Title: A COURSE IN MIRACLES FOR DUMMIES

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## Table of Contents

Table of Contents .................................................................................................................. 3  
**PREFACE** ............................................................................................................................ 11  
ACIM For Dummies .................................................................................................................. 11  
What we did and why? .............................................................................................................. 11  
Comparative Sample - ACIM Chapter 17.1 .......................................................................... 13  
The Story Behind A Course In Miracles For Dummies ...................................................... 19  
How IT Came About ............................................................................................................... 19  
The Quest .................................................................................................................................. 25  
**About the Author, Thomas R. Wakechild** ....................................................................... 25  
**PROLOGUE** ....................................................................................................................... 30  
**INTRODUCTION** .................................................................................................................. 33  
Chapter 1. THE MEANING OF MIRACLES ........................................................................... 34  
I. Principles of Miracles ............................................................................................................. 34  
II. Revelation, Time and Miracles ............................................................................................ 42  
III. Atonement and Miracles ..................................................................................................... 44  
IV. The Escape from Darkness ............................................................................................... 48  
V. Wholeness and Spirit .......................................................................................................... 49  
VI. The Illusion of Needs .......................................................................................................... 52  
VII. Distortions of Miracle Impulses ....................................................................................... 54  
Chapter 2. THE SEPARATION AND THE ATONEMENT ..................................................... 57  
I. The Origins of Separation ..................................................................................................... 57  
II. The Atonement as Defense .................................................................................................. 60  
III. The Altar of God ................................................................................................................ 63  
IV. Healing as Release from Fear ........................................................................................... 65  
V. The Function of the Miracle Worker .................................................................................. 68  
A. Special Principles of Miracle Workers .............................................................................. 72  
VI. Fear and Conflict ............................................................................................................... 75  
VII. Cause and Effect .............................................................................................................. 79  
VIII. The Meaning of the Last Judgment ............................................................................... 83  
Chapter 3. THE INNOCENT PERCEPTION ........................................................................ 86  
I. Atonement without Sacrifice ............................................................................................... 86  
II. Miracles as True Perception ............................................................................................... 89  
III. Perception versus Knowledge ........................................................................................... 91  
IV. Error and the Ego .............................................................................................................. 94  
V. Beyond Perception ............................................................................................................. 98  
VI. Judgment and the Authority Problem ............................................................................ 102  
VII. Creating versus the Self-Image ...................................................................................... 107  
Chapter 4. THE ILLUSIONS OF THE EGO ........................................................................ 111  
Introduction .......................................................................................................................... 111  
I. Right Teaching and Right Learning .................................................................................. 112  
II. The Ego and False Autonomy ............................................................................................ 118  
III. Love without Conflict ....................................................................................................... 123  
IV. This Need Not Be .............................................................................................................. 127
| Chapter 14. TEACHING FOR TRUTH | ................................................................. | 460 |
| Chapter 13. THE GUILTLESS WORLD | ................................................................. | 448 |
| Chapter 12. THE HOLY SPIRIT’S CURRICULUM | ................................................................. | 441 |
| Chapter 11. GOD OR THE EGO | ................................................................. | 434 |
| Chapter 10. THE IDOLS OF SICKNESS | ................................................................. | 429 |
| Chapter 9. THE CONDITION OF REALITY | ................................................................. | 422 |
| Chapter 8. THE Attraction of Love for Love | ................................................................. | 418 |
| Chapter 7. The Visions of Christ | ................................................................. | 413 |
| Chapter 6. The Fear of Redemption | ................................................................. | 409 |
| Chapter 5. The Investment in Reality | ................................................................. | 405 |
| Chapter 4. The Sane Curriculum | ................................................................. | 403 |
| Chapter 3. The Answer to Prayer | ................................................................. | 399 |
| Chapter 2. The Decision to Forget | ................................................................. | 393 |
| Chapter 1. At Home in God | ................................................................. | 386 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 382 |

| Chapter 8. THE GUILTLESS SON OF GOD | ................................................................. | 378 |
| Chapter 7. The Decision to Remember | ................................................................. | 375 |
| Chapter 6. The Investment in Reality | ................................................................. | 370 |
| Chapter 5. The Correction of Error | ................................................................. | 363 |
| Chapter 4. The Judgment of the Holy Spirit | ................................................................. | 356 |
| Chapter 3. The Idols of Sickness | ................................................................. | 349 |
| Chapter 2. The Inheritance of God’s Son | ................................................................. | 342 |
| Chapter 1. The Decision to Forbear | ................................................................. | 333 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 326 |

| Chapter 7. THE GUILTLESS SON OF GOD | ................................................................. | 323 |
| Chapter 6. The End of Sickness | ................................................................. | 316 |
| Chapter 5. The Incarnation of God | ................................................................. | 313 |
| Chapter 4. The Inheritance of God’s Son | ................................................................. | 309 |
| Chapter 3. The Decision to Forbear | ................................................................. | 303 |
| Chapter 2. The Inheritance of God's Son | ................................................................. | 300 |
| Chapter 1. The Inheritance of God’s Son | ................................................................. | 297 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 291 |

| Chapter 6. THE GUILTLESS SON OF GOD | ................................................................. | 288 |
| Chapter 5. The End of Sickness | ................................................................. | 285 |
| Chapter 4. The Incarnation of God | ................................................................. | 280 |
| Chapter 3. The Denial of God | ................................................................. | 276 |
| Chapter 2. The Inheritance of God's Son | ................................................................. | 271 |
| Chapter 1. The Inheritance of God’s Son | ................................................................. | 267 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 263 |

| Chapter 5. The Denial of God | ................................................................. | 258 |
| Chapter 4. The End of Sickness | ................................................................. | 251 |
| Chapter 3. The Incarnation of God | ................................................................. | 241 |
| Chapter 2. The Inheritance of God's Son | ................................................................. | 238 |
| Chapter 1. The Inheritance of God’s Son | ................................................................. | 234 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 231 |

| Chapter 4. THE IDOLS OF SICKNESS | ................................................................. | 224 |
| Chapter 3. The Condition of Reality | ................................................................. | 218 |
| Chapter 2. The Acceptance of Your Brother | ................................................................. | 212 |
| Chapter 1. At Home in God | ................................................................. | 188 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 184 |

| Chapter 3. THE God of Sickness | ................................................................. | 175 |
| Chapter 2. The Decision to Forget | ................................................................. | 171 |
| Chapter 1. At Home in God | ................................................................. | 168 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 164 |

| Chapter 2. THE God of Sickness | ................................................................. | 147 |
| Chapter 1. The Answer to Prayer | ................................................................. | 144 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 141 |

| Chapter 1. The Answer to Prayer | ................................................................. | 128 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 125 |

<p>| Chapter 1. The Answer to Prayer | ................................................................. | 112 |
| Introduction | ................................................................. | 109 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>The Conditions of Learning</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>The Happy Learner</td>
<td>463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>The Decision for Guiltlessness</td>
<td>466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV.</td>
<td>Your Function in the Atonement</td>
<td>475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.</td>
<td>The Circle of Atonement</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI.</td>
<td>The Light of Communication</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII.</td>
<td>Sharing Perception with the Holy Spirit</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII.</td>
<td>The Holy Meeting Place</td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX.</td>
<td>The Reflection of Holiness</td>
<td>494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.</td>
<td>The Equality of Miracles</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI.</td>
<td>The Test of Truth</td>
<td>503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 15.</td>
<td>THE HOLY INSTANT</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>The Two Uses of Time</td>
<td>512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>The End of Doubt</td>
<td>518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>Littleness versus Magnitude</td>
<td>521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV.</td>
<td>Practicing the Holy Instant</td>
<td>526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.</td>
<td>The Holy Instant and Special Relationships</td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI.</td>
<td>The Holy Instant and the Laws of God</td>
<td>536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII.</td>
<td>The Needless Sacrifice</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII.</td>
<td>The Only Real Relationship</td>
<td>546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX.</td>
<td>The Holy Instant and the Attraction of God</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X.</td>
<td>The Time of Rebirth</td>
<td>553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI.</td>
<td>Christmas as the End of Sacrifice</td>
<td>558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 16.</td>
<td>THE FORGIVENESS OF ILLUSIONS</td>
<td>563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>True Empathy</td>
<td>563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>The Power of Holiness</td>
<td>566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>The Reward of Teaching</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV.</td>
<td>The Illusion and the Reality of Love</td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.</td>
<td>The Choice for Completion</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI.</td>
<td>The Bridge to the Real World</td>
<td>588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII.</td>
<td>The End of Illusions</td>
<td>594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 17.</td>
<td>FORGIVENESS AND THE HOLY RELATIONSHIP</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>Bringing Fantasy to Truth</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>The Forgiven World</td>
<td>603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>Shadows of the Past</td>
<td>607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV.</td>
<td>The Two Pictures</td>
<td>613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.</td>
<td>The Healed Relationship</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI.</td>
<td>Setting the Goal</td>
<td>627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII.</td>
<td>The Call for Faith</td>
<td>631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII.</td>
<td>The Conditions of Peace</td>
<td>636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 18.</td>
<td>THE PASSING OF THE DREAM</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>The Substitute Reality</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>The Basis of the Dream</td>
<td>645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>Light in the Dream</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV.</td>
<td>The Little Willingness</td>
<td>653</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 19. THE ATTAINMENT OF PEACE
I. Healing and Faith ................................................................. 682
II. Sin versus Error ................................................................. 689
III. The Unreality of Sin .......................................................... 692
IV. The Obstacles to Peace ...................................................... 698
A. The First Obstacle: The Desire to Get Rid of It ....................... 700
i. The Attraction of Guilt ......................................................... 704
B. The Second Obstacle: The Belief the Body is Valuable for What It Offers ....................................................... 707
i. The Attraction of Pain ......................................................... 711
C. The Third Obstacle: The Attraction of Death ......................... 715
i. The Incorruptible Body ....................................................... 717
D. The Fourth Obstacle: The Fear of God ................................. 721
i. The Lifting of the Veil .......................................................... 724

Chapter 20. THE VISION OF HOLINESS .................................... 731
I. Holy Week ........................................................................... 731
II. The Gift of Lilies ................................................................. 732
III. Sin as an Adjustment ........................................................ 737
IV. Entering the Ark ............................................................... 743
V. Heralds of Eternity ............................................................ 746
VI. The Temple of the Holy Spirit ............................................ 749
VII. The Consistency of Means and End .................................... 755
VIII. The Vision of Sinlessness ................................................ 759

Chapter 21. REASON AND PERCEPTION .................................. 764
Introduction ........................................................................... 764
I. The Forgotten Song ............................................................ 765
II. The Responsibility for Sight ................................................ 769
III. Faith, Belief and Vision ...................................................... 776
IV. The Fear to Look Within .................................................... 782
V. The Function of Reason ...................................................... 785
VI. Reason versus Madness ................................................... 790
VII. The Last Unanswered Question ......................................... 795
VIII. The Inner Shift ............................................................... 802

Chapter 22. SALVATION AND THE HOLY RELATIONSHIP ............. 805
Introduction ........................................................................... 805
I. The Message of the Holy Relationship .................................... 807
II. Your Brother's Sinlessness ................................................... 812
III. Reason and the Forms of Error ............................................ 818
IV. The Branching of the Road ................................................ 822
V. Weakness and Defensiveness .............................................. 825
VI. The Light of the Holy Relationship ....................................... 827

Chapter 23. THE WAR AGAINST YOURSELF ................................ 835
PREFACE

ACIM For Dummies

What we did and why?

1) We have taken what is commonly referred to as the second edition of the text of A COURSE IN MIRACLES and replaced pronouns and unclear references with their antecedents or meanings. This was done in an effort to clarify the text by making it more readable to the student. These changes are clearly noted and highlighted in bold print. Students are encouraged to cross-reference the highlighted bold print areas with their favorite version of the text. We believe that the substitution of pronouns and unclear references with their antecedents or meanings will make the text more readable, yet, at times, it will appear rather redundant. We have attempted to err on the redundant side rather than leave an area unclear as to what the pronoun might be referencing.

2) We have added notes or commentaries below each ACIM paragraph to assist the reader in their own interpretation of the paragraph. As we move through the text, the notes will become more extensive. We have attempted not to expand the comments beyond what has previously been mentioned in the text. Often, due to the circular nature of the text, previous areas that interrelate may be mentioned although most notes will directly relate to the current passage. These notes are designed to foster discussion and clarity, not to limit ideas and prevent expansion. Each person is on their perfect path and will glean something out of their studies. By offering this paragraph-by-paragraph format, we believe that the student will be assisted toward a more rewarding and expansive learning experience.

3) We have often come in contact with people who have dismissed ACIM as unreadable and too complex to study on their own or even in a group setting. This formatted material will allow an individual to move through the text in a timely and comprehensive manner. Most group classes take years before even one reading of the entire text has been completed. Often they must rely upon second-hand resources and “experts”. This text will aid both group and independent, private study. It provides enough information to foster discussion and meditation for the serious inquirer. Never blindly accept another’s explanation but rather go within and follow your own inner guide’s advice.

4) If you are already involved in a private or group study plan and would like more information or perhaps adopt ACIM for Dummies as your preferred core source material, please feel free to contact us at acourseinmirclesfordummies.com. We offer online, local and private classes. You can also register your approved ACIM for Dummies class at on our website or contact us for classes in your area.
Comparative Sample - ACIM Chapter 17.I

Below is an illustrative sample that compares the second edition text to the annotated ACIM for Dummies version. Anytime ACIM of Dummies replaces a word with its antecedent, this change is clearly noted and highlighted in bold print. Following each paragraph of the annotated text is a detailed explanatory note about that paragraph.

Chapter 17.
FORGIVENESS AND THE HOLY RELATIONSHIP

I. Bringing Fantasy to Truth

Text as it appears in second edition of ACIM
T-17.I.1. The betrayal of the Son of God lies only in illusions, and all his "sins" are but his own imagining. 2 His reality is forever sinless. 3 He need not be forgiven but awakened. 4 In his dreams he has betrayed himself, his brothers and his God. 5 Yet what is done in dreams has not been really done. 6 It is impossible to convince the dreamer that this is so, for dreams are what they are <because> of their illusion of reality. 7 Only in waking is the full release from them, for only then does it become perfectly apparent that they had no effect upon reality at all, and did not change it. 8 Fantasies change reality. 9 That is their purpose. 10 They cannot do so in reality, but they <can> do so in the mind that would have reality be different.

Revised text with antecedents / references in bold highlights
T-17.I.1. The betrayal of the Son of God lies only in illusions, and all his "sins" are but the Son of God’s own imagining. 2 The Son of God’s reality is forever sinless. 3 God’s Son need not be forgiven but awakened. 4 In the Son of God’s dreams the Son of God has betrayed himself, his brothers and his God. 5 Yet what is done in dreams has not been really done. 6 It is impossible to convince the dreamer that what is done in dreams has not been really done in reality, for dreams are what dreams are <because> of the dream’s illusion of reality. 7 Only in the dreamer’s waking is the full release from dreams, for only then does it become perfectly apparent to the dreamer that dreams had no effect upon reality at all, and the dreamer’s dreams did not change reality. 8 Fantasies change reality temporarily within the sleeping mind of the dreamer. 9 That is the purpose of fantasy. 10 Fantasy cannot do so in reality, but fantasy <can> do so in the sleeping mind that would have reality be different.

Commentary on above ACIM paragraph
Note #1: Dreams have no effect on the reality of truth. Yet, to the dreamer during the sleeping state, the dream appears to be true. As long as the dreamer believes that the
dream is his current experience, it will appear real to him. Within the dream itself, illusions are as strong in their affect on the dreamer’s mind as what would normally be viewed as the truth. Once fully awakened, the dreamer realizes that the dream was a fantasy and, therefore, had no affect on the truth. Yet, while he was dreaming, the dream did appear to be his reality. During this dreaming state, the dream becomes the dreamer’s provisional reality. All that appears within the dreamer’s mind is not real to anyone else. We all agree when wide awake that any imagined “action” which took place during a dream should not be punished or rewarded since it has no impact or affect on the truth of reality.

**Text as it appears in second edition of ACIM**

T-17.1.2. It is, then, only your wish to change reality that is fearful, because by your wish you think you have accomplished what you wish. 2 This strange position, in a sense, acknowledges your power. 3 Yet by distorting it and devoting it to “evil,” it also makes it unreal. 4 You cannot be faithful to two masters who ask conflicting things of you. 5 What you use in fantasy you deny to truth. 6 Yet what you give to truth to use for you is safe from fantasy.

**Revised text with antecedents / references in bold highlights**

T-17.1.2. It is, then, only your wish to change reality that is fearful, because by your wish you think you have accomplished what you wish, which was to change your reality. 2 This strange position, which is to change the appearance of reality within your own mind, in a sense, acknowledges your power to be the cause and source of your own experience. 3 Yet by distorting your power to be the cause and source of your own experience and devoting this power to be the cause and source of your experience to "evil," it also makes your perceived experience unreal. 4 You cannot be faithful to two masters who ask conflicting things of you. These two “master” are the thought system of the ego and the Holy Spirit’s. 5 What you use in fantasy you deny to truth. 6 Yet what you give to truth to use for you is safe from fantasy. The ego is the protector of fantasy and the Holy Spirit’s thought system is the defender of truth.

**Commentary on above ACIM paragraph**

**Note # 2:** God’s Will is only that His Son should be happy. What causes us to be fearful is our belief that we have changed God’s Will. Therefore, by our past actions, we believe that we have or will lose our happiness because we have tampered with God’s reality. We have gotten caught up in the belief that we could oppose God’s Will. We believe that our action actually changes the Mind of God. This is impossible since God’s Will is changeless. The “problem” with the dream of separation was not our wanting to watch or play in the dream game of separation. Rather the problem occurred when we forgot that we were making up the dream. When we forgot we were the dreamer, we started to believe that our dream was true. We forgot to laugh and took the dream seriously. Fear was birthed within the dreamer’s mind.

ACIM states that our mind has the power to create or project its own internal movies. These movies appear to be real within the dreamer’s mind. The world of perception, time and space act as the movie screen for our mind’s thoughts and desires. Yet, when we realize that our thoughts are projected into an illusionary world, we realize that the dream
can have no impact on the reality of our real world called Heaven. These dreams or movies do affect the dreamer or moviegoer. By watching the movie, the observer is either entertained, taught some lesson, or both. When this paragraph references “evil,” evil is the false belief that the Sonship, which is an Effect of God, could somehow change God’s Will. An effect was no power to change its cause. The ego is the protector and “movie projector” of false images and the belief in fantasy. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is the defender of truth

Text as it appears in second edition of ACIM
T-17.I.3. When you maintain that there must be an order of difficulty in miracles, all you mean is that there are some things you would withhold from truth. 2 You believe truth cannot deal with some things that you wish to withhold from truth only because you would keep them from truth. 3 Very simply, your lack of faith in the power that heals all pain arises from your wish to retain some aspects of reality for fantasy. 4 If you but realized what this must do to your appreciation of the whole! 5 What you reserve for yourself, you take away from Him Who would release you. 6 Unless you give it back, it is inevitable that your perspective on reality be warped and uncorrected.

Revised text with antecedents / references in bold highlights
T-17.I.3. When you maintain that there must be an order of difficulty in miracles, all you mean is that there are some things you would withhold from truth. 2 You believe truth cannot deal with some things that you wish to withhold from truth only because you would keep some things from truth. 3 Very simply, your lack of faith in the power that heals all pain (the power of truth) arises from your wish to retain some aspects of reality for fantasy. 4 If you but realized what this desire to withhold some parts from truth must do to your appreciation of the whole! 5 What you reserve for yourself are your fantasies that are under the guidance of the ego’s thought system. What you reserve for yourself, you take away from the Holy Spirit, Who would release you from these fantasies. 6 Unless you give all your fantasies back to the Holy Spirit, it is inevitable that your perspective on reality will be warped and uncorrected.

Commentary on above ACIM paragraph
Note # 3: Since only the Holy Spirit is aware of both the truth and your perceived dream, only the Holy Spirit has the knowledge to show you that the dream is not true. The Holy Spirit can only do this if you ask for His guidance. The Holy Spirit does not force you to listen to the truth against your free will. However, if you choose to give up only selective parts of your dream to the Holy Spirit for His reinterpretation, you will still remain trapped within the dream itself. You cannot pick and choose which part in the illusion you will keep and expect to awaken from your insanity. If you wish to awaken from the dream, all illusion must be given to the Holy Spirit. Until you give up all illusion, you will maintain the false idea that you could be something other than what you truly are. It is the things that we value that we refuse to give over to the Holy Spirit. People are willing to give up the illusion of pain and suffering but wish to maintain the illusion of pleasure and specialness. You cannot be “totally committed” some of the time. Truth is not a “sometimes thing”.
Text as it appears in second edition of ACIM

T-17.1.4. As long as you would have it so, so long will the illusion of an order of difficulty in miracles remain with you. 2 For you have established this order in reality by giving some of it to one teacher, and some to another. 3 And so you learn to deal with part of the truth in one way, and in another way the other part. 4 To fragment truth is to destroy it by rendering it meaningless. 5 Orders of reality is a perspective without understanding; a frame of reference for reality to which it cannot really be compared at all.

Revised text with antecedents / references in bold highlights

T-17.1.4. As long as you would have some parts of fantasy withheld from truth, so long will the illusion of an order of difficulty in miracles remain with you. 2 For you have established this order of difficulty into your reality by giving some of your fantasies to one teacher, the ego, and some of your fantasies to another teacher, the Holy Spirit. 3 And so you learn to deal with part of the truth in one way, and in another way the other part. 4 To fragment truth is to destroy truth by rendering truth meaningless. 5 Orders of reality is a perspective without understanding. Orders of reality are a frame of reference for reality to which reality cannot really be compared at all.

Commentary on above ACIM paragraph

Note # 4: By trying to seek guidance from two different teachers, the ego and the Holy Spirit, we receive two different sets of answers to each question that we ask. Both responses are based on the teacher’s own viewpoint of reality. The ego’s response represents the false, while the Holy Spirit’s represents the truth. By attempting to listen to two totally different teachers with opposite belief systems, our world becomes very unstable. Now, instead of just true and false, we have introduced the concept of conditional truth or the “sometimes”. Sometimes something is true; sometimes it is false. Now, we have varying degrees of truth, which claim to represent reality. Rather than absolute truth, each person has his or her own version of the truth. This varies from person to person and, therefore, each individual develops their own viewpoint and perception, which in turn becomes their own provisional reality. Because we have changed truth from an absolute to a maybe, we have introduced the concept that reality is a “sometimes”. Sometimes creates degrees of difficulty. Prior to the existence of “sometimes” there was only the true and the false. Now, change has an endless array of possibilities. Our dream world has now become very complex with the introduction of partial or half-truths. With orders of reality, the absoluteness of true or false also loses its reality in the shifting sands of “sometimes” and “maybes”.

Text as it appears in second edition of ACIM

T-17.1.5. Think you that you can bring truth to fantasy, and learn what truth means from the perspective of illusions? 2 Truth has no meaning in illusion. 3 The frame of reference for its meaning must be itself. 4 When you try to bring truth to illusions, you are trying to make illusions real, and keep them by justifying your belief in them. p351 5 But to give illusions to truth is to enable truth to teach that the illusions are unreal, and thus enable you to escape from them. 6 Reserve not one idea aside from truth, or you establish orders of reality that must imprison you. 7 There is no order in reality, because
everything there is true.

Revised text with antecedents / references in bold highlights T-17.1.5.
Think you that you can bring truth to fantasy, and learn what truth means from the perspective of illusions? 2 Truth <has> no meaning in illusion. 3 The frame of reference for truth’s meaning must be truth, itself. 4 When you try to bring truth to illusions, you are trying to make illusions real, and keep illusions by justifying your belief in the illusions. p351 5 But to give illusions to truth is to enable truth to teach that the illusions are unreal, and thus enable you to escape from the illusions. 6 Reserve not one idea aside from truth, or you establish orders of reality that must imprison you. 7 There is no order in reality, because everything there is true.

Commentary on above ACIM paragraph
Note # 5: Reality is always true. There is only one choice we are asked to make. This choice is always between the true and the false. Reality is always true and fantasy is always false. “Something” does not vacillate between true and false. It is always only one or the other. We either know the truth, which is the real world of Heaven, or we appear to live in an illusionary fantasy of perception, which becomes our provisional reality. There is no in between.

Text as it appears in second edition of ACIM
T-17.1.6. Be willing, then, to give all you have held outside the truth to Him Who knows the truth, and in Whom all is brought to truth. 2 Salvation from separation would be complete, or will not be at all. 3 Be not concerned with anything except your willingness to have this be accomplished. 4 He will accomplish it; not you. 5 But forget not this: When you become disturbed and lose your peace of mind because another is attempting to solve his problems through fantasy, you are refusing to forgive yourself for just this same attempt. 6 And you are holding both of you away from truth and from salvation. 7 As you forgive him, you restore to truth what was denied by both of you. 8 And you will see forgiveness where you have given it.

Revised text with antecedents / references in bold highlights
T-17.1.6. Be willing, then, to give all you have held outside the truth to Him, the Holy Spirit, Who knows the truth, and in Whom all fantasy is brought to truth. 2 Salvation from separation would be complete, or salvation from separation will not be at all. 3 Be not concerned with anything except your willingness to have salvation from separation be accomplished. 4 The Holy Spirit will accomplish salvation from separation; not you. 5 But forget not this: When you become disturbed and lose your peace of mind because another is attempting to solve his problems through fantasy, you are refusing to forgive yourself for just this same attempt to solve your problems through fantasy. 6 And you are holding both you and your brother away from truth and from salvation. 7 As you forgive your brother, you restore to truth what was denied by both you and your brother. 8 And you will see forgiveness where you have given forgiveness.
Commentary on above ACIM paragraph

Note # 6: When you become disturbed and lose your peace of mind because your brother is attempting to solve his problems through fantasy, you are judging another and are falling into the same egoic belief system in which he is suffering. Both of you are now seeing yourselves as separate and with some power and will outside the Will of God. Rather than judge your brother, you need to turn the moment over to the Holy Spirit. Only by giving this moment over to the Holy Spirit can you avoid the pitfalls of the ego’s thought system. When we judge, we are saying that something is unacceptable to us and that we are separate from our brother. If we wish to change our brother, we are also saying that our egoic self has the power to change our brother. By myself (the ego, or little “s” self), I can do nothing. Yet, through me, God can do everything. We need to turn our egoic judgments over to the Holy Spirit and get out of God’s way.

Again, under the laws of God, “To give is to receive.” When we grant forgiveness to a brother, we grant forgiveness to ourselves.
The Story Behind A Course In Miracles For Dummies

How IT Came About

I was an unlikely candidate or transmission vehicle for writing A Course In Miracles for Dummies. This is because I would be looked upon as a relatively new student with no formal training in ACIM. I drew no information from second hand sources or previous publications about the course. People are often surprised to discover that prior to 2004 I had never even heard of A Course In Miracles. Being unfamiliar with the work, it is surprising that by 2007, A Course in Miracles for Dummies had been completed. This is why I would say that I was chosen and that ACIM for Dummies came through me and was not of me. It was something that I was chosen and guided to do through the Holy Spirit.

The reason that I was an unlikely candidate has nothing to do with my background. Instead, it was because I was no longer seeking to find anything new on the spiritual level. For me, my spiritual seeking years seemed to be over. I felt that I had already found what I had been looking for. For many years I had been on a mission of self-discovery with the goal of not having to return to this time-space continuum. I did not want to come back to earth. I had utilized the first 50 years of my life to move towards that goal. I felt that I had found what I was looking for and that the goal was within my reach. I knew I was the creator of my experiences. I thought I had already moved out of fear-based thinking and that I had found the inner peace that comes from trusting my Higher Self. Thus, I felt I had moved from being a seeker to someone who had found their path. It had been a convoluted path up the mountain but I was satisfied with my progress and felt that it was unnecessary to go off on some other path. Therefore, it is more appropriate to say that A Course in Miracles found me to be its instrument for I certainly was not looking for ACIM to enter my life at that time.

The path that I had chosen was a blend of the Eastern mystical traditions and the self-improvement concepts of Western thought. This strange combination had helped me become what I would call a practical mystic. Meditating daily, I was able to move quite successfully in the world of business and finance and yet maintain a high level of spirituality and inner peace. I was someone who was in the world but no longer attached to it. Hinduism has the concept of different stages of life that people should naturally pass through during their lifetime. According to Hinduism, around the age of 50, we should be looking at leaving the business world and focusing our attention on our spiritual growth on a full-time basis. This was my intent. I had already sold my business and was transitioning out of the business world. My wife longed to escape from the cold sunless, gray winters of Michigan and spend her winters in the sun. Unlike most Midwesterners, we felt that out destiny laid west of the Mississippi. We wished to
explore the Southwest as a possible future home site.

Originally, we had just planned to visit the southwest and try to narrow down the list of possible communities that we might like to live in. Yet, upon this initial visit, we felt that we had found what we were looking for and we purchased a home in Arizona. This early purchase could allow my wife, Nancy, to spend her first winter out of the cold if she so desired. But unfortunately for me, I had a prior commitment that required my return to Michigan for the winter. Thus, if she were to stay, she would have to spend the winter alone. We decided to go for it. We set up housekeeping in our new winter home in the late fall. Nancy would remain throughout the winter while I would return to Michigan in early January to fulfill my commitment. Once completed, I was to rejoin my wife in Arizona. When the weather broke in the late spring, we would return to our Michigan home. Since she would be alone for about three months, I wanted her to develop a social support network of friends and neighbors that could help her pass her time while we were apart. It was during this initial stay in Arizona that Nancy decided to attend a weekly class that was beginning on A Course in Miracles. When I returned to Arizona that spring, I discovered that Nancy was still involved with ACIM.

In the spring of 2004, we returned to our Michigan home. Nancy would now have to be on her own if she were to continue studying the course. She continued her independent studies by reading the text, doing her workbook lessons and sometimes asking me questions about what she had read. When she referenced the text, it became apparent that the text was not the most clearly written document in the world. It was complex and mystifying. Each paragraph would often use pronouns that were difficult to determine what they originally referenced. You need to carefully go back to earlier paragraphs or sentences to be able to trace the antecedent for that unclear reference or pronoun. Once this was done however, the passage might become clearer but too often they seemed to remain nonsensical to the everyday reader. The text was not easy to decipher and often used terminology that had specific unique definitions that were different from common everyday usage. The text required a comprehensive systematic study plan since a casual reading of the material would not release ACIM's secrets for retraining the mind. This mind training entails the reprogramming of our own egoic fear-based thought system. If the reader is unwilling to examine the textual context outside of their own fear-based thinking, the reader will encounter a great deal of stress and of course will seem insane and counter intuitive. This is because the ego always resists any attempt to change its old programming. This old programming supports the belief that you are the body. It tells you that you are a victim and not the creator of your world. It takes a great deal of fortitude and will power to change this mind set and go through this process of retraining your mind. This is why the workbook lessons have been provided. The workbook moves the intellectual concepts of the text from the head to the heart. Since many students fail to do the daily workbook lessons, the change they claim they seek is not forthcoming. ACIM requires effort, not just good intentions. Since most of us are entrenched in our fear-based programming, the peace of God that is our destiny remains an elusive mystery to our minds. The ego has no desire to change. As the course says, our tolerance for pain is great, but it is not unlimited and until you say, “There must be a better way,” you will continue to follow the advice of the fear-based thought system of the ego.

Since I wanted to encourage Nancy to continue her work with ACIM, I thought it
would be helpful and most appropriate to actually read the text. I was fascinated by its claims of authorship. Since ACIM claimed to be a work dictated by Jesus to Helen Schucman, I was interested in seeing what it actually said. The book seemed to call to me. When I read the introduction, “Nothing real could be threatened. Nothing unreal exists.” I knew that this was not a book of this world. Although the main ideas were not new to me, they were presented in a systematic way that included a complete philosophical argument that revelation had taught me, but that revelation could not explain. What was more fascinating was the idea that it was not just a theoretical text. It actually had a workbook that was included. This workbook could allow anyone to actively participate in the process of their own self-enlightenment without the need of some outside guru. If this was the case, this would be truly helpful and liberating for human consciousness. I tried ACIM out. I did the work. After one year I had completed the 365 workbook lessons. I realized that ACIM was a complete independent self-study class that was available to anyone who was really serious about their own spiritual growth. What had taken me years of study could be achieved inexpensively by thoroughly studying and practicing one book. It was self-contained. Not only could that, ACIM, if properly understood, could move the student beyond simply managing or coping with their fear. It could actually provide a new paradigm that would overcome fear. This new paradigm was based on forgiveness and love. I realized that over the course of my studies, I had become excellent at coping with fear but still had not completely removed fear from my life. Intellectually, I have never been able to fully reconcile the contradictory concepts of a God of unconditional love with free will. This apparent contradiction had always left a fear-based grain of doubt in my mind. I had always wanted to intellectually understand what revelation had taught me. That there is just the One Self and we are That One.

Both the Buddha and Jesus came from the mystical traditions. Both taught from their own insights which came from their personal revelation. They quieted their egoic mind and went within. Buddha's teachings came more from the seventh chakra, which is associated with the mind or the intellect. Jesus' teachings came from the fourth chakra which is associated with the heart. Two thousand years ago when Jesus walked the earth, mankind did not have the scientific knowledge or the language to explain the psychology behind his teachings. His teachings were to be understood through the heart, not the mind. After Jesus' death and the death of his direct disciples, the meaning of his esoteric message became even murkier than when he had originally pronounced them. Personal revelation has never been a practical means for the masses to obtain an understanding of someone else's teachings. If what was later to be called Christianity was to have a wide appeal to the masses, all its teachings needed to be codified. This codification would allow the new message to be taught in a uniform way rather than through individual personal revelation. Thus, the church leaders attempted to explain Jesus' teachings on the egoic level of the body-mind. Unfortunately, any attempt to explain Jesus' teachings like "I and the Father are One," is difficult. It is impossible to explain this concept of Oneness at the egoic level that perceives the separation to be real. Some church leaders, believing themselves to be separate ego-bodies, could not help but interpret Jesus' message on a fear based level. Thus, Jesus, who claimed to be just like us, was made into God's only begotten Son and thus, different from you and I. This clearly implies that the separation is real. When you attempt to explain Jesus' esoteric teachings on the level of the egoic
mind, they became shrouded in mystery because they are unexplainable on the egoic level.

ACIM is Jesus' attempt to bridge the gap between personal revelation and our ego's need to intellectually understand. Jesus is trying to correct the multiple mistakes about his teachings that continue to perpetuate the fear-based thought system that we see so prevalent in the western religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Two thousand years ago, the concept of a Oneness Of All That Is could only be understood through the mystical tradition of personal revelation. By the 20th century, however, mankind had started to unlock the psychological secrets of our own mind's ability to project its internal beliefs upon the world that we perceive. Later in the 20th century, with the arrival of quantum physics and string theory, the idea that this world could be created through individuated consciousness is not the crazy idea that it would have been two thousand years ago. String theorists now tell us that whole galaxies exist merely because there is some astronomer, somewhere, that wants to observe them. If an astronomer's conscious desire can create a galaxy, the idea that we can create our own world of private individuated perception does not seem so far-fetched. In ACIM, Jesus utilizes the text to explain his teachings on the intellectual level to satisfy our need to understand things egoically. He couples the text with the workbook lessons that are aimed at transporting these ideas from the mind to the heart. Thus, in A Course in Miracles, Jesus has provided the reader a complete system of self-study that can achieve the desired results of reawakening our One Self to the truth of what we truly are. This can be done either through the mind or the heart. Coupled together, the workbook and text provide a student with the ability to move from the egoic fear-based thought system to a new paradigm based on forgiveness, love and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

A mystic does not rely on the intellectual study of someone else's teachings. A mystic learns through personal revelation. Revelation is inspired through direct insight. Although a mystic may have difficulty explaining to another why and what he knows, the mystic will know that he knows. The mystical experience, being personal, requires no explanation. Revelation just is. Yogi Paramahansa Yogananda, founder of the Self Realization Fellowship, teaches that the best way to understand the written word is to read a few words, a sentence or passage. Next, you seek guidance and finally, you meditate on those words. Through this three-step process, one gains the wisdom that the passage seeks to inspire within you. This is what I did with the ACIM text material that became ACIM for Dummies. Because I was already free from most egoic fear-based thinking, my mind could act as a clearer channel for inspiration from the Holy Spirit. Yogananda's three step study method reduces the egoic mind chatter and quiets the mind, thus allowing the practitioner to hear the truth.

When I first began studying ACIM, I would make notes on what the passages said. I would sit at the dining room table for hours reading and studying the material. Most people would consider this a waste of time and not worth the effort. But I pressed on because that is what guidance told me I should do. Perhaps, more importantly, I pressed on because I was getting something out of it. It was all making sense. I realized that the material was synthesizing all the assorted parts of the puzzle that I had gleaned from my previous studies. Over the past years, I had found many pieces to the puzzle. Yet, no one system seemed to have the whole answer. Each system often was only a partial solution. But through the past amalgamation of these various programs, I had
developed a working concept of the whole. Yet, there were still many missing parts or
gaps that remained beyond the reach of my previous studies. Everything fit loosely
together but the reasoning behind it still remained a mystery in my mind. The ACIM text
was solving the whole puzzle on an intellectual, or should I be as bold to say, on the
egoic level of understanding. The text did not move the information to the heart that, of
course, was left to the workbook lessons. But the text did provide practical solutions to
everyday problems. It was not just an esoteric document that sounded nice but was
impossible or impractical to implement in your everyday world of individuated
perception. After one year dedicated to the Course, I had a good working knowledge of
what the Course taught and more importantly what it could do when you choose to
silence the ego and listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout this period, I had many serendipitous events that mysteriously moved
me forward in this work. When we returned to Arizona the next fall, I attended Nancy's
ACIM class which consisted of reading from the text and some discussion. When the
class was having a difficult time understanding a paragraph, I would often read the
paragraph out loud while replacing the pronouns with their antecedents. This simple
exercise helped clarify the passage. One day someone gave me a complete electronic
version of ACIM on a computer CD. Since I was computer illiterate, I was unable to
access this CD. Yet, once again an unsolicited volunteer showed up at my home and got
this CD functional and then proceeded to show me how to work the word-processing
program on my computer. People kept showing up in my life to secretly assist me with
this undisclosed mission. Numerous people arrived on my doorstep offering materials
that they felt guided to give me. My guidance indicated that I should not read or study
any material that was not directly channeled from Jesus. I was not to read any ACIM
material that came from any secondhand sources. My study was to be limited to direct
source content only. This was fine with me since I preferred to keep my mind clear from
any second party observations. Direct source material is always preferable over
secondhand thinking that can contaminate the reception process.

The actual material for A Course in Miracles for Dummies was generated without
the intent of it ever being made public. It was to be a private document that I was drawn
to work on because that is what spirit advised me to do. No one was advised as to what I
was doing and I had no idea why I was directed to do it. I just followed my inner
guidance and trusted. In hindsight, I believe that I was given the task simply because I
would do it. Each night at approximately 2:00 to 3:00 AM, I would be awakened by spirit
to continue the writing process. I would normally cover one subsection a day. I would
read the prior, current and next subsection of the text that I was working on. Next, I
would meditate on it. Finally I was directed to go to the computer and transcribe what
was forthcoming. I would ask for guidance then replace the text pronouns and references
with their antecedents. I would then write the explanatory notes that came into my
awareness for that ACIM paragraph. I completed one paragraph before moving to the
next paragraph. After it was completed, I would normally go back to bed. That was the
daily process.

The materials stayed on my computer with seemingly no other purpose other than
for my own personal insight and as an exercise in following the guidance of the Holy
Spirit. Eventually, this body of work caught up with the same chapter we were studying
in our class. I showed the material to Nancy and asked what she thought. Since she
found it helpful, I decide to take my annotated version of the material to the class so that I could use it as a reference tool. Some of the other students wanted their own copies since they found it helpful in their comprehension of the teachings. One of the class members suggested that I eventually publish the material. I told her that would be impossible since the material pivoted off of previously copyrighted materials. I thought that that would be the end of the matter. Instead, she informed me that the copyright that been broken and that she had been involved in the case. She also told me that she had received a letter to that effect and she would give me a copy. Within an hour she was at my doorstep with the letter. I still didn't see any likelihood of the material that I was working on extending beyond this class. It was too voluminous for any publisher to pick up for such a small niche market. So I just continued with the daily processes thankful that someone had found the information useful.

Later someone suggested since this was the computer age that I should get a website and he would help me develop it. He also suggested that I should create an e-book and make it available to the public. This ultimately led to the website acourseinmiraclesfordummies.com. When we got the website up and running, I felt that my tasks had been completed. To my surprise, people throughout the world discovered this website and found it aided them in their effort to rediscover who they truly are.

I trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide whomever this material is meant for.

All my life, I have felt like I was preparing myself for something. Preparing for what? I did not know but if and when it arose I wanted to be ready. With ACIM for Dummies completed, I feel that I have fulfilled my life's purpose. Throughout this process I have felt guided and directed by spirit. I am grateful for all the help that I have received and continue to receive on this project from both people like you and the Holy Spirit.

Create a great day
Love and peace,

Tom Wakechild
The Quest

About the Author, Thomas R. Wakechild

The Recurring Nightmare

As a child, I cannot ever remember going to bed without a sense of fear and dread. I had a recurring dream or more accurately, a recurring nightmare. I was sitting on the basement steps of my home and there, I witnessed a horrible crime being committed. The perpetrator of the crime had not noticed my presence and as he continued his dastardly assault upon his victim, I had plenty of time to escape unnoticed by going up the steps, locking the door and returning to the safety of my upstairs home. But, unfortunately for me, I was unable to turn and move up the steps and thus escape the attention of the criminal. I seemed paralyzed with fear. Finally, the crime was over. The execution was completed and now the perpetrator turned to leave the crime scene so that he could be free to kill again. As he turned, he spotted me sitting on the steps. I still had plenty of time to escape. All I needed to do was turn and run up the stairs and lock the basement door. Yet, I was paralyzed with fear. I tried to move but I remained frozen to the steps. I tried to scream for help, yet nothing came out. At first, his movements were slow, as if he thought that I had not noticed him spotting me. But as he saw me looking at him and attempting to scream, he picked up the pace. Finally, he reached the stairs and quickly accelerated up them. I, still frozen with fear, could do nothing to defend or save myself. He was upon me and it was quickly over for me. I had been unable to even get out a whimper, let alone a scream. I had done nothing. Fear had immobilized me and rendered me incapable of responding to the situation. The escape from this recurring nightmare has been my quest ever since.

Perceiving this world to be a living hell, I was always terrorized by the thought that when I died, I would have to come back to this earth and do it all over again. Therefore, I lived in a constant state of fear. Fear of what? Fear of the idea that I was not good enough to ever escape the torment that seemed to be my lot in life. Being raised a Catholic, I believed that I had been born in original sin and that God would judge me and find me wanting. If I escaped this earth, it would only be to be damned eternally to a place that was worse. Yet, I found it hard to imagine anything worse than being on this earth. On earth, you were constantly being judged and found not worthy. Being not good enough meant that you were also incapable of earning love. The universe was a cruel and loveless place. I was a victim. Everybody was out to get me and my major objective was not to be caught. By my teenage years, if you had awakened me from a deep sleep and asked me what my purpose was, I would have blurted out, “Not to come back here.”

The First Breakthrough
My first major breakthrough occurred in an unlikely place, my high school biology class. When discussing genetics, the teacher illustrated the probability of receiving a certain genotype. His example utilized the tossing of a coin and the likelihood that it would be heads. It seems that if a person were to flip a coin, each coin flip was independent of past results. The likelihood of each coin flip would always be 50% heads and 50% tails. No matter how many times you had flipped the coin in the past, with each new flip the odds remained 50-50. This meant that the past did not control the present or the future. This was a new concept to me. Prior to that, I had felt what had happened in the past must continue to happen in the present and the future. What I gleaned from probability theory was that the universe could be neutral. The past did not dictate the future. If someone had fourteen years of bad luck, that didn't mean that he was doomed to have “bad luck” for the rest of his life. It opened my mind up to the possibility that the universe could actually be a neutral place and that good or bad “luck” was a 50-50 proposition. I perceived the possibility that I could have a run of fourteen years of good luck coming just as easily as bad luck. I could live in a world where the past did not determine the present or the future. This was now a possibility for me. I was slowly beginning my ascent from victim consciousness into becoming a proactive and creative force in my life.

Still as a teenager, I had another breakthrough. I read Napoleon Hill's classic book *Think and Grow Rich*. That turned me on to the idea that thoughts are things and that “as a man thinketh, so he becomes.” I began my search for self-improvement and self-empowerment. This search, however, continued to have its major focus on escaping the confines of earthly existence. Planet Earth was still a place from which to escape.

**The New Goal**

In my early 20s, I took a proactive stance in regards to my life. I no longer saw myself as a victim and realized that this earth provided a vast array of possibilities. I wanted to avoid what I perceived as the traps of world materiality and getting too involved with earthly matters. Rather than attempt to change the earth, I felt that the earth would benefit best if I became a better me. By becoming a better person, I felt that I would be more capable of responding to any situation that the future might bring. That the best example I could give to the world was to live a good life. I felt that spirituality and wealth were incompatible. I wanted to adopt the attitude of a young child. Most children in their early years are inquisitive and absorbed in learning. A young child enters life with a sense of awe, adventure and wonderment. They see their world as a play school. This innocence and desire for learning often is transformed by our environment into the need to conform and please our family and society. The inquisitive sense of learning and awe is replaced by the need to earn their parents, peers and society's approval. The need to get the right answer replaces the natural wonderment of the learning process and now life becomes drudgery. As we grow up, life becomes an attempt to earn someone's love and respect. Life is no longer fun but rather a competitive struggle. As we move from early childhood into our teen and adult years, we gradually exchange our desire to be happy for our need to be right. Constant judgment leads us to
sacrifice our happiness so that we can claim we are right even when we are dead wrong. Rightness, not our happiness, becomes the major objective of our life.

As a tool to help maintain my focus on the spiritual goal of escaping earthly bounds, I decided to change my last name. I wanted to maintain a young child's attitude of wonderment while I learned to awaken from the nightmare of earthly limitations. I wanted to awaken to my true spiritual essence. In short, I desired enlightenment. Since I wanted to awaken from my childhood nightmare yet maintain the wonderment of the young child, I selected “Wake-Child” to be my new last name. By doing this, I would be constantly reminded of my spiritual goal. Anytime I heard, spoke or wrote my last name, I would be constantly reminded of my true life purpose.

The Journey

By my mid-20s, I was already an instructor for the School of Metaphysics. This is where I learned about manifestation or the creation process. Utilizing these tools of manifestation, I moved into the business world. I started a new lucrative and successful business consulting firm. What differentiated my firm from my competitors was that rather than just focus on the bottom line, we were equally concerned with the lifestyle of the owners and their employees. By moving into the competitive world of business, I was able to meld the esoteric with the material. I became a practical mystic. I learned to operate in the world but not necessarily be of the world. While operating this business, I continued to seek spiritual growth by delving into both Eastern religious practices and Western self-help programs. In the late 1990s, I was fortunate to work with Harry Palmer as an Avatar Wizard. Harry's work provided the key to unlocking the power of what I would call discretion. Now I seemed to have both sides of the equation. The School of Metaphysics had taught the principles of manifestation and Avatar taught how to discreate any beliefs that no longer served me. You would think that having the power to create and discreate would result in the elimination of fear. But this was not the case. Instead, what I had learned was how to manage and mitigate fear. Yet, the elimination of all fear remained an unrealized and elusive goal.

Moving the Rig

When looking for oil, people tend to place an oil rig in one location and continue to drill the hole wider and deeper with the hopes that if they go wide and deep enough, they may eventually hit a pocket of oil. Others play it safe and drill in the vicinity of an already proven field. This method tends to reduce the risk of total failure. Yet, the overall gain in new oil is rather minimal. The new well is merely siphoning off part of the proven reserves of the old well. Yet, if we look historically, we will find that most new oil fields are discovered not by drilling wider and deeper, but by pulling the rig and moving it to a totally different area.

If we are to escape fear, one must be willing to examine their fear-based belief system. If your belief system is based on fear, you can dig deeper and deeper into the field of fear and yet never escape from fear. Why? Because you remain digging in the
domain of fear. Since you refuse to leave the field of fear, the mitigation and management of fear becomes the only favorable scenario that could possibly be achieved. In order to escape fear, one must be willing to explore a thought system that is not fear based. *A Course In Miracles* (ACIM) offers a new paradigm that allows the student to shift from a fear based thought system to one that is love based. ACIM offers the student a methodology to examine the beliefs that make up their current thought system. Once examined, if these beliefs are determined to be incapable of securing the prize that one seeks, it is insanity to expect different results by continuing to follow that same failed belief system. If one discovers that their beliefs about God, their world, and who they are consistently leaves them in fear, sanity would require that one look in another direction. You need to stop drilling in the field of fear and go somewhere else. You need to tell yourself that there must be a better way. ACIM offers an approach that not only allows you to minimize and mitigate your fears but offers a way out of fear itself.

In 2004, I first became aware of *A Course in Miracles*. Yet, when I first picked up the book, I realized that ACIM provided the missing link that had prevented me from achieving my goal of overcoming fear. It was a complete philosophical thought system that also contained a series of workbook lessons that if followed, would allow the ideas to move from the mind to the heart. The Holy Spirit seemed to call to me and I was ready. Although the Eastern religions had talked about the world as being an illusion, this concept had never really made much sense to me. Experience had taught me that this so-called world of illusion could not be the work of a loving God. ACIM instead clearly states that God did not create this world. We did. And with that one thought, all the pieces of the puzzle fit together. This world is not a world of physical reality. Instead, it is a world of individuated perception. Our perception makes our experiences which we perceive to be our reality. As *A Course in Miracles* states, “If God made this world, He indeed would be cruel.” As long as I perceive my world to be created by God, I would always be able to blame God for creating this world that blocked true happiness for myself and my loved ones. For any god that created this world could not be a God of unconditional love. As long as God's love was not unconditional, it would have to mean that love was conditional at best and more likely impossible. You could never escape fear for there would always be the implied threat that God could withdraw His love if you failed to make the grade. If God's love was conditional, it implied that God was constantly judging us to determine whether or not His love should be withdrawn. Love would have to be earned. If God did not create my world of individual perception, then God indeed could still be a loving God. This thought gave me the confidence to move the drilling rig from the field of fear to the field of love. ACIM says there are two emotions, fear and love. Each emotion has a thought system associated with it. Only in a love based thought system can fear be made to disappear into the nothingness from which it arose. Only love can bring us home.

**The New Visionary Dream**

I was walking through a deep forest. Suddenly I came to a clearing. I realized it was not just a clearing but the end of the forest. There, before me was a vast plain. There was a wall that divided the plain into two separate halves. On my side, the land was
parched and dry. On the other side, green fields seemed to stretch into infinity. I approached the wall. It was thick, made of stone and too high for me to reach the top and pull myself over. I kept jumping but to no avail as the top remained just beyond my reach. I struggled to find a handhold that would give me the additional leverage that I needed if I was to reach the top. Finally, after many attempts, I was able to grab the top of the wall and I struggled to pull myself over the top. I succeeded. I laid resting on the top of the wall. The wall was about four feet thick so one could safely stand upon it. As I laid on the wall, I heard a voice from the other side telling me to jump off the wall and claim my prize. I stood up on the wall and looked over the lush landscape and admired my prize. The other person at the base of the wall was there to help me. He was an angel. The angel exclaimed, “You've made it. Your home. Quickly jump and claim your prize.” Yet, just before I jumped to the safety of the other side, I paused for a moment and looked back upon the land that I had traversed. In the distance, there seemed to be some movement. I strained my eyes and was able to determine that another person was attempting to escape from that same forest. I yelled at the top of my lungs and waved my arms. He saw me. He started running towards me. The angel once again implored me to jump and save myself. I paused, and calmly said. “No, someone is coming. Let me help him scale this wall. It will only take a minute.” As the young man approached, I once again laid flat on the wall with my hand outstretched. The young man grasped my hand and I easily pulled him up. I then told him to jump down to save himself. He did not hesitate. He jumped down and he was home. Once again I stood on the top of the wall and prepared to jump down and join my comrade. But before I jumped, I heard someone else cry out from the distance. Another person had made their way out of the forest. Once again I hesitated, than decided to resume my post on top of the wall. Again, the angel told me to save myself. “Just one more,” I said. I got down on that wall and pulled my brother over. Before I could even get up, I saw another and yet another. They were now coming fast out of the woods and I called back to the angel and said. “Just one more! Just one more!”

I got caught up in the enthusiasm of helping each one over the wall. I was straddling this wall and pulling people over the top, yet I had forgotten that my goal had always been to get to the other side. I had wanted to be home. Finally I felt a strong arm on my shoulder. It was the angel. He pulled me to my feet. I was now standing face to face with the angel on top of the wall. I told him, “Leave me alone. There are other people to help.” Then the angel stepped back and physically turned me so that I could see down the length of the wall. And there on top of that wall that had been so empty were hundreds of people laying flat helping others over the wall. It seemed that some of the people that I had helped over the top had also stopped and joined in helping their brothers and sisters get home. Next, I saw a man who had been standing on top of the wall being handed a sledgehammer. He started pounding the top of the wall with that hammer. He pounded on the wall until finally a single stone gave way. Then another fell off. Then someone else grabbed a sledgehammer and started working next to the first man, enlarging the opening in the wall. Now the people at the base of the wall started clawing at the opening. They too began pulling the stones down. Finally, the opening had reached the ground and the people just started pouring through the wall. And then, the angel took my hand and together we jumped down. My work was over and I was home.
PROLOGUE

What I did and why?

1) I have taken what is commonly referred to as the second edition of the text of A COURSE IN MIRACLES and replaced pronouns and unclear references with their antecedents or meanings. This was done in an effort to clarify the text by making it more readable to the student. These changes are clearly noted and highlighted in bold print. Students are encouraged to cross-reference the highlighted bold print areas with their favorite version of the text. I believe that the substitution of pronouns and unclear references with their antecedents or meanings will make the text more readable, yet, at times, it will appear rather redundant. In some cases the reference is clarified in previous, current or following paragraphs. I have attempted to err on the redundant side rather than leave an area unclear as to what the pronoun might be referencing.

2) I have added notes or commentaries below each ACIM paragraph to assist the reader in their own interpretation of the paragraph. As we move through the text, the notes will become more extensive. I have attempted not to expand the comments beyond what has previously been mentioned in the text. Often, due to the circular nature of the text, previous areas that interrelate may be mentioned although most notes will directly relate to the current passage. These notes are designed to foster discussion and clarity, not to limit ideas and prevent expansion. Each person is on their own perfect and unique path. Each will benefit from their own independent or group studies. By offering this paragraph-by-paragraph format, we believe that the student will be assisted toward a more rewarding and expansive learning experience. Your choice of paths will always be the perfect path for you.

We have often come in contact with people who have dismissed ACIM as unreadable and too complex to study on their own or even in a group setting. This formatted material will allow an individual to move through the text in a timely and comprehensive manner. Most group classes take years before even one reading of the entire text has been completed. Often, they must rely upon second-hand resources and “experts”. This text will aid both group and independent, private study. It provides enough information to foster discussion and meditation for the serious inquirer. Never blindly accept another’s explanation but rather go within and follow your own inner guide’s advice.

If you are already involved in a private or group study plan and would like more information or perhaps adopt ACIM for Dummies as your preferred core source material, please feel free to contact us at our website at: acourseinmiraclesfordummies.com or at ACIMfordummies.com. We offer online, local and private classes. You can also register your approved ACIM for Dummies class at on our website or contact us for classes in your area.

Note: Page references (p #) are to the actual page number in the second edition text of A Course in Miracles.
INTRODUCTION

T-in.1. This is a course in miracles. 2 The course in miracles is a required course. 3 Only the time you take the course is voluntary. 4 Free will does not mean that you can establish the curriculum. 5 Free will means only that you can elect what you want to take at a given time. 6 The course does not aim at teaching the meaning of love, for that is beyond what can be taught. 7 The Course does aim, however, at removing the blocks to the awareness of love's presence, which is your natural inheritance. 8 The opposite of love is fear, but what is all-encompassing can have no opposite.

T-in.2. This course can therefore be summed up very simply in this way:

2 Nothing real can be threatened.
3 Nothing unreal exists.

4 Herein lies the peace of God.

Note # 1: Miracles reflect a change in your thinking. Thus, at some point in your awareness, you must change your thinking about how you perceive yourself and your surroundings. Free will only allows you the ability to decide the timing of when you will elect to reawaken to your spiritual magnificence, which is the truth about yourself. The miracle aims to remove the blocks to love. Although we perceive that there are two emotions, love and fear, fear is not a part of the Mind of God and is not real. Love is all encompassing and the truth of “All That Is.” Free will allows us to deny the truth that only love exists, yet, our denial cannot change the truth. What is truth cannot be threatened by our deluded fantasies.
Chapter 1. THE MEANING OF MIRACLES

I. Principles of Miracles

Note # 2: This section, entitled “Principles of Miracles,” forms the basis for the text. This being the case, we have not attempted to add detailed explanations after each paragraph since this will be done throughout the rest of the book. It is not necessary that you understand each point at this moment. The writing style of ACIM is circular and symphonic rather than linear. Each area will be introduced and interlaced over and over with additional details being added as we proceed. What is not immediately clear now may be clarified later in the reading. We encourage the student to study and reflect on what you are currently covering but do not get bogged down over a particular section. Continue to progress through the text remembering that with each reading, your understanding will become richer and more comprehensive. The notes will aid you on this journey. Remember, intellectual understanding is not the goal; rather incorporating the teaching into your life’s experience is the quest that we intend to achieve.

T-1.I.1. There is no order of difficulty in miracles. 2 One miracle is not "harder" or "bigger" than another. 3. Miracles are all the same. 4 All miracles are expressions of love and are maximal.

T-1.I.2. Miracles as such do not matter. 2 The only thing that matters about miracles is their Source, which is God, Who is far beyond evaluation.

T-1.I.3. Miracles occur naturally as expressions of love. 2 The real miracle is the love that inspires the miracle. 3 In this sense everything that comes from love is a miracle.

T-1.I.4. All miracles mean life, and God is the Giver of life. 2 God’s Voice will direct you very specifically. 3. You will be told by God all you need to know.

T-1.I.5. Miracles are habits, and should be involuntary. 2 Miracles should not be under conscious control. 3 Consciously selected miracles can be misguided.

T-1.I.6. Miracles are natural. 2 When miracles do not occur something has gone wrong.

T-1.I.7. Miracles are everyone’s right, but purification is necessary first.

T-1.I.8. Miracles are healing because they supply a lack; Miracles are performed by those who temporarily have more for those who temporarily have less.
T-1.I.9. Miracles are a kind of exchange. 2 Like all expressions of love, which are always miraculous in the true sense, the exchange reverses the physical laws. 3 Miracles bring more love both to the giver <and> the receiver.

T-1.I.10. The use of miracles as spectacles to induce belief is a misunderstanding of their purpose.

Note # 3: Miracles are a change in perception within the mind of the individual involved. As such, there may be no observable change in the physical realm that someone outside the mind of the miracle worker might notice on the physical level.

T-1.I.11. Prayer is the medium of miracles. 2 Prayer is a means of communication of the created with the Creator. 3 Through prayer love is received, and through miracles love is expressed.

Note # 4: Prayer is defined by ACIM as a means of communication of the created with the Creator.

T-1.I.12. Miracles are thoughts. 2 Thoughts can represent the lower or bodily level of experience, or thoughts can represent the higher or spiritual level of experience. 3 One (ego or body level) makes the physical, and the other (spiritual level) creates the spiritual. P3

T-1.I.13. Miracles are both beginnings and endings, and so miracles alter the temporal order. 2 Miracles are always affirmations of rebirth, which seem to go back but really go forward. 3 Miracles undo the past in the present, and thus release the future.

Note # 5: Miracles take place in the realm of time.

T-1.I.14. Miracles bear witness to truth. 2 Miracles are convincing because they arise from conviction. 3 Without conviction miracles would deteriorate into magic, this deterioration would make miracles into magic. Magic is mindless and therefore destructive; or rather, magic is the uncreative use of mind.

Note # 6: Miracles and magic are not the same. On the physical realm of time and space, they both may appear to affect the physical realm of form and, thus, appear to give the same physically observable results. Miracles are based on the natural order of truth, while magic is based on limitation and belief in lack. The difference between miracles and magic will be cover in greater depth later in the text.

T-1.I.15. Each day should be devoted to miracles. 2 The purpose of time is to enable you to learn how to use time constructively. 3 Time is thus a teaching device and a means to an end. 4 Time will cease when time is no longer useful in facilitating learning.

T-1.I.16. Miracles are teaching devices for demonstrating it is as blessed to give as to
receive. **Miracles** simultaneously increase the strength of the giver and supply strength to the receiver.

**T-1.I.17.** Miracles transcend the body. **Miracles** are sudden shifts into invisibility, away from the bodily level. 3 That is why **miracles** heal.

**Note # 7:** Miracles take place at the level of mind. Mind is in the non-physical realm of spirit. All healing takes place at the level of mind. Miracles may or may not be readily observable at the bodily or physical level.

**T-1.I.18.** A miracle is a service. **A miracle** is the maximal service you can render to another. 3 **A miracle** is a way of loving your neighbor as yourself. 4 **In a miracle,** you recognize your own and your neighbor's worth simultaneously.

**T-1.I.19.** Miracles make minds one in God. **Miracles** depend on cooperation because the Sonship is the sum of all that God created. 3 Miracles therefore reflect the laws of eternity, not **the laws** of time.

**Note # 8:** ACIM defines the Sonship as the sum of all God created as God created it.

**T-1.I.20.** Miracles reawaken the awareness that the spirit, not the body, is the altar of truth. 2 This **reawakening of the awareness that the spirit is the altar of truth** is the recognition that leads to the healing power of the miracle.

**T-1.I.21.** Miracles are natural signs of forgiveness. 2 Through miracles you accept God's forgiveness by extending **God’s forgiveness** to others.

**T-1.I.22.** Miracles are associated with fear only because of the belief that darkness can hide. 2 You believe that what your physical eyes cannot see does not exist. 3 This **belief that what your physical eyes cannot see does not exist** leads to a denial of spiritual sight.

**Note # 9:** Physical sight deals with physical form. ACIM makes a distinction between physical seeing and spiritual sight. ACIM will later refer to spiritual sight by the term **vision.**

**T-1.I.23.** Miracles rearrange perception and place all levels in true perspective. 2 This **placing of all levels in true perspective** is healing because sickness comes from confusing the levels. **Because of true perspective, the miracle does not confuse the spiritual level of experience with bodily level of experience.**

**Note # 10:** The miracle corrects errors in our perception. The miracle transforms an experience that we perceived through fearful eyes and realigns our understanding of that same experience with true perception. This transformation takes place at the level of the mind, which is where the error originally occurred.
Miracles enable you to heal the sick and raise the dead because you made sickness and death yourself, and **you** can therefore abolish both sickness and death. **2**

You are a miracle, capable of creating in the likeness of your Creator. 3 Everything else that is made by you not in the likeness of your Creator is your own nightmare, and does not exist. 4 Only the creations of light are real.

**Note # 11:** God did not create sickness and death. We did. Because we made sickness and death, we must have the power to discreate them.

Miracles are part of an interlocking chain of forgiveness which, when completed, is the Atonement. **2** Atonement works all the time and in all the dimensions of time. **p4**

Miracles represent freedom from fear. **2** "Atoning" means "undoing." **3** The undoing of fear is an essential part of the Atonement value of miracles.

A miracle is a universal blessing from God through me, **who** you **historically** have known by the name of Jesus, which **represents** the Christ consciousness, to all my brothers. **2** This universal blessing, which is the miracle, is the privilege of the forgiven to forgive.

Miracles are a way of earning release from fear. **2** Revelation induces a state in which fear has already been abolished. **3** Miracles are thus a means and revelation is an end.

