

Crumbling Ignorance

Daniel Band

2015-09-16

Source: <http://www.shiningworld.com/site/satsang/read/2321>

Dave: Daniel, you've been imprinted into my awareness, and as I go about my business there is some spirit of accountability associated with you. I just wanted to get this off my chest.

Daniel: Dave, I'm not sure what you mean by "spirit of accountability." This sounds as if you are agitated at what I had revealed in our previous emails. If this is the case, then this is my response: I am just a mouthpiece for Vedanta. My responses are guided by the teaching tradition and its non-personal methodology. What I had shared with you was not based on a personal view.

I understand if the responses agitated you. This is because they are directly challenging your most intimate beliefs/conditioning. It's only natural that once the mind is exposed to the teachings (the counter-intuitive truth) that things get stirred up. In addition, your previous spiritual beliefs and teachers (whom you have great love for) were also most likely challenged (if what they had shared is not in harmony with the truth).

Dave: The "ignorance" is winning, as it has for decades.

Daniel: The very fact that you're aware of the ignorance means that it is not winning, Dave. If you know something or can perceive it in any way, can it therefore restrict you? The answer is no. What you are observing (i.e. ignorance) is an object appearing to/in you, awareness. Just like the computer screen in front of you, these typed words and the mental commentary appearing in your mind as you read this are all just objects. Actually, the entity called Dave is also just an object known to you.

You cannot be what you know. You are the knower of Dave and his experiences. Ignorance is hardwired, and it takes gentle time to chip away at its ingrained stance. Continue to apply the teachings, Dave. You're doing great.

Dave: The good news is that something is noticing this differently.

Daniel: Because your mind is getting cleaned up by self-inquiry, your relationship towards experience is shifting. Though there has only ever been one thing noticing objects, you, awareness, the difference now is that you are starting to recognise your true nature as this ever-present "noticer"/knower. You are the knower of all objects, including the object called Dave.

Instead of experience being digested just from Dave's limited view, things are now being seen from a much larger view. This view is actually beyond time and space. The point is that this recognition of your limitless nature results in peace of mind.

Dave: I am presently being challenged with a health issue which could be devastating.

Daniel: I'm sorry to hear about your health issue, Dave. This is never easy.

Try to use this to your advantage. Each time fear arises due to strong identification with the body, press "pause" and hit on the investigation "who is the one who knows the body?" Meditate on the answer. Identify yourself as the knower of the body-mind, that which sees all experiences whilst remaining totally free of them.

You are unborn and deathless awareness.

After contemplating my response, I suggest you check out this link: YouAreTheKnower.com.

Dave: Daniel, I just read your gift to me. Presently digesting. I will read this again and again and get back to you. Thank you, my friend.

Daniel: Only a pleasure, my friend.

Dave: Daniel, I was not at all agitated with the previous response! I hear this message loud and clear. This "conversation" has been in my life as long as I can remember. This information which you are so generously sharing is so welcomed and appreciated. This mind is so very clouded and confused, yet I've come to realize I have a mind, I am not this ignorant mind. Your coaching especially at this moment in my life is perfect. I know what you are relating to me... there is an opening, however Dave remains "thinking." Thank you again, Daniel.

Daniel: This is email demonstrates a profound understanding.

Dave: "I" had and am having this awareness since reading your latest email. On my way to the office it occurred to "me" that there is no Dave. Dave is a name given to this body. I am without a name, in reality. The story of Dave is just a story.

Daniel: Spot on! The story of Dave is a notion (object) appearing to/in you, unchanging, limitless, ordinary awareness.

Dave: Dave has been asleep in this story, believing he is real and operating out of Command Central, his mind.

Daniel: Yup, ignorance of our true nature makes us mistakenly believe that we're a limited and little separate entity crawling around on this island. This mistaken identification is the crux of suffering.

Dave: Seeing Dave from the outside is a new awareness. Dave is a believer... Who am I?... clueless and blank.

Daniel: I know what you're saying. But it's not a new awareness, only a new recognition/understanding. The awareness that was watching Dave in a cloud of ignorance (asleep) is the very same awareness that is seeing Dave inquire and become clear as to what he really is. Dave is slowly understanding that he actually is this very ordinary awareness.

Dave: It's an interesting shift to watch Dave with no attachment. To be continued...

Daniel: Yes. Now I'm sure the statement "freedom is freedom FROM Dave" may make more sense. The way you're rolling, the search won't be continued for very much longer! ☺

Good for you, Dave.

~ Much love, Daniel

Dave: Daniel, thanks for hanging out here with me in this extraordinary conversation. Thanks for getting "me," who I am and who I am not!

~ Abundant gratitude for this shared Grace, Dave