

## SUNDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 2, 2020



### **Science and Religion**

“An unexamined life is not worth living” - Socrates

“The master then declared very seriously, ‘We are on the eve of a great change in the churches. Real seekers will go there. The Church will become a spiritual laboratory where people will be encouraged to test the teachings they receive and to judge for themselves what works and what doesn’t work instead of accepting declarations of untested dogma.’” - Conversations with Yogananda By J. Donald Walters, Swami Kriyananda, Yogananda (Paramahansa)

“All knowledge of reality starts from experience and ends in it.”  
Albert Einstein

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From the following article in 1933  
[yoganandacommunity.com/new-awakening-churches-paramhansa-yogananda](http://yoganandacommunity.com/new-awakening-churches-paramhansa-yogananda)

### "A NEW AWAKENING IN THE CHURCHES:

Science is progressive. Religion is stationary. Science is constantly producing new inventions because it is based on the laws of reason. Religion remains stagnant because it is based on untested beliefs. The scientist uses impartial reason to explore the universal laws of Nature. Religion uses reason to defend, but not to question, its basic assumptions. Reason, as used by the churches, is not a means of discovering truth, but of obscuring it.

Ancient India built the biggest, most gorgeous temples in the world. In time, most of these became marts for worldly priests to shear the pilgrims of their money. But India is now undergoing a new phase in its evolution. It is pruning away the dead growth. In little, secluded hermitages unmarked by any religious trademark, real spiritual teachers, who live the life, are testing the worthwhileness of spiritual teachings in the lives of sincere seekers.

Churches should adopt universal names such as, "Temple of Truth," "Church of Wisdom," "Church of New Awakening," "Church of Scientific Religion," or "Church of God." If their outlook were more universal, they would cease wasting time competing against one another, and would concentrate instead on winning people from spiritual ignorance to universally beneficial ways of living."

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### **The Scientific Method (as stated by Shaleia):**

- 1) Formulate a question
- 2) Hypothesis - one or more predictions are tested for further testing
- 3) Prediction - determining the results of the hypothesis, one or more predictions are selected for further testing
- 4) Testing - experience to get your data, experiments to determine whether observations of the real world agree with or conflict with the predictions derived from the hypothesis. Experiments should be designed to minimize possible errors, increases reliability of results
- 5) Analysis - after performing the experiment and you have consistent data, you can determine the results and determine what your next action steps are
- 6) Once you have evidence of your experiment and have consulted new experiments, a new question can be asked, and you can go deeper
- 7) Draw a conclusion

*"A NEW AWAKENING IN THE CHURCHES: Science is progressive. Religion is stationary. Science is constantly producing new inventions because it is based on the laws of reason."*

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## **Opening Prayer by Jeff & Shaleia**

I am the only child of God, forever part of Him.  
I am created by Him in Perfection, and there I always remain.  
My mind is my sanctuary where I keep His Holy Creation sacred.  
I will only allow in His Voice. I will only accept His Word.

Today I will hear the Word of God.  
I surrender myself to His Teachings through His Divine Channel.  
I will honor what He has spoken and accept it as His Will.  
I will be obedient to His Word, for this is my Salvation.  
In Christ's Name, Om Amen.

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### **Closing Prayer by Jeff & Shaleia**

Father, I accept Your Word into my heart.  
I will honor Your Will in my life and will follow You  
without hesitation anywhere You ask.  
I know you guide me into Your Heart, where I belong.  
I accept that You are everywhere, and your teaching is in  
all things.  
God, I know you provide me clarity in this teaching of  
Union that I may be forever in Union with you.

I accept that You are in me as You are in my brother.  
I will not deny my brother Your Word and will share  
Your Teaching with Him in any way You ask, and only as  
You ask.  
For when I share my salvation with him, I fully claim my  
salvation and return to You with him.

In Christ's Name, Om Amen.

*Speaking this prayer in your heart means you have  
accepted that you are on the path of awakening to  
your true Divine nature. This is what it means to be a  
Unionist. Follow the teachings of Union with God  
wherever you find them and purify your consciousness  
into Perfect Union with your Creator.*