

Tomorrow's God – Our Greatest Spiritual Challenge

by Neale Donald Walsch

(Walsch's voice in regular print while God's voice is in bold-faced print.)

We need a new God.

I know.

No. I'm serious. We need a new God. The old God isn't working anymore.

The old one never worked.

Some people think it did.

They were not looking at the world around them.

They weren't?

Not honestly. Not comprehensively. They were seeing only what they wanted to see. They were not seeing the cruelty and the fighting and the killing that was going on in God's name. They were not seeing the separation and the oppression and the fear and the utter dysfunction. Or, worse yet, they were seeing it and they played into it. They used it as a means of controlling the people.

In truth the old God, Yesterday's God, might have made individual lives work here and there but that God was never able to create a just society or a joyful, harmonious civilization, to say nothing of a peaceful world. And that God can't do that even today. Even today, with all your awareness and sophisticated technology and marvelous miracles, you can't produce the simple, humble experience for which humanity has yearned from the beginning of time. You can't produce peace.

I know.

You can't produce lasting joy.

I know.

And the God in whom you believe can't, either.

Why? Why? Why can't all the best efforts of humanity and all the help we've begged for, and received, from God produce this result?

Because the God in who you believe isn't real. The God in whom you believe is a god you created out of thin air, having nothing to do with Ultimate Reality.

Well, there's a challenging thought. That's just about the greatest blasphemy.

All great truth begins as blasphemy. The time to challenge your most sacred beliefs is at hand. If you don't challenge your beliefs soon, your beliefs are going to challenge you. This dialogue is meant to be challenging. This book is meant to save the world.

Will it?

That's up to the world.

Why? Why won't you do something to stop it?

Because you won't.

We can't. You can. You're God. You can do what humans cannot.

Your statement is inaccurate. I can, and YOU can. But I will not, unless you do.

If you were half the God that humans think you are, you would stop us from destroying ourselves. You would do what is best for us. You would make us do what is best for us.

By whose assessment, and by whose definition?

What?

"Best" by whose assessment, and "us" by whose definition?

By yours. By your assessment. By your definition. You would define what is meant by the term "us", you would decide what is "best" for us, and then you would make what is "best" happen for all of "us". That's what God is for.

Really? Is that what you think?

Most of humanity believes that God decides which humans are included in the word "us". We then form groups or clusters around what you have decided, and we call them religions or faiths. You, God, then assure "us" that you will be bringing "us" back to you, by telling "us" what is "best" for "us".

Those humans who are not included in your definition of "us" will not return to you under any circumstances, nor will those who are included if they do not do what is "best" for them. People in these two categories will be condemned. They will suffer in the eternal fires of Hell.

Is that what you believe? Is that how it is for you?

No. Not really. No, it is not. At least, not anymore. Not after experiencing and understanding all of my conversations with God. But it is still the belief of most of humanity, and I come to this dialogue now to speak for most of humanity.

You do? Why? Why are you doing that?

I want to ask the questions that I think most of humanity asks, to say the things that I hear most of humanity saying.

Why?

So that humanity's voice may be heard. So that humanity's experience may be enlarged, enhanced, expanded, even as mine has been. So that joy may abound and peace may prevail upon the earth, even as joy abounds and peace prevails in my soul when I am in my highest place.

You want to give to humanity the gift that you have been given.

Yes.

Why?

Because I want to continue to receive the gift that I have been given, and the best way I know how to do that is to give it away.

How so?

Giving transforms Having into Being. I can imagine myself as "having" creativity, but only through the giving of my creativity to others can I experience being creative. I can imagine myself as "having" abundance, but only through the giving of my abundance to others can I experience being abundant. I can imagine myself as "having" love, but only through the giving of my love to others can I experience myself as being love.

Giving transforms Having into Being, and the miracle of giving is that we are giving only to ourselves. This is always the case, and this is the great secret of Life. It is the unfolded mystery of every spiritual tradition.

So now I speak for most of humanity, asking the questions of most of humanity, and making the statements of most of humanity, so that more of humanity may have and know God's responses to these questions and statements, even as I do, so that I may continue to know that I know.

And so a circle completes itself in you, and a prophecy is fulfilled through you. For I have said to all of humanity, unto you will I send my messengers, and among you will they walk. Not only one, but many, not only in ancient times, but through all the ages, bringing you the knowing of the truth of your being, even as that truth emerges in and through them, AS them.

And they will say to you, listen. Listen to this invitation:

There is another way. There is another way to experience God. Here is another way to live life. Your differences do not have to create divisions. Your contrasts do not have to produce conflicts. The variations in your beliefs do not have to produce conflicts. The variations in your beliefs do not have to bring violence to your lives. THERE IS ANOTHER WAY.

