Mystic Wisdom

INSPIRATION FOR THE SOUL
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We Are All Potential Mystics

What is mysticism and how does it relate to me? As you read the joyful reflections of some of the greatest mystics the world has known, you will discover the key.

The words have been drawn from many ages and cultures; from mystics who have adhered to a religious doctrine and from many who have not. What they share is delight at the awakening of the Self to a consciousness of a divine reality.

It is the desire to connect with the source of higher knowledge and experience oneness with the universe, that so inspires the mystic.

There are many names for this source of knowledge—the Absolute, the Cosmic, God, the Divine Spirit, the Transcendent—yet the concept is one: it is the universal manifestation, the spiritual essence, that prevades all things. And, it is this entity, this Universal Oneness, that the mystic seeks to know.

By its nature, mysticism is an intensely personal experience.
It is without creeds, dogma, or the need for third parties. Instead, it is a discipline based on a desire to reach and understand the Ultimate Source and to translate the experience into a practical application of living.

It is a quest for discovery of Self.

From the beginning of time, women and men have sought answers to the great mysteries of life: Who am I? Why am I here? What is my purpose in life?

You may have asked yourself similar questions as you looked back on your past or contemplated your future. And you may have first attempted to find the answers from someone or something outside of yourself.

Yet the answers are within you.

As mystics throughout time have found, the road to discovery, to peace and enlightenment is a journey into Self.

There is more to our conscious being than we realize and it is from within that we find the keys which unlock our inner wisdom. It is from within that we can connect with the source of knowledge that lies beyond the limits of our five senses.

By going within and attuning with this source of knowledge we may experience a transitory illumination whose impact may remain forever.
But the mystical experience does not have to be accompanied by flashes of lightning or the ringing of bells. It can be a very simple experience, an intuitive impression, a hunch, an idea that helps us in our life, our work, or whatever we are planning to do.

It can be the finding of peace within, a deepening of compassion, and an understanding of our personal value in life.

The practice of mysticism can help us find our life’s purpose, enhance our joy of living, and bring into manifestation the life we’ve dreamt of. It can awaken our psychic sense and strengthen the power of our inner being.

It can heighten our creativity and help us develop the greater sense of confidence that comes from knowing how to tap into our inner wisdom to find answers to life’s challenges.

Mysticism is humanity’s deepest quest for Self Knowledge.
There is nothing so inspiring,
so filled with peace,
happiness, perfect health,
joy, and contentment
as the development of the
spiritual nature.

H. SPENCER LEWIS (1883-1939)
The one who seeks

the spiritual path,

is sought after by the spirit.

HAZRAT INAYAT KHAN (1882-1927)
The aim of humanity is to evolve toward the perfection of its own nature and to reintegrate itself with its spiritual condition.
Finding our soul’s beauty
gives us
tremendous
freedom from worry.

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS (1542-1591)
The goal of life is
to provide
a vehicle for life . . .
To know the eternal
is called
enlightenment.

TAO TE CHING (600 B.C.E.)
The most beautiful and most profound experience is the sensation of the mystical. It is the sower of all true science. To know that what is impenetrable to us really exists, manifesting itself as the highest wisdom and the most radiant beauty—this knowledge, this feeling is at the center of true religiousness.

ALBERT EINSTEIN (1879-1955)
The result of mysticism . . .

Within us is found the key
to our own bliss
and the meaning
to our own existence.
Do not feel insecure or afraid—
we are all held firmly
in the infinite mind of the All,
and there is naught to hurt us
or for us to fear.
There is no power
outside of the All to affect us.

THE KYBALION
Within us
are powers and abilities
that are like invisible sparks
waiting to be fanned
into brilliant flames.

H. SPENCER LEWIS (1883-1939)
Is it really so difficult
to understand
that humanity can only find
happiness by living in harmony
with natural laws and,
in a wider sense,
with divine laws?
Wherever the mind wanders, restless and diffuse in its search for satisfaction without, lead it within; train it to rest in the Self. Abiding joy comes to those who still the mind . . . they become one with God.
Set aside time every day to ask:

Where have I been?

What did I accomplish?

What would I do differently?

PYTHAGORAS (c.572-c.492 B.C.E.)
Each person should ask
him- or herself:
What are you doing here?
Within their answer will be bared
their whole philosophy of life.
The key to all mysteries
and the source
of all Illumination
lies deep within the self.
Important truths
are learned only
in silence.

LOUIS CLAUDE DE SAINT-MARTIN
(1743-1803)
Our thoughts,

even the most secret,

will never be unknown

to the Divinity.

THALES OF MILETUS (c.640-c.562 B.C.E.)
There is no compromise in matters of mysticism, only purity of actions and intentions can make us efficient agents of the Divinity.
Out of the unreal,
lead me to the real.
Out of the darkness,
lead me into the light.
Out of death,
lead me to deathlessness.

