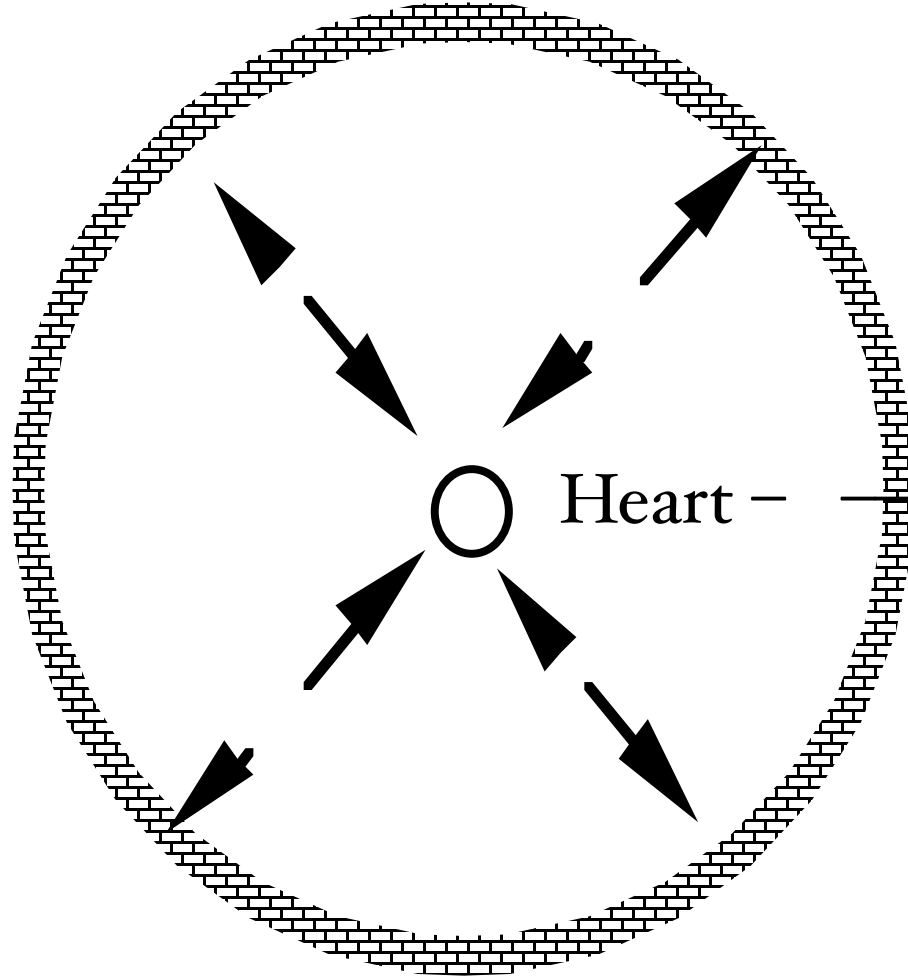


Too busy

Iso gashii

忙

Heart
Destruction



Religious

Experience

Re + ligare To bind back

God

Sanskrit Ghu ('called' 'calling') + To ('The one')



God

Centre – Heart

Religious
Experience is

Experience of
Communion with 'God'

God 'The Heart and the Beyond of Everything' (Teilhard de Chardin)



Holy

God's WORD (self-gift) is experienced

- in nature
- in people & events
- in words spoken & written
- in works of art

They reveal something of the truth, beauty & goodness of the transcendent & mysterious God

God's WORD (self-gift) is experienced

- the Vedas & Upanishads
- the sayings of K'ung-fu-tzu (Confucius)
- the sayings of Gautama the Buddha
- the oracles of the Hebrew Scriptures
- the New Testament
- the Moslem Qur'an
- the mystics, poets, artists of all cultures

Danger

Projecting a 'God' limited by our human experiences

Creating a 'God' in our own image

This spawns

atheism: the rejection of a limited God

agnosticism: failure to explore the implications of our experience

Dangers in Institutionalised Religion

Judaism

- Prophet - Moses

Islam

- Prophet - Muhammad

Heart

- Book - Torah

- Obedience

- Book - Qur'an

- Submission

Fundamentalist 'Christianity'