Yet, you will not find that way by searching for it. You will only find it by creating it. And you will not create it by remaining stuck in old beliefs, but only by opening yourself to new ideas. New ideas about God and about Life that can truly light the world.

I want to help to bring those new ideas to humanity, even as they were given to me.

There is much to explore in our conversation, so yes, let us continue.

Thank you. And so, to get back to where we were...It is the perception of many people on this earth that your job – God’s job – is to tell human beings what is best for them. You tell us what is best for us, and then it is up to us to do it, or else. This is a simplified restating of one of humanity’s sacred beliefs.

That belief is a fallacy. That is not God’s job and that is not God’s purpose and that is not God’s function. It is the job and purpose of the God that many of you have created in your imaginations, but not of the God who Really Is. It is the function of yesterday’s God, but not of Tomorrow’s God.

That’s the second time you’ve used that phrase. What do you mean by “Tomorrow’s God”?

The God in whom you will believe on some future tomorrow. The God in whom you will have faith in your future.

So we *are* going to get a new God!

As I’ve just said, I meant not a “new” God, strictly speaking, but a new version of God. A larger version of God. This is the Same God Who Always Was, Is Now, and Always Will Be – it is simply not the God of your present understanding.

What if I don’t want to let go of Yesterday’s God?

Then you will continue to create your life as you now know it on your planet.

So? What’s so bad about that?

Look around you. You like what you see? Then go ahead, continue to believe what you believe. But don’t think things aren’t going to change. It’s not a question of “if,” but “how”. Everything is going to change. And, sooner or later, so will humanity’s beliefs about God. That is when you will say good-bye to Yesterday’s God.

When is this going to happen?

Actually, it’s beginning to happen right now.

Really? Well, so much for that being what saves the world, because it’s not changing anything.

Yes, it is. You’re just not seeing the change. You’re not aware of it. But as the changes increase, as they spread, you’ll become more and more aware of them. Indeed, you’ll become part of them.

When will this process be complete?

Never: The process of seeing and experiencing more and more of God is never-ending. That's the joy of it.

Well, when will it be complete enough for things to start getting better around here?

Soon. Very soon. If humanity is willing.

What does that mean?

It means that if humanity makes this choice, a movement, a radical shift, in humanity's understandings about God could occur rapidly. Easily within your lifetime. Within three decades. Perhaps even faster than that, once the first domino falls.

What could make humanity willing to make that choice?

More hatred or more hope. Another world-shaking disaster born of rage and wrapped in violence and killing, or a global awakening produced in another way.

In what other way? Other than disaster and calamity, there doesn't seem to be a way for human beings to wake up.

Oh, but there is. There could be a worldwide movement to spread, not terror, but peace, joy, and love. There could be a massive grassroots undertaking, with people all across the globe mobilized at the community level to change the way things are. Just as there are now terrorist cells, there could be spiritual activist teams all over the earth.

But how? How can we do this? That is the golden question!

There are many ways in which one may begin.

Name one.

You are holding it in your hand.

So we're right back where we started.

Yes. When I said, "This dialogue is meant to save the world," I meant it.

What is it going to tell me that others haven't?

Nothing.

Nothing?

Nothing.

So, if all that I'm going to experience here has been in other sources, why bother? The world is on the brink of disaster, and all the stuff in the other resources hasn't helped.

Correct on the first count, incorrect on the second. "All the other stuff" has helped humanity stave off disaster in the past. The world's esoteric wisdom has helped it correct its course before, and it can do so again. But that wisdom must now be expanded to take into account humanity's expanded possibilities for self-destruction.

Education is the key. It is the most powerful tool you have. Educate everyone. Tell everyone about God and about Life. Eliminate illiteracy, then eliminate functional illiteracy, then eliminate spiritual illiteracy.

The more you know about how to destroy yourself, the more you need to know about how to save yourself. It is time now to expand your base of knowledge of God and of Life, to grow in your understandings, to increase your awareness, and to enlarge your consciousness.

It is time to move from the Old Spirituality to the New Spirituality, to let go of Yesterday's God and to embrace Tomorrow's God.

That is not going to be easy. People don't like letting go of the old for the new.

So let's make it clear one last time that what we are talking about here is not a new God, but a new experience of the "old" God.

Okay, but what if I say that my old ideas do not include any belief in God at all? What if all this talk about "God" just turns me off, makes me frustrated, or takes me to no place in my mind in which it has any meaning or reality at all?

Tomorrow's God will not require you to believe in God.

He won't?

No, she won't. And that's the First Important Difference between Yesterday's God and Tomorrow's God:

- 1. Tomorrow's God does not require anyone to believe in God.**

Wait a minute. Tomorrow's God will be female?

Yes. Except when she's not. Then, he'll be male. Unless he's not. In which case God will be neither male nor female, but rather, without gender.

Without gender?

