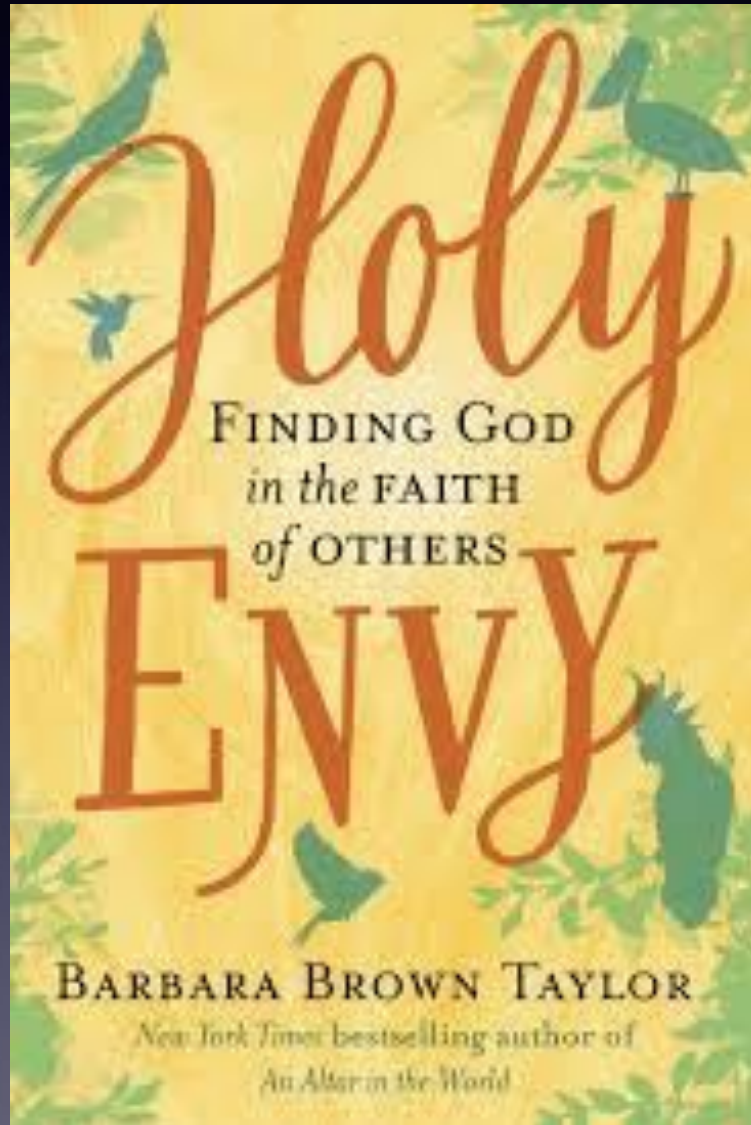


Holy Envy

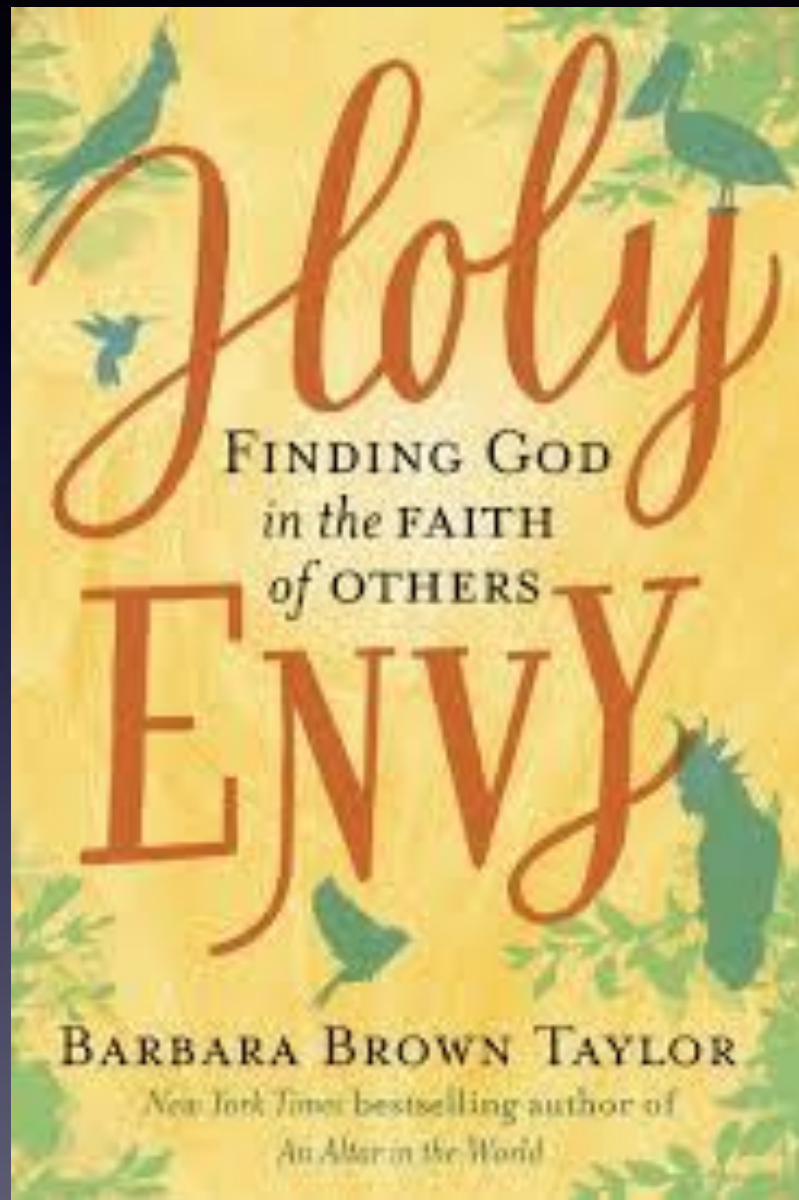


Holy Manners Bookstudy 43

ACTS
Fall 2019

St David's United Church
Calgary

Holy Envy - Session 7



Welcomes & Intros

Housekeeping

Muslim Overview

Buddhist Overview

Invitation to visit to Calgary Buddhist Monastery

Other ACTS-related activities:

Opening Prayer





Opening
Reflection

Bonnae

There are times in my life when an idea or thought starts to percolate in the back of my mind. It hovers there, sometimes shouting a little but often just whispering to say “pay attention”.

This happened in the month or so before the election writ was dropped and I found myself wandering through all the election blather (and I use that word on purpose). The question came....how do I glean information that is meaningful to me?

A surprising answer came to me as I thought back over my life....it was from the CBC. Now before you groan..I have to say that I have been a CBC fan for my adult life.

55 years ago I was teaching at Westgate school here in Calgary. “This Country in the Morning “ was a current affairs type show that was broadcast as I drove to work. It was my first introduction to that kind of programming. Some mornings were so interesting that I would sit in my car to the last minute and then scoot into work. My principal finally asked me what was up with this. When I explained he brought in a radio for us to listen to. We did.

Then came “Morningside” with Peter Gzowski. At first I was dismayed that this hockey loving guru was taking over the show! But then one morning he spoke about driving to his cottage and described a beautiful blue heron that had taken up residence in a nearby pond. I thought this guy was going to be ok ...and he was. I think I fell a little in love with him over the airwaves. He pulled in great guests from all walks of life and had interesting conversations with them that made me rethink opinions, form opinions, laugh along with others, be happy that there were those who I could agree with but most importantly think things through.

