

P11_11_17_Purpose_of_Religion_Pt3_vscript (September 2022)

Greetings: **Oriire fun owo!** (Good Tidings to you!)

I pray that you are feeling awake, aware, and elevated in mind, body, and spirit wherever you are, and whatever may be happening around you!

Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!

I am *Baba Umar*, **Oluranse Emese**, (Voice of the Emese), Member of the **Isoro** Traditional Council of Chiefs, **Olúwo** of the House of Umar, and **Babaláwo** of **Ile Awo Òrìṣà**. This **Ile** (Spiritual House), our website, and these video lessons are sanctioned by the **Isoro** Traditional Council of Chiefs in **Ile-Ife, Nigeria**.

Opo Ire (abundant blessings) to our **Egbé**, our online community of Subscribers that's growing daily. Thank you for joining us for another lesson in our Video Blog Series. Remember, as a member of our **Egbé** you can support each other's spiritual journey by posting your questions and uplifting comments in the comment section below. You can also email me using the link in the description section below.

If you are new to these video lessons, we invite you to click the links below to become a **Subscriber** and member of our **Egbé**. Also, click the **Notification** button to stay up to date, and **share** this resource with your family, friends, associates, and anyone who you feel may benefit from this wisdom.

Homage to The One Who Sends, and to those who are sent!
Homage to **Òrìṣà** and **Egun!**

Our topic in this video is: The Purpose of Religion, Part III

In Parts I & II of this series of Posts, I stated that, "*Religion is defined as the belief in and worship of a supernatural or superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or gods. The purpose of all religions is to point the devotees in the direction of realizing the nature of this supernatural or superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or gods. And to understand how we are connected or bound to, this 'God(s)'*." You might find it helpful to reread these earlier Posts to recall some of the other things that were stated.

I also stated in Part 2, "*We (you and I), are manifestations of that creative impulse and all that has been created is created from, of, and within the Àṣẹ because there is nothing else, nothing exists 'outside' the Àṣẹ. Nothing is separate or apart from the Àṣẹ! It is the All-Pervading, All-Inclusive Realm of Infinite Possibility.*"

It is this understanding that establishes the **Quantum Realities of interrelatedness, interconnectedness, and interdependence** that underlies **Ifá**, all indigenous spiritual traditions, and supported by most advanced scientific revelations of **Quantum Physics**. Every microbe, every insect, every plant, every tree, every four-legged, and every two-legged, including we humans are from and of the same material (**Àṣẹ**) and of the same Source (The **Àṣẹ / Oro**), or what the science of today calls the Field, the Unified Field, the

Matrix, and the Divine Matrix. It should be clear then, that in the historical evolution of the world's major religions, some very important understandings have been lost, and in some cases intentionally left out of the religious text and discussions."

Let us use these ideas to draw a fine distinction between the notions of 'religion' and 'spirituality'. I often state that there are two important questions to which we seek answers.

- One is, "*What is the will of God?*"
- The second is, "*What is the will of God?*"

No! That wasn't a typo. Let me type it differently to highlight the important elements in the questions.

- One is, "*What is THE WILL OF GOD?*"
- The second is, "*What IS the will of God?*"

I would humbly suggest that the fine distinction between 'religion' and 'spirituality' is to be found in the essential information being sought by these two different questions.

The **first question** is asking about something that cannot be stated as a categorical Truth. Since 'God' is unknowable in any absolute sense, the *Will of God* cannot be stated by anyone as though they have absolute knowledge. This first question, from my perspective is the domain claimed by '**religion**', and the proof of my statement is evidenced by the fact that no 'religion' or sacred text has presented such undeniable Truth that **every** human being has accepted it as '**The Truth**', without coercion, compulsion, duress, oppression, enforcement, threats, intimidation, harassment, pressure, constraints, or arm-twisting of any kind.

- In the realm of 'religion' the priests, texts, and institutions reign supreme as the arbiters of all questions about the '*Will of God*'. Hence, we are faced today with fervent religious arguments and conflicts and have, over the centuries, murdered millions of humans in the name of religion.

The **second question**, "*What IS the Will of God?*" is seeking information that is self-evident to everyone. This question is asking,

- "*What form does of the Will of God take?*"
- "*How has it manifested itself?*"
- "*What is the substance, the essence of it?*"
- "*What is its essential nature?*"

The answer is evident and omnipresent. The answer manifests as a self-evident and undeniable Truth. The answer is simple and profound, singular, and dynamic.

