

The True Witness and Reflected Awareness

Hello,

Searched for your website after watching a video clip on the Stillness Speaks website. You said "there's another step" and at that point, the interviewer began to interrupt the flow constantly. My urge for him to stop talking was profound. I had to laugh at myself! Of course, this would be "muffled", because, this is where things are here--confused, spinning, chaffing--all against the majestic, unmoving, whatever-you-want-to-try to-call-it: THAT is as good a word as any!

A lot of "meditation" goes on here, but it is really just sitting down and letting the powerful energy of Consciousness work on the body-mind as there is also a *kundalini* thing ongoing. And a lot of enquiry goes on all day long. The "spiritual thing" completely took over three years ago. It is clear there is no going back!

There has been a working through of "The world is illusion. Brahman alone is real." It is "The world is Brahman" that hangs things up. Mind batters against this. There is a consuming feeling of being the only Consciousness. Everything a miraculous dream. Nothing real. All one. Or, perhaps better put: nothing is different. All one stuff. I think this is "stuck in the witness." That "flip" of, I think you said, "taking all the objects back". Perhaps, that is too soon here (must be or it would be!) Incredible sense of loneliness. The only consciousness in the universe. Of course, that means there is an "I". Still, dual. Need to collapse the witness. If there is anything that would help at this stage, it would be truly appreciated.

Peace and Joy,

Claudia

Hi Claudia,

Very interesting email. I am sorry for the delay replying but I have been completely swamped with things to do in the last weeks. I moved to England, did a two week seminar in the Swiss Alps, flew to Spain to inspect a property that

might be useful as a retreat center, did a *satsang* in London last night and am confronted with a huge number of emails from the website and the book so I put your email in the cue and just now got to it. I'll spare you small talk and cut to the chase.

Don't be too sure you need to 'collapse' anything. First you have to find out what the witness is. Is it the intellect or is it the light by which the intellect is capable of witnessing?

It is difficult to figure out exactly what your doubt is but I think it is this: you do not understand the relationship between the witness, Awareness, and the objects witnessed. One of the objects witnessed is the intellect, the knower. It is not a proper witness because it is not conscious. It simply bounces the light of the true witness, Awareness, on to objects, thereby illumining them. So you do not have to get rid of the knower or the objects. They do not stand in your way. They are to you what your shadow is to your body. You, the true witness are the sun and your intellect is the moon. The 'collapse' of the witness is simply the clear understanding of the relationship between you, Awareness, and the intellect. Enlightenment, *moksa*, is not a 'state' without a witness. It is just the hard and fast knowledge that you are the witness and not the witnessed objects assuming that it cancels your binding *samskaras* and destroys your sense of doership.

Love,

James