

# Difference Between Science And Spirituality

Science and Spirituality are two major bodies of knowledge that try provide an understanding of reality. But they differ on "what?", "why?" and "how?" with regard to knowledge acquired.

The first fundamental difference between Science and Spirituality is the object of study. Universal and timeless truths being its pursuit, Spirituality is concerned with the unchanging. But our body and the reality in which we live are physical which is characterized by change. The physical world being the focus of Science, implies a fundamental difference in the object of study between Science and Spirituality. One studies what is constantly changing and the other what is unchanging.

The goals of spirituality and science are also different. Spirituality tries to make one's mind evolve and become spiritual, The study of the physical is secondary to this goal of helping the mind evolve. On the other hand, Science is simply concerned with objective study of the physical universe, offering to us the benefits arising out of such a study.

The third major difference is the means by which knowledge is acquired. In the case of spirituality, intuition can be the sole way of knowledge acquisition. On the other hand, even though Scientists too use intuition to form a hypothesis, it is only after affirmation by sensory perception or by experimentation and inference that the knowledge proposed by the hypothesis is accepted.

With the above differences at present, can Science and Spirituality ever converge? It is possible if the philosophers of Science enhance the scope of Science and can verify spiritual knowledge or if the Spiritual gurus and practitioners can bring spiritual knowledge down to the level of details that Science does and demonstrate empirically the truth of spiritual knowledge.

The above can be done without changing the nature of both. Scope of Science if enhanced to consider reality to extend beyond the physical and still the scientific methods are followed as affirmation of hypotheses, the endeavour would remain objective. Science would have not to deviate from its methods and retain its essence. Spirituality on the other hand would just have to show that there is a spiritual significance to worldly activities. Thus spirituality can also maintain its essence.

The practitioners of both the disciplines should endeavour to make the convergence possible because the appeal of timeless truths of Spirituality and the empirical proofs of Science are both compelling and if they can meet, the ensuing knowledge would be both purposeful and practical.