HINDU PRAYER
Eternity knocks at the door of our hearts and seeks to enter.

. . . to obey its calls,

to entrust ourselves joyously,

with our souls and bodies,

to the inner light,

is the beginning of true life.
Concern yourself primarily
with what needs to be done in
the present
so you will merit a future
in keeping with your hopes.
Spiritual alchemy

consists of transmuting

every human fault

into its opposite quality.
One single grateful thought
raised to heaven
is the most perfect prayer.

G. E. LESSING (1729-1781)
Prayer is always satisfying to the mystic. Prayer requires humility. It requires submission to the better side of our nature. It puts us *en rapport* with the more subtle impulses of our being.

RALPH M. LEWIS (1904-1987)
He who knows others
    is wise;
He who knows himself
    is enlightened.

TAO TE CHING (600 B.C.E.)
If you want to know others, begin by knowing yourself, because everyone is a mirror.

LOUIS CLAUDE DE SAINT-MARTIN
(1743-1803)
Knowledge of the soul

is the only universal truth

and the only wisdom

—all other knowledge is transient.

PLATO (c.427-c.347 B.C.E.)
Realization of the Self

is the greatest help

that can be rendered to humanity.

SRI RAMANA MAHARSHI (1879-1950)
Life is the most precious gift
we possess,
because it makes each human being
an agent of Divinity.

ROSICRUCIAN MANUSCRIPT
If you circumambulated every holy shrine in the world ten times, it would not get you to heaven as quickly as controlling your anger.

KABIR (c.1498-1550)
It is your destiny
to see as God sees, to know as God knows,
to feel as God feels.

MEISTER ECKHART (1260-c.1328)
When you close your doors,
and make darkness within,
   remember never to say
that you are alone,
for you are not alone;
nay, God is within,
and your genius is within.
And what need have they of light
to see what you are doing.

EPICTETUS (55-135)
The candle of God

Is the soul of man.

THE TORAH
What we manifest in our lives

is but a reflection

of our innermost thoughts.

Here we have a good starting point

for redirecting our lives.

WILLIAM Mc HALE
To see a world in a grain of sand
and a Heaven in a wild flower,
hold Infinity
in the palm of your hand.
And Eternity in an hour . . .

WILLIAM BLAKE (1757-1827)
This is what spiritual development means—the recognition, realization, and manifestation of the Spirit within us.
Your eyes cannot see themselves.
Place a mirror before them and they see themselves.
Similarly with the creation.
See yourself first and then see the whole world as the Self.

SRI RAMANA MAHARSHI (1879-1950)
Thou believest thyself
to be nothing,
and yet it is in thee
that the world resides.

AVICENNA (980-1037)
I know a cure for sadness: Let your hands touch something that makes your eyes smile. I bet there are a hundred objects close by that can do that.

Look at beauty’s gift to us—her power is so great she enlivens the earth, the sky, our soul.

MIRA (1498-1550)
Behave in such a way that all those who share your existence or live in contact with you regard you as an example and feel the desire to be like you. Guided by the voice of your conscience, may your ethics be as pure as possible and may your first preoccupation always be to think well, speak well, and act well.

ROSICRUCIAN CODE OF LIFE, Point #7
All mystical traditions refer to the Divine Word, that is, the word uttered by God when creating the universe.

From an esoteric point of view, it signifies the setting into motion of cosmic laws from which arose visible creation.
There is a wonderful problem waiting for you that God and I share: how to keep from fainting when we see each other.

In truth: how does God keep from fainting looking at Himself all day?

RUMI (1207-1273)
There is no earthly pleasure that can possibly take the place of spiritual joy.

H. SPENCER LEWIS (1883-1939)
The sum total of all that lives
is God.

We may not be God
but we are of God
even as a little drop of water
is of the ocean.

MAHATMA GANDHI (1869-1948)
Never be discouraged,

because the simple act of prayer
draws us to God’s blessings,
even if we are not conscious of it
at the time.
Prayer is the contemplation

of the facts of life

from the highest

point of view.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON (1803-1882)
To practice divine principles
is far better

than simply to profess them.

H. SPENCER LEWIS (1883-1939)
The woman whose speech and actions are the same—her feet become worthy of worship.

Keeping our word is the alchemy to become free and whole.

TUKARAM (c.1608-c.1649)
Mysticism teaches cosmic laws and principles by which we are brought into closer consciousness of our divine power.

The mystical experience of union with the One imposes upon the mystic a moral obligation—to use this knowledge for the welfare of others.
Isolate yourself for a moment every day, preferably in your Sanctum, and send thoughts of love, harmony, and health towards humanity as a whole, particularly towards all those who suffer physically or mentally. Also ask God to assist them on all planes and to preserve them as much as possible from the ordeals of life.

