

Does it not belong to the very concept of an axial religion to assert or imply that the existential truth that it re-presents is and must be knowable by any human being simply as such?

If it is distinctive of an axial religion that it locates *the* existential problem, not in any of the so-called boundary situations of human existence, whether social or individual, but in a fundamental self-misunderstanding for which the individual person is responsible, it would seem to follow that the truth it re-presents must indeed have always already been knowable, since otherwise the individual person could not be held accountable for living in falsehood.

1 June 1990; rev. 13 April 2001