We would listen to “As It Happens “ with Barbara Frum and Carol Off. What intelligent, interesting women.

Then there was “The Vinyl Cafe” with Stuart McLean. He came on on Sundays after church and we would arrive home before the show was over and sit outside in the car chuckling away, feeling good.

Rex Murphy and 21 years at the helm of “Cross Country Checkup” on Sunday afternoons. Listening to opinions from ordinary people from across this great land.

Rick Mercers “Rant” was always topical, sometimes very hard, funny, and worthwhile. Currently I listen to the National News every night. Weekly Rosemary Barton hosts the “At Issue” panel, with Chantel Hebert (a great voice from Quebec), Andrew Coyne and Althea Raj. I value their in depth look on current topics.

So, when Mary Jo Leddy asks why are we here I can find part of my answer in the above. From page 30 I quote “There is so much data about Canada, economic analysis, political and social reports with a flood of information with lots of questions and many answers. All of this does not necessarily give us insight into where we are at this particular time and place. In search of insight we need guides who can see in the fog”. Those mentioned above were to me those guides.

And from page 83...” The greatest requirement for taking HERE to heart and mind is that we do not take this place for granted. All too often we cannot see the ground beneath our feet; we take for granted the way it holds us up and surrounds us. We know our country but only numbly so.” “We take this for granted. What a liberation it would be to pay attention to where we are, to be astonished by the gift of living in this particular place on earth.”

I feel so fortunate to live in this land.

