

## Things in Living Color

Things in living color are usually beautiful. Plato and Socrates loved to ask if there is a permanent unchangeable form behind beauty — a divine beauty.

The Hebrew Bible speaks of the rainbow as the sign of a divine covenant from God to Noah and all living beings, promising there would never be another world flood. God set His rainbow into the clouds as a reminder of this covenant, and it should remind us today. Jewish legend says rainbows did not exist before the time of Noah.

Rainbows are made by precise physical laws that involve optical refraction of sunlight to produce a phenomenal spectrum of color that can only be seen at one precise angle (OK, sometimes two angles as a double rainbow) with a precision arc. In a prism-like way, the one light (the sun) is broken down into a spectrum, usually categorized into seven colors. The physical laws that allow this to happen do not change. It's one example of divine beauty.

There are other examples of spectrums of living color we appreciate that have beliefs of divinity behind them, such as the idea of a color spectrum that emanates from our seven chakras. The chakra belief is thought to have originated from Indra, the Hindu god of gods, who is discussed in the ancient Vedas dating back to the second millennium BCE. The idea of the colors of our chakras, though, was developed in more modern times.

More recently, the colors of our personal auras have been discovered and some claim the ability to determine a person's physical or mental health status by studying their aura. Again, there are seven basic colors involved but expanded to 25 or so.

Late May and early June are World Pride time, when the genius behind the creation of the pride flag is demonstrated in living color. This flag, like the rainbow, commands our attention, as everyone stops whatever they are doing to look at it. The message is that of the rainbow: a spectrum of light is really One Light, and all are one. ☸



**JIM VAN CLEAVE, Ph.D.**, is the board president of the Science of Mind Library and Archives Foundation. He is also the Systematic Theologian for InSpirit Center in Mission Viejo, California.