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What's really going on when Reinhold Niebuhr seems to both affirm and deny that "spirit" is "reason"—or when I myself distinguish (in distinguishing Christian faith and the Enlightenment) between being an "existing self" and a "rational mind"?

What's really going on, I think, is recognizing the two different levels of living understandingly on either the primary level of interaction or the secondary level of discourse, i.e., the *transcendental* level of self-understanding and the *categorial* level of life-praxis (understood as comprising belief and action).

31 January 2004