



BELONGING TO GOD
*Spirituality, Science & a
Universal Path of Divine Love*

By **William Keepin, PhD**

Foreword by Thomas Keating, OCSO

“Masterful and groundbreaking! Through the unique lens of spirituality and science, and with exceptional skill, Will Keepin opens our heart and mind to the exquisite truth that Ultimate Reality is one in all religions.”

—**Imam Jamal Rahman**, author, *Spiritual Gems of Islam*; coauthor, *Getting to the Heart of Interfaith*

There is great urgency today for new understandings of how the world’s religious traditions share a universal spirituality. Religious disparities are widely trumpeted today, implying that the world religions are fundamentally contradictory and incompatible. Yet the growing movement of interspirituality affirms that the major world religions—far from being polarized in endless conflicts from which they can never recover—are actually mutually complementary aspects of a larger, unified spiritual reality. The path of divine love suggests that the religions share a universal core.

“There is a profound need today for people to understand how the religious traditions relate to one another, what they have in common, and how their remarkable differences are dwarfed by their even more remarkable common ground,” writes William Keepin, PhD, in **BELONGING TO GOD: Spirituality, Science & a Universal Path of Divine Love** (SkyLight Paths, July 2016).

Keepin, a mathematical physicist and former environmental scientist, has masterfully combined decades of Eastern and Western contemplative practice with cutting-edge scientific research that concludes with twelve principles of divine love—pointing toward a universal spiritual path of the heart, both within and beyond the religions.

BELONGING TO GOD is a vast exploration of divine love in Christianity, Islam and Hinduism—as seen through the scriptures and the writings of leading mystics from these traditions—that presents a glorious universal path of love that is illuminated equally by modern science and ancient wisdom. As Keepin explains, “The transformative path of divine love is the greatness of each of these traditions, and it is their entire purpose in the first place: to transform the human being into a living instrument of divine love and will.”

Weaving together incisive religious inquiry and ancient wisdom with modern scientific breakthroughs, Keepin offers a way forward for anyone who yearns for an inclusive spirituality that can encompass both deep intellectual insight and devotional abandon of the heart, to discover how their particular faith interests with other religions at the deepest level.



William Keepin on The Fire of Divine Love...

“There is a secret fire of divine love that burns at every level of manifestation: in the heart, in the depths of God, and *in and as the* inner essence of all beings. The heart is the inner gateway to God. ... In physics, nothing can alter the speed of light. In spirituality, nothing can alter the function of divine light. Just as physical light is ‘frozen’ to become matter ... divine light is refracted into a spectrum of different religions, each one a magnificent ray of the universal divine light.”

“[With] vast knowledge and deep love of the scriptures and mystics ... [Will’s] humble and reverent case for interspirituality can lead each spiritual seeker to the experience of belonging to God. Isn’t this exactly what the world needs, and exactly what we need?”

—**Robert McDermott, PhD**, president emeritus and chair of the Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness Program at the California Institute of Integral Studies; author, *The Essential Aurobindo*

“Nothing is more refreshingly relevant than a nuclear physicist writing a riveting book on belonging to God.... Will’s great gift is both enthusiasm for the progress in these matters and deep discernment with regard to details.”

—**Father Francis D’Sa, SJ**, director, Institute for the Study of Religion

“[An] impressive synthesis of timeless sacred wisdom and contemporary perspectives from interspirituality and the sciences. Drawing on both Eastern and Western sources, he mounts a cogent case that the path of divine love—too often dismissed as “dualistic” or “merely devotional”—can indeed culminate in the highest forms of nondual realization.”

—**Rev. Cynthia Bourgeault, PhD**, author, *The Wisdom Way of Knowing* and *The Heart of Centering Prayer: Nondual Christianity in Theory and Practice*

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

A leader in the interfaith spiritual movement, **William Keepin, PhD**, is a mathematical physicist, an environmental scientist, and has been a practitioner on the contemplative path of divine love for over thirty-five years. He co-founded the Satyana Institute, and Gender Reconciliation International with his wife, Rev. Cynthia Brix. The Satyana Institute is a non-profit service and training organization based near Seattle, Washington. The Institute’s programs have been conducted in venues across the United States, and in India, South Africa, Australia, Kenya, Croatia, Colombia, the U.K., and Canada. Keepin’s books include *Divine Duality* and *Women Healing Women* (co-authored with Brix), and *Song of the Earth*. Together he and Brix conduct trainings, retreats and workshops nationally and internationally, encouraging individuals, communities and organizations to combine the inner work of the heart with outer service in the world. Pathofdivinelove.org

Thomas Keating, OCSO, is a monk, priest and former abbot who lives at St. Benedict’s Monastery in Snowmass, Colorado. He is a founder of the Centering Prayer movement, and convener of the 30-year Snowmass Interreligious Conference. His books include *Open Mind, Open Heart; Intimacy with God* and many others.

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