

## Book: **Marvelous Light**

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For millennia, man has wondered what light is. Ancient priests conceptualized it as gods and goddesses. Philosophers have described it allegorically as a divine quality in man himself. Modern science brings a more refined view of light and a physical description of its ephemeral and effervescent qualities. But still, the way we understand light and its consequences are uncomfortable for all honest thinkers. The scientist may be alright in his silo, but light transcends academia and pervades all human experience. We can't help thinking about reality without describing it in terms of light. By considering the science, philosophy, and theology of light, we find that each affirms and informs the others and gives us access to the very center of reality, all that we've been seeking from the beginning.

### Outline:

- Refined Science, Philosophy, and Theology affirm and inform each other
  - Each topic has defined limits beyond which it cannot comment
  - We must engage all three to attain a comprehensive understanding of our universe
- Science of Light
  - Paradox and enigma are at the most fundamental levels of light
  - Wave particle duality reveals the nature of the quantum world and all energy/matter
- Philosophy of Light
  - "Divine Light of Reason" and man's ability to access philosophical light
  - Free Will as another expression of the light of man
- Theology of Light
  - Light's key role in creation
  - Divinity is constantly described in terms of light, literally and metaphorically
  - Eastern religions express divine light as described in Jewish/Christian texts
- Wave/Particle Duality
  - Light reveals essential enigmatic qualities of reality; physical, spiritual, or otherwise
- Relativity
  - Speed of light anchors expressions of spacetime and energy/matter in a reality that is more complex than we assumed up through the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Intrinsic Existence
  - Light emphasizes the importance of self-existence and "the present" in our universe
- Uncertainty and Will
  - Uncertainty seems like a defect in our world ("God does not throw dice")
  - Human Will is an agent of contingency and chaos in an otherwise "good" creation
- Darkness and Void
  - We have poor mental constructs for privations such as darkness, sin, and hell
  - We believe in and experience darkness and evil in spite of its troubling tendency toward non-existence