Bonnae

Our Focus for Tonight

Frameworks and Paradigms Islam and Buddhism

Part 1 - Islam - an Overview- 24m videos

The 5 Principle Muslim Sects - 10m

Islam Ahmadiyya - The Real Revolution - 4m

The Hajj - 4m

Oprah's Interest in Sufism - 2m

Sufis Dancing - 30s

Rumi - Out beyond ideas ... there is a field - 1m

Discussion - Review of Islam

Part 2 - Buddhism - an Overview

Discussion

Holy Envy - Bishop Stendahl's Legacy - 2m

Discussion



Taylor looks out to other religions, not to convert them to Christianity, but to share and appreciate their different understandings of the holy and the good. It follows:

"No one owns God" (118)

Claiming God for yourself is not the same as excluding others' understandings of God

DISCUSSION



Brief Summary of Differences - The 5 Principle Muslim Sects

10m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jjqr6BXZQrk>



Faith is a deep secret and firm belief

Islam Ahmadiyya - The Real Revolution (Muslim TV Ahmadiyya Documentary)

Excerpt 4m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jjqr6BXZQrk>



Oprah's Interest in Sufism | SuperSoul Sunday | Oprah Winfrey Network

Excerpt 2m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xVUvEy8BbkU>



Turkey's Whirling Dervishes
Sufi - Dancing to feel God
1;30 excerpt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHjFgOfoZ7M>



Sufi's Dancing in the Mosque for Fun

25s excerpt of 1m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfIERixWj6g>



Worship with Music - Song and Dance
Dancing for hours to experience ecstasy
Sufi men in Chechnya
30s excerpt of 28m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJXcrM3B4zI>



Out beyond ideas, there is a field - Rumi
1m25s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fyOuahbKySA&t=5s>



Discussion

What observations of Islam were aspects of Holy Envy?





Time now. Please return.

Part 2

Buddhism - an Overview

Avatamsaka Monastery - pics

Buddhism in Brief - An Overview - 5m

Pure Land Meditation - A shortcut to enlightenment - 5m

Some Lists of Truth and Correct Thinking.

Holy Envy - Bishop Krister Stendahl

Holy Envy Lecture On Religious Pluralism - 2m

In Honor Of Krister Stendahl 2009

Professor Menachem Fisch

Avatamsaka Monastery

Pre-visit Look



- A branch of the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association.
- In Calgary since 1985.
- Monastery, Teaching and Worship Centre
- We celebrate Buddhist holidays year round and have retreat sessions once in a while.





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寺聖嚴華

Avatamsaka Sagely Monastery

大雄寶殿開光大典
Inauguration of the Great Jewel Palace







Avatamsaka Monastery

Pre-visit Look

Our Purpose. To promote Buddhist ideals.

- **Education.** To provide Buddhist education.
- **Practice.** To promote personal practice, repentances, and sutra recitations.
- **Staff.** To support a dynamic Sangha of at least three ordained monks or nuns.
- **Translation.** To translate the Buddhist scriptures into all languages.



Worship





The blessing of the pheasants.

Avatamsaka Monastery

Pre-visit Look

We follow the "Five Schools" of Mahayana:

1. **Precepts & moral rules** the Vinaya School
2. **Meditation**, the Chan School
3. **Studying Dharma** the Scholastic School
4. **Mantras** the Esoteric, or " Secret School"
5. **Pure Land** Chanting the Buddha's name

Dharma is "cosmic law and order"

Mantra is a sacred utterance, a numinous sound, a word or group of words believed by practitioners to have spiritual powers.



The Grand Opening - Mayor Nenshi



Celebration!



Official Blessings



Reverence



Lecture Hall



Congregational Retreat



Sunday School



Buddhism in Brief

5m15s

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pG4R-rmX7HA>



Buddhism's ultimate goal is the enlightenment of all sentient beings.

Pure Land Meditation - A shortcut to enlightenment

5m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vyLJCiYvadc>

BUDDHIST CHEATSHEET

THE NOBLE EIGHTFOLD PATH

This is the path the Buddha taught to those seeking liberation

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Right view | 6. Right effort |
| 2. Right intention | 7. Right mindfulness |
| 3. Right speech | 8. Right concentration |
| 4. Right action | |
| 5. Right livelihood | |

THE FOUR NOBLE TRUTHS

This was the Buddha's first and fundamental teaching about the nature of our experience and spiritual potential

1. The existence of suffering
2. The origin of suffering
3. The cessation of suffering
4. The path for the cessation of suffering

THE SEVEN POINTS OF POSTURE

Attend to each in turn when you first take your meditation seat. If you become uncomfortable while sitting, you may go through these points again

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. Legs | 5. Hands |
| 2. Shoulders | 6. Tongue |
| 3. Back | 7. Head |
| 4. Eyes | |

THE SIX WHOLESOME AND UNWHOLESOME ROOTS OF MIND

The mind is always under the influence of one of these states

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Generosity | 4. Greed |
| 2. Love | 5. Hatred |
| 3. Wisdom | 6. Delusion |

THE SIX SENSE DOORS AND THREE FEELING TONES

Everything we experience comes through these portals

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Eye (Seeing) | 4. Tongue (Tasting) |
| 2. Ear (Hearing) | 5. Body (Touching) |
| 3. Nose (Smelling) | 6. Mind |