ROSCRUCIAN CODE OF LIFE, Point #6
The Cosmic is ever mindful of the intents and motives that actuate all mystic students who seek its blessings. The more impulsively and whole-heartedly one responds to an inner impulse or urge, the more definitely it is registered on the cosmic records.
Let the soul reflect upon what it
sends ahead
for the morrow.

QUR’AN
Be generous towards those who are in need or less favored than you. Arrange things every day so that you do at least one good deed for someone else. Whatever your good deed, do not boast, but thank God for enabling you to contribute to the well-being of others.

ROSICRUCIAN CODE OF LIFE, Point #9
So many gods,
so many creeds,
so many paths that wind and wind,
while just the art of being kind
is all the sad world needs.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX (1850-1919)
Meditation is a transformation of consciousness.

When we meditate we change our state of receptivity, like tuning to a higher wavelength.

Meditation is attunement.
The goal of the mystic is to develop the intelligence of the heart.
As above, so below;

as below, so above.

Grasping this principle
gives one the means of solving
many a dark paradox
and hidden secret of nature.

THE KYBALION
Know yourself

and you will know

the universe and the gods.

THALES OF MILETUS (c.640-562 B.C.E.)
There are moments in the life of all of us . . . when we feel uplifted beyond ourselves, when the walls of sense and objective thought fall away, and we know we are in touch with an ultimate force. They are the supreme moments of our earthly existence.

CECIL A. POOLE
Illumination comes from
unceasing work to perfect oneself
—it is the foundation of the
spiritual quest.
Intuition and mystical insight are direct channels to the mind. They represent a sixth sense in addition to the physical ones, by which we become more than a physical entity.
Every trial is an additional
opportunity
to enlarge our understanding of
the Divine Plan.
Deep within each of us,
there is a marvellous sanctuary
of the soul personality,
    a divine center,
a voice which can be heard and
where we can always return.
The only initiation we need

is to enter into the heart of God

so that the heart of God will enter into us.

LOUIS CLAUDE DE SAINT-MARTIN
(1743-1803)
Your duty is to be;

and not to be

this or that.
The transmigration of life
takes place in one’s mind.
Let one therefore
keep the mind pure,
for what one thinks,
that one becomes;
this is the mystery of Eternity.

MAITRI UPAVISHAD
To be influenced

by what we hold sacred

or look upon

as being holy

is to be influenced

by the highest forces

of the universe.

CECIL A. POOLE
A soul pure in God is God.

THE PHILOKALIA (1st-4th centuries)
As humanity is one in essence,
our happiness is only possible
by promoting the welfare
of all human beings,
without exception.
Waste no more time
talking about great souls
and how they should be.

Become one yourself!

MARCUS AURELIUS (121-180)
The greatest of all Masters

is the Master Within

for this Master is ultimately,

and at its deepest level,

God itself.
The inner intelligence of the body
is the ultimate
and supreme genius in nature.
It mirrors the wisdom of
the cosmos.

VEDIC VERSE
The eye with which I see God
is the same
as that with which
God sees me.

MEISTER ECKHART (1260-c.1328)
Your vision will become clear only
when you look into your heart . . .

Who looks outside, dreams.

Who looks inside,
awakens.

CARL GUSTAV JUNG (1875-1961)
God has no religion.

MAHATMA GANDHI (1869-1948)
Spiritual values constitute the real wealth and power in our lives.

H. SPENCER LEWIS (1883-1939)
The mystic looks upon
dearth as a necessary element in
the cycle of life.

Death and birth are synonymous
in this sense, for so-called death
is birth into another plane,
while birth is likewise a transition.

Both are a form of initiation
affording an opportunity for
greater advancement.

ROSICRUCIAN MANUSCRIPT
Live without thought of dying,

for dying

is not a truth.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA (1347-1380)
The purpose of evolution is to attain understanding of the necessity of doing good and living in harmony with cosmic laws, and to express your divine nature in everything you think, say, and do.
Darkness cannot overcome darkness.

Only Light can do that.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (1929-1968)
The farther away light is
from one’s touch,
the more one naturally speaks
of the need for change.

ST. THERESA OF AVILA (1515-1582)
Be still,
and know that I am God.
One cannot but be in awe when
(one) contemplates the mysteries
of eternity, of life,
of the marvellous structure
of Reality.
It is enough if one tries to merely
comprehend a little of this
mystery each day.

Never lose a Holy curiosity.

ALBERT EINSTEIN (1879-1955)
The first peace . . . is that which comes
within the souls of people
when they realize
their relationship, their oneness,
with the universe and all its powers.

BLACK ELK (1863-1950)
The result of mysticism . . . is a purification process, which renders each vehicle of being as a channel for Divine Intelligence. It is a total conscious surrender to the Supreme Truth that awaits the moment to manifest.
Even after all this time
the sun never says to earth,

*You owe me.*

Look what happens
with a love like that—

it lights the whole world.