**Note # 12:** Miracles are thus a means to the earning of release from fear while revelation is an end to the abolishment of the state of fear.

Miracles praise God through you. **2** Miracles praise God by honoring God’s creations, thus affirming the perfection of God’s creations. **3** Miracles heal because miracles deny body-identification and affirm spirit-identification.

**Note # 13:** Miracles occur at the level of mind, not at the level of the physical. They are the recognition that we are spirit and not “the body”.

By recognizing spirit, miracles adjust the levels of perception and show the levels of perception in proper alignment. **2** This places spirit at the center, where spirit can communicate directly.

**Note # 14:** The miracle transforms misperception into correct perception. We perceive our spiritual essence, not the body-form.

Miracles should inspire gratitude, not awe. **2** You should thank God for what you really are, which is your spiritual essence as a child of God. **3** The children of God are holy and the miracle honors their holiness. Your holiness as a child of God can be hidden or forgotten by you, but your holiness can never be lost.
NOTE # 15: We can forget who we are (God’s children) but we will always be Sons of God. Our divine inheritance is never lost. We have just temporarily forgotten to claim it. Our divine inheritance as God’s children is always available to us. God never takes our inheritance away since God only see us as God created us, always perfect, whole and complete.

T-1.I.32.1, who represents the Christ consciousness, inspire all miracles, which are really intercessions. 2 Miracles intercede for your holiness and make your perceptions holy. 3 By placing you beyond the physical laws, miracles raise you into the sphere of celestial order. 4 In this celestial order of unlimited spirit you <are> perfect.

Note # 16: Miracles follow the Laws of God and not the laws of this physical world.

T-1.I.33. Miracles honor you because you are lovable. 2 Miracles dispel illusions about yourself and perceive the light in you. 3 Miracles thus atone for your errors by freeing you from your nightmares. 4 By releasing your mind from the imprisonment of your illusions, miracles restore your sanity.

Note # 17: Miracles allow you to look past the physical body, to the true spiritual nature of all that you perceive.

T-1.I.34. Miracles restore the mind to its fullness. 2 By atoning for lack, miracles establish perfect protection. 3 The spirit's strength leaves no room for intrusions.

NOTE # 18: Due to your current belief that you are a limited ego-body, your mind appears to have been split into two parts. Your higher self, your Big “S” Self or Christ consciousness, knows that you remain God’s prefect and sinless Son. Your egoic mind, your small “s” self, is under the delusion that you are a separate, limited ego-body with a separate will that could oppose God’s Will. The miracle brings you to the reality of what you really are, God’s beloved Son. Although this truth that you are the sinless Oneness of the Mind of God appears to be only momentarily in your consciousness, it is the ultimate truth, which we all will someday recognize. When we accept Oneness for ourselves, this truth is the Atonement and the return to the shared One Self that is the Mind of God.

T-1.I.35. Miracles are expressions of love, but miracles may not always have observable effects.

Note # 19: Miracles take place within the mind of the miracle-maker, not on the level of physicality.

T-1.I.36. Miracles are examples of right thinking. Through right thinking the miracle aligns your perceptions with truth as God created truth.

Note # 20: Miracles correct misperceptions and allow for our experience to better align with what is the truth at the spiritual level.
T-1.I.37. A miracle is a correction introduced into false thinking by me, who represents the Christ consciousness. 2 The miracle acts as a catalyst by breaking up erroneous perception and reorganizing the erroneous perception properly. 3 This places you under the Atonement principle, where the erroneous perception is healed. 4 Until this placing of yourself under the Atonement principle has occurred, knowledge of the Divine Order is impossible.

Note # 21: As long as we follow the erroneous egoic thinking of our split mind, we will tend to misperceive all our experiences. The higher consciousness of Christ is needed to move beyond our fallacious egoic thinking and return us to right-mindedness.

T-1.I.38. The Holy Spirit is the mechanism of miracles. 2 The Holy Spirit recognizes both God's creations and your illusions. 3 The Holy Spirit separates the true from the false by the Holy Spirit's ability to perceive totally rather than selectively.

Note # 22: The Holy Spirit has both the ability to know the truth of what you are and, yet, is also aware that you believe yourself to be something separate from God. As such, the Holy Spirit is the only One, Who has the complete story. The Holy Spirit knows the “Big Picture”. This unique perspective of the “Big Picture” allows the Holy Spirit to act as the mechanism for miracles.

T-1.I.39. The miracle dissolves error because the Holy Spirit identifies error as false or unreal. 2 This dissolving of error is the same as saying that by perceiving light, darkness automatically disappears.

Note # 23: Whenever we awaken from a dream, we realize that the dream had no affect upon the truth. As the dreamer, we need only recognize that we were dreaming and then the dream fades away.

T-1.I.40. The miracle acknowledges everyone as your brother and mine. 2 The miracle is a way of perceiving the universal mark of God.

Note # 24: The miracle sees the Christ consciousness in all. It looks past physical appearance and beholds the truth that when God created us, He extended all of Himself. God as Cause and we as His Effect are the totality of the perfect, the whole and the complete. The Sonship can only be like Its Source, which is only Love.

T-1.I.41. Wholeness is the perceptual content of miracles. 2 The miracles through wholeness thus correct or atone for, the faulty perception of lack.

Note # 25: Although we can imagine that we lack something, we always remain part of the One Self. There can be no separation in a Oneness of “All That Is.”

T-1.I.42. A major contribution of miracles is their strength in releasing you from your false sense of isolation, deprivation and lack.
T-1.I.43. Miracles arise from a miraculous state of mind, or a state of miracle-readiness.

T-1.I.44. The miracle is an expression of an inner awareness of Christ and the acceptance of His Atonement.

T-1.I.45. A miracle is never lost. A miracle may touch many people you have not even met, and produce undreamed of changes in situations of which you are not even aware.

Note # 26: Since the miracle is a change in perception, we cannot always observe the total impact that a miracle has. The Holy Spirit insures that a miracle is never wasted but always provides maximal benefit.

T-1.I.46. The Holy Spirit is the highest communication medium. Miracles do not involve this highest type of communication, because miracles are <temporary> communication devices. When you return to your original form of communication with God by direct revelation, the need for miracles is over.

T-1.I.47. The miracle is a learning device that lessens the need for time. The miracle establishes an out-of-pattern time interval not under the usual laws of time. In this sense the miracle is timeless.

Note # 27: Time is the measure of change in minds that perceive themselves to be separate from the Oneness of “All That Is.” Miracles speed up change and thus, time. The miracle transcends the normal linear pattern that comprises the elements of time that we call the past, present and future.

T-1.I.48. The miracle is the only device at your immediate disposal for controlling time. Only revelation transcends time, since revelation has nothing to do with time at all.

Note # 28: Since time is the measure of change, miracles allow for both the compression of time and the speeding up of change.

T-1.I.49. The miracle makes no distinction among degrees of misperception. The miracle is a device for perception correction, effective quite apart from either the degree or the direction of the error. This lack of distinction among degrees of misperception is the miracles true indiscriminateness.

Note # 29: There is no degree of difficulty in miracles since all miracles deal with the some fundamental principle. All bring the false before the truth. All forms of illusion are equally false. Once you identify a dream as a dream, you merely need to awaken and the dream disappears. The size or scope of the dream does not matter to the awakened mind.

T-1.I.50. The miracle compares what you have made with creation, accepting what is in accord with creation as true, and rejecting what is out of accord with creation as false.
**Note # 30:** Creation is based on love and love’s extension. Making is based on fear and exclusion and lack. Only loving thoughts align with creation. Both in **T-1.I. 24** and this paragraph, ACIM mentions creation and making. What is the difference? When the mind sees itself as a limited ego-body, the mind is unable to create like God. This mind is ruled by fear rather than love. When we allow our egoic self to identify and perceive itself to be “the body,” we deny our spiritual nature. We no longer see ourselves as God’s Son or God’s Creation. Since God is only Love, creation is the extension of Love. Fear is the opposite of love. Fear is the mistaken belief that there could be something other than love. Since we are attempting to create out of fear, we believe that we lack something. We fail to claim our divine birthright as God’s Son and, therefore, are unable to act as co-creators with our Father. Because of this belief that we are a limited ego-body, we believe that we are separate from our Source and are incomplete without our Father. We perceive that we lack the wholeness of the Mind of God. Thus, our “creations” are also limited and lack wholeness. Our failed attempts at creation are not real since what we “make” is not an extension of the wholeness that is the Mind of God. What the egoic mind “makes” is not perfect, whole, nor complete since it is attempting to create from the perspective of fear and lack. Making is the product of fear, limitation and lack. Making’s purpose is to exclude.

God is only perfect love and thus, could know nothing that could be fearful, limited or lacking. When God created the Sonship, His creation was the perfect extension of God, Himself. An extension is part of, not separate from, its source. Love, which is both extension and inclusion, are not part of egoic thinking. Egoic making attempts to create an illusionary image that appears to confirm the erroneous belief that there is a separation between God and His Son. Making is the Sonship’s attempt to take our mistaken perception about our imagined separation from the Oneness that we call God and make the separation appear real. Making appears to take place at the level of the physical body and is observable by the physical eyes. When we utilize our egoic mind to make something that is not the extension of Love, we have miscreated. Miscreation cannot be real and only appears real within the mind of the deluded dreamer. Within the dream of separation from the Oneness, our egoic mind can believe that we have created something unlike the Oneness of the Mind of God. Since creation is the extension of the Oneness that is the Mind of God, there could be nothing outside this One Self. The Sonship’s belief that he is separate from his source is a false fantasy. A fantasy cannot change the truth and thus, this dream is not real. Truth is real and truth cannot change. This egoic “making” of an illusionary dream world that is “something apart from God” can exist only in the make-believe world of our egoic mind. Because we have been given free will, we are able to imagine a dream about anything we like, but our dream cannot change the truth of “All That Is.” In the dream world of the egoic body-mind, we can pretend that anything, including limitation, separation and lack are real. Yet, a mistaken belief in the false cannot change the changeless truth that we are an indivisible part of the One Self that is the Mind of God.

**Note # 31 - General Comment:** These first fifty items describe the nature of a miracle. Miracles are a change in thinking that may or may not result in a physically observable change. Miracles take place at the level of mind, not necessarily at the physical bodily
level. The Course uses the rest of the text to explain the why, how, what, where and when that make this curriculum about miracles a required course.

II. Revelation, Time and Miracles

T-1.II.1. Revelation induces complete but temporary suspension of doubt and fear. 2 Revelation reflects the original form of communication between God and His creations, involving the extremely personal sense of creation sometimes sought in physical relationships. 3 Physical closeness cannot achieve revelation. 4 Miracles, however, are genuinely interpersonal, and result in true closeness to others. 5 Revelation unites you directly with God. 6 Miracles unite you directly with your brother. 7 Neither revelation nor miracles emanates from consciousness, but both revelation and miracles are experienced from consciousness. 8 Consciousness is the state that induces action, though consciousness does not inspire action. 9 You are free to believe what you choose, and what you do choose attests to what you believe.

Note # 32: Free will allows us the opportunity to believe anything that we like, but our beliefs cannot change the truth of the Mind of God. What we choose to perceive is the direct result of what we chose to believe. If we wish to believe that fear exists, we will make a body of evidence that will appear to support our belief that fear is real. Revelation is based on the knowledge of truth. Perception is not based on knowledge, but rather on the false belief that you are separate from the Mind of God. If you believed correctly that you were a Oneness of “All That Is,” there would be nothing outside yourself to perceive. A miracle deals with the illusion of separation and corrects a false misperception that is found within the egocic mind’s dream that envisions fear to be real. The miracle corrects this mistake in thinking and you realize that the false cannot threaten the truth of what you are which is an extension of the one Mind of God.

T-1.II.2. Revelation is intensely personal and cannot be meaningfully translated. 2 That is why any attempt to describe revelation in words is impossible. 3 Revelation induces only experience. 4 Miracles, on the other hand, induce action. 5 Miracles are more useful now because of their interpersonal nature. 6 In this phase of learning, working miracles is important because freedom from fear cannot be thrust upon you. 7 Revelation is literally unspeakable because revelation is an experience of unspeakable love.

Note # 32: Miracles deal with the realm of perception. Perception requires our belief that there is both the observer and something to observe. Thus, it implies our belief in separation and a relationship between something that is perceived to be apart from itself. Perception involves thinking, which forms the basis for when and what we choose to perceive. Revelation does not involve thinking. It is the experiencing of that knowing.

T-1.II.3. Awe should be reserved for revelation, to which awe is perfectly and correctly applicable. 2 Awe is not appropriate for miracles because a state of awe is worshipful, implying that one of a lesser order stands before his Creator. 3 You are a perfect creation,
and should experience awe only in the Presence of the Creator of perfection. 4 The miracle is therefore a sign of love among equals. 5 Equals should not be in awe of one another because awe implies inequality. 6 Awe is therefore an inappropriate reaction to me, whom you historical have known by the name of Jesus. 7 An elder brother is entitled to respect for his greater experience, and obedience for his greater wisdom. 8 An elder brother is also entitled to love because he is a brother, and to devotion if he is devoted. 9 It is only my devotion that entitles me to your devotion. 10 There is nothing about me that you cannot attain. 11 I have nothing that does not come from God. 12 The difference between us now is that I have nothing else but what comes from God. 13 This leaves me in a state which is only potential in you.

Note # 33: Jesus is stating that he is no different from you. The only current difference is that his experience as an older brother has led him to reawaken to the fact that he is not a limited ego-body. Instead, he understands the reality of himself as part of the Oneness that is an extension of the Mind of God. When we drop our belief in fear and separation, we too will remember the truth of what we are.

T-1.II.4."No man cometh unto the Father but by me" does not mean that I, whom you call by the name of Jesus, am in any way separate or different from you except in time, and time does not really exist. 2 The statement, "No man cometh unto the Father but by me", is more meaningful in terms of a vertical rather than a horizontal axis. 3 You stand below me and I stand below God. 4 In the process of "rising up," I am higher because without me the distance between God and man would be too great for you to encompass. 5 I bridge the distance as an elder brother to you on the one hand, and as a Son of God on the other. 6 My devotion to my brothers has placed me in charge of the Sonship, which I render complete because I share in the Sonship. 7 This may appear to contradict the statement "I and my Father are one," but there are two parts to the statement in recognition that the Father is greater.

Note # 34: Jesus states that the following two statements, "No man cometh unto the Father but by me" and "I and my Father are one," appear to be contradictory but are not. The first statement demonstrates that we need the help of our elder brother, Jesus, to clear our path back to the knowledge of God. The second statement indicates that creation is extension and thus, there can be no separation between God and His Creation. God is Cause and we are His Effect. As such, we are intertwined and inseparable. The only difference between God and the Sonship is that the Father is the first Cause. We, being an extension, have the same power to co-create with God.

T-1.II.5.Revelations are indirectly inspired by me because I am close to the Holy Spirit, and I am alert to the revelation-readiness of my brothers. 2 I can thus bring down to my brothers more than they can draw down to themselves. 3 The Holy Spirit mediates higher to lower communication thus keeping the direct channel from God to you open for revelation. 4 Revelation is not reciprocal. 5 Revelation proceeds from God to you, but revelation do not proceed from you to God.

Note # 35: Revelation is a one-way street. The flow is always from God to His Creations.
T-1.II.6. The miracle minimizes the need for time. 2 In the longitudinal or horizontal plane the recognition of the equality of the members of the Sonship appears to involve almost endless time. 3 However, the miracle entails a sudden shift from horizontal to vertical perception. 4 This sudden shift from horizontal to vertical perception introduces an interval from which the giver and receiver both emerge farther along in time than they would otherwise have been. 5 The miracle thus has the unique property of abolishing time to the extent that the miracle renders the interval of time it spans unnecessary. 6 There is no relationship between the time a miracle takes and the time the miracle covers. 7 The miracle substitutes for learning that might have taken thousands of years. 8 The miracle does so by the underlying recognition of perfect equality of giver and receiver on which the miracle rests. 9 The miracle shortens time by collapsing time, thus eliminating certain intervals within time. 10 The miracle does this, however, within the larger temporal sequence.

Note # 36: The miracle reduces the need for time by removing from the mind of the miracle worker the idea of separation. Instead, the concept of separation is replaced by the awareness of the truth of there is a spiritual oneness with each brother. It joins what was perceived as separate and thus, “speeds up time.” In this joining, both the giver and the receiver benefit from this joint realization of their spiritual equality. When the “miracle giver” goes from the mindset of an ego-body, separate and apart, to the mindset of being the perfect, sinless and guiltless Son of God, he also sees his brother this same way. Their shared equality is recognized. Thus, both advance toward the path to truth. Miracles are part of an interlocking chain of forgiveness which, when completed, is the Atonement. A miracle affects the entire Sonship and all seemingly separate parts benefit. This is why the entire Sonship benefited by Jesus’ realization of what he truly was. The entire Sonship, which is all God created as God created it, are all joined as one mind.

III. Atonement and Miracles

T-1.III.1. I am in charge of the process of Atonement, which I undertook to begin. 2 When you offer a miracle to any of my brothers, you do it to <yourself> and me. 3 The reason you come before me is that I do not need miracles for my own Atonement, but I stand at the end in case you fail temporarily. 4 My part in the Atonement is the canceling out of all errors that you could not otherwise correct. 5 When you have been restored to the recognition of your original state before the separation, you naturally become part of the Atonement yourself. 6 As you share my unwillingness to accept error in yourself and others, you must join the great crusade to correct errors in yourself and others; listen to my voice, learn to undo error and act to correct error. 7 The power to work miracles belongs to you. 8 I will provide the opportunities to do miracles, but you must be ready and willing to do the miracles. 9 Doing the miracles will bring conviction in the ability you process to do miracles, because conviction comes through accomplishment. 10 In regards to performing miracles, the ability is the potential, the achievement is its expression, and the Atonement, which is the natural profession of the
children of God, is the purpose of miracles.

**Note # 37:** Jesus is a symbol for the Holy Spirit and Christ consciousness. Jesus is like the older brother that has already made the journey back to the truth of what we are. He is capable of guiding us along this journey to our reawakening of our knowledge that we are part of the One Self that is the Mind of God. Jesus stands ready to assist us whenever we believe we cannot accomplish the task alone. This dream of separation gives us the opportunity to reclaim our ability to perform miracles and to relearn how to accomplish them. By expressing forgiveness and love, we play our part in the miracle and the Atonement process. Miracles are part of an interlocking chain of forgiveness which, when completed, is the Atonement.

T-1.III.2."Heaven and earth shall pass away" means that heaven and earth will not continue to exist as separate states. 2 My word, which is the resurrection and the life, shall not pass away because life is eternal. 3 You are the work of God, and His work is wholly lovable and wholly loving. 4 This is how a man must think of himself in his heart, because this is what he is, wholly lovable and wholly loving.

**Note # 38:** Heaven and earth are not physical places but rather states of mind. When we reawaken to the truth, we will rediscover that only love is real and that we are an expression of that love.

T-1.III.3. The forgiven are the means of the Atonement. 2 Being filled with spirit, the forgiven forgive in return. 3 Those who are released (the forgiven) must join in releasing their brothers, for this is the plan of the Atonement. 4 Miracles are the way in which minds that serve the Holy Spirit unite with me for the salvation or release of all of God's creations.

**Note # 39:** We cannot be a part of the Atonement and accept it for ourselves unless we are willing to both give and receive forgiveness to all including ourselves.

T-1.III.4. I am the only one who can perform miracles indiscriminately, because I am the Atonement. 2 You have a role in the Atonement which I will dictate to you. 3 Ask me which miracles you should perform. 4 By asking me what miracles you should perform, this spares you needless effort, because you will be acting under direct communication. 5 The impersonal nature of the miracle is an essential ingredient, because the impersonal nature of the miracle enables me to direct the miracle's application, and under my guidance miracles lead to the highly personal experience of revelation. 6 A guide does not control but the guide does direct, leaving it up to you to follow. 7 "Lead us not into temptation" means "Recognize your errors and choose to abandon your errors by following my guidance."

**Note # 40:** We need guidance from someone who has both the road map and the ability to successfully read the map. Jesus or the Holy Spirit can provide this guidance. Our egoic mind lacks both the map and the ability to read it.
T-1.III.5. Error cannot really threaten truth, for truth can always withstand error. Only the error, not truth, is actually vulnerable. You are free to establish your kingdom where you see fit, but the right choice for determining where you place your kingdom is inevitable if you remember this: p9

4 Spirit is in a state of grace forever.
5 Your reality is only spirit.
6 Therefore you are in a state of grace forever.

7 Atonement undoes all errors in this respect that you believe in the false and thus uproots the source of fear. Whenever you experience God's reassurances as threat, this supposed threat is always because you are defending misplaced or misdirected loyalty. When you project misplaced loyalty to others you imprison them, but only to the extent to which you reinforce errors the others have already made. This makes the others vulnerable to the distortions of other ego bodies, since their own perception of themselves is distorted. The miracle worker can only bless them, and this undoes their distortions and frees them from prison.

NOTE # 41: The Atonement is the acceptance of the truth, which in turn corrects erroneous thinking. Erroneous thinking occurs whenever you perceive yourself to be something other than the unlimited spirit of the Son of God. We have accepted the belief that we are a limited ego-body. You will establish your kingdom based on what you perceive yourself to be. Are you an unlimited spiritual being, or are you a limited ego-body? When you believe that you are an ego-body, your mind’s loyalty has been misdirected. The miracle undoes this error and you now correctly view yourself and others as a Son of God, which is unlimited spirit. You cannot “imprison” others who view themselves as spirit. Only those who see themselves as a body can be imprisoned.

T-1.III.6. You respond to what you perceive, and as you perceive so shall you behave. The Golden Rule asks you to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. This means that the perception of both you and the others must be accurate. The Golden Rule is the rule for appropriate behavior. You cannot behave appropriately unless you perceive correctly. Since you and your neighbor are equal members of one family, as you perceive both you and your neighbor so you will do to both you and your neighbor. You should look out from the perception of your own holiness to the holiness of others.

NOTE # 42: The golden rule does not work if you incorrectly perceive yourself to be a limited ego-body. Your belief that you are a body fosters separation, competition and conflict. With correct perception, you view yourself and others as Sons of God and unlimited spirit. We cannot love our brother if we do not perceive ourselves as loveable. We cannot give what we do not possess.

T-1.III.7. Miracles arise from a mind that is ready for miracles. By being united this mind that is ready for miracles goes out to everyone, even without the awareness of the miracle worker himself. The impersonal nature of miracles is because the Atonement
itself is one, uniting all creations with their Creator. 4 As an expression of what you truly are which is the Son of God, the miracle places the mind in a state of grace. 5 The mind then naturally welcomes the Host within and the stranger without. 6 When you bring in the stranger, he becomes your brother.

**Note # 43:** Ego-bodies cannot join; only mind (spirit) can be joined. Being not of body, we truly are of one mind, which is the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. Until we are ready to ask for guidance from the Holy Spirit or Jesus, our minds will not be receptive to miracle mindedness and the truth of our spiritual nature.

**T-1.III.8.** That the miracle may have effects on your brothers that you may not recognize is not your concern. 2 The miracle will always bless <you>. 3 Miracles you are not asked to perform have not lost their value. 4 These miracles that you were not asked to perform are still expressions of your own state of grace, but the action aspect of the miracle should be controlled by me because of my complete awareness of the whole plan. 5 The impersonal nature of miracle-mindedness ensures your grace, but only I am in a position to know where the miracle can be bestowed.

**Note # 44:** Jesus is a symbol for the Holy Spirit and Christ consciousness. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of all parts of God’s plan for the return of God’s Son to knowledge. Without the big picture, we lack the basic understanding of how each miracle fits together to become the Atonement. Thus, we need to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**T-1.III.9.** Miracles are selective only in the sense that the miracles are directed towards those who can use them for themselves. 2 Since this makes it inevitable that they who can use the miracle on themselves will extend the miracle to others, a strong chain of Atonement is welded. p10 3 However, this selectivity takes no account of the magnitude of the miracle itself, because the concept of size exists on a plane that is itself unreal. 4 Since the miracle aims at restoring the awareness of reality, the miracle would not be useful if the miracle was bound by laws that govern the error the miracle aims to correct.

**NOTE # 47:** Truth, which is reality, never changes. Miracles correct wrong thinking. Wrong thinking is always based on your egoic belief that you are separate and, therefore, a body. The miracle recognizes that you are unlimited spirit. Anything the ego makes based on its false belief in the illusion of separation, fear and limitation being true, cannot be real. It can only be a temporary mirage held by the misinformed party. It is only within the split-mind of the dreamer that the dream of separation appears to be real. Yet, an illusion or dream cannot change the eternal truth of your Oneness within the Mind of God. When the egoic split-mind is made whole again, your false belief that you are an ego-body will disappear. This correction is inevitable since it is God’s Plan for the return of His Child to knowledge. Truth by definition never changes. Since this false belief that we are a separate ego-body will change and disappear, it cannot be real or the truth.
**IV. The Escape from Darkness**

T-1.IV.1. The escape from darkness involves two stages: First, the recognition that darkness cannot hide. 2 This step, the recognition that darkness cannot hide, usually entails fear. 3 Second, the recognition that there is nothing you want to hide even if you could. 4 This second step that there is nothing you want to hide even if you could brings escape from fear. 5 When you have become willing to hide nothing, you will not only be willing to enter into communion but will also understand peace and joy.

**Note # 48:** Darkness is associated with the belief that you are an ego-body. When you believe that you are an ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies, the world you perceive becomes a fearful place.

T-1.IV.2. Holiness can never be really hidden in darkness, but you can deceive yourself about holiness ability to be hidden by darkness. 2 This deception about your holiness makes you fearful because you realize in your heart it <is> a deception, and you exert enormous efforts to establish the reality that your holiness can be hidden by darkness. 3 The miracle sets reality where it belongs and confirms your holiness cannot be hidden by darkness. 4 Reality belongs only to spirit, and the miracle acknowledges only truth. 5 The miracle thus dispels illusions about yourself, and puts you in communion with yourself and God. 6 The miracle joins in the Atonement by placing the mind in the service of the Holy Spirit. 7 This placing the mind in the service of the Holy Spirit establishes the proper function of the mind and corrects the mind’s errors, which are merely lacks of love. 8 Your mind can be possessed by illusions, but spirit is eternally free. 9 If a mind perceives without love, the mind perceives an empty shell and is unaware of the spirit within. 10 But the Atonement restores spirit to spirit’s proper place. 11 The mind that serves spirit <is> invulnerable.

**Note # 49:** Because you are the holy Son of God, you are an extension of God and cannot be limited by your misperception that you are a body. Your denial of the truth cannot change truth’s reality. Eventually, your mind must awaken to the truth. As the extension of God, Himself, His Son must also be invulnerable.

T-1.IV.3. Darkness is lack of light as sin is lack of love. 2 Darkness has no unique properties of its own. 3 Darkness is an example of the "scarcity" belief, from which only error can proceed. 4 Truth is always abundant. 5 Those who perceive and acknowledge that they have everything have no needs of any kind. 6 The purpose of the Atonement is to restore everything to you; or rather, to restore everything to your awareness. 7 You were given everything when you were created, just as everyone was given everythiing when God created everyone.

**Note # 50:** When God creates, He extends Himself to all Creation. God being everything extends everything to His creations. Since there is no lack in God, His creations must also be created perfect, whole and complete.

T-1.IV.4. The emptiness engendered by fear must be replaced by forgiveness. 2 That is
what the Bible means by "There is no death," and why I could demonstrate that death does not exist by my crucifixion and resurrection. 3 I came to fulfill the law by reinterpretating the law. 4 The law itself, if properly understood, offers only protection. 5 It is those who have not yet changed their minds and thus are still engendered by fear, who brought the "hell-fire" concept into their interpretation of the law. 6 I assure you that I will witness for anyone who lets me, and to whatever extent he permits me to witness. 7 Your witnessing by replacing your fear with forgiveness demonstrates your belief in the reinterpretation of the law, and thus strengthens the law by replacing fear with forgiveness. 8 Those who witness for me are expressing, through their miracles, that they have abandoned the belief in deprivation in favor of the abundance they, who witness for me have learned belongs to them.

Note # 51: Jesus’ death and resurrection proved that we are not a limited ego-body. When we replace fear with forgiveness, as Jesus did, we will awaken to the truth that we are unlimited spirit. Being an extension of the Mind of God, we have everything. As Spirit, we are in need of nothing for we are “All That Is.” God being only Love and a Oneness could never condemn you to hell for to do so would be to condemn Himself. Hell is only in the insane mind of someone who believes that he could be separate from the Mind of God. Delusions about yourself can never change the truth about yourself. Yet, these false beliefs can appear to govern your current field of awareness and thus, “prevent” you from experiencing your oneness with your Source.

V. Wholeness and Spirit

T-1.V.1. The miracle is much like the body in that both are learning aids for facilitating a state in which both the miracle and the body become unnecessary. 2 When spirit's original state of direct communication is reached, neither the body nor the miracle serves any purpose. 3 While you believe you are in a body, however, you can choose between loveless and miraculous channels of expression. 4 You can make an empty shell of lovelessness while you believe you are a body, but you cannot express nothing at all. 5 You can wait, delay, paralyze yourself, or reduce your creativity almost to nothing. 6 But you cannot abolish your creativity. 7 You can destroy your medium of communication, but not your potential. 8 You did not create yourself. God did.

Note # 52: Although we can deny the truth, our denial does not change the truth. Eventually we must come to our senses and reawaken to the truth of our divine birthright. This birthright can be forgotten but it can never be lost. We, God’s only Son, will eventually reclaim our divinity.

T-1.V.2. The basic decision of the miracle-minded is not to wait on time any longer than is necessary. 2 Time can waste as well as be wasted. 3 The miracle worker, therefore, accepts the time-control factor gladly. 4 The miracle worker recognizes that every collapse of time brings everyone closer to the ultimate release from time, in which the Son and the Father are One. 5 Equality does not imply equality <now>. 6 When everyone
recognizes that he has everything, individual contributions to the Sonship will no longer be necessary.

**NOTE # 52:** When we refuse to make a decision, we waste time. Any decision, whether “right or wrong” moves us one step closer to making the right decision. If we are not at peace, we need to make a decision and choose differently. If we refuse to make a new choice, we remain stuck in victim consciousness and delay our progression to our reawakening into the truth of our holiness. This lack of a new decision on our part wastes time.

T-1.V.3. When the Atonement has been completed, all talents will be shared by all the Sons of God. 2 God is not partial. 3 All His children have His total Love, and all His gifts are freely given to everyone alike. 4 "Except ye become as little children" means that unless you fully recognize your complete dependence on God, you cannot know the real power of the Son in his true relationship with the Father. 5 The specialness of God's Sons does not stem from exclusion but from inclusion. 6 All my brothers are special. 7 If my brothers believe they are deprived of anything, my brother’s perception becomes distorted. 8 When this occurs and my brother’s perception becomes distorted, the whole family of God, or the Sonship, is impaired in its relationships. p12

**Note # 52:** We are special because we are extensions of God. Yet, each perceived part is not special from another since we are all the same. The Mind of God is holographic. Each part contains the whole and the whole contains each part. There is no separation within a Oneness of “All That Is.” In our holiness, we are made whole.

T-1.V.4. Ultimately, every member of the family of God must return. 2 The miracle calls a member of the family of God to return because the miracle blesses and honors the member, even though this member may be absent in spirit. 3 "God is not mocked" is not a warning but a reassurance. 4 God would be mocked if any of His creations lacked holiness. 5 The creation is whole, and the mark of wholeness is holiness. 6 Miracles are affirmations of Sonship, which is a state of completion and abundance.

**NOTE # 53:** The miracle lifts the mind back to the truth about itself. A member of the Sonship is not an ego-body in completion with other ego bodies, but rather a Oneness of spirit. Spirit must be as God created it, perfect, whole and complete. God’s creations are sinless and guiltless because God, their creator, created them eternally perfect. God’s creations are and remain always as holy as He.

T-1.V.5. Whatever is true is eternal, and whatever is true cannot change or be changed. 2 Spirit is therefore unalterable because spirit is already perfect, but the mind can elect what the mind chooses to serve. 3 The only limit put on the mind's choice is that the mind cannot serve two masters. 4 If the mind elects to do so, the mind can become the medium by which spirit creates along the line of spirit’s own creation. 5 If the mind does not freely elect to do so and freely serve the spirit, the mind retains the mind’s creative potential but places itself under the tyrannous control of the ego rather than Authoritative control of spirit, which is represented by the Holy Spirit. 6 As a result of
the mind decision to serve the ego, the mind imprisons, because such are the dictates of tyrants, which is the nature of the ego. 7 To change your mind means to place your mind at the disposal of <true> Authority which is represented by the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

NOTE # 54: The mind can either serve spirit or the ego. If the mind believes that it is an ego body in competition with other ego bodies, its viewpoint or belief comes from separation and lack. If the mind attempts to “create” from this egoic viewpoint, the only thing that it can “make” is something that is fear based and lacks wholeness. Thus, making is based on exclusion and is not true creation. True creation can only extend what it really is. Creation is love based and inclusive. Since your true nature is spirit, made holy in God’s image, your true ability to create is like God’s ability, which comes from abundance. When God extends Himself, He gives all because He is all. Nothing is held back. If the mind believes that it is a spirit, the mind comes under the direction of its true nature and creates as the Son of God. Spirit’s source is based upon our true reality and is changeless. As spirit, our true authority and power comes from God. Your ego’s source comes from a false belief of who you are. Because your mind accepts your misperception that you are a separate ego-body, your mind believes it comes from lack. The ego is a tyrant because it believes in lack and its own vulnerability. The ego’s authority is not based on truth. Instead, it is based on your false belief that you are a limited body. The ego tells you that you are not God’s beloved Child and that you are different from what God created. The Holy Spirit will guide you to the truth that you can only be as God created you, an extension of God, Himself. You are perfect, whole and complete. You must decide if you will follow the thought system of the ego or the Holy Spirit’s. Your mind cannot serve both. The Holy Spirit, Jesus and Christ consciousness all symbolize the voice for the truth of our spiritual nature as God’s beloved Creation.

T-1.V.6. The miracle is a sign that the mind has chosen to be led by me in Christ's service. 2 The abundance of Christ is the natural result of choosing to follow Christ. 3 All shallow roots must be uprooted, because shallow roots are not deep enough to sustain you. 4 The illusion that shallow roots can be deepened, and thus made to hold, is one of the distortions on which the reverse of the Golden Rule rests. 5 As these false underpinnings are given up, the equilibrium is temporarily experienced as unstable. 6 However, nothing is less stable than an upside-down orientation. 7 Nor can anything that holds the equilibrium upside down be conducive to increased stability.

NOTE # 55: The reverse of Golden Rule would be as follows: DO NOT do onto others as you would have them do onto you.

Since most people view themselves as ego bodies in competition with other ego bodies, the Golden Rule, as the ego understands it, is dangerous to our true spiritual nature. To base action on false beliefs of what our true nature is can only result in “wrong thinking”. The thought system of the ego is based on the belief that you are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. Egoic thinking is based on the belief in lack. Coming out of fear, the ego would have you attack your brother. If we realize that we are unlimited spirit, we would understand that there could be no lack and thus, nothing to fear. If a thought system’s major premise is incorrect, logic tells us not to
believe any of its conclusions. Each of the two thought systems results in opposite conclusions. If you believe that you are a body, you will follow the thought system of the ego. If you believe that you are unlimited Spirit, the thought system of the Holy Spirit will make sense to you and you will respond only with love. The choice is between separation or oneness, fear or love. Both thought systems cannot be right. Eventually you must and will freely choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit since only truth is real. Because you have free will, you will decide when you will make the decision to value only truth.

VI. The Illusion of Needs

T-1.VI.1. You who want peace can find peace only by complete forgiveness. 2 No learning is acquired by anyone unless he wants to learn it and believes in some way that he needs to learn it. 3 While lack does not exist in the creation of God, lack is very apparent in what you have made. 4 Lack is, in fact, the essential difference between God’s creations and what you have made. 5 Lack implies that you would be better off in a state somehow different from the one you are in. 6 Until the "separation," which is the meaning of the "fall," nothing was lacking. 7 There were no needs at all because you were one and therefore were everything. 8 Needs arise only when you deprive yourself. 9 You act according to the particular order of needs you establish. p13 10 This, in turn, depends on your perception of what you are.

Note # 56: Are you an ego-body or a spiritual being? Only if you claim you are separate from the Oneness of “All That Is” could there be any lack. When God creates, He extends all, because He gives all. There can be no lack. There remains only the extension of the Whole. Lack only can arise in the deluded mind that believes it is separate from the Oneness that is the Mind of God.

T-1.VI.2. A sense of separation from God is the only lack you really need correct. 2 This sense of separation from God would never have arisen if you had not distorted your perception of truth, and had thus perceived yourself as lacking. 3 The idea of order of needs arose because, having made this fundamental error of perceiving yourself as separate and, therefore, lacking, you had already fragmented yourself into levels with different needs. 4 As you integrate you become one, and your needs become one accordingly. 5 Unified needs lead to unified action, because this produces a lack of conflict.

Note # 57: Correct the problem at its source and you automatically correct all errors that logically follow from the first error. All errors in egoic thinking can be traced back to the original error of the belief that we could be separated from the Mind of God. Once we correct this original error, there can be nothing that we could lack or fear. Love is all that remains.

T-1.VI.3. The idea of orders of need, which follows from the original error that one can
be separated from God, requires correction at its own level before the error of perceiving levels at all can be corrected. 2 You cannot behave effectively while you function on different levels. 3 However, while you do function on different levels, correction must be introduced vertically from the bottom up. 4 This is because you think you live in space, where concepts such as "up" and "down" are meaningful. 5 Ultimately, space is as meaningless as time. 6 Both are merely beliefs.

Note # 58: We must correct the problem where it occurs. The problem will be corrected at the level of mind, which is where the error occurred. In cannot be corrected at the body level for the body is not real and is only an instrument of the mind’s creative power. Its error in thinking will be corrected in time and space since that is the level we perceive our mind to be operating within.

T-1.VI.4. The real purpose of this world is to use this world to correct your unbelief that you are one. You believe that you are separate. 2 You can never control the effects of fear yourself, because you made fear by believing that you were separate, and you believe in what you made which is your separateness. 3 In attitude, then, though not in content, you resemble your Creator, Who has perfect faith in His creations <because> He created His creations. 4 Belief produces the acceptance of existence. 5 That is why you can believe what no one else thinks is true. 6 What no one else thinks is true is true for you because it was made by you.

NOTE # 59: Your beliefs make your world, as you perceive your world to be. Beliefs do not have to be based on truth or reality. In our situation, we believe that we are separate ego-bodies and that we come from lack. Thus, we are unable to create like God because we have chosen to deny our birthright as Children of God. We believe that we are not made in God’s own image. Since each ego-body comes from his or her own unique belief system, everyone has a slightly different perception of “the world”. Since we believe we are separate, any attempt to create (technically “make”) can only result in confirming our belief that we lack something. God creates by extending His true Self. Since God is everything, God creates by extending what He is. God’s creations also must share God’s Oneness and give everything if they are to create like their Father. Since we have free will, we can temporarily deny or forget what we are. It is this forgetfulness that allows us to falsely believe that we are limited ego-bodies. When we limit ourselves, we can only make false illusions in time. This incorrect belief in limitation cannot change the true reality that we are unlimited spirit. It can, however, allow us as to act as if we are separate and limited since this is what we choose to believe. It is our beliefs that make our perception and our perceptions determine what we choose to experience as our “reality.”

T-1.VI.5. All aspects of fear are untrue because all aspects of fear do not exist at the creative level, and therefore do not exist at all. 2 To whatever extent you are willing to submit your beliefs to this test, to that extent are your perceptions corrected. 3 In sorting out the false from the true, the miracle proceeds along these lines:

4 Perfect love casts out fear.
If fear exists,  
Then there is not perfect love.

But:

Only perfect love exists.  
If there is fear,  
fear produces a state that does not exist.

Believe this about this relationship between perfect love and fear and you will be free. Only God can establish this solution, and this faith is His gift.

Note # 60: ACIM is black and white. There is no gray. God is only Love and nothing exists outside of the Mind of God. If we perceive anything that is not love, we are suffering from a false state of delusional thinking. Fear is false evidence appearing real. When delusion is brought before the light of truth, fear must disappear. There is only the Oneness of God’s Love. God knows His Creations to be extensions of Himself. Thus, in the Mind of God, we cannot be anything other than as He created us to be. We are and must always remain perfect, whole and complete. This is God’s Will and God’s Will must not be mocked. Because of this, any belief that the separation is real is just a game that sleeping minds pretend is real. When we choose to reawaken to the truth, we will realize that nothing has changed at all. All our dreams of separation are forgotten. No punishment will be required since nothing really happened. The separation is a dream or illusion that never occurred within the Mind of God. As such, it has no reality.

VII. Distortions of Miracle Impulses

T-1.VII.1. Your distorted perceptions produce a dense cover over miracle impulses, making it hard for miracle impulses to reach your own awareness. The confusion of miracle impulses with physical impulses is a major perceptual distortion. Physical impulses are misdirected miracle impulses. All real pleasure comes from doing God's Will. This is because doing God’s will is a denial of our true Self, which is your Big “S” Self. Denial of our Big “S” Self results in illusions, while correction of the error of denial of our Big “S” Self brings release from illusion. Do not deceive yourself into believing that you can relate in peace to God or to your brothers with anything external.

Note # 61: Our true nature is our Oneness in the Mind of God. We are unlimited spirit, the perfect, whole and complete extension of the Mind of God. We cannot be happy to be less than what we are. To mistake our Big “S” Self for a limited ego-body, a small “s” self, is to deny our reality. This denial of truth can never make us happy. We are not a body. Instead, we are as God created us to be. Herein lies the Truth and the Peace of God.

T-1.VII.2. Child of God, you were created to create the good, the beautiful and the holy.
Do not forget this. The Love of God, for a little while, must still be expressed through one body to another, because vision is still so dim. You can use your body best to help you enlarge your perception so you can achieve real vision, of which the physical eye is incapable. Learning to use your body as a tool to help enlarge and correct your perception is the body's only true usefulness.

Note # 62: We should use our body as a communication devise to be and teach only love and forgiveness. We should not use the body as a vehicle for attack upon another. To attack another only makes the dream of separation appear real. We can only attack what we believe to be separate from ourselves.

T-1.VII.3. Fantasy is a distorted form of vision. Fantasies of any kind are distortions, because fantasies always involve twisting perception into unreality. Actions that stem from distortions are literally the reactions of those who know not what they do. Fantasy is an attempt to control reality according to false needs. When you twist reality in any way and you are perceiving destructively. Fantasies are a means of making false associations and attempting to obtain pleasure from these false associations. But although you can perceive false associations, you can never make false associations real except to yourself. You believe in what you make. If you offer miracles, you will be equally strong in your belief in miracles. The strength of your conviction in the miracle will then sustain the belief of the miracle receiver. Fantasies become totally unnecessary as the wholly satisfying nature of reality becomes apparent to both giver and receiver. Reality is "lost" through usurpation, which produces tyranny. As long as a single "slave" remains to walk the earth, your release is not complete. Complete restoration of the Sonship is the only goal of the miracle-minded.

NOTE 62: Our true Self has forgotten that it is God’s Child and believes itself to be an ego-body and thus, separate and limited. This mistaken belief allows our now “split” mind to come under the control of the ego. When we believe that we do not know what we are, our ego was manufactured in our imagination and moved into our deluded mind to fill this void. When we chose to forget who we were, we also lost knowledge of the truth. The ego makes a world based of its belief in fear, limitation and separation. Fantasies are made up by the ego to give the illusion of separation the appearance of reality. The ego claims that it has the power to usurp or change, the Will of God. As long as any part of the Sonship is in denial of its Big “S” Self, the Sonship cannot be restored to knowledge.

T-1.VII.4. This is a course in mind training. All learning involves attention and study at some level. Some of the later parts of the course rest too heavily on these earlier sections not to require their careful study. You will also need the earlier section of the course for preparation. Without this careful study of the early sections, you may become much too fearful of what is to come to make constructive use of the sections of the course that are to follow. However, as you study these earlier sections, you will begin to see some of the implications that will be amplified later on.

Note # 63: ACIM is written circularly. Ideas that are introduces in one chapter will be
expanded throughout the text. Thus, it is helpful to comprehend the fundamentals of these early chapters. However, with that said, do not believe that you must understand everything in one chapter before you tackle the next passage. If you do this, you will never advance to the next chapter. It is in these future chapters that the explanations that you seek may be found. With patience and by doing the daily lesson in the workbook, your practice will gain the rewards that you seek.

T-1.VII.5. A solid foundation is necessary because of the confusion between fear and awe to which I have already referred, and which is often made. 2 I have said that awe is inappropriate in connection with the Sons of God, because you should not experience awe in the presence of your equals. 3 However, it was also emphasized that awe is proper in the Presence of your Creator. 4 I have been careful to clarify my role in the Atonement without either over- or understating my role. 5 I am also trying to do the same with yours. 6 I have stressed that awe is not an appropriate reaction to me because of our inherent equality. 7 Some of the later steps in this course, however, involve a more direct approach to God Himself. 8 It would be unwise to start on these steps without careful preparation, or awe will be confused with fear, and the experience will be more traumatic than beatific. 9 Healing is of God in the end. 10 The means for healing all fantasies are being carefully explained to you. 11 Revelation may occasionally reveal the end to you, but to reach the end, the means are needed. p16

Note # 64: Jesus again mentions that he is no different from us. He should be respected as an elder brother but not held in awe. Jesus, like us, is part of the indivisible Sonship. The Sonship is all God created, as God created it. God is the first Cause and we, like Jesus, are God’s Effect. It is from this causal relationship with our Creator that all our power derives. God will awaken His sleeping Son to his divine birthright and return the Sonship to knowledge. Only God, being first Cause deserves awe.
Chapter 2. THE SEPARATION AND THE ATONEMENT

I. The Origins of Separation

T-2.I.1. To extend is a fundamental aspect of God which God gave to His Son. 2 In the creation, God extended Himself to His creations and imbued His creations with the same loving Will to create. 3 You have not only been fully created, but have also been created perfect. 4 There is no emptiness in you. 5 Because of your likeness to your Creator you are creative. 6 No child of God can lose this ability because his ability to create is inherent in what he is, but as a child of God he can use his ability to create inappropriately by projecting. 7 The inappropriate use of extension, or projection, occurs when you believe that some emptiness or lack exists in you, and that you can fill this lack with your own ideas instead of truth. 8 This process of inappropriate use of extension, or projection, involves the following steps:

9 First, you believe that what God created can be changed by your own mind.
10 Second, you believe that what is perfect can be rendered imperfect or lacking.
11 Third, you believe that you can distort the creations of God, including yourself.
12 Fourth, you believe that you can create yourself, and that the direction of your own creation is up to you.

Note # 1: Because we are extensions of the mind of God, we have inherited the ability to create as God does. When we create like God, we give everything since we are unlimited, abundant and love. Nothing is held back and there is no lack in our creations or us. The Oneness of “All That Is” remains perfect, whole and complete. Due to free will, we also have the ability to pretend anything we want. If we choose to believe untruths, it has no impact on reality but it does affect our ability to create like God. When we choose to believe that we lack something, we extend or “make” based on that same belief of limitation and lack. Making is based on separation, fear and lack. Believing ourselves to not be perfect, whole and complete, we project that same lack upon our creation.

Sentences # 9 – 12 are the core beliefs that form the bedrock of the thought system of the ego. The egoic thought system is based on the belief in change, separation and lack.

T-2.I.2. These related distortions represent a picture of what actually occurred in the separation, or the "detour into fear." 2 None of these related distortions existed before the separation, nor does it actually exist now. 3 Everything God created is like Him. 4 Extension, as undertaken by God, is similar to the inner radiance that the children of the Father inherit from Him. 5 This inner radiance’s real source is internal. 6 This
extension is as true of the Son as of the Father. In this sense the creation includes both the creation of the Son by God, and the Son's creations when his mind is healed. This requires God's endowment of the Son with free will, because all loving creation is freely given in one continuous line, in which all aspects are of the same order.

Note # 2: The Sonship, which is all that God created, as he created it, has been given free will. Your free will does not give you the ability to change the truth. It only means that you can elect to temporarily deny the truth until some given time. This denial cannot change the truth for truth is changeless. Ultimately, everyone will freely choose to return to the truth of the Oneness of the Mind of God. Since the oneness of truth remains eternal, our will and the Will of God are the same. We will only be happy when we accept the reality that we, as an extension of the Oneness of everything, can lack nothing.

T-2.I.3. The Garden of Eden, or the pre-separation condition, was a state of mind in which nothing was needed. When Adam listened to the "lies of the serpent," all Adam heard was untruth. You do not have to continue to believe what is not true unless you choose to do so. All that is not true can literally disappear in the twinkling of an eye because this untruth is merely a misperception. What is seen in dreams seems to be very real. Yet the Bible says that a deep sleep fell upon Adam, and nowhere is there reference to his waking up. The world has not yet experienced any comprehensive reawakening or rebirth. Such a rebirth is impossible as long as you continue to project or miscreate. It still remains within you, however, to extend as God extended His Spirit to you. In reality this ability to extend as God extended His Spirit to you is your only choice, because your free will was given you for your joy in creating the perfect.

Note # 3: The separation is not God’s Will. The separation is the “mad idea “that led to projection instead of creation. Projection is based on lack. Creation is based on abundance. We, as Children of God, must be perfect since God only extends what He is, which is perfection. Due to the separation, we have forgotten who we are. Believing that we lack something, we abdicate our true creative ability and, thus, are unable to create as God’s Sons. This loss of creative power has not actually left us but we have failed to recognize the truth about ourselves. Due to our belief that we lack something, we have forgotten how to use our full creative powers to create in God’s image. In this “deep sleep” we have projected (made) a world, which exists only within an illusionary dream based on separation, fear and limitation. We, being the dreamer, perceive our “dream world” to be real because we have chosen to dream it. This dream world of our own projections becomes our “provisional reality.” It is provisional since it only exists within the mind of the dreamer. Although this provisional world has no reality in God’s creation, it does appear to exist to us, the dreamer. When we awake from the dream and once again realize our divine nature, our dream world will disappear just as darkness disappears when a light is turned on. This personal, private “provisional reality” that we experience as real is the basis for different levels. We have dreamed that there is something that exists or can oppose the truth. We have made up the “false”. In this projected dream world of separation, we believe that we are limited ego-bodies rather than unlimited Son’s of God. This result is level confusion. Are we spirit or are we a body? The aim of the course is to correct this type of level confusion. Are you a limited
ego-body or are you an unlimited spirit?

Note: ACIM uses the terms spirit and mind interchangeably. Mind and the brain are not the same. The brain is a physical body part. Mind is your spiritual essence. Mind or spirit is real. The body is a false projection that the ego mistakenly perceives to be what you truly are.

T-2.I.4. All fear is ultimately reducible to the basic misperception that you have the ability to usurp the power of God. 2 Of course, you neither can nor have been able to usurp the power of God. 3 The correction of this basic misperception that you have the ability to usurp the power of God is the real basis for your escape from fear. 4 The escape is brought about by your acceptance of the Atonement, which enables you to realize that your errors never really occurred. 5 Only after the deep sleep fell upon Adam could he experience nightmares. 6 If a light is suddenly turned on while someone is dreaming a fearful dream, he may initially interpret the light itself as part of his dream and be afraid of the light. 7 However, when he awakens, the light is correctly perceived as the release from the dream, which is then no longer accorded reality. 8 This release does not depend on illusions but rather the truth that the light brings to your reality that the dream was not real. 9 The knowledge that illuminates not only sets you free, but also shows you clearly that you are free.

Note # 4: Misperception can only occur in our dream world that has made the false seem possible. The false is anything that would bear false witness to the truth that there is only the Oneness of the Mind of God. God’s reality is perfect and changeless because that is God’s Will. Within our dream world of projected, provisional reality, we can pretend that the separation is real. Yet, once the sleeping child is awakened to the truth, all fear-based dreams of separation disappear.

T-2.I.5. Whatever lies you may believe are of no concern to the miracle, which can heal any of the lies you believe with equal ease. 2 Miracles makes no distinctions among misperceptions. 3 The miracles sole concern is to distinguish between truth on the one hand, and error on the other hand. 4 Some miracles may seem to be of greater magnitude than others miracles. 5 But remember the first principle in this course; there is no order of difficulty in miracles. 6 In reality you are perfectly unaffected by all expressions of lack of love. 7 These expressions of lack of love can be from yourself and others, from yourself to others, or from others to you. 8 Peace is an attribute in you. 9 You cannot find peace outside. 10 Illness is some form of external searching. 11 Health is inner peace. 12 Inner peace enables you to remain unshaken by lack of love from without and inner peace enables you to remain capable, through your acceptance of miracles, of correcting the conditions proceeding from lack of love in others. p18

Note # 5: There is no order of difficulty in miracles. Once we realize that all illusions are equally false, each is easily dissolved before the light of truth. The solution or miracle is always the same correction. An illusion cannot change the reality of truth. Any expression of lack of love is merely a cry for love. Love is the only proper response to a cry for love. Introduce love to the equation and the perceived problem disappears. Love is all that is real and fear’s illusions crumble before love. When you know the truth of your
divine inheritance nothing except yourself can rob you of your inner peace. Your inner peace can come only from you. No external force or thing can give you inner peace.

II. The Atonement as Defense

T-2.II.1. You can do anything I ask. 2 I have asked you to perform miracles, and have made it clear that miracles are natural, corrective, healing and universal. 3 There is nothing miracles cannot do, but miracles cannot be performed in the spirit of doubt or fear. 4 When you are afraid of anything, you are acknowledging the item you fear has the power to hurt you. 5 Remember that where your heart is, there is your treasure also. 6 You believe in what you value. 7 If you are afraid, you are valuing wrongly. 8 Because you are afraid, your understanding will then inevitably value wrongly, and by endowing all thoughts with equal power you will inevitably destroy peace. 9 That is why the Bible speaks of "the peace of God which passeth understanding." 10 This peace is totally incapable of being shaken by errors of any kind. 11 This peace of God denies the ability of anything not of God to affect you. 12 The inability of anything not of God to rob you of the peace of God is the proper use of denial. 13 This peace of God is not used to hide anything, but to correct error. 14 Through the proper use of denial, the peace of God corrects error automatically.

Note # 6: When we deny that the false can impact the truth, we are properly using denial. Unfortunately, we normally choose to follow the egoic thought system. The ego denies the truth and then attempts to substitute the false belief that we are a separate, limited ego-body in place of the truth. This is an improper use of denial.

T-2.II.2. True denial is a powerful protective device. 2 You can and should deny any belief that error can hurt you. 3 This kind of true denial is not a concealment but a correction. 4 Your right mind depends on the belief that error cannot hurt you. 5 Denial of error is a strong defense of truth, but denial of truth results in miscreation, the projections of the ego. 6 In the service of the right mind the denial of error frees the mind, and re-establishes the freedom of the will. 7 When the will is really free the mind cannot miscreate, because the mind recognizes only truth.

Note # 7: When you deny the truth, you claim that you are a separate, limited ego-body. This is a denial of the truth about yourself that you really are an unlimited spirit called the Son of God. When you come from fear and limitation, you cannot create in God’s image. You have forgotten your birthright. This egoic belief in separation results in miscreation, which is the projection of egoic wrong-mindedness. The proper use of denial is the rejection of any belief that attempts to contradict the truth that you are a Oneness with God, your Creator. The proper use of denial confirms that you are not a body but rather the sinless Son of God who remains perfect, whole and complete as God created you.

T-2.II.3. You can defend truth as well as error. 2 The means are easier to understand after
the value of the goal is firmly established. It is a question of what the means is. 4 Everyone defends his treasure, and will do so automatically. 5 The real questions are, what do you treasure, and how much do you treasure it? 6 Once you have learned to consider these questions of what do you treasure, and how much do you treasure it? and to bring these same questions into all your actions, you will have little difficulty in clarifying the means. 7 The means are available whenever you ask. 8 You can, however, save time if you do not protract this step about questioning what you treasure unduly. 9 The correct focus will shorten the means immeasurably.

**Note # 8:** We must decide which thought system to value. Would we prefer to claim that we are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies or would we rather claim that we are “only” the unlimited spirit of the Oneness that comprises the Mind of God? When we value the egoic thought system, we freely choose to claim to be a limited small “s” self. Although it seems strange that anyone would freely choose littleness over the Big “S” Self, the choice for littleness is also the claim that we are special. The ego would rather be special than know the truth that it is just like everything else in the Oneness of everything. Specialness claims that we could be something other than what God created us to be. Egoic specialness claims that we are not perfect, not whole and very incomplete. When we understand the choice is between being everything and being an illusion, we can see why ACIM would state that to follow the false logic of the ego is to be insane.

**T-2.II.4.** The Atonement is the only defense that cannot be used destructively because the Atonement is not a device you made. 2 The Atonement principle was in effect long before the Atonement began. 3 The principle was love and the Atonement was an act of love. 4 Acts were not necessary before the separation, because prior to the separation, belief in space and time did not exist. p19 5 It was only after the separation that the Atonement and the conditions necessary for the Atonement’s fulfillment were planned. 6 Then a defense so splendid was needed that the defense could not be misused, although the defense could be refused. 7 Refusal to use the defense (the Atonement) could not, however, turn the Atonement into a weapon of attack, which is the inherent characteristic of other defenses. 8 The Atonement thus becomes the only defense that is not a two-edged sword. 9 The atonement can only heal.

**Note # 9:** Because the Atonement is an act of God’s love, it cannot be misused by the ego. Atonement means “At - Onement” and it testifies only for the truth that the Sonship is like Its Father, perfect, whole and complete. The Atonement states that God’s Son remains eternally sinless and guiltless in the Mind of God. Free will allows us the ability to deny this truth of the Oneness but it cannot change this truth.

**T-2.II.5.** The Atonement was built into the space-time belief to set a limit on the need for the belief in space-time, and ultimately to make learning complete. 2 The Atonement is the final lesson. 3 Learning itself, like the classrooms in which learning occurs, is temporary. 4 The ability to learn has no value when change is no longer necessary. 5 The eternally creative have nothing to learn. 6 You can learn to improve your perceptions, and can become a better and better learner. 7 This will bring you into closer and closer accord with the Sonship; but the Sonship itself is a perfect creation and perfection is not a matter
of degree. Only while there is a belief in differences is learning meaningful.

**Note # 10:** The belief of separation resulted in our belief in differences. Prior to the separation, there was only the perfect oneness. Since God’s creations are eternal and thus, changeless, we can never lose our true identity as Sons of God. We have simply chosen to forget who we are. The belief in the separation and its resulting mistaken follow-up belief that we are an ego-body gave rise to the belief in time-space. The Atonement utilizes time-space as a learning device to reawaken our mind to who we really are. Time is the measurement of change. It is our egoic belief in differences that spawns the specialness of the separation. When our belief in differences is corrected through acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves, our Oneness will return and perceived differences will fade away.

**T-2.II.6.** Evolution is a process in which you seem to proceed from one degree to the next. You correct your previous missteps by stepping forward. This process of evolution is actually incomprehensible in temporal terms, because you return as you go forward. The Atonement is the device by which you can free yourself from the past as you go ahead. The Atonement undoes your past errors, thus making it unnecessary for you to keep retracing your steps without advancing to your return. In this sense the Atonement saves time, but like the miracle the Atonement serves, the Atonement does not abolish time. As long as there is need for Atonement, there is need for time. But the Atonement as a completed plan has a unique relationship to time. Until the Atonement is complete, the Atonement’s various phases will proceed in time, but the whole Atonement stands at time's end. When the Atonement is complete at that point the bridge of return to knowledge and truth has been built.

**Note # 11:** Normally, evolution is a change from old to new traits with the new traits being viewed as “better”. In our evolutionary cycle, we are attempting to return to our previous condition of knowledge. We are reawakening to the realization that we were, are and always will be perfect. In this regard, we are attempting to get back to our original state of whole-mindedness, which occurred before the dream of separation. ACIM goal is to remove all blocks to love so that only love remains. These blocks to love are the ego’s belief that we are separate, limited ego-bodies. Once removed, we reawaken to the truth that we are only the expression of God’s Love and that we are Love.

**T-2.II.7.** The Atonement is a total commitment. You may still think the Atonement is associated with loss. The belief that the Atonement is associated with loss is a mistake all the separated Sons of God make in one way or another. It is hard to believe a defense like the Atonement that cannot attack is the best defense. This is what is meant by "the meek shall inherit the earth." The meek will literally take the earth over because of the meek’s strength. A two-way defense is inherently weak precisely because a two-way defense has two edges, and can be turned against you very unexpectedly. This possibility cannot be controlled except by miracles. The miracle turns the defense of Atonement to your real protection, and as you become more and more secure in your real protection, you assume your natural talent of protecting others, knowing yourself as both a brother and a Son.
Note # 12: ACIM’s use of the term “Atonement” differs than how it is understood by most religious circles. Western fundamental religions define the atonement as a process in which someone or something must be sacrificed to make amends (atone) for someone’s errors, which are called sins against God. ACIM utilizes the word ‘Atonement’ as the acceptance of the truth that God’s Son could never be guilty of any sin since God created him to be changeless perfection. Without the belief in separation, there is no one to sin against. Our denial of the fact that we are an indivisible Oneness is not viewed as a sin but merely as an error in thinking that needs to be corrected. No punishment is warranted since an illusion has no impact on truth. A make-believe illusion that calls for the shattering of a Oneness can have no affect on the Oneness that is the Mind of God. No sin has occurred since an illusion has no power to change reality.

III. The Altar of God

T-2.III.1. The Atonement can only be accepted within you by releasing the inner light. 2 Since the separation, defenses have been used almost entirely to defend against the Atonement, and thus maintain the separation. 3 The defenses of the separation are generally seen as a need to protect the body. 4 The many body fantasies in which minds engage arise from the distorted belief that the body can be used as a means for attaining "atonement." 5 Perceiving the body as a temple is only the first step in correcting this distortion, because perceiving the body as a temple alters only part of this distortion. 6 Perceiving the body as a temple does recognize that Atonement in physical terms is impossible. 7 The next step, however, is to realize that a temple is not a structure at all. 8 A temple’s true holiness lies at the inner altar around which the structure is built. 9 The emphasis on beautiful structures is a sign of the fear of Atonement, and an unwillingness to reach the altar itself. 10 The real beauty of the temple cannot be seen with the physical eye. 11 Spiritual sight, on the other hand, cannot see the structure at all because spiritual sight is perfect vision. 12 Spiritual sight can, however, see the altar with perfect clarity.

Note # 13: Atonement for ACIM purpose takes place at the level of Mind. It was at the level of the Mind that the problem of the belief in separation, sin, guilty and fear arose. It is at the level of Mind that healing must takes place. ACIM’s Atonement has nothing to do with the physical level of the body.

Note: The term light is often used interchangeably with truth and symbolizes truth.

T-2.III.2. For perfect effectiveness the Atonement belongs at the center of the inner altar, where the Atonement undoes the separation and restores the wholeness of the mind. 2 Before the separation the mind was invulnerable to fear, because fear did not exist. 3 Both the separation and the fear are miscreations that must be undone for the restoration of the temple, and for the opening of the altar to receive the Atonement. 4 The undoing of the miscreation of both the separation and fear is the restoration of the temple that heals the separation by placing within you the one effective defense (the Atonement) against all separation thoughts and making you perfectly invulnerable.
**Note # 14:** The Atonement process is the acceptance of the truth that God’s creations remain as God created them. We remain sinless and guiltless.

**T-2.III.3.** The acceptance of the Atonement by everyone is only a matter of time. This acceptance of the Atonement by everyone may appear to contradict free will because of the inevitability of the final decision, but this is not so. You can temporize and you are capable of enormous procrastination, but you cannot depart entirely from your Creator, Who set the limits on your ability to miscreate. An imprisoned will engenders a situation, which, in the extreme, becomes altogether intolerable. Tolerance for pain may be high, but tolerance for pain is not without limit. Eventually everyone begins to recognize, however dimly, that there must be a better way. As this recognition becomes more firmly established, this recognition that there must be a better way becomes a turning point. This recognition that there must be a better way ultimately reawakens spiritual vision, simultaneously weakening the investment in physical sight. The alternating investment in the two levels of perception is usually experienced as conflict, which can become very acute. But the outcome is as certain as God.

