



## Unity Of Religions

The clarion call of the *Upanishadic* Wisdom and Experience has been “*Ekam Sat Vipra Bahudha Vadanti* - the one Truth is expressed variously by wise men.” And “*Ekam Evadvitiam Brahma* - Brahman is one without second.” They thus declared authoritatively the fact of unity of Godhead. “God is one”.

Existence being one, mankind is also one, for uniformity is the law of universe in its inner aspect. Externally, variety of diversity is the law of nature. On one side we have this unity of mankind, and on the other side, God is one. Thus, the two terminals being established in unity, the field of interaction and interrelation between them, and the process of experiencing the unity, which we name as religion has to be naturally one and the same.

Any process has three aspects: specific purpose or motive force, process or technique, and an ultimate objective. Examine unity of all religions in these three aspects.

**Unity of Purpose:** At the basis, the motive force of all religions is to free man from the torments of their severely limited existence of this mortal life upon earth, which is full of miseries, pains, sorrows, disappointments diseases, death, grief, loss etc. The chief aim is to escape from the menace of death, and to get beyond sorrow, pain, imperfections, limitations and bondage.

**Similar technique:** The process of religion develops in a scientific way by studying the causative factors of this earthly life, and its pains, sorrows and torments. They insist that by living a life of practical religion – controlling his *asuric*, sinful, animal nature in him – man can remove all these causative factors. They want complete annihilation of lower self. Every religion lays stress upon a life of truth, absolute purity, belief in God, compassion, a life of sacrifice, and goodness in thought, word and deed. Every religion has given a way of life of divine qualities.

**Identical Goal:** All religions have as their goal the reaching of perfection, freedom and immortality. The ultimate destination it promises to one who lives a life of religion, a state where the being is free from all pains, from all wants. Everything is fulfilled there. There is complete cessation of sorrow. There is no more pain or death. Each religion promises this in its own way: Islam as the Pleasure Gardens, Christianity as the Throne of God on High, Buddhism as the Supreme Nirvana, and *Upanishads* as the bliss of *Satchidananda*. Every religion ultimately points to infinite Peace, eternal Bliss, All-light as the final Beatitude. Let us ever declare this unity of all mankind and all religions.

May God Bless You All!

■ *Swami Chidananda*