- Book - New Testament

- Obedience

- Book - Catechism

- Submission

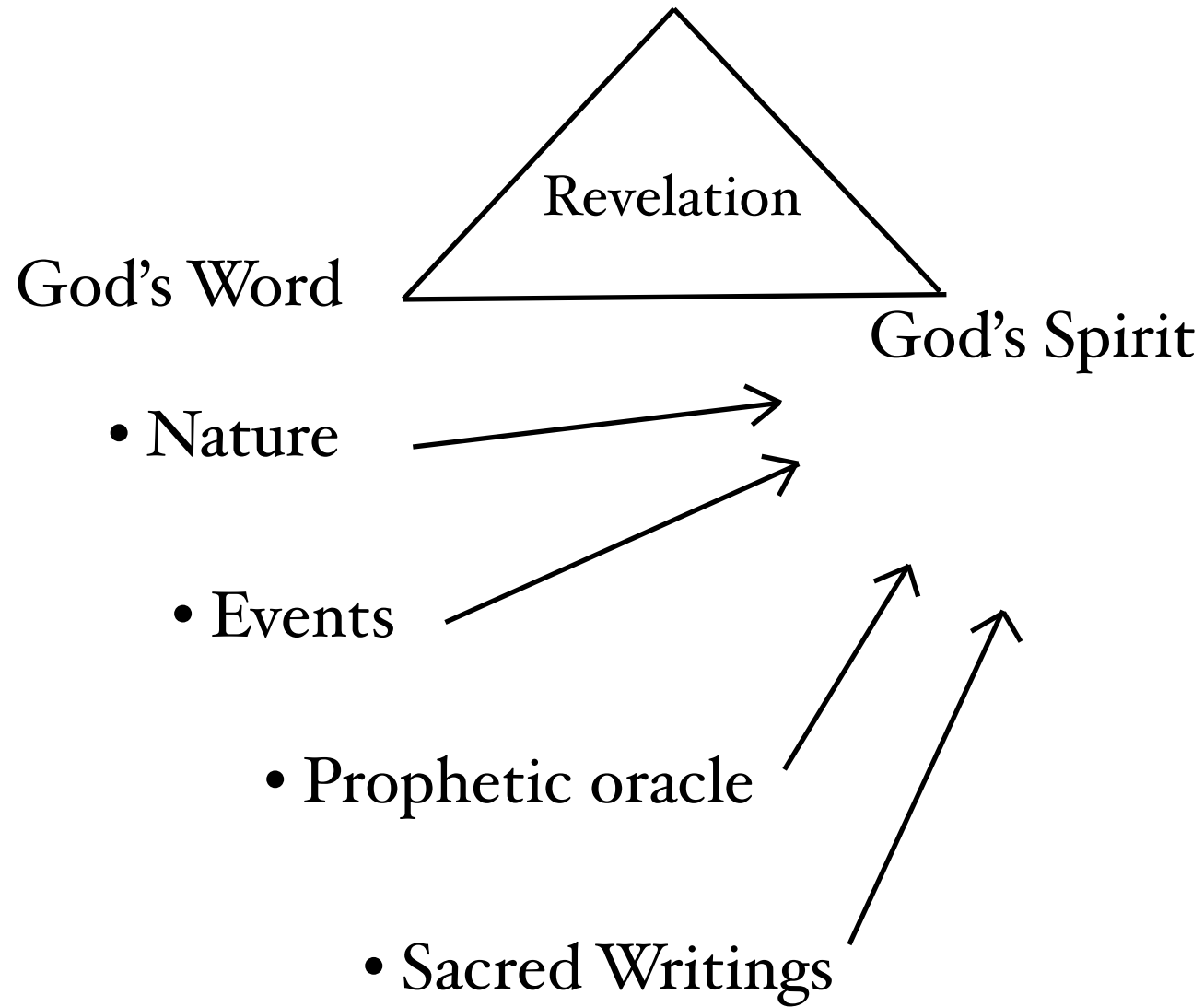
Buddhism points us to the heart

Spirit

Heart

Enlightenment

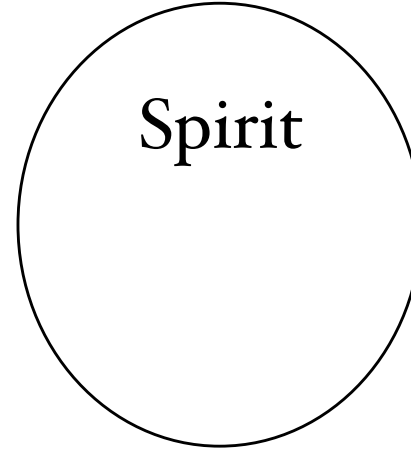
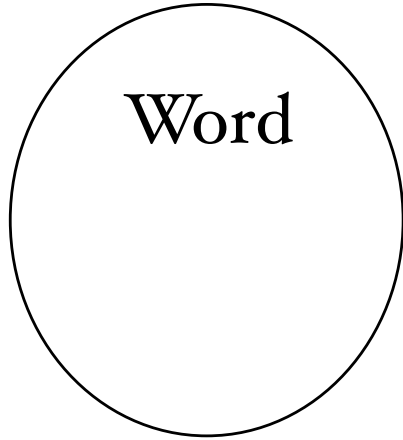
Transcendent ('holy') God



Revelation

Numinous

Mystical



Heart

speaks to

Heart

1 John 1:1-3



We declare to you what we have heard,
what we have seen with our eyes,
what we have looked at and touched with
our hands, concerning the word of life —
this life was revealed, and we have seen it
and testify to it, and declare to you the
eternal life that was with the Father and
was revealed to us. We declare to you
what we have seen and heard so that you
may have communion with us;
and truly our communion is with the
Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Matthew 11:28-29

