

# Living the Mystery...

Reflection on the Tao, or Way

*Brian Daugherty pointed to the mystery beyond our words and intellect with a few selections from writings in four religious traditions (Taoism, Buddhism, Islam, and the Baha'i faith). A final quotation from Muhammad guides our ideas into living expression of this mystery – active love for one another.*

The way that can be told is not the eternal Way.  
The name that can be named is not the eternal name.  
The nameless is the beginning of heaven and earth.  
The named is the mother of ten thousand things.  
Ever desireless, one can see the mystery.  
Ever desiring, one can see the manifestations.  
These two spring from the same source but differ in name;  
This appears as darkness.  
Darkness within darkness.  
The gate to all mystery.           – from the *Tao Te Ching*

There is, O monks, an Unborn, Unoriginated, Uncreated, Unformed.  
Were there not, O monks, this Unborn, Unoriginated, Uncreated,  
Unformed, there would be no escape from the world of the born,  
originated, created, formed.     – Buddha

Knowledge is a single point, but the ignorant have multiplied it.  
  – Hadith (tradition of Islam)

This is the changeless Faith of God,  
eternal in the past, eternal in future.     – Bahá'u'lláh (Baha'i)

Do you love your Creator?  
Love you fellow-beings first.     – Muhammad

Inspiration shared by Brian Daugherty  
at the August 21, 2014 Inter-Religious Council meeting