**Note # 15:** Eventually, we suffer so much pain that we voluntarily decide to reevaluate who we are. We reexamine our egoic belief system. We decide there must be another way. The egoic thought system only results in dissatisfaction and pain. There must be something better than the ego’s plan and thought system. We ask our Inner Guide to show us another way. Eventually, by listening to the Voice Within, we realized that we are not an ego-body but rather a spiritual being, a Son of God. We start to view ourselves more and more as spiritual beings, perfect, whole and complete as God created us. We drop our misguided belief that we are the physical body. We change our level of thinking from the physical level to the spirit level.

**T-2.III.4.** Spiritual vision literally cannot see error, and merely looks for Atonement. All solutions the physical eye seeks dissolve. Spiritual vision looks within ourselves to our temple and recognizes immediately that the altar has been defiled by our erroneous belief we are a separate body and that the altar needs to be repaired and protected. Perfectly aware of the right defense which is the Atonement, spiritual vision passes over all others defense, looking past error to truth. Because of the strength of spiritual vision, it brings the mind into the spirit’s service. This re-establishes the power of the mind and makes the mind increasingly unable to tolerate delay, realizing that delay only adds unnecessary pain. As a result of the spirit’s re-establishing its power over the mind, the mind becomes increasingly sensitive to what the mind would once have regarded as very minor intrusions of discomfort.

**Note # 16:** As we turn our mind over to the influence of the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we realize that the egoic thought system does not work. The favorable results that are achieved by utilizing the guidance of the Holy Spirit only increase our continued use of our Inner Voice for truth. We have flashes of inner peace that only lead us to wanting more such experiences. The false egoic belief that we are limited ego-bodies becomes
distasteful.

The children of God are entitled to the perfect comfort that comes from perfect trust. Until the children of God achieve this perfect comfort that comes from perfect trust, they waste themselves and their true creative powers on useless attempts to make themselves more comfortable by inappropriate means. But the real means (the Atonement) are already provided, and do not involve any effort at all on their part. The Atonement is the only gift that is worthy of being offered at the altar of God, because of the value of the altar itself. The altar was created perfect and is entirely worthy of receiving perfection. This altar, which is God’s Son as God created His Son was defiled by both the son’s belief in the separation and of fear. God and His creations are completely dependent on Each Other. God depends on His creations because God created His creations perfect. God gave His creations His peace so His creations could not be shaken and could not be deceived. Whenever you are afraid you are deceived, and your mind cannot serve the Holy Spirit. This starves you by denying you your daily bread. God is lonely without His Sons, and His Sons are lonely without God. His Sons must learn to look upon the world as a means of healing the separation. The Atonement is the guarantee that His Sons will ultimately succeed.

Note # 17: Our safety lies in the truth of what we are. Because we are an extension of the Mind of God, we must be like our Creator. God is the Cause and the Son is the Effect. They are inseparable. The egoic belief that an effect can somehow change its original source or cause is impossible. Without its cause, which is the Mind of God, the effect would cease to exist. Both cause and effect are interrelated and thus are “joined at the hip.” Cause without its effect is no longer cause. Each completes the other and is inseparable. Since there is only the Mind of God, which is Truth, the effect must also rest in the truth. Being of one Will, the effect must mirror its cause. In this case, the Mind of God is the first Cause. The Atonement merely acknowledges the truth that we, the Effect, remain as we were created, perfect, whole and complete. We are an inseparable part of the entire Oneness that is the Mind of God. We are that One. This is the “At-Onement” of the Atonement. There is no separation.

IV. Healing as Release from Fear

Our emphasis is now on healing. The miracle is the means to heal, the Atonement is the principle to heal, and healing is the result. To speak of "a miracle of healing" is to combine two orders of reality inappropriately. Healing is not a miracle. The Atonement, or the final miracle, is a remedy and any type of healing is a result. The kind of error to which Atonement is applied is irrelevant. All healing is essentially the release from fear. To undertake this healing from fear, you cannot be fearful yourself. You do not understand healing because of your own fear.

Note # 18: Fear is birthed out of our belief that separation from our Source, the Mind of
God, is possible. It is the thinking of the fearful person that must be corrected. By our mind’s acceptance of the Atonement principle, which is the truth about our sinless and guiltless nature, all fear is dissolved. The Atonement is the acceptance of the truth about our divine birthright and that separation from our Source is an impossibility.

T-2.IV.2. A major step in the Atonement plan is to undo error at all levels. 2 Sickness or "not-right-mindedness" is the result of level confusion, because sickness always entails the belief that what is amiss on one level can adversely affect another. 3 We have referred to miracles as the means of correcting level confusion, for all mistakes must be corrected at the level on which they occur. 4 Only the mind is capable of error. 5 The body can act wrongly only when the body is responding to misthought of the mind. 6 The body cannot create, and the belief that the body can create is a fundamental error. The fundamental error that the body can create produces all physical symptoms. 7 Physical illness represents a belief in magic. 8 The whole distortion that made magic rests on the belief that there is a creative ability in matter which the mind cannot control. 9 This error can take two forms; one form of this error can be the belief that the mind can miscreate in the body, or the second form of this error is that the body can miscreate in the mind. 10 When it is understood that the mind, not the body, is the only level of creation and that the mind cannot create beyond itself, neither type of confusion need occur.

Note # 19: Mind is the level of creation. The body is the projection of the mind. As such, the body is an effect of the mind. Just as the Son cannot change the Father, the body cannot change its cause, which is mind. Magic denies our own creative powers of the mind. Magic claims that there is something outside our mind that we lack and that this “something outside” has creative powers that can change our reality. Magic is based on the belief that due to the separation, we are not perfect and that something outside of mind can make us whole again. Magic claims that creative power exists at some level other than mind. It claims that an illusion at the level of bodily form can change or affect the level of mind.

T-2.IV.3. Only the mind can create because spirit has already been created, and the body is a learning device for the mind. 2 Learning devices are not lessons in themselves. 3 All learning devices, like the body, purpose is merely to facilitate learning. 4 The worst a faulty use of a learning device can do is to fail to facilitate learning. 5 The learning device has no power in itself to introduce actual learning errors. 6 The body, if properly understood, shares the invulnerability of the Atonement to two-edged application. 7 This is not because the body is a miracle, but because the body is not inherently open to misinterpretation. 8 The body is merely part of your experience in the physical world. 9 The body’s abilities can be and frequently are overevaluated. 10 However, it is almost impossible to deny the body’s existence in this world. 11 Those who do deny the body’s existence in this world are engaging in a particularly unworthy form of denial. 12 The term "unworthy" here implies only that this denial is not necessary to protect the mind by denying the unmindful. p23 13 If one denies this unfortunate aspect of the mind's power (the minds ability to make or miscreate on behalf of the ego), one is also denying the power itself (the mind’s power to create like God).
**Note # 20:** The body, along with this physical world, is evidence of our ability to create or make, which is miscreation. Only when we come from our true spiritual essence as Son’s of God’s Love do we have the ability to create like our Father. If we come from the split mind of the ego, we have the ability to make or miscreate. Our split mind can only project illusionary forms that are based on fear and limitation. When we believe that we are limited to the body, we cannot create like the Father because we come from lack. When we attempt to use the learning device of the body as the source of our creative power, we simply fail to create. This failure is not a sin but merely an unsuccessful attempt at creation. As such, it is a mistake that has no affect on the Mind of God.

**T-2.IV.4.** All material means that you accept as remedies for bodily ills are restatements of magic principles. 2 This acceptance of physical remedies for bodily ills is the first step in believing that the body makes its own illness. 3 It is a second misstep to attempt to heal the body through non-creative agents. 4 It does not follow, however, that the use of such agents for corrective purposes is evil. 5 Sometimes the illness has a sufficiently strong hold over the mind to render a person temporarily inaccessible to the Atonement. 6 In this case when a person is temporarily inaccessible to the Atonement, it may be wise to utilize a compromise approach to mind and body, in which something from the outside is temporarily given healing belief. 7 This is because the last thing that can help the non-right-minded, or the sick, is an increase in fear. 8 The non-right-minded are already in a fear-weakened state of mind. 9 If the non-right-minded are prematurely exposed to a miracle, the sick-minded may be precipitated into panic. 10 This is likely to occur when upside-down perception has induced the belief that miracles are frightening.

**Note # 21:** The body is a neutral learning device. Although the spirit cannot be sick, you can erroneously believe that you are a body. Due to this error in thinking, the mind takes the learning device of the body and makes it “sick”. If you believe you are a body, your mind may become too frightened to accept the reality that you are spirit and not a body. The “sick person’s mind may not be able to handle the fact that its own erroneous thinking has caused its body to be “sick”. Rather than frighten the sick person more, it may be advisable to utilize “conventional medical treatments” since the mind is temporarily incapable of overriding its egoic mind’s belief that it is a “sick physical body”. This sick person’s belief in the power of an outside agent to affect change within its body will allow the sick person’s own creative powers of mind to correct and heal its own body. It is the patient’s mind, not the outside agent, which causes the healing.

**General Note about doctors and medicine:** Although all healing is at the level of mind, ACIM states that you should never do anything that would increase the fear of a patient or your own. Instead, ACIM suggest that we utilize a “magic pill.” This “pill” will help reduce the patient’s fear and thus, allow the patient’s mind to recover its creative ability and if desired to go about doing the actual healing which may include the physical body. ACIM thus does not suggest that you refuse medical treatment to prove that the learning device of the body is not real. Rather, we should maintain and honor the body as a learning device that aids us in our rediscovering of what we are. Aided by the body, we learn about our true spiritual essence and that our real purpose is to be and teach only
love. Ignoring or abusing our body may not be the best way to teach and be only love.

T-2.IV.5. The value of the Atonement does not lie in the manner in which the Atonement is expressed. In fact, if the Atonement is used truly, the Atonement will inevitably be expressed in whatever way is most helpful to the receiver. This means that a miracle, to attain its full efficacy (power to produce), must be expressed in a language that the recipient can understand without fear. This does not necessarily mean that the language that the recipient can understand without fear is the highest level of communication of which he is capable. It does mean, however, that this language is the highest level of communication of which he is capable of. The whole aim of the miracle is to raise the level of communication, not to lower the level of communication by increasing fear.

Note #22: The underlying principle that rules the thought system of the Holy Spirit is to never do anything that would increase someone’s fear. In healing, like all other experience in time and space, our goal should never be to do anything that would increase the level of fear in our brother or ourselves. Fear is counterproductive and makes the illusion of separation from our Source appear real. We must meet our brother at the highest level of understanding that he is currently capable of achieving in the present moment. We, like the Holy Spirit, may have to help him “baby-step his way back to the truth.” Yet due to the Atonement principle, we know that the return to truth is the inevitable result of God’s Plan for His Son’s reawakening to his divine birthright.

V. The Function of the Miracle Worker

T-2.V.1. Before miracle workers are ready to undertake their function in this world, it is essential that the miracle worker fully understand the fear of release. Unless they fully understand the fear of release, the miracle worker may unwittingly foster the belief that release is imprisonment, a belief that is already very prevalent. This misperception that release is imprisonment arises in turn from the belief that harm can be limited to the body. That is because of the underlying fear that the mind can hurt itself. None of these errors is meaningful, because the miscreations of the mind do not really exist. This recognition that the miscreations of the mind do not really exist is a far better protective device than any form of level confusion, because the recognition that the miscreations of the mind do not exist introduces correction at the level of the error. It is essential to remember that only the mind can create, and that correction belongs at the thought level. To amplify an earlier statement, spirit is already perfect and therefore does not require correction. The body does not exist except as a learning device for the mind. This learning device of the body is not subject to errors of its own, because the body as a learning device cannot create. It is obvious, then, that inducing the mind to give up the mind’s miscreations is the only application of creative ability that is truly meaningful.

Note #23: For a correction to be meaningful, we must deal with the actual error, not with
some effect that is the result of the error. Since the body is not the source of the error, the error cannot be corrected at the level of the body. The error is at the level of mind. It is the thought of separation that must be healed. Separation from the Oneness is the cause of fear. By correcting this erroneous thought, all the effects of fear also disappear. To attempt to resolve the problem at the body level is only a futile attempt at masking the problem. Until the root cause is corrected, the problem will not go away. We need only realize that our past thoughts that sought to deny the truth cannot change the truth. We still remain unlimited spirit as God created us. We remain perfect, whole and complete; a Oneness of “All That Is”.

T-2.V.2. Magic is the mindless or the miscreative use of mind. Physical medications are forms of "spells," but if you are afraid to use the mind to heal, you should not attempt to do so. The very fact that you are afraid makes your mind vulnerable to miscreation. You are therefore likely to misunderstand any healing that might occur, and because egocentricity and fear usually occur together, you may be unable to accept the real Source of the healing. Under these conditions where you are afraid to use the mind to heal, it is safer for you to rely temporarily on physical healing devices, because you cannot misperceive the physical healing devices as your own creations. As long as your sense of vulnerability persists, you should not attempt to perform miracles.

Note #24: Magic is the use of outside devises to heal or modify a perceived problem. Magic’s only power comes from the person’s own belief that they are not perfect, not whole, nor complete. Magic has no power unless you choose to abdicate your own power as the creator of your own experience. Magic is the belief that you lack something and that something outside yourself can give you what you are missing. As Child of God, you have been given everything. You cannot lack anything. You can choose to deny your divine birthright. When you do this, you believe and make your illusion of separation from the Oneness appear real.

T-2.V.3. I have already said that miracles are expressions of miracle-mindedness, and miracle-mindedness means right-mindedness. The right-minded neither exalt nor depreciate the mind of the miracle worker or the miracle receiver. However, as a correction, the miracle need not await the right-mindedness of the receiver. In fact, the miracles purpose is to restore the receiver <to> his right mind. It is essential, however, that the miracle worker be in his right mind, however briefly, or the miracle worker will be unable to re-establish right-mindedness in someone else.

Note #25: The miracle restores the receiver’s mind to correct thinking. In order for a miracle to occur, someone must be willing to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. If both parties are under the guidance of their egoic thought system, the Holy Spirit will be unable to correct the mind’s misperception. Someone must be willing, at least momentarily, to ask and follow his or her Inner Guide, which is the Holy Spirit or Christ consciousness. If the Holy Spirit were to act alone without some party’s invitation, this would only increase that party’s fear. The Holy Spirit will do nothing that would increase fear and, therefore, He waits patiently on the “sidelines” until someone invites Him to take charge.
T-2.V.4. The healer who relies on his own readiness is endangering his understanding. You are perfectly safe as long as you are completely unconcerned about your readiness, but maintain a consistent trust in my (Jesus or the Holy Spirit’s) readiness. If your miracle working inclinations are not functioning properly, the malfunction is always because fear has intruded on your right-mindedness and has turned your right-mindedness upside down. All forms of not-right-mindedness are the result of refusal to accept the Atonement for yourself. If you do accept the Atonement for yourself, you are in a position to recognize that those who need healing are simply those who have not realized that right-mindedness is healing.

Note # 26: We are responsible for controlling our fear. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, all fear dissipates. This is due to the fact that you understand that you are the perfect, sinless and guiltless extension of the Mind of God. There is no separation so there can be nothing to fear.

T-2.V.5. The sole responsibility of the miracle worker is to accept the Atonement for himself. This means you recognize that mind is the only creative level, and that the mind’s errors are healed by the Atonement. Once you accept this, your mind can only heal. By denying your mind any destructive potential and reinstating the mind’s purely constructive powers, you place yourself in a position to undo the level confusion of others. The message you then give to the confused is the truth that their minds are similarly constructive, and their miscreations cannot hurt them. By affirming this truth that their minds are similarly constructive, and their miscreations cannot hurt them you release the mind from over evaluating its own learning device (the body), and restore the mind to the mind’s true position as the learner.

Note # 27: By accepting the Atonement for yourself, you reclaim the truth about yourself. Once you know the truth of what you are, you are in a position to help others rediscover that same truth about themselves. Prior to this, it was only one deluded mind trying to help another, similarly deluded mind. It is foolish to seek advice from the insane.

T-2.V.6. It should be emphasized again that the body does not learn any more than the body creates. As a learning device the body merely follows the learner, but if the learning device, the body, is falsely endowed with self-initiative, the body becomes a serious obstruction to the very learning the body should facilitate. Only the mind is capable of illumination. Spirit is already illuminated and the body in itself is too dense. The mind, however, can bring the mind’s illumination to the body by recognizing that the body is not the learner, and therefore, the body is unamenable to learning. The body is, however, easily brought into alignment with a mind that has learned to look beyond the body toward the light.

Note # 28: The body follows the mind’s direction. It is only when the mind abdicates its creative responsibility to the body that the body appears to be in charge. The actual cause of this role reversal is the “victim’s” own desire to pretend that the body controls the
mind. Ultimately, even in the deepest state of victim consciousness, it is the victim’s own mind that is in control.

T-2.V.7. Corrective learning always begins with the awakening of spirit, and the turning away from the belief in physical sight. 2 This turning away from the belief in physical sight often entails fear, because you are afraid of what your spiritual sight will show you. 3 I said before that the Holy Spirit cannot see error, and the Holy Spirit is capable only of looking beyond error to the defense of Atonement. 4 There is no doubt that looking beyond error may produce discomfort, yet the discomfort is not the final outcome of the perception. 5 When the Holy Spirit is permitted to look upon the defilement of the altar, the Holy Spirit also looks immediately toward the Atonement. 6 Nothing the Holy Spirit perceives can induce fear. 7 Everything that results from spiritual awareness is merely channelized toward correction. 8 Discomfort is aroused only to bring the need for correction into awareness.

Note # 29: The Holy Spirit is aware that what you perceive to be our reality is merely the illusion of separation. It is not part of the Mind of God. The Oneness remains unbroken and unharmed. Yet until the dreamer awakens to the truth that he or she was merely dreaming, the dream will appear to be real within his or her egoic split-mind. In the awakening process, we disregard or look past the physical senses. We understand that we are not the body. Until we began to realize that we are a spiritual being having a temporary physical experience in time and space, we will remain trapped in the egoic thinking that the separation is real and that we have something to fear.

T-2.V.8. The fear of healing arises in the end from an unwillingness to accept unequivocally that healing is necessary. 2 What the physical eye sees is not corrective, nor can error be corrected by any device that can be seen physically. 3 As long as you believe in what your physical sight tells you, your attempts at correction will be misdirected. 4 The real vision (spiritual sight) is obscured, because you cannot endure to see your own defiled altar. 5 But since the altar has been defiled, your state becomes doubly dangerous unless the defiled altar is perceived. p26

Note # 30: The defiled altar is your true self as God created you. In truth, you remain a sinless and perfect oneness. Yet, you perceive yourself to be something other than God’s Child. Your true Big “S” Self is defiled due to your belief in the separation and your view of yourself as a physical body. This error cannot be corrected at the physical (body) level since the error is at the level of creation. The level of creation is the mind and the healing/correction must occur at this level.

T-2.V.9. Healing is an ability that developed after the separation, before the separation healing was unnecessary. 2 Like all aspects of the belief in space and time, healing is temporary. 3 However, as long as time persists, healing is needed as a means of protection. 4 This is because healing rests on charity, and charity is a way of perceiving the perfection of another even if you cannot perceive the perfection in yourself. 5 Most of the loftier concepts of which you are capable now are time-dependent. 6 Charity is really a weaker reflection of a much more powerful love-encompassment that is far
beyond any form of charity you can conceive of as yet. Charity is essential to right-mindedness in the limited sense in which right-mindedness can now be attained.

**Note # 31:** Charity allows us to look past our physical senses to the spiritual truth that our brother is much more than a body. We perceive our brother to be spirit or mind. We accord him the truth of his perfect “higher” nature. His spiritual reality is something that our physical sense would deny to him and ourselves.

**T-2.V.10.** Charity is a way of looking at another as if the other person had already gone far beyond his actual accomplishments in time. Since the other person’s own thinking is faulty he cannot see the Atonement for himself, or he would have no need of charity. The charity that is accorded the other person is both an acknowledgment that he needs help, and a recognition that he will accept help. Both of these perceptions that he needs and will accept help clearly imply their dependence on time, making it apparent that charity still lies within the limitations of this world. I said before that only revelation transcends time. The miracle, as an expression of charity, can only shorten time. It must be understood, however, that whenever you offer a miracle to another, you are shortening the suffering of both of you. This miracle corrects retroactively as well as progressively.

**Note # 32:** The miracle grants to another person’s split-mind the truth of what they truly are as opposed to how they may currently, incorrectly perceive themselves to be. Their incorrect perception is based on their erroneous belief that they are a limited ego-body. By looking past the physical toward their true spiritual nature, the other person moves both the giver and receiver of the miracle down the time line towards their full acceptance of the Atonement for themselves. The miracle is a change in the mind’s misperception. As such, it implies change that requires time for change is what time measures.

**A. Special Principles of Miracle Workers**

**T-2.V.A.11.** (1) The miracle abolishes the need for lower-order concerns. Since the miracle is an out-of-pattern time interval, the ordinary considerations of time and space do not apply. When you perform a miracle, I will arrange both time and space to adjust to the miracle.

**Note # 33:** The miracle is not bound by time and space. The miracle occurs at the level of mind, which is “higher up the ladder” and thus, closer to the truth than the level of physical time and space. The miracle utilizes the laws of God instead of the laws of egoic misperception.

**T-2.V.A.12.** (2) A clear distinction between what is created and what is made is essential. All forms of healing rest on this fundamental correction in level perception.
**Note # 34:** When the mind believes it is an ego-body, the mind cannot create because it believes in lack and fear. Under this condition, the split mind can only “make” since the mind is under the control of the ego and wrong-mindedness. “Made things” are not perfect, whole and complete. “Made things” are subject to change and thus, only exist in our temporary dream state of provisional reality. Only creation, which is the shared extension of love, is eternal and changeless. When we “make”, we miscreate because we fail to create in our true spiritual image as God’s Child, who is always perfect, whole and complete. It is our erroneous belief of what we are that prevents us from creating. Creation is an extension of what we truly are. We are part of the holographic Mind of God, which is the Oneness of “All That Is.” We are love and love can be extended without any loss to the giver. When a mind is under the influence of the ego (wrong-mindedness), the mind is in a state of fear and, therefore, cannot create because the mind falsely believes it lacks something. Under this perceived condition of fear and lack, love does not appear to exist and the split mind cannot create. Only Love can create or extend since only Love gives all without any expectation of return. God is the embodiment of Love. Being His Son made in His image, we must also be Love. Due to our free will we have the ability to forget who we are but we do not have the ability to lose what we are. What God has given us can never be lost since this is not God’s will for His creations. We are not a body since God did not create this “physical thing” we call our body. In our dream of separation, we perceive that we are physical form and have made a body. It is this erroneous egoic thinking, not God’s thinking, that made the body. In eternity, we are always as God created us, a perfect whole and complete Oneness within the Mind of God.

**T-2.V.A.13.** (3) Never confuse right- and wrong-mindedness. 2 Responding to any form of error with anything except a desire to heal is an expression of this confusion.

**Note # 35:** Right-mindedness is associated with the thought system of the Holy Spirit; wrong-mindedness with the thought system of the ego.

**T-2.V.A.14.** (4) The miracle is always a denial of this error of wrong-mindedness and an affirmation of the truth of right-mindedness. 2 Only right-mindedness can correct in a way that has any real effect. 3 Pragmatically, what has no real effect has no real existence. p27 4 What has no real effect, then, is emptiness. 5 Being without substantial content, wrong-mindedness lends itself to projection.

**Note # 36:** This error in perception is ultimately the erroneous belief that we are separate. Our belief in separateness leads to the wrong-mindedness of the split mind. If we attempt to correct one misperception with another misperception, we still remain in confusion. Both misperceptions are equally false and thus have no impact on the reality of truth.

**T-2.V.A.15.** (5) The level-adjustment power of the miracle induces the right perception for healing. 2 Until this right perception has occurred healing cannot be understood. 3 Forgiveness is an empty gesture unless forgiveness entails correction. 4 Without this correction, forgiveness is essentially judgmental, rather than healing.
**Note # 37:** The miracle changes misperception into correct perception. It replaces the belief in separation with the belief in unity and Oneness.

T-2.V.A.16.(6) Miracle-minded forgiveness is *<only>* correction. 2 **Miracle-minded forgiveness** has no element of judgment at all. 3 The statement "Father forgive them for they know not what they do" in no way evaluates *<what>* they do. 4 **This statement** is an appeal to God to heal their minds. 5 In this statement there is no reference to the outcome of the error. 6 **The outcome of the error** does not matter.

**Note # 38:** Error is treated simply as a mistake from which we are asked to choose again. There is no judgment of wrongdoing or repentance extracted from the error-maker. The deluded mind is not punished. Instead the wrong-minded are told to choose again. The miracle-maker understands that illusions can have no affect on the Mind of God or the Sonship’s divine inheritance.

T-2.V.A.17.(7) The injunction "Be of one mind" is the statement for revelation-readiness. 2 My request "Do this in remembrance of me" is the appeal for cooperation from miracle workers. 3 The two statements are not in the same order of reality. 4 Only the latter statement “do this in remembrance of me”, involves an awareness of time, since to remember is to recall the past in the present. 5 Time is under my direction, but timelessness belongs to God. 6 In time we exist for and with each other. 7 In timelessness we coexist with God.

**Note # 39:** While under the illusion that the separation is real, we perceive ourselves to be in the realm of time. Time measures change in perception. Knowledge or truth does not change and, therefore, is timeless. Time exists as long as the united Sonship believes Itself to be incomplete, different and separate. With the end of time, the once apparently fragmented Sonship is returned to the wholeness of correct-mindedness.

T-2.V.A.18. (8) You can do much on behalf of your own healing and that of others if, in a situation calling for help, you think of the situation calling for help this way:

2 **I am here only to be truly helpful.**

3 **I am here to represent Him Who sent me.**

4 **I do not have to worry about what to say or what to do, because He Who sent me will direct me.**

5 **I am content to be wherever He wishes, knowing He goes there with me.**

6 **I will be healed as I let Him teach me to heal.**

**Note # 40:** Being an extension of our Creator, we are a conduit for God’s love. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for God. By following the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we will heal the mind of the Sonship and return the once split mind to right-mindedness. God’s plan for His Child’s return to knowledge will be accomplished for it is God’s Will.
VI. Fear and Conflict

T-2.VI.1. Being afraid seems to be involuntary; something beyond your own control. 2 Yet I have said already that only constructive acts should be involuntary. 3 My control can take over everything that does not matter, while my guidance can direct everything that does matter, if you so choose. 4 Fear cannot be controlled by me, but fear can be self-controlled. 5 Your fear prevents me from giving you my control. 6 The presence of fear shows that you have raised body thoughts to the level of the mind. p28 7 When you raise body thoughts to the level of the mind, this removes these body thoughts from my control, and makes you feel personally responsible for these body thoughts. 8 This is an obvious confusion of levels.

Note # 41: Since fear is self-induced, we must learn to control our fear. Jesus, a symbol for the Holy Spirit, can guide our mind in all areas that matter. Only love is real and our return to knowledge requires placing our mind under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Thoughts of love and forgiveness become the only thoughts that matter since they are real. Illusionary thought projections based on the belief of separation and lack are not real and of no consequence. These egoic thought projections can and are being reinterpreted by the Holy Spirit to bring about the return of the split-minded back to the truth of what they are. These same egoic thought projections when reinterpreted by the Holy Spirit now become part of God’s Plan to return the Sonship to knowledge. When we are in fear-based thought patterns, we can control our fear by stopping what we are thinking and asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. We must claim responsibility for our thoughts. Fear is the result of mistakenly identifying your spiritual essence as a limited ego-body. When we do this, we have made the body the apparent controller of our mind. This is an attempt by our ego to make the false appear real. This results in level confusion, which is the egoic attempt to mix or replace the true with the false. Fear arises when we value an illusion over the truth. We fear that we might lose this imagined projection that we value. We have attempted to raise a bodily illusion to the creative level of mind and thus, denied that we bear responsibility for the illusion in the first place.

Constructive acts, which within the dream of separation are acts of love and forgiveness, should flow involuntary since they are our natural state. Miracle-mindedness is the mindset of our Christ consciousness.

T-2.VI.2. I do not foster level confusion, but you must choose to correct level confusion. 2 You would not excuse insane behavior on your part by saying you could not help it. 3 Why should you condone insane thinking? 4 There is a confusion here that you would do well to look at clearly. 5 You may believe that you are responsible for what you do, but not for what you think. 6 The truth is that you are responsible for what you think, because it is only at this level of thought that you can exercise choice. 7 What you do comes from what you think. 8 You cannot separate yourself from the truth by "giving" autonomy to behavior. 9 Behavior is controlled by me automatically as soon as you place what you think under my guidance. 10 Whenever you are afraid, it is a sure sign that you have allowed your mind to miscreate and have not allowed me to guide your mind.

Note # 42: Thoughts are things. Everything we do originates from thought. We control
our thoughts. It is the denial of the belief that we control our thoughts that leads us down the self-imposed road of victim consciousness. It has been said. “Sow a thought; you reap an action. Sow an action; you reap a habit. Sow a habit; you reap a character. Sow a character; you reap a destiny.” We need to take responsibility for what we think because thinking is the creative aspect of the mind. Once the thought has been released, the mind will “make or create” the desired outcome. The behavior is the effect of the thought. The thought is the cause of the behavior. Thoughts are things. But be careful what you think since you will get what you really thought about; not what you said or what you meant to say. Fear based thoughts result in miscreations that are made out of the belief in lack. These fear-based thoughts result in behavior or activity on the body level that support the belief that we exist as separate, limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego-bodies. As such, they engender fear, conflict and struggle. These egoic miscreations make the illusion appear real within the mind of the dreamer. Thoughts always precede the behavior. Thoughts are causative, not the other way around. The ego claims that your thoughts are the reactions to behaviors that are outside your control. This misperceiving of cause for effect and effect for cause is level confusion.

T-2.VI.3. It is pointless to believe that controlling the outcome of misthought can result in healing. 2 When you are fearful, you have chosen wrongly. 3 Your fearful misthinking is why you feel responsible for choosing wrongly. 4 You must change your mind, not your behavior, and this changing of your mind is a matter of willingness. 5 You do not need guidance except at the mind level. 6 Correction belongs only at the mind level where change is possible. 7 Change does not mean anything at the symptom level, where change cannot work.

Note # 43: Since the error is at the level of creative mind, we need guidance and correction at that same level of mind since this is where the problem occurred. To attempt correction on the level of the behavior is attempting to heal the effect rather than deal with the cause. The cause is always at the higher level of the mind, which is where the power of creation or making resides. Correct the mistaken thought and healing will result. Level confusion takes place when we attempt to correct something on one level with something from another level. In this case, we attempt to treat the effect rather than the cause. We need to go to the source of the original error, which is always our belief in the separation from our Source. We have temporarily forgotten that we are spirit, not a body. We need the Holy Spirit guidance to remember that we are God’s Creation; always sinless and guiltless as God created His Child.

T-2.VI.4. The correction of fear is your responsibility. 2 When you ask for release from fear, you are implying that fear is not your responsibility. 3 You should ask, instead, for help in the conditions that have brought the fear about. 4 These conditions always entail a willingness to be separate. 5 At that level (level of the mind) you can help correct the fear. 6 You are much too tolerant of mind wandering, and are passively condoning your mind’s miscreations. 7 The particular result does not matter, but the fundamental error does matter. 8 The correction is always the same. 9 Before you choose to do anything, ask me if your choice is in accord with mine. 10 If you are sure that your choice is in accord with mine there will be no fear.
**Note # 44:** Whatever form the result takes does not matter because the result is not the cause. To correct the error we need to be on the level of the error. The error occurs at the level of the mind. We need to correct the mistaken thought. The fundamental error is the erroneous belief in the separation. It is our split-minded egoic attempts at separation that need correction. The ego has once again raised body thoughts to the level of mind. This identification of yourself as the body is the cause of your fear.

**T-2.VI.5.** Fear is always a sign of strain. **Fear and strain** arising whenever what you want conflicts with what you do. 2 This **conflicting** situation of what you want **conflicting with what you do not** arises in two ways: First, you can choose to do conflicting things, either simultaneously or successively. 3 This produces conflicted behavior, which is intolerable to you because the part of the mind that wants to do something else is outraged. 4 Second, you can behave as you think you should, but without entirely wanting to do so. p29 5 This produces consistent behavior, but entails great strain. 6 In both cases, the mind and the behavior are out of accord and this **conflicting mind /behavior pattern**, resulting in a situation in which you are doing what you do not wholly want to do. 7 Out of this **conflicting thought/behavior pattern of doing what you do not wholly want to do**, arouses a sense of coercion that usually produces rage, and projection is likely to follow. 8 Whenever there is fear, it is because you have not made up your mind. 9 Your mind is therefore split, and your behavior inevitably becomes erratic. 10 Correcting at the behavioral level can shift the error from the first type of conflicting situations, to the second type, but will not obliterate the fear.

**Note # 45:** When our thoughts align with the thought system of the ego, we are in conflict with our true nature, which is our Christ conscious Self or Big “S” Self’s goals and desire. This internal conflict births fear. Our Big “S” Self knows that we are unlimited, invulnerable spirit or mind. As such, we are only extension of God’s Love. When we have fearful thoughts, these are by definition unloving thoughts. This results in a conflict within our mind that now appears to be split into two separate parts. One part represents our egoic thinking; the other, the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Fear and conflict dissipate when we align with the Holy Spirit. Our feelings are the indicator of our alignment to our true Big “S” Self’s nature. Bad feelings indicate that we are out of alignment and moving into fear. Good feelings indicate that we are moving into proper alignment with love.

**T-2.VI.6.** It is possible to reach a state in which you bring your mind under my guidance without conscious effort, but this implies a willingness that you have not developed as yet. 2 The Holy Spirit cannot ask more than you are willing to do. 3 The strength to do comes from your undivided decision. 4 There is no strain in doing God's Will as soon as you recognize that God’s Will is also your own. 5 The lesson here is quite simple, but particularly apt to be overlooked. 6 I will therefore repeat **this lesson**, urging you to listen. 7 Only your mind can produce fear. 8 **The mind produces fear** whenever the **mind** is conflicted in what the mind wants. **This conflict between what the mind wants produces** inevitable strain because wanting and doing are discordant. 9 This **conflict between wanting and doing** can be corrected only by accepting a unified goal.
Note # 46: Being an extension of God, our true will must equate with God’s Will. God’s Will is that we be happy. Being love, we cannot be happy by thinking fearful or unloving thoughts. We can only be happy when we align our current experience with forgiving and loving thoughts. Our feelings are our inner guidance system’s gage that allows our mind to know in current time how well our current thoughts and actions are aligning with our Big “S” Self’s will, which is also God’s Will. Bad feelings indicate that we are out of alignment and moving into fear. Good feelings indicate that we are moving into proper alignment with love.

T-2.VI.7. The first corrective step in undoing the error of conflict between wanting and doing is to know first that the conflict is an expression of fear. 2 Say to yourself that you must somehow have chosen not to love, or the fear could not have arisen. 3 Then the whole process of correction becomes nothing more than a series of pragmatic steps in the larger process of accepting the Atonement as the remedy. 4 These steps may be summarized in this way:
5 Know first that conflict is fear.
6 Fear arises from lack of love.
7 The only remedy for lack of love is perfect love.
8 Perfect love is the Atonement.

Note # 47: The choice is always between love and fear. If we have lost our inner peace, we are coming from fear. We have raised body thoughts to the level of mind. We have made the illusionary dream of the fragmentation our Oneness appear real. It is our belief in separation that leads to the making of conflict and fear.

T-2.VI.8. I have emphasized that the miracle, or the expression of Atonement, is always a sign of respect from the worthy to the worthy. 2 The recognition of this worth is re-established by the Atonement. 3 It is obvious, then, that when you are afraid, you have placed yourself in a position where you need Atonement. 4 You have done something loveless, having chosen without love. 5 This having chosen without love is precisely the situation for which the Atonement was offered. 6 The need for the remedy to having chosen without love inspired the remedy’s establishment, which is the Atonement. 7 As long as you recognize only the need for the remedy, you will remain fearful. p30 8 However, as soon as you accept the remedy, you have abolished the fear of having chosen without love with the remedy, which is the Atonement. 9 Accepting the Atonement for one self is how true healing occurs.

Note # 48: By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we accept the truth that we, as God’s Creations, must remain guiltless and sinless like our Source. We realize that an illusion, which is an unloving thought, is a mistaken belief that can have no impact on the Mind of God. We remain as God created us, perfect, whole and complete. We recognize both our brother and our own worthiness to be love and loved.

T-2.VI.9. Everyone experiences fear. 2 Yet it would take very little right thinking to realize why fear occurs. 3 Few appreciate the real power of the mind, and no one remains
fully aware of the real power of the mind all the time. However, if you hope to spare yourself from fear there are some things you must realize, and realize fully. The mind is very powerful, and the mind never loses the mind’s creative force. The mind never sleeps. Every instant the mind is creating. It is hard to recognize that thought and belief combine into a power surge that can literally move mountains. It appears at first glance that to believe such power about yourself as your minds ability to move mountains is arrogant, but that is not the real reason you do not believe your mind can do this. You prefer to believe that your thoughts cannot exert real influence because you are actually afraid of your thoughts. This belief that your thoughts cannot exert real influence and are thus, not causative may allay awareness of the guilt, but this allaying the awareness of guilt comes at the cost of perceiving the mind as impotent. If you believe that what you think is ineffectual you may cease to be afraid of what you think, but you are hardly likely to respect what you think. There are no idle thoughts. All thinking produces form at some level.

Note # 49: Thoughts become things. We are constantly creating our own experiences by what we are thinking. The only question is, “Are you creating deliberately or by default.” When we claim that we are powerless to affect our experience, we are creating by default. This denial of our own creative powers results in a state of victim consciousness. We believe that we are the innocent victims of some known or unknown force, but we are sure we are not the cause of our plight. Since our thoughts determine our experiences, it becomes a question of what we will choose to create. Loving thoughts create. They are inclusive and unite. They are real. Fear-based thoughts make or miscreate and they exclude, separate and limit. Fear-based thoughts are at the level of bodily illusion and are not real. Miscreation is not part of the Mind of God. We either create or make depending on the thought system we choose to follow. But in either case, we are the decision-makers. There are no accidents. Our thoughts cause our “provisional reality” that we perceive as real.

VII. Cause and Effect

T-2.VII.1. You may still complain about fear, but you nevertheless persist in making yourself fearful. I have already indicated that you cannot ask me to release you from fear. I know fear does not exist, but you do not know fear does not exist. If I intervened between your thoughts and their results, I would be tampering with a basic law of cause and effect; which is the most fundamental law there is. I would hardly help you if I depreciated the power of your own thinking. This would be in direct opposition to the purpose of this course which is for you to reclaim and remember who you really are, which is God’s Son. It is much more helpful to remind you that you do not guard your thoughts carefully enough. You may feel that at this point it would take a miracle to enable you to guard your thoughts carefully enough, which is perfectly true. You are not used to miracle-minded thinking, but you can be trained to think that way. All miracle workers need that kind of training in miracle minded thinking.
**Note # 50:** Fear is not part of the Mind of God and, therefore, is not real. Fear does appear very real within the deluded mind of the dreamer who claims to not know what his divine birthright is. We were created to be a creator just like our Source. The basic law of the universe is that cause must have its effect and that like begets like. When we choose to pretend we are something we are not, we miscreate a similar thought projection of this same deluded mental state. Thus, believing we are in a state of lack, we place limitations on what we make. Since we are the source of our own fear, we must look within ourselves if we are to correct the source of this fear, which is our own split mind belief in separation.

**T-2.VII.2.** I cannot let you leave your mind unguarded, or you will not be able to help me. 2 Miracle working entails a full realization of the power of thought in order to avoid miscreation. 3 **You must realize the full power of thought in order to avoid miscreation or else** a miracle will be necessary to set the mind itself straight, a circular process that would not foster the time collapse for which the miracle was intended. 4 The miracle worker must have genuine respect for true cause and effect as a necessary condition for the miracle to occur.

**Note # 51:** The miracle worker must respect the creative power of the mind and realize that his thinking determined his perception. By changing your thinking from the thought system of the ego to the Holy Spirit, you change your perceived results. You go from misperception to correct perception.

**T-2.VII.3.** Both miracles and fear come from thoughts. 2 If you are not free to choose either miracles or fear, you would also not be free to choose the other. 3 By choosing the miracle you <em>have</em> rejected fear, if only temporarily. 4 You have been fearful of everyone and everything. 5 You are afraid of God, of me and of yourself. 6 You have misperceived or miscreated Us (<em>God, me and yourself</em>), and believe in what you have made through your misperception. 7 You would not have done this miscreating of God, me and yourself if you were not afraid of your own thoughts. 8 The fearful <em>must</em> miscreate, because the fearful misperceive creation. 9 When you miscreate you are in pain. 10 The cause and effect principle now becomes a real expediter, though only temporarily. 11 Actually, "Cause" is a term properly belonging to God, and His "Effect" is His Son. 12 This entails a set of Cause and Effect relationships totally different from those you introduce into miscreation. 13 The fundamental conflict in this world, then, is between creation and miscreation. 14 All fear is implicit in the second, miscreation, and all love in the first, creation. 15 The conflict is therefore one between love and fear.

**Note # 52:** Free will allows us to act as our own decision-maker. In the world of perception, we have only two choices, love or fear. Each is represented by a different thought system and each choice is also a choice for the true or the false. In our deluded state of claiming we are other than what God created, we have lost knowledge. Perception was born out of the insane belief that there is something other than God’s Will; that the Oneness had been shattered into separate parts that are now different than the whole. This is the Sonship’s misperception of what creation is. Within the split-
minded Sonship, the separation was real and now there is an observer and something to observe. Rather than the truth that there is just a Oneness of everything, there is now something to fear. When we think fearful thoughts, we miscreate. Miscreation results in conflict and more fear.

God is the Cause and we are the Effect. The Sonship is all that God created as He created it and is the Effect of God. An effect cannot change its cause. For the child to be able to change its cause would be to change its parentage. This is impossible. Source always comes first and is changeless. The Sonship cannot change God, the Father.

T-2.VII.4. It has already been said that you believe you cannot control fear because you yourself made fear, and your belief in fear seems to render fear out of your control. Yet any attempt to resolve the error of your belief in fear, through attempting the mastery of fear is useless. In fact, it asserts the power of fear by the very assumption that fear need be mastered. The true resolution of fear rests entirely on mastery of fear through love. In the interim, however, the sense of conflict is inevitable, since you have placed yourself in a position where you believe in the power of what does not exist which is fear.

Note # 53: Fear is not real in the Mind of God. It is something that we have made up within our egoic thought system. Only love is real since love is all that exists. In our illusionary state of separation, we believe that both love and fear exist. When fear is brought in front of love’s light, fear disappears. When we oppose fear and attempt to resist it, we make it real. If something exists only in the mind of the dreamer, we need only to awaken the dreamer and the dream dissipates. To do battle against an imaginary enemy is to make the enemy appear real. Fear’s only power is the power we choose to give it.

T-2.VII.5. Nothing and everything cannot coexist. To believe in one is to deny the other. Fear is really nothing and love is everything. Whenever light enters darkness, the darkness is abolished. What you believe is true for you. In this sense, because you believe in the separation, the separation has occurred, and to deny that the separation has occurred to you is merely to use denial inappropriately. However, to concentrate on error is only a further error. The initial corrective procedure is to recognize temporarily that there is a problem, but only as an indication that immediate correction is needed. This establishes a state of mind in which the Atonement can be accepted without delay. It should be emphasized, however, that ultimately no compromise is possible between everything and nothing. Time is essentially a device by which all compromise between everything and nothing can be given up.

Compromise between everything and nothing only seems to be abolished by degrees, because time itself involves intervals that do not exist. Miscreation made this compromise necessary as a corrective device. The statement "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life" needs only one slight correction to be meaningful in this context; "He gave it, everlasting life, His only begotten Son."

Note # 54: God is everything. Therefore, when God extended Himself, He created or
gave His creations everything. He created His Son in His image, which is perfect Love. God’s Son is everything God created. What God created can have no opposite for extension is merely the expansion of the Oneness of “All That Is”. God is everything and there is nothing outside or apart from this Oneness. Within the illusion of separation, we believe that there can be opposites. We believe that our decision-maker has a choice between separation and oneness, fear and love. Time is the device that allows us to change our belief from the false to the true. As long as we perceive that the choice for the false is possible, time will be needed. Time is only truth oriented in its direction. Whatever moment you find yourself to be in, it is exactly where you need to be. The Holy Spirit uses time and the miracle to bring us back to right-mindedness as quickly as possible.

**T-2.VII.6.** It should especially be noted that God has only <one> Son. 2 If all His creations are His Sons, every one must be an integral part of the whole Sonship. 3 The Sonship in its Oneness transcends the sum of the Sonship’s parts. 4 However, this Oneness is obscured as long as any of its parts is missing. 5 That is why the conflict, our belief in the separation, cannot ultimately be resolved until all the parts of the Sonship have returned to Oneness. 6 Only then can the meaning of wholeness in the true sense be understood. 7 Any part of the Sonship can believe in error or incompleteness if he so chooses. 8 However, if he does choose to believe in incompleteness, he is believing in the existence of nothingness. 9 The correction of this error of the belief in incompleteness or nothingness is the Atonement.

**Note # 55:** The Sonship is everything God created as God created it. The Sonship cannot be separated into indivisible parts, as it is holographic in nature. Even in its vain attempt to shatter the wholeness, the Sonship remains a Oneness of The Mind of God.

**T-2.VII.7.** I have already briefly spoken about readiness, but some additional points might be helpful here. 2 Readiness is only the prerequisite for accomplishment. 3 The two, readiness and accomplishment, should not be confused. 4 As soon as a state of readiness occurs, there is usually some degree of desire to accomplish, but the desire to accomplish is by no means necessarily undivided. 5 The state of readiness does not imply more than a potential for a change of mind. 6 Confidence cannot develop fully until mastery has been accomplished. 7 We have already attempted to correct the fundamental error that fear can be mastered, and have emphasized that the only real mastery is through love. 8 Readiness is only the beginning of confidence. 9 You may think this implies that an enormous amount of time is necessary between readiness and mastery, but let me remind you that time and space are under my control.

**Note # 56:** As we turn more of our thinking over to the thought system of the Holy Spirit, our confidence will grow in its ability to produce our desired goal of forgiveness and love, which leads to our inner-peace. Eventually we will decide to totally abandon the thought system of the ego and side only with the Holy Spirit’s. Love will replace fear and mastery will be accomplished.
VIII. The Meaning of the Last Judgment

T-2.VIII.1. One of the ways in which you can correct the magic-miracle confusion is to remember that you did not create yourself, **God did**. 2 You are apt to forget this when you become egocentric, and **your belief that you created yourself** puts you in a position where a belief in magic is virtually inevitable. p33 3 Your will to create was given you by your Creator, Who was expressing the same Will in His creation. 4 Since creative ability rests in the mind, everything you create is necessarily a matter of will. 5 It also follows that whatever you alone make is real in your own sight, though not in the Mind of God. 6 This basic distinction that **whatever you alone make is real in your own sight, though not in the Mind of God**, leads directly into the real meaning of the Last Judgment.

**Note # 57:** When you believe in separation, whatever you make is “real” only to you in your own limited egoic mind or sight but it is not real in the Mind of God. What you miscreate is only an erroneous thought projection based on your mind’s belief in fear and lack. This is what is referred to as provisional reality. Provisional reality is momentarily “true” for you because you believe it is. Provisional reality is what your mind has projected into your own “dream world”. Provisional reality exists only in the mind of the one projecting it. Because provisional reality is subject to change, it is not permanent and, therefore, not eternal or real. Creation is an extension, which is based on inclusion and true love. True love gives everything because it is everything. This is how God and His right-minded Son create. These creations are real in the mind of God because they are extensions of what is perfect, eternal and thus, changeless. God is love and thus, to co-create with God requires that we also must come from loving thoughts.

T-2.VIII.2. The Last Judgment is one of the most threatening ideas in your thinking. 2 This is because you do not understand **the meaning of the Last Judgment**. 3 Judgment is not an attribute of God. 4 **Judgment** was brought into being only after the separation, when **judgment** became one of the many learning devices to be built into the overall plan. 5 Just as the separation occurred over millions of years, the Last Judgment will extend over a similarly long period, and perhaps an even longer one. 6 **The Last Judgment**’s length can, however, be greatly shortened by miracles, which is the device for shortening **time** but not abolishing time. 7 If a sufficient number become truly miracle-minded, this shortening process can be virtually immeasurable. 8 It is essential, however, that you free yourself from fear quickly, because you must emerge from the conflict of **fear**, if you are to bring peace to other minds.

**Note # 58:** God does not judge since a Oneness of Everything has nothing outside itself to judge. It is only the egoic mind that perceives separation that judges. As long as one remnant of egoic thinking remains, time will be needed. We, not God, are the ones who have chosen to judge. When the Sonship stops judging and accepts the Atonement for itself, its last judgment will be at hand.

T-2.VIII.3. The Last Judgment is generally thought of as a procedure undertaken by God. 2 Actually, **the Last Judgment** will be undertaken by my brothers with my help. 3 **The Last Judgment** is a final healing rather than a meting out of punishment, however much
you may think that punishment is deserved. 4 Punishment is a concept totally opposed to
right-mindedness, and the aim of the Last Judgment is to restore right-mindedness to you.
5 The Last Judgment might be called a process of right evaluation. 6 This process of
right evaluation, which is the Last Judgment, simply means that everyone will finally
come to understand what is worthy and what is not worthy. 7 After right evaluation is
achieved, the ability to choose can be directed rationally. 8 Until this distinction is made
between what is worthy and what is not worthy, however, the vacillations between
free and imprisoned will cannot but continue.

Note # 59: Currently we value our belief in separation. We have judged the dream to be
more desirable than the truth. Right evaluation will determine that only truth or love is
worthy. The false will be cast aside as unworthy.

T-2.VIII.4. The first step toward freedom involves a sorting out of the false from the true.
2 This is a process of separation in the constructive sense, and reflects the true meaning
of the Apocalypse. 3 Everyone will ultimately look upon his own creations and choose to
preserve only what is good, just as God Himself looked upon what He had created and
knew that what He created was good. 4 At this point, the mind can begin to look with
love on its own creations because of their worthiness. 5 At the same time the mind will
inevitably disown its miscreations which, without belief, which originally came from in
the mind’s creative power to be causes, its miscreation will no longer exist. p34

Note # 60: It is our continuing belief that we are separate and have miscreated that results
in our provisional reality remaining constantly warped. Without the creative power of our
mind to continually project and make its own “dream world,” our own provisional reality
would disappear. When we realize our true nature, our mind will continue to support only
the creations that extend and reflect the truth that God’s Son is only unlimited love.

T-2.VIII.5. The term "Last Judgment" is frightening not only because the ego’s trait of
judgment has been projected onto God, but also because of the association of "last" with
death. 2 This is an outstanding example of upside-down perception. 3 If the meaning of
the Last Judgment is objectively examined, it is quite apparent that the Last Judgment is
really the doorway to life. 4 No one who lives in fear is really alive. 5 Your own last
judgment cannot be directed toward yourself, because you are not your own creation. 6
You can, however, apply judgment meaningfully and at any time to everything you have
made, and retain in your memory only what is creative and good. 7 Retaining in your
memory only what is creative and good is what your right-mindedness cannot but
dictate. 8 The purpose of time is solely to "give you time" to achieve this judgment. 9
The Last Judgment is your own perfect judgment of your own perfect creations. 10
When everything you retain is lovable, there is no reason for fear to remain with you. 11
This removal of all your fears is your part in the Atonement. p35

Note # 61: When fear, which is all the obstacles that we have placed before love is
removed, only love remains. The last judgment is the acceptance of the truth that only
love is real and we are that love. Love is life and only love remains. Before this
judgment, we believed that we could will ourselves to be something other than the
extension of the Mind of God. The Sonship is now ready to exchange his misperception for correct perception or right-mindedness. God, the Father, will then return His Child to knowledge. We will know that we were, are and always will be the Oneness of Everything, perfect, whole and complete.
Chapter 3. THE INNOCENT PERCEPTION

I. Atonement without Sacrifice

T-3.I.1. A further point must be perfectly clear before any residual fear still associated with miracles can disappear. 2 The crucifixion did not establish the Atonement; the resurrection did. 3 Many sincere Christians have misunderstood this and believe the crucifixion, not the resurrection, established the Atonement. 4 No one who is free of the belief in scarcity could possibly make this mistake. 5 If the crucifixion is seen from an upside-down point of view, the crucifixion does appear as if God permitted and even encouraged one of His Sons to suffer because he was good. 6 This particularly unfortunate interpretation that God would let one of His Sons suffer because he was good, which arose out of projection, has led many people to be bitterly afraid of God. 7 Such anti-religious concepts enter into many religions. 8 Yet the real Christian should pause and ask, "How could this be?" 9 Is it likely that God Himself would be capable of the kind of thinking which His Own words have clearly stated is unworthy of His Son?

Note # 1: Jesus dismisses the Christian fundamentalist's concept of the crucifixion as totally illogical. Jesus said that the resurrection established the Atonement. It is the resurrection that proved that we are not a body; instead we are eternal unlimited spirit.

T-3.I.2. The best defense, as always, is not to attack another's position, but rather to protect the truth. 2 It is unwise to accept any concept if you have to invert a whole frame of reference in order to justify the concept. 3 This procedure having to invert a whole frame of reference is painful in its minor applications and genuinely tragic on a wider scale. 4 Persecution frequently results in an attempt to "justify" the terrible misperception that God Himself persecuted His Own Son on behalf of salvation. 5 The very words are meaningless. 6 It has been particularly difficult to overcome this misperception that God would persecute His Own Son on behalf of salvation, because, although the error itself is no harder to correct than any other error, many have been unwilling to give this error up in view of this error's prominent value as a defense. 7 In milder forms this type of error allows a parent says, "This hurts me more than it hurts you," and feels exonerated in beating a child. 8 Can you believe our Father really thinks this way that our Father would persecute His Own Son on behalf of salvation? 9 It is so essential that all such thinking be dispelled that we must be sure that nothing of this kind of upside down thinking remains in your mind. 10 I was not "punished" because <you> were bad. 11 The wholly benign lesson the Atonement teaches is lost if the Atonement is tainted with this kind of distorted thinking that God could persecute His Own Son in any form.
Note # 2: Love allows. It is unconditional. It does not make demands that are punishable if we fail to obey. The idea that God would punish an innocent victim, His only Son, in place of the wrongdoer is even more insane. Insanity disguised as love is truly tragic. Our western, traditional religious view of a judgmental, vindicate and petty god does not make any sense. This is even more illogical, when Christian fundamentalists proclaim this type of god as a god of love.

T-3.I.3. The statement "Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord" is a misperception by which one assigns his own "evil" past to God. The "evil" past has nothing to do with God. God did not create your own “evil” thinking, and God does not maintain your “evil” thinking. God does not believe in retribution. God’s Mind does not create that way. God does not hold your "evil" deeds against you. Is it likely that God would hold your “evil” deeds against me? Be very sure that you recognize how utterly impossible this assumption is, and how entirely this assumption that God would punish me, Jesus, for your “evil” deeds, arises from projection. This kind of error is responsible for a host of related errors, including the belief that God rejected Adam and forced him out of the Garden of Eden. This kind of error, that God rejected His Child and forced him out of Heaven, is also why you may believe from time to time that I am misdirecting you. I have made every effort to use words that are almost impossible to distort, but it is always possible to twist symbols around if you wish.

Note # 3: Projection is the action or thought of blaming or punishing someone else for your deeds. In the egoic error of projection, we attempt to transfer and attribute our actions to something or someone outside ourselves. Rather than recognize that the “error” comes from our own thinking and thus, needs to be corrected within our mind, we seek to ignore our own sourceness for the error and focus our attention somewhere else. We fail to take ownership and responsibility for our own creations. We claim to be powerless to correct our erroneous thoughts since by our own projection and denial, the error that we created now appears to come from somewhere outside our own mind. We then claim that if the error is from an outside cause or source, we are powerless to correct the error. God knows His creations are extensions of Himself. Being a Oneness how could there be anyone to judge or punish?

T-3.I.4. Sacrifice is a notion totally unknown to God. Sacrifice arises solely from fear, and frightened people can be vicious. Sacrificing in any way is a violation of my injunction that you should be merciful even as your Father in Heaven is merciful. It has been hard for many Christians to realize that this prohibition on sacrifice applies to themselves as Christians. Good teachers never terrorize their students. To terrorize is to attack, and this attacking by teachers of their students, results in rejection of what the teacher offers. The result is learning failure.

Note # 4: What can be sacrificed if there is no lack? Sin and hell are a foreign concept to a Oneness of Everything. Who could the Oneness sin against? The belief in guilt, sin and hell are needed and very useful only if you wish to control another. These concepts of sin, guilt and hell form the bedrock for the fear based egoic thought system.
T-3.I.5. I have been correctly referred to as "the lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world," but those who represent the lamb as blood-stained do not understand the meaning of the symbol. 2 Correctly understood this symbol of the “lamb of God” is a very simple symbol that speaks of my innocence. 3 The lion and the lamb lying down together symbolize that strength and innocence are not in conflict, but naturally live in peace. 4 "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God" is another way of saying the same thing. 5 A pure mind knows the truth and this is a pure mind’s strength. 6 A pure mind does not confuse destruction with innocence because a pure mind associates innocence with strength, not innocence with weakness.

Note # 5: When you know your strength comes from God, Herself, you know that you are invulnerable. True strength requires neither defenses nor weapons for attack. When you believe that you are a limited ego-body, attack and defense are synonymous.

T-3.I.6. Innocence is incapable of sacrificing anything, because the innocent mind has everything and strives only to protect the innocent mind’s wholeness. 2 The innocent mind cannot project. 3 The innocent mind can only honor other minds, because honor is the natural greeting of the truly loved to others who are like them. 4 The lamb "taketh away the sins of the world" in the sense that the state of innocence, or grace, is one in which the meaning of the Atonement is perfectly apparent. 5 The Atonement is entirely unambiguous. 6 The Atonement is perfectly clear because the Atonement exists in light of truth. 7 Only the attempts to shroud the Atonement in darkness have made the Atonement inaccessible to those who do not choose to see. p37

Note # 6: The Atonement is the acceptance of the truth about God’s Son. Truth abolishes all illusions and errors in thinking. You and your brothers and sisters are innocent, sinless and guiltless. The Sonship remains God’s perfect extension of only Herself, which is only Love.

T-3.I.7. The Atonement itself radiates nothing but truth. 2 The Atonement therefore epitomizes harmlessness and sheds only blessing. 3 The Atonement could not do this if the Atonement arose from anything but perfect innocence. 4 Innocence is wisdom because innocence is unaware of evil, and evil does not exist. 5 Innocence is, however, perfectly aware of everything that is true. 6 The resurrection demonstrated that nothing can destroy truth. 7 Good can withstand any form of evil, as light abolishes forms of darkness. 8 The Atonement is therefore the perfect lesson. 9 The Atonement is the final demonstration that all the other lessons I taught are true. 10 If you can accept this one generalization now that the Atonement is the final demonstration that all the other lessons I taught are true, there will be no need to learn from many smaller lessons. 11 You are released from all errors if you believe this lesson of accepting the Atonement for yourself.

Note # 7: Salvation is just one decision away. All will freely choose for the Atonement. It is just a matter of time. Do you wish to baby-step your way to recovery of your divine birthright or achieve it in one giant leap? Our free will determines the timing of when we decide to accept the Atonement for ourselves.
T-3.I.8. The innocence of God is the true state of the mind of His Son. 2 In this *innocence* state your mind knows God, for God is not symbolic; He is Fact. 3 **By you** knowing His Son as he is, you realize that the Atonement, not sacrifice, is the only appropriate gift for God's altar, where nothing except perfection belongs. 4 **The understanding of the innocent is truth.** 5 That is why **the altars of the innocent** are truly radiant.

**Note # 8:** God’s Mind is changeless. God’s Plan is that His Creations be happy. As such, God created you eternally perfect, whole and complete. What part of God’s Plan is so difficult to accept? Why would you wish to follow your ego’s plan, which claims you are a guilty sinner in need of punishment? Would a sane mind freely choose to be limited and fearful when God’s Plan offers that same mind everything without any pain or sacrifice? God’s Plan offers total freedom and love. The ego’s plan offers limitation, fear, enslavement and then finally death.

“Hum… Let me think about that for a while. Is it such a hard choice?”

**II. Miracles as True Perception**

T-3.II.1. I have stated that the basic concepts referred to in this course are not matters of degree. 2 Certain fundamental concepts cannot be understood in terms of opposites. 3 It is impossible to conceive of light and darkness or everything and nothing as joint possibilities. 4 They are all true or all false. 5 It is essential that you realize your thinking will be erratic until a firm commitment to one *(light versus darkness or spirit versus ego-body)* or the other is made. 6 A firm commitment to darkness or nothingness, however, is impossible. 7 No one has ever lived who has not experienced <*some*> light and <*some*> thing. 8 No one, therefore, is able to deny truth totally, even if he thinks he can deny truth totally.

**Note # 9:** ACIM is black and white. What is not changeless is not real. Something is either true or false. The false has no reality and thus, is the belief in nothing. For ACIM’s purpose, something is not sometimes true and sometimes false. There is no gray. The choice for love is real and fear cannot exist except as an illusion in a deluded mind. Truth and love are our Source or Cause. Effect cannot be separate from its cause. It is impossible to totally restrict or deny our connectiveness to Source Energy or First Cause, which is the Mind of God. Even if on the egoic level you believed and claimed that you were totally disconnected to God, your Christ consciousness or Holy Spirit would maintain the connection. It is against God’s Will that you be separate from the His Oneness.

T-3.II.2. Innocence is not a partial attribute. 2 **Innocence** is not real *<until> innocence* is total. 3 The partly innocent are apt to be quite foolish at times. 4 It is not until their innocence becomes a viewpoint with universal application that *innocence* becomes wisdom. 5 Innocent or true perception means that you never misperceive and always see truly. 6 More simply, **innocence or true perception** means that you never see what does
not exist, and always see what does.

**Note # 10:** Innocence means that you always follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. In the egoic dream state of separation, only the Holy Spirit knows the truth about your oneness and is also aware of your dream experience that you call limitation and separation. By understanding both, the Holy Spirit is in the unique position to be able to translate our misperception into correct perception.

**T-3.II.3.** When you lack confidence in what someone will do, you are attesting to your belief that he is not in his right mind. 2 This lack confidence in what someone will do is hardly a miracle-based frame of reference. p38 3 Attesting to your belief that an individual is not in his right mind, also has the disastrous effect of denying the power of the miracle. 4 The miracle perceives everything as it truly is. 5 If nothing but the truth exists, right-minded seeing cannot see anything but perfection. 6 I have said that only what God creates or what you create with the same Will has any real existence. 7 This, then (only what is created in God’s image) is all the innocent can see. 8 The innocent do not suffer from distorted perception.

**Note # 11:** The innocent only perceive the truth. They look past the body to the spiritual essence of all they perceive. They “look” only through the eyes of love. Even when a brother appears to be acting out his desire to experience fear or lack, the innocent realize that each one’s own thoughts make their experience. They understand the sourceness of each brother’s perception and the freedom this entails.

**T-3.II.4.** You are afraid of God's Will because you have used your own mind, which God created in the likeness of His Own Will, to miscreate. 2 The mind can miscreate only when the mind believes the mind is not free. 3 An "imprisoned" mind is not free because the “imprisoned mind” is possessed, or held back, by itself. 4 The “imprisoned mind” is therefore limited, and the will of the “imprisoned mind” is not free to assert itself. 5 To be one is to be of one mind or will. 6 When the Will of the Sonship and the Father are One, their perfect accord is Heaven.

