



3. DAVID BINGHAM.

INTERVIEW

Non Conceptual Awareness is the Awareness within which all experiences arise.

It is the Knower of everything that is known.

Presence-Awareness-Existence is the Totality.

It is untouched by all relative phenomena that arises within it.

We cannot move towards It nor away from It.

It is never lost or concealed.

It is the Timeless, Infinite Being that we truly are.

David Bingham

<http://nonconceptualawareness.com>

INTERVIEW

Q: I would like to ask you about the financial aspects of communicating with people. Is there some sort of agreement beforehand about the monetary aspects of this?

David Bingham: Until I did the first interviews on Conscious.tv I'd only spoken to friends and people who came into my space. I'd not intended to become a teacher but have responded to those who have felt inspired to contact me.

There was quite a good response to the interviews on Conscious.tv and Iain McNay suggested setting up a website so that people could contact me directly, rather than going through Conscious TV.

I'm in a reasonable situation financially and prefer not to charge. After I'd been speaking with people for a couple of years the demand grew and I needed to manage time more effectively. I started to charge 40 pounds an hour to regulate the number of people making contact. I prefer not to charge people at all. I don't like the idea of charging for group meetings and I don't like the idea of charging for speaking one to one.

I did some interviews in 2011 which generated more interest and I continued charging. For those who are inspired it generally isn't an issue. My preference is to speak to people only once. In a one hour session it's usually possible to identify where the blockages are to clear seeing. I feel the whole process is being administered by infinite consciousness so the right people seem to turn up. It's been incredible to witness the number of people who have recognized their true nature. So in another way you could say, how do you put a price on realization? (Laughs)

The whole process seems to take care of itself. Last year I was very busy speaking and doing meetings. This year is more moderate so I'm charging fewer people. I don't do any promotion but just respond to those interested.

Q: You mentioned that it was John Wheeler that helped you with the realization, and that his teacher was Sailor Bob and before him, Nisargadatta?

David Bingham: Yes.

Q: And I think he spent something like 40 years teaching in India and he never charged anyone at all when he taught. There are also other

teachers in India who do not charge. Why do you think that's different in the West?

David Bingham: Well Nisargadatta's day job was selling cigarettes so with Nisargadatta and myself, we both had a little job before we started doing this stuff. (Laughs) If your needs are taken care of there's no need to charge, that's my feeling. Each case is different though. Some perfectly valid teachers do charge because their personal circumstances dictate the need for an income from teaching. If they didn't charge they wouldn't be able to teach. It's different in the West, because the cost of living is much higher than when Nisargadatta was teaching. If what is being imparted has real value, the need to charge or not is of secondary consideration. Ideally it's better not to charge but there are some truly great teachers who need to generate an income.

The teachers charging the most seem to be the ones emphasizing the need for a "shift" so you have to keep going back for years (Laughs)
Adviata is a very simple message. It points to what is already the case but has been overlooked. There is actually no shift into realization. There is only a seeing that we are not what we thought we were. We were never the limitations.

Q: Understood, let me use this metaphor here: say for example that you met someone who was orphaned as a child, abandoned as a child and they started seeking for their true birth parents. And you had happened to have been around at the time of their birth and you knew who their true birth parents were, and this person was seeking all over the world, traveling everywhere inquiring, investigating, hiring private detectives and trying to find their birth parents and you knew

all along who they were and if this person came to you, would you say ok I'll tell you who they are but for a price.

David Bingham: Maybe! No, not really.

Q: So then what would the difference be with telling someone their true identity as being non dual awareness?

David Bingham: Charging for anything to do with Self realization is actually taking money on a false pretense because you're charging someone for what they already have. It's like stealing a car and selling it back to the owner. That's the core reservation I have in regard to charging. Non dual pointing is more of an exchange than a giving because a deeper clarity arises on both sides. It isn't just the teacher giving to the student. An exchange of energy is taking place. So the student should also be charging really. (Laughs)

Q: So did you find that these people weren't really serious, but maybe wasting your time or absorbing your energy or something like that?

David Bingham: Most people seeking Self realization are actually seeking an end to suffering. Suffering has its basis in sub conscious mind programmes and over the years I've discovered ways to reduce the impact of these programmes and reduce suffering. Many people are surprised to discover that the mind programmes can continue to have an effect even after realization but realization can also make the programmes more easily detectable. I sometimes help people to dissolve the mind programmes and reduce suffering but this process takes more time than non dual pointing.

This is the area where it's necessary to be conscious of the amount of time and attention being given to each person.

END OF INTERVIEW