

Appendices - (1) Personality of the Master (the catalyst)

I "worked" with a Taoist in the succession of classical Daoism - a rare person indeed. However for a man like myself, terribly ego-entangled, like you a smart aleck, this method was too mild. I encountered a lady who had been working as a therapist. I gradually came to think ~~that~~ she was far superior for one to the other person. So I switched (feeling remorseful about the Taoist!) (- but now my friend.)

This "exercising of judgment" was an ego thing perhaps, but it was justified by the event.

I wish to emphasize that throughout my "work" with both of these people I had no proof that they had had any, shall we say, transcendental enlightenment. I conjectured it, BUT EVEN THEN it was only words & imagination, because of course I did not KNOW what it was, not having had it myself.

IN
ZEN

Zen Masters I know are enlightened & "guaranteed" by the Master that "taught" them (wrong word - but let us not boggle here). This "guarantee" goes back in a chain (uninterrupted we assume) to the Buddha Santama & I have enough details in my library to trace any Zen Master all the way back to Hui-keng & Bodhidharma & thence to Santama himself. But WHO guarantees Santama?

IN
CHRISTIANITY

There is NO Christian chain like this. "Ordination" does not confer experience. Only sacrifice does that - and an awakened Master. Only rare persons have done it alone (& even then we do not know all the contributing & formative influences). It could happen under the tortures of the Scapula, but that is rough, dreadfully so. Jesus said "my yoke is easy". Well "devotion to God" seems the easiest way & the pleasantest. It would not have done it for me, & I think not for you, sorry boy. But Jesus was an accomplished therapist and it appears even through the weird theological trappings of the N.T. Mark (John Marcus) was a shrewd individual & I suppose was about 50 when he wrote, remembering his boyhood experiences & what Peter said & Paul (& his friends like Luke & relatives like Barnabas) while he wrote Jerusalem was being destroyed by the Romans & Jesus told them that that would happen if they (the Jew) continued to revolt. Individual Christians like Eckhart have become enlightened & then they had to "play it cozy" or get burnt alive. Nevertheless people asked Jesus continually for a SIGN, and the Gospels (John never uses the word) contain many "miracles" which are supposed to guarantee enlightenment. THEY DO NOT. Jesus himself warned against this.

IN
SUBUD

"Bapak" Subuh became enlightened in 1933 and without forcing it he has become world-known in "Subud". (It is only a coincidence that the name "Subud" resembles his own: "Subuh") This method uses physical decontrol, physical surrender, FIRST. It works, although I have not personally met one person enlightened this way. "We" (my teacher & I) use some physical methods where necessary. Especially with middle-aged & older persons bodily tensions may be obstacles to "work" & may be holding mental blockages. Thus it may