

Beautiful Ignorance

Ram (James Swartz)

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Fran: Hello, Jim, I have a question. *Isvara* is God in charge of beautiful ignorance. *Bhagavan* is sometimes spoken of as the self. I realize that God appears in actionless, non-dual, timeless awareness, but is awareness the Heart as well? Is it *Bhagavan* as well?

Jim: Awareness is the “Heart” in the sense that it is the essence of everything. “Let’s get to the ‘heart’ of the matter” is a common expression. Because reality is non-dual awareness, *Bhagavan* and the “Heart” are all the same. *Bhagavan*, or *Isvara*, just a special name for awareness “in charge” of the beautiful ignorance that makes this beautiful creation. You cannot have this beautiful creation without awareness. To say God, or *Bhagavan*, or beautiful ignorance, is “in charge” doesn’t mean that awareness is a person, a bearded old man in the sky who cooked this whole thing up and can tinker with it as He sees fit. It just means that without awareness creation cannot exist.

The creation is awareness, but awareness is not the creation. It is important to know this because awareness, the essence of everything, is never enhanced by the good or contaminated by the bad in the creation. It is always free of the pairs of opposites. It is that part of yourself that never changes, that is unaffected by what happens. If awareness was taken away there would be no Fran, no art, etc.

Fran: The self is beautiful and love.

Jim: This is true. Now all that is required is that you say, “I am beautiful and love.”

Fran: These are some of the things that I wonder about.

Jim: Very good wonderings, Fran.