

Scripture: a privileged place of meeting

Begin in wonder

Days pass when I forget the mystery....

The mystery

that there is anything, anything at all,

let alone cosmos, joy, memory, everything,

rather than void: and that, O Lord,

Creator, Hallowed One, You still,

Hour by hour sustain it.

Denise Levertov

At the back of our brains, so to speak, there is a forgotten blaze or burst of astonishment at our own existence. The object of the artistic and spiritual life is to dig for this sunrise of wonder.

G.K. Chesterton

God does not die on the day when we cease to believe in a personal deity, but we die on the day when our lives cease to be illumined by the steady radiance, renewed daily, of a wonder, the sense of which is beyond all creation.

Dag Hammaskjold

...nothing (is) more needed by humanity today...than the recovery of a sense of 'beyond-ness' in the whole of life to revive the springs of wonder and adoration.

J.V. Taylor

Philip Carter is a retired Anglican Priest. He was the inaugural president of the Australian Ecumenical Council for Spiritual Direction (AECSD). He ran the Julian Centre in Adelaide, an independent and ecumenical centre for spirituality, from 1997-2009.

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Mary Oliver speaks of being 'killed with delight'.

Where and when have you been 'killed with delight'?

What moves you, what takes your breath away?

As you think about these things, is it possible that wonder has ceased to be part of your life?

What would/could bring it back?

Reflect on what might need to be in place –

what dispositions do you need –

to 'revive the springs of wonder'?

*Every day
I see or hear
something
that more or less*

*kills me
with delight...*

Mary Oliver

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