Without gender, size, shape, color, or any of the characteristics of an individual living being. And that's the Second Important Difference between Yesterday's God and Tomorrow's God:

- 2. Tomorrow's God is without gender, size, shape, color, or any of the characteristics of an individual living being.**

You mean that Tomorrow's God is not a living being?

No. Not in the sense that you mean those words.

How can that be? If God is not a living being, then what is God?

Well, now, that's what this conversation is going to be all about. But, let me tell you a story.

A woman steps onto a balcony late one night to gaze at a diamond-filled sky, tears in her eyes, seeking answers to her questions. She feels alone, desperate. "God", she says, "if you're here, show yourself to me. I can't go on like this anymore, all alone." Abruptly, a shooting star streaks across the velvet sky. The woman's heart stops. She can't believe her eyes.

Now, I have a question for you. What that God?

Yes, I believe it was God who made that happen.

No, I did not ask you if it was god who made that happen. I asked you if *that was God, happening.*

Well, I don't know how to answer that. It could have been a coincidence.

And what caused the coincidence?

Well, I would say that God caused it, but then we're back to a definition of God that states that God is the Cause of things, not the things that are caused.

Do you suppose that God could be both the Cause and That Which Is Caused? Do you think that God could be both the Creator and the Created?

I never thought of it that way. But no, on first glance, I would say that God is the Creator and we, and the world, are the Created. And if I didn't believe in God at all, I would say that what caused the shooting star to fall just then was random chance.

And random chance randomly selected that random moment for that random occurrence?

Yes. If I did not believe in God, I would say that, yes, the occurrence was caused by randomness. What do I know? What are you asking me? I am telling you that it could have been nothing more than what happened. The fact that it happened just then would have no meaning at all, except the meaning someone gives it.

Now you have hit upon something. Nothing has any meaning at all, save the meaning you give it. Now, in the story, what meaning do you give to the star shooting across the night sky at the exact moment the woman is asking God to give her a sign of God's existence?

I don't know what to make of it.

What do you think the woman might say about it?

She might say that the shooting star was caused by God, or that the shoot star was God, answering her prayer right then and there.

Indeed. And if she believed the shooting star was God, do you think she would experience God as male or female?

Uh... I see what you mean.

And I tell you that Tomorrow's God will change form as each moment and each individual seeking to experience God dictates.

Hold it. You mean we get to decide who and what God is?

Why are you so surprised? You've been doing that since time began. You call this Religion.

Religions don't decide who and what God is, religions simply tell us what God said about that.

In other words, what God told human beings.

Yes, what God told human beings, but in very special revelations to very special people at very special moments in human history.

Such as the revelations being made here, to you, at this time?

Well now, that's a pretty big stretch for some people. I don't think that most people are going to believe or accept that God could choose to reveal Himself to me, personally, in the form of this dialogue, if that is what you're asking.

I am very clear that they might not accept that Yesterday's God would, given what you believe about him. But they might allow as to how Tomorrow's God would, because Tomorrow's God will talk with everyone, all the time. And that's the Third Important Difference between Yesterday's God and Tomorrow's God:

3. Tomorrow's God talks with everyone, all the time.

How? How will this occur? Will everyone be having conversations with God?

Everyone IS having conversations with God, all the time. That will be an important message of the New Spirituality. God is communicating with humanity in every moment.

God – the force, the energy, the design, the experience that some call Divinity – shows Itself in your life in the way that is exactly and perfectly suited to the time, place, and situation at hand.

So, you're saying that we will discover that God actually change form, appearing in a multiplicity of ways depending upon the time and the place and the events of the moment.

That is how humanity will allow itself to experience God on this most blessed future tomorrow. Yesterday's God is thought to be a Constant. That belief will not change, but it will expand.

So, God is not a Constant?

God IS a Constant. God is that which is Constantly Present and Constantly changing, suiting Itself to each moment, so that God may be understood in that moment, embraced in that moment, experienced in that moment, and expressed in that moment.

On your yesterdays you have believed in a limited God. On a blessed future tomorrow you will begin to believe in a limitless God, who can appear in any form, under any circumstances, to any person, and, indeed, to all people in all places all the time.

On a “future tomorrow”? When will this day come for me?

Whenever and whatever you choose.

What I choose to be the cause will be the cause?

That is correct. You may choose the cause to be some exterior calamity, or you may choose it to be different kind of event. What you choose will be what you use.

You could even choose to use this dialogue to be the cause of your awakening. Many people will.

Yes, but if we awaken too late, it will be bad for us. We’ll be “left behind.” We’ll be deserted by God, because we didn’t answer His call while we still had a chance.

That is not true. That is what someone has told you, but that is not true. I tell you this: ALL of you will awaken. It is not my plan that some of you shall awaken and some of you shall not. What would be the good in that? What would be the point? I assure you of this, my children: LL OF YOU WILL AWAKEN.