**Note # 12:** A mind that believes it is something other than perfect, whole and complete limits itself. Believing it is limited, the egoic mind passes on this same false concept whenever it attempts to create. This results in projection, which is miscreation. Creation only extends its true Big “S” Self. An attempt to beget something other than your Big “S” Self is impossible. The belief in “littleness” is the denial of the truth and can only appear real in an illusionary state of make-believe. Only the fearful would choose limitation over freedom.

**T-3.II.5.** Nothing can prevail against a Son of God who commends his spirit into the Hands of his Father. 2 By a Son of God commending his spirit into the Hands of His Father, the mind awakens from its sleep and the mind of the Son remembers its Creator. 3 All sense of separation disappears. 4 The Son of God is part of the Holy Trinity, but the Trinity Itself is One. 5 There is no confusion within Its Levels, because They are of one Mind and one Will. 6 This single purpose creates perfect integration and establishes the
peace of God. Yet this vision of perfect integration that establishes the peace of God can be perceived only by the truly innocent. Because the truly innocent's hearts are pure, the truly innocent defend true perception instead of defending themselves against true perception. Understanding the lesson of the Atonement, the truly innocent, are without the wish to attack, and therefore the innocent see truly. This is what the Bible means when it says, "When he shall appear (or be perceived) we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is."

Note # 13: Due to our belief that duality exists, ACIM must use language to describe what we perceive. ACIM speaks as if there is a separation within the Trinity because that is how our dualistic mind perceives it. In truth, there is just the One Self. There is no difference between God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. They are the one indivisible “All That Is”. The Mind of God is holographic. Each inseparable part contains the whole and the whole contains each part. There is no difference.

T-3.II.6. The way to correct distortions is to withdraw your faith in distortions and invest your faith only in what is true. You cannot make untruth true. If you are willing to accept what is true in everything you perceive, you let what is true be true for you. Truth overcomes all error, and those who live in error and emptiness can never find lasting solace. If you perceive truly you are cancelling out misperceptions in yourself and misperceptions in others simultaneously. Because you see others as they truly are, a spiritual being that is part of the Sonship, you offer them your acceptance of their truth so they can accept the true for themselves. This acceptance of the truth for themselves is the healing that the miracle induces.

Note # 14: The truth is not someone’s misperceptions about himself or herself as a limited ego-body. It is not the “truth” of the egoic misperception, but rather the truth of the Holy Spirit’s correct perception that “sees” the eternal spiritual nature in all that is. When you follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, you offer your brother the truth about what he truly is. You let him see his Big “S” Self. You allow him to “see” himself as a Son of God, perfect, whole and complete. He sees himself as sinless and guiltless like His Source. This is the healing the miracle induces.

III. Perception versus Knowledge

T-3.III.1. We have been emphasizing perception, and have said very little about knowledge as yet. This is because perception must be straightened out before you can know anything. To know is to be certain. Uncertainty means that you do not know. Knowledge is power because knowledge is certain, and certainty is strength. Perception is temporary. As an attribute of the belief in space and time, perception is subject to either fear or love. Misperceptions produce fear and true perceptions foster love, but neither brings certainty because all perception varies. That is why perception is not knowledge. True perception is the basis for knowledge, but knowing is the affirmation of truth and beyond all perceptions.
**Note # 15:** Knowledge like truth never changes. For ACIM’s purposes, knowledge is the truth and not a generally accepted belief. For example, although past human “so called knowledge” would include the “fact” that the earth was the center of the universe, this could not be knowledge since it was not true. Certainty without truth is not knowledge. Perception changes as your viewpoint shifts. It differs from person to person based on their unique past beliefs and experiences. Perception is based on what you choose to put your awareness upon. The two thought systems produce radically different perceptions although the “external happening” or experience is theoretically the same. The ego’s perception is fearful while the Holy Spirit’s is loving.

**T-3.III.2.** All your difficulties stem from the fact that you do not recognize yourself, your brother or God. 2 To recognize means to "know again," implying that you knew before. 3 You can see in many ways because perception involves interpretation, and this means that perception is not whole or consistent. 4 The miracle, being a way of perceiving, is not knowledge. 5 The miracle is the right answer to a question, but you do not question when you know. 6 Questioning illusions is the first step in undoing illusions. 7 The miracle, or the right answer, corrects illusions. 8 Since perceptions change, perceptions’ dependence on time is obvious. 9 How you perceive at any given time determines what you do, and actions must occur in time. 10 Knowledge is timeless, because certainty is not questionable. 11 You know when you have ceased to ask questions.

**Note # 16:** We must first question the logic of the egoic thought system before we will decide that there must be another way to interpret the experience. Our difficulty arose when we chose to believe that we did not know what we are. The egoic thought system’s goal is to keep us from remembering that we are a Oneness of “All That Is.” The Holy Spirit’s goal is to return us to the remembrance that we are “That One”.

**T-3.III.3.** The questioning mind perceives itself in time, and therefore, the questioning mind looks for future answers in time. 2 The closed mind believes the future and the present will be the same. 3 The closed mind’s belief that the future and the present will be the same establishes a seemingly stable state that is usually an attempt to counteract an underlying fear that the future will be worse than the present. 4 This fear that the future will be worse than the present inhibits the tendency to question at all.

**Note # 17:** Since perceptions change and time is the measure of change, the world of perception is also the world of time. Change is often frightening and, therefore, they who are closed minded attempt to control their fear by limiting the amount of change they are willing to experience. Coming from fear, the universe is viewed as an unsupportive place that is ruled by lack and competition. To the ego, life is a “zero sum game”. If I am to win, someone must lose. Conflict and competition is the norm and thus, the ego’s belief system projects, makes and then perceives a fearful world.

**T-3.III.4.** True vision is the natural perception of spiritual sight, but true vision is still a correction rather than a fact. 2 Spiritual sight is symbolic, and therefore not a device for knowing. 3 Spiritual sight is, however, a means of right perception, which brings
spiritual sight into the proper domain of the miracle. 4 A "vision of God" would be a
miracle rather than a revelation. 5 The fact that perception is involved at all removes the
experience from the realm of knowledge since perception always involves
interpretation, which means that perception is not consistent. 6 That is why visions,
however holy, do not last.

Note # 18: Perception involves questioning, thinking and judgment, which are all subject
to change and interpretation. With knowledge, you just know. Knowing does not
question. It does not think; it just knows.

T-3.III.5. The Bible tells you to know yourself, or to be certain. 2 Certainty is always of
God. p40 3 When you love someone you have perceived him as he is, and this makes it
possible for you to know him. 4 Until you first perceive him as he is you cannot know
him. 5 While you ask questions about him you are clearly implying that you do not know
God. 6 Certainty does not require action. 7 When you say you are acting on the basis of
knowledge, you are really confusing knowledge with perception since knowledge is
certainty and does not require action. 8 Knowledge provides the strength for creative
thinking, but not for right doing. 9 Perception, miracles and doing are closely related. 10
Knowledge is the result of revelation and induces only thought. 11 Even in perception’s
most spiritualized form perception involves the body. 12 Knowledge comes from the
altar within and is timeless because knowledge is certain. 13 To perceive the truth is not
the same as to know the truth.

Note # 19: Perception always implies the belief in separation. It requires both an observer
and something to observe. Even when you perceive correctly and conclude that there is
only the Oneness and that you are that one, you have arrived at the correct conclusion
based on the original belief that there could be something outside of the Oneness that you
observed. Knowing requires no action since knowledge just is. Being truth, there is
nothing to change and nothing that could be changed. Action is only relevant to the mind
that believes change is possible. At the level of the illusionary non-real world of time and
perception, change is believed possible and action induces change. Physical action is not
required, but changing your thinking is necessary. Thoughts become things. Mind, not the
body, is the seat of all creation or miscreation.

T-3.III.6. Right perception is necessary before God can communicate directly to His
altars, which God established in His Sons. 2 There God can communicate His certainty,
and His knowledge will bring peace without question. 3 God is not a stranger to His
Sons, and His Sons are not strangers to each other. 4 Knowledge preceded both
perception and time, and will ultimately replace perception and time. 5 That is the real
meaning of "Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end," and "Before Abraham was I
am." 6 Perception can and must be stabilized, but knowledge <is> stable. 7 "Fear God
and keep His commandments" becomes "Know God and accept His certainty."

Note # 20: To know God we must drop all egoic thinking and follow the guidance to the
Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit knows the path that will reawaken our sleeping minds to
the truth.
T-3.III.7. If you attack error in another, you will hurt yourself. 2 You cannot know your brother when you attack him. 3 Attack is always made upon a stranger. 4 You are making your brother a stranger by misperceiving your brother, and so you cannot know your brother. 5 It is because you have made your brother a stranger that you are afraid of your brother. 6 Perceive your brother correctly so that you can know your brother. 7 There are no strangers in God's creation. 8 To create as God created you can create only what you know, and therefore accept as yours. 9 God knows His children with perfect certainty. 10 God created His children by knowing His children. 11 God recognizes His children perfectly. 12 When His children do not recognize each other, His children do not recognize God.

Note # 21: As long as we view our brother as a limited ego-body, we will fail to perceive the truth about him. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we can look past the physical body and correctly perceive his Christ consciousness, his Big “S” Self. When we do this, we see our own true self and we recognize God. We realize that we are all joined and are the One Self of the shared holographic Mind of God.

IV. Error and the Ego

T-3.IV.1. The abilities you now possess are only shadows of your real strength. 2 All of your present functions are divided and open to question and doubt. 3 This questioning and doubt of your present functions is because you are not certain how you will use your abilities because their functions are divided, and therefore you are incapable of knowledge. 4 You are also incapable of knowledge because you can still perceive lovelessly. 5 Perception did not exist until the separation introduced degrees, aspects and intervals. 6 Spirit has no levels, and all conflict arises from the concept of levels. 7 Only the Levels of the Trinity are capable of unity. 8 The levels created by the separation cannot but conflict. 9 This is because the levels created by the separation are meaningless to each other.

Note # 22: Since we do not recognize what we are, we do not understand our own creative power. Because we come from fear and lack, we limit our own power to create. We attempt to serve two masters. One is love and the other fear or lovelessness. Believing ourselves to be limited ego-bodies, we cannot help but perceive a world of conflict and competition. Our belief in separation has not only introduced the concept of the false, we also have the concept of “sometimes”. Truth now can vacillate back and forth and both the true and the false become conditional at best. In the world of perception, there are no absolutes. Everything is questionable and changeable. On the non-real level of time, space and perception stability does not exist.

T-3.IV.2. Consciousness, the level of perception, was the first split introduced into the mind after the separation, making the mind a perceiver rather than a creator. 2 Consciousness is correctly identified as the domain of the ego. 3 The ego is a wrong-
minded attempt to perceive yourself as you wish to be, rather than as you are. 4 Yet you
can know yourself only as you are, because that is all you can be sure of. 5 Everything
else except knowing yourself only as you are <is> open to question.

Note # 23: This is an important paragraph (T-3.IV.2). This is referencing the splitting of
the mind into the” higher mind” which is under the jurisdiction of spirit and the “lower
mind” which is in the domain of the ego. Part of the indivisible Sonship of God has
“fallen” from a creator to a perceiver and has lost their ability to know. This supposed
separation, however, is only in the mind of the perceiver, not in the Mind of God. This
idea correlates with the definition of the ego, which is defined as a wrong-minded attempt
to perceive yourself as you wish to be, rather than as you are. You cannot change what
you truly are since God has created you perfect and changeless. You can, however, forget
(misperceive) who you are. This misperception leads to levels created by the separation,
which are irreconcilable to each other. Level confusion is the result and is a device,
which is used by the ego to verify that you are indeed a limited ego-body, not a “Oneness
of Everything”. As an ego-body you believe you are separate, fearful, and come from
lack. Prior to the separation there were no levels since there was only the knowing of the
One Self. Consciousness is the level of perception. Since the ego is the result of a
misperception, the ego is a miscreation. The result of a miscreation is not real in God’s
mind and is only perceived as real in the mind of the perceiver. This initial miscreation of
the split mind is the start of individual, provisional reality. Provisional reality is a world
that appears true only to the mind of the one perceiving (dreaming) it. Based of the fact
that God did not create the ego, (you did within your dream world of provisional reality),
the ego does not exist. The ego was made (miscreated) by the split mind that perceived
itself to be separate and was an attempt to make the false appear real. The ego was not
created by God and is not a part of the Mind of God.
The belief in separation is necessary for perception to exist. Without the belief of
separation, there could be nothing outside the perceiver to perceive. There would just be a
Oneness of the One Self. With the concept of separation, we now have two. We have an
observer and something outside itself to observe. We have something to compete with
and conflict with. The world of changeable perception was born. Time, which is the
measure of change, now becomes relevant. The separation birthed the concepts of
perception, change, time and fear. The ego, which is our split  mind's claim that it does
not know what it is, now takes up its residency in the illusionary non-real world of
perception.

T-3.IV.3. The ego is the questioning aspect of the post-separation self, which was made
rather than created. 2 The ego is capable of asking questions but not of perceiving
meaningful answers, because meaningful answers would involve knowledge and cannot
be perceived. 3 The mind is therefore confused, because only One-mindedness can be
without confusion. 4 A separated or divided mind <must> be confused. 5 A separated or
divided mind is necessarily uncertain about what it is. 6 A separated mind has to be in
conflict because a divided mind is out of accord with itself. 7 This makes a divided
mind’s aspects strangers to each other, and this lack of accord among the separated
mind’s various aspects is the essence of the fear-prone condition, in which attack is
always possible. 8 You have every reason to feel afraid as you perceive yourself. 9 This
is why you cannot escape from fear of how you perceive yourself, until you realize that you did not and could not create yourself. 10 You can never make your misperceptions true, and your creation is beyond your own error. 11 That is why you must eventually choose to heal the separation.

**Note # 24:** To correct something, you must go to the source of the error. The source is the mad idea that you can usurp God’s Will and somehow are separate from God. Since God created all that is, God is the Cause and you are God’s Effect. The effect cannot birth itself. Creation is an extension of itself and thus, cause can only extend what it is. The effect must be just as changeless as its cause. Misperceptions, no matter how hard you choose to believe them, will always be false. Just because you believe the world is flat, does not make it true. You can choose to live your life under the misperception that your world is flat but “reality” will be that the “real” world is round. We can deny our divine birthright but we can never lose it. Our divine inheritance always remains waiting patiently within us for the moment when we will cease playing the game of separation. This game will stop when we cease valuing our self-made ego that claims we could not know that we are Son’s of God.

**T-3.IV.4.** Right-mindedness is not to be confused with the knowing mind, because right-mindedness is applicable only to right perception. 2 You can be right-minded or wrong-minded, and even this is subject to degrees. The possibility of various degrees, or outcomes, demonstrates that this clearly requires perception and that knowledge is not involved. 3 The term "right-mindedness" is properly used as the correction for "wrong-mindedness," and applies to the state of mind that induces accurate perception. 4 Right-mindedness is miracle-minded because right-mindedness induces accurate perception, which heals misperception, and this change in perception is indeed a miracle in view of how you perceive yourself.

**Note # 25:** The miracle is a change in the viewer's perception. Knowledge is beyond the realm of perception since it is certain. Knowledge is not found at the non-real, illusionary level of separation, time and space.

**T-3.IV.5.** Perception always involves some misuse of mind, because perception brings the mind into areas of uncertainty. 2 The mind is very active p42. 3 When the mind chooses to be separated, the mind chooses to perceive. 4 Until the mind chooses to perceive, the mind can only choose ambiguously, and the only way out of ambiguity is clear perception. 6 The mind returns to the mind’s proper function only when the mind wills to know. 7 When the mind’s will to know, this places the mind in the service of spirit, where perception is changed. 8 The mind chooses to divide itself when the mind chooses to make its own levels. (Perception is a separate level from Oneness of God, which would be the state of mind called Heaven) 9 But it (the perceiving mind) could not entirely separate itself from spirit, because the mind is from spirit that the mind derives the mind’s whole power to make or create from spirit. 10 Even in miscreation the mind is affirming its Source (Spirit) or the mind would merely cease to be. 11 This ceasing of the mind to be is impossible, because the mind belongs to spirit which God created and
which is therefore eternal.

**Note # 26:** Even in our mind’s most delusional state, we still remain connected to our Source Energy or God. Our Christ-consciousness remembers who we are. The Holy Spirit maintains its eternal vigilance within our split mind patiently awaiting our call for Its guidance that cannot fail. Our mind or spirit always remains connected to its Cause. Cause and effect are inseparable. You cannot have one without the other.

T-3.IV.6. The ability to perceive made the body possible, because you must perceive <something> and <with> something. 2 That is why perception involves an exchange or translation, which knowledge does not need. 3 The interpretative function of perception, a distorted form of creation, then permits you to interpret the body as yourself in an attempt to escape from the conflict you have induced (the separation). 4 Spirit, which knows, could not be reconciled with this loss of power, because spirit is incapable of darkness. 5 This makes spirit almost inaccessible to the split-minded and entirely inaccessible to the body. 6 Thereafter, spirit is perceived as a threat, because light abolishes darkness merely by showing you darkness is not there. 7 Truth will always overcome error in this way. 8 This overcoming of error by truth cannot be an active process of correction because, as I have already emphasized, knowledge does not do anything. 9 Knowledge can be perceived as an attacker, but knowledge cannot attack. 10 What you perceive as knowledge’s attack is your own vague recognition that knowledge can always be remembered, since knowledge has never been destroyed.

**Note # 27:** Within our split mind our Christ consciousness or Big “S” Self holds the remembrance of our true beingness. By seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we reawaken the Christ within.

T-3.IV.7. God and His creations remain in surety, and therefore know that no miscreation exists. 2 Truth cannot deal with errors that you want. 3 I was a man who remembered spirit and spirit’s knowledge. 4 As a man I did not attempt to counteract error with knowledge, but to correct error from the bottom up. 5 I demonstrated both the powerlessness of the body and the power of the mind. 6 By uniting my will with that of my Creator, I naturally remembered spirit and spirit’s real purpose. 7 I cannot unite your will with God's Will for you, but I can erase all misperceptions from your mind if you will bring your mind under my guidance. 8 Only your misperceptions stand in your way of my guidance. 9 Without your misperceptions your choice is certain. 10 Sane perception induces sane choosing. 11 I cannot choose for you, but I can help you make your own right choice. p43 12 "Many are called but few are chosen" should be, "All are called but few choose to listen." 13 Therefore, they do not choose right. 14 The "chosen ones" are merely those who choose right sooner. 15 Right minds can do this now, and right minds will find rest unto their souls. 16 God knows you only in peace, and this <is> your reality.

**Note # 28:** Your true reality was, is, and always will be, as God created you – a Oneness, perfect, whole and complete. You remain sinless and guiltless as your Father created you. You can choose to misperceive who you are, but you cannot change what God created. In
the misperception that we call the dream of separation, we create our personal dream world of provisional reality. We ultimately will choose to freely dissolve this world of provisional reality since “God’s Will is not mocked“. God wills you to be an extension of God, Himself. Thus, you must remain an eternal Oneness of Everything. Ultimately there is only one choice and only one true option available to your decision-making mind. The only option that rests in truth is that you must assume your rightful place within the One Mind of God. The choice of separation is not a choice since it is a choice for an illusional fantasy, which is a choice for nothingness.

V. Beyond Perception

T-3.V.1.I have said that the abilities you possess are only shadows of your real strength, and that perception, which is inherently judgmental, was introduced only after the separation. 2 No one has been sure of anything since perception was exchanged for knowledge due to the separation. 3 I have also made it clear that the resurrection was the means for the return to knowledge, which was accomplished by the union of my will with the Father's Will. 4 We can now establish a distinction that will clarify some of our subsequent statements.

Note #29: The resurrection, which is the proof that the body is not you, is the foundation for the return to truth. Jesus demonstrated through the resurrection that mind or spirit is unlimited and the egoic body has nothing of value.

T-3.V.2. Since the separation, the words "create" and "make" have become confused. 2 When you make something, you do so out of a specific sense of lack or need. 3 Anything made for a specific purpose has no true generalizability. 4 When you make something to fill a perceived lack, you are tacitly implying that you believe in separation. 5 The ego has invented many ingenious thought systems for this purpose of reinforcing your belief in lack or need. 6 None of the ego’s thought systems are creative. 7 Inventiveness is wasted effort even in inventiveness’s most ingenious form. 8 The highly specific nature of invention is not worthy of the abstract creativity of God's creations.

Note #30: The specific nature of invention or “making” assisted the ego in the ego’s desire to convince your split mind that you are separate and not a Oneness with your brother and the Mind of God. If you believe that you are whole (a Oneness), what could you lack? Anything that is for a specific purpose rather than applicable to everything implies that there is something “out there” that you are missing and, therefore, you are not perfect, whole and complete. You believe that you are separate. To the ego, this confirms that you are something other than God’s Son. Creation comes from the mindset that you have everything, and, therefore, you can and do give everything. When someone creates, there is no sacrifice or diminishment. By sharing, both giver and receiver are strengthened. The creator shares its wholeness and perfection rather than makes something that it perceives it lacks. Creation is inclusion. Making is exclusion.
T-3.V.3. Knowing, as we have already observed, does not lead to doing. 2 The confusion between your real creation and what you have made of yourself is so profound that due to the confusion of what your real creation is (a spirit, the Son of God) versus what you have made or believe yourself to be (an ego body), it has become literally impossible for you to know anything. 3 Knowledge is always stable, and it is quite evident that you are not stable. 4 Nevertheless, you are perfectly stable as God created you. 5 In this sense, when your behavior is unstable, you are disagreeing with God's idea of your creation. 6 You can disagree with God’s idea of your creation if you choose, but you would hardly want to disagree with God’s idea of your creation if you were in your right mind.

Note # 31: God see us as perfect, whole and complete. What part in your own perfection do you wish to reject? Only an insane mind would choose limitation and lack over everything.

T-3.V.4. The fundamental question you continually ask yourself cannot properly be directed to yourself at all. 2 You keep asking what it is you are. 3 The question “What it is you are?” implies that the answer is not only one you know, but the answer is also one that is up to you to supply. 4 Yet you cannot perceive yourself correctly. p44 5 You have no image to be perceived. 6 The word "image" is always perception-related, and not a part of knowledge. 7 Images are symbolic and stand for something else. 8 The idea of "changing your image" recognizes the power of perception, but the idea of "changing your image" also implies that there is nothing stable to know since perception is open to interpretation.

Note # 32: The insane mind does not know the truth. Yet your egoic mind would claim not only that you know the truth but the ego, also, claims that you are the arbitrator of truth. The insane believe that by their own choice, they create what will be the truth and when it will be truth. To the insane, truth is unstable and constantly changing. In our egoic dream of separation, individual perception is the arbitrator of truth. Knowledge knows that truth is eternal and changeless.

T-3.V.5. Knowing is not open to interpretation. 2 You may try to "interpret" meaning, but to "interpret" meaning is always open to error because to "interpret" meaning refers to the <perception> of meaning. 3 Such incongruities between knowledge and perception of meanings are the result of attempts to regard yourself as separated and unseparated at the same time. 4 It is impossible to make so fundamental a confusion (regard yourself as separated and not separated at the same time) without increasing your overall confusion still further. 5 Your mind may have become very ingenious, but as always happens when method and content are separated, the ingenious mind is utilized in a futile attempt to escape from an inescapable impasse. 6 Ingenuity is totally divorced from knowledge, because knowledge does not require ingenuity. 7 Ingenious thinking is <not> the truth that shall set you free, but you are free of the need to engage in ingenious thinking when you are willing to let ingenious thinking go.

Note # 33: In this world of perception and time, we need to understand that due to our
loss of knowledge, we cannot perceive anything correctly. The way around this impasse is to seek the guidance of someone who knows the truth. Only the Holy Spirit knows the truth about what you are and is also aware of our current state of illusion or insanity. We need only ask the help of our Inner Guide, the Holy Spirit, for His correct perception. The utilization of the Holy Spirit’s thought system is the pathway to the eventual return of the Sonship to knowledge.

T-3.V.6. Prayer is a way of asking for something. 2 Prayer is the medium of miracles. 3 But the only meaningful prayer is for forgiveness, because those who have been forgiven have everything. 4 Once forgiveness has been accepted, prayer in the usual sense becomes utterly meaningless since you realize you already have everything. 5 The prayer for forgiveness is nothing more than a request that you may be able to recognize what you already have. 6 In electing perception instead of knowledge, you placed yourself in a position where you could resemble your Father only by perceiving miraculously. 7 You have lost the knowledge that you yourself are a miracle of God. 8 Creation is your Source and your only real function.

Note # 34: A “correct” prayer would be asking to remember who you really are. You are spirit, not the ego-body that you incorrectly perceive yourself to be. As God’s Son, you are creation and your function is to extend creation. In the prayer of forgiveness, we are giving ourselves permission to remember who we are. We, not God, need to forgive ourselves for our own stupidity. The ego would have you cling to your illusion of separateness so that you can claim to be right. The Holy Spirit would merely tell you to choose again. The Holy Spirit knows that an illusion is not real and where there is no harm, there can be no foul. The Holy Spirit asks you to not judge yourself. Instead It asks that you choose again. This time choose to be happy instead of the egoic decision to sacrifice your happiness so that you can pretend to be “right”.

T-3.V.7. The statement "God created man in his own image and likeness" needs reinterpretation. 2 "Image" can be understood as "thought," and "likeness" as "of a like quality." 3 God did create spirit in His Own Thought and of a quality like to His Own. 4 There is nothing else. 5 Perception, on the other hand, is impossible without a belief in "more" and "less." 6 At every level perception involves selectivity. 7 Perception is a continual process of accepting and rejecting, organizing and reorganizing, shifting and changing. 8 Evaluation is an essential part of perception, because judgments are necessary in order to select.

Note # 35: Spirit is everything. There is no lack in spirit. Perception requires that there is something outside “the everything”, which contradicts the definition of “everything.” Lack is impossible in a Oneness of “All That Is”. Perception attempts to divide the inseparable and then judge what it claims has been removed from the whole. Spirit is holographic. Each inseparable part contains the whole because it is the whole. The whole is in each part and each part is in the whole. Spirit is not form but the Thought of God.

T-3.V.8. What happens to perceptions if there are no judgments and nothing but perfect equality? 2 Perception becomes impossible p45. 3 Truth can only be known. 4 All of
**truth** is equally true, and knowing any part of **truth** is to know all of **truth**. Only perception involves partial awareness. Knowledge transcends the laws governing perception, because partial knowledge is impossible. Knowledge is all one and has no separate parts. You who are really one with knowledge need but know yourself and your knowledge is complete. To know God's miracle is to know God.

**Note # 36:** Judgment is required for perception. If you judge not, you look past form to content. Content is the truth that only love is real. The ego is a big judging machine. When you quiet the voice of the judgmental ego, you will finally be able to hear the Voice for the remembrance of God and the truth of what you are. When you set aside all judgment, you will accept the Atonement for yourself. The Father will return the Sonship to knowledge and perception will be no more. We will know that we all are unlimited spirit, part of the One Self that is the Mind of God. The Mind of God extends. It does not separate.

In this paragraph, it clearly states the knowledge is holographic in nature. Partial knowledge is impossible since knowledge is all one and has no separate parts.

**T-3.V.9.** Forgiveness is the healing of the perception of separation. Correct perception of your brother is necessary, because without correct perception of your brother, minds have chosen to see themselves as separate. Spirit knows God completely. Spirit's complete knowledge of God is spirit's miraculous power. The fact that each one has this power to know God completely is a condition entirely alien to the world's thinking. The world believes that if anyone has everything, there is nothing left. But God's miracles are as total as His Thoughts because God's miracles <are> God's Thoughts.

**Note # 37:** We need to abandon the current paradigm of dualistic thinking. We currently operate under the belief that a whole can be divided into smaller parts and the each part is less than the whole. This leads us into egoic thinking that claims each part is a separate, limited ego-body in competition with other separate, limited ego-bodies. Struggle and conflict result with each party trying to get what they need from a world of fear and lack. Yet, if we shift to a new holographic paradigm, we will have a better conceptual understanding of how ACIM views the universe of the Mind of God. In a true hologram, you can cut the whole into smaller and smaller parts. Yet, whenever you shine a laser beam through any separate piece of the hologram, no matter how small, the entire holographic projection will reappear. Any and all parts have all the information needed to recreate the whole. In the Holographic Model of the Mind of God, each part contains the whole and the whole contains each part. When we realize that we are all created from the same stuff called spirit, we understand that although form may appear to vary, the content, which is spirit is all the same. There is equality in the parts and connectiveness in all parts. There is no separation since all are interconnected on the holographic web of life, that we call the Mind of God. When any part of the hologram shares or extends itself, all parts share and extend. Because of the inter-connectiveness within a hologram, to give is to receive. In the holographic Oneness of Spirit, the Father, the Sonship, the Holy Spirit, your brother and sister and you are all One Self.
T-3.V.10. As long as perception lasts prayer has a place. 2 Since perception rests on lack, those who perceive have not totally accepted the Atonement and given themselves over to truth since they still believe in lack. 3 Perception is based on a separated state, so that anyone who perceives at all needs healing. 4 Communion, not prayer, is the natural state of those who know. 5 God and God’s miracle are inseparable. 6 How beautiful indeed are the Thoughts of God who live in God’s light! 7 Your worth is beyond perception because your worth is beyond doubt. 8 Do not perceive yourself in different lights. 9 Know yourself in the One Light of God where the miracle that is you is perfectly clear.

Note # 38: You are the Thoughts of God. You need but to know who you really are. Realize your oneness. Your worthiness is undeniable for you are the One Light of God’s Thoughts. Do not perceive yourself in the “light” of littleness and limitation. This egoic “light” is not light but rather a cloak for darkness. Any perception of yourself as different from the Light that is God’s Thoughts, is symbolic of your belief in the separation. Do not perceive yourself to be different, separate and not whole.

VI. Judgment and the Authority Problem

T-3.VI.1. We have already discussed the Last Judgment, but in insufficient detail. 2 After the Last Judgment there will be no more judgment. 3 Judgment is symbolic because beyond perception there is no judgment. 4 When the Bible says "Judge not that ye be not judged," the Bible means that if you judge the reality of others you will be unable to avoid judging your own reality.

Note # 39: The ego judges. Knowledge is truth, which is beyond perception. In a Oneness of everything to judge or condemn another is to judge and condemn yourself.

T-3.VI.2. The choice to judge rather than to know is the cause of the loss of peace. 2 Judgment is the process on which perception but not knowledge rests. 3 I have discussed this before in terms of the selectivity of perception, pointing out that evaluation is perception’s obvious prerequisite. 4 Judgment always involves rejection. 5 Judgment never emphasizes only the positive aspects of what is judged, whether in you or in others. 6 What has been perceived and rejected, or judged and found wanting, remains in your mind because what has been perceived and rejected, or judged and found wanting, has been perceived. 7 One of the illusions from which you suffer is the belief that what you judged against has no effect. 8 What you judged against has no effect cannot be true unless you also believe that what you judged against does not exist. 9 You evidently do not believe what you judged against does not exist, or you would not have judged against it. 10 In the end it does not matter whether your judgment is right or wrong. 11 Either way, whether your judgment is right or wrong, you are placing your belief in the unreal. 12 This placing of your belief in the unreal cannot be avoided in any type of judgment, because placing your belief in the unreal implies the belief that reality is yours to select <from.>
**Note # 40:** Truth is truth. Reality is reality. Our belief in what we choose to perceive as our own personal “provisional reality” has no impact on truth. The ego claims you are the arbitrator of truth. The ego is wrong. God, not you, determined what is the changelessness Truth. Reality and Truth are permanently fixed in the Mind of God. When you perceive something to be apart from you, you confirm your belief that the separation is real. By seeing another as something other than unlimited spirit, you deny both parties their divine inheritance.

**T-3.VI.3.** You have no idea of the tremendous release and deep peace that comes from meeting yourself and your brothers totally without judgment. 2 When you recognize what you are and what your brothers are, you will realize that judging your brothers in any way is without meaning. 3 In fact, your brothers’ meaning is lost to you precisely because you are judging your brothers. 4 All uncertainty comes from the belief that you are under the coercion of judgment. 5 You do not need judgment to organize your life, and you certainly do not need judgment to organize yourself. 6 In the presence of knowledge all judgment is automatically suspended, and this automatic suspension of judgment is the process that enables recognition to replace perception.

**Note # 41:** When you suspend all judgments, you can be in the <now> of the moment. Judgment robs you of your peace and happiness. Drop egoic judgment and all that remains is love. What was perceived as fearful and separate is now seen as a cry for joining and love. When we drop the judgments of the egoic split mind, all that we hear is the Voice of the Holy Spirit and right-mindedness.

**T-3.VI.4.** You are very fearful of everything you have perceived but have refused to accept everything you have perceived. 2 You believe that, because you have refused to accept everything you have perceived, you have lost control over everything you have perceived. 3 This is why you see everything you have perceived in nightmares, or in pleasant disguises in what seem to be your happier dreams. 4 Nothing that you have refused to accept can be brought into awareness. 5 The perception that you have refused to accept is not dangerous in itself, but you have made the perceptions that you have refused to accept seem dangerous to you.

**Note # 42:** Until we are willing to accept ownership for our own perception, we will never be in a position to dissolve them. As long as we claim that we are causeless over our own perception, we will remain in victim consciousness. If we do not realize that we are the dreamer, we will never realize that by awakening our mind to the truth, the dream will disappear. The dream of separation is not the problem. The problem is that we have forgotten that we are the dreamer. We have allowed love to be replaced by fear. As the Bible states, “That a deep sleep fell upon Adam,” yet it never states that Adam awoke. We are that “Adam”. We have forgotten that we chose to experience what it would be like to pretend that we had a body and now believe that we are that body. We, the dreamer, have identified ourselves as a character in the dream rather than realizing that we are the dreamer. In our personal world of provisional reality, we are the writer, director, and star in our own movie of make believe that we call our private, bodily, life experience. Only when you claim ownership of the script, do you have the power to
change it. Your thoughts make your perception and your perception is your world.

**T-3.VI.5.** When you feel tired, your tiredness is because you have judged yourself as capable of being tired. 2 When you laugh at someone, you laugh at someone because you have judged him as unworthy. 3 When you laugh at yourself you must laugh at others, if only because you cannot tolerate the idea of being more unworthy than they are. 4 All this makes you feel tired because it is essentially disheartening. 5 You are not really capable of being tired, but you are very capable of wearying yourself. 6 The strain of constant judgment is virtually intolerable. 7 It is curious that the ability of judgment, which is so debilitating would be so deeply cherished. 8 Yet if you wish to be the author of reality, you will insist on holding on to judgment. 9 You will also regard judgment with fear, believing that judgment will someday be used against you. p47 10 This belief that judgment will someday be used against you can exist only to the extent that you believe in the efficacy of judgment as a weapon of defense for your own authority.

**Note # 43:** Judgment blocks and restricts the flow of source energy or connectiveness to our mind. This sense of disconnectedness with our big “S” Self is perceived as tiring because you have chosen to be out of alignment with your Source, which is that you truly are. Your egoic thinking is denying your true nature as unlimited spirit.

**T-3.VI.6.** God offers only mercy. 2 Your words should reflect only mercy, because that is what you have received from God, and only mercy is what you should give. 3 Justice is a temporary expedient, or an attempt to teach you the meaning of mercy. 4 Justice is judgmental only because you are capable of injustice.

**Note # 44:** Because we perceive ourselves as unworthy, fearful sinners, we seek and demand retribution. God’s mercy or judgment is only that His Child is sinless and guiltless because that is how God created you. You are an extension of God, Herself. God knows the truth that you can only be perfect, whole and complete.

**T-3.VI.7.** I have spoken of different symptoms, and at that level where judgment exists, there is almost endless variation of different symptoms. 2 There is, however, only one cause for all of the different symptoms, the authority problem. 3 The authority problem is "the root of all evil." 4 Every symptom the ego makes involves a contradiction in terms, because the mind is split between the ego and the Holy Spirit, so that whatever the ego makes is incomplete and contradictory. 5 This untenable position that whatever the ego makes is incomplete and contradictory is the result of the authority problem which, because the mind accepts the one inconceivable thought as its premise, can produce only ideas that are inconceivable.

**Note # 45:** The “authority problem” is a question of who is the author of reality. Is God the creator or are you? If God is the creator, reality is stable and changeless and you will always be as God created you - perfect, whole and complete. If you are the creator of yourself, you have somehow usurped the authority of God and are separate and have something to fear. The authority problem now centers on what you are. Are you an ego-body? Or, are you Spirit? You cannot be both. If one is true, the other must be an illusion
or dream. Due to your false belief that you are separate, your split-mind must decide which viewpoint it should follow. Your higher mind and the Holy Spirit represent right-mindedness. This is your Big “S” Self. Wrong-mindedness is represented by the ego and its ally, the body. This is your little “s” self. The core belief of wrong-mindedness is that you are separate and come from lack and limitation. As such, you are no longer perceived as God created you. The ego tells you that you are not the Son of God but rather are something other than as God created you. The core belief of right-mindedness is that you are created by God in His Image. As such, you will always be a Oneness with God for you are an extension of God. You can deny, or forget, your birthright, but your inheritance will always be there for you to reclaim whenever you choose to remember. God made you, perfect, whole and complete, and this and only this is what you are.

T-3.VI.8 The issue of authority is really a question of authorship. 2 When you have an authority problem, it is always because you believe you are the author of yourself and project your delusion onto others. 3 You then perceive the situation as one in which others are literally fighting you for your authorship. 4 This is the fundamental error of all those who believe they have usurped the power of God. 5 This belief that they have usurped the power of God is very frightening to them, but hardly troubles God. 6 God is, however, eager to undo this belief that you have usurped the power of God, not to punish His children, but only because God knows that this belief that you have usurped the power of God makes His children unhappy. 7 God's creations are given their true Authorship, but you prefer to be anonymous when you choose to separate yourself from your Author, which is God. 8 Being uncertain of your true Authorship, you believe that your creation was anonymous. 9 This leaves you in a position where it sounds meaningful to believe that you created yourself. 10 The dispute over authorship has left such uncertainty in your mind that your mind may even doubt whether you really exist at all.

Note # 46: There is only one will and that is the shared Will of God. God wills that His Child be happy and know Itself. When we deny our Source, we also claim that we are unlike our Source. Yet, because we have been given God’s power of creation, we are a co-creator with God. Even in the deluded state of split-mindedness, our creative power is never lost. Coming from lack, we make or miscreate through the use of projection. Although it is our thoughts that make, we disown our own authorship over our thoughts. We claim something outside ourselves created them. We also claim that what we perceive to be outside ourselves was self-created and that we are powerless to alter our circumstances. When we believe we lack, we send these thoughts of lack outward into the world of perception. When these same thought patterns return to the sender, the sender’s sense then confirms that something that we claim we have no control over exists outside and separate from the mind of the sender, who is also the perceiver. Projection allows the ego to claim that perhaps we, like our outside world, was self-created. God’s Thought is the Cause and we are God’s Effect. Only in the insane logic of the egoic thought system can an effect be its own cause.

T-3.VI.9. Only those who give over all desire to reject can know that their own rejection
is impossible. 2 You have not usurped the power of God, but you have lost the power of God. 3 Fortunately, to lose something does not mean that it has gone. 4 To lose something merely means that you do not remember where what you lost is. 5 The existence of what you have lost does not depend on your ability to identify what you have lost, or even to place where what you have lost is. 6 It is possible to look on reality without judgment and merely know that what you have lost is there. p48

Note # 47: It is impossible to lose our divine inheritance for this is not God’s Will. We can deny or forget that we have, but we cannot change what God has given us. Denial does not change the truth. We merely have to believe that we have it and it will be made available to us. The mind’s beliefs and thoughts are that powerful. Our divine inheritance is that God’s creations remain as God created them. God’s creations are eternally pure, perfect and innocent. Being spirit, these thoughts of God are invulnerable to change.

T-3.VI.10. Peace is a natural heritage of spirit. 2 Everyone is free to refuse to accept his inheritance, but he is not free to establish what his inheritance is. 3 The problem everyone must decide is the fundamental question of authorship. 4 All fear comes ultimately, and sometimes by way of very devious routes, from the denial of Authorship. 5 The offense of the denial of Authorship is never to God, but only to those who deny God’s Authorship. 6 To deny God’s Authorship is to deny yourself the reason for your peace. Your peace is the natural heritage of spirit, which is your birthright as God’s Son. When you deny God’s Authorship you see yourself only in segments. 7 This strange perception that you, not God, created yourself is the authority problem.

Note # 48: The denial of your birthright as a child of God, results in your belief that you are separate. This belief in separation leaves the mind split and gives rise to the illusionary world of the ego. In this dream world of the ego, you are a victim of limitation and fear. You are no longer perfect, whole and complete in this dream world of egoic making. By your denial of your divine birthright, you deny your inherited ability to co-create with your Father. Belief in lack results in miscreation because you believe yourself to be separate from the Oneness that is the Source of your creative power.

T-3.VI.11. There is no one who does not feel that he is imprisoned in some way. 2 If this imprisonment is the result of his own free will he must regard his will as not free, or the circular reasoning in this position would be quite apparent. 3 Free will must lead to freedom. 4 Judgment always imprisons because judgment separates segments of reality by the unstable scales of desire. 5 Wishes are not facts. 6 To wish is to imply that willing is not sufficient. 7 Yet no one in his right mind believes that what is wished is as real as what is willed. 8 Instead of "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven" say, "<Will> ye first the Kingdom of Heaven," and you have said, "I know what I am and I accept my own inheritance."

Note # 49: Claim the truth of your divine birthright and it is yours. Claim that you are limited and you will imprison yourself. Only you, not God, judge yourself guilty and unworthy. Only you hold the keys to your own prison cell. When will you choose for only truth and unlock the door?
VII. Creating versus the Self-Image

T-3.VII.1. Every system of thought must have a starting point. 2 A starting point begins with a making or a creating, a difference we have already discussed. 3 Their resemblance lies between a making or a creating, in their power as foundations. 4 Their difference in the power of the foundation of a making (egoic thought system) or a creating (Holy Spirit’s) thought system lies in what rests upon them. 5 Both the power of a making or a creating are cornerstones for systems of belief by which one lives. 6 It is a mistake to believe that a thought system based on lies is weak. 7 Nothing made by a child of God is without power. 8 It is essential to realize that nothing made by a child of God is without power, because otherwise you will be unable to escape from the prison you have made.

Note # 50: Due to free will, your mind has the creative power to manifest whatever you will. This is true even if you falsely believe you are a powerless victim trapped in an ego-body. Making is based on limitation and, therefore, lacks permanency and only exists in the dream state of your mind. This projected dream world is neither real nor part of the Mind of God. Yet if one believes the dream to be real, the dream has the power to entrap the dreamer within the dream itself. Creation comes from oneness and is unalterable. Coming from truth and love, creation frees, includes and joins. The two thought systems are both powerful in there creative abilities. The ego’s thought system rests on the false belief in fear, separation, lack and limitation. Due to its false beliefs, the egoic split mind lacks the creative power of love, yet, it still has the power to miscreate. Although the egoic thought system is based on the false, it can make a personal, provisional reality that evolves into an entire planet that appears to be ruled by fear. The creative power of the mind is a powerful force even when it rests on lies and false beliefs. This creative power is even more powerful when its foundation rests upon the truth. The thought system of the Holy Spirit creates, rather than makes since it is based on love. Creation, being real and part of the Mind of God, is more powerful than making. When the false is brought into the light of truth, the false fades away and only love remains.

T-3.VII.2. You cannot resolve the authority problem by depreciating the power of your mind. 2 To do so (depreciating the power of your mind), is to deceive yourself, and this will hurt you because you really understand the strength of the mind. 3 You also realize that you cannot weaken the power of your mind, any more than you can weaken God. 4 The "devil" is a frightening concept because the "devil" seems to be extremely powerful and extremely active. 5 The "devil" is perceived as a force in combat with God, battling God for possession of God’s creations. 6 The devil deceives by lies, and builds kingdoms in which everything is in direct opposition to God. p49 7 Yet the "devil" attracts men rather than repels men, and men are willing to "sell" the "devil" their souls in return for gifts of no real worth. 8 This makes absolutely no sense.

Note # 51: The mind’s belief in separation is the “Devil”. To the split minded, separation
is very real and fearful. Our egoic thought system represents the “devil”. It is based on the belief in the false, which opposes the Will of God. The false is not real and has no real intrinsic value, yet, the illusions of the false is what we seem to prize.

**T-3.VII.3.** We have discussed the fall or separation before, but the fall or separation’s meaning must be clearly understood. 2 The separation is a system of thought real enough in time, though not in eternity. 3 All beliefs are real to the believer. 4 The fruit of only one tree was "forbidden" in the symbolic garden. 5 But God could not have forbidden the fruit, or the fruit could not have <been> eaten. 6 If God knows His children, and I assure you that God does, would God have put them in a position where their own destruction was possible? 7 The "forbidden tree" was named the "tree of knowledge." 8 Yet God created knowledge and gave knowledge freely to His creations. 9 The symbolism here has been given many interpretations, but you may be sure that any interpretation that sees either God or His creations as capable of destroying Their Own purpose is in error.

**Note # 52:** On the level of the world of perception, time and space, there are two thought systems available from which to choose. The egoic thought system made this false dream of separation appear real. The thought system of the Holy Spirit will remove the false and leave only what is created from love. The false cannot destroy the truth. The Atonement principle insures that “Adam” will wake up. It is only our denial of our divine birthright that keeps us from our remembrance of the truth that we part of the One Self.

**T-3.VII.4.** Eating of the fruit of the tree of knowledge is a symbolic expression for usurping the ability for self-creating. 2 The ability for self-creating is the only sense in which God and His creations are not co-creators. 3 The belief that God’s creations are self-created is implicit in the "self-concept," or the tendency of the self to make an image of itself. 4 Images are perceived, not known. 5 Knowledge cannot deceive, but perception can. 6 You can perceive yourself as self-creating, but you cannot do more than believe it. 7 You cannot make self-creating true. 8 And, as I said before, when you finally perceive correctly you can only be glad that you cannot self-create. 9 Until then, however, the belief that you can self-create is the foundation stone in your thought system, and all your defenses are used to attack ideas that might bring the fallacy that you can self-create to light. 10 You still believe you are an image of your own making. 11 Your mind is split with the Holy Spirit on this point, and there is no resolution while you believe in the fallacy that you can self-create which is the one thing which is literally inconceivable. 12 Because your mind is split with the Holy Spirit on this point, that is why you cannot create and are filled with fear about what you make.

**Note # 53:** God or Source Energy is the First Cause. This “Force” always was and always will be. This “Force” is everywhere and in everything. This “Force” cannot be lost or destroyed. This “Force” is constantly moving in, out and through form. Theologians call this “Force” God. Scientists currently choose to call this “Force” energy. Both define it the same way. Call it whatever makes you feel most comfortable. ACIM calls this universal force, God. The only difference from God and everything else is that this “God Force” has no cause. This is why we describe It as always was and always will be. As
such, this God Force is “self-created.” Everything else that follows arose from this Causeless Force, that ACIM calls God. This God Force is the Primary Source or First Cause for all that follows after It. The Law of Creation states that like begets like. This is extension and thus, we possess all the attributes of our Original Source or Creator except that we are not causeless. God is Cause and we are God’s Effect. Other than that there is no difference between this God Force and us.

The ego claims that you are self-created. This egoic claim for self-creation means you can be something other than God. If God is everything, if you believe that you are different from God, than you must be less than God. Thus, while God is perfect, whole and complete, the ego would tell you that you are not perfect, not whole and very incomplete. The ego’s belief that you are self-created is the root cause of the belief in the separation and lack. From this belief that we could be separate from our Source, the entire egoic thought system arose. Separation, sin, guilt and fear are the logical outcomes of this impossible egoic belief that you gave birth to yourself. We are not self-created and we are not causeless. Being God’s thoughts, we trace our origin or Source back to the Mind of our Father.

T-3.VII.5. The mind can make the belief in separation very real and very fearful, and this belief in separation is the "devil." 2 The belief in separation, the “devil”, is powerful, active, destructive and clearly in opposition to God, because the belief in separation literally denies God’s Fatherhood. 3 Look at your life and see what the devil has made. 4 But realize that this making will surely dissolve in the light of truth, because its foundation, the belief in separation, is a lie. 5 Your creation by God is the only Foundation that cannot be shaken, because the light is in it (the truth of your creation by God). p50 6 Your starting point is truth, and you must return to your Beginning (Truth). 7 Much has been seen since then, but nothing has really happened. 8 Your Self is still in peace, even though your mind is in conflict. 9 You have not yet gone back far enough, and that is why you become so fearful. 10 As you approach the Beginning, you feel the fear of the destruction of your egoic thought system upon you as if the destruction of your thought system were the fear of death. 11 There is no death, but there a belief in death.

Note # 54: Since our foundation rest in truth, which is real, we must return to truth. In this regard, our journey is different than what we would call the normal evolutionary cycle. Rather than evolve beyond our parent’s state of being, we need to return to our “primitive” origins. We need to go back to our Source and return to the truth that we are a Child of God.

T-3.VII.6. The branch that bears no fruit will be cut off and will wither away. 2 Be glad! 3 The light will shine from the true Foundation of life, and your own thought system will stand corrected. 4 Your own egoic thought system cannot stand otherwise. 5 You who fear salvation are choosing death. 6 Life and death, light and darkness, knowledge and perception, are irreconcilable. 7 To believe that Life and death, light and darkness, knowledge and perception can be reconciled is to believe that God and His Son can be reconciled. 8 Only the oneness of knowledge is free of conflict. 9 Your Kingdom is not of this world because the Kingdom was given you from beyond this
world. 10 Only in this world *(your ego world of misperception)* is the idea of an authority problem meaningful. 11 The world is not left by death but by truth, and truth can be known by all those for whom the Kingdom was created, and for whom the Kingdom waits. p51

**Note # 55:** Reject the thought system of the ego. It is based on the false beliefs of self-creation, separation, limitation, lack and fear. Instead, embrace the thought system of the Holy Spirit that represents truth and love. Love is life. Nothing truly living can survive on the thought system of the ego. The false cannot support life for the false is an illusion of nothing. The loving flow of Source Energy is what gives life. This is your divine birthright and inheritance. Follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit and reawaken to the truth. By accepting the Atonement for yourself, your path to the return to the knowledge that resides in the Kingdom of Heaven is assured.
Chapter 4. THE ILLUSIONS OF THE EGO

Introduction

T-4.in.1. The Bible says that you should go with a brother twice as far as a brother asks. It certainly does not suggest that you set him back on his journey. Devotion to a brother cannot set you back either. Devotion to a brother can lead only to mutual progress. The result of genuine devotion is inspiration, a word which properly understood is the opposite of fatigue. To be fatigued is to be dis-spirited, but to be inspired is to be in the spirit. To be egocentric is to be dis-spirited, but to be Self-centered in the right sense is to be inspired or in spirit. The truly inspired are enlightened and cannot abide in darkness.

Note # 1: To be Self-centered is to be in alignment with your Big “S” Self’s nature. It acknowledges your spiritual roots and encourages joining, not separation. Being a Oneness, when you assist another on their journey back to the light this also aids yourself. We assist a brother when we see his spiritual nature rather than view him as a limited ego-body. By realizing that his action can only be an expression of love or a cry for love, we allow him to be his true Self.

T-4.in.2. You can speak from the spirit or from the ego, as you choose. If you speak from spirit you have chosen to "Be still and know that I am God." These words are inspired because they reflect knowledge. If you speak from the ego you are disclaiming knowledge instead of affirming knowledge, and are thus dis-spiritng yourself. Do not embark on useless journeys, because useless journeys are indeed in vain. The ego may desire useless journeys, but spirit cannot embark on useless journeys because spirit is forever unwilling to depart from spirit’s Foundation.

Note # 2: Only seek and witness for the truth of our Big “S” Self. Follow the voice of the Holy Spirit. If you utilize egoic thinking, you will judge wrongly and will misperceive.

T-4.in.3. The journey to the cross should be the last "useless journey." Do not dwell upon the journey to the cross, but dismiss the journey to the cross as accomplished. If you can accept the journey to the cross as your own last useless journey, you are also free to join my resurrection. Until you do so your life is indeed wasted. Your life merely re-enacts the separation, the loss of power, the futile attempts of the ego at reparation, and finally the crucifixion of the body, or death. Such repetitions are endless until they are voluntarily given up. Do not make the pathetic error of "clinging to the old rugged cross." The only message of the crucifixion is that you can overcome the cross. Until then you are free to crucify yourself as often as you choose.
The pathetic error of "clinging to the old rugged cross" is not the gospel I intended to offer you. We have another journey to undertake, and if you will read these lessons carefully these lessons will help prepare you to undertake this other journey. 

**Note # 3:** By our abandoning the egoic thought system and accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we accomplish the journey back to the truth that we are the “Christ”. Following the guidance of the Holy Spirit does this.

### I. Right Teaching and Right Learning

**T-4.I.1.** A good teacher clarifies his own ideas and strengthens his own ideas by teaching his own ideas. 2 Teacher and pupil are alike in the learning process. 3 Teacher and pupil are in the same order of learning, and unless teacher and pupil share their lessons conviction will be lacking. 4 A good teacher must believe in the ideas he teaches, but good teacher must meet another condition; good teacher must believe in the students to whom he offers the ideas.

**Note # 4:** Both teacher and pupil aid each other when they both share the belief that the learning goal will be accomplished. We are all teachers and we are all students. We are on the journey together.

**T-4.I.2.** Many stand guard over their ideas because they want to protect their thought systems as they are, and learning means change. 2 Change is always fearful to the separated, because the separated cannot conceive of change as a move towards healing the separation. 3 The separated always perceive change as a move toward further separation, because the separation was their first experience of change. 4 You believe that if you allow no change to enter into your ego you will find peace. 5 This profound confusion of the separated to not conceive of change as a move towards healing the separation is possible only if you maintain that the same thought system can stand on two foundations. 6 Nothing can reach spirit from the ego, and nothing can reach the ego from spirit. 7 Spirit can neither strengthen the ego nor reduce the conflict within the ego. 8 The ego <is> a contradiction. 9 Your self (ego-self) and God's Self <are> in opposition. 10 Your self (ego-self) and God's Self are opposed in source, in direction and in outcome. 11 Your self (ego-self) and God's Self are fundamentally irreconcilable, because spirit cannot perceive and the ego cannot know. 12 Your self (ego-self) and God's Self are therefore not in communication and can never be in communication. 13 Nevertheless, the ego can learn, even though its maker (your split-minded self) can be misguided. 14 The ego’s maker cannot, however, make the totally lifeless out of the life-given.

**Note # 5:** The thought systems of the ego and the Holy Spirit are mutually exclusive. They are like two parallel lines; they never cross. They always contradict each other. The true and the false do not mix to become “sometimes”. When we realize that each system represents a different level of thinking, we can understand why both cannot take us to the
truth. The only way to the truth is by total abandonment of the egoic ladder of separation. The ego’s ladder only takes us to different degrees of fear. We can never reach the truth by following the false. If we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, the split-minded can relearn the truth about themselves.

T-4.1.3. Spirit need not be taught, but the ego must be taught. 2 Learning is ultimately perceived as frightening because learning leads to the relinquishment, not the destruction, of the ego to the light of spirit. 3 This relinquishment, not the destruction, of the ego to the light of spirit is the change the ego must fear, because the ego does not share my charity. 4 My lesson was like yours, and because I learned my lesson I can teach my lesson. 5 I will never attack your ego, but I am trying to teach you how your ego’s thought system arose. 6 When I remind you of your true creation, your ego cannot but respond with fear.

Note # 6: Jesus wants us to recover our decision-making ability. We each have our own decision-maker in our mind. It is your decision-maker that determines which thought system you will choose to follow at any given moment in time. Jesus asks us to reclaim our mind’s decision-making ability and realize that we have the power to choose again. When we choose a different thought system, we get different results. Thus, we get change. The ego does not want change for change means you have decided to remove some of your allegiance from the ego to the Holy Spirit. ACIM and Jesus know that by teaching us the truth about the egoic thought system, we will come to our senses and freely decide to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

T-4.1.4. Teaching and learning are your greatest strengths now, because teaching and learning enable you to change your mind and help others to change their minds. 2 Refusing to change your mind will not prove that the separation has not occurred. 3 The dreamer who doubts the reality of his dream while he is still dreaming is not really healing his split mind. p53 4 You dream of a separated ego and believe in a world that rests upon a separated ego. 5 This dream world that rests upon a separated ego is very real to you. 6 You cannot undo this dream world that rests upon a separated ego by not changing your mind about this dream world that rests upon a separated ego. 7 If you are willing to renounce the role of guardian of your thought system and open the role of guardian of your thought system to me, I will correct your thought system very gently and lead you back to God.

Note # 7: The insane cannot expect to be healed by continuing to follow an insane thought system. Only someone who is sane and is aware of your current delusional state of mind can offer correction and return you to right-mindedness. Jesus is the representative for the Holy Spirit’s guidance system. This guide and teacher stands ready to help us retrain our mind. We need only ask for His advice and it will be given.

T-4.1.5. Every good teacher hopes to give his students so much of his own learning that his students will one day no longer need the teacher. 2 This is the one true goal of the teacher. 3 It is impossible to convince the ego that the one true goal of the good teacher is to no longer be needed by your students, because this goes against all of the
ego’s own laws. 4 But remember that laws are set up to protect the continuity of the system in which the lawmaker believes. 5 It is natural for the ego to try to protect itself once you have made the ego your teacher, but it is not natural for you to want to obey the ego’s laws unless <you> believe the ego’s laws. 6 The ego cannot make this choice because of the nature of the ego’s origin. 7 You can, because of the nature of your origin.

Note # 8: The ego wants you to always follow it for the ego’s very existence depends upon you. The ego was not self-created. It was your mind that birthed your ego. You are the cause and the ego is the effect of your thinking. The ego is the result of your belief that the separation is real. It is your thinking that father your ego and the ego’s existence is contingent on your decision to allow it to continue to be your adviser for your experiences of separation. Because of your divine birthright, you have the power of creation and also the power of the decision-maker.

The decision-maker is your free will. You have free will to imagine and experience whatever you want. If you wish to pretend or imagine that you are something you are not, free will gives you this power. Free will does not give you the power to change the truth, but it does allow you to pretend that you are anything you want to be, even self-created if you dare to will that type of experience for yourself. When we believe we are self-created, we birth our ego and the egoic thought system. Self-creation allows us to experience what it would be like to be limited and separate from your Source. There was nothing wrong with us desiring the experience of separation, but somehow during the process, we forgot that we were pretending and we took the dream seriously. We identified ourselves as real participant, rather than merely an actor in a stage play. We, the dreamer, forgot that it was our own dream. We took the dream of separation seriously and in our minds it became real to us, the actors. When we choose to reclaim our right to control our own decision-maker, we will be able to decide that we no longer want to play the game of separation. The ego never wants us to rediscover that we, not the ego, have always been in control of the decision-maker.

T-4.I.6. Egos can clash in any situation, but spirit cannot clash at all. 2 If you perceive a teacher as merely "a larger ego" you will be afraid, because to enlarge an ego would be to increase anxiety about separation. 3 I will teach with you and live with you if you will think with me, but my goal will always be to absolve you finally from the need for a teacher. 4 This is the opposite of the ego-oriented teacher's goal. 5 The ego-oriented teacher is concerned with the effect of his ego on other egos, and therefore interprets their interaction as a means of ego preservation. 6 I would not be able to devote myself to teaching if I believed this, and you will not be a devoted teacher as long as you believe that the role of teacher's interaction with the student is a means of ego preservation. 7 I am constantly being perceived as a teacher either to be exalted or rejected, but I do not accept either perception for myself.

Note # 9: An ego-oriented teacher wants his student to always be dependent on him and never outgrow his need for a teacher. This is similar to the psychologist or doctor who wants his patients to get better but not so well that their patients no longer need their services.
T-4.I.7. Your worth is not established by teaching or learning. Your worth is established by God. As long as you dispute that your worth is established by God, everything you do will be fearful, particularly any situation that lends itself to the belief in superiority and inferiority. Teachers must be patient and repeat their lessons until their lessons are learned. I am willing to do this, because I have no right to set your learning limits for you. Again, nothing you do or think or wish or make is necessary to establish your worth. This point that your worth is established by God is not debatable except in delusions. Your ego is never at stake because God did not create your ego. Your spirit is never at stake because He did create your spirit. Any confusion on this point is delusional, and no form of devotion is possible as long as the delusion lasts regarding the fact that your worth is established by God and not by anything you do.

Note # 10: This egoic world teaches that our worth is determined by what we do. The ego teaches that love must be earned. The thought system of the Holy Spirit knows that God established your worth and that there is nothing you can do to increase or decrease your worth in God’s eyes. God so loved His Creation that He gave everything that He is to them. God has established that our birthright is our worth. He created you perfect, whole and complete. The egoic thought system wants to limit you, don’t let it. Reclaim your truth as unlimited spirit. We are a Oneness of Everything. Our will and God’s Will are One.

T-4.I.8. The ego tries to exploit all situations into forms of praise for itself in order to overcome the ego’s doubts. The ego will remain doubtful as long as you believe in the ego’s existence. You who made the ego cannot trust the ego, because in your right mind you realize the ego is not real. The only sane solution is not to try to change reality, which is indeed a fearful attempt, but to accept reality as reality is. You are part of reality, which stands unchanged beyond the reach of your ego but within easy reach of spirit. When you are afraid, be still and know that God is real, and you are His beloved Son in whom He is well pleased. Do not let your ego dispute that you are His beloved Son in whom He is well pleased, because the ego cannot know what is as far beyond the ego’s reach as you are.

Note # 11: Our Christ consciousness and our ego belief system are opposite. One is truth and the other represents illusion. When we choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we align with the truth. God is well pleased because He knows the truth that we are His changeless extension. We eternally are as God created us, His Children, perfect, whole and complete.

T-4.I.9. God is not the author of fear. You are the author of fear. You have chosen to create unlike Him, and have therefore made fear for yourself. You are not at peace because you are not fulfilling your function to create like God. God gave you a very lofty function that you are not meeting. Your ego has chosen to be afraid instead of meeting your function to create like God. When you awaken you will not be able to understand that you chose to be afraid instead of meeting your function, because it is literally incredible. Do not believe the incredible now. Any attempt to increase its believableness, that you chose to be afraid instead of meeting your function to create
like God, is merely to postpone the inevitable. 10 The word "inevitable" is fearful to the ego, but joyous to the spirit. 11 God is inevitable, and you cannot avoid Him any more than He can avoid you.

Note # 12: Our function is to create like God. We are designed to extend the love of God. We do this by being love. Due to identification with the egoic thought system, we have attempted to create out of fear. Fear is our miscreation and, thus, it is not real. Miscreation is not our destiny and can never give us lasting joy. Being love, we must extend the truth of our “Beingness”, which is only love. When we learn to control our fear, we will once again reclaim our rightful place as co-creator with Our Father. This result is certain. Time patiently waits upon our inevitable decision to accept the Atonement for ourselves and be the truth of what we are.

T-4.I.10. The ego is afraid of the spirit's joy, because once you have experienced the spirit's joy you will withdraw all protection from the ego, and become totally without investment in fear. 2 Your investment in fear is great now because fear is a witness to the separation, and your ego rejoices when you witness to the separation. 3 Leave the ego and the separation behind! 4 Do not listen to the ego and do not preserve the separation and the ego. 5 Listen only to God, Who is as incapable of deception as is the spirit He created. 6 Release yourself and release others. 7 Do not present a false and unworthy picture of yourself to others, and do not accept such a false and unworthy picture of them yourself.

Note # 13: Our ego’s self-image of littleness is totally false and unworthy of a Son of God. When we realize that we control our own decision-maker, we will allow ourselves to choose again. We will recover right-mindedness. Who but the insane would choose the fantasy of littleness over the reality of their Big “S” Self?

