

and uniting all the great religious traditions of humankind affirming that “Truth is one, its expressions are many.” The aim to give at least partial expression to inexpressible spiritual realities, appropriate to the language, time and race of those to whom truth is being delivered is the aim of all great teachers and enlightened exemplars. In time, the overgrowth of interpretation, tradition, ritual, and misuse obscures the intended original meaning. The chief aim of H. P. Blavatsky’s *Secret Doctrine* was to show that, “however divergent the respective doctrines and systems of old may seem on their external or objective side, the agreement between all becomes perfect, so soon as the esoteric or inner side of these beliefs and their symbology is carefully compared and examined.” This hidden root teaching is called the Wisdom-Religion, at one time a universally accepted doctrine common to the entire human race, binding all into one family.

The first principle of the Wisdom Religion and the center around which all else revolves, is absolute unity. All of manifestation, seen and unseen, spiritual and material, is the periodical emanation by a single causeless cause — a boundless, immutable, and eternal essence. Given many names in many different traditions, this ever-present, unconditioned spiritual Reality is not different from our true Self, the Self of all. Each human soul is a ray of this spiritual sun, a constituent drop in the boundless ocean of eternal light and life, and in every aspect is inseparably bound to all other beings and to the whole. It is the working of the law of karma that maintains this unity in balance and harmony over vast cycles of time in a complex universe of seeming multiplicity and diversity. Every selfish thought or self-seeking act transgresses the divine reality of our radical interdependence, which is complete at every level. Selfishness goes against the ways of nature and will produce its corresponding reaction. Each thought — like a pebble thrown into the pond of life — will, sooner or later, set in motion every single drop of water therein. While the entire human race and all the kingdoms of nature are collectively involved in a vast, interdependent cycle of involution and evolution, each of us is also directly and ultimately responsible for our own actions. Under karma, we each have our own unique path to forge. Soul evolution requires that we learn to listen and respond to the dictates of our conscience, the god within.

The journey homeward is a steep path that leads back to self-