HAFIZ (c.1320-1389)
You ask how can we know the infinite?
I answer, not by reason . . .
You can only apprehend the infinite
by entering into a state in which
you are finite self no longer.
This is the liberation of your mind
from finite consciousness.
When you thus cease to be finite
you become one with the infinite.
You realize this union, this identity.

PLOTINUS (204-270)
Meditation
is the most efficient means
to raise the consciousness
toward Divine Reality.
The Universal Mind

as an intelligence

permeates every cell of our being

and is accessible

as an infinite wisdom.
The joy of living can only be experienced when we are able to give expression to our inner spiritual or psychic self.

When we strive to express our higher nature through the study and practice of creative activities we come to know and objectively realize the beauty and fullness of life.

ROSICRUCIAN MANUSCRIPT
They can be like a sun,
words.
They can do for the heart
what light can do for a field.

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS (1542-1591)
More than ever,

the world needs

optimism, hope, and unity.
God revealed a sublime truth to the world when God sang,

*I am made whole by your life,*

*Each soul,*

*Each soul completes me.*

HAFIZ (c.1320-1389)
To the Mystic, prayer is a meeting of the minds. It is not an occasion for personal petitioning, but for spiritual communion. It is a time when the soul within us and the deepest and most inner parts of our being sacredly, sincerely, and quietly speak to God and express the deepest wishes of our hearts and minds.

H. SPENCER LEWIS (1883-1939)
Death does not exist in the absolute sense—it simply constitutes one of the two phases of cosmic life.
We are immortal in essence . . .
our goal is to become aware of this
and to act accordingly.
To do so we have no other choice
than to go deep within our innermost self,
within our Inner Temple,
to contemplate Beauty,
and to receive eternal Knowledge.
Concerning all acts of initiative
And creation,
there is one elementary truth
—that the moment one definitely
commits oneself,
then Providence moves too.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
(1749-1832)
Allow your life to unfold naturally.

Know that it too

is a vessel of perfection.
The confidence
a mystic must demonstrate
is that of the heart
and not of reason.

CHRISTIAN BERNARD
The greatest illusion
of existence

is the attempt to explain it.

VALIDIVAR (1904-1987)
The best way to obtain

the blessings of the Cosmic

is to acknowledge

the blessings that are ours.
. . . I contribute to Peace
when I do not seek to impose
my conception of God
upon others . . .
The aim of all human beings is to perfect themselves; to become better persons. Therefore, constantly endeavor to awaken and express the virtues of the soul that animates you. In doing so, you will contribute to your evolution and serve the cause of humanity.
The kingdom of God does not come in such a way as to be seen. No one will say, *Look, here it is!* or *There it is!* because the kingdom of God is within you.
Lo, I am with you always
means when you look for God,
God is in the look of your eyes,
in the thought of looking,
nearer to you than your self,
or things that have happened to you.
There’s no need to go outside.

RUMI (1207-1273)
Prayer from the heart

can achieve

what nothing else can

in the world.

MAHATMA GANDHI (1869-1948)
Humans have the power
to make earth
a place of peace
and harmony.
It simply depends on everyone.
This is the way of peace: 
Overcome evil with good, 
and falsehood with truth, 
and hatred with love.

PEACE PILGRIM (1908-1981)
Despite the trials and tribulations of life, always consider life the most precious gift the Cosmic ever granted human beings, because it is the medium of our spiritual evolution and the source of the happiness we seek. Furthermore, regard your body as the temple of your soul, and take great care of it.

ROSICRUCIAN CODE OF LIFE, Point #2
The goal of life is to provide a vehicle for life, and by this medium, to give the Universal Soul a tangible basis for evolution. The material world is the mirror in which God untiringly contemplates Its reflection.
Whatever you resolve to do, do it quickly.
Defer not till the evening what the morning may accomplish.
Acknowledgements

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The Rosicrucian Order, AMORC

If *Mystic Wisdom* has heightened your interest in mysticism, one way to find out more is by requesting the free, no obligation booklet, *Mastery of Life*, from the Rosicrucian Order, AMORC.

**Purpose and Work of the Order**

The Rosicrucian Order, AMORC, is a philosophical and initiatic tradition. As students progress in their studies, they are initiated into the next level or degree.

Rosicrucians are men and women around the world who study the laws of nature in order to live in harmony with them. Individuals study the Rosicrucian lessons in the privacy of their own homes on subjects such as the nature of the soul, developing intuition, classical Greek philosophy, energy centers in the body, and self-healing techniques.

The Rosicrucian tradition encourages each student to discover the wisdom, compassion, strength, and peace that already reside within each of us.

[www.rosicrucian.org](http://www.rosicrucian.org)