

Does not each of the axial religions presuppose or assert that:

(1) there is an authentic self-understanding according to which each and every human being is originally authorized to live;

(2) all human beings ordinarily live contrary to this self-understanding, and so misunderstand themselves, or understand themselves inauthentically;

(3) notwithstanding this universal self-misunderstanding, each and every human being is still authorized to understand her- or himself authentically; and

(4) the decisive re-presentation of this authorization, as which the religion itself exists, provides the sufficient means for effecting the necessary ultimate transformation, which is to say, the transition from inauthentic to authentic existence?

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