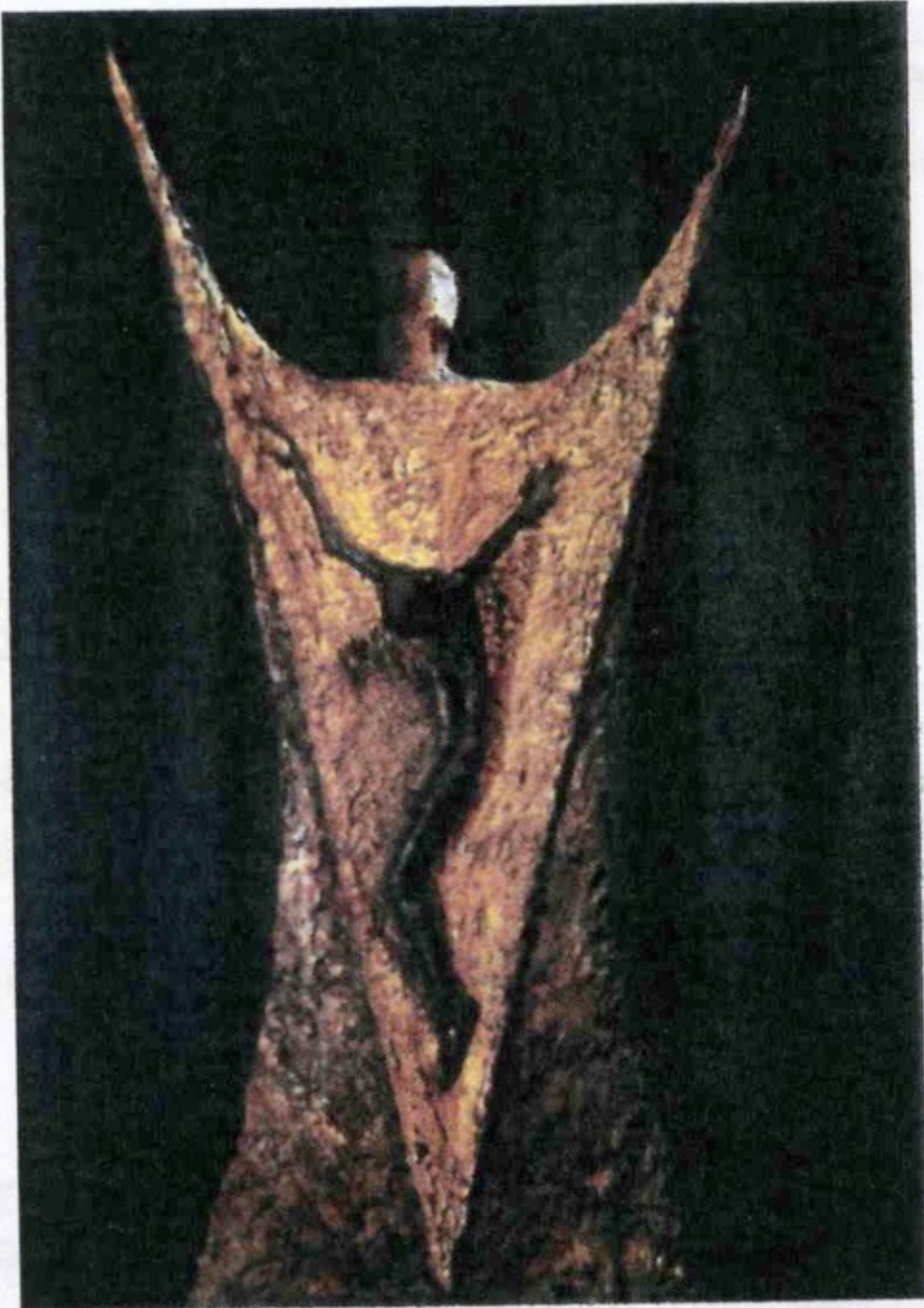


‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.’



Romans 5:5

‘God’s love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.’



- ‘I am in the Father and you are in me and I in you’(John 14:20).
- ‘I pray that they will be one as we are one, with me in them and you in me’(John 17:21).
- ‘I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already’(Luke 12:49).



Jesus is looking to his Father

The Father is looking towards the Spirit



The Spirit is looking at the Eucharistic gifts on the table.

The one looking at the icon is invited to join them at the table.



Teilhard de Chardin SJ (1881-1955)

‘The evolution of chastity’ 1934

‘Some day,
after harnessing space,
the winds,
the tides
and gravitation,

We shall harness for God
the energies of Love.

And then,
for the second time in the history of the world,
we shall have discovered fire.’

‘You have made us for yourself, O God,
and our hearts are restless till they rest in you’ (Augustine Confessions I.1).

Roman Catechism, Council of Trent, 1545-1563, Preface 10.

‘The whole concern of doctrine and its teaching
must be directed to the love that never ends.
Whether something is proposed for belief,
for hope or for action,
the love of our Lord must always be made accessible,
so that anyone can see
that all the works of perfect Christian virtue
spring from love
and have no other objective
than to arrive at love.’



FROM THE HEART OF JESUS
PIERCED ON CALVARY
I SEE A NEW WORLD COMING FORTH
A GREAT AND LIFE GIVING WORLD
INSPIRED BY LOVE AND MERCY
A WORLD WHICH THE CHURCH
MUST PERPETUATE
ON THE WHOLE EARTH"
J. Chevalier

‘From the Heart of Jesus pierced on Calvary, I see a new world coming forth – a great and life-giving world, inspired by love and mercy: a world which the Church must perpetuate on the whole earth.’

(Sacred Heart 1900)

‘Jesus went up on the mountain,
and called to him those he desired;

and they came to him.

And he appointed twelve,

to be with him,

and to be sent out’(Mark 3:13-14)

‘Looking on him who was pierced,

we see the new Heart

that God has given us,

an inexhaustible source of life ...

We want to proclaim his love

to the world’(MSC Constitutions 9-10)