

So many good Paras, so little time. But this is only insofar as we give reality to "time".

DOES IT TAKE TIME? Momentary Presence and Timeless: Time and Timeless. Double standpoint.

This notion that we must wait and wait while we slowly progress out of enslavement into liberation, out of ignorance into knowledge, out of the present limitations into a future union with the Divine, is only true if we let it be so. But we need not. We have thought our way into this unsatisfactory state; we can unthink our way out of it. We can shift our identification from the ego to the Overself in our habitual thinking, in our daily reactions and attitudes, in our response to events and the world. By incessantly remembering what we really are, here and now, at this very moment, we set ourselves free. Why wait for what already is? 23.1.1

The basis of the Short Path is that we are always divine. It is with us already, it is no new thing, and we only have to recognize what is already there.

...It is not necessary to travel on the Long Path any longer time than that which prepares you for the Short Path.

... On the Short Path the aspirants need the philosophical study to understand only one point: What is Reality. It is necessary to understand the difference between the Appearance and the Reality. 2.1.209

The notion that the truth will be gained, that happiness will be achieved, that the Overself will be realized at the end of a long attempt must be seen as an illusory one. Truth, happiness, and the Overself must be seen in the Present, not the future, at the very beginning of his quest, not the end, here and now. It is not a matter of time. This is because time is a trick the mind plays on itself; because the past, the present, and the future are all rolled into one eternal NOW; because what is to happen has already happened. *PB Notebooks* 23.5.216

The declaration of Jesus that whosoever will save his life shall lose it, is uncompromising. It is an eternal truth as well as a universal one. It is needed by the naive as well as by the sophisticated. ...

Such an achievement may seem very far off from human possibility and indeed we find in history that not many have either cared, or been able, to realize it, for it is far too painful to the ego. But the metaphysical truths of successive rebirth on earth and of the unreality of time should give some comfort here. The first teaches a great patience while men labour daily at the task of remaking themselves. The second teaches that the Overself is even now ever present with all, that in the eternal Now there is no futurity and that theoretically the possibility of its realization does not necessarily belong to some distant rebirth. 8.4.230

...If the worldly person agitatedly sees the event against the background of a moment, if the philosophic student calmly sees it against the background of an entire lifetime, the sage, while fully aware of both these points of view, offsets them altogether by adding a third one which does not depend on any dimension of time at all. ... The philosophic student discovers the

mission of time; it heals sorrows and, under karma or through evolution, cures evils. The sage solves the mystery of timelessness, which redeems us. 19:2.8

... **there is considerable profit to be gained if the timeless eternal and universal atmosphere of Vedanta is kept at the back of the mind** when the worldly problems have to be met. They can be met with this remembrance that one's true being is, and will be, safe and unaffected, and that whatever decision or action we are called to make, the first thing is to keep calm. ...
23.5.157

... How long does it take to get unconditioned? What does it take to be who you really are? **We are talking about knowing yourself, being yourself, knowing the essence of who you are.** One view is that it takes much time to undo the knots. Another view is that the timeless is immediately present and available from any thought moment. You do not need more intense suffering to know who you are. For those who are ready to hear, there is the gentle way: through spiritual teaching. **And ultimately, you do not need more time to be free, to know who you are. The essence of the spiritual teaching is that you don't need more time to become free of thousands of years of human conditioning. To become free of time you do not need more time.** ET Omega 2002

It is a long journey from the condition of seeker to that of sage. But this is true only so far as we ascribe reality to time. To those who know that our human existence is a movement through events, but that the human being in its essence transcends all events and dwells in timelessness, this journey may be considerably shortened or swiftly brought to its destination. For that, the thorough understanding of philosophy and its incessant application to oneself is required. 20.4.88

Once the double viewpoint is understood and set up as the necessary starting point, the timed measure and the timeless order fall into his scheme of things. Practical experience carries him through the ordinary existence, and divine experience--the eternal Now--is not displaced by it. Success in living the philosophic life and maturing the mentality it requires makes this possible. 19:2.12

...If the worldly person agitatedly sees the event against the background of a moment, if the philosophic student calmly sees it against the background of an entire lifetime, the sage, while fully aware of both these points of view, offsets them altogether by adding a third one which does not depend on any dimension of time at all. ... The philosophic student discovers the mission of time; it heals sorrows and, under karma or through evolution, cures evils. The sage solves the mystery of timelessness, which redeems us. 19:2.8

Deep within his own heart, hidden within his own consciousness, every person carries all the evidence for the truth of these teachings that he or she is ever likely to need.

Mind the Gap:

During the gap--infinitesimal though it be--between two thoughts, the ego vanishes. Hence it may truly be said that with each thought it reincarnates anew. There is no real need to wait for the series of long-lived births to be passed through before liberation can be achieved. The series of momentary births also offers this opportunity, provided one knows how to use it. 23.8.162

The momentary pause in every heartbeat is a link with the still center of the Overself. Where the rhythm of activity comes to an end--be it a person's heart or an entire planet--its infinite and eternal cause is there. All this vast universal activity is but a function of the silent, still Void. 19.5.26

Your dependence on self-effort must be balanced by your dependence on Grace. If you rely solely on your own endeavors to better your character and develop your intuition, you may find yourself frustrated and unhappy with the result. Grace is to be invoked by making contact through prayer and meditation with the Overself. But the meditation should be of a special kind--what may be called the practice of nonduality. In it you should seek to identify yourself with the universal and infinite power, to forget that you are an individual. 23.6.49