

“There Is A Light”

Short contribution from Michael von Heinz for the International Gathering in Halcyon, California

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There exists a somewhat deeper witticism in the German language in which the word “light” is used to show how to distinguish an optimist from a pessimist.

The optimist sees a light where there is none, and the pessimist blows it out.

From the standpoint of physics, light is an extraordinarily complicated phenomenon. It should suffice here to refer to the quantum theory according to which light, when spreading out in space, has a behavioral pattern of undulations, i.e. it appears as waves. On the other hand, in both a nascent state and when it disappears from view, light does manifest in a corpuscular form—i.e., in the shape of particles. Quantum theory says that waves and particles are complementary images—i.e., they complement each other. For the science of physics, Man’s attempts to explain the phenomena of light are thus based on occurrences that have a mutually harmonious rather than dispersing correlation.

In the Middle Ages, people still believed that the light originates from the human eye. There are quite impressive representations in existence depicting this.

Our main focus here, however, is on Light in the sense of the history of religion and in a contemporary religious context.

God is thus being postulated as *dwelling in the light that no man can approach unto* (First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to Timothy, 6:16). And, *“In him was life; and the light was the light of men.”* (Gospel according to St. John, 1:4)

Each one of us associates success, all joy, all higher things, toward which we evolve ourselves and strive unto, with light—because: “There is a *Light!*”