Experience is felt as one of three tones

1. Pleasant
2. Unpleasant
3. Neutral

THE FOUR METTA PHRASES

Send loving kindness to yourself and others by using these phrases or words that have personal meaning for you

1. May I be free from danger
2. May I be happy
3. May I be healthy
4. May I love with ease

THE EIGHT VICISSITUDES

According to the Buddha, we will experience these vicissitudes throughout our lives no matter our intentions or actions

1. Pleasure and pain
2. Gain and loss
3. Praise and blame
4. Fame and disrepute

THE FIVE PRECEPTS

An ethical life is founded on these standards of conduct

To refrain from

1. Killing
2. Stealing
3. Sexual misconduct
4. False, harsh, and idle speech
5. Intoxicants that cloud the mind

THE FOUR BRAHMA-VIHARAS

These four "best abodes" reflect the mind state of enlightenment

1. Loving kindness
2. Compassion
3. Joy
4. Equanimity

THE THREE KINDS OF SUFFERING

The Buddha taught that we can understand different kinds of suffering through these three categories

1. The suffering of pain
2. The suffering of change
3. The suffering of conditionality

THE FIVE HINDRANCES

These are the classical hindrances to meditation practice

1. Desire, clinging, craving
2. Aversion, anger, hatred
3. Sleepiness, sloth
4. Restlessness
5. Doubt

THE SIX STAGES OF METTA

Expand your circle of loving kindness by starting with yourself and moving gradually outward

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Yourself | 4. A difficult person |
| 2. A good friend | 5. All four |
| 3. A neutral person | 6. The entire universe |

Discussion

Considering Buddhism

What aspects might be aspects of Holy Envy?



Stendahl's Three Rules of Religious Understanding

1. When trying to understand another religion, you should ask the adherents of that religion and not its enemies.
2. Don't compare your best to their worst.
3. Leave room for **holy envy**.



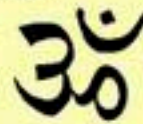
**Holy Envy Lecture On Religious Pluralism
In Honor Of Krister Stendahl 2009
Professor Menachem Fisch**

2m excerpt of 28m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SoPDVLphDrl&t=5s>

HINDUISM

This is the sum of duty:
do not do to others what would
cause pain if done to you
Mahabharata 5:1517



BUDDHISM

Treat not others in ways
that you yourself would
find hurtful
Udana-Verga 5:18



CONFUCIANISM

One word which sums up the
basis of all good conduct...
loving kindness.
Do not do to
others what
you do not
want done
to yourself
Confucius,
Analects 15:23



BAHA'I FAITH

Lay not on any soul a load
that you would not wish to
be laid upon you, and
desire not for
anyone the
things you
would not
desire for
yourself
Baha'i Faith
Gleanings



ISLAM

Not one of you truly believes
until you wish for others what
you wish for yourself
The Prophet Muhammad, Hadith



JUDAISM

What is hateful to you,
do not do to your neighbour.
This is the whole Torah;
all the rest is commentary
Hillel, Talmud, Shabbat 31a



JAINISM

One should treat all
creatures in the world
as one would like
to be treated
Mahavira, Sutrasutras



ZORASTRIANISM

Do not do unto others
whatever is injurious
to yourself
Shayast-na-Shayast 13:29



NATIVE SPIRITUALITY

We are as much alive
as we keep the earth alive
Chief Dan George



UNITARIANISM

We affirm and promote respect
for the interdependent
web of all existence
of which we are a part
Unitarian principle



CHRISTIANITY

In everything, do to others
as you would have them
do to you; for this is the
law and the prophets
Jesus, Matthew 7:12



SIKHISM

I am a stranger to no one;
and no one is a stranger
to me. Indeed, I am
a friend to all
Guru Granth Sahib, pg. 1299



TAOISM

Regard your neighbour's gain
as your own gain, and your
neighbour's loss as your own loss
T'ai Shang Kan Ying P'ien, 213-218



THE GOLDEN RULE



Jesus spoke of
“many sheep” and
“many folds”

Who are the people you
can think of now who walk
their spiritual journeys with
equal devotion to the way
you live?

- evangelical Christians?
- conservative Catholics?
- Mormons?
- non-believers?

DISCUSSION

“The same God who came to the world
in the body of Jesus comes to me now
in the bodies of my neighbors, because
God knows that we need a body to make
things real, and the real physical
presence of my neighbors makes them
much harder for me to romanticize,
fantasize, demonize, or ignore than any
of the ideas I have of them in my head.”

Holy ENVY

BarbaraBrownTaylor.com

Next Readings

Session 8 - 11 Nov 2019

Ch 8: Failing Christianity

Ch 9: Born Again

Study Website

sduc.ca

Closing Reflection

Brenda