T-4.I.11. The ego has built a shabby and unsheltering home for you, because the ego cannot build otherwise. 2 Do not try to make this impoverished house stand. 3 The ego’s impoverished house’s weakness is your strength. 4 Only God could make a home that is worthy of His creations. His creations have chosen to leave the home that God made for His creations empty by His creations’ own dispossession of God’s home. 5 Yet His home will stand forever, and is ready for you when you choose to enter His home. 6 Of this you can be wholly certain. 7 God is as incapable of creating the perishable as the ego is of making the eternal.

Note # 14: Our birthright cannot be lost or stolen. Our true Home awaits our decision to bear witness only for the truth. God never took away our Home. We freely chose to move out. The Holy Spirit has kept God’s Home for us and we will return to God’s Home whenever we decide to accept the Atonement for ourselves. Our return is only one decision away. The Holy Spirit asks our decision-maker to choose again.

T-4.I.12. Of your ego you can do nothing to save yourself or others, but of your spirit you can do everything for the salvation of both yourself or others. p55 2 Humility is a lesson for the ego, not for the spirit. 3 Spirit is beyond humility, because spirit recognizes its
radiance and gladly sheds its light everywhere. 4 The meek shall inherit the earth because their egos are humble, and this gives the meek truer perception. 5 The Kingdom of Heaven is the spirit's right, whose beauty and dignity are far beyond doubt, beyond perception, and stand forever as the mark of the Love of God for His creations, who are wholly worthy of Him and only of Him. 6 Nothing else but the Kingdom of Heaven is sufficiently worthy to be a gift for a creation of God Himself.

Note # 15: The ego’s thought system has a plan for everything that you choose to experience. This egoic plan is based on its erroneous beliefs in separation and limitation. From this error laden thought system, the ego judges incorrectly and than determines what must be done to fix what it misperceived and then also misjudged in the first place. This egoic thought system is bankrupt. The false can do nothing to change to truth. The false can only replace one illusion with another equally false illusion. Only the Holy Spirit, Who knows both the truth and your illusion, can return you to right-mindedness. Once in your right-mind, Spirit can do everything through you to return you and your brother to knowledge.

T-4.I.13.I will substitute for your ego if you wish, but I will never substitute for your spirit. 2 A father can safely leave a child with an elder brother who has shown himself responsible, but this involves no confusion about the child’s origin. 3 The brother can protect the child's body and child's ego, but the brother does not confuse himself with the father because he does this. 4 I can be entrusted with your body and your ego only because this enables you not to be concerned with your body and your ego, and lets me teach you your body and your ego’s unimportance. 5 I could not understand their importance to you if I had not once been tempted to believe in my body and my ego myself. 6 Let us undertake to learn this lesson together so we can be free of the body and the ego together. 7 I need devoted teachers who share my aim of healing the mind. 8 Spirit is far beyond the need of your protection or mine. 9 Remember this:

10 In this world you need not have tribulation because I have overcome the world. 11 Because I have overcome this world (world of the ego body), this is why you should be of good cheer.

Note # 16: Jesus has “been there and done that.” As such, he is the perfect teacher, who can act as our mentor and guide. Jesus is the “way shower” because he has completed the journey back Home. Jesus is an experienced, older brother who was just like us. Jesus, like us, is a Child of God. Jesus, unlike us, has learned that he was not self-created and that all power resided in our Source. Jesus knows that the Sonship could never usurp God’s power and thus he will teach us that we remain the sinless and guiltless Child of God. God is Cause and we are His Effect. Jesus brings news that our inheritance has not been lost and we should rejoice. This egoic world of body and form is not real. It is an illusion.
II. The Ego and False Autonomy

T-4.II.1. It is reasonable to ask how the mind could ever have made the ego. In fact, **how the mind could ever have made the ego** is the best question you could ask. There is, however, no point in giving an answer to the question of how the mind could ever have made the ego in terms of the past because the past does not matter, and history would not exist if the same errors were not being repeated in the present. Abstract thought applies to knowledge because knowledge is completely impersonal, and examples are irrelevant to knowledge's understanding. Perception, however, is always specific, and therefore quite concrete.

**Note # 17:** It does not matter how the mind made the ego, but ACIM states that we are still making the same choice in this moment. Our experience is based on what we choose to believe. Our beliefs or thoughts generate our experiences. Thoughts become things. “As a Man thinks, so he becomes.” We are constantly creating our world of provisional reality.

T-4.II.2. Everyone makes an ego or a self for himself, which is subject to enormous variation because of the ego’s instability. He also makes an ego for everyone else he perceives, which is equally variable or unstable. Their interaction (your own ego and the ego you made for someone else) is a process that alters both, because they were not made by or with the Unalterable, it is not shared with the Mind of God. It is important to realize that this alteration between your own ego and the ego you made for someone else can and does occur as readily when the interaction takes place in the mind as when the interaction involves physical proximity. Thinking about another ego is as effective in changing your relative perception about that other ego that you created as is physical interaction. There could be no better example that the ego is only an idea and not a fact.

**Note # 18:** We create our ego, which determines how we perceive ourselves to be. We also create an ego for everything else. Perception, since it is not knowledge, is subject to change based on the mind of the perceiver. Since these egos are our own perception which is subject to change, the egos that we make and project upon ourselves and others are unstable and subject to change. Being only thought projections, egos represent the idea that we hold in our mind about any subject. It is our story, not the “facts.” As we change our thinking, we change our perception of what we believe. This change in our thinking also changes our egoic projections about ourselves and others. Our perception forms the basis for our own “provisional reality”, “dream state”, or “illusionary world”. By changing our thinking, we can change our “provisional reality”.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Paragraph T-4.II.2 contains a critically concept if someone is to escape from a fear-based thought system. It states that we are constantly creating an ego, not just for ourselves, but also for everyone and everything that we perceive. Our ability to create these egos for all that we perceive requires a split mind that believes the separation to be real. We live in a world of private individuated perception. This private world is being evaluated and judged through our own mind's egoic filters and belief.
system. Our belief system determines what experiences we are willing to allow within our state of consciousness. This helps insures that the outer world that we perceive confirms and conforms to the inner world that we have created within our own mind. We claim to see an outside world that is separate and autonomous from us. This is not so. We are only seeing through our own personal egoic sunglasses that color everything that we perceive. Thus, the interactions that we claim to be having with other ego-bodies are actually occurring within our own mind. This interplay is not between to separate autonomous entities but rather it is an internal mind game that is played out between our own ego and the ego we made for someone else. Everything is an inside job that is originating within each party's own mind. Yet we behave as if we are interacting with another separate autonomous being. In reality, each party is reacting to their own mind’s projections about what they believe that other person's role is supposed to be. This role, of course, is our egoic image that we have created for them. By the same token, the other party is not reacting to you, but rather to the egoic role that they created for you. Thus, through the process of individuated egoic creation, each party's mind is controlling how they personally will perceive the situation. Neither party is in the <now> since each is reacting and cultivating their own egoic story. Each is living in their own private fantasy world of egoic projection.

T-4.II.3. Your own state of mind is a good example of how the ego was made. 2 When you threw knowledge away it is as if you never had knowledge. 3 This is so apparent that one need only recognize that, when you throw knowledge away it is as if you never had knowledge, to see that it does happen. 4 If this occurs (throwing knowledge away and than forgetting that you once had it) in the present, why is it surprising that it occurred in the past? 5 Surprise is a reasonable response to the unfamiliar, though hardly to something that occurs with such persistence. 6 But do not forget that the mind need not work that way, even though the mind does work that way now.

Note # 19: When our mind chooses to believe something different, all past knowledge that would be contradictory to the new belief is temporarily forgotten. Knowledge requires certainty. When we choose to perceive, we lose certainty and with it knowledge.

T-4.II.4. Think of the love of animals for their offspring, and the need the animals feel to protect their offspring. 2 That is because they regard their offspring as part of themselves. 3 No one dismisses something he considers part of himself. 4 You react to your ego much as God does to His creations,—with love, protection and charity. 5 Your reactions to the self you made are not surprising. 6 In fact, your reactions to the self you made (your ego) resemble in many ways how you will one day react to your real creations, which are as timeless as you are. 7 The question is not how you respond to the ego, but what you believe you are. 8 Belief is an ego function, and as long as your origin is open to belief you are regarding, or questioning, what you believe you are, from an ego viewpoint. 9 When teaching is no longer necessary you will merely know God. 10 Belief that there is another way of perceiving is the loftiest idea of which ego thinking is capable. 11 That is because belief that there is another way of perceiving, contains a hint of recognition that the ego is not the Self.
**Note # 20:** The “problem” of the ego comes from our faulty belief in what we are. Are we spirit (Son of God), perfect, whole and complete? Or, are we ego-bodies subject to lack and limitation? We cannot create like God when we are under the false belief that we are something other than as God created us. The ego claims that we are self-created. Yet, when the ego changes its beliefs and thinking, it admits that perception can change and that ego is not always right. It confirms that the ego is not sure what it is. Our Big “S” Self is in the “I AM” state. The ego is in the “WHAT AM I?” state. The ego’s instability in thinking hints that anything the ego claims to be truth is subject to change. If this is the case, can we trust and believe the ego’s definition of what we are?

**T-4.II.5.** Undermining the ego's thought system must be perceived as painful, even though this is anything but true. 2 Babies scream in rage if you take away a knife or scissors, although the babies may well harm themselves if you do not take away the knife 3 In this sense you are still a baby. 4 You have no sense of real self-preservation, and are likely to decide that you need precisely what would hurt you most. 5 Yet whether or not you recognize it now, you have agreed to cooperate in the effort to become both harmless and helpful, attributes that must go together. 6 Your attitudes even toward both harmless and helpful are necessarily conflicted, because all attitudes are ego-based. 7 This conflict will not last. 8 Be patient a while and remember that the outcome is as certain as God. p57

**Note # 21:** We have been brought up to believe that we are a separate limited ego-body. Although the belief that we are a body is detrimental to the happiness of our true Self, we have adopted the belief that the egoic thought system protects and defends our reality. In truth, the egoic thought system defends only the dream of separation while attacking the truth of your reality as Spirit, your Big “S” Self.

**T-4.II.6.** Only those who have a real and lasting sense of abundance can be truly charitable. 2 This is obvious when you consider what is involved to be truly charitable. 3 To the ego, to give anything implies that you will have to do without it. 4 When you associate giving with sacrifice, you give only because you believe that you are somehow getting something better, and can therefore do without the thing you give. 5 "Giving to get" is an inescapable law of the ego, since the ego always evaluates itself in relation to other egos. 6 The ego is therefore continually preoccupied with the belief in scarcity that gave rise to the ego. 7 The ego’s whole perception of other egos as real is only an attempt to convince itself that <the ego> is real. 8 "Self-esteem" in ego terms means nothing more than that the ego has deluded itself into accepting the ego’s reality, and is therefore temporarily less predatory. 9 This "self-esteem" is always vulnerable to stress, a term which refers to any perceived threat to the ego's existence.

**Note # 22:** ACIM also points out that egoic “charity” is not true, unconditional giving but rather we give to get. Egoic charity is an exchange in which we believe we will get something better than what we gave up. We will get our reward in heaven or we will be blessed ten fold. This is why ACIM states most charitable giving is an exchange to get. ACIM gives its definition of “STRESS” as any perceived threat to the ego. Stress is in the domain of the ego and its insistence on lack. It is not a function of the body but a
misperception based on what you are.

T-4.II.7. The ego literally lives by comparisons. 2 Equality is beyond grasp, and charity becomes impossible. 3 The ego never gives out of abundance, because the ego was made as a substitute for abundance. 4 That is why the concept of "getting" arose in the ego's thought system. 5 Appetites are "getting" mechanisms, representing the ego's need to confirm itself. 6 The ego's need to confirm itself is as true of body appetites as the ego's need to confirm itself is true of the so-called appetites of the "higher ego needs." 7 Body appetites are not physical in origin. 8 The ego regards the body as the ego's home, and tries to satisfy itself through the body. 9 But the idea that through the body the ego can satisfy itself is possible, is a decision of the mind yet the mind has become completely confused about what is really possible.

Note # 23: Although the mind is the true seat of power, your uncertainty as to what you are has allowed you to abdicate that power to the ego’s belief system. The ego’s thought system is designed to bear false witness against the truth and claim that you are either self-created or that you have a will that opposes God’s Will. Since you arose from lack, you must get what you need from outside yourself. This is further proof that you are separate and apart from the Mind of God and cannot be a Oneness of Everything.

T-4.II.8. The ego believes it is completely on its own, which is merely another way of describing how the ego thinks it originated. 2 This belief that the ego is completely on its own is such a fearful state that the ego can only turn to other egos and try to unite with the other egos in a feeble attempt at identification, or attack the other egos in an equally feeble show of strength. 3 The ego is not free, however, to open the premise to question, because the premise (the belief that the ego is completely on its own) is the ego’s foundation. 4 The ego is the mind's belief that the mind is completely on its own. 5 The ego's ceaseless attempts to gain the spirit's acknowledgment and thus establish the ego's own existence are useless. 6 Spirit in its knowledge is unaware of the ego. 7 Spirit does not attack the ego; Spirit merely cannot conceive of the ego at all. 8 While the ego is equally unaware of spirit, the ego does perceive itself as being rejected by something greater than itself (Spirit). 9 This is why self-esteem in ego terms must be delusional. 10 The creations of God do not create myths, although creative effort can be turned to mythology. p58 11 Creative efforts can be turned to mythology, however, only under one condition; what creative effort egoically makes is then no longer creative. 12 Myths are entirely perceptual, and so ambiguous in form and characteristically good-and-evil in nature that the most benevolent of the myths are not without fearful connotations.

Note # 24: The self-creation myth of the ego is the seat of all fear. It is the bedrock for the belief that God’s creation could usurp God’s authority and oppose God’s Will. This idea that we could be something other than our God, our Source, has lead to the ego’s unholy alliance with sin, guilt and fear. These three “kissing cousins” always show up together as a threesome upon our acceptance of the belief in separation.

T-4.II.9. Myths and magic are closely associated, since myths are usually related to ego origins, and magic to the powers the ego ascribes to itself. 2 Mythological systems
generally include some account of "the creation," and associate its’ account of "the creation," with its particular form of magic. 3 The so-called "battle for survival" is only the ego's struggle to preserve itself, and the ego’s interpretation of its own beginning. 4 This beginning is usually associated with physical birth, because it is hard to maintain that the ego existed before that point in time (physical birth). 5 The more "religiously" ego-oriented may believe that the soul existed before, and will continue to exist after a temporary lapse into ego life. 6 Some even believe that the soul will be punished for this lapse into ego life. 7 However, salvation does not apply to spirit, since spirit is not in danger and does not need to be salvaged.

Note # 25: Spirit, being one with God, has no need for salvation for it eternally rests in the Mind of God. Only a belief system that claims that separation from God happened, would require and develop a mythology of salvation for its return to God.

T-4.II.10. Salvation is nothing more than "right-mindedness," which is not the One-mindedness of the Holy Spirit, but "right-mindedness" must be achieved before One-mindedness is restored. 2 Right-mindedness leads to the next step automatically, because right perception is uniformly without attack, and therefore wrong-mindedness is obliterated. 3 The ego cannot survive without judgment, and the ego is laid aside accordingly when right-mindedness is achieved. 4 Since wrong-mindedness has been obliterated because of right perception, the mind then has only one direction in which the mind can move. 5 The mind’s direction is always automatic, because the direction cannot but be dictated by the thought system to which the mind adheres.

Note # 26: The ego must judge in order to survive. Judgment is used by the ego to confirm that the ego is separate from something “out there”. If there is only a Oneness, who could the ego judge against?

Once we start to request the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will automatically gravitate more and more toward the help of the Holy Spirit. We feel positive emotions when we drop our egoic judgments and respond to a brother with love and forgiveness. These positive emotions testify to the effectiveness of love’s ability to remove fear. This pull toward the inner peace found in the thought system of the Holy Spirit is magnetic and goes in one direction. Once begun, there is no turning back. It is merely a question of time before the thought system of the ego is abandoned entirely.

T-4.II.11. It cannot be emphasized too often that correcting perception is merely a temporary expedient. 2 Correct perception is necessary only because misperception is a block to knowledge, while accurate perception is a steppingstone towards knowledge. 3 The whole value of right perception lies in the inevitable realization that perception is unnecessary. 4 This realization that perception is unnecessary removes the block entirely. 5 You may ask how this removal of the block is possible as long as you appear to be living in this world. 6 That is a reasonable question. 7 You must be careful, however, that you really understand the question. 8 Who is the "you" who are living in this world? 9 Spirit is immortal, and immortality is a constant state. 10 Spirit is immortal, and immortality is a constant state is as true now as it ever was or ever will be, because immortality, like spirit, implies no change at all. 11 Immortality is not a
continuum, nor is **immortality** understood by being compared to an opposite. p59

12 Knowledge never involves comparisons. 13 That **knowledge never involves comparisons** is knowledge’s main difference from everything else the mind can grasp.

**Note # 27:** We seek oneness, which is the result of knowledge. When the separation occurred in our minds, we “lost” knowledge and replaced knowledge with perception. Perception can vary from person to person. Perception is not stable since it arises out of a split-mind. The mind is under the influence of right-mindedness when it is following the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Right- perception arises from the decision to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. The mind is under the influence of wrong-mindedness when it is under the belief system of the ego. When we misperceive, knowledge is blocked. To correct this block, it is necessary to recover right-mindedness.

This block, like all other fear based thoughts are the product of illusion. They appear to exist only in the mind of the perceiver of the dream of separation. Awaken the power of the decision-maker to his ability to choose again and he will freely choose to awaken to truth. Our tolerance for pain is high but it is not infinite. Eventually we will ask to be shown another way to look at our experiences. When we do this, the Holy Spirit will be there.

**III. Love without Conflict**

T-4.III.1.It is hard to understand what "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you" really means. 2 This is because what **"The Kingdom of Heaven is within you" really means** is not understandable to the ego, which interprets this statement as if something outside is inside, and this does not mean anything. 3 The word "within" is unnecessary. 4 The Kingdom of Heaven <is> you. 5 What else <but> you did the Creator create, and what else <but> you is His Kingdom? 6 This is the whole message of the Atonement; a message which in its totality transcends the sum of its parts. 7 You, too, have a Kingdom that your spirit created. 8 Your spirit has not ceased to create because of the ego's illusions. 9 Your creations are no more fatherless than you are. 10 Your ego and your spirit will never be co-creators, but your spirit and your Creator will always be. 11 Be confident that your creations are as safe as you are.

12 The Kingdom is perfectly united and perfectly protected, and the ego will not prevail against the **Kingdom**. 13 Amen.

**Note # 28:** Heaven is not a place. It is a state of mind or Spirit. As long as we believe ourselves to be a body, we cannot understand how this could be. ACIM is mind training. It asks us to question everything the ego has taught us so that we can choose differently. To abandon everything you have been taught to be true requires either great courage or great desperation. You need to ask yourself, has the egoic thought system brought you lasting peace, joy and happiness? If not, why not try something else? If that something else does not give you improved results, you can always go back to your old ways of thinking.

ACIM has an accompanying workbook consisting of 365 daily lessons. These lessons are to retrain your mind to a new paradigm of thinking. The workbook lessons
will move the teachings of ACIM from your head to your heart. If you are serious about changing your life’s direction, you need to do these lessons. To claim you know and not to live it is not to know.

T-4.III.2. This (T-4 III.1.12. The Kingdom is perfectly united and perfectly protected, and the ego will not prevail against the Kingdom. 13 Amen.) is written in the form of a prayer because it is useful in moments of temptation. 2 This prayer, (T-4 III.12.) is a declaration of independence. 3 You will find it (T-4 III.12.) very helpful if you understand it fully. 4 The reason you need my help is because you have denied your own Guide and therefore need guidance. 5 My role is to separate the true from the false, so truth can break through the barriers the ego has set up and truth can shine into your mind. 6 Against our united strength the ego cannot prevail.

Note # 29: Egoic thinking has brainwashed us so effectively that we cannot see the forest through the trees. Only someone above the level of the trees can direct us home. It is impossible to change error thinking when you are being constantly told that this is just the way it is and you have no power to affect change over your experience. You need to be told that you have the ability to choose again.

T-4.III.3. It is surely apparent by now why the ego regards spirit as the ego’s "enemy." 2 The ego arose from the separation, and the ego’s continued existence depends on your continuing belief in the separation. 3 The ego must offer you some sort of reward for maintaining this belief in the separation. 4 All the ego can offer is a sense of temporary existence, which begins with the ego’s own beginning and ends with the ego’s own ending. 5 The ego tells you this life is your existence because this life is the ego’s own existence. 6 Against this sense of temporary existence spirit offers you the knowledge of permanence and unshakable being. 7 No one who has experienced the revelation of the spirit’s knowledge of permanence and unshakable being can ever fully believe in the ego again. p60 8 How can the ego’s meager offering to you of temporary existence prevail against the glorious gift of God which is permanence and unshakable being?

Note # 30: When we compare what each thought system promise their followers, only an insane mind would choose the egoic thought system. Because of this fact, the ego never wants you to rediscover that you have the ability to choose again. ACIM goal is to reawaken the decision-maker within you to the fact that you still have free will and, therefore, can choose differently. You can choose to follow the Holy Spirit’s thought system and accept the Atonement, which is the Truth about yourself.

T-4.III.4. You who identify with your ego cannot believe God loves you. 2 You do not love what you made (the ego), and what you made (the ego) does not love you. 3 Being made out of the denial of the Father, the ego has no allegiance to you, its maker. 4 You cannot conceive of the real relationship that exists between God and His creations because of your hatred for the self you made. 5 You project onto the ego the decision to separate, and this conflicts with the love you feel for the ego because you made the ego. 6 No love in this world is without this ambivalence, and since no ego has experienced love without ambivalence the concept of love without this ambivalence is beyond the
ego's understanding. 7 Love will enter immediately into any mind that truly wants love, but the mind must want love truly. 8 This means that the mind wants love without ambivalence, and this kind of wanting is wholly without the ego's "drive to get."

**Note # 31:** The ego is incapable of love or of understanding the meaning of love. Because the ego was miscreated by our belief in lack, the ego believes that the only purpose of giving is to get. Unconditional love, which is the only love that exists, gives without expectation of some return or payoff. The ego is incapable of understanding that to give is to receive since its beliefs are rooted in separation, limitation and struggle. To the ego, its home is the body form. The ego demands that everything must be a “good trade” if the body is to continue to exist. Unconditional love gives all because it is all. By giving love, you prove that you are love for it is impossible the give what you do not have.

T-4.III.5. There is a kind of experience so different from anything the ego can offer that you will never want to cover or hide this experience again. 2 It is necessary to repeat that your belief in darkness and hiding is why the light cannot enter. 3 The Bible gives many references to the immeasurable gifts which are for you, but for which you must ask. 4 This asking is not a condition as the ego sets conditions. 5 It is the glorious condition of what you are.

**Note # 32:** Because you are God’s Son, created in God’s image, all is given you. Because you have free will, you are allowed to claim your birthright at any time. Your birthright is always yours for the asking. It cannot be denied you, since this is how God created you. It is God’s Will that you be perfect, whole, and complete. What God created is changeless. You can choose not to remember your birthright and in the realm of time, even reject your inheritance. Yet, it is never lost, just forgotten. When you choose to temporarily reject your inheritance, you make your belief in the separation appear real. Yet, even while you use time to experience the dream of separation, you still remain God’s child. You only need to wake up and reclaim (ask for) your inheritance. Upon reawakening, you will remember that you are unlimited Spirit, not an ego-body, and you will remember your Father, Who created you. The prodigal son has return to His Home.

T-4.III.6. No force except your own will is strong enough or worthy enough to guide you. 2 In this, your will, you are as free as God, and must remain so forever. 3 Let us ask the Father in my name to keep you mindful of His Love for you and your love for Him. 4 God has never failed to answer this request to keep you mindful of His Love for you and your love for Him, because it asks only for what He has already willed. 5 Those who call truly are always answered. 6 Thou shalt have no other gods before Him because there are no other gods.

**Note # 33:** We have been given free will, which is the power of choice. Yet, free will does not give us the power to change our Source. We are the Effect of God’s Thought and thus, God must always be our Cause. We are not self-created. Being an extension of the Mind or Thought of God, we remain a Oneness within that Mind. Since there is only one Mind and one will, our will and God’s Will must be the same. Free will allows us to
deny this truth, but our denial cannot change this truth.

T-4.III.7. It has never really entered your mind to give up every idea you ever had that opposes knowledge. 2 You retain thousands of little scraps of fear that prevent the Holy One from entering. 3 Light cannot penetrate through the walls you make to block the light, and light is forever unwilling to destroy what you have made. 4 No one can see through a wall, but I can step around a wall. 5 Watch your mind for the scraps of fear, or you will be unable to ask me to step around your wall. 6 I can help you only as our Father created us. 7 I will love you and honor you and maintain complete respect for what you have made, but I will not uphold what you have made unless what you have made is true. 8 I will never forsake you any more than God will, but I must wait as long as you choose to forsake yourself. 9 Because I wait in love and not in impatience, you will surely ask me truly. 10 I will come in response to a single unequivocal call.

Note # 34: Because you have free will, neither Jesus, nor the Holy Spirit, would attempt to impose the Truth upon you. Their will merely speaks for the Truth but Truth never attacks. Truth just is. Only by your asking for their guidance will their assistance be made available to you. But when you ask for their help, it will be provided. This is what was meant by the statement that you must ask for the gifts God has given you. When you ask, you acknowledge your willingness to question the validity of your egoic belief system. If asked, the Holy Spirit will gently remind you Who created you and what you really are.

T-4.III.8. Watch carefully and see what it is you are really asking for. 2 Be very honest with yourself in what it is you are really asking for, for we must hide nothing from each other. 3 If you will really try to do this (be honest with yourself), you have taken the first step toward preparing your mind for the Holy One to enter your mind. 4 We will prepare for this together, for once the Holy One has come, you will be ready to help me make other minds ready for the Holy One. 5 How long will you deny the Holy One His Kingdom?

Note # 35: When we accept the truth about our Big “S” Self, we become a teacher of this truth. To teach the truth, we must be the truth. By our giving the truth to others, we prove we have it. For in a Oneness, to give is to receive.

T-4.III.9. In your own mind, though denied by the ego, is the declaration of your release. 2 <God has given you everything.> 3 This one fact that God has given you everything means the ego does not exist, and this makes the ego profoundly afraid. 4 In the ego's language, "to have" and "to be" are different, but they are identical to the Holy Spirit. 5 The Holy Spirit knows that you both <have> everything and <are> everything. 6 Any distinction in this respect is meaningful only when the idea of "getting," which implies a lack, has already been accepted. 7 That is why we make no distinction between <having> the Kingdom of God and <being> the Kingdom of God.

Note # 36: Because the ego comes from lack, the ego believes in a “zero-sum game”. If someone wins the other side must lose. There is no possibility of a win-win situation. Because of this sense of lack to the ego, to have is to get. You cannot just BE when you
need to protect what you have gotten. Having is a constant battle for the ego since the ego “lives” in constant fear of loosing what it has. The ego believes that you are form and form cannot be shared. If I give you my pencil, I now lack one pencil. Sharing of form always requires sacrifice on the givers part. Due to the ego’s belief that to give is to get, the ego always demands a “good trade.”

To Spirit, having and being are the same since Spirit comes from abundance and oneness. Spirit knows it is not a body and there is nothing to fear. There is only the Oneness, which is Spirit, Mind or the Thought of God. Thoughts can be shared with no loss to the giver. Shared thoughts are extended and strengthened, not diminished. Spirit is everything and Spirit has everything. Spirit knows there is no lack. Spirit knows that having and being are the same. Being is the creative process of extending what It is.

T-4.III.10. The calm being of God's Kingdom, which in your sane mind is perfectly conscious, is ruthlessly banished from the part of the mind the ego rules. 2 The ego is desperate because the ego opposes literally invincible odds, whether you are asleep or awake. 3 Consider how much vigilance you have been willing to exert to protect your ego, and how little to protect your right mind. 4 Who but the insane would undertake to believe what is not true, and then protect this belief at the cost of truth?

Note # 37: The calm being is he who knows that he is the Son of God. It is the Christ consciousness part of our mind. When the separation occurred, the mind was split into right-mindedness, which is under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and wrong-mindedness, which is under the guidance of the ego and the ego’s belief in lack. The Son of God has fallen asleep and does not remember His birthright. The mind has fallen under to the guidance of the ego, and the mind believes that it is an ego-body rather than a spiritual being. Because you believe that you are an ego-body, this becomes your “provisional reality”. Ultimately this egoic dream world (“your provisional reality”) that you miscreated will be surrender to right-mindedness. You cannot change the truth of what God created. You must accept the truth that you were and always will be perfect, whole and complete. The ego can oppose God’s Will, but it cannot triumph over God’s Will.

IV. This Need Not Be

T-4.IV.1. If you cannot hear the Voice for God, it is because you do not choose to listen to the Voice for God. 2 That you <do> listen to the voice of your ego is demonstrated by your attitudes, your feelings and your behavior. 3 Yet to listen to the voice of your ego is what you want. 4 The voice of your ego is what you are fighting to keep, and the voice of your ego is what you are vigilant to save. 5 Your mind is filled with schemes to save the face of your ego, and you do not seek the face of Christ. 6 The glass in which the ego seeks to see its face is dark indeed. 7 How can the ego maintain the trick of the ego’s existence except with mirrors? p62 8 But where you look to find yourself is up to you.

Note # 38: You can choose to see yourself as a Son of God (the face of Christ), or you can choose to see yourself as an ego-body. When the voice of the ego controls attitudes,
feelings and behavior, you cannot change your mind as to who you are. You need to choose for the Voice of God, the Holy Spirit.

T-4.IV.2.I have said that you cannot change your mind by changing your behavior, but I have also said, and many times, that you <can> change your mind. 2 When your mood tells you that you have chosen wrongly, and <chosen wrongly> is whenever you are not joyous, then <know this lack of joy need not be>. 3 In every case you have thought wrongly about some brother God created, and are perceiving images your ego makes in a darkened glass. 4 Think honestly what you have thought that God would not have thought, and what you have not thought that God would have you think. 5 Search sincerely for what you have done and left undone accordingly, and then change your mind to think with God's. 6 This changing your mind to think with God's mind may seem hard to do, but it is much easier than trying to think against God. 7 Your mind is one with God's mind. 8 Denying that your mind is one with God's mind, and thinking that you were separate has held your ego together, but has literally split your mind. 9 As a loving brother I am deeply concerned with your mind, and urge you to follow my example as you look at yourself and at your brother, and see in both yourself and your brother the glorious creations of a glorious Father.

Note # 39: Jesus wants us to follow our bliss, which is thoughts that align with God’s Will that we be happy. When we are not joyous and have lost our peace of mind, our Big “S” Self is telling us that we are not in alignment with right-mindedness.

T-4.IV.3.When you are sad, <know this need not be>. 2 Depression comes from a sense of being deprived of something you want and do not have. 3 Remember that you are deprived of nothing except by your own decisions, and then decide otherwise.

Note # 40: Free will makes you the master to choose whatever you wish to experience. There are neither victims nor accidents.

T-4.IV.4.When you are anxious, realize that anxiety comes from the capriciousness of the ego, and <know this need not be>. 2 You can be as vigilant against the ego's dictates as for the ego's dictates.

Note # 41: Whatever thought system you value, you will be vigilant for that one.

T-4.IV.5.When you feel guilty, remember that the ego has indeed violated the laws of God, but <you> have not violated the laws of God. 2 Leave the "sins" of the ego to me. 3 Leave the "sins" of the ego is what Atonement is for. 4 But until you change your mind about those whom your ego has hurt, the Atonement cannot release you. 5 While you feel guilty about those whom your ego has hurt, your ego is in command, because only the ego can experience guilt. 6 <This guilt need not be>.

Note # 42: You are a Child of God. The Atonement is the acceptance of our guiltlessness and sinlessness. Yet, until you are willing to extend this same guiltlessness and sinlessness to your brother, it cannot be yours. To give is to receive and you cannot give
what you do not have. When you accept the Atonement for yourself, you accept and extend it to all.

T-4.IV.6. Watch your mind for the temptations of the ego, and do not be deceived by the temptations of the ego. 2 The ego’s temptations offer you nothing. 3 When you have given up this voluntary dis-spiriting by the ego, you will see how your mind can focus and rise above fatigue and heal. 4 Yet you are not sufficiently vigilant against the demands of the ego to disengage yourself. 5 This need not be.

Note # 43: We cannot accept the Atonement for ourselves partially. Unless we give our allegiance totally to the Holy Spirit, we will remain trapped in fear. Partial denial of our birthright is total denial. In the illusion of time and space, we can pretend that there are exceptions to truth but this lie will keep us trapped in the insanity of wrong-mindedness.

T-4.IV.7. The habit of engaging with God and His creations is easily made if you actively refuse to let your mind slip away. 2 The problem is not one of concentration; the problem is the belief that no one, including yourself, is worth consistent effort. p63 3 Side with me consistently against this deception that no one, including yourself, is worth consistent effort, and do not permit this shabby belief to pull you back. 4 The disheartened are useless to themselves and to me, but only the ego can be disheartened.

Note # 44: Unless you see the value and worth of something, you will not put forth consistent effort or maintain your relationship with it. Currently, we do not believe anything is worth the effort required to maintain right-mindedness.

T-4.IV.8. Have you really considered how many opportunities you have had to gladden yourself, and how many of opportunities to gladden yourself, you have refused? 2 There is no limit to the power of a Son of God, but a Son of God can limit the expression of his power as much as a Son of God chooses. 3 Your mind and mine can unite in shining your ego away, thus releasing the strength of God into everything you think and do. 4 Do not settle for anything less than this, releasing the strength of God into everything you think and do, and refuse to accept anything but this as your goal. 5 Watch your mind carefully for any beliefs that hinder your mind’s accomplishment, and step away from any beliefs that hinder your mind’s accomplishment. 6 Judge how well you have done this (uniting with God’s Will) by your own feelings, for this is the one right use of judgment. 7 Judgment, like any other defense, can be used to attack or protect; to hurt or to heal. 8 The ego should be brought to judgment and found wanting there. 9 Without your own allegiance, protection and love, the ego cannot exist. 10 Let the ego be judged truly and you must withdraw allegiance, protection and love from the ego.

Note # 45: The ego demands that we be right. The Holy Spirit knows that God wills that you be happy. By following your feelings, you can tell how your current thinking aligns with your Big “S” Self. Good feelings like joy and peace indicate alignment with your
Source. Bad or fearful feelings warn you of your alignment with the egoic belief system of lack. Would you rather be right or happy? By follow your feeling toward your bliss, you will return to the peace of God.

T-4.IV.9. You are a mirror of truth, in which God Himself shines in perfect light. 2 To the ego's dark glass you need but say, "I will not look there (in ego's dark glass or viewpoint) because I know these images in the ego's dark glass are not true." 3 Then let the Holy One shine on you in peace, knowing that peace and only peace must be. 4 The Holy One’s Mind shone on you in your creation and brought your mind into being. 5 The Holy One’s Mind still shines on you and must shine through you. 6 Your ego cannot prevent the Holy One from shining on you, but your ego can prevent you from letting the Holy One shine through you.

Note # 46: What you perceive is based on what you choose to value. Your decision-maker is constantly choosing between the two thought systems. If given a chance, the Holy Spirit can reinterpret any egoic experience into a holy one. Perception follows your purpose. Is your purpose inclusion or separation? If separation, we merely need to choose again.

T-4.IV.10. The First Coming of Christ is merely another name for the creation, for Christ is the Son of God. 2 The Second Coming of Christ means nothing more than the end of the ego's rule and the healing of the mind. 3 I was created like you in the First (the creation), and I have called you to join with me in the Second (the end of the ego's rule and the healing of the mind). 4 I am in charge of the Second Coming, and my judgment, which is used only for protection, cannot be wrong because my judgment never attacks. 5 Your judgment may be so distorted that you believe I was mistaken in choosing you. 6 I assure you this is a mistake of your ego. 7 Do not mistake your belief that I was mistaken in choosing you for humility. 8 Your ego is trying to convince you that the ego is real and I am not, because if I am real, I am no more real than you are since I was created like you in the Creation. 9 That knowledge that I was created like you in the Creation, and I assure you that it is knowledge, means that Christ has come into your mind and healed your mind. p64

Note # 47: Jesus states that we are ready to join him in ending the ego’s rule over our split mind. Our ego will tell us that this is not so. The ego will claim that Jesus was different from us and, therefore, we are incapable of following in his footsteps. Jesus states that this is not so. We are the same Child of God and are ready to join with Jesus to remove egoic rule and heal our split minds.

T-4.IV.11. I do not attack your ego. 2 I do work with your higher mind, the home of the Holy Spirit, whether you are asleep or awake, just as your ego does with your lower mind, which is the ego’s home. 3 I am your vigilance in this (working with your higher mind), because you are too confused to recognize your own hope (that you to were created like me, a Son of God). 4 I am not mistaken. 5 Your mind will elect to join with mine, and together we are invincible. 6 You and your brother will yet come together in my name, and your sanity will be restored. 7 I raised the dead by knowing that life is an
eternal attribute of everything that the living God created. 8 Why do you believe it is harder for me to inspire the dis-spirited or to stabilize the unstable? 9 I do not believe that there is an order of difficulty in miracles; you do. 10 I have called and you will answer. 11 I understand that miracles are natural, because they are expressions of love. 12 My calling you is as natural as your answer, and as inevitable.

**Note # 48:** The Higher mind is the home of the Holy Spirit and is based on the idea that you are God’s Son, perfect, whole and complete. The lower mind is the home of the ego. This lower mind is fear based. Our egoic belief in self-creation and separation resulted in the apparent splitting of the Sonship’s mind into two. This lower egoic mind is the part that claims it does not know who and what you are. Must people currently view their world from the perception of the egoic mind. Jesus has called us to join him in the restoration of the Sonship to right-mindedness.

**V. The Ego-Body Illusion**

T-4.V.1. All things work together for good. 2 There are no exceptions that all things work together for good, except in the ego's judgment. 3 The ego exerts maximal vigilance about what the ego permits into awareness, and this limitation on what the ego permits into awareness is not the way a balanced mind holds together. 4 The ego is thrown further off balance because the ego keeps its primary motivation from your awareness, and the ego raises control rather than sanity to predominance. 5 The ego has every reason to do this according to the thought system which gave rise to the ego and which the ego serves. 6 Sane judgment would inevitably judge against the ego and therefore, sane judgment must be obliterated by the ego in the interest of the ego’s self-preservation.

**Note #49:** By placing limitations on what the ego permits into the mind’s awareness, the ego corrupts the thought system of the whole mind (right-mindedness), thereby producing the insane thought system of the lower mind (wrong-mindedness). Selectivity of focus fragmentizes and corrupts the appearance of Oneness from the mind’s awareness. What you are allowed to perceive is based on the ego’s purpose. The egoic mind’s belief in the separation, not the “power” of the ego, is the catalyst for this insane thought system. The ego itself is powerless to control the mind unless the mind believes that you are not God’s Son but rather are a limited ego-body created out of lack. The “authority problem” becomes the foundation to the insane thought system of the split mind. The ego is the servant of this insane thought system since this insane thought system gives rise to the ego. This insane thought system of the split-minded must limit awareness since the awareness of what you truly are (Son of God) would result in the return to sanity and right-mindedness. Control and the seeking of truth is the goal of the ego.

T-4.V.2. A major source of the ego's off-balanced state is its insane thought system’s lack of discrimination between the body and the Thoughts of God. 2 Thoughts of God are unacceptable to the ego, because thoughts of God clearly point to the nonexistence of the ego itself. 3 The ego therefore either distorts the thoughts of God or refuses to accept
the thoughts of God. 4 The ego cannot, however, make the thoughts of God cease to be. 5 The ego therefore tries to conceal not only "unacceptable" body impulses, but also the Thoughts of God, because both are threatening to the ego. 6 Being concerned primarily with the ego's own preservation in the face of threat, the ego perceives both "unacceptable" body impulses and the Thoughts of God, as the same. 7 By perceiving both "unacceptable" body impulses and the Thoughts of God as the same, the ego attempts to save itself from being swept away, as the ego would surely be in the presence of knowledge. p65

Note # 50: The ego is a champion for thoughts that engender fear and the belief that you are incomplete and, thus, need to get something outside yourself. It opposes loving and forgiving thoughts that would promote joining and wholeness. The ego protects your belief in littleness and victimization.

T-4.V.3. Any thought system that confuses God and the body must be insane. 2 Yet this confusion between God and the body is essential to the ego, which judges only in terms of threat or non-threat to itself. 3 In one sense the ego's fear of God is at least logical, since the idea of God does dispel the ego. 4 But fear of the body, with which the ego identifies so closely, makes no sense at all.

Note # 51: The ego is a judging machine. Its judgment is based on the criteria of maintaining control over your mind so that your decision-maker will never realize that it has a choice other than the egoic thought system. Fear paralyzes our decision-maker's ability to choose again. This is why ACIM states that we must learn to control our fear.

T-4.V.4. The body is the ego's home by the ego's own election. 2 It (the body) is the only identification with which the ego feels safe, since the body's vulnerability is the ego's own best argument that you cannot be of God. 3 This belief that you are a body and cannot be of God is the belief that the ego sponsors eagerly. 4 Yet the ego hates the body, because the ego cannot accept the body as good enough to be the ego's home. 5 Here is where the mind becomes actually dazed. 6 Being told by the ego that the mind is really part of the body and that the body is the mind's protector, the mind is also told that the body cannot protect the mind. 7 Therefore, the mind asks, "Where can I go for protection?" to which the ego replies, "Turn to me." 8 The mind, and not without cause, reminds the ego that the ego has itself insisted that the ego is identified with the body, so there is no point in turning to <the ego> for the mind's protection. 9 The ego has no real answer to this because there is none, but the ego does have a typical solution. 10 The ego obliterates the question from the mind's awareness. 11 Once out of awareness the question can and does produce uneasiness, but the question cannot be answered because the question cannot be asked.

Note # 52: The ego's goal is to have the mind, which is actually unlimited spirit, identify itself as the body. The ego tells us that the mind is the body-part we call the brain. Since the body is separate, weak and vulnerable the mind must also be the same. Fearful thoughts of death and destruction imprison the mind within the illusion of the body and make the body unquestionably appear real. The egoic thought system claims to be the
protector of both the mind and the body.

T-4.V.5. This is the question that <must> be asked: "Where can I go for protection?" 2 "Seek and ye shall find" does not mean that you should seek blindly and desperately for something you would not recognize. 3 Meaningful seeking is consciously undertaken, consciously organized and consciously directed. 4 The goal of meaningful seeking must be formulated clearly and kept in mind. 5 Learning and wanting to learn are inseparable. 6 You learn best when you believe what you are trying to learn is of value to you. 7 However, not everything you may want to learn has lasting value. 8 Indeed, many of the things you want to learn may be chosen <because> their value will not last.

Note # 53: The ego tells us that being a body, we need physical substance or we will die. Life is believed to be a struggle. We believe that we exist in a universe of lack, competition and struggle and ultimately death. Our happiness is secondary to our body’s survival. Getting is the goal of relationships. We are told that we need to get love instead of being love. Form, not content, is what the ego values. We are told by the ego that due to our limited nature, we must seek outside ourselves for our sustenance and happiness. The ego tells us that our happiness rests outside of us and is not under our control. Outside things are the source of our happiness. The ego never advises us to seek within our split-mind to rediscover our divine birthright. The ego never wants us to find the truth that we are not of this world, but rather unlimited Spirit.

T-4.V.6. The ego thinks it is an advantage not to commit itself to anything that is eternal, because the eternal must come from God. 2 Eternalness is the one function the ego has tried to develop, but has systematically failed to achieve. 3 The ego compromises with the issue of the eternal, just as the ego compromises with all issues touching on the real question ("Where can I go for protection?"), in any way. 4 By becoming involved with tangential issues, the ego hopes to hide the real question, "Where can I go for protection?" and keep this question out of mind. p66 5 The ego's characteristic busyness with nonessentials is for precisely the purpose of keeping this question out of mind. 6 Preoccupations with problems set up to be incapable of solution are favorite ego devices for impeding learning progress. 7 In all these diversionary tactics, however, the one question that is never asked by those who pursue them is, "What for?" 8 This is the question that <you> must learn to ask in connection with everything. 9 What is the purpose? 10 Whatever the purpose is, it will direct your efforts automatically. 11 When you make a decision of purpose, then, you have made a decision about your future effort; a decision that will remain in effect unless you change your mind.

Note # 54: Is your purpose to confirm or justify your belief that you are an ego-body, or the Son of God? Is your purpose to be happy or right? The ego wants to be right. God wants you to be happy.

VI. The Rewards of God

T-4.VI.1. The ego does not recognize the real source of "threat," and if you associate
yourself with the ego, you do not understand the situation as it is. 2 Only your allegiance to the ego gives the ego any power over you. 3 I have spoken of the ego as if the ego were a separate thing, acting on its own. 4 This idea that the ego is a separate thing, acting on its own was necessary to persuade you, that you cannot dismiss the ego lightly, and must realize how much of your thinking is ego-directed. 5 We cannot safely let it go at that, however, or you will regard yourself as necessarily conflicted as long as you are here, or as long as you believe that you are here. 6 The ego is nothing more than a part of your belief about yourself. 7 Your other life as a spiritual Son of God has continued without interruption, and has been and always will be totally unaffected by your attempts to dissociate yourself by claiming you are an ego-body rather than what you truly are, a spiritual Son of God.

Note # 55: The ego is defined as nothing more than a part of your belief about yourself. It is not your totality but rather only a small part of your overall beliefs about yourself. It is that part of you that allowed doubt to enter your mind and ask the question “What Am I?” It claims to have lost knowledge of what it was, is and will eternally be. Your Big “S” Self knows very well what you are and continues to be the thought of God or a conduit for love.

T-4.VI.2.In learning to escape from illusions, your debt to your brother is something you must never forget. 2 Your debt to your brother is the same debt that you owe to me. 3 Whenever you act egotistically towards another, you are throwing away the graciousness of your indebtedness and the holy perception your indebtedness would produce. 4 The term "holy" can be used here because, as you learn how much you are indebted to the whole Sonship, which includes me, you come as close to knowledge as perception can. 5 The gap between knowledge and perception is then so small that knowledge can easily flow across the gap and obliterate perception forever.

Note # 56: Being connected, our salvation rests on all the parts of the Sonship. By giving, we receive and by giving, we know that we have it. Holiness means wholeness.

T-4.VI.3.You have very little trust in me as yet, but your trust in me will increase as you turn more and more often to me instead of to your ego for guidance. 2 The results in turning to me for guidance will convince you increasingly that this choice in turning to me is the only sane choice you can make. p67 3 No one who learns from experience that one choice (choice to side with high-self, right-mindedness, or the spiritual self), brings peace and joy while another (choice to side with low-self, wrong-mindedness, or the ego) brings chaos and disaster needs additional convincing. 4 Learning through rewards is more effective than learning through pain, because pain is an ego illusion, and an ego illusion can never induce more than a temporary effect. 5 The rewards of God, however, are immediately recognized as eternal. 6 Since the recognition of the rewards of God is made by you and not the ego, the recognition itself establishes that you and your ego cannot be identical. 7 You may believe that you have already accepted this difference that you and your ego cannot be identical, but you are by no means convinced as yet that you and your ego cannot be identical. 8 The fact that you believe you must escape from the ego shows that you have not accepted that you and your ego
cannot be identical, but you cannot escape from the ego by humbling the ego or controlling the ego or punishing the ego.

Note # 57: By the results of their advice, you will know which thought system you should follow. When you follow your bliss, you will know you are moving in the right direction. Aligning with your Big “S” Self will bring you joy and peace. The ego is a part of your belief system about you. The ego is not a separate thing acting on its own. The ego is the part of the mind that believes your existence rests on or is defined by separateness from your Source. All and any power that the ego seems to have has been given to the ego by the mind’s belief that you are not who you are. The ego claims self-creation and that you are not God’s Son, perfect, whole, complete, eternal, and changeless. Change your belief in what you are from a body to unlimited spirit and the ego dissolves into the nothingness from which the ego arose, which is your split mind’s insane belief in the fantasy that it could be something it is not.

T-4.VI.4. The ego and the spirit do not know each other. 2 The separated mind cannot maintain the separation except by dissociating. 3 Having done this dissociating, the separated mind denies all truly natural impulses, not because the ego is a separate thing, but because you want to believe that <you> are a separate thing. 4 The ego is a device for maintaining this belief that you are a separate thing, but it is still only your decision of your mind to use the device of the ego that enables the ego to be used for maintaining your belief that you are a separate thing to endure against God’s Will.

Note # 58: Due to the belief in the separation, the mind made the ego as part of an elaborate plan to confirm its separation from God. This “plan” involves the idea of lack and fear, which are unknown to the Mind of God since God is Love. The mind made the ego to confirm that the mind was something other than God. It is only from the wrong-mindedness of your mind that the ego exists. Since it was your choice to believe in the separation, the ego becomes part of your own provisional reality. The ego, like all parts of your deluded world of provisional reality is perceived as very real to your split-mind, but it is nonexistent in the mind of God. Your illusion of provisional reality is miscreated and opposite to God’s will. It cannot be real. In your upside down, insane thought system, your mind made the ego exist only to confirm your belief that you are something that you are not.

T-4.VI.5. How can you teach someone the value of something he has deliberately thrown away? 2 He must have thrown it away because he did not value it. 3 You can only show him how miserable he is without what he has deliberately thrown away, and slowly bring what he has deliberately thrown away nearer so he can learn how his misery lessens as he approaches what he has deliberately thrown away. 4 This teaches him to associate his misery with the absence of what he has deliberately thrown away, and the opposite of misery with its presence. 5 What he has deliberately thrown away gradually becomes desirable as he changes his mind about the worth of what he had deliberately thrown away. 6 I am teaching you to associate misery with the ego and joy with the spirit. 7 You have taught yourself the opposite, which is to associate misery with the spirit and joy with the ego. 8 You are still free to choose, but can you really
want the rewards of the ego in the presence of the rewards of God?

**Note # 59:** When we remember the joy and peace associated with being God’s Son, we will once again value and want to reclaim our divine inheritance.

T-4.VI.6. My trust in you is greater than your trust in me at the moment, but it will not always be that way. 2 Your mission is very simple. 3 You are asked to live so as to demonstrate that you are not an ego, and I do not choose God's channels wrongly. 4 The Holy One shares my trust, and accepts my Atonement decisions because my will is never out of accord with His Will. 5 I have said before that I am in charge of the Atonement. 6 **I am in charge of the Atonement** only because I completed my part in the Atonement as a man, and can now complete the Atonement through others. 7 My chosen channels cannot fail, because I will lend my chosen channels my strength as long as theirs is wanting. p68

**Note # 60:** Jesus states that we have been selected to demonstrate to our brothers that we are not ego-bodies. By our doing this, others will also learn to accept the truth.

T-4.VI.7. I will go with you to the Holy One, and through my perception He can bridge the little gap. 2 Your gratitude to your brother is the only gift I want. 3 I will bring **your gratitude of your brother** to God for you, knowing that to know your brother <is> to know God. 4 If you are grateful to your brother, you are grateful to God for what God created. 5 Through your gratitude you come to know your brother, and one moment of real recognition makes everyone your brother because each of them is of your Father. 6 Love does not conquer all things, but love does set all things right. 7 Because you are the Kingdom of God I can lead you back to your own creations. 8 You do not recognize your own creations now, but what has been dissociated is still there.

**Note # 61:** Our creations are any loving or forgiving thoughts. These are the things that are real and they are kept safe awaiting the Sonship’s return to knowledge. We and our brothers are one and the Father is us. God is Cause and We are His Effect. Cause and Effect cannot be separate. The combined They are the indivisible Oneness of Everything. We are that One Self.

T-4.VI.8. As you come closer to a brother you approach me, and as you withdraw from a brother I become distant to you. 2 Salvation is a collaborative venture. 3 Salvation cannot be undertaken successfully by those who disengage themselves from the Sonship, because they **who disengage themselves from the Sonship** are disengaging themselves from me. 4 God will come to you only as you will give Him to your brothers. 5 Learn first of your brother and you will be ready to hear God. 6 That is because the function of love is one.

**Note # 62:** Oneness is a state in which you are perfect, whole, and complete. Your wholeness and completeness make you part of your brother, who like you, is part of God. God’s creations are an extension of the Father and are one with the Father. Because to give is to receive, you cannot withhold the Oneness of Everything and exclude anyone.
To exclude someone is to deny wholeness to all. Love is unconditional.

**VII. Creation and Communication**

T-4.VII.1. It is clear that while the content of any particular ego illusion does not matter, the correction of any particular ego illusion is more helpful in a specific context. 2 Ego illusions are quite specific, although the mind is naturally abstract. 3 Part of the mind becomes concrete, however, when the mind splits. 4 The concrete part believes in the ego, because the ego depends on the concrete. 5 The ego is the part of the mind that believes your existence is defined by separation.

**Note # 63:** To the split mind, there appears to be degrees of difficulty. Although one illusion is no more difficult to correct than any other illusion since all are equally false, it may assist the learning process by correcting each illusion independently. This allows for gradual learning and does not increase fear in the learner. If all illusions were brought before truth at one time, this shattering of the entire belief system of deluded mind could induce panic. The Holy Spirit will not do anything that would increase fear in the student. The Holy Spirit is patient and allows each person to baby-step their way back to truth. The concrete mind learns by going from specific example to the general concept. The abstract mind just needs the general concept and knows it applies to all related forms.

Ego is defined as the part of the mind that believes your existence is defined by separation. Prior to the separation, it did not exist. Before the separation, there were no specific items since everything was all and nothingness was unknown. Thus, the natural state of mind was abstract since it was undifferentiated. During the separation, the mind split from an abstract Oneness into the High Self, which maintained its oneness (Son of God) and the lower self (egoic part of mind) that defined itself as separate from its Cause. The lower mind (wrong-mindedness) made up its’ own dream world based on the egoic thought system in an attempt to make the separation appear real. The ego’s thought system defines everything as specific (concrete) individual things. Form helps define the part as separate and different from the whole. Oneness does not exist in egoic thinking because everything must lack something. The ego defines itself by what it is not. The ego needs darkness to know the light. The Mind of God is abstract and only knows Light. Unlike the ego, It does not require contrast or comparison. In the Mind of God, Light is everything and darkness is nothing and, therefore, does not exist.

(Also, see note 18 above about the ego.)

T-4.VII.2. Everything the ego perceives is a separate whole, without the relationships that imply being. 2 The ego is thus against communication, except insofar as communication is utilized to establish separateness rather than to abolish separateness. 3 The communication system of the ego is based on the ego’s own thought system, as is everything else the it dictates is based on the ego’s own thought system of separation. 4 The ego’s communication is controlled by the ego’s need to protect itself, and the ego will disrupt communication when the ego experiences threat. 5 This disruption in communication is a reaction to a specific person or persons. 6 The specificity of the ego's thinking, then, results in spurious generalization which is really not abstract at all. 7
The ego merely responds in certain specific ways to everything the ego perceives as related. p69

Note # 64: The ego is interested in maintaining control by keeping the decision-maker unaware of its power to choose again. If the egoic communication does not appear to increase control over the mind, the ego will break off communication. The ego is not interested in happiness or truth; instead it demands that it be right.

The ego’s thought system utilizes inductive reasoning. Inductive reasoning takes specific examples and draws general conclusions. Inductive reasoning requires specific (separate) items in order to be able to work. Prior to the separation, inductive reasoning did not exist since there was just oneness and, therefore, nothing to compare or judge against. There was just BEING. With the concept of separation, we have separate items so now the ego perceives a difference between HAVING and BEING. When there was just a Oneness, there was nothing to get since oneness was everything. With separate items, if you have something, I do not have it. Now I lack something. Form cannot be shared, so the previous owner must be asked to sacrifice. Because form cannot be shared, the ego is determined to imprison the mind in a body. Thoughts can be share and each party is strengthened.

T-4.VII.3. In contrast, spirit reacts in the same way to everything spirit knows is true, and does not respond at all to anything else. 2 Nor does spirit make any attempt to establish what is true. 3 Spirit knows that what is true is everything that God created. 4 Spirit is in complete and direct communication with every aspect of creation, because Spirit is in complete and direct communication with its Creator. 5 Spirit’s communication with its Creator is the Will of God. 6 Creation and communication are synonymous. 7 God created every mind by communicating His Mind to it, thus establishing every mind forever as a channel for the reception of His Mind and His Will. 8 Since only beings of a like order can truly communicate, God’s creations naturally communicate with Him and like Him. 9 This communication is perfectly abstract, since this communication’s quality is universal in application and not subject to any judgment, any exception or any alteration. 10 God created you by this communication and for this communication. 11 The mind can distort this communication’s function, but the mind cannot endow itself with functions the mind was not given. 12 That is why the mind cannot totally lose the ability to communicate, even though the mind may refuse to utilize this ability to communicate on behalf of being.

Note # 65: The Mind of God does not utilize inductive reasoning for everything has universal application. This is how God created since our mind is an extension of Our Father’s Mind. This Oneness allows complete and direct communication since all are one in Being. There is no separation or distinction since there is nothing to judge against. Creation and communication are synonymous and we are invested by God’s Mind to co-create like our Father.

T-4.VII.4. Existence as well as being rest on communication. 2 Existence, however, is specific in how, what and with whom communication is judged to be worth undertaking. 3 Being is completely without these distinctions. (The distinctions are in how, what
and with whom communication is judged to be worth undertaking.) 4 Being is a state in which the mind is in communication with everything that is real. 5 To whatever extent you permit this state of Being to be curtailed you are limiting your sense of your own reality, which becomes total only by recognizing all reality in the glorious context of its real relationship to you. 6 This is your reality. 7 Do not desecrate it, (your true state of reality which is state of Being), or recoil from it. (Your true state of reality which is state of Being) 8 It, (your true state of reality which is state of Being) is your real home, your real temple and your real Self.

Note # 66: Love allows all. It does not judge or exclude. This is “Being”. Existence is more synonymous to egoic miscreation. It limits, judges and excludes. Thus, it is fear based. Being is our true reality. Existence is our “provisional reality”. Our provisional reality is based on lack and exclusion. We judge (perceive) that we are missing something since we believe we come from lack. Having is no longer Being in our illusionary world of provisional reality. We “EXIST” rather than just allowing ourselves to “BE” since we judge what is worthy to communicate with. Due to our judgment that we are not whole, we have limited our ability to just “BE.”

T-4.VII.5. God, Who encompasses all being, created beings who have everything individually, but who want to share it (everything) to increase their joy. 2 Nothing real can be increased except by sharing. 3 That is why God created you. 4 Divine Abstraction takes joy in sharing. 5 That (sharing) is what creation means. 6 "How," "what" and "to whom" are irrelevant, because real creation gives everything, since creation can create only like itself. 7 Remember that in the Kingdom there is no difference between <having> and <being,> as there is in existence. 8 In the state of being the mind gives everything always.

Note # 67: What is real are thoughts, not form. Content, not the temporary form it may appear as, is what is shared. Loving thoughts can be shared and extended. Love allows and does not judge or attack.

Perhaps the closest model for how the Mind of God appears to function would be to consider its holographic nature. All parts contain the whole and the whole is contained in each part. A part cannot be separated from the whole, but if it were the part would remain in constant and instant communication with all other parts. To affect any part affects all part simultaneously.

T-4.VII.6. The Bible repeatedly states that you should praise God. 2 This hardly means that you should tell God how wonderful He is. 3 God has no ego with which to accept such praise, and God has no perception with which to judge such praise. p70 4 But unless you take your part in the creation, God’s joy is not complete because your joy is incomplete. 5 And this (your part in the creation) God does know. 6 God knows it (your part in the creation) in His Own Being and God knows the experience of His Son's experience. 7 The constant going out of God’s Love is blocked when God’s channels are closed, and God is lonely when the minds God created do not communicate fully with Him.
Note # 68: Being holographic in nature, God is aware when the hologram is extended by any of its “parts’” own creative thoughts. When we miscreate, we fail to extend the message throughout the hologram. The creative process shares and communicates its extension with all. The Oneness extends Itself yet remains whole, perfect and complete.

T-4.VII.7. God has kept your Kingdom for you, but God cannot share His joy with you until you know your Kingdom with your whole mind. 2 Revelation is not enough, because revelation is only communication <from> God. 3 God does not need revelation returned to Him, which would clearly be impossible, but He does want revelation brought to others. 4 Bringing revelations to others cannot be done with the actual revelation; since revelation’s content cannot be expressed, because revelation’s content is intensely personal to the mind that receives the revelation. 5 Revelation can, however, be returned by that mind to other minds, through the attitudes the knowledge from the revelation brings.

Note # 69: To know and not to act according to that knowing is to not know. If we are love, we will have that attitude of love extended to all. There can be no exceptions. To teach love, you must be love. To teach peace, you must be peace. You demonstrate what you value by what you are. You must talk your talk. By their actions you will know them and you will know yourself.

T-4.VII.8. God is praised whenever any mind learns to be wholly helpful. 2 Being wholly helpful is impossible without being wholly harmless, because the two beliefs must coexist. 3 The truly helpful are invulnerable, because the truly helpful are not protecting their egos and so nothing can hurt the truly helpful. 4 Their helpfulness is their praise of God, and God will return their praise of Him because the truly helpful are like Him, and they can rejoice together. 5 God goes out to the truly helpful and through the truly helpful, and there is great joy throughout the Kingdom. 6 Every mind that is changed adds to this joy with its individual willingness to share in this joy of the Kingdom. 7 The truly helpful are God’s miracle workers, whom I direct until we are all united in the joy of the Kingdom. 8 I will direct you to wherever you can be truly helpful, and to whoever can follow my guidance through you. p71

Note # 70: Jesus will direct those who accept his call to where they can be most helpful in the Sonship’s return to knowledge. To be wholly helpful, you must be wholly harmless. In your invulnerability lies your strength to aid your brother.

Definition: BEING is the state in which mind is in communication with everything that is real.
Definition: EXISTENCE is the state in which mind communicates with only those who it, the ego controlled mind, judges to be worthy of communication.
BEING does not equal EXISTENCE. BEING only knows reality. EXISTENCE judges based on separation. EXISTENCE only “lives” in your own mind’s “provisional reality.”
Chapter 5. HEALING AND WHOLENESS

Introduction

T-5.in.1. To heal is to make happy. 2 I have told you to think how many opportunities you have had to gladden yourself, and how many you have refused. 3 This refusal to gladden yourself is the same as telling you that you have refused to heal yourself. 4 The light that belongs to you is the light of joy. 5 Radiance is not associated with sorrow. 6 Joy calls forth an integrated willingness to share joy, and joy promotes the mind's natural impulse to respond as one mind. 7 Those who attempt to heal without being wholly joyous themselves call forth different kinds of responses at the same time, and thus deprive others of the joy of responding wholeheartedly.

Note #1: Healing is at the level of mind. If you are not joyous or happy, which is God’s Will for His Children, you are sick. Sickness starts first at the spiritual level, moves to the emotional level, and lastly is manifests upon the physical level of the body. If the healer wishes to teach another to heal themselves, the healer needs to be healed. You need to be healed in spirit, which means that you need to be happy and joyous yourself. To teach joy, be joy.

T-5.in.2. To be wholehearted you must be happy. 2 If fear and love cannot coexist, and if it is impossible to be wholly fearful and remain alive, the only possible whole state is that of love. 3 There is no difference between love and joy. 4 Therefore, the only possible whole state is the wholly joyous. 5 To heal or to make joyous is therefore the same as to integrate and to make one. 6 That is why it makes no difference to what part or by what part of the Sonship the healing is offered. 7 Every part of the Sonship benefits, and benefits equally.

Note #2: By healing yourself everyone benefits. All minds are interconnected. Healing takes place in the mind. Only the mind is sick. Any bodily sickness is only the effect of mind “DIS-EASE.” You need to heal your “stinking thinking.”

