

Searching for Unification – Closing In on an Answer

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In the last few years, the discoveries in physics, which have emanated from both ends of the physical spectrum – the micro particle and quantum and the macro cosmos – have produced fascinating results. First came the necessity of positing dark matter and dark energy into our physical universe to account for the fact and pace of its expansion. Second came the need for these “dark” phenomena to greatly exceed in their magnitude the quantity of all physical matter and energy, which we normally understand as the basis for our “observable” reality. These conjoint developments have greatly shrunk the centrality of our physical world – as cosmologically vast as it is – and reduced its importance to only 4% of reality. Our physical world recedes further into relative obscurity with the proposals that it is probably necessary to include additional dimensions and possibly multiple universes in our conception of an even more enormous reality. Indeed, from the material perspective, it seems to be the lesson of modern science that the greater our understanding becomes of the reality envelop in which we dwell as humans, the less and less important we become, to the point of being virtually irrelevant. But there is another perspective, and it may provide for our “salvation,” and it is emerging in physics itself.

We have reached the point in our exploration of the micro world of the physical that we may be about to discover the level of reality at which all things are connected and interrelated. It is difficult to characterize this domain of the infinitely small because our vocabulary is so disposed to identify “things” in concrete terms. And what we are finding is that at this rudimentary level there are no “things” as such. Rather there are oscillations or fluctuations or vibrations [strings], which underlie the manifestations of both mass and energy, particle and wave, matter and field.

In our search for a unified theory of reality, we may be on the verge of discovering the basis for not just bringing together quantum and relativity physics in an understanding of physical reality, but also for discovering the mechanism of interrelationship between physical reality and the non-physical reality of dark matter and dark energy. Beyond this, we may be penetrating the boundary between the material and the immaterial. And finally, we may be about to discover the basis for the interrelationship between the objective and the subjective as well as the reason for the existence of the corresponding mental capabilities in humans – intellect and intuition – which reveal reality from

these two different perspectives. We may be poised to unify both physical and non-physical reality as well as to appreciate the fact of human participation and presence in both.

What a privilege it is to live in a time of such a fundamental potential breakthrough with consequences that can radically change our understanding of both our world and our selves! This is potentially a time of a major worldview paradigm shift for the entire human species! We face the revolutionary paradox that while as separate physical entities we are objectively and physically almost nothing in what seems a virtually infinite material universe of hundreds of billions of galaxies, nevertheless as full participants in the total system of undifferentiated interconnectedness we are subjectively and spiritually everything – all of one shared identity. We humans are both nothing and everything at one and the same time! And it seems that physics may well be about to scientifically confirm this seeming paradox by revealing the unifying non-material foundation of all aspects of both physical and non-physical reality.