

# Left-Hand Drive

Ram (James Swartz)

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**Ronald:** James, I realized from the epiphany that I am awareness, indeed that everything is awareness, and thus I am everything. It seems that this realization is now more or less an intellectual understanding and that I still identify with the body and the mind. May I assume that the end result of the teachings is that this identification evaporates and the “I” remains continuously in awareness?

**James:** Yes, indeed, Ronald. The knowledge is correct. For you I think it is only a confidence issue, knowing what it means to be awareness. You gain it little by little by taking a stand as awareness and dismissing your fears and desires as they arise. This takes considerable vigilance, as they can be quite subtle and sneak up on you when you are distracted by *samsaric* preoccupations. What it means to be awareness is that you don't need anything to complete you, including enlightenment. Until this conviction is firm you will probably find yourself shifting perspectives, seeing reality from the self as the self and then unconsciously assuming the Ronald viewpoint. Because the American left-hand drive orientation is hardwired, when I go to England I almost invariably get hit by an automobile even though I know very well that they drive on the left side of the road. Anyway, I am sure you will prevail.