T-5.in.3. You are being blessed by every beneficent thought of any of your brothers anywhere. 2 You should want to bless your brothers in return, out of gratitude to your brothers. 3 You need not know your brothers individually, or they need not know you individually. 4 The light is so strong that the light radiates throughout the Sonship and the Sonship returns thanks to the Father for radiating His joy upon the Sonship. 5 Only God's holy children are worthy channels of His beautiful joy, because only God's holy children are beautiful enough to hold God’s beautiful joy by sharing His beautiful joy.
6 It is impossible for a child of God to love his neighbor except as himself. 7 That is why the healer's prayer is:

8 *Let me know this brother as I know myself.* p72

**Note # 3:** The Sonship, being part of the holographic Mind of God, must also be part of that same hologram. Each brother is part of this holographic Mind. Since in a hologram each part is the whole and the whole is in each part, to know yourself is to know the whole. Know your true Big “S” Self and you know all parts of the hologram. Your Big “S” Self is the One Self of “All That Is”.

**I. The Invitation to the Holy Spirit**

T-5.I.1. Healing is a thought by which two minds perceive their oneness and become glad. 2 This gladness calls to every part of the Sonship to rejoice with the two minds that perceive their oneness and become glad, and lets God go out into these same two minds and through these same two minds. 3 Only the healed mind can experience revelation with lasting effect, because revelation is an experience of pure joy. 4 If you do not choose to be wholly joyous, your mind cannot have what it does not choose to be. It cannot be wholly joyous. 5 Remember that spirit knows no difference between <having> and <being>. 6 The higher mind thinks according to the laws spirit obeys, and therefore the higher mind honors only the laws of God. 7 To spirit getting is meaningless and to spirit giving is all. 8 Having everything, spirit holds everything by giving everything, and thus creates as the Father created. 9 While this kind of thinking is totally alien to having things, even to the lower mind this kind of thinking is quite comprehensible in connection with ideas. 10 If you share a physical possession, you do divide its ownership. 11 If you share an idea, however, you do not lessen the idea. 12 All of the idea is still yours although all of the idea has been given away. 13 Further, if the one to whom you give the idea accepts the idea as his own, he reinforces the idea in your mind and thus increases the idea. 14 If you can accept the concept that the world is one of ideas, the whole belief in the false association the ego makes between giving and losing is gone.

**Note # 4:** Form cannot be shared without “sacrifice” on the part of the giver. Yet, ideas can be shared and the sharing can strengthen both parties. Thoughts become things. Share the idea that your brother is perfect, whole and complete and you give him everything. Yet, at the same time, this sharing strengthens and extends your own perfection. Content is shared, which is at the level of mind or ideas, not form. The content’s form is not the focus of the sharing. Sharing loving thoughts allows joy, happiness and healing to be made available to both parties.

T-5.I.2. Let us start our process of reawakening with just a few simple concepts:

2 *Thoughts increase by being given away.*
3 The more who believe in the thought, the stronger the thought becomes.
4 Everything is an idea.
5 How, then, with an idea can giving and losing be associated?

Note # 5: When we realize everything is thought, the idea that give requires no sacrifice makes sense. Being interconnected to give is to receive. By sharing an idea you prove you have it and the idea grows stronger in your mind. There is no loss or diminishment.

T-5.1.3 This simple concept is the invitation to the Holy Spirit. 2 I have said already that I can reach up and bring the Holy Spirit down to you, but I can bring Him to you only at your own invitation. 3 The Holy Spirit is in your right mind, just as the Holy Spirit was in my right mind. 4 The Bible says, "May the mind be in you that was also in Christ Jesus," and uses this as a blessing. 5 This Bible saying is the blessing of miracle-mindedness. 6 This Bible saying asks that you may think as I thought, joining with me in Christ thinking.

Note # 6: You are your own mind’s decision-maker. You have free will and can make the choice to accept the ideas that Jesus shares with us and join him in right-mindedness. By your acceptance of these shared ideas, miracle-mindedness is extended and strengthened.

T-5.1.4. The Holy Spirit is the only part of the Holy Trinity that has a symbolic function. 2 The Holy Spirit is referred to as the Healer, the Comforter and the Guide. 3 The Holy Spirit is also described as something "separate," apart from the Father and from the Son. 4 I myself said, "If I go I will send you another Comforter (the Holy Spirit) and he will abide with you." 5 The Holy Spirit’s symbolic function makes the Holy Spirit difficult to understand, because symbolism is open to different interpretations. 6 As a man and also one of God's creations, my right thinking, which came from the Holy Spirit or the Universal Inspiration, taught me first and foremost that this Inspiration, which came from the Holy Spirit, is for all. 7 I could not have this Inspiration which came from the Holy Spirit myself without knowing this Inspiration is for all. 8 The word "know" is proper in this context, because the Holy Spirit is so close to knowledge that the Holy Spirit calls this Inspiration forth; or better, allows this Inspiration to come. 9 I have spoken before of the higher or "true" perception, which is so near to truth that God Himself can flow across the little gap. 10 Knowledge is always ready to flow everywhere, but knowledge cannot oppose. 11 Therefore you can obstruct knowledge, although you can never lose knowledge.

Note # 7: Jesus states that although we have talked of the Sonship’s loss of knowledge, knowledge was not lost. We merely chose to temporarily block our access to it. We resisted, rather than accepted, the natural flow of ideas, which comprise the basis for knowledge. This blocked knowledge is available to us through the Holy Spirit or what we might call “inspiration.” During moments of true “inspiration,” we reconnect to this previously blocked pool of knowledge. Another way of understand Inspiration is “In - Spirit.” We have reconnected to our Source Energy.

General Note: All words are symbolic attempts to translate ideas. Jesus must meet the student at the student’s level of understanding. Jesus’ words attempt to offer the student a
better understanding of these concepts that are often impossible or difficult to translate into words.

T-5.I.5. The Holy Spirit is the Christ Mind which is aware of the knowledge that lies beyond perception. 2 The Holy Spirit, which is the Christ Mind, came into being with the separation as a protection, inspiring the Atonement principle at the same time. 3 Before the separation there was no need for healing, for no one was comfortless. 4 The Voice of the Holy Spirit is the Call to Atonement, or the restoration of the integrity of the mind. 5 When the Atonement is complete and the whole Sonship is healed there will be no Call to return. 6 But what God creates is eternal. 7 The Holy Spirit will remain with the Sons of God, to bless their creations and keep the Sons’ of God creations in the light of joy.

Note # 8: The Holy Spirit is defined as the Christ Mind, which is aware of the knowledge that lies beyond perception. The Holy Spirit is described in many ways and in many terms. The term used is not as important as the concept that it is designed to represent. These terms may be used interchangeably and with some poetic license. Do not let yourself be “turned off” by the term. If the term does not resonate with you, substitute the terminology that does. If you don’t like the Holy Spirit, try Universal Inspiration or just Inspiration. Use whatever will help with your understanding.

T-5.I.6. God honored even the miscreations of His children because God’s children had made even these miscreations. 2 But God also blessed His children with a way of thinking that could raise His children’s perceptions so high His children could reach almost back to God. 3 The Holy Spirit is the Mind of the Atonement. 4 The Holy Spirit represents a state of mind close enough to One-mindedness that transfer to One-mindedness is at last possible. 5 Perception is not knowledge, but perception can be transferred to knowledge or cross over into knowledge. 6 It might even be more helpful here to use the literal meaning of transferred or "carried over," since the last step is taken by God.

Note # 9: Miscreations arise out of our false belief in lack due to our failure to remember who we are. Because we have free will, God does not prevent us from creating, which is technically called “making”, our own “dream world”. God does not prevent whatever we choose to “dream up” in our provisional reality’s world of illusion since God honors all of our dreams. This allows the creative power of our mind to function. Thoughts are things. Our mind’s creative power constantly functions since we are created in God’s Image. As long as we fail to remember what we are, we only “make” in our own dream world. Making comes from our belief in lack and is fear based. This making is not real to God or to the Kingdom, since what is made comes from lack and is not perfect, whole and complete as God created us. Thus, what we “make” is not real, existing only in our dream world of provisional reality. God does not prevent His Children from dreaming, but God has a plan to reawaken His Children as gently as possible. This is the Atonement process. The Holy Spirit is the Mind of the Atonement and will gently awaken us from our dream.
T-5.I.7. The Holy Spirit, the shared Inspiration of all the Sonship, induces a kind of perception in which many elements of this shared Inspiration of all the Sonship are like those in the Kingdom of Heaven itself:

2 First, this kind of inspired perception’s universality is perfectly clear, and no one who attains this shared Inspiration of all the Sonship could believe for one instant that sharing the Holy Spirit’s inspired perception involves anything but gain.

3 Second, the Holy Spirit is incapable of attack and is therefore truly open. This means that although this shared Inspiration of all the Sonship does not engender knowledge, this kind of inspired perception does not obstruct knowledge in any way.

5 Finally, the Holy Spirit points the way beyond the healing that this shared Inspiration of all the Sonship brings, and leads the mind beyond the mind’s own integration toward the paths of creation. It is at this point that sufficient quantitative change occurs to produce a real qualitative shift.

Note # 10: The shared Inspiration of all the Sonship or Holy Spirit brings about a change in viewpoint in the mind of the perceiver. When we ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, our perception is reinterpreted based on the concepts of universal love and Oneness. We are able to shift out of fear and into love and forgiveness. This change of perception is the miracle.

II. The Voice for God

T-5.II.1. Healing is not creating; healing is reparation. 2 The Holy Spirit promotes healing by looking beyond healing to what the children of God were before healing was needed, and to what the children of God will be when they have been healed. 3 This alteration of the time sequence should be quite familiar, because this alteration of the time sequence is very similar to the shift in the perception of time that the miracle introduces. 4 The Holy Spirit is the motivation for miracle-mindedness, which is the decision to heal the separation by letting the belief in separation go. 5 Your will which you share with God’s Will is still in you because God placed this shared will in your mind, and although you can keep this shared will asleep you cannot obliterate this shared will. 6 God Himself keeps your shared will alive by transmitting this shared will from His Mind to your mind as long as there is time. 7 The miracle itself is a reflection of this union of Will between Father and Son.

Note # 11: Healing is repairing our connection to our Source which we perceive to be broken and lost. This perceived separation is healed by the realization that nothing can change our true will that is joined with the Father’s Will. We denied this connection but this denial cannot change the truth. Our true will resides in our Big “S” Self and is the home of the Holy Sprit, which keeps us in contact with our Source. Our true will and the Will of God are the same shared Will of the One Self.

T-5.II.2. The Holy Spirit is the spirit of joy. 2 The Holy Spirit is the Call to return with which God blessed the minds of His separated Sons. 3 This Call to return is the vocation
of the mind. 4 The mind had no calling until the separation, because before the separation the mind had only being, and would not have understood the Call to right thinking. 5 The Holy Spirit is God's Answer to the separation. The Holy Spirit is the means by which the Atonement heals until the whole mind returns to creating.

Note # 12: During the separation, the split-mind is “making” not creating since the lower-mind is under the influence of the egoic belief in lack. Creation is an extension of our true self, not the limited ego-body you have dreamed you are. The Holy Spirit calls for those who are split-minded to return to true creation and extension. As God’s Child, our purpose is to co-create with God and extend the Oneness that is the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit’s purpose is to guide us back to this truth of what we are. Before the separation began God placed the Holy Spirit within our mind to insure our mind’s safe return to sanity.

T-5.II.3. The principle of Atonement and the separation began at the same time. 2 When the ego was made, God placed in the mind the Call to joy. 3 This Call to joy is so strong that the ego always dissolves at the Call to joy's sound. 4 That is why you must choose to hear one of two voices within you. 5 One, the call of the ego, you made yourself, and the call of the ego is not of God. 6 But the other, the Call to joy, is given you by God, Who asks you only to listen to the Call to joy. 7 The Holy Spirit is in you in a very literal sense. 8 The Holy Spirit is the Voice that calls you back to where you were before the separation and where you will be again after the separation. 9 It is possible even in this world of perception to hear only that Voice (the Holy Spirit’s), and no other voice. 10 To hear only the Holy Spirit’s Voice is the final lesson that I learned, and God's Sons are as equal as learners as they are as Sons. p75

Note # 13: Jesus states that we are all capable of learning to listen and follow the Holy Spirit’s guidance. We must, however, quiet the voice of the ego if we are to hear the Voice for God. In this world of perception, the ego will always judge and talk first. Before we can hear the Voice for God, we must silence the ego and ask for the guidance from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will not fail to answer our call.

T-5.II.4. You are the Kingdom of Heaven, but you have let the belief in darkness enter your mind and so you need a new light. 2 The Holy Spirit is the radiance that you must let banish the idea of darkness. 3 The Holy Spirit is the glory before which dissociation falls away, and the Kingdom of Heaven breaks through into its own. 4 Before the separation you did not need guidance. 5 Before the separation you knew as you will know again, but as you do not know now.

Note # 14: The Holy Spirit knows the truth that you are the Kingdom of Heaven. If asked, the Holy Spirit’s knowledge of truth will dissolve all egoic judgments and misperceptions and transform them into correct perception.

T-5.II.5. God does not guide, because God can share only perfect knowledge. 2 Guidance is evaluative, because guidance implies there is a right way and also a wrong way, one to
be chosen and the other to be avoided. 3 By choosing one way you give up the other way. 4 The choice for the Holy Spirit is the choice for God. 5 God is not in you in a literal sense; you are part of God. 6 When you chose to leave Him, God gave you a Voice to speak for Him, which is the Holy Spirit, because God could no longer share His knowledge with you without hindrance. 7 Direct communication was broken because you had made another voice, which was the voice of the ego and wrong mindedness.

Note # 15: The Holy Spirit can properly evaluate since it knows both the truth and our perceived state of illusion. God, the Father, does not evaluate because God just “knows” the changeless truth of what is the eternal Will and Mind of God. To the Father there is no choice and, therefore, there is nothing that requires evaluation. Only in the illusions of the world of perception is choice and thus, evaluation possible and needed. In the world of time, we can misperceive or correctly perceive.

T-5.II.6. The Holy Spirit calls you both to remember and to forget. 2 You have chosen to be in a state of opposition in which opposites are possible. 3 As a result, there are choices you must make. 4 In the holy state the will is free, so that the will’s creative power is unlimited and choice is meaningless. 5 Freedom to choose is the same power as freedom to create, but freedom of choices application is different. 6 Choosing depends on a split mind. 7 The Holy Spirit is one way of choosing. 8 God did not leave His children comfortless, even though His children chose to leave God. 9 The voice His children put in their minds was the voice of the ego and wrong mindedness, not the Voice for God’s Will, for which the Holy Spirit speaks.

Note # 16: Only in the split-minded world of egoic perception does choice appear possible. This is because we appear to have the choice between the true and the false. There is nothing that can oppose God’s Will. Illusions are nothing and thus, cannot have an impact on reality. The Holy Spirit calls us to remember God’s Oneness and forget the illusion of egoic separation.

T-5.II.7. The Voice of the Holy Spirit does not command, because the Holy Spirit is incapable of arrogance. 2 The Voice of the Holy Spirit does not demand, because the Holy Spirit does not seek control. 3 The Voice of the Holy Spirit does not overcome, because the Holy Spirit does not attack. 4 The Holy Spirit merely reminds. 5 The Voice of the Holy Spirit is compelling only because of what It reminds you. 6 The Voice of the Holy Spirit brings to your mind the other way, remaining quiet even in the midst of the turmoil you may make. 7 The Voice for God is always quiet, because the Voice of the Holy Spirit speaks of peace. 8 Peace is stronger than war because peace heals. 9 War is division, not increase. 10 No one gains from strife. 11 What profiteth it a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul? 12 If you listen to the wrong voice (voice of the ego) you have lost sight of your soul. 13 You cannot lose your soul, but you can not know your soul. 14 Your soul is therefore “lost” to you until you choose right. (Chose to follow guidance of the Holy Spirit)

Note # 17: The Holy Spirit respects your free will and does nothing without your permission. The Holy Spirit is infinitely patient since It knows that your return to Its
thought system is inevitable as this is God’s Will.

T-5.II.8. The Holy Spirit is your Guide in choosing. 2 The Holy Spirit is in the part of your mind that always speaks for the right choice, because the Holy Spirit speaks for God. p76 3 The Holy Spirit is your remaining communication with God, which you can interrupt but cannot destroy. 4 The Holy Spirit is the way in which God's Will is done on earth as God's Will is done in Heaven. 5 Both Heaven and earth are in you, because the call of both voices is in your mind. 6 The Voice for God comes from your own altars to Him. 7 These altars are not things; these altars are devotions. 8 Yet you have other devotions now. 9 Your divided devotion has given you the two voices, and you must choose at which altar you want to serve. 10 The call you answer now is an evaluation because the call you answer is a decision. 11 The decision is very simple. 12 The decision is made on the basis of which call (call of the ego verses Call of the Holy Spirit,) is worth more to you.

Note # 18: Heaven is in the High or Christ conscious part of your split mind (right mindedness). The earth is in your lower or ego influence’s part of your split mind (wrong-mindedness). Heaven and earth are not places but rather, states of mind. Our decision-maker must decide which thought system he will choose to follow. This choice will be based on what the decision-maker values most. It is a choice between Oneness and separation. The value that separation offers to the split-minded is that it fulfills the desire of the ego to be special. In a Oneness nothing can be special since all are equally the same. The One Self is indivisible.

T-5.II.9. My mind will always be like your mind, because we were created as equals. 2 It was only my decision that gave me all power in Heaven and earth. 3 My only gift to you is to help you make the same decision. 4 This decision is the choice to share it, because the decision itself is the decision to share. 5 The decision to share is made by giving, and is therefore the one choice that resembles true creation. 6 I am your model for decision. 7 By deciding for God I showed you that this decision to share can be made, and that you can make the decision to share.

Note # 19: Jesus’ decision was to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is based on love, which is inclusive and sharing in nature. Jesus’ wish is to share that same decision with us. Ideas, not form, can be shared. When we accept someone’s idea, the idea is strengthened.

T-5.II.10. I have assured you that the Mind that decided for me is also in you, and that you can let your High-mind under the guidance of the Holy Spirit change you just as my High-mind under the guidance of the Holy Spirit changed me. 2 This Mind, which is under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is unequivocal, because this Mind hears only one Voice and answers in only one way. The High-Mind or Christ consciousness chooses to do God’s Will. 3 You are the light of the world with me. 4 Rest does not come from sleeping but from waking. 5 The Holy Spirit is the Call to awaken and be glad. 6 The world of perception, time and space is very tired, because the world is the idea of weariness. 7 Our task is the joyous one of waking the mind to the Call for God. 8
Everyone will answer the Call of the Holy Spirit, or the Sonship cannot be as One. What better vocation could there be for any part of the Kingdom than to restore the Kingdom to the perfect integration that can make the Kingdom whole? Hear only the Call for God through the Holy Spirit within you, and teach your brothers to listen for the Call of the Holy Spirit, as I am teaching you.

**Note # 20:** Jesus implores us to make the same decision to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit as he did. All brothers must do their part in the reuniting and returning of the Sonship to the Truth of the Kingdom.

**T-5.II.11.** When you are tempted by the wrong voice (voice for the ego), call on me to remind you how to heal by sharing my decision and making my decision stronger. As we share this goal (to hear only the Voice of the Holy Spirit), we increase this goal’s power to attract the whole Sonship, and to bring the whole Sonship back into the oneness in which the Sonship was created. Remember that "yoke" means "join together," and "burden" means "message." Let us restate "My yoke is easy and my burden light" in this way; "Let us join together, for my message is light." p77

**Note # 21:** By our joining and accepting Jesus’ message, it is strengthened.

**T-5.II.12.** I have enjoined you to behave as I behaved, but we must respond to the same Mind to do this. This Mind is the Holy Spirit, Whose Will is for God always. The Holy Spirit teaches you how to keep me as the model for your thought, and to behave like me as a result. The power of our joint motivation is beyond belief, but not beyond accomplishment. What we can accomplish together has no limits, because the Call for God is the Call to the unlimited. Child of God, my message is for you, to hear my message and give away my message as you answer the Holy Spirit within you. Child of God, you are not separate, you are unlimited.

**Note # 22:** Jesus asks us to make the same decision as he did. You are asked to return to right-mindedness and follow the Voice for God, which is the Holy Spirit. This Mind is called by various names, the High Self, or Christ consciousness, the right-mindedness, the High Mind to name a few. This is the home of the Holy Spirit. At the time of the Separation the Holy Spirit was placed in your now split mind to gently reawaken you to the truth of who and what you really are. The Holy Spirit guides you back to the understanding that your will is the same as God’s Will. This heals the split-mind and leads to the return to Oneness. The Sonship and the Mind are made whole.

**III. The Guide to Salvation**

T-5.III.1. The way to recognize your brother is by recognizing the Holy Spirit in your brother. I have already said that the Holy Spirit is the Bridge for the transfer of perception to knowledge, so we can use the terms, perception and knowledge, as if perception and knowledge were related, because in the Holy Spirit’s Mind perception
and knowledge are related. 3 This relationship between perception and knowledge must be in the Holy Spirit's Mind because, unless it were, the separation between the two ways of thinking would not be open to healing. 4 The Holy Spirit is part of the Holy Trinity, because the Holy Spirit's Mind is partly your mind and also partly God's Mind. 5 This concept that the Holy Spirit's Mind is partly your mind and also partly God's Mind needs clarification, not in statement but in experience.

Note # 23: The Holy Spirit is like the bridge between your Higher Mind and the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit is said to “reside” in the Christ consciousness, which is also the seat of awareness to the remembrance of God. Again, due to the holographic nature of the Mind of God, the Holy Trinity is but One Mind. The Trinity is presented as three separate parts for easy of discussion purposes only. They are One.

T-5.III.2. The Holy Spirit is the idea of healing. 2 Being thought, the idea of healing gains as the idea of healing is shared. 3 The Holy Spirit is the Call for God. The Holy Spirit and the idea of healing is also the idea of God. 4 Since you are part of God it (the Holy Spirit and the idea of healing) is also the idea of yourself, as well as of all His creations. 5 The idea of the Holy Spirit shares the property of other ideas because the idea of the Holy Spirit follows the laws of the universe of which the idea of the Holy Spirit is a part. 6 The idea of healing, the idea of the Holy Spirit and the idea of God are strengthened by being given away. 7 The three ideas of God, the Holy Spirit and healing increases in you as you give these three ideas to your brother. 8 Your brother does not have to be aware of the Holy Spirit in himself or in you for this miracle to occur. 9 Your brother may have dissociated the Call for God, just as you have. 10 This dissociation is healed in both of you as you become aware of the Call for God in your brother, and thus acknowledge the Holy Spirit’s being in both your brother and yourself.

Note #24: The idea of the Holy Spirit is the Call for God. Ideas can be shared with others and thus, they can be strengthened when the idea has been accepted by another. Ideas are not necessarily true. Yet, if enough people believe that an idea is true, that idea becomes the basis for that group’s collective consciousness or that group’s “provisional reality”. Thoughts are thing. If we believe or think that we are an ego-body, this becomes our provisional reality. The Holy Spirit’s Call for God is the call for a return to truth. It is a call to remember what and who we really are. We are God’s Beloved Child. We are called to heal our split-mind and once again remember that we are an extension of God and, therefore, must be perfect, whole and complete. Our dissociation with God was the result of the separation; the mad idea that we could be something we were not. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our dissociation with God and our brother will be healed.

T-5.III.3. There are two diametrically opposed ways of seeing your brother. 2 These two ways of seeing your brother must both be in your mind, because you are the perceiver. 3 These two ways of seeing your brother must also be in your brother’s mind because you are perceiving your brother. 4 See your brother through the Holy Spirit in your brother’s mind, and you will recognize your brother and the Holy Spirit in your mind. 5 What you acknowledge in your brother you are acknowledging in yourself, and
what you share you strengthen. p78

Note #25: Perception is your viewpoint. As such, your perception may or may not be true in reality but it is always perceived to be true for you in your provisional reality because you believe it to be so. What you choose to perceive, you project out towards others. Your brother, or the world you perceive to be outside yourself, acts as a mirror and reflects back what you originally projected out. Since thoughts are things, if you see your brother as handicapped, he will be handicapped. If you see him as hateful, he will be hateful. The course’s two ways of seeing your brother reflect how you see yourself. Am I an ego-body, in competition with other ego bodies in a world of lack and limitation? OR Am I a Son of God Who has reclaimed His birthright and is perfect, whole and complete? The thoughts that you project out towards another are strengthened when your brother reflects your thoughts or perceptions, back to you. The Holy Spirit asks you to choose to see your brother’s true Big “S” Self, perfect whole and complete, not his ego-body. In this way, what will be reflected back to you will be your true Big “S” Self, as God created you.

Also, an important note about projection is the fact that for your projected ideas to be reflected back to you, some element of what you project out must also be held in the “mirror’s mind”. This common element in both minds is needed in order to provide the resistance to reflect the idea back from the receiver to the sender. If the object, or mirror does not have that element within it, the projection will pass through looking for something else that it can reflect against and thus, return to the sender. Because of this, in an example of a projected hateful thought towards you, if there is no hate in you, no hateful thought is able to reflect back from you. It simply passes through you looking for a “willing victim.” Like seeks like. This is a very empowering concept since it means that you are never a victim of someone else’s thinking. If there is something “wrong” in my provisional reality, I need to look within and correct my own mistaken beliefs about myself.

T-5.III.4. The Voice of the Holy Spirit is weak in you. 2 That is why you must share the Voice of the Holy Spirit. 3 The Voice of the Holy Spirit must be increased in strength before you can hear It. 4 It is impossible to hear the Voice of the Holy Spirit in yourself while the Voice of the Holy Spirit is so weak in your mind. 5 The Voice of the Holy Spirit is not weak in Itself, but the Voice of the Holy Spirit is limited by your unwillingness to hear the Voice of the Holy Spirit. 6 If you make the mistake of looking for the Holy Spirit in yourself alone your thoughts will frighten you because, by adopting the ego's viewpoint, you are undertaking an ego-alien journey with the ego as guide. 7 This is bound to produce fear.

Note # 26: The ego’s viewpoint is that you are separate from everything else and that in order for you to gain, someone must lose. Having is associated with getting, not Being. If you make the mistake of looking for the Holy Spirit in you alone, you are confirming your belief that you are not a Oneness. You are proclaiming that you are a limited ego-body in competition with other limited ego-bodies. This puts your mind under the control of the ego’s thought system, which in turn strengthens the belief in the ego’s thought system. By sharing the Voice of the Holy Spirit with your brother, It is strengthened.
T-5.III.5.Delay is of the ego, because time is the ego’s concept. Both time and delay are meaningless in eternity. I have said before that the Holy Spirit is God's Answer to the ego. Everything of which the Holy Spirit reminds you is in direct opposition to the ego's notions, because true and false perceptions are themselves opposed. The Holy Spirit has the task of undoing what the ego has made. The Holy Spirit undoes what the ego has made at the same level on which the ego operates, or the mind would be unable to understand the change.

Note # 27: The ego operates on the level of perception in a physical world according to time and space that is subject to limitations. The ego does not operate on the spiritual world of true reality. Instead, the ego is part of the dream world of your provisional reality. Your split-mind gave “life” to ego only in your “dream world”. The Holy Spirit will work to undo the error of the separation at the same level the ego operates on, which is the level of our own “provisional reality” of time and space. This is where you imagine and perceive yourself to be. Ultimately, all healing takes place at the level of mind for this is where the source of the error in thinking occurred.

T-5.III.6.I have repeatedly emphasized that one level of the mind is not understandable to another. So it is with the ego and the Holy Spirit; with time and eternity. Eternity is an idea of God, so the Holy Spirit understands the idea of eternity perfectly. Time is a belief of the ego, so the lower mind, which is the ego's domain, accepts time without question. The only aspect of time that is eternal is <now>.

Note # 28: Everything happens in the <now>. We only experience in the <now>. Every thought, even if it is of the past, can only be remembered in the <now>.

T-5.III.7.The Holy Spirit is the Mediator between the interpretations of the ego and the knowledge of the spirit. The Holy Spirit's ability to deal with symbols enables the Holy Spirit to work with the ego's beliefs in the ego's own language. The Holy Spirit's ability to look beyond symbols into eternity enables the Holy Spirit to understand the laws of God, for which the Holy Spirit speaks. The Holy Spirit can therefore perform the function of reinterpreting what the ego makes, not by destruction but by understanding what the ego makes. Understanding is light, and light leads to knowledge. The Holy Spirit is in light because the Holy Spirit is in you who are light, but you yourself do not know you are in light. It is therefore the task of the Holy Spirit to reinterpret you on behalf of God.

Note # 29: The task of the Holy Spirit is to reinterpret what you falsely perceive yourself to be (an ego body) and reawaken you to the true reality of your spiritual magnificence, which is your divine birthright. The Holy Spirit, when asked, takes your egoic misperception and reinterprets them into correct perception. Correct perception is in alignment with the truth that joins and connects what was originally perceived as separate.

T-5.III.8.You cannot understand yourself alone. This is because you have no meaning
apart from your rightful place in the Sonship, and the rightful place of the Sonship is God. 3 Your rightful place in the Sonship, which is in God, is your life, your eternity and your Self. 4 Your rightful place in the Sonship is of this that the Holy Spirit reminds you, which is God. 5 Your rightful place in the Sonship is this that the Holy Spirit sees, which is God. 6 This vision, your rightful place in the Sonship, frightens the ego because your rightful place in the Sonship, which is God, is so calm. 7 Peace is the ego's greatest enemy because, according to the egoic interpretation of reality, war is the guarantee of the ego's survival. p79 8 The ego becomes strong in strife. 9 If you believe there is strife you will react viciously, because the idea of danger has entered your mind. 10 The idea itself (belief there is strife) is an appeal to the ego. 11 The Holy Spirit is as vigilant as the ego to the call of danger, opposing the call of danger and strife with the Holy Spirit's strength just as the ego welcomes the same call of danger with war. 12 The Holy Spirit counters this welcome by the ego to war with the Holy Spirit's welcoming peace. 13 Eternity and peace are as closely related as are time and war.

Note # 30: The Big “S” Self is part of the Mind of God. The task of the Holy Spirit is to return us to the remembrance of God. With this remembrance of God comes the Peace of God. The Holy Spirit does not oppose. It merely allows the strength of truth to dissolve all that is false. To oppose or make war against the ego would be to make the false appear real. There is only God. The Father is First Cause. The Son is the Father’s Effect. The Holy Spirit is the commune of the Two as One. Together, They are intertwined as the inseparable One holographic Mind of God. This is “All That Is”. This Trinity is the One Self that we all share.

T-5.III.9. Perception derives meaning from relationships. 2 Those relationships you accept are the foundations of your beliefs. 3 The separation is merely another term for a split mind. 4 The ego is the symbol of separation, just as the Holy Spirit is the symbol of peace. 5 What you perceive in others you are strengthening in yourself. 6 You may let your mind misperceive, but the Holy Spirit lets your mind reinterpret its own misperceptions.

Note # 31: When we misperceive, we base our relationship on the beliefs of fear and separation. The Holy Spirit allows the same relationship to be viewed based on love, forgiveness and joining for a common purpose.

T-5.III.10. The Holy Spirit is the perfect Teacher. 2 The Holy Spirit uses only what your mind already understands to teach you that you do not understand what your mind thought it understood. 3 The Holy Spirit can deal with a reluctant learner without going counter to his mind, because part of a reluctant learner’s mind is still for God. 4 Despite the ego's attempts to conceal this part of the reluctant learner’s mind that is still for God, which is the High-Self, this Big “S” Self is still much stronger than the ego, although the ego does not recognize this fact that the High-Self's mind is stronger than the ego. 5 The Holy Spirit recognizes the fact that the High-Self's mind is stronger than the ego perfectly because the High-Self's mind is the Holy Spirit’s Own dwelling place; the place in the mind where the Holy Spirit is at home. 6 You are at home there, too, because the High-Self’s mind is a place of peace, and peace is of God.
7 You who are part of God are not at home except in God’s peace. 8 If peace is eternal, you are at home only in eternity.

**Note # 32:** The reluctant learner’s mind that is still for God is the High-Self, Christ consciousness, higher mind or Big “S” Self, which is the part of the mind from which right-mindedness arises. It is the Home of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit utilizes the Big “S” Self’s mind to reinterpret egoic misperception into correct perception.

**T-5.III.11.** The ego made the world of perception, time and space as the ego perceives the world, but the Holy Spirit, the reinterpreter of what the ego made, sees the world as a teaching device for bringing you home. 2 The Holy Spirit must perceive time, and reinterpret time into the timeless. 3 The Holy Spirit must work through opposites, because the Holy Spirit must work with and for a mind that is in opposition with itself. 4 Correct and learn, and be open to learning. 5 You have not made truth, but truth can still set you free. 6 Look as the Holy Spirit looks, and understand as the Holy Spirit understands. 7 The Holy Spirit’s understanding looks back to God in remembrance of me. 8 The Holy Spirit is in communion with God always, and the Holy Spirit is part of you. 9 The Holy Spirit is your Guide to salvation, because the Holy Spirit holds the remembrance of things past and to come, and brings the remembrance of your true birthright to the present. 10 The Holy Spirit holds this gladness (your true birthright as the Son of God) gently in your mind, asking only that you increase it (your true birthright) in His Name by sharing it (your true birthright) to increase His joy in you.

**Note # 33:** The Holy Spirit utilizes all that the ego miscreated out of the ego’s belief in lack and transforms them into teaching devices to return the Sonship to the truth of His divine inheritance. The experiences from the egoic world of perception, time and space are reinterpreted by the Holy Spirit to become examples to teach love and forgiveness through sharing and joining. When transformed by love, these same experiences are realigned with truth.

**IV. Teaching and Healing**

**T-5.IV.1.** What fear has hidden still is part of you. 2 Joining the Atonement is the way out of fear. 3 The Holy Spirit will help you reinterpret everything that you perceive as fearful, and teach you that only what is loving is true. 4 Truth is beyond your ability to destroy, but truth is entirely within your ability to accept. 5 Truth belongs to you because, as an extension of God, you created truth with God. 6 Truth is yours because truth is part of you, just as you are part of God because God created you. 7 Nothing that is good can be lost because what is good comes from the Holy Spirit, the Voice for creation. 8 Nothing that is not good was ever created, and therefore what is not good cannot be protected. 9 The Atonement is the guarantee of the safety of the Kingdom, and the union of the Sonship is the Atonement’s protection. 10 The ego cannot prevail against the Kingdom because the Sonship is united. 11 In the presence of those who hear
the Holy Spirit’s Call to be as one, the ego fades away and is undone.

**Note # 34:** The Sonship rests safely protected in the truth that there is only union within the Sonship and Its Cause. God and all He created are of One Mind and One Will. The Sonship can deny truth but cannot change it. The ego will dissolve before the reality of the eternal truth and the Sonship will once again become aware of Its wholeness.

**T-5.IV.2.** What the ego makes the ego keeps to itself, and so what the ego makes is without strength. 2 Whatever the ego makes, its existence is unshared. 3 What the ego makes does not die; what the ego makes was merely never born. 4 Physical birth is not a beginning; physical birth is a continuing. 5 Everything that continues has already been born. 6 What has already been born will increase, as you are willing to return the unhealed part of your mind to the higher part, returning your mind undivided to creation. 7 I have come to give you the foundation, so your own thoughts can make you really free. 8 You have carried the burden of unshared ideas that are too weak to increase, but having made the unshared ideas that are too weak to increase, you did not realize how to undo these unshared ideas. 9 You cannot cancel out your past errors alone. 10 Your past errors, (the unshared ideas that are too weak to increase) will not disappear from your mind without the Atonement, a remedy not of your making. 11 The Atonement must be understood as a pure act of sharing. 12 That is what I meant when I said it is possible even in this world to listen to one Voice. 13 If you are part of God and the Sonship is One, you cannot be limited to the self the ego sees.

**Note # 35:** Unloving, judgmental and unforgiving thoughts cannot be shared. These “private thought” remain part of our personal provisional reality of illusion-based thinking. If they are given to the Holy Spirit’ thought system, these private thoughts can be reinterpreted and made holy. These “misperceptions” can be transformed with love and forgiveness into correct perception. The Atonement Principle is the basis for this transformation.

**T-5.IV.3.** Every loving thought held in any part of the Sonship belongs to every part of the Sonship. 2 Every loving thought is shared because every loving thought is loving. 3 Sharing is God’s way of creating, and also your way of creating. 4 The ego can keep you in exile from the Kingdom, but in the Kingdom itself the ego has no power. 5 Ideas of the spirit do not leave the mind that thinks them, nor can ideas of the spirit conflict with each other. 6 However, ideas of the ego can conflict because ideas of the ego occur at different levels and also include opposite thoughts at the same level. 7 *It is impossible to share opposing thoughts.* 8 You can share only the thoughts that are of God and that God keeps for you. 9 And of such is the Kingdom of Heaven. 10 The rest (the conflicting ideas of the ego), remains with you until the Holy Spirit has reinterpreted them (the conflicting ideas of the ego), in the light of the Kingdom, making them (the conflicting ideas of the ego) too, worthy of being shared. 11 When they (the conflicting ideas of the ego), have been sufficiently purified by the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit lets you give them (the conflicting ideas of the ego that have been purified) away. 12 The decision to share them, (the conflicting ideas of the ego), is their purification.
**Note # 36:** God is Truth and only ideas that align with the truth can be shared, strengthened and extended. Egoic ideas based on fear, limitation and separation support the false and thus, cannot be real. Illusions, being nothing, cannot be shared. When the false is brought before the Holy Spirit’s light of truth, only the truth remains. Now where there was the false, only correct perception remains. By sharing this with another, it is made real.

**T-5.IV.4.** I heard one Voice because I understood that I could not atone for myself alone. 2 Listening to one Voice implies the decision to share the one Voice in order to hear the one Voice for yourself. 3 The Mind that was in me is still irresistibly drawn to every mind created by God, because God's Wholeness is the Wholeness of His Son. 4 You cannot be hurt, and do not want to show your brother anything except your wholeness. 5 Show your brother that your brother cannot hurt you and hold nothing against your brother, or you hold that same thing against yourself. 6 This is the meaning of "turning the other cheek."

**Note # 37:** Jesus saw the Oneness of the Father in everything that he experienced. Realizing the Oneness of the Sonship, giving and receiving became the same. Jesus understood the holographic nature of the Mind of God.

**T-5.IV.5.** Teaching is done in many ways, above all by example. 2 Teaching should be healing, because teaching is the sharing of ideas and the recognition that to share ideas is to strengthen the shared ideas. 3 I cannot forget my need to teach what I have learned, which arose in me <because> I learned it. 4 I call upon you to teach what you have learned, because by so doing you can depend on what you have learned. 5 Make what you have learned dependable in my name because my name is the Name of God's Son. 6 What I learned I give you freely, and the Mind that was in me rejoices as you choose to hear what I learned.

**Note # 38:** The best teaching is by example. To teach love, you must be love. By being, you demonstrate that you have incorporated the idea into your being and now can give it away. By being, we move a thought form, a word lesson, to a world lesson. A world lesson is the experience of being it. It demonstrates that you know it and now are teaching it. By sharing, the idea grows stronger in both teacher and pupil.

**T-5.IV.6.** The Holy Spirit atones in all of us by undoing, and thus the Holy Spirit lifts the burden you have placed in your mind. 2 By following the Holy Spirit, you are led back to God where you belong, and how can you find the way except by taking your brother with you? 3 My part in the Atonement is not complete until you join the Atonement and give the Atonement away. 4 As you teach so shall you learn. 5 I will never leave you or forsake you, because to forsake you would be to forsake myself and God Who created me. 6 You forsake yourself and God if you forsake any of your brothers. 7 You must learn to see your brothers as your brothers truly are, and understand your brothers belong to God as you do. 8 How could you treat your brother better than by rendering unto God the things that are God's?
Note # 39: The Atonement is the forgiveness that comes from accepting the truth that God’s Son was, is and always will be sinless and guiltless. As such, there is nothing to forgive but our own misperception that we could be something other than as God created us. Since “All That Is” is a Oneness, to withhold the Atonement from any of God’s creations is to withhold it from all.

T-5.IV.7. The Atonement gives you the power of a healed mind, but the power to create is of God. Therefore, those who have been forgiven must devote themselves first to healing because, having received the idea of healing, they must give, (share) the idea of healing with all, to hold the idea of healing. 3 The full power of creation cannot be expressed as long as any of God's ideas is withheld from the Kingdom. 4 The joint will of the Sonship is the only creator that can create like the Father, because only the joint will of the complete Sonship can think completely, and the thinking of God lacks nothing. 5 Everything you think that is not through the Holy Spirit is lacking.

Note # 40: All egoic thinking must give way to the thought system of the Holy Spirit in order for the Sonship to return to wholeness and One-Mindedness.

T-5.IV.8. How can you who are so holy suffer? 2 All your past except its beauty is gone, and nothing is left but a blessing. 3 I have saved all your kindnesses and every loving thought you ever had. 4 I have purified them, all your kindnesses and every loving thought you ever had, of the errors that hid their light, and kept them, all your kindnesses and every loving thought you ever had, for you in their own perfect radiance. 5 They, your loving thoughts that I have purified, are beyond destruction and beyond guilt. 6 They, your loving thoughts that I have purified, came from the Holy Spirit within you, and we know what God creates is eternal. 7 You can indeed depart in peace because I have loved you as I loved myself. 8 You go with my blessing and for my blessing. 9 Hold my blessing and share my blessing that my blessing may always be our blessing. 10 I place the peace of God in your heart and in your hands, to hold and share. 11 The heart is pure to hold the peace of God, and the hands are strong to give the peace of God. 12 We cannot lose the peace of God. 13 My judgment is as strong as the wisdom of God, in Whose Heart and Hands we have our being. 14 His quiet children are His blessed Sons. 15 The Thoughts of God are with you.

Note # 41: While in time, our function is forgiveness, our purpose is love and our destiny is the Peace of God. Jesus and the Holy Spirit will guide us there. No loving thought can ever be lost. They are preserved in eternity by the Holy Spirit and await the Sonship’s return to knowledge.

V. The Ego’s Use of Guilt

T-5.V.1. Perhaps some of our concepts will become clearer and more personally meaningful if the ego's use of guilt is clarified. 2 The ego has a purpose, just as the Holy
Spirit has. 3 The ego's purpose is fear, because only the fearful can be egotistic. 4 The ego's logic is as impeccable as that of the Holy Spirit, because your mind has the means at the mind’s disposal to side with Heaven or earth, as the mind elects. 5 But again, remember that both the higher mind and the lower mind are in you since you believe in the separation.

Note # 42: Due to our belief in the separation, we appear to have split our mind into two opposing and competing parts. The ego, which claims that we have a different will than God’s Will, is one component. The other is the Big “S” Self, which is represented by the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Our decision-maker is being constantly asked who it will follow. It will follow the one that it values the most.

T-5.V.2. In Heaven there is no guilt, because the Kingdom is attained through the Atonement, which releases you to create. 2 The word "create" is appropriate here because, once what you have made is undone by the Holy Spirit, the blessed residue is restored and therefore continues in creation. 3 What is truly blessed is incapable of giving rise to guilt, and must give rise to joy. 4 This makes what is truly blessed invulnerable to the ego because the peace of what is truly blessed is unassailable. 5 What is truly blessed is invulnerable to disruption because what is truly blessed is whole. 6 Guilt is <always> disruptive. 7 Anything that engenders fear is divisive because anything that engenders fear obeys the law of division. p83 8 If the ego is the symbol of the separation, the ego is also the symbol of guilt. 9 Guilt is more than merely not of God. 10 Guilt is the symbol of attack on God. 11 Guilt’s attack on God is a totally meaningless concept except to the ego, but do not underestimate the power of the ego's belief in guilt. 12 The ego’s belief that it has attacked God and therefore is guilty is the belief from which all guilt really stems.

Note # 43: Guilt is the egoic symbol of attack on God. Guilt is the feeling you have when you deny yourself the total freedom God gave you. When you claim that you are not perfect, whole and complete, you deny your invulnerability. The ego believes that it has attacked God by rejecting your own perfection and, therefore, you feel guilty. It is the belief in this perceived attack on God from which all guilt really stems.

T-5.V.3. The ego is the part of the mind that believes in division. 2 How could part of God detach itself without believing the ego’s mind is attacking God? 3 We spoke before of the authority problem as based on the concept of usurping God's power. 4 The ego believes that usurping God's power is what you did because the ego believes that the ego <is> you. 5 If you identify with the ego, you must perceive yourself as guilty as the ego. 6 Whenever you respond to your ego you will experience guilt, and you will fear punishment. 7 The ego is quite literally a fearful thought. 8 However ridiculous the idea of attacking God may be to the sane mind, never forget that the ego is not sane. 9 The ego represents a delusional system, and speaks for this delusional system. 10 Listening to the ego's voice means that you believe it is possible to attack God, and that a part of God has been torn away by you. 11 Fear of retaliation from without follows, because the severity of the guilt is so acute that the guilt must be projected.
Note # 44: Believing that it has separated from the Oneness that was the Mind of God, the ego believes that it has attacked God. Fear arises from the belief that due to separation, there is now something outside itself. The ego believes that having been attacked, God will seek retribution and retaliate against His attacker, the ego. The egoic thought system is designed as a means to hide from God’s retribution and minimize this guilt. The ego tries to control this guilt by the use of projection. In projection, the ego attempts to transfer its own guilt upon another by blaming another for its own thoughts and experiences. Projection claims, “I’m not guilty, you are!”

T-5.V.4. Whatever you accept into your mind has reality for you. It is your acceptance of whatever you accept into your mind that makes it real. If you enthroned the ego in your mind, your allowing the ego to enter makes the ego your reality. This is because the mind is capable of creating reality or making illusions. I said before that you must learn to think with God. To think with God is to think like God. This engenders joy, not guilt, because to think with God is natural. Guilt is a sure sign that your thinking is unnatural. Unnatural thinking will always be attended with guilt, because unnatural thinking (not thinking with God) is the belief in sin. The ego does not perceive sin as a lack of love, but the ego perceives sin as a positive act of assault. This is necessary to the ego’s survival because, as soon as you regard sin as a lack, you will automatically attempt to remedy the situation. And you will succeed. The ego regards this (the removal of the ego’s belief in lack), as doom, but you must learn to regard it (the removal of the ego’s belief in lack), as freedom.

Note # 45: If we define sin as attack, it makes sense to prepare ourselves for God’s inevitable counterattack. This solution protects the belief that the separation was real. If we define sin as lack of love, the response is to want to remove all blocks to love. One definition for sin engenders fear, the other love. Whichever definition we accept will determine which thought system we will follow.

T-5.V.5. The guiltless mind cannot suffer. Being sane, the guiltless mind heals the body because <the mind> has been healed. The sane mind cannot conceive of illness because the sane mind cannot conceive of attacking anyone or anything. I said before that illness is a form of magic. It might be better to say that illness is a form of magical solution. The ego believes that by punishing itself the ego will mitigate the punishment of God. Yet even in this belief that by punishing itself the ego will mitigate the punishment of God, the ego is arrogant. The ego attributes to God a punishing intent, and then takes this punishing intent it has attributed to God as the ego’s own prerogative to mitigate and minimize. The ego tries to usurp all the functions of God as the ego perceives the functions of God to be, because the ego recognizes that only total allegiance can be trusted.

Note # 46: Sickness is the ego’s attempt to punish itself. Sickness is not from God. The egoic thought system dictates that due to sin, which it defined as our attack against God, God must demand retribution. The ego than further usurped God’s authority by defining what sin is and then determined what God’s proper response to the ego’s imagined sin should be. Since the ego believed that God must require someone be punished, the ego
attempts to extract God’s “pound of flesh” from the body. The ego makes the body sick. The ego believes that it is better to suffer a little now then wait for God’s judgment. Thus, the ego seeks to mitigate the punishment. The ego tells us that we can further mitigate the damages by transferring our punishment to another innocent victim. This is done by our mind’s use of projection. Even illness itself is the ego’s projection of the mind’s punishment of the body for the mind’s sins against God. The ego “knows” that it was the mind that actually did the crime; yet, the ego is willing to extract “God’s retribution” from anyone, even the innocent.

T-5.V.6. The ego cannot oppose the laws of God any more than you can oppose the laws of God, but the ego can interpret the laws of God according to what the ego wants, just as you can. 2 That is why the question, "What do you want?" must be answered. 3 You are answering the question, "What do you want?" every minute and every second, and each moment of decision is a judgment that is anything but ineffectual. 4 The effects of your answer of the question, "What do you want?" will follow automatically until the decision is changed. 5 Remember, though, that the alternatives themselves are unalterable. 6 The Holy Spirit, like the ego, is a decision. 7 Together they (the Holy Spirit and the ego) constitute all the alternatives the mind can accept and obey. 8 The Holy Spirit and the ego are the only choices open to you. 9 God created one (the choice for the Holy Spirit), and so you cannot eradicate it (the choice for the Holy Spirit). 10 You made the other (the ego), and so you can eradicate the choice for ego. 11 Only what God creates is irreversible and unchangeable. 12 What you made can always be changed because, when you do not think like God, you are not really thinking at all. 13 Delusional ideas are not real thoughts, although you can believe in your delusional ideas. 14 But you are wrong to believe in your delusional ideas. 15 The function of thought comes from God and is in God. 16 Since you are a part of God’s Thought, you cannot think apart from God.

Note # 47: The thoughts of the egoic mind make up our own “provisional reality”. Since these thought are not shared with God, they are not God’s Will nor are they the thoughts of your whole mind. These thought only exist in your ego’s world of delusions. They do not exist in God’s reality. Reality is the eternal and thus, changeless. The world of delusion is the world of time, choice and change. Ultimately, the choice is between the two thought systems, one representing the true and the other the false. Since the false is not real, a choice for the egoic thought system only binds the deluded mind. The choice for the ego is a mistake, not a sin. A mistake only requires correction. The Holy Spirit merely asks that we choose again. Eventually, our decision-maker will pick the choice for the Holy Spirit and truth. It is only in the world of time and perception that the false appears to be a viable choice.

T-5.V.7. Irrational thought is disordered thought. 2 God Himself orders your thought because your thought was created by God. 3 Guilt feelings are always a sign that you do not know that your thought was created by God. 4 Guilt feelings also show that you believe you can think apart from God, and want to think apart from God. 5 Every disordered thought is attended by guilt at the disordered thought’s inception, and maintained by guilt in the disordered thought’s continuance. 6 Guilt is inescapable by
those who believe they, **rather than God**, order their own thoughts, and must therefore obey their dictates. 7 This makes those who believe they order their own thoughts feel responsible for their errors without recognizing that, by accepting this responsibility, they are reacting irresponsibly. 8 If the sole responsibility of the miracle worker is to accept the Atonement for himself, and I assure you that it is **to accept the Atonement for himself**, then the responsibility for <what> is atoned for cannot be yours. 9 The dilemma cannot be resolved except by accepting the solution of undoing. 10 You <would> be responsible for the effects of all your wrong thinking if your wrong thinking could not be undone. 11 The purpose of the Atonement is to save the past in purified form only. 12 If you accept the remedy for disordered thought, a remedy whose efficacy is beyond doubt, how can disordered thought’s symptoms remain? 

**Note # 48:** Efficacy is the power to produce results.

You are not responsible for what you believe that you made since it never happened. The egoic mind is incapable of creating because it believes in separation and lack. When the split mind is following the egoic thought system, it only makes in the delusional and imagined world that is misperceived by the insane mind of the ego. This egoic world of misperception is not real and only exists in the dream world of your egoic provisional reality. When you realize that unloving thoughts do not come from the Mind of God, you will give them no reality. God did not create the dream world of the ego and by accepting the Atonement for oneself this egoic world of delusion disappears. By accepting the Atonement for yourself, you accept that your ego’s dream world never happened in reality. The ego’s dreams are undone (fade away). You cannot feel guilty for something that never happened.

God does not judge. God allows. When God creates, He extends the One Self of “All that Is.” We are an extension of the Mind of God. A thought is an idea in the Mind of God. Thoughts are thoughts. They are neutral. It is our judgment that gives them their “good” or “bad” characteristic. When we judge a thought, we move it outside the realm of an aspect of the indivisible “All That Is.” We claim that the judged thought is now separate and apart. Now, instead of the thought being a part of the Oneness, we believe that we have a thought that is private and excluded from the Mind of God. We have judged and rejected part of our wholeness. Guilt feelings are always associated with these thoughts since we believe these thoughts are self-created. We do not know and so deny that God created our thoughts. Instead of allowing all thoughts, we choose to separate, reject and judge these thoughts. Guilt feelings show that you believe you can think apart from God and that you want to think apart from God. Guilt feelings show that you believe you can oppose God’s Will and have a will other than God’s Will. It is this belief that we have self-created or judged something to be outside of the Mind of God that is the source in our belief in sin, guilt and fear. This belief that we have private thoughts is part of the illusion of separation. Private thoughts are not real. They only “exist” in the imagination of the deluded mind of the dreamer.

**T-5.V.8.** The continuing decision to remain separated is the only possible reason for continuing guilt feelings. 2 We have said this before, but did not emphasize the destructive results of the decision to remain separated. 3 Any decision of the mind will affect both behavior and experience. 4 What you want you expect. 5 This is not
delusional. 6 Your mind <does> make your future, and your mind will turn your future back to full creation at any minute if your mind accepts the Atonement first. 7 Your mind will also return to full creation the instant your mind has done so, (accept the Atonement for yourself). 8 Having given up your mind’s disordered thought, the proper ordering of thought becomes quite apparent.

Note # 49: The proper ordering of thought comes from God. God’s thought created us perfect, whole and complete. We cannot go against this and create something of limitation. The egoic world of misperception is nothing since it is not real. Anything that the ego mind dreams up that is fear-based is, therefore, also unreal. From nothing comes nothing. Proper order of thought is restored when we remember what we are, the Son of God. We accept the fact that our reality and the reality that is the truth of Mind of God are one and the same.

VI. Time and Eternity

T-5.VI.1. God in His knowledge is not waiting, but His Kingdom is bereft while you wait for His knowledge. 2 All the Sons of God are waiting for your return, just as you are waiting for their return. 3 Delay does not matter in eternity, but delay is tragic in time. 4 You have elected to be in time rather than eternity, and therefore believe you are in time. 5 Yet your election is both free and alterable. 6 You do not belong in time. 7 Your place is only in eternity, where God Himself placed you forever.

Note # 50: Time arose out of the belief in separation. Prior to the separation there was just Oneness and Being. In order for time to “exist”, you need to have different points of reference. Time could be viewed as the time or distance that it takes to get from one point to another. Time is a measure of change. It can measure the time it takes to change not only physical positions, which are associated with distance, but also mental positions, which are associated with perception and beliefs. Time can measure how long it takes to move from misperception to the return to knowledge. If there is only oneness, there is no distance to go because being One you are already there. Both time and space are related and are needed to make each other relevant. Both time and space are learning devices that exist in our dream world of provisional reality since they both require belief in separation. Time and space are relevant in a world of perception and form. As long as we find value in the belief in separation from God’s Will, time is needed. When we freely decide our will and our Father’s Will are one, the need for time will disappear. Time allows us to experience what it would be like to be something other than God, which is All-Knowing. To have forgotten knowledge is to imagine you are separate from God. Time allows us to pretend we do not know what we are. If we wish to not be aware of some idea and to have no access to that idea, we place it in the future. If there is an idea that we would like to have out of our mind’s present awareness yet, still have access to that idea, we place it in the past. This “past” idea is then accessible in our memory. What we choose to be aware of at this moment, we call our present.
T-5.VI.2. Guilt feelings are the preservers of time. 2 Guilt feelings induce fears of retaliation or abandonment, and thus guilt feelings ensure that the future will be like the past. 3 By insuring that the future will be like the past is the ego's continuity maintained. 4 Insuring that the future will be like the past gives the ego a false sense of security by believing that you cannot escape from time and the ego’s belief in separation. 5 But you can and must escape from this belief in separation from which time arose. 6 God offers you the continuity of eternity in exchange. 7 When you choose to make this exchange, (time for eternity), you will simultaneously exchange guilt for joy, viciousness for love, and pain for peace. 8 My role is only to unchain your will and set your will free. 9 Your ego cannot accept this freedom of your will, and will oppose the freeing of your will at every possible moment and in every possible way. 10 And as the ego’s maker, which is your mind’s will, you recognize what the ego can do because you gave the ego the power to do it.

Note # 51: Due to our belief in separation, the mind made the ego. The ego derives its power and existence from our mind. The ego cannot create anything but the mind can follow or obtain its guidance from the belief system of the ego. The ego’s belief system is rooted in its belief in the separation. Our belief in sin, guilt and fear are interrelated concepts that help keep our ego “alive and well” within our mind.

T-5.VI.3. Remember the Kingdom always, and remember that you who are part of the Kingdom cannot be lost. 2 The Mind that was in me <is> in you, for God creates with perfect fairness. 3 Let the Holy Spirit remind you always of God’s fairness, and let me teach you how to share this reminder of God’s fairness, which comes from the Holy Spirit with your brothers. 4 How else can the chance to claim God’s fairness for yourself be given you? 5 The two voices (voices of the ego and the Holy Spirit) speak for different interpretations of the same thing simultaneously; or almost simultaneously, for the ego always speaks first p86. 6 Alternate interpretations were unnecessary until the first one (the ego interpretation based on separation) was made.

Note # 52: The ego always speaks first. This speaking takes many forms but is based on the belief in separation, sin, guilt and fear. The ego’s voice is judgmental and comparing. The Holy Spirit will respond to egoic misperception with correct perception whenever asked.

T-5.VI.4. The ego speaks in judgment, and the Holy Spirit reverses the ego’s decision, much as a higher court has the power to reverse a lower court's decisions in this world. 2 The ego's decisions are always wrong, because the ego's decisions are based on the error the ego's decisions were made to uphold. 3 Nothing the ego perceives is interpreted correctly. 4 Not only does the ego cite Scripture for its purpose, but the ego even interprets Scripture as a witness for itself. 5 The Bible is a fearful thing in the ego's judgment. 6 Perceiving the Bible as frightening, the ego interprets the Bible fearfully. 7 Being afraid, you do not appeal to the Higher Court because you believe its judgment (the Holy Spirit’s judgment), would also be against you.

Note # 53: Because the egoic thought system is based on the false belief that God’s Will
can be opposed and changed, all conclusions that the ego reaches are incorrect. The ego judges everything based on wrong assumptions and thus, reaches wrong conclusions. Because its thought system is based in fear, the ego interprets everything fearfully. The ego does not comprehend love and thus, interprets the Bible based on its egoic version of an unloving god. This egoic version of god is not a God of love, but rather a god who is arbitrary, petty, vengeful and full of insecurity. ACIM states that such an unloving god could only exist in the insane mind of the ego. The Holy Spirit knows that God is love and thus, interprets the Bible in accordance with a loving God. ACIM suggests that we appeal all egoic judgments to the Holy Spirit for correction.

T-5.VI.5. There are many examples of how the ego's interpretations are misleading, but a few will suffice to show how the Holy Spirit can reinterpret the ego's misinterpretations in the Holy Spirit's Own light.

**Note # 54:** Jesus will now demonstrate interpretations of biblical verse under both thought systems.

T-5.VI.6. "As ye sow, so shall ye reap" the Holy Spirit interprets to mean what you consider worth cultivating you will cultivate in yourself. 2 Your judgment of what is worthy makes it worthy for you.

**Note # 55:** What you hold in your consciousness, you will sow and reap. Thoughts become things. You experience what you place your attention upon.

T-5.VI.7. "Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord" is easily reinterpreted if you remember that ideas increase only by being shared. 2 The statement emphasizes that vengeance cannot be shared. 3 Give vengeance therefore to the Holy Spirit, Who will undo vengeance in you because vengeance does not belong in your mind, which is part of God.

**Note # 54:** Give all your fear-based thoughts to the Holy Spirit for reinterpretation and undoing. God judges not, for the ego’s concept of sin is erroneous. There can be no victims.

T-5.VI.8. "I will visit the sins of the fathers unto the third and fourth generation," as interpreted by the ego, is particularly vicious. 2 It becomes merely an attempt to guarantee the ego's own survival. 3 To the Holy Spirit, the statement "I will visit the sins of the fathers unto the third and fourth generation," means that in later generations the Holy Spirit can still reinterpret what former generations had misunderstood, and thus release the thoughts that the former generations had misunderstood from their ability to produce fear in you.

**Note # 56:** Egoic beliefs are based on the past. Unless we choose to follow a different thought system, we will continue to recreate our past errors in our present and future. Give these egoic misperceptions over to the Holy Spirit for correction and these past misperception will have one power over you.
T-5.VI.9."The wicked shall perish" becomes a statement of Atonement, if the word "perish" is understood as "be undone." 2 Every loveless thought must be undone, a word the ego cannot even understand. 3 To the ego, to be undone means to be destroyed. 4 The ego will not be destroyed because the ego is part of your thought, but because the ego is uncreative and therefore unsharing, the ego will be reinterpreted to release you from fear. 5 The part of your mind that you have given to the ego will merely return to the Kingdom, where your whole mind belongs. 6 You can delay the completion of the Kingdom, but you cannot introduce the concept of fear into the Kingdom. p87

Note # 57: The wicked, or fearful, will be undone. The Holy Spirit will reinterpret and remove all fear-based thoughts into loving and forgiving thoughts. Fear will be undone.

T-5.VI.10. You need not fear that the Higher Court of the Holy Spirit will condemn you. 2 The Higher Court of the Holy Spirit will merely dismiss the case against you. 3 There can be no case against a child of God, and every witness to guilt in God's creations is bearing false witness to God Himself. 4 Appeal everything you believe gladly to God's Own Higher Court, because God's Own Higher Court (the Holy Spirit) speaks for God and therefore speaks truly. 5 God's Own Higher Court (the Holy Spirit), will dismiss the case against you, however carefully you have built the case against you up. 6 The case may be fool-proof, but the case against you is not God-proof. 7 The Holy Spirit will not hear the case against you, because the Holy Spirit can only witness truly. 8 The Holy Spirit's verdict will always be "thine is the Kingdom," because the Holy Spirit was given to you to remind you of what you are.

Note # 58: Both the ego’s and the Holy Spirit’s thought systems follow the rules of logic perfectly. Yet due to their differing initial premises, they arrive at totally opposite conclusions. ACIM states that the egoic thought system is flawed because it is based on the false belief that we were self-created and separate from God. If this major premise is wrong, everything that follows will not be correct. The logic can be impeccable but the conclusions will be wrong. ACIM states that only the thought system of the Holy Spirit can produce correct conclusions since not only is its logic perfect, its major premise is also correct. The decision-maker must decide what he chooses to value. Ultimately, truth will stand the test of time and we will freely choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-5.VI.11. When I said "I am come as a light into the world," I meant that I came to share the light with you. 2 Remember my reference to the ego's dark glass, and remember also that I said, "Do not look there." 3 It is still true that where you look to find yourself is up to you. 4 Your patience with your brother is your patience with yourself. 5 Is not a child of God worth patience? 6 I have shown you infinite patience because my will is that of our Father, from Whom I learned of infinite patience. 7 His Voice was in me as the Holy Spirit’s Voice is in you, speaking for patience towards the Sonship in the Name of its Creator (God, the Father).

Note # 59: The light Jesus speaks of is the light of truth. See your brother not as a body, but as Spirit, the extension of his Creator.
T-5.VI.12. Now you must learn that only infinite patience produces immediate effects. 2

Infinite patience is the way in which time is exchanged for eternity. 3 Infinite patience calls upon infinite love, and by producing results *<now>* infinite patience and love renders time unnecessary. 4 We have repeatedly said that time is a learning device to be abolished when *time* is no longer useful. 5 The Holy Spirit, Who speaks for God in time, also knows that time is meaningless. 6 The Holy Spirit reminds you that *time is meaningless* in every passing moment of time, because it is the Holy Spirit’s special function to return you to eternity and remain to bless your creations there in eternity. 7 The Holy Spirit is the only blessing you can truly give, because the Holy Spirit is truly blessed. 8 Because the Holy Spirit has been given you freely by God, you must give the Holy Spirit freely as you received the Holy Spirit freely from God.

