy of the truths of faith.’

(Catechism n. 234)

Jesus is looking to his Father

The Father is looking towards the Spirit



The Spirit is looking at the Eucharistic gifts on the table.

The one looking at the icon is invited to join them at the table.

Prayer

We are called to love God ‘with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength’(Mark 12:30, quoting Deuteronomy 6:5).

While the journey of prayer encompasses every dimension of our lives, the interior dimension is the key: the inner journey to our own heart and so to the Heart of God: the journey of prayer in which Heart speaks to heart.

Teresa speaks of prayer as: ‘intimate sharing between friends ... taking time frequently to be alone with the One who we know loves us’(Life 8.5). ‘Look at Him’, she writes, ‘He never takes his eyes off you’(Way of Perfection 26.3).

John of the Cross reminds us that ‘the language which God hears best is silent love’(Maxims on Love 53).



‘From the Heart of Jesus pierced on Calvary, I see a new world coming forth – a great and life-giving world, inspired by love and mercy: a world which the Church must perpetuate on the whole earth.’

(Sacred Heart 1900)

‘Jesus went up on the mountain,
and called to him those he desired;
and they came to him.
And he appointed twelve,
to be with him,
and to be sent out’(Mark 3:13-14)

‘Looking on him who was pierced,
we see the new Heart
that God has given us,
an inexhaustible source of life ...

We want to proclaim his love
to the world’(MSC Constitutions 9-10)



Be not afraid