

True wisdom – seeing not judging

In Buddhism virtue is unambiguously held to be the life-blood of the religion. In this context we can then be quick to assume that true spiritual wisdom is that which **judges** right from wrong, wholesome from unwholesome. Or perhaps we can think that wisdom is a kind of feeling or an intuition that distinguishes between what is right and wrong. Yet actually the true wisdom of the Buddha sees everything as the same. This is our Refuge in the Dhamma. This is how wisdom serves as a true resting place for the heart, how it is confluent with unconditional love. So how is this? This is because true wisdom is also free of desire and when it is present, unwholesome states do not arise, they actually cannot arise in the first place. This is our Refuge in the Buddha. So the virtue based upon wisdom is of a distinct character. It's loving and yet it's also cool.

Yeah it's cool, man. Super cool.



And we will **see** the difference between right and wrong. Any state in ourselves or others which diminishes or takes away this wisdom we will clearly **see** as unwholesome.

Real virtue is based on clear seeing, right view. If we cannot see clearly ourselves we are best advised to borrow the eyes of those who can to guide our lives. They can tell us how to find happiness through following the precepts with faith and equanimity. This is our Refuge in Saṅgha.

We need to take Refuge until wisdom arises in our own hearts and minds. Then we can truly be a Refuge to ourselves and others.

I offer this for your reflection.

Ajahn Kalyāno

<http://www.openthesky.co.uk>