**Note # 60**: To give is to receive. We demonstrate that we have something by giving it away. When only love remains, time no longer has a purpose to serve.

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**VII. The Decision for God**

T-5.VII.1. Do you really believe you *(your egoic self)* can make a voice, *the call for egoic separation that* can drown out God's? 2 Do you really believe *that your egoic self* can devise a thought system that can separate you from God? 3 Do you really believe your egoic self can plan for your safety and joy, better than God can plan for your safety and joy? The ego’s plan is *that you are a unique, limited ego body in competition with other ego bodies.* p88 4 You need be neither careful nor careless; you need merely cast your cares upon God because God careth for you. 5 You are God’s care because God loves you. 6 God’s Voice reminds you always that all hope is yours because of God’s care. 7 You cannot choose to escape God’s care because that is not God’s Will, but you can choose to accept God’s care and use the infinite power of God’s care for all those God created by God’s care and Love

**Note # 61**: Although we can choose not to believe that we are in God’s care, this belief only appears true in our insane world of provisional reality. We can never escape the eternal care of God since God created us by extension of Himself in an act of God’s Love. It is God’s Will that we be perfect, whole, and complete. The Will of God is also His Son’s Will since we are created in God’s image. We share completely in God’s Oneness.

T-5.VII.2. There have been many healers who did not heal themselves. 2 The healers who did not heal themselves have not moved mountains by their faith because *these unhealed healers’* faith was not whole. 3 Some of *these unhealed healers* have healed the sick at times, but *these unhealed healers* have not raised the dead. 4 Unless the healer heals himself, the healer cannot believe that there is no order of difficulty in miracles. 5 The unhealed healer has not learned that every mind God created is equally worthy of being healed *<because>* God created *every mind* whole. 6 You are merely asked to return to God the mind as God created *the mind.* 7 God asks you only for what
God gave, knowing that this giving will heal you. 8 Sanity is wholeness, and the sanity of your brothers is your sanity.

**Note # 62:** Unhealed healers would still perceive some separation within the Sonship and the Oneness. Not seeing all as God created them to be, they still believe there is some form of magic outside the power of truth that will bring about the healing of the patient’s mind or body. When we speak of healing, we are speaking at the level of mind, not the body. The “unhealed healer” believes in the basic inequality between the “healer” and the patient. The healer believes that he or she has some magic power to heal the patient. Healing only occurs within the mind of the patient. It is the patient, not the healer that cures the perceived illness. The healer merely aids the patient in the patient’s rediscovery of the power of truth over an illusion. The healer reminds the patient of the truth that we are spirit and not a body.

T-5.VII.3. Why should you listen to the endless insane calls you think are made upon you, *(the calls or voice for the ego and separation)*, when you can know the Voice for God is in you? 2 God commended His Spirit to you, and asks that you commend your *spirit* to Him. 3 God wills to keep *your spirit* in perfect peace, because you are of one mind and spirit with God. 4 Excluding yourself from the Atonement is the ego's last-ditch defense of the ego’s own existence. 5 *Excluding yourself from the Atonement* reflects both the ego’s need to separate, and your willingness to side with the ego’s separateness. 6 This willingness to *excluding yourself from the Atonement* means that you do not want to be healed.

**Note # 63:** Our purpose is to accept the Atonement for ourselves. We cannot feel “At-One-ment” when we refuse anyone this same gift. To give, we must have and to give is to receive.

T-5.VII.4. But the time is now **for you to be healed.** 2 You have not been asked to work out the plan of salvation yourself because, as I told you before, the remedy could not be of your making. 3 God Himself gave you the perfect Correction for everything you made that is not in accord with His holy Will. 4 I am making His plan perfectly explicit to you, and I will also tell you of your part in God’s Plan, and how urgent your part is to fulfill God’s Plan. 5 God weeps at the "sacrifice" of His children who believe they are lost to God.

**Note # 64:** The remedy for our salvation cannot be our own ego’s plan. Any egoic plan is on the level of “making” since what we have made is not real and only exist in our provisional reality. Provisional reality is not on the same level as our true nature. Our true nature is God’s nature. God’s plan corrects the problem, the belief in the separation, at its source and restores or corrects our mistaken belief of whom and what we are. God’s plan undoes our dream world of provisional reality. We cannot correct this alone because of our deep-seated guilt, which we believe would require someone’s (God’s) forgiveness. As long as you believe your dream world is real, you believe your guilt is justified. God’s plan reawakens you out of the nightmare of your dream world, back to the reality of your true Big “S” Self, perfect whole and complete. Only the Holy Spirit, God’s Voice
for the truth, can assure you that you have done nothing wrong and, therefore, are sinless and guiltless as God created you. For this is God’s Will which He shares with you. Your true will and God’s Will are one and the same. You only need to accept the Atonement for yourself.

T-5.VII.5. Whenever you are not wholly joyous, your lack of joy is because you have reacted with a lack of love to one of God's creations. 2 Perceiving your lack of love to one of God's creations as "sin" you become defensive because you expect attack. 3 The decision to react in this way is your decision and can therefore be undone. This reaction is based on your perceived unloving act toward another that you perceive as a sin. You then expect that your brother will retaliate with his own attack against you. 4 This reaction, your lack of love toward another and your expectation for attack, cannot be undone by repentance in the usual sense, because repentance implies guilt.

Note # 65: Anytime you are in fear, you will not react to a brother’s cry for love with love. If you are not in love, you are in fear. The error is always your lack of love toward another and your expectation for attack in return. Your sense of guilt reinforces the error because by feeling guilty, you are claiming you must have done something to feel guilty about. By your own judgment, you have made your “sin” real. You cannot be a oneness since you perceive something outside yourself to feel guilty about. This sense of guilt confirms and reinforces your ego’s belief in separation. It proves that there must be something outside you that needs to forgive you. The ego then warns you that if that something outside yourself fails to forgive you, it will decide to attack you. Whether it forgives or attacks, in either case, the egoic thought system has reaffirmed that you are separate and lack wholeness. Both results imply and confirm that you are not perfect, whole and complete. Thus, under the ego’s thought system, you cannot be God’s Son. You must be an ego-body, subject to lack and limitation.

T-5.VII.6. Decision cannot be difficult. 2 This is obvious, if you realize that you must already have decided not to be wholly joyous if that is how you feel. 3 Therefore, the first step in the undoing this lack of joy is to recognize that you actively decided wrongly, but can as actively decide otherwise. 4 Be very firm with yourself in this, (that you can choose again) and keep yourself fully aware that the undoing process, which does not come from you, is nevertheless within you because God placed the undoing process to choose again within you. 5 Your part is merely to return your thinking to the point at which the error was made, and give your thinking which made the error over to the Atonement in peace. 6 Say this to yourself as sincerely as you can, remembering that the Holy Spirit will respond fully to your slightest invitation:

7 I must have decided wrongly, because I am not at peace.
8 I made the decision for the ego myself, but I can also decide otherwise.
9 I want to decide otherwise, because I want to be at peace.
10 I do not feel guilty, because the Holy Spirit will undo all the consequences of my wrong decision if I will let the Holy Spirit.
I choose to let the Holy Spirit, by allowing the Holy Spirit to decide for God for me.

Note # 66: The Atonement prayer process basically says that by taking responsibility for your decision, you have given yourself the right to reclaim your power to decide to undo that same decision. You can choose again. The Holy Spirit will undo the consequences of your wrong decision. This is easy for the Holy Spirit since It knows that your actions were just in the dream world of your provisional reality. The Holy Spirit knows that your dream world is not reality. The Holy Spirit utilizes your provisional reality, which is the level of ego misperception, as a schoolroom. The purpose of the schoolroom is to act as a learning device and playfield for you to relearn and remember what and who you really are. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, you are told that your answer was wrong and that you can choose again. The purpose of a schoolroom is to allow the student to learn, or in our case, to remember what is truth without placing the pupil in harms way. Thus, the Holy Spirit has reinterpreted the ego’s fearful and guilt ridden world of provisional reality into a learning device to bring us back home.

To determine which thought system we are following at any given moment, we merely need to check with how we feel. Our feelings indicate the degree that our current thinking aligns with our Big “S” Self. If we are not in a state of joy and peace, we are not following the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Loss of inner peace indicates that we have slipped into fear-based, egoic thought patterns.
Chapter 6. THE LESSONS OF LOVE

Introduction

T-6.in.1. The relationship of anger to attack is obvious, but the relationship of anger to fear is not always so apparent. 2 Anger always involves projection of separation. Projection of separation must ultimately be accepted as one's own responsibility, rather than blaming projection of separation on others. 3 Anger cannot occur unless you believe that you have been attacked, that your attack is justified in return, and that you are in no way responsible for the attack. 4 Given these three wholly irrational premises, the equally irrational conclusion that a brother is worthy of attack rather than of love must follow. 5 What can be expected from insane egoic premises except an insane conclusion? 6 The way to undo an insane egoic conclusion is to consider the sanity of the premises on which the insane egoic conclusion rests. 7 You cannot <be> attacked, attack <has> no justification, and you <are> responsible for what you believe.

NOTE # 1: The thought system of the Holy Spirit, your Higher-Self, or right-mindedness is as follows:
You cannot <be> attacked. Attack <has> no justification, and you <are> responsible for what you believe.

The thought system of the ego, your lower mind or wrong-mindedness is as follows:
You <can be> attacked. Attack <is> justified and you <are not> responsible for what you believe.

Both thought systems follow the rules of logic but they have opposite originating beliefs and, therefore, yield opposite conclusions. If the major or first premise is found to be incorrect, everything that follows cannot be relied upon.

T-6.in.2. You have been asked to take me as your model for learning, since an extreme example is a particularly helpful learning device. 2 Everyone teaches, and teaches all the time. 3 This idea that everyone teaches, and teaches all the time, is a responsibility you inevitably assume the moment you accept any premise at all, and no one can organize his life without some thought system. 4 Once you have developed a thought system of any kind, you live by your thought system and teach your thought system. 5 Your capacity for allegiance to a thought system may be misplaced, but your allegiance to a thought system is still a form of faith and can be redirected.

NOTE # 2: Your thought system originates from you and, therefore, you can change it. Your thought system is based on your beliefs about yourself and your world’s
experiences. Change your beliefs and the world that you perceive will automatically change to align with your new thinking. Thoughts become your perceived experiences.

**I. The Message of the Crucifixion**

T-6.I.1. For learning purposes, let us consider the crucifixion again. I did not dwell on the crucifixion before because of the fearful connotations you may associate with the crucifixion. The only emphasis laid upon the crucifixion so far has been that the crucifixion was not a form of punishment. Nothing, however, can be explained in negative terms only. There is a positive interpretation of the crucifixion that is wholly devoid of fear, and therefore wholly benign in what this positive interpretation of the crucifixion teaches, if the crucifixion is properly understood. p91

NOTE # 3: Jesus states that the crucifixion has been falsely interpreted based on fear. His crucifixion was not God punishing His one Son because others were bad. To do this would mean that the so-called “God of Love”, must be equally insane. Jesus is about to explain the correct meaning of the crucifixion.

T-6.I.2. The crucifixion is nothing more than an extreme example. The crucifixion’s value, like the value of any teaching device, lies solely in the kind of learning the crucifixion facilitates. The crucifixion can be, and has been, misunderstood. This is only because the fearful are apt to perceive fearfully. I have already told you that you can always call on me to share my decision, and thus make my decision stronger. I have also told you that the crucifixion was the last useless journey the Sonship need take, and that the crucifixion represents release from fear to anyone who understands the crucifixion. While I emphasized only the resurrection before, the purpose of the crucifixion and how the crucifixion actually led to the resurrection was not clarified then. Nevertheless, the crucifixion has a definite contribution to make to your own life, and if you will consider the crucifixion without fear, the crucifixion will help you understand your own role as a teacher.

NOTE # 4: Jesus asks us to understand the crucifixion without fear. Then, we need not believe that we must repeat it and will understand its correct symbolic meaning.

T-6.I.3. You have probably reacted for years as if you were being crucified. This is a marked tendency of the separated, who always refuse to consider what they, who believe they are separate, have done to themselves. Projection means anger, anger fosters assault, and assault promotes fear. The real meaning of the crucifixion lies in the apparent intensity of the assault of some of the Sons of God upon another. This apparent assault, of course, is impossible, and must be fully understood as impossible. Otherwise, I cannot serve as a model for learning.

NOTE # 5: We act out our lives as if some outside force were crucifying us. Since we are the masters of our thoughts, this is impossible. Our thoughts become our experience.
T-6.I.4. Assault can ultimately be made only on the body. 2 There is little doubt that one body can assault another, and can even destroy another body. 3 Yet if destruction itself is impossible, anything that is destructible cannot be real and, therefore, the body cannot be real. 4 The body’s destruction, therefore, does not justify anger because the body cannot be real. 5 To the extent to which you believe that the body’s destruction does justify anger, you are accepting false premises and teaching to others these false premises that the body is real. 6 The message the crucifixion was intended to teach was that it is not necessary to perceive any form of assault in persecution, because you cannot be persecuted. 7 If you respond with anger, you must be equating yourself with the destructible, and are therefore regarding yourself insanely.

NOTE # 6: You are invulnerable, unlimited spirit. We are not a body. Attack can only exist in your mind’s imaginary dream world of provisional reality, which is part of the ego’s insane belief system. Attack does not exist in the thought system of the Holy Spirit. When you believe that you have been attack, you equate yourself with the body. The Holy Spirit reinterprets this erroneous belief and asks you to choose again and follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. See Chapter Six NOTE # 1 for the description of the two thought systems.

T-6.I.5. I have made it perfectly clear that I am like you and you are like me, but our fundamental equality can be demonstrated only through joint decision. 2 You are free to perceive yourself as persecuted if you choose. 3 When you do choose to react that way, however, you might remember that I was persecuted as the world judges, and did not share this evaluation for myself. 4 And because I did not share that I was persecuted, I did not strengthen the belief that I, a Child of God, could be persecuted. 5 I therefore offered a different interpretation of attack, and one which I want to share with you. p92 6 If you will believe this different interpretation of attack, you will help me teach this different interpretation of attack.

NOTE # 7: By accepting Jesus’ interpretation of the crucifixion, we will help Jesus teach the truth about our spiritual nature and that attack is never justified.

T-6.I.6. As I have said before, "As you teach so shall you learn." 2 If you react as if you are persecuted, you are teaching persecution. 3 This teaching of persecution is not a lesson a Son of God should want to teach if he is to realize his own salvation. 4 Rather, teach your own perfect immunity, which is the truth in you, and realize that your own perfect immunity cannot be assailed. 5 Do not try to protect your own perfect immunity yourself, or you are believing that your own perfect immunity is assailable. 6 You are not asked to be crucified, which was part of my own teaching contribution. 7 You are merely asked to follow my example in the face of much less extreme temptations to misperceive, and not to accept them as false justifications for anger. 8 There can be no justification for the unjustifiable. 9 Do not believe there is a justification for anger, and do not teach that there is a justification for anger. 10 Remember always that what you believe you will teach. 11 Believe with me, and we will become equal as teachers.
NOTE # 8: Jesus states that since you are Spirit, you cannot be persecuted nor attacked. Thus, anger is never justified. Being Spirit, you remain invulnerable since that is how God created you.

T-6.I.7. Your resurrection is your reawakening. 2 I am the model for rebirth, but rebirth itself is merely the dawning on your mind of what is already in your mind. 3 God placed your rebirth and reawakening there Himself, and so your reawakening is true forever. 4 I believed in your reawakening, and therefore accepted your reawakening as true for me. 5 Help me to teach your reawakening to our brothers in the name of the Kingdom of God, but first believe that your reawakening is true for you, or you will teach amiss. 6 My brothers slept during the so-called "agony in the garden," but I could not be angry with my brothers because I knew I could not be abandoned.

NOTE # 9: We must believe the truth that as God’s Creation, we are invulnerable Spirit. Without a belief in our reawakening to our true nature, we will respond with fear and perceive our brother’s cry for love as an attempt to persecute us. If we perceive ourselves as a body, we will respond with fear instead of love.

T-6.I.8. I am sorry when my brothers do not share my decision to hear only one Voice, because when my brothers do not share my decision to hear only one Voice, it weakens them as teachers and as learners. 2 Yet I know my brothers cannot really betray themselves or me, and that it is still on my brothers that I must build my church. 3 There is no choice in this, because only you can be the foundation of God's church. 4 A church is where an altar is, and the presence of the altar is what makes the church holy. 5 A church that does not inspire love has a hidden altar that is not serving the purpose for which God intended the church and its altar to serve which is to inspire love. 6 I must found His church on you, because those who accept me as a model are literally my disciples. 7 Disciples are followers, and if the model the disciples follow has chosen to save them pain in all respects, the disciples who accept me as their model, are unwise not to follow me.

NOTE # 10: Jesus states that he understands that only love is real. We, being the extension of God, can only be love. Jesus will build his church, which is the belief system that inspires only love, upon us. Jesus has faith and sees the truth that as Spirit, we are God’s altars to and for love.

T-6.I.9. I elected, for your sake and mine, to demonstrate that the most outrageous assault, as judged by the ego, does not matter. 2 As the world judges these things, but not as God knows them, I was betrayed, abandoned, beaten, torn, and finally killed. 3 It was clear that this assault upon the body was only because of the projection of others onto me, since I had not harmed anyone and had healed many.

NOTE #11: Jesus states that he was sinless and had harmed no one. In the eyes of this egoic world, Jesus was betrayed and wrongly persecuted. Yet, Jesus did not respond with anger since he knew he was not the body, but invulnerable Spirit.
T-6.I.10. We are still equal as learners, although we do not need to have equal experiences. 2 The Holy Spirit is glad when you can learn from my experiences, and be reawakened by my experiences. 3 That you can be reawakened by my experiences is their only purpose, and that is the only way in which I can be perceived as the way, the truth and the life. p93 4 When you hear only one Voice, which is the Holy Spirit’s, you are never called on to sacrifice. 5 On the contrary, by being able to hear the Holy Spirit in others you can learn from their experiences, and can gain from their experiences without experiencing them directly yourself. 6 That is because the Holy Spirit is One, and anyone who listens is inevitably led to demonstrate the Holy Spirit’s way for all.

NOTE # 12: The Sonship, being part of the Mind of God, is holographic in nature. We are all interconnected. By one member experiencing something, all parties of the Sonship can benefit from that same experience. We do not have to individually experience that same event to receive the benefits of that experience. If the event has been experienced with love by any part of the Sonship, it has been shared with all. By accepting that shared idea for ourselves, we reap the same benefits without having to experience the event directly. The Holy Spirit communicates these loving and real thoughts throughout the Sonship for the benefit of all.

T-6.I.11. You are not persecuted, nor was I persecuted. 2 You are not asked to repeat my experiences because the Holy Spirit, Whom we share, makes this unnecessary. 3 To use my experiences constructively, however, you must still follow my example in how to perceive my experiences. 4 My brothers and your brothers are constantly engaged in justifying the unjustifiable. 5 My one lesson, which I must teach as I learned my one lesson, is that no perception that is out of accord with the judgment of the Holy Spirit can be justified. 6 I undertook to show that no perception that is out of accord with the judgment of the Holy Spirit can be justified was true in an extreme case of the crucifixion, merely because my experience of the crucifixion would serve as a good teaching aid to those whose temptation to give in to anger and assault would not be so extreme. 7 I will with God that none of His Sons should suffer.

NOTE # 13: Jesus’ crucifixion was an extreme example that demonstrates that Spirit is invulnerable to any form of attack. Thus, anger, attack or the belief that you have been persecuted can never be justified. By following the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we also will realize this truth for ourselves. By accepting this shared truth from the personal experience of Jesus, we do not have to relive or repeat them ourselves.

T-6.I.12. The crucifixion cannot be shared because the crucifixion is the symbol of projection, but the resurrection is the symbol of sharing because the reawakening of every Son of God is necessary to enable the Sonship to know the Sonship’s Wholeness. 2 Only this, the reawakening of every Son of God, is knowledge.

NOTE # 14: Projection results from anger. The source of anger is fear. Being a miscreation, fear cannot be real and shared.

T-6.I.13. The message of the crucifixion is perfectly clear:
2 Teach only love, for love is what you are.

NOTE # 15: The crucifixion represents the release of fear. Fear is the opposite of love. With the release of fear as symbolized by the crucifixion, you are reawakened or resurrected, to what you are. Being love, you teach only love. The crucifixion taught that anger can never be justified.

T-6.I.14. If you interpret the crucifixion in any other way other than to “teach only love, for love is what you are,” you are using the crucifixion as a weapon for assault rather than as the call for peace for which the crucifixion was intended. 2 The Apostles often misunderstood that the crucifixion was a call for peace, not a weapon for assault. And for the same reason that anyone misunderstands the crucifixion, the apostle and others have turned the crucifixion into a weapon for assault. 3 The Apostles’ own imperfect love made the Apostles vulnerable to projection, and out of the Apostles’ own fear they spoke of the "wrath of God" as God’s retaliatory weapon. 4 Nor could the Apostles speak of the crucifixion entirely without anger, because the Apostles’ sense of guilt had made the Apostles angry. p94

NOTE # 16: The apostles had not accepted the thought system of the Holy Spirit totally. They wished to withhold some egoic experiences from the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This demonstrates that they still perceived some illusions to be more real than others. They had not truly accepted the fact that we are not the body. To the Apostles, love still had conditions and, therefore, they judged themselves and others as unworthy of unconditional love. Unworthiness results in guilt and guilt results in projection as we attempt to give our guilt to another.

T-6.I.15. These are some of the examples of upside-down thinking in the New Testament, although the New Testament’s gospel is really only the message of love. 2 If the Apostles had not felt guilty, the Apostles never could have quoted me as saying, "I come not to bring peace but a sword." 3 This quotation is clearly the opposite of everything I taught. 4 Nor could they have described my reactions to Judas as the Apostles did, if the Apostles had really understood me. 5 I could not have said, "Betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?" unless I believed in betrayal. 6 The whole message of the crucifixion was simply that I did not believe in betrayal. 7 The "punishment" I was said to have called forth upon Judas was a similar mistake. 8 Judas was my brother and a Son of God, as much a part of the Sonship as myself. 9 Was it likely that I would condemn Judas when I was ready to demonstrate that condemnation is impossible?

NOTE # 17: Jesus states that he was misquoted and sometimes misrepresented in the Bible. He, like the Holy Spirit, teaches only the message of love.

T-6.I.16. As you read the teachings of the Apostles, remember that I told the Apostles myself that there was much the Apostles would understand later, because the Apostles were not wholly ready to follow me at the time. 2 I do not want you to allow any fear to enter into the thought system toward which I am guiding you. 3 I do not call for martyrs but for teachers. 4 No one is punished for sins, and the Sons of God are not sinners. 5
Any concept of punishment involves the projection of blame, and reinforces the idea that blame is justified. The result is a lesson in blame, for all behavior teaches the beliefs that motivate the behavior. The crucifixion was the result of clearly opposed thought systems. The crucifixion was the perfect symbol of the "conflict" between the ego and the Son of God. This conflict between the ego and the Son of God seems just as real now, and this conflict’s lessons must be learned now as well as then.

NOTE # 18: After the ego judges, it than looks for someone to blame and punish. When we follow the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we realize that we are unable to judge correctly and thus, we must not judge. Instead, we should ask and follow the Holy Spirit’s lead. The Holy Spirit sees all God’s creations as sinless and guiltless since that is God’s Will. Without sin, there is no need for punishment.

Conflict is the loss of peace and joy due to our split mind’s struggle between the two thought systems. The ego is the symbol of conflict. Whenever we feel conflicted in any way, this is a sign that we have chosen to follow the egoic thought system. This places our thought out of alignment with our Christ consciousness and we feel conflicted. To correct this, we need to silence our ego and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We will than hear this Inner Voice for the remembrance of God and our inner peace will be restored.

T-6.I.17.I do not need gratitude, but you need to develop your weakened ability to be grateful, or you cannot appreciate God. 2 God does not need your appreciation, but <you> do need your appreciation. 3 You cannot love what you do not appreciate, for fear makes appreciation impossible. 4 When you are afraid of what you are, you do not appreciate what you are, and will therefore reject what you are. 5 As a result, you will teach rejection.

NOTE # 19: Gratitude and appreciation go hand in hand with love. If you cannot love yourself, you cannot love another. You must “be” love in order to give love away.

T-6.I.18. The power of the Sons of God is present all the time, because the Sons of God were created as creators. 2 The Sons of God’s influence on each other is without limit, and must be used for the Sons of God’s joint salvation. 3 Each Son of God must learn to teach that all forms of rejection are meaningless. 4 The separation is the notion of rejection. 5 As long as you teach this rejection due to separation, you will believe in the separation due to your rejection of your oneness. 6 This belief in the separation due to your rejection of your oneness is not as God thinks, and you must think as God thinks if you are to know God again. p95

NOTE # 20: Rejection is exclusion. The egoic thought system of fear is based on exclusion and results in miscreation. Love is inclusive and is creation. Love is “thinking” as God “thinks.” In our Oneness, we are connected to “All That is.” The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are that One Self.

T-6.I.19. Remember that the Holy Spirit is the Communication Link between God the Father and His separated Sons. 2 If you will listen to the Holy Spirit’s Voice you will
know that you cannot either hurt or be hurt, and that many need your blessing to help them hear this **Voice for this same lesson, that they cannot either hurt or be hurt**, for themselves. 3 When you perceive only this need in them to **hear this same lesson of spirit’s invulnerability**, and do not respond to any other **need in them**, you will have learned of me and will be as eager to share your learning **that you cannot either hurt or be hurt** as I am.

**NOTE #21:** The Holy Spirit is the bridge back to the Father and knowledge. As long as we perceive ourselves as separate from our Source, we will need to seek and follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for God and our Big “S” Self. This Voice teaches that as unlimited Spirit, we cannot be the body nor can we hurt or be hurt. We are only Love.

**II. The Alternative to Projection**

T-6.II.1. Any split in mind must involve a rejection of part of the mind, and this **rejection of part of the mind** is the belief in separation. 2 The Wholeness of God, which is God’s peace, cannot be appreciated except by a whole mind that recognizes the Wholeness of God's creation. 3 By this recognition in the Wholeness of God's creation, a whole mind knows its Creator. 4 Exclusion and separation are synonymous, as are separation and dissociation. 5 We have said before that the separation was and is dissociation, and that once it, separation and dissociation occurs projection becomes separation’s main defense, or the device that keeps the separation going. 6 The reason projection keeps the separation going, however, may not be so obvious as you think.

**NOTE #22:** The peace of God is associated with whole-mindedness.

T-6.II.2. What you project you disown, and therefore what you project you do not believe is yours. 2 You are excluding yourself by the very judgment that you are different from the one on whom you project. 3 Since you have also judged against what you project, you continue to attack what you project because you continue to keep what you project separated. 4 By doing this unconsciously, (your belief that you are different from the one on whom you project), you try to keep the fact that you attacked yourself out of awareness, and thus imagine that you have made yourself safe.

**Note # 23:** Projection is the ego’s attempt to get rid of something by seeing or projecting that something outside itself. We first judge and then we disown our own thought. The hope of projection is that by perceiving that your own projected idea is something that is not a part of you, you can freely attack or destroy the projection thus, keeping yourself safe. Projection requires judgment and to judge means that there is something separate to judge. This judgment reinforces your belief in separation. It confirms the ego’s belief that you are not a Oneness. The attack on your true nature must be unconscious because if you knew there was no one to attack but yourself, who would attack themselves when they are prefect, whole and complete? Only the insane would attack themselves. When
you already are everything, self-attack is self-destruction.

**T-6.II.3.** Yet projection will always hurt you. **Projection** reinforces your belief in your own split mind, and projection’s only purpose is to keep the separation going. **Projection** is solely a device of the ego to make you feel different from your brothers and separated from your brothers. The ego justifies your belief that you are different from the one upon whom you project, on the grounds that it makes you seem "better" than they are, thus obscuring your equality with the one upon whom you project, still further. **Projection and attack** are inevitably related, because projection is always a means of justifying attack. **Anger without projection is impossible.** The ego uses projection only to destroy your perception of both yourself and your brothers. The process of projection begins by excluding something that exists in you but which you do not want, and leads directly to excluding you from your brothers. Thus, projection destroys your true perception of both yourself and your brothers.

**NOTE # 24:** Projection and attack are related because projection is always a means of justifying attack upon another. Anger results in projection and keeps your separation from the Oneness real within your split mind. When we project, we select a thought of an aspect of the whole of creation that we are. We separate and judge that aspect and we reject it as incomplete and not being a part of ourselves. This disowned thought is then projected out of our mind so that we perceive the thought as being outside and a threat to our existence. Perceiving ourselves to be separate, we now are free to attack this “outside force” to protect our safety and well-being. Judgment is based on preferring, choosing and rejecting some aspect of creation that you no longer wish to claim responsibility for. You will not allow your mind to claim ownership of this thought. Projection limits your ability to experience the whole thus, confirming your belief that you are not whole, are separate and lack something that is outside yourself.

**T-6.II.4.** We have learned, however, that there <is> an alternative to projection. Every ability of the ego has a better use, because the ego’s abilities are directed by the mind, which has a better Voice, **the Voice of Holy Spirit**. p96 The Holy Spirit extends and the ego projects. As the goals of the Holy Spirit and the ego are opposed, so is the result of the Holy Spirit and the ego opposite.

**Note # 25:** The goal of the Holy Spirit is to reawaken you to who you really are, a Oneness. The tool of the Holy Spirit is extension through the use of miracles. Miracles transform egoic misperception into correct perception or right-mindedness. The goal of the ego is to confirm that you are something you are not, an ego-body, separate and limited. The tool of the ego is projection, which arises out of judgment and anger. All three, projection, judgment and anger, are used in conjunction by the ego to confirm that you must be something other than as God created you. The ego concludes that you must have created yourself. The separation is “confirmed” and wrong-mindedness continues in your split-mind as long as you continue to value your dream of egoic specialness over the Oneness that the Holy Spirit offers.

**T-6.II.5.** The Holy Spirit begins by perceiving you as perfect. Knowing this perfection
is shared and the Holy Spirit recognizes this perfection in others, thus strengthening this perfection in both you and your brother. 3 Instead of anger this shared perfection arouses love for both, because this shared perfection establishes inclusion. 4 Perceiving equality, the Holy Spirit perceives equal needs. 5 Perceived equal needs invite Atonement automatically, because Atonement is the one need in this world that is universal. 6 To perceive yourself this way, as shared perfection, is the only way in which you can find happiness in the world. 7 That is because shared perfection, which is happiness, is the acknowledgment that you are not in this world, for the world is unhappy.

**NOTE # 26:** The Holy Spirit’s thought system rests on the knowledge that God’s creation must be a perfect Oneness. The ego argues for your littleness and separation. Being created as a Oneness of everything, we cannot be happy by becoming a limited ego-body. The lure of specialness, leads to the unhappiness of separation.

**T-6.II.6.** How else can you find joy in a joyless place except by realizing that you are not there? 2 You cannot be anywhere God did not put you, and God created you as part of God. 3 That part of God that is you is both where you are and what you are. 4 How God created you is completely unalterable. 5 How God created you is total inclusion. 6 You cannot change how God created you now or ever. 7 How God created you is forever true. 8 How God created you is not a belief, but a Fact. 9 Anything that God created is as true as God is. 10 Its truth lies only in its perfect inclusion in God Who alone is perfect. 11 To deny this, that you are part of God, is to deny yourself and God, since it is impossible to accept one without the other.

**NOTE # 27:** God did not create a world of limitation and unhappiness. We made this world of limitation in our own imagined dream world of provisional reality. Our world of unhappiness cannot exist in the Mind of God because God Wills that His Children be happy. Our dream world cannot change the truth about reality. We can choose to dream that we are something that we are not, but we cannot change what we truly are. We are God’s Effect. We need to reawaken to our divine birthright. We are a Oneness, perfect, whole and complete. We are part of God and cannot change this eternal truth since that is not Our Creator’s Will.

**T-6.II.7.** The perfect equality of the Holy Spirit's perception is the reflection of the perfect equality of God's knowing. 2 The ego's perception has no counterpart in God, but the Holy Spirit remains the Bridge between perception and knowledge. 3 By enabling you to use perception in a way that reflects knowledge, the Holy Spirit guides you and you will ultimately remember the perfect equality of the Sonship and that you are part of God. 4 The ego would prefer to believe that this memory is impossible, yet to this memory, (the perfect equality of the Sonship and that you are part of God), is your perception guided by the Holy Spirit. 5 Your perception will end where it began. 6 Everything meets in God, because everything was created by God and in God.

**NOTE # 28:** The Holy Spirit’s purpose is to return the split-minded to whole-mindedness. This must eventually happen since this is God’s Will.
T-6.II.8. God created His Sons by extending His Thought, and retaining the extensions of God’s Thought in God’s Mind. 2 All God’s Thoughts are thus perfectly united within themselves and with each other. 3 The Holy Spirit enables you to perceive this wholeness of God’s Kingdom.

NOTE # 29: As extensions of the Mind of God, our minds possess the creative power of God. Thus, our purpose is to co-create with and like our Father. We can only create when we accept the truth that we are only love. Your free will allows you the absolute freedom to either create or to imagine whatever you would like to experience. You can even imagine that you are separate and self-created if you would like to experience fear. Imagination is fear based and thus, making. It excludes rather than joins. Creation is love-based sharing and extension of the everything that you are. We can only create like God, when we believe we share and are part of the Oneness that is the Mind of God.

T-6.II.9. Thoughts begin in the mind of the thinker, from which the thinker’s thoughts reach outward. 2 This is as true of God's Thinking as it is of your thinking. 3 Because your mind is split, you can perceive as well as think. 4 Yet perception cannot escape the basic laws of mind. 5 You perceive from your mind and project your perceptions outward. 6 Although perception of any kind is unreal, you made perception and the Holy Spirit can therefore use perception as well. 7 The Holy Spirit can inspire perception and lead perception toward God. 8 This convergence seems to be far in the future only because your mind is not in perfect alignment with the idea, and therefore does not want this convergence that leads perception toward God now.

Note # 30: The Mind of God does not perceive since the Mind of God only knows. To perceive requires judgment that there is something that you are not. God is a Oneness. The Holy Spirit is aware of both sides of the split-mind. The Holy Spirit can take egoic perception and reinterpret the ego’s misperception into correct perception. It is only the egoic mind that is out of alignment with God’s Will. Our Big “S” Self, which is the home of the Holy Spirit, continues to align with the truth. Until our split-mind is made whole, time will remain necessary. Time allows for learning. Learning is our changing perception of what we believe ourselves to be. We move from our false beliefs to the truth of what we truly were created to be. In time, we learn that we are not a body but rather, unlimited spirit. When our learning is complete and we remember God, the need for time will be over and we will reawaken in eternity to the knowledge of our divine birthright.

T-6.II.10. The Holy Spirit uses time, but does not believe in time. 2 Coming from God, the Holy Spirit uses everything for good, but the Holy Spirit does not believe in what is not true. 3 Since the Holy Spirit is in your mind, your mind can also believe only what is true. 4 The Holy Spirit can speak only for what is true, because the Holy Spirit speaks for God. 5 The Holy Spirit tells you to return your whole mind to God, because your whole mind has never left Him. 6 If your whole mind has never left Him, you need only perceive your whole mind as your whole mind is to be returned to God. 7 The full
awareness of the Atonement, then, is the recognition that the separation never occurred. The ego cannot prevail against this recognition because the Atonement is an explicit statement that the ego never occurred.

**NOTE # 31:** The Atonement does not change the truth. It only states that what is true is always the changeless truth. God’s Creation must remain as His Father created him. Thus the idea of separation is a mistake that has no power to change reality. Being a fantasy, the dreamer needs merely to awaken from the dream to have the illusion of separation disappear. The Holy Spirit’s job is to reawaken sleeping minds to their own spiritual magnificence.

**T-6.II.11.** The ego can accept the idea that return is necessary because the ego can so easily make the idea seem difficult. Yet the Holy Spirit tells you that even return is unnecessary, because what never happened cannot be difficult. However, you can make the idea of return both necessary and difficult. Yet it is surely clear that the perfect need nothing, and you cannot experience perfection as a difficult accomplishment, because that is what you are. This is the way in which you must perceive God's creations, bringing all of your perceptions into the one line the Holy Spirit sees. This line is the direct line of communication with God, and lets your mind converge with God’s Mind. There is no conflict anywhere in this perception brought to the Holy Spirit, because it means that all perception is guided by the Holy Spirit, Whose Mind is fixed on God. Only the Holy Spirit can resolve conflict, because only the Holy Spirit is conflict-free. The Holy Spirit perceives only what is true in your mind, and extends outward only to what is true in other minds.

**Note # 32:** The Holy Spirit is the bridge that knows the truth of your Spirit, yet, is also aware of the ego’s imagined world of provisional reality and the ego’s misperceptions. The Holy Spirit is able to reinterpret the misperceptions of the ego into right-mindedness. This leads the split-mind back to correct perception. Since all perception is ultimately based on the belief in separation, the Holy Spirit gently reminds the split-mind that the separation never happened and that we have never left, and always will remain, part of God. The Holy Spirit only perceives what is true and, therefore, knows our mind must be whole because that is how we were created. The correction is easy since it requires no new abilities or skills. It merely requires the removal of all of imagined block that we placed against love. We merely need to be what we are, which is only love. Rather than become something new, we merely allow ourselves to “BE” what we already are.

**T-6.II.12.** The difference between the ego's projection and the Holy Spirit's extension is very simple. The ego projects to exclude, and therefore to deceive. The Holy Spirit extends by recognizing Himself in every mind, and thus perceives every mind as one. Nothing conflicts in this perception that every mind is one, because what the Holy Spirit perceives is all the same. Wherever the Holy Spirit looks the Holy Spirit sees Himself, and because the Holy Spirit is united the Holy Spirit offers the whole Kingdom always. This is the one message God gave to the Holy Spirit and for which the Holy Spirit must speak, because that is what the Holy Spirit is. The Holy Spirit is the message or Voice for God. The peace of God lies in that message, and so
the peace of God lies in you. 8 The great peace of the Kingdom shines in your mind forever, but that message must shine outward to make you aware that the peace of God lies in you.

NOTE # 33: Since the ego sees itself as separate, its purpose for projection is to exclude and deceive your mind into believing that your mind is something that it is not, a limited ego-body. Projection differs from creation because it excludes and limits. The Holy Spirit knows itself to be the whole of the Oneness. As such, the Holy Spirit extends Itself to all, as One. The Holy Spirit is all and It offers the entire Kingdom to all. Extension is inclusion into the totality of Oneness. The Holy Spirit’s message is that as God’s Creation, you are guiltless, sinless and reside in complete safety and freedom that is the Oneness of the Mind of God. There is but One and You are that One. There is no separation. Cause and Effect are indivisible.

T-6.II.13. The Holy Spirit was given you with perfect impartiality, and only by recognizing the Holy Spirit impartially can you recognize the Holy Spirit at all. 2 The ego is legion, but the Holy Spirit is One. 3 No darkness abides anywhere in the Kingdom, but your part is only to allow no darkness to abide in your own mind. 4 This alignment, which allows no darkness to abide in your own mind, with light is unlimited, because it is in alignment with the light of the world. 5 Each of us is the light of the world, and by joining our minds in this light we proclaim the Kingdom of God together and as one

NOTE # 34: There is only One Holy Spirit just as there is only one Truth and only One Mind of God. The Holy Spirit sees only sameness because that is all there can be in a Oneness of Everything. With a reality of a Oneness, only in an illusion can there appear to be many. There appears to be many egos. The ego sees specialness in its illusions of separation. The belief in separation demands that there must be differentiation or specialness. Only when we value the exclusive truth of the Oneness over our desire to be special can the split minded be made whole again.

III. The Relinquishment of Attack

T-6.III.1. As we have already emphasized, every idea begins in the mind of the thinker. 2 Therefore, what extends from the mind is still in the mind, and from <what> the mind extends the mind knows itself. 3 The word "knows" is correct here, because the Holy Spirit still holds knowledge safe in your mind through the Holy Spirit’s impartial perception. 4 By attacking nothing, the Holy Spirit presents no barrier to the communication of God. 5 Therefore since the Holy Spirit attacks nothing, being is never threatened. 6 Your Godlike mind can never be defiled. 7 The ego never was and never will be part of your Godlike mind, but through the ego you can hear and teach and learn what is not true. 8 You have taught yourself through the ego, to believe that you are not what you are. 9 You cannot teach what you have not learned, and what you teach you strengthen in yourself because you are sharing what you teach. 10 Every lesson you teach you are learning.
NOTE # 35: In this dualistic world of perception, we learn by contrast and comparison. From thoughts, come your experiences. By utilizing what the ego would teach, you learn what you are not, which in turn teaches you to “BE” what you are.

T-6.III.2. **Because every lesson you teach you are learning, this** is why you must teach only one lesson. 2 If you are to be conflict-free yourself, you must learn only from the Holy Spirit and teach only by Him. 3 You are only love, but when you deny that you are only love, you make what you are something you must learn to remember. 4 I said before that the message of the crucifixion was, "Teach only love, for that is what you are." 5 This is the one lesson, “Teach only love, for that is what you are,” that is perfectly unified, because it ("Teach only love, for that is what you are.") is the only lesson that is one. 6 Only by teaching love can you learn love. 7 "As you teach only love, so will you learn that you are only love." 8 If that is true that you are only love, and it is true indeed, do not forget that what you teach is teaching you. 9 And what you project or extend you believe. p99

Note # 36: The one lesson that we must learn is to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit instead of the thought system of the ego. The thought system of the Holy Spirit is based on the knowledge that you are everything. The thought system of the ego is based on nothingness. Nothingness is the opposite of everything and nothing is what the ego is. The ego has no existence other than the belief and power you choose to give it within your own split-mind. The ego does not exist in the Mind of God. The ego only exists in your mind’s dream world of your self-created provisional reality. What you value, you will call into your experience and this will be what you teach and learn. The only lesson the Holy Spirit would have you learn is the truth that you are only loved. This is the only knowledge that we need seek.

T-6.III.3. The only safety lies in extending the Holy Spirit, because as you see the Holy Spirit’s gentleness in others your own mind perceives itself as totally harmless. 2 Once your own mind can accept this fully, (your own mind perceives itself as totally harmless), your own mind sees no need to protect itself. 3 The protection of God then dawns upon your own mind, assuring your own mind that your own mind is perfectly safe forever. 4 The perfectly safe are wholly benign. 5 The perfectly safe bless because the perfectly safe know that the perfectly safe are blessed. 6 Without anxiety the mind is wholly kind, and because the mind extends beneficence the mind is beneficent. 7 Safety is the complete relinquishment of attack. 8 No compromise is possible in this. 9 Teach attack in any form and you have learned attack, and attack will hurt you. 10 Yet this learning, to teach attack, is not immortal, and you can unlearn to teach attack, by not teaching attack.

NOTE 37: Learning arises out of perception. Learning implies that you don’t know. Due to our belief in the separation, we lost, or forgot, knowledge. By unlearning the belief in the separation, knowledge will be recovered and our split-mind will be healed. See only the Christ in your brother and only understand that no harm can befall a Oneness of everything. Spirit cannot be harmed.
NOTE: You unlearn attack rather than learn not to attack. To learn not to attack implies that there is something outside yourself, which reinforces your belief in the separation. If you are a Oneness, what is there for you to attack?

T-6.III.4. Since you cannot <not> teach, your salvation lies in teaching the exact opposite of everything the ego believes. 2 This is how you will learn the truth that will set you free, and will keep you free as others learn it of you. 3 The only way to have peace is to teach peace. 4 By teaching peace you must learn peace yourself, because you cannot teach what you still dissociate. 5 Only thus can you win back the knowledge that you threw away. 6 An idea that you share you must have. 7 An idea awakens in your mind through the conviction of teaching the idea. 8 Everything you teach you are learning. 9 Teach only love, and learn that love is yours and you are love.

NOTE # 38: We are always teaching what we value. The choice is between oneness and separation. Based on this one choice, we will have automatically decided to teach either love or fear.

IV. The Only Answer

T-6.IV.1. Remember that the Holy Spirit is the Answer, the Holy Spirit is not the question. 2 The ego always speaks first. 3 The ego is capricious and does not mean its maker well. (Your mind is the ego's maker.) 4 The ego believes, and correctly, that its maker, your mind, may withdraw your mind's support from the ego at any moment. 5 If the ego meant you well the ego would be glad, as the Holy Spirit will be glad when the Holy Spirit has brought you home and you no longer need the Holy Spirit's guidance. 6 The ego does not regard itself as part of you. 7 Herein lies the ego's primary error of separation, which is the foundation of the ego's whole thought system.

NOTE # 39: The ego sees everything as separate and does not view itself as part of the Oneness of Everything, perfect, whole and complete. The ego does not regard itself as part of you. You are spirit, which is mind, not a body. Because the ego does not consider itself to be you, the ego does not have your well-being or your best interest as its purpose and goal. Instead, the ego has its own continued existence as its goal. Since your mind created the ego, it is the goal of the ego to obliterate all remembrance of this truth from your mind. If the mind remembered that it created the ego, the mind would also know it could discreate the ego. The ego is always questioning what you are. It is the ego’s thought system, which is based on its belief that you are not your Big “S” Self. This questioning of what you are forms the basis for the ego’s attack upon your spiritual essence. The ego does not wish to attack itself and, therefore, believes that it is separate from your mind. The ego constantly attacks your mind thus, hoping to keep your mind in a state of powerless victim consciousness. Unfortunately for the ego, since you created (made) it, your mind is the source of any powers the ego appears to have. If you reclaim your true nature as a Child of God, the ego’s control or voice will disappear. The ego’s goal is to falsely convince you that you are separate and thus, powerless to change your
provisional reality.

**T-6.IV.2.** When God created you God made you part of Him. **2 Since God made you part of Him,** this is why attack within the Kingdom is impossible. 3 You made the ego without love, and so the ego does not love you. 4 You could not remain within the Kingdom without love, and since the Kingdom is love, you believe that you are without the Kingdom. **5 This belief that you are outside the Kingdom** enables the ego to regard itself as separate and outside its maker, which is your mind. Thus the ego speaks for the part of your mind that believes you are separate and outside the Mind of God, which is the Kingdom. p100 6 The ego, then, raised the first question that was ever asked, but one the ego can never answer. 7 That question, “What are you?” was the beginning of doubt. 8 The ego has never answered any questions since, although the ego has raised a great many. 9 The most inventive activities of the ego have never done more than obscure the question of "What are you?" because you have the answer and the ego is afraid of you, your True Self.

**NOTE # 40:** Ego cannot answer the question, ”What are you?" truthfully since the answer if comprehended would terminate the ego’s control over your split-mind. The answer is that you are a Child of God. As God’s thought, you are perfect, whole, and complete. You are as God created you, part of a Oneness of everything. The ego asks the question, “What are you?” But the ego does not want you to rediscover the answer. By asking the question “What Am I?” our whole mind seems to split in two. Certainty is lost as your mind moves from the “I AM” State of Consciousness, which is the domain of the Big “S” Self into the “What Am I?” State of Consciousness, which is the domain of the ego. If you found the true answer to the question of “What Am I?” the ego’s rule would end.

**T6.IV.3.** You cannot understand the conflict until you fully understand the basic fact that the ego cannot know anything. 2 The Holy Spirit does not speak first, **<but the Holy Spirit always answers.>** 3 Everyone has called upon the Holy Spirit for help at one time or another and in one way or another, and has been answered. 4 Since the Holy Spirit answers truly the Holy Spirit answers for all time, which means that everyone has the answer <now.>

**NOTE # 41:** Since we are part of the One Mind of God, the answer has always been inside us. We have just refused to ask. Ask, then be still and listen to the Holy Spirit’s reply.

**T-6.IV.4.** The ego cannot hear the Holy Spirit, but the ego does believe that part of the mind that made the ego is against the ego. 2 The ego interprets this as a justification for attacking its maker, your mind. 3 The ego believes that the best defense is attack, and wants you to believe that the best defense is attack. 4 Unless you do believe that the best defense is attack, you will not side with the ego, and the ego feels badly in need of allies, though not of brothers. 5 Perceiving something alien to itself in your mind, the ego turns to the body as the ego's ally, because the body is not part of you, whose true essence is spirit or mind. 6 This makes the body the ego's friend. 7 The ego and its
friend, the body is an alliance frankly based on separation. If you side with this alliance of the ego and the body, you will be afraid, because you are siding with an alliance of fear.

NOTE # 42: If we perceive ourselves as the body, we will believe that the vulnerable body must be defended at all costs. We cannot perceive ourselves as unlimited spirit if our home is the body. The body is the ego’s proof that we are not part of the Mind of God and that we must be separate.

T-6.IV.5. The ego uses the body to conspire against your mind, and because the ego realizes that its "enemy", the mind, can end them both, (the ego and the body) merely by recognizing they (ego and body) are not part of you, therefore both the ego and body join in the attack on your mind together. This is perhaps the strangest perception of all, if you consider what it really involves. The ego, which is not real, attempts to persuade the mind, which is real, that the mind is the ego's learning device; and further, that the body is more real than the mind is. No one in his right mind could possibly believe this, and no one in his right mind does believe that the mind is the ego’s learning device and that the body is more real than the mind.

NOTE 43: Since all creative power resides in the mind, the ego’s entire thought system relies on your mind not recalling that the mind is the decision-maker. The thought system of the Holy Spirit, corrects this misperception, and reinterprets the body correctly as a learning device to rediscover who we really are. The mind is the cause. The ego and the body are the mind’s effect. To believe that an effect controls its cause is insane.

T-6.IV.6. Hear, then, the one answer of the Holy Spirit to all the questions the ego raises: You are a child of God, a priceless part of His Kingdom, which God created as part of God. Nothing else exists and only this is real. You have chosen a sleep in which you have had bad dreams, but the sleep is not real and God calls you to awake. There will be nothing left of your dream when you hear God, because you will awaken. Your dreams contain many of the ego's symbols and your dreams have confused you. Yet that was only because you were asleep and did not know. When you wake you will see the truth around you and in you, and you will no longer believe in dreams because your dreams will have no reality for you, because the Kingdom and all that you have created are beautiful and true.

NOTE 44: This is the thought system of the Holy Spirit. You are and always will be as God created you because you are part of God. This is truth and this is reality. Nothing can change the Mind or Will of God. The world of the ego never existed since it was an imagined dream. You are sinless and guiltless. The Holy Spirit’s task is to gently awaken God’s sleeping Son to the fact that his mind was merely having a bad dream. Dreams can have no affect on the reality of the Kingdom.

T-6.IV.7. In the Kingdom, where you are and what you are is perfectly certain. There is
no doubt, because the first question, which is "What are you?" was never asked. Having finally been wholly answered, "it has never been." 4 <Being> alone lives in the Kingdom, where everything lives in God without question. 5 The time spent on questioning in the dream has given way to creation and to its eternity. 6 You are as certain as God because you are as true as God is, but what was once certain in your mind has become only the ability for certainty.

NOTE 45: The answer to the question removes the question. If you are as God created you, a Oneness, there was never someone to ask the question to. Only if there is doubt, can the question be asked. Since you are part of God, God does not doubt. God just <IS>. God is just <BEING>. Because you doubt your true nature, certainty is forgotten. Knowledge is certain. It does not waiver or doubt. With loss of certainty, knowing gives way to perception. Because of doubt, you place limits on your own power as God’s Son. The limits that you place on yourself now change your unlimitedness into the ability to relearn and remember your unlimitedness. Abilities leave doubt as to if and when they will be realized because abilities are just potentials. With the introduction of doubt you have lost <Beingness> and introduced <Doingness> <Doing> implies the belief in limitation and separation. If you are everything what is there to do? You just are <Being>.

T-6.IV.8. The introduction of abilities into being was the beginning of uncertainty, because abilities are potentials, not accomplishments. 2 Your abilities are useless in the presence of God's accomplishments, and also of your accomplishments. 3 Accomplishments are results that have been achieved. 4 When accomplishments are perfect, abilities are meaningless. 5 It is curious that the perfect must now be perfected. 6 In fact, it is impossible for the perfect be perfected since this implies they where not perfect to being with. 7 Remember, however, that when you put yourself in an impossible situation you believe that the impossible <is> possible.

NOTE # 46: We always remain as God created us, perfect, whole and complete. Because we have free will, we have the power to pretend something that is not true. This denial of reality does not change the truth, but it does change what we choose to experience as our current awareness. Time allows us to play with uncertainty and to relearn what we have temporarily chosen to forget. We claim to not know what we are. When we remember that we are a conduit for God’s love, our learning will be over. We will have transformed our abilities into our accomplishments. Time and the game of separation will end.

T-6.IV.9. Abilities must be developed before you can use those abilities. 2 This is not true of anything that God created, but the idea that abilities must be developed before you can use your abilities is the kindest solution possible for what you made. 3 In an impossible situation, you can develop your abilities to the point where they can get you out of the impossible situation. 4 You have a Guide in the Holy Spirit to help you in how to develop your abilities, but you have no commander except yourself. 5 This leaves you in charge of the Kingdom, with both a Guide to find the Kingdom and a means, your abilities, to keep the Kingdom. 6 You have a model to follow who will strengthen your command, and never detract from your command in any way. 7 You
therefore retain the central place in your imagined enslavement, which in itself demonstrates that you are not enslaved.

**NOTE 47:** You are always the ultimate controller of your mind. You are the decision-maker and you have been given free will to determine for yourself what you choose to value. Jesus can serve as your model and as a way shower. The Holy Spirit can act as a guide but you must decide what belief system you will follow. You only have two choices. Your decision-maker must choose between either the belief system of the Holy Spirit or the belief system of the ego. There is no other choice and the choice is totally one or the other. It cannot be both.

**T-6.IV.10.** You are in an impossible situation only because you think it is possible to be in an impossible situation. 2 You *would* be in an impossible situation if God showed you your perfection, and proved to you that you were wrong. 3 This would demonstrate that the perfect are inadequate to bring themselves to the awareness of their perfection, and thus side with the belief that those who have everything need help and are therefore helpless. p102 4 This is the kind of "reasoning" in which the ego engages. 5 God, Who knows that His creations are perfect, does not affront His perfect creation by telling the perfect that they are helpless and in need of fixing. 6 This would be as impossible as the ego's notion that the ego has affronted God.

**NOTE 48:** If God acknowledge that you needed help, God would be acknowledging the idea that you were not perfect. If this were the case, God would not be perfect since you are part of God. This idea would reinforce your belief in your limitation. The solution is to gently allow you to reawaken yourself to what you are. Once awake, the question “What are you?” disappears since the question itself is impossible. With the return to knowledge, certainty of what you are has also been returned. The question is never asked.

**T-6.IV.11.** That is why the Holy Spirit never commands. 2 To command is to assume inequality, which the Holy Spirit demonstrates that inequality does not exist. 3 Fidelity to premises is a law of mind, and everything God created is faithful to God’s laws. 4 Fidelity to other laws is also possible, however, not because the laws are true, but because you made the decision to make the laws “true” only in your limited split mind. 5 What would be gained if God proved to you that you have thought insanely? 6 Can God lose His Own certainty? 7 I have frequently said that what you teach you are. 8 Would you have God teach you that you have sinned? 9 If God confronted the self you made with the truth God created for you, what could you be but afraid? 10 You would doubt your right mind, which is the only place where you can find the sanity God gave you.

**NOTE 49:** The Holy Spirit, which is the Voice for God in you, like God the Father, knows truth. The Holy Spirit’s job is to reawaken your mind to the truth about yourself. The Holy Spirit will not do anything that would increase your fear. To command would imply that you are not capable of self-correction. This would reinforce your belief in separation. The Holy Spirit, therefore, never commands but rather offers guidance by reinterpreting the thought system of the ego back to the reality of your perfect Oneness. The Holy Spirit knows what you really are and your reawakening is inevitable, since your
whole mind and God’s Mind are one.

T-6.IV.12. God does not teach. 2 To teach is to imply a lack, which God knows is not there. 3 God is not conflicted. 4 Teaching aims at change, but God created only the changeless. 5 The separation was not a loss of perfection, but a failure in communication. 6 A harsh and strident form of communication arose as the ego's voice. 7 The ego's voice could not shatter the peace of God, but the ego's voice could shatter your peace. 8 God did not blot the ego's voice out, because to eradicate the ego's voice would be to attack the ego's voice. 9 Being questioned by the ego's voice, God did not question the ego. 10 God merely gave the Answer. 11 His Answer is your Teacher, the Holy Spirit.

NOTE 50: God’s Answer is the Voice of the Holy Spirit. God placed that Voice within your mind the moment the question of “What am I?” was asked. Your teacher is the Holy Spirit. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we demonstrate that relearning is complete.

V. The Lessons of the Holy Spirit

T-6.V.1. Like any good teacher, the Holy Spirit knows more than you do now, but the Holy Spirit teaches only to make you equal with the Holy Spirit. 2 You had already taught yourself wrongly, having believed what was not true. 3 You did not believe in your own perfection. 4 Would God teach you that you had made a split mind, when God knows your mind only as whole? 5 What God does know is that God’s communication channels are not open to God, so that God cannot impart God’s joy and know that His children are wholly joyous. 6 Giving God's joy is an ongoing process, not in time but in eternity. 7 God's extending outward, though not God’s completeness, is blocked when the Sonship does not communicate with God as one. 8 So God thought, "My children sleep and must be awakened." p103

NOTE # 51: When we do not co-create with our Source, we fail to extend the Mind of God. God and His Creation remain a perfect and complete Oneness but the continued expansion and sharing of the Mind of God is not maximal.

T-6.V.2. How can you wake children in a more kindly way than by a gentle Voice that will not frighten the sleeping children, but will merely remind the sleeping children that the night is over and the light has come? 2 You do not inform the sleeping children that the nightmares that frightened the sleeping children so badly are not real, because children believe in magic. 3 You merely reassure the sleeping children that the children are safe <now> 4 Then you train the children to recognize the difference between sleeping and waking, so the children will understand they need not be afraid of dreams. 5 And so when bad dreams come, the children will themselves call on the light to dispel the bad dreams.

NOTE # 52: The plan of awakening teaches God’s Children the difference between
miscreating out of fear and creating out of love. By learning this lesson, we experience what it is like to choose only love.

T-6.V.3. A wise teacher teaches through approach, not avoidance. A wise teacher does not emphasize what you must avoid to escape from harm, but what you need to learn to have joy. Consider the fear and confusion a child would experience if a child were told, "Do not do this because it will hurt you and make you unsafe; but if you do that instead, you will escape from harm and be safe, and then you will not be afraid." It is surely better to use only three words: "Do only that!" This simple statement is perfectly clear, easily understood and very easily remembered.

NOTE # 53: It is best to teach someone what to do rather than all the possible things not to do. Teaching what not to do only increases the pupil’s apprehension and fear.

T-6.V.4. The Holy Spirit never itemizes errors because the Holy Spirit does not frighten children, and those who lack wisdom are children. Yet the Holy Spirit always answers the child’s call, and the Holy Spirit’s dependability makes the child more certain. Children confuse fantasy and reality, and children are frightened because children do not recognize the difference between fantasy and reality. The Holy Spirit makes no distinction among dreams. The Holy Spirit merely shines the dreams away. The Holy Spirit’s light is always the Call to awaken, whatever you have been dreaming. Nothing lasting lies in dreams, and the Holy Spirit, shining with the light from God Himself, speaks only for what lasts forever.

NOTE # 54: Anything not of love is not real. Truth awakens the dreamer from all illusions. Whether it is a “bad” dream or a “good” dream, it is still an illusion. The goal of the Holy Spirit is to dissolve all illusions away by gently awakening the sleeping child to the truth of the Kingdom.

A. To Have, Give All to All

T-6.V.A.1. When your body and your ego and your dreams are gone, you will know that you will last forever. Perhaps you think this is accomplished through death, but nothing is accomplished through death, because death is nothing. Everything is accomplished through life, and life is of the mind and in the mind. The body neither lives nor dies, because the body cannot contain you who are life. If we share the same mind, you can overcome death because I did overcome death. Death is an attempt to resolve conflict by not deciding at all. Like any other impossible solution the ego attempts, it will not work.

NOTE # 55: The “death” of the body does not grant us eternal life in either heaven or hell. It merely means that we failed to decide to be vigilant for God. We have not learned who we are and have continued to find value in the illusion of separation and specialness. Eventually, we must resolve the conflict between fear and love and decide that love is
only real. Death merely postpones the moment that we will freely choose to unite our will with our Father’s Will.

T-6.V.A.2. God did not make the body, because the body is destructible, and therefore the body is not of the Kingdom. 2 The body is the symbol of what you think you are. 3 The body is clearly a separation device, and therefore the body does not exist. 4 The Holy Spirit, as always, takes what you have made and translates the body into a learning device. 5 Again as always, the Holy Spirit reinterprets what the ego uses as an argument for separation into a demonstration against separation. 6 If the mind can heal the body, but the body cannot heal the mind, then the mind must be stronger than the body. 7 Every miracle demonstrates that the mind must be stronger than the body.

NOTE # 56: God did not make the body. The body is the ego’s symbol of what we believe we are. The body was made to prove that the separation is real. The Holy Spirit utilizes the body to teach that we are not the body but instead mind or spirit.

T-6.V.A.3. I have said that the Holy Spirit is the motivation for miracles. 2 The Holy Spirit always tells you that only the mind is real, because only the mind can be shared. 3 The body is separate, and therefore cannot be part of you. 4 To be of one mind is meaningful, but to be one body is meaningless. 5 By the laws of mind, then, the body is meaningless.

NOTE # 57: The body is the ego’s proof that separation occurred and that the mind is under the control of the body. The ego utilizes the body as a separation device. The Holy Spirit utilizes the body as a learning devise to demonstrate that the mind is the controlling force since only the mind can heal the body. The course also points out that the mind, not the body, is real since only the mind can be shared. What is real is shared because extension, which is creation, is sharing. Thoughts can expand (be shared) without decreasing the thought itself. Sharing strengthens the idea. The body, which is physical form, cannot be shared without diminishment and, thus, the body cannot be real. The body is a symbol of what you believe you are when your mind accepts the ego as its guide.

T-6.V.A.4. To the Holy Spirit, there is no order of difficulty in miracles. 2 That there is no order of difficulty in miracles is familiar enough to you by now, but the concept that there is no order of difficulty in miracles, has not yet become believable. 3 Therefore, you do not understand the concept that there is no order of difficulty in miracles and therefore you cannot use this concept that there is no order of difficulty in miracles. 4 We have too much to accomplish on behalf of the Kingdom to let this crucial concept (that there is no order of difficulty in miracles), slip away. 5 This crucial concept, (that there is no order of difficulty in miracles), is a real foundation stone of the thought system I teach and want you to teach. 6 You cannot perform miracles without believing that there is no order of difficulty in miracles, because this crucial concept is a belief in perfect equality. 7 Only one equal gift can be offered to the equal Sons of God, and that is full appreciation. 8 Nothing more and nothing less that full appreciation. 9 Without a range, order of difficulty is meaningless, and there must be no
range in what you offer to your brother.

**NOTE # 58:** Since the basis of all creation is that it is an extension of God, creation, which is God’s Son, must be everything. All creation is part of the whole, therefore, in reality, there is only the One. There is only equality in the One and the only gift is that of full appreciation since the One is everything. Having everything what can be given it? Only appreciation for Its <BEINGNESS> is in order. Appreciation is a response of being loving. Being everything, there must be no limits on what you will share with your brother. The only range being offered and shared is the everything that you are. Creation, like miracles, is maximal. Nothing is held back.