Life IS the process of awakening. It is the process of Becoming. It is the process of knowing that one has become what one always was. It is the process of rejoining the inseparable. And that is not a process of actual rejoining, but of simply knowing again that separation never occurred. It is the theological lynchpin of the New Spirituality.

So this “knowing again” is the awakening?

Yes. Each of you will awaken, since no part of God will ever be deserted by God – nor could it ever be. For God cannot separate Godself from any part of God. And that’s the Fourth Important Difference between Yesterday’s God and Tomorrow’s God:

- 4. Tomorrow’s God is spate from nothing, but is Everywhere Present, the All in All, the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the Sum Total of Everything that ever was, is now, and ever shall be.**

We’ve heard that for years. How can we get a real understanding of what that means?

You will understand what it means when you become what it means. What it means cannot be revealed TO you until it is revealed THROUGH you. You must decide that you are separate from nothing, and then begin to act that way. At first, it may not be easy. After all, you have been trained to think another way all your life. Yet the transformation can occur. Keep at it. And then one day, you will be “there”. You will have crossed the dividing line, and nothing will divide you ever again. On that day you will embrace Tomorrow’s God, and on that day shall you rejoice, for your world will change.

Why don’t we know this now? Why don’t we embrace it?

Because this notion of God violates virtually everything you have been told and taught about God.

Yet what many of us have been taught has come from the world’s major religions. Are you saying that what we have been told about the God of the Jewish, Islamic, and Christian faiths is inaccurate?

It is incomplete. These religions – and many others – teach of a Creator who is separate from His creation. So the message here that Tomorrow’s God will be separate from nothing is a radical message. It is also a very important one. Perhaps the single most important message of the New Spirituality. And it is the one element that is missing from most of the world’s theologies. It is the Missing Message.

Live this message of the nonseparation, of the Unity of Life and the Oneness of All Things. Live it in a practical way, not merely in a conceptual way. Allow it to seep into your being at the deepest level, and become a part of your subconscious and immediate response to every life encounter.

Form a collective to do this work. The day of the individual teacher has passed, and the time of the single master is over. It is now time to work together in multiple numbers, remembering that wherever two or more are gathered, there am I.

We could form a team. We could call it Humanity’s Team. Then we could ask people everywhere to work together to create the space of possibility for a New Spirituality to emerge upon the earth.

That is an excellent idea. I invite you to do exactly that.

The only problem is that when ordinary people speak of these things to others, they are often at a loss for words. Many people wouldn’t know how to articulate this message, to say it the way it is said here, to convey it the way you convey it.

Everyone has the ability to convey this wonderful message of at-one-ment. You have all the gifts of communication that you will ever require. Your message is your life, lived. Your gift is your Divine Self, expressed. Simply allow your Self to be expressed in your own unique way.

Others see their possibility in the reality of you. Be, therefore, a model to all the world. Be the hope of humanity.

That is such an inspiring call! “Be the hope of humanity.” Are we up to such an invitation? I wonder.

Trust the love that flows through you. Trust the truth that lives within you. Trust the process of Life Itself that IS you. It will bring to you the exact way, the perfect conditions, and just the right moments to allow you to become the message you wish to send. Trust in this process, and you will have this experience.

We will ! We will open to that trust, and open to that possibility. And, as you suggest, in addition to trying our best to live this message, we will do what we can to cause it to be circulated far and wide.

Who is the “we” you are talking about?

Well, I guess I was assuming that I could speak in the plural here. I’m sure others will be inspired to be the hope of humanity, too.

Yes, but it is important to be responsible only for the Self. You do your part, and do not worry about the person next to you. Otherwise, if you are not careful, you will be waiting for the person next to you. And they’ll be waiting for the person next to them. And so on. And nothing ever happens, nothing ever gets started.

Okay, I will be the one. I’ll do all that I can. What you’ve given us here, in this dialogue, can form a basis for beginning explorations of a new way to understand God. And I think that the Nine New Revelations presented in *The New Revelations: A Conversation with God* are also extremely important. They are breathtaking in their clarity. All of this, plus the Five Steps to Peace found in that earlier dialogue, may be all that is needed to create the space of possibility for a New Spirituality to emerge on the earth.

Yes, all the tools have been given you. Not only in these books, but in all the esoteric writings and sacred teachings of your global civilization. And now, here, in this present resource, I will speak to you in new ways about this “new God”, so that you may come to understand more deeply the true nature of the Divine.

Use this dialogue, then, as one introduction to Tomorrow’s God. Not the only one, and not the best one – but a helpful one, for it combines the perennial wisdom of the ancients with the fresh articulations of today’s contemporary teachers to bring you the insights of all ages.

Taken together with *The New Revelations*, this dialogue can lead you to foundational change, both individually and collectively. And foundational change is what is required right now to save the world.