- Question: "*What IS the Will of God?*"
- Answer: "*It is LIFE!*"

Whatever the nature of this Creative Impulse, this Creative Force, this Source of all things, by whatever name you choose to call it or in whatever form you perceive it, what thinking person can deny that the '**WILL**' of IT is '**LIFE**'! For without the acceptance of this fundamental Truth, there would be no one to even ask the question. This second question is the domain of '**spirituality**' and the indigenous spiritual traditions.

Hence, we say of *Ifá*,

- *Ifá ni ki isin!* *Ifá* is not a religion!
- *Ifá ni bawo aiye sise!* *Ifá* is how the universe works!
- *Ifá ni iwa ti aiye!* *Ifá* is the nature of the universe!

This second question:

- Leads us to explore the **interconnectedness, interrelatedness, and interdependence** that pervades all creation.
- It is the cornerstone of human relations, the linchpin that binds us to Mother Earth, all her elements, all her natural forces, all her children, and to the entire multiverse of creation.
- It is the keystone and fundament of our capacity for empathy, compassion, love, and unity.
- Life is the shared experience of everything, and no individual or religion can claim responsibility for its presence or existence, for it is existence itself.
- This is the wisdom of our Ancestors.
- This is the message imbedded in the Sacred Oracles of *Ifá*.
- This is what can be realized through the *Ifá* Spiritual Tradition of *Òrìṣà* and Ancestor Worship.
- This is the understanding and wisdom that has guided and sustained indigenous peoples since the beginning of time.

False histories have tried to obliterate this understanding. *But 'life' cannot and will not be denied!* As science advances into new realms of understanding, it is coming face to face with the truth of what I am sharing here.

- It is this understanding and wisdom that speaks truth to power, that brings the high low and elevates the low to high.
- It is this understanding that can empower the people to reclaim the truth of who we are and our relationship to everything.
- It is this understanding that points out to us that we are not here to be controlled by governments and institutions, but to establish, organize, and control them for the purpose of the expansion and transformation of our own.
- It is this understanding that reminds us that we are spiritual beings that come into physical forms to have selected experiences that will facilitate our growth and ascension into higher and higher expressions of our true potential.
- This is the life cycle in which we experience, learn, and grow.

What is the Purpose of Religion?

It is to point us in the direction of self-inquiry that will remove the veil of delusion from our minds. Those who have institutionalized religion have co-opted it to further the **social conditioning of disempowerment**. But to our right side and to our left, before us and behind us, above our heads and beneath our feet is the evidence that **'we' are the Will of God**.

Aboru Aboye!

***"A wa gegebi Eniyan,
A wa ni Olódùmarè yan,
Lati lo tun ile aye se,
Eni-a yan ni wa!"***

"We as human beings,
We are the God's elect,
Designated to renew the world.
We are the Chosen ones!"

And, the presence of Creator is in every breath we take, in the stream of light that enters our eyes, in the smells that enter our nostrils, in the tastes that stimulate our tongues, in the sounds that enter our ears, in the microorganisms that thrive in and on our bodies, in the creepy crawlies that move across the ground, the finned ones that traverse the rivers and oceans, the winged ones that sail the sky, the four-legged that stir the earth, in the plants, the trees, in the sun, moon, and stars, and in the profusion of universes that make up the multiverse of creation.

This is ***Olódùmarè*** experiencing the Realm of Infinite Possibility and we are all a part of that process. This is **the Will of *Olódùmarè*** manifested as **LIFE**. We are all inextricably interwoven into the Divine Consciousness of the Sentience that is the Source and Sustainer of All Creation. We are all part of and one with the **Omnipresent, Omniscient, Omnipotent, and Eternal Oneness**.

But these are all just words! The proof lies in your personal experiences and realizations, and in your personal witnessing. You must choose a path, seek out a way, and pursue the self-inquiry that will fill your heart with the absolute conviction that this is **'The Truth'**!

Aajiirebi!

May the Unblemished Cloth of ***Òrúnmìlà***
Continue to cloth us with the Wisdom
Of the Here and the Hereafter!
Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!

***Ki Olódùmarè, Òrìṣà, ati Egun fifun e ni
Itona, Imoye, ati Opo Ire!***

My *Olódùmarè*, *Òrìṣà*, and *Egun* bestow on you
Guidance, Wisdom, and Abundant Blessings!

Ifokanbale! Peace of Mind from *Olódùmarè!*
Ajolo Ajobo! We go out together; We return together!
Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!