T-6.V.A.5. The Holy Spirit, Who leads to God, translates communication into being, just as the Holy Spirit ultimately translates perception into knowledge. 2 You do not lose what you communicate. 3 The ego uses the body for attack, for pleasure and for pride. 4 The insanity of this perception that the body is for attack, for pleasure and for pride makes the ego’s perception of the body a fearful one indeed. 5 The Holy Spirit sees the body only as a means of communication, and because communicating is sharing the body becomes communion. 6 Perhaps you think that fear as well as love can be communicated; and therefore you think fear can be shared. 7 Yet this idea that fear can be shared is not so real as it may appear. 8 Those who communicate fear are promoting attack, and attack always breaks communication, making communication impossible. 9 Egos do join together in temporary allegiance, but always for what each one can get <separately.> 10 The Holy Spirit communicates only what each one can give to all. 11 The Holy Spirit never takes anything back, because the Holy Spirit wants you to keep everything the Holy Spirit gives you. p105 12 Therefore, the Holy Spirit’s teaching begins with the lesson:

13 To have, give all to all.

**Note # 59:** The Holy Spirit reinterprets the ego’s body into a device for communication. Communication can be shared. The Holy Spirit sees you as God created you and communicates to you what you truly are. Full appreciation of what you are can be shared with your brother because you are equal. God did not create specialness. God, being All, extended Himself to All. The Holy Spirit teaches this lesson of equality and inclusion which is “To have, give all to all.” By giving, we prove that we have. Communication is “Being,” which is different than egoic thinking with its emphasis on “having.” When you are “Being”, you are experiencing or feeling. Our feelings indicate or communicate our connectiveness with our Source Energy. If we are feeling fearful and lack inner peace, we are out of alignment with our Big “S” Self. When we feel good and are at peace, we are following the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

T-6.V.A.6. This lesson, “To have, give all to all,” is a very preliminary step, and the only one you must take for yourself. 2 It is not even necessary that you complete the step of this lesson of “To have, give all to all,” yourself, but it is necessary that you turn in that direction of the belief that “to have, give all to all.” 3 Having chosen to go that way, this belief that “to have, give all to all,” allows you to place yourself in charge of the
journey, where you and only you must remain. 4 This step of placing yourself in charge of the journey and following the belief that “to have, give all to all,” may appear to exacerbate conflict rather than resolve conflict, because this new role of placing yourself in charge of the journey and following the belief that “to have, give all to all,” is the beginning step in reversing your perception and turning your perception right-side up. 5 This conflicts with the upside-down perception you have not yet abandoned, or the change in direction would not have been necessary. 6 Some with the upside-down perception remain at this step for a long time, experiencing very acute conflict. 7 At this point they with the upside-down perception may try to accept the conflict, rather than take the next step towards the conflict’s resolution. 8 Having taken the first step of following the belief that “to have, give all to all,” however, they with the upside-down perception will be helped. 9 Once a brother has chosen the belief that “to have, give all to all,” which is a belief that they cannot complete alone without another, they are no longer alone.

NOTE # 60: This first lesson, “To have, give all to all”, is the first step to retraining the mind. Under the egoic belief system, to give means we lose. This is due to the egoic belief in lack and that you are a body. Form cannot be shared without sacrifice. Yet, ideas can be shared and result in strengthening the original idea. No sacrifice is required when loving ideas are shared. This lesson, which is “To have, give all to all.” is a lesson in oneness and sharing. It requires joining and thus, begins the healing of the fragmented Sonship.

B. To Have Peace, Teach Peace to Learn It

T-6.V.B.1. All who believe in separation have a basic fear of retaliation and abandonment. 2 All who believe in separation believe in attack and rejection, so that is what all who believe in separation perceive and teach and learn. 3 These insane ideas are clearly the result of dissociation and projection. 4 What you teach you are, but it is quite apparent that you can teach wrongly, and can therefore teach yourself wrong. 5 Many thought I was attacking them, even though it was apparent I was not attacking them. 6 An insane learner learns strange lessons. 7 What you must recognize is that when you do not share a thought system, you are weakening that thought system. 8 Those who believe in that thought system therefore perceive that when you do not share their thought system, it is an attack on those who believe in that same thought system. 9 This is because everyone identifies himself with his thought system, and every thought system centers on what you believe you are. 10 If the center of the thought system is true, only truth extends from the thought system. 11 But if the thought system has a lie at its center, only deception proceeds from the thought system, which has a lie at its center.

NOTE # 61: If someone believes that they are a body, they will follow the egoic thought system of fear, lack and separation. When they come in contact with someone like Jesus who follows the thought system of the Holy Spirit, Jesus’ love would be perceived by the
fearful as an attack on their person and their egoic belief system. At the center of each thought system is your belief in what you are. Are you unlimited Spirit or a body? If they get the first answer wrong, everything else that follows will be based on incorrect data.

T-6.V.B.2. All good teachers realize that only fundamental change will last, but all good teachers do not begin at that fundamental level. 2 Strengthening motivation for change is all good teachers’ first and foremost goal. 3 Strengthening motivation for change is also their last and final one goal. p106 4 Increasing motivation for change in the learner is all that a teacher need do to guarantee change. 5 Change in motivation is a change of mind, and this change of mind will inevitably produce fundamental change because the mind <is> fundamental.

NOTE # 62: When you are motivated, the task at hand automatically becomes easier to achieve. Learning only can occur within the mind of the learner. The Holy Spirit wants you to be happy. The ego wants to claim that it is right even when it is wrong. When you change your motivation from the need to be right to the need to be happy, change is guaranteed. Ask yourself this simple question. “Would I rather be right or happy?” Choose happiness and follow your bliss and you will follow the pathway to the Kingdom.

T-6.V.B.3. The first step in the reversal or undoing process is the undoing of the getting concept. 2 Accordingly, the Holy Spirit’s first lesson was "To have, give all to all." 3 I said that this concept, "To have, give all to all", is apt to increase conflict temporarily, and we can clarify this still further now. 4 At this point, the equality of <having> and <being> is not yet perceived. 5 Until the equality of <having> and <being> is perceived, <having> appears to be the opposite of <giving>. 6 Therefore, the first lesson, ("To have, give all to all"), seems to contain a contradiction, since the first lesson, ("To have, give all to all"), is being learned by a conflicted mind. 7 A conflicted mind means conflicting motivation, and so the lesson cannot be learned consistently as yet. 8 Further, the mind of the learner projects the learner’s own conflict, and thus does not perceive consistency in the minds of others, making him suspicious of the other’s motivation. 9 This is the real reason why, in many respects, the first lesson, ("To have, give all to all"), is the hardest lesson to learn. 10 Still strongly aware of the ego in yourself, and responding primarily to the ego in others, you are being taught to react to both yours and the others’ egos, as if what you egoically do believe, which is that giving and having are opposites, is not true.

NOTE # 63: The Holy Spirit understands that having and being are the same. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is actually your own true thought system. The ego thought system’s belief is “To have, take all from all.” This is the opposite of what the Holy Spirit teaches, which is “To have, give all to all.” Because we have been under the guidance of the ego, we now find ourselves in conflict with our true thought system of the Big “S” Self. The ego’s thought system is “insane” because its major premise is incorrect. The ego’s system is based on separation and the belief that you are an ego body rather than Mind or Spirit. These lessons of the Holy Spirit are a call to motivate you to change your belief in what you are. Until you abandon your belief that you are a body, you will remain conflicted as you seek to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Conflict always
follows when you seek to serve two masters. You must choose to follow only the Voice for Truth.

T-6.V.B.4. Upside down as always, the ego perceives the first lesson of the Holy Spirit which was, "To have, give all to all"; as insane. 2 In fact, the belief by the ego that the lesson of the Holy Spirit is insane is the ego’s only alternative since the other possibility, which would be much less acceptable to the ego, would obviously be that <the ego > is insane. 3 The ego's judgment, here as always, is predetermined by what the ego is. 4 The fundamental change will still occur with the change of mind in the thinker. Meanwhile, the increasing clarity of the Holy Spirit's Voice makes it impossible for the learner not to listen. 6 For a time, then, the learner is receiving conflicting messages and accepting both messages.

NOTE # 64: The two conflicting messages that we hear at this stage of our journey are:
1) The ego’s message is “To have. Take all from all.” It is based on the belief that you are a separate body in competition with other ego-bodies.
2) The Holy Spirit’s message is, “To have, give all to all.” It is based on the belief that you are unlimited mind or spirit, which is part of the Oneness that is the holographic Mind of God.

T-6.V.B.5. The way out of conflict between two opposing thought systems is clearly to choose one thought system and relinquish the other thought system. 2 If you identify with your thought system and you cannot escape this identification with your thought system, and if you accept two thought systems which are in complete disagreement, peace of mind is impossible. 3 If you teach both thought systems, which you will surely do as long as you accept both thought systems, you are teaching conflict and learning conflict. 4 Yet you do want peace, or you would not have called upon the Voice for peace to help you, which is the Voice of the Holy Spirit. 5 The Holy Spirit’s lesson is not insane; the conflict is insane.

NOTE # 65: Until we value only the truth that we are unlimited Spirit, a part of the Oneness of everything, our split-mind will be in conflict. When we value specialness and oneness, we also guarantee a conflicted mind.

T-6.V.B.6. There can be no conflict between sanity and insanity. 2 Only one is true, and therefore only one is real. 3 The ego tries to persuade you that it is up to you to decide which voice is true, but the Holy Spirit teaches you that truth was created by God, and your decision cannot change truth. p107 4 As you begin to realize the quiet power of the Holy Spirit's Voice, and the Holy Spirit's perfect consistency, it must dawn on your mind that you are trying to undo a decision that was irrevocably made for you. 5 That is why I suggested before that you remind yourself to allow the Holy Spirit to decide for God for you.

NOTE # 66: The ego claims that we, not God, are the arbitrators for truth. Truth is not arbitrary. Truth just is. We cannot change what God created. Truth and reality are
changeless. Because we have free will, we can dream that the truth is something it is not. This is what we do when we make our private world of provisional reality. We actively choose to follow the ego’s belief system of separation and lack for its promise of specialness. Our miscreation does not change reality. The Holy Spirit consistently and lovingly calls us to reawaken from our dream and reaffirm what we truly are, God’s Beloved Child.

T-6.V.B.7. You are not asked to make insane decisions, although you can think you are asked to make insane decisions. 2 It must, however, be insane to believe that it is up to you to decide what God’s creations are. 3 The Holy Spirit perceives the conflict exactly as the conflict is. 4 Therefore, the Holy Spirit’s second lesson is:

5  To have peace, teach peace to learn peace.

NOTE # 67: What you are, you automatically teach. To teach peace, you must be peace. Since perception follows our purpose, we most first decide what our purpose is. In this lesson, our decision-maker has decided that its learning objective is peace. Our future perceptions will now begin to align with our new purpose of achieving peace.

T-6.V.B.8. “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace,” is still a preliminary step, since <having> and <being> are still not equated. 2 This second step of “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace,” is, however, more advanced than the first step, which was “To have, give all to all,” which is really only the beginning of the thought reversal. 3 The second step of “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace,” is a positive affirmation of what you want. 4 This positive affirmation of what you want, then, is a step in the direction out of conflict, since this affirmation, “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace,” means that alternatives have been considered, and one alternative has been chosen as more desirable than the other alternative. 5 Nevertheless, the term "more desirable" still implies that the desirable has degrees. 6 Therefore, although this step is a positive affirmation of what you want and is essential for the ultimate decision, this second step is clearly not the final step. 7 Lack of order of difficulty in miracles has not yet been accepted, because nothing is difficult that is <wholly> desired. 8 To desire wholly is to create, and creating cannot be difficult if God Himself created you as a creator.

NOTE # 68: In this lesson our decision-maker has reclaimed some of his power. He has considered some option and made a decision. Until we make a clear decision as to what we desire, it is difficult to create or make. Unless we choose that we want, our mind’s creative power lies dormant. When we realize that we have lost our peace and we fail to choose again, we “waste” time.

T-6.V.B.9. The second step, the positive affirmation “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace,” then, is still perceptual, although the second step is a giant step toward the unified perception that reflects God's knowing. 2 As you take this step, “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace,” and hold this second step’s direction, you will be pushing toward the center of your egoic thought system, where the fundamental change will
occur. 3 At the second step progress is intermittent, but the second step is easier than the first step because the second step follows the first step. 4 Realizing that the second step, which is “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace”, must follow the first step which was "To have, give all to all.”, is a demonstration of a growing awareness that the Holy Spirit will lead you on toward your mind’s return to sanity and remembering who you really are, a Oneness as God created you.

NOTE # 69: To achieve the Holy Spirit’s goal of reawakening the sleeping mind, it must first release the mind’s decision-making ability from egoic victim consciousness. Until we realize that our mind and not the outside world is the cause of our experience, we will not realize that we can choose again. When you believe you are powerless, there is no reason to choose differently. Only when we start to believe that our mind’s decisions have consequence that cause and attract future experiences, does it matter what we think. Step number two continues us down the path to the idea that thoughts are things. It teaches that your ideas have creative power and determine your experience. We are beginning to realize that we make or create our own provisional reality. There are no innocent victims.

C. Be Vigilant Only for God and His Kingdom

T-6.V.C.1. We said before that the Holy Spirit is evaluative, and must be evaluative. 2 The Holy Spirit sorts out the true from the false in your mind, and the Holy Spirit teaches you to judge every thought you allow to enter your mind in the light of what God put there in your mind. p108 3 Whatever is in accord with this light that God put in your mind, the Holy Spirit retains, to strengthen the Kingdom in you. 4 What is partly in accord with the Kingdom in you, the Holy Spirit accepts and purifies. 5 But what is out of accord entirely with the Kingdom in you, the Holy Spirit rejects by judging against what is out of accord entirely with the Kingdom in you. 6 This is how the Holy Spirit keeps the Kingdom perfectly consistent and perfectly unified. 7 Remember, however, that what the Holy Spirit rejects the ego accepts. 8 This is because the Holy Spirit and the ego are in fundamental disagreement about everything, since the Holy Spirit and the ego are in fundamental disagreement about what you are. 9 The ego's beliefs on this crucial issue about what you are vary, and that is why the ego promotes different moods. 10 The Holy Spirit never varies on this point about what you are, and so the one mood the Holy Spirit engenders is joy. 11 The Holy Spirit protects joy by rejecting everything that does not foster joy, and so the Holy Spirit alone can keep you wholly joyous.

NOTE # 70: The Holy Spirit’s role as the Voice for God requires that the Holy Spirit evaluate the correctness of what is perceived by your mind. The Holy Spirit’s evaluation is always based on the knowledge that as Spirit you are as God created you. The Holy Spirit has both the ability to know because the Holy Spirit is part of God. He perceives and evaluates correctly because the Holy Spirit was sent by the Father to reawaken His sleeping Son to the truth. The Holy Spirit is the link between God and God’s split-
minded Son. The Holy Spirit reinterprets the ego’s misperception in view of the fact that you are always God’s Son as God created you. This reinterpretation judges what is out of accord with what you really are and guides you to chose again based on the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-6.V.C.2. The Holy Spirit does not teach you to judge others, because the Holy Spirit does not want you to teach error and learn to judge others yourself. The Holy Spirit would hardly be consistent if the Holy Spirit allowed you to strengthen what you must learn to avoid, which is egoic judgment. In the mind of the thinker, then, the Holy Spirit judgmental, but only in order to unify the mind so the mind of the thinker can perceive without judgment. By unifying the mind so the mind of the thinker can perceive without judgment, the Holy Spirit enables the student’s mind to teach without judgment, and therefore to learn to be without judgment. The undoing of the student’s mind to teach without judgment, and therefore to learn to be without judgment, is necessary only in your split mind, so that you will not project, instead of extend. God Himself has established what you can extend with perfect safety. Therefore, the Holy Spirit's third lesson is:

8 Be vigilant only for God and His Kingdom.

NOTE # 71: The ego is a judging machine, which is constantly judging in error. Since the ego’s basic premise is faulty, its reasoning is equally flawed. The ego judges based on past misperceptions and thus, continues to perpetuate the errors of the past. The only correct judgment that we can make is that we are unable to judge correctly. We must not judge. We need to turn our perceptions over to the Holy Spirit for His evaluation and guidance.

T-6.V.C.3. This Being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom is a major step toward fundamental change. Yet, this third lesson of the Holy Spirit, “Be vigilant only for God and His Kingdom,” still has an aspect of thought reversal, since being vigilant against being vigilant implies that there is something you must be vigilant against. This third lesson of the Holy Spirit, “Be vigilant only for God and His Kingdom,” has advanced far from the first lesson, “To have, give all to all,” which is merely the beginning of the thought reversal, and also from the second lesson of “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace,” which is essentially the identification of what is more desirable. The third lesson or step of the Holy Spirit, which is “Be vigilant only for God and His Kingdom,” follows from the second lesson. The second lesson of “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace,” follows from the first lesson, which was “To have, give all to all.” The second lesson of “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace,” emphasizes the dichotomy between the desirable and the undesirable. This third lesson or step of the Holy Spirit of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom therefore makes the ultimate choice inevitable.

NOTE # 72: The inevitable choice is that we will reject the thought system of the ego in favor of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. Ultimately, there is only one viable choice since the choice for fantasy is the choice for nothingness. We must eventually choose for
truth. The choice for God is inevitable since we share God’s Will. Ultimately, God’s Will and our will are the same since we are an extension of God, a part of God. Being only vigilant for God and His Kingdom is the decision for reality over illusion.

T-6.V.C.4. While the first step, “To have, give all to all.” seems to increase conflict and the second step, “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace.” may still entail conflict to some extent, this third step of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom, calls for consistent vigilance against conflict which arises from the ego’s thought system. 2 I have already told you that you can be as vigilant against the ego as for the ego. 3 This third lesson of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom teaches not only that you can be vigilant against the ego but that you <must> be vigilant against the ego. 4 This third lesson of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom does not concern itself with order of difficulty, but with clear-cut priority for vigilance for only God, not the ego. p109 5 This third lesson of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom, is unequivocal in that this third lesson teaches there must be no exceptions, although this third lesson of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom does not deny that the temptation to make exceptions will occur. 6 Here, then, your consistency is called on despite chaos. 7 Yet chaos and consistency cannot coexist for long, since chaos and consistency are mutually exclusive. As long as you must be vigilant against anything, however, you are not recognizing this mutual exclusiveness, and still believe that you can choose either one of the thought systems. 9 By teaching <what> to choose, the Holy Spirit will ultimately teach you that you need not choose at all. 10 This will finally liberate your mind from choice, and direct your mind towards creation within the Kingdom.

NOTE # 73: Chaos represents the thought system of the ego. Because the egoic thought system is based on the false, this allows for many versions to exist. Thus, the ego’s advice is constantly changing as its objectives shift. It is an unstable platform to base our universe upon. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is always consistent because it is based on truth, which never changes. Knowledge, unlike perception, is not a matter of choice. Knowledge, like truth, just is. Choice resides in our mind’s imagined world of perception.

T-6.V.C.5. Choosing through the Holy Spirit will lead you to the Kingdom. 2 You create by your true being, but what you are, (your true being as a Son of God), you must learn to remember. 3 The way to remember your true being as a Son of God is inherent in the third step of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom. This third step brings together the lessons implied in the others, and goes beyond the first two steps towards real integration. The first two step were “To have, give all to all” and “To have peace, teach peace to learn peace.” 4 If you allow yourself to have in your mind only what God put there, you are acknowledging your mind as God created your mind. 5 Therefore, you are accepting your mind as your mind is. 6 Since your mind is whole, you are teaching peace <because> you believe in peace. 7 The final step will still be taken for you by God, but by the third step of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom, the Holy Spirit has prepared you for God. 8 The Holy Spirit is getting you ready for the translation of <having> into <being> by the very nature of the steps you must take with the Holy Spirit.
NOTE # 74: The Holy Spirit is slowly teaching us to move from egoic judgmental thinking to just being. Being is associated with experience or feeling. Being does not judge or figure things out, it just experiences. Egoic “having” is associated with the belief in lack, limitation and fear. When we choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we are starting to “live or be” the truth of what we are. We are being vigilant only for love.

T-6.V.C.6. You learn first that <having> rests on giving, and not on getting. 2 Next you learn that you learn what you teach, and that you want to learn peace. 3 This wanting to learn peace is the condition for identifying with the Kingdom, since peace is the condition <of> the Kingdom. 4 You have believed that you are without the Kingdom, and have therefore excluded yourself from the peace of the Kingdom by your belief that you are without the Kingdom. 5 It is therefore essential to teach you that you must be included with the Kingdom, and that the belief that you are not with the Kingdom is the only thing that you must exclude.

NOTE # 75: Being part of the Oneness of Everything, our divine birthright is the Kingdom. It is only by our own denial of our heritage that we have decided to exclude ourselves from the Kingdom. This denial of our Source is self-imposed. Only when we accept the Atonement for ourselves, will we give ourselves permission to reawaken within the Kingdom. The Kingdom was never lost, we chose to forget the truth.

T-6.V.C.7. The third step of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom is thus one of protection for your mind, allowing you to identify only with the center for truth, where God placed the altar to Himself. 2 Altars are beliefs, but God and His creations are beyond belief because God and His creations are beyond question. 3 The Voice for God speaks only for belief beyond question, which is the preparation for <being> without question. 4 As long as belief in God and His Kingdom is assailed by any doubts in your mind, God’s perfect accomplishment, which is you, is not apparent to you. 5 This belief in God and His Kingdom without any doubts in your mind is why you must be vigilant on God's behalf. p110 6 The ego speaks against God’s creation, and therefore the ego engenders doubt in your mind. 7 You cannot go beyond belief until you believe fully that you are part of God’s Kingdom.

NOTE # 76: Our center is our One Self, which is our Big “S” Self. Altars are beliefs. What is your core belief? Are you in ego-body or Son of God? What thought or belief system is your altar built on? God’s altar is built on only truth. You are part of the Shared Oneness that is the Mind of God.

T-6.V.C.8. To teach the whole Sonship without exception demonstrates that you perceive the whole Sonship’s wholeness, and have learned that the Sonship is one. 2 Now you must be vigilant to hold the Sonship’s oneness in your mind because, if you let doubt enter your mind, you will lose awareness of the Sonship’s wholeness and will be unable to teach the Sonship’s wholeness. 3 The wholeness of the Kingdom does not depend on your perception of the wholeness of the Kingdom, but your awareness of the
Kingdom’s wholeness does depend on your perception. 4 It is only your awareness that needs protection, since being cannot be assailed. 5 Yet a real sense of being cannot be yours while you are doubtful of what you are. 6 Since a real sense of being cannot be yours while you are doubtful of what you are, this is why vigilance for God and His Kingdom is essential. 7 Doubts about being must not enter your mind, or you cannot know what you are with certainty. 8 Certainty is of God for you. 9 Vigilance is not necessary for truth, but vigilance is necessary against illusions.

NOTE # 77: Our perception depends on our purpose. Will you be vigilant for the truth of wholeness or the illusion of separation?

T-6.V.C.9. Truth is without illusions and therefore truth is within the Kingdom. 2 Everything outside the Kingdom is illusion. 3 When you threw truth away due to your belief in the separation, you saw yourself as if you were without the Kingdom. 4 By making another kingdom that you valued, which is the ego’s kingdom of separation, specialness and individuality, you did not keep <only> the Kingdom of God in your mind, and thus placed part of your mind outside the Kingdom of God in your mind. 5 What you made has imprisoned your will, and given you a sick mind that must be healed. 6 Your vigilance against this sickness of the now split mind’s allegiance to conflicting thought systems is the way to heal sick mind. 7 Once your mind is healed your mind radiates health, and thereby teaches healing. 8 This healed mind establishes you as a teacher who teaches like me. 9 Vigilance was required of me as much as of you, and those who choose to teach the same thing must be in agreement about what they believe.

NOTE # 78: This placing of part of your mind outside the Kingdom of God is referred to as the splitting of your mind. This “splitting” only occurred in your provisional reality. It never occurred in the Mind of God, nor in your High Self, which is the Home of the Holy Spirit. It is only your belief that it occurred that makes it “real” to you. The “split mind” is a “sick mind”. The ego’s thought system, which is based on the belief in separation and lack, acts as a prison for your split mind. This prison can only be maintained by your ego convincing your mind that the mind is something that it is not. The ego tells the mind that it is a limited ego-body, not unlimited spirit. It is this mistaken identification of our mind as the body that forms the prison walls. The ego imprisons the mind by disempowering your decision-making ability to choose again. The split mind slips into victim consciousness. Your split mind is in conflict over the two opposing thought systems of the ego and the Holy Spirit. With step three, the decision-maker has decided to attempt to exclusively follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-6.V.C.10. The third step of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom then, is a statement of what you want to believe, and entails a willingness to relinquish everything else. 2 The Holy Spirit will enable you to take this step of being vigilant only for God and His Kingdom, if you follow the Holy Spirit’s guidance. 3 Your vigilance is the sign that you <want> the Holy Spirit to guide you. 4 Vigilance does require effort, but only until you learn that effort itself is unnecessary. 5 You have exerted great effort to preserve what you made because what you made was not true. 6 Therefore, you must now turn your effort against what you made that was not true. 7 Only this effort and vigilance
against what you made that was not true, can cancel out the need for effort, and call upon the being which you both <have> and <are>. 8 This recognition of the being which you both <have> and <are>, is wholly without effort since the being which you both <have> and <are> is already true and needs no protection. 9 The being which you both <have> and <are> is in the perfect safety of God. 10 Therefore, inclusion is total and creation is without limit. p111

NOTE # 79: The being which you both <have> and <are> requires no effort since this is what you truly are, which is God’s Son. What does require effort and vigilance is the reawakening from the illusion in which you envision yourself to be a special and separate ego-body. This requires vigilance against the thought system of the ego. The “split or sick” mind must be healed and made whole. By the Atonement process, the Holy Spirit aids us in the healing of our split mind. Being what you are requires no effort since in the Mind of God you can only be as God created you, perfect whole and complete - an extension of God the Father. Effort is only required when you attempt to be something that you are not.
Chapter 7. THE GIFTS OF THE KINGDOM

I. The Last Step

T-7.I.1. The creative power of God and His creations is limitless, but the creative power of God and His creations are not in reciprocal relationship. 2 You communicate fully with God, as He does with you. 3 This communication is an ongoing process in which you share with God, and because you share this communication, you are inspired to create like God. 4 Yet in creation you are not in a reciprocal relation to God, since God created you but you did not create God. 5 I have already told you that only in this respect, which is that God created you but you did not create God, is your creative power different from God's creative powers. 6 Even in this world there is a parallel. 7 Parents give birth to children, but children do not give birth to parents. 8 Children do, however, give birth to their children, and thus give birth as their parents do.

Note # 1: We replicate God in every way except that God as First Cause created us. We are an Effect of God. Being an Effect of God, we do not have any ability to change our parent. We cannot be self-created as the ego claims that we are.

T-7.I.2. If you created God and God created you, the Kingdom could not increase through the Kingdom's own creative thought. 2 If the Kingdom could not increase through the Kingdom's own creative thought, creation would therefore be limited, and you would not be co-creator with God. 3 As God's creative Thought proceeds from God to you, so must your creative thought proceed from you to your creations. 4 Only in this way, if your creative thought proceed from you to your creations, can all creative power extend outward. 5 God's accomplishments are not your accomplishments, but your accomplishments are like God's accomplishments. 6 God created the Sonship and you increase the Sonship. 7 You have the power to add to the Kingdom, though not to add to the Creator of the Kingdom. 8 You claim this power to add to the Kingdom when you become vigilant only for God and God's Kingdom. 9 By accepting this power to add to the Kingdom as yours, you have learned to remember what you are.

Note # 2: When you are vigilant only for God and His kingdom, which is the third lesson of the Holy Spirit, you are able to create like God. At that moment you are under the guidance of the thought system of the Holy Spirit and are no longer coming from the ego's thought system of lack. You can only create like God when you know that you are God's Son, which is a co-creator with your Father.

T-7.I.3. Your creations belong in you, as you belong in God. 2 You are part of God, as
your sons are part of His Sons. 3 To create is to love. 4 Love extends outward simply because love cannot be contained. 5 Being limitless love does not stop. 6 Love creates forever, but love does not create in time. 7 God's creations have always been, because God has always been. 8 Your creations have always been, because you can create only as God creates. 9 Eternity is yours, because God created you eternal.

**Note # 3:** Love does not create in time because time itself is only a learning device that arose from the separation. Due to this fact, time will dissolve or disappear when the Atonement process is completed. If love created in time, love’s creations would not be eternal and, therefore, would be limited.

**T-7.I.4.** The ego, on the other hand, always demands reciprocal rights, because the ego is competitive rather than loving. 2 The ego is always willing to strike a bargain, but the ego cannot understand that to be like another means that no bargains are possible. p112 3 To gain you must give, not bargain. 4 To bargain is to limit giving, and thus to bargain is not God's Will. 5 To will with God is to create like God. 6 God does not limit God’s gifts in any way. 7 You <are> God’s gifts, and so your gifts must be like God’s gifts. 8 Your gifts to the Kingdom must be like God’s gifts to you.

**Note # 4:** To gain, you must give, not bargain. This statement is a natural result of the first lesson of the Holy Spirit, which is “To Have, Give All to All.” When we bargain, we are looking for a “good trade” that will make us feel more complete than before. Yet, since bargaining means giving up something in return, the ego insure that we remain not whole and complete. We now lack what we give up in exchange.

**T-7.I.5.** I gave only love to the Kingdom because I believed that love was what I was. 2 What you believe you are determines your gifts, and if God created you by extending Himself as you, you can only extend yourself as God did. 3 Only joy increases forever, since joy and eternity are inseparable. 4 God extends outward beyond limits and beyond time and you who are co-creator with God extend God’s Kingdom forever and beyond limit. 5 Eternity is the indelible stamp of creation. 6 The eternal are in peace and joy forever.

**Note # 5:** We were created to create like our Source. We cannot be happy unless we fulfill this function of extending the Oneness of everything.

**T-7.I.6.** To think like God is to share God’s certainty of what you are, and to create like God is to share the perfect Love God shares with you. 2 To share the perfect Love God shares with you, the Holy Spirit leads you, that your joy may be complete because the Kingdom of God is whole. 3 I have said that the last step in the reawakening of knowledge is taken by God. 4 It is true that the last step in the reawakening of knowledge is taken by God, but this last step is hard to explain in words because words are symbols, and nothing that is true need be explained. 5 However, the Holy Spirit has the task of translating the useless into the useful, the meaningless into the meaningful, and the temporary into the timeless. 6 The Holy Spirit can therefore tell you something
about this last step in the reawakening process, which is taken by God.

Note # 6: The Holy Spirit takes our misperceptions and reinterprets them through the eyes of love. The Holy Spirit saves what can be transformed by forgiveness and love into something that can be shared throughout the Sonship. He disregards any illusions that are not transformable into love as unworthy of the Son of God.

T-7.I.7. God does not take steps, because God’s accomplishments are not gradual. 2 God does not teach, because God’s creations are changeless. 3 God does nothing last, because God created first and for always. 4 It must be understood that the word "first" as applied to God is not a time concept. 5 God is first in the sense that God is the First in the Holy Trinity Itself. 6 God is the Prime Creator, because God created God’s co-creators. 7 Because God did, time applies neither to God nor to what God created. 8 The "last step" that God will take was therefore true in the beginning, is true now, and will be true forever. 9 What is timeless is always there, because its being is eternally changeless. 10 What God created does not change by increase, because what God created was forever created to increase. 11 If you perceive what God created as not increasing you do not know what God’s creation is. 12 You also do not know Who created what God created. 13 God does not reveal this to you because what God created was never hidden. 14 His light was never obscured, because His light is His Will to share His light. p113 15 How can what is fully shared be withheld and then revealed?

Note # 7: God’s creative powers follow that lesson of the Holy Spirit, “To Have All, Give All to All.” In the creative process God gives all and, therefore, withholds nothing. Since when God creates nothing is withheld, there is nothing that was ever left out that could be revealed at some later time. God is First Cause. As First Cause, what God sourced into being was the ever-expanding changeless Love of God. Being Love, this is all God could extend because you can only give away what you are, have and be. Unconditional Love can only expand and extend outwardly remaining constantly perfect, whole and complete. Time measures change. Unconditional Love is changeless and, therefore, is timeless.

II. The Law of the Kingdom

T-7.II.1. To heal is the only kind of thinking in this world that resembles the Thought of God, and because of the elements to healing and the Thought of God share, to heal can transfer easily to the Thought of God. 2 When a brother perceives himself as sick, a brother is perceiving himself as not whole, and therefore in need. 3 If you, too, see him sick and, therefore, in need, you are seeing your brother as if your brother were absent from the Kingdom or separated from the Kingdom, thus making the Kingdom itself obscure to both you and your brother. 4 Sickness and separation are not of God, but the Kingdom is of God. 5 If you obscure the Kingdom, you are perceiving what is not of God.
Note # 8: When we perceive based on fear, we feel that we must protect and guard others or ourselves from the fear and danger. When fear enters into the picture, we are denying that we are invulnerable spirit and accepting the belief that we are a limited ego-body. This gives the illusion a false power and makes it appear real within our own mind. If you agree that a brother needs to be “fixed”, you are confirming his belief that he is not perfect, whole and complete. You are allowing his illusion to become yours. By his sharing and you accepting his idea of sickness, you have strengthened this false idea. When you heal, you deny the false and allow only the truth to shine forth.

T-7.II.2. To heal, then, is to correct the wrong perception in your brother and yourself by sharing the Holy Spirit with your brother. 2 This places you both within the Kingdom, and restores the Kingdom’s wholeness in your mind. 3 This reflects creation, because to heal places you both within the Kingdom and, therefore, this unifies by increasing and integrates by extending. 4 What you project or extend is real for you. 5 What you project or extend is real for you is an immutable law of the mind in this world as well as in the Kingdom. 6 However, the content is different in this world, because the thoughts in this world that the law of mind governs are very different from the Thoughts in the Kingdom. The law of mind is that what you project or extend is real for you. 7 Laws must be adapted to circumstances if they are to maintain order. 8 The outstanding characteristic of the laws of mind as operate in this world is that by obeying the laws of mind, and I assure you that you must obey the laws of mind, you can arrive at diametrically opposed results. 9 This diametrically opposed result is because the laws have been adapted to the circumstances of this world, in which diametrically opposed outcomes seem possible because you can respond to two conflicting voices.

Note # 9: Our provisional reality is a world in which we believe that we are the arbitrator of truth. We believe that we can decide between the true and the false and by choosing the false, make the false real and the true unreal. Only in illusions does this appear possible since the law of mind is that what you project or extend is real for you. Outside the deluded mind of the dreamer, the illusion, which is thought projection, has no power to change the real world, which ACIM calls the Kingdom.

Because you believe that you are separate in your world of provisional reality, there are two voices that you can follow. Each voice supports opposite conclusions. By following the voice for egoic fear, your dream world becomes a very scary and real place to you. By following the Holy Spirit’s voice, you are called to remember that you are Spirit, a Oneness of God. The ego leads you to a world of limitation, pain, guilt, and fear. The Holy Spirit leads you back to the truth of the Kingdom.

T-7.II.3.Outside the Kingdom, the law that prevails inside the Kingdom is adapted to "What you project you believe." 2 “What you project you believe” is the law of mind that prevails outside the Kingdom’s.” What you project you believe” is this law’s adapted teaching form outside the Kingdom, because outside the Kingdom learning is essential. 3 This adapted form of the law of mind, which is “What you project you believe”, implies that you will learn what you are from what you have projected onto others, and therefore believe the others are what you have projected onto them. 4 In the Kingdom there is no teaching or learning, because there is no belief. 5 There is only
The certainty in the Kingdom. 6 God and His Sons, in the surety of being, know that what you extend you are. 7 That form of the law is not adapted at all, being the law of creation. 8 God Himself created the law by creating the law of creation, which is “when you create, you extend the totality of what you are and thus, what you extend you are.” 9 And His Sons, who create like Him, follow the law of creation gladly, knowing that the increase of the Kingdom depends on the law of creation, just as their own creation did depend on the law of creation. p114

**Note # 10:** In the Kingdom, there is no teaching or learning, because there is knowledge. Knowledge is truth and therefore just is. In the world of time and perception, knowledge has been lost and has been replaced by perception.

The Law of creation is the total extension of everything that you are. It states that what you extend you are. When God created, nothing was held back. Being All, God gave All. In the world of our provisional reality this law has been modified to fit your viewpoint that you are a limited ego-body. The law is modified to read “What you project you believe.” This modification is necessary because you cannot create if you believe that you are a limited ego-body. Creation is extension of what you really are, which is an unlimited Son of God. When we are under the guidance of the ego, we believe that we are something we are not. We believe that we are a limited ego-body. Because we project outside ourselves something that we are not, what we perceive back is what we projected out. This reflection, confirms our belief in how we perceive ourselves to be and thus, we conclude that we are a limited ego-body. If the law of creation, “What you extend you are,” was not modified when applied outside the Kingdom, our belief in separation would force us to become something God did not create, an ego-body. If this were the case, God’s Will would not be honored and we would be changing God, which is the First Cause. It is impossible for an effect to change its cause. Because an effect cannot change its cause, extension belongs in the Kingdom (the Mind of God), and projection is held outside the Kingdom and confined to our imagined dream world of provisional reality, perception, time and space.

**T-7.II.4.** Laws must be communicated if they are to be helpful. 2 In effect, Laws must be translated for those who speak different languages. 3 Nevertheless, a good translator, although he must alter the form of what he translates, a good translator never changes the meaning. 4 In fact, a good translator’s whole purpose is to change the form so that the original meaning is retained. 5 The Holy Spirit is the Translator of the laws of God to those who do not understand the laws of God. 6 You could not translate the laws of God yourself because a conflicted mind cannot be faithful to one meaning, and will therefore change the meaning to preserve the form.

**Note # 11:** Only the Holy Spirit knows the big picture and can properly interpret our experiences to align with the truth. The ego, not knowing the truth, cannot uphold to truth. To the ego, the illusion of form is more important than the content, which is the true message.

**T-7.II.5.** The Holy Spirit's purpose in translating is exactly the opposite of changing the meaning to preserve the form. 2 The Holy Spirit translates only to preserve the
original meaning in all respects and in all languages. 3 Therefore, the Holy Spirit opposes the idea that differences in form are meaningful, emphasizing always that <these differences in form do not matter.> 4 The meaning of the Holy Spirit’s message is always the same; only the meaning matters. 5 God's law of creation does not involve the use of truth to convince God’s Sons of truth. 6 The extension of truth, which <is> the law of the Kingdom, rests only on the knowledge of what truth is. 7 This knowledge of what truth is is your inheritance and requires no learning at all, but when you disinherited yourself you became a learner of necessity.

Note # 12: The Holy Spirit resides in and as our Big “S” Self and retains knowledge. We never truly lose our connection to our Source. The Holy Spirit protects and preserves our divine inheritance until our split mind is healed through relearning and acceptance of the truth.

T-7.II.6. No one questions the connection of learning and memory. 2 Learning is impossible without memory since learning must be consistent to be remembered. 3 That is why the Holy Spirit's teaching is a lesson in remembering. 4 I said before that the Holy Spirit teaches remembering and forgetting, but the forgetting is only to make the remembering consistent. 5 You forget in order to remember better. 6 You will not understand the Holy Spirit's translations while you listen to two ways of interpreting these translations. 7 Therefore you must forget or relinquish one to understand the other. 8 This forgetting and relinquishing one thought system’s interpretation to understand the other thought system’s interpretation, is the only way you can learn consistency, so that you can finally <be> consistent.

Note # 13: You listen to both the ego’s and Holy Spirit’s interpretation of what you perceive. Therefore, the Holy Spirit’s goal is to help you remember what He teaches and to forget what the ego teaches. Until you follow only the Holy Spirit’s teachings, you will be inconsistent.

T-7.II.7. What can the perfect consistency of the Kingdom mean to those who are confused? 2 It is apparent that confusion interferes with meaning, and therefore prevents the learner from appreciating the meaning. 3 There is no confusion in the Kingdom, because there is only one meaning. 4 This one meaning comes from God and <is> God. God is Love. 5 Because this one meaning is also you, you share this one meaning and extend this one meaning as your Creator did. 6 This one meaning needs no translation because this one meaning is perfectly understood, but this one meaning does need extension because this one meaning <means> extension. 7 Communication is perfectly direct and perfectly united. p115 8 Communication is totally free, because nothing discordant ever enters. 9 That is why communication is the Kingdom of God. 10 Communication belongs to God and is therefore like God. 11 That is the Kingdom’s reality and nothing can assail the Kingdom’s reality.

Note # 14: In the kingdom, which is the Mind of God, there is only being. Knowledge has not been lost and what is true just is. There is only one meaning since there is only undifferentiated Oneness. The Mind is whole and one. God being Love, the one meaning
is love. You, being an extension of God, can only be love. Love is extension. Love is universal and needs no translation. Love needs to be shared or extended and this is how we communicate love. Love is life. Love is the reality of the Kingdom. Only love is real since only unconditional love is changeless. Love is all that is; one meaning, one message, one reality.

**III. The Reality of the Kingdom**

T-7.III.1. The Holy Spirit teaches one lesson, and applies one lesson to all individuals in all situations. 2 Being conflict-free, the Holy Spirit maximizes all efforts and all results. 3 By teaching the power of the Kingdom of God Himself, the Holy Spirit teaches you that all power is yours. 4 The power of the Kingdom of God’s application does not matter. 5 The power of the Kingdom of God is always maximal. 6 Your vigilance does not establish the power of the Kingdom of God as your power, but your vigilance does enable you to use the power of the Kingdom of God always and in all ways. 7 When I said "I am with you always," I meant it literally. 8 I am not absent to anyone in any situation. 9 Because I am always with you, <you> are the way, the truth and the life. 10 You did not make this power of the power of the Kingdom of God, any more than I made this power of the Kingdom of God. 11 The power of the Kingdom of God was created to be shared, and, therefore, the power of the Kingdom of God cannot be meaningfully perceived as belonging to anyone at the expense of another. 12 Such a perception makes the power of the Kingdom of God meaningless by eliminating or overlooking the power of the Kingdom of God’s real and only meaning which is sharing.

**Note # 15:** Truth is the power of the Kingdom of God. God is love and being love He extended Himself totally to all of Creation. There is no separation; just the extension of the Oneness that is the Mind of God. God shares completely “All That He Is.”

T-7.III.2. God's meaning waits in the Kingdom, because that is where God placed His meaning. 2 God's meaning does not wait in time. 3 God's meaning merely rests in the Kingdom because God's meaning belongs in the Kingdom there, as you belong in the Kingdom. 4 How can you who are God's meaning perceive yourself as absent from God's meaning and the Kingdom? 5 You can see yourself as separated from your meaning only by experiencing yourself as unreal. 6 This is why the ego is insane; the ego teaches that you are not what you are. 7 The ego’s teaching that you are not what you are, is so contradictory the ego’s teaching is clearly impossible. 8 The ego’s teaching that you are not what you are, is therefore a lesson you cannot really learn, and therefore you cannot really teach the ego’s teaching that you are not what you are. 9 Yet you are always teaching. 10 You must, therefore, be teaching something else, even though the ego does not know what your teaching is. 11 Because you are always teaching even though the ego does not know what your teaching is, the ego, then, is always being undone, and does suspect your motives since the ego does not know what you are really teaching. 12 Your mind cannot be unified in allegiance to the ego,
because the mind does not belong to the ego. 13 Yet what is "treacherous" to the ego, (your mind’s Big “S” Self), is faithful to peace. 14 The ego's "enemy", (your mind’s Big “S” Self), is therefore your friend.

Note # 16: God’s meaning is you, which is only an extension of God’s Love. God is Cause and we are God’s Effect. We, or Creation, are the extension of God’s Love. God’s meaning is not found in your dream world of provisional reality because your dream does not exist in the Mind of God. It is not found in time since both time and space are temporary teaching devices only found in your transitory world of provisional reality. Provisional reality, time and space all are outside the Kingdom and thus, are not part of the Mind of God. They appear to reside only within the imagination of the mind of the dreamer.

You are God’s meaning and anytime that you believe yourself to be something that you are not, this something can only exist in your own provisional reality. It cannot exist in the Mind of God, which is changeless and real. Your Real Self never left the Mind of God. Only due to your split-mind’s belief in the dream world can you imagine what you are not. Our imagination is the tool that allows us to perceive ourselves as something we are not and yet remain totally safe in the truth of what we are. Our imagination has no ability to change the truth. You are God’s Kingdom and God’s Kingdom is what you are. There is just a wholeness and oneness in love.

T-7.III.3.I said before that the ego’s friend, the body, is not part of you, because the ego perceives itself at war and therefore in need of allies. 2 You who are not at war must look for brothers and recognize all whom you see as brothers, because only equals are at peace. 3 Because God's equal Sons have everything, God's equal Sons cannot compete. God's equal sons are somehow not equal, because all your conflicts come from this idea that God’s equal sons are somehow not equal. 6 That God’s equal sons are somehow not equal is the belief that conflicting interests are possible, and therefore you have accepted the impossible belief that conflicting interests are possible, as true. 7 Is that different from saying you perceive yourself as unreal?

Note # 18: Equality of Son’s of God allows for Oneness. Without equality, you would lack something. There would be something outside yourself that you are not. Competition is the natural result of inequality since now there are limited things and, therefore, to get I must take. Due to our belief in lack of equality, we have specialness and differentiation that allow for the concept of winners and loser. Because they are equal, God’s Children have everything and they are everything. If we view the split-minded Sonship as a true hologram, we can understand how each part would contain the whole and the whole would be in each part. With the acceptance of the holographic nature of the Mind of God, competition and conflict disappear. Everyone already has “All That Is”

T-7.III.4.To be in the Kingdom is merely to focus your full attention on the Kingdom. 2 As long as you believe you can attend to what is not true, you are accepting conflict as
your choice. 3 Is your belief that you can attend to what is not true really a choice? 4 Your belief that you can attend to what is not true seems to be a choice, but seeming and reality are hardly the same. 5 You who <are> the Kingdom are not concerned with seeming. 6 Reality is yours because you are reality. 7 This is how <having> and <being> are ultimately reconciled, not in the Kingdom, but in your mind. 8 The altar there is the only reality. 9 The altar is perfectly clear in thought, because the altar is a reflection of perfect Thought. 10 Your right mind sees only brothers, because your right mind sees only in its own light, which is truth.

Note # 19: The altar is your truth. The altar is your core truth of what you really are. You can temporarily choose to worship or believe that you are something you are not, but you cannot change what God created since you abide in the Mind of God. You can build a temporary altar to egoic idols that represent your belief in the false but you can never destroy God’s altar, which is your One Self. Your real altar is your “right mind”. Your right mind sees equality in all it perceives. Your right mind’s full attention is on the truth of what you really are as Spirit and a Son of God. The Son of God is God’s Kingdom. The altar is the reflection of this perfect thought.

T-7.III.5. God has lit your mind Himself, and God keeps your mind lit by God’s light because God’s light is what your mind is. 2 God keeps your mind lit by God’s light because God keeps your mind lit by God’s light is totally beyond question, and when you question if God keeps your mind lit, you are answered. 3 The Answer merely undoes the question by establishing the fact that to question reality is to question meaninglessly. 4 The fact that to question reality is to question meaninglessly is why the Holy Spirit never questions. 5 The Holy Spirit’s sole function is to undo the questionable and thus lead to certainty. 6 The certain are perfectly calm, because the certain are not in doubt. 7 The certain do not raise questions, because nothing questionable enters the minds of the certain. 8 This having no questions holds the certain in perfect serenity with the truth, because this is what the certain share, knowing what they are.

Note # 20: Reality is reality. The truth is reality. To question the truth is useless since questioning the truth cannot change the truth. It can only open the door to your own doubt. The Holy Spirit’s purpose is to remove all doubt, which will ultimately lead to certainty. We need to be certain of the truth of what we are. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we become certain. What can be more certain than not to have any questions, or doubts, about the truth? Perception leads to doubt since perception is always subject to interpretation. Knowledge is not perception since knowledge simply knows the true. Knowledge is certain. The Holy Spirit’s role is to reawaken your mind to the truth of what you are. You are God’s Kingdom for that is what you are. This is God’s Will. Only love is real and you are only love.
IV. Healing as the Recognition of Truth

T-7.IV.1. Truth can only be recognized and truth need only be recognized. 2 Inspiration is of the Holy Spirit, and certainty is of God according to God’s laws. 3 Both, inspiration and certainty, therefore, come from the same Source, since inspiration comes from the Voice for God and certainty comes from the laws of God. 4 Healing does not come directly from God, since God the Father, knows His creations as perfectly whole. 5 Yet healing is still of God, because healing proceeds from God’s Voice and from God’s laws. 6 Healing proceeds as the result of God’s Voice and God’s laws in a state of mind that does not know God. 7 The state of the split-mind that does not know God and therefore requires healing is unknown to God, the Father, and therefore does not exist, but those who sleep are unaware that a state of mind that does not know God cannot exist. p117 8 Because those who sleep are unaware, these split-minds do not know themselves as prefect creations of God, the Father., and therefore believe they can be something other than whole and perfect.

Note # 21: When it says that healing does not come from God since God knows his creations as perfect, we are speaking of God the Father. God the Father is the source of all. He is the original, first and primary source of everything. God the Father extended Himself, Who is only Love and only knows His Creations as this truth because that is what God, is. Our misperceptions are not part of the truth and, therefore, are not known by God the Father.

God’s Voice is the Holy Spirit’s. The Holy Spirit knows the truth like God the Father, but also has the ability to be aware that God’s Son has forgotten, or lost, his true nature and has fallen into a “deep sleep”. This allows the Holy Spirit to reinterpret the misperception of our ego-based dreams and thus, reawaken or heal our dreaming split-mind.

The state of mind that is asleep is under the guidance of the ego’s thought system, which believes in separation and individuality. Because they believe in the separation, truth’s certainty has given away to perception. The split–minded fails to remember what it is. In contrast, the Father always and only knows His creations as He created them. His creations have never left His Mind. Because the split-minded do not know themselves as prefect creations of God, the Father, they believe they can be something other than love. The Holy Spirit utilizes the truth and God’s Laws to teach the sleeping mind to heal its belief system and thus, return itself to whole-mindedness.

T-7.IV.2. The Holy Spirit must work through you to teach you the Holy Spirit is in you. 2 Teaching you that the Holy Spirit is in you, is an intermediary step toward the knowledge that you are in God because you are part of God 3 The miracles the Holy Spirit inspires can have no order of difficulty, because every part of creation is of one order. This one order is the Oneness of Everything that is God. 4 That every part of creation is of one order is God’s Will and your will. 5 The laws of God establish that every part of creation is of one order, and the Holy Spirit reminds you that every part of creation is of one order. 6 When you heal, you are remembering the laws of God and forgetting the laws of the ego. 7 I said before that forgetting is merely a way of remembering better. 8 Forgetting is therefore not the opposite of remembering when
**forgetting** is properly perceived. 9 Perceived improperly **forgetting** induces a perception of conflict with something else, as all incorrect perception does **induce a perception of conflict with something else**. 10 Properly perceived **forgetting** can be used as a way out of conflict, as all proper perception can be used as a way out of conflict.

**Note # 22:** The Holy Spirit guides you to forget the thought system of the ego. Once forgotten, the Voice for God, the Holy Spirit, remains unchallenged. There are no longer two thought systems to conflict with each other. When we forget our egoic misperception, we are only left with correct perception.

**T-7.IV.3.** The ego does not want to teach everyone all the ego has learned, because to teach everyone all the ego has learned would defeat the ego’s purpose. 2 Therefore the ego does not really learn at all. 3 The Holy Spirit teaches you to use what the ego has made, and to teach the opposite of what the ego has "learned." 4 The kind of learning is as irrelevant as is the particular ability that was applied to the learning. 5 All you need do is make the effort to learn, for the Holy Spirit has a unified goal for the effort. 6 If different abilities are applied long enough to one goal, the abilities themselves become unified. 7 **The abilities themselves become unified** because the different abilities are channelized in one direction, or in one way. 8 Ultimately, then, the different abilities that are channelized in one direction, all contribute to one result, and by so doing, the different abilities’ similarity rather than the different abilities’ differences are emphasized.

**Note # 23:** The Holy Spirit reinterprets based of the truth and the Laws of God what the ego’s thought system has misperceived. The Holy Spirit knows that you and your brother are One Self, which is the Big “S” Self, but the Holy Spirit is also aware of your dream world in which you believe you have lost your birthright as a Child of God. The one goal of the Holy Spirit is to reawaken you to your spiritual magnificence. If allowed, the Holy Spirit will take all egoic misperceptions and convert them into witnesses for the reuniting and healing of the Sonship.

**T-7.IV.4.** All abilities should therefore be given over to the Holy Spirit, Who understands how to use them properly. 2 **The Holy Spirit** uses all abilities only for healing, because the Holy Spirit knows you only as whole. 3 By healing you learn of wholeness, and by learning of wholeness you learn to remember God. 4 You have forgotten God, but the Holy Spirit understands that your forgetting must be translated into a way of remembering.

**Note # 24:** The Holy Spirit takes everything that the ego claims will prove that the separation was real and translates them into correct perception that then witnesses only for the truth that only love is real. This is the call for the remembrance of God.

**T-7.IV.5.** The ego's goal is as unified as the Holy Spirit's, and it is because of this that the ego's and Holy Spirit’s goals can never be reconciled in any way or to any extent. 2 The ego always seeks to divide and separate. 3 The Holy Spirit always seeks to unify and
heal. 4 As you heal you are healed, because the Holy Spirit sees no order of difficulty in healing. 5 Healing is the way to undo the belief in differences, being the only way of perceiving the Sonship as one. p118 6 This perception that there is no differences in the Sonship is therefore in accord with the laws of God, even in a state of mind that is out of accord with God’s Mind. 7 The strength of right perception is so great that right perception brings the mind into accord with God’s Mind, because right perception serves God’s Voice, which is the Holy Spirit, which is in all of you.

Note # 25: The only way to perceive the Sonship as one is to remove all misperceptions in your mind’s that God’s Sons are not equal. Equality results on Oneness. Right perception brings the split-mind into proper alignment with your Big “S” Self’s state of awareness. Your Big “S” Self is the home of the Holy Spirit and right perception.

T-7.IV.6. To think you can oppose the Will of God is a real delusion. 2 The ego believes that the ego can oppose the Will of God, and that the ego can offer you the ego’s own "will" as a gift. 3 You do not want the ego’s own "will" as a gift. 4 The ego’s own "will" is not a gift. 5 The ego’s own "will" is nothing at all. 6 God has given you a gift, which is the shared Will of God, that you both have and are. 7 When you do not use the gift of God’s Will, you forget that you have the gift of God’s Will. 8 By not remembering the gift of God’s Will, you do not know what you are. 9 Healing, then, is a way of approaching knowledge by thinking in accordance with the laws of God, and recognizing the laws of God’s universality. 10 Without this recognition of the universality of God’s laws, you have made the laws of God meaningless to you. 11 Yet the laws of God are not meaningless, since all meaning is contained by the laws of God and in the laws of God.

Note # 26: God’s laws apply in all situations. Even in the dream world of perception and separation, God’s Laws apply. The dreamer is not aware that they apply and thus, is under the delusion that his dream has actually changed God’s Will. Yet once reawakened, the dreamer discovers that the illusion had no effect on the reality that is the Mind of God. God’s laws have maintained the Oneness of the Truth that only love is real.

T-7.IV.7. Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven, because that is where the laws of God operate truly, and the laws of God can operate only truly because the laws of God are the laws of truth. 2 But seek only the laws of God, because you can find nothing else. 3 There is nothing else. 4 God is All in all in a very literal sense. 5 All being is in God Who is all Being. 6 You are therefore in God since your being is God’s Being. 7 Healing is a way of forgetting the sense of danger the ego has induced in you, by not recognizing the ego’s existence in your brother. 8 This strengthens the Holy Spirit in both you and your brother, because by not recognizing the ego’s existence in your brother, this is a refusal to acknowledge fear. 9 Love needs only this invitation, which is your refusal to acknowledge fear. 10 Love comes freely to all the Sonship, love being what the Sonship is. 11 By your awakening to love, you are merely forgetting what you are not. 12 This forgetting what you are not enables you to remember what you are.

Note # 27: The ego’s goal is to divide and separate. The Holy Spirit’s goal is to unify
and heal. As you heal, you are healed. Healing is the undoing of the belief in differences that arose as a result of your belief in the separation. Difference is the lure of the egoic thought system since differences allow us to claim that we are special. It is this desire to be special that keeps us under the influence of the egoic thought system. Undoing the belief of specialness and differences within the Sonship allows you to perceive yourself and your brother as one with a common goal. Right perception has the power to heal the “sick or split-minded” and bring them back into accord with their Big “S” Self and the Will of God. When we heal, we align with God and our Big “S” Self. We realize the truth that love is all there is and we are that One.

V. Healing and the Changelessness of Mind

T-7.V.1. The body is nothing more than a framework for developing abilities, which is quite apart from what developing abilities are used for. 2 <What developing abilities are used for>, is a decision. 3 The effects of the ego's decision in this matter of what developing abilities are used for are so apparent that what developing abilities are used for need no elaboration, but the Holy Spirit's decision to use the body only for communication has such a direct connection with healing that the Holy Spirit's decision to use the body only for communication does need clarification. 4 The unhealed healer obviously does not understand his own vocation. p119

Note #28: The ego uses our developed abilities for the purpose of demonstrating that you are indeed special and different from your brother. This specialness verifies your individuality and, therefore, your belief in the separation is increased. The ego’s purpose is always to try to confirm the impossible. The ego claims that you have the option and ability to decide not to do God’s Will. It attempts to show that you somehow self-created yourself. To the ego, the body and our abilities are used for attacking other parts of the unified Sonship, which is an attack upon your Big “S” Self’s reality.

T-7.V.2. Only minds communicate. 2 Since the ego cannot obliterate the impulse to communicate because to communicate is also the impulse to create, the ego can only teach you that the body can both communicate and create, and therefore the body does not need the mind. 3 The ego thus tries to teach you that the body can act like the mind, and that the body is therefore self-sufficient. 4 Yet we have learned that behavior is not the level for either teaching or learning, since you can act in accordance with what your Big “S” Self does not believe. 5 To act in accordance with what your Big “S” Self does not believe, however, will weaken you as a teacher and a learner because, as has been repeatedly emphasized, you teach what you <do> believe. 6 An inconsistent lesson will be poorly taught and poorly learned. 7 If you teach both sickness <and> healing, you are both a poor teacher and a poor learner.

Note #29: Since only mind can communicate and to communicate is to create, the ego attempts to confuse the mind into thinking that the mind is really part of the body. When the mind comes under the guidance of the ego’s thought system, the mind confuses itself
with the body. The “split mind” sees itself as limited and separated just like the body. In this state of limitation and fear, the mind can only make (miscreate) and misperceive. In order to correct this state, we need to control our fear and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Note # 30: The split mind teaches both sickness and healing due to its confusion about what you are. The ego tells you that you are a body. Yet your Big “S” Self and Holy Spirit know the truth that you are spirit. If you perceive yourself as a body, you will act accordingly. You will use the body for attack and thus, your behavior will support the idea of separation. Are you God’s Son, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit’s thought system? Or, are you an ego-body, under the guidance of the ego’s thought system?

T-7.V.3. Healing is the one ability everyone can develop and one’s ability to heal must develop if he, the healer, is to be healed. 2 Healing is the Holy Spirit's form of communication in this world, and the only form of communication that the Holy Spirit accepts. 3 The Holy Spirit recognizes no other form of communication, because the Holy Spirit does not accept the ego's confusion of mind and body. 4 Minds can communicate, but minds cannot hurt. 5 The body in the service of the ego can hurt other bodies, but this ability of the body to hurt other bodies cannot occur unless the body has already been confused with the mind. 6 This situation, too, confusing the body with the mind, can be used either for healing or for magic, but you must remember that magic always involves the belief that healing is harmful. 7 This belief of confusing the body with the mind and therefore believing that the body has the same powers and abilities of the minds’ is the ego’s totally insane premise, and so the ego proceeds accordingly.

Note # 31: The goal of the ego’s thought system is to make the mind believe that it is something that it is not. When you identify your mind as the body, your mind has forgotten what you are. You have forgotten that all seeming separate parts are all one and equal. Spirit cannot be divided or made limited.

T-7.V.4. Healing only strengthens. 2 Magic always tries to weaken. 3 Healing perceives nothing in the healer that everyone else does not share with the healer. 4 Magic always sees something "special" in the healer, which the healer believes the healer can offer as a gift to someone who does not have the gift of something "special" that the healer possesses. 5 The healer may believe that the gift of the something "special" that the healer possesses comes from God to the healer, but it is quite evident that the healer does not understand God if the healer thinks the healer has something that others lack.

Note # 32: In order to heal, the healer must see the equality and truth in all. The healer must see his brother’s High Self and teach his brother this truth that all brothers are equal Children of God. If the healer believes that he has special gifts to give, he does not come from equality but rather from belief in lack and specialness. Magic always involves the belief in specialness and means someone must lack what the “healer” has.

T-7.V.5. The Holy Spirit does not work by chance, and healing that is of the Holy Spirit
<always> works. 2 Unless the healer always heals by the Holy Spirit, the results will vary. 3 Yet healing itself is consistent, since only consistency is conflict-free, and only the conflict-free are whole. 4 By accepting exceptions and acknowledging that the healer can sometimes heal and sometimes not, the healer is obviously accepting inconsistency. 5 The healer is therefore in conflict, and the healer is teaching conflict. 6 Can anything of God not be for all and for always? 7 Love is incapable of any exceptions. 8 Only if there is fear does the idea of exceptions seem to be meaningful. 9 Exceptions are fearful because any exceptions are made by fear. p120 10 The "fearful healer" is a contradiction in terms, and the "fearful healer" is therefore a concept that only a conflicted mind could possibly perceive as meaningful.

Note # 33: The "fearful healer" does not see the Oneness of everything, in everything. He still perceives the separation to be real and thus, correction of sickness or belief in split-mindedness requires a force outside the mind of the sick person. Healing always takes place within the mind of the “sick” person. It is the “sick” person’s correction of their own error in thinking that takes place. The healer merely helps them see the light of truth within themselves.

T-7.V.6. Fear does not gladden. 2 Healing does gladden. 3 Fear always makes exceptions. 4 Healing never makes exceptions. 5 Fear produces dissociation, because fear induces separation. 6 Healing always produces harmony, because healing proceeds from integration. 7 Healing is predictable because healing can be counted on. 8 Everything that is of God can be counted on, because everything of God is wholly real. 9 Healing can be counted on because healing is inspired by God’s Voice, which is the Voice of the Holy Spirit, and is in accord with God’s laws. 10 Yet if healing is consistent, healing cannot be inconsistently understood. 11 Understanding means consistency because God means consistency. 12 Since consistency is God’s meaning, consistency is also your meaning. 13 Your meaning cannot be out of accord with God’s meaning, because your whole meaning and your only meaning comes from God’s meaning and is like God’s meaning. 14 God cannot be out of accord with Himself, and you cannot be out of accord with God. 15 You cannot separate your Self from your Creator, Who created you by sharing His Being with you.

Note # 34: Your true reality is that you are part of the indivisible Oneness with God, your Creator. There is no other option but wholeness in the Mind of God, which is changeless and eternal. Only in your dreams can you be something you are not. Sickness is the illusion that you be something you are not. There is no order of difficulty in miracles. All illusions simply fade away before the healing light of truth.

T-7.V.7. The unhealed healer wants gratitude from his brothers, but the unhealed healer is not grateful to his brothers. 2 The unhealed healer is not grateful to his brothers because the unhealed healer thinks the unhealed healer is giving something to his brothers, and that the unhealed healer is not receiving something equally desirable in return from his brothers. 3 The unhealed healer’s teaching is limited because the unhealed healer is learning so little. 4 The unhealed healer’s healing lesson is limited by the unhealed healer’s own ingratitude, which is a lesson in sickness. 5 True learning
is constant, and so vital in true learning’s power for change that a Son of God can recognize his power as a Son of God in one instant and change the world in the next instant. 6 This recognizing his power as a Son of God in one instant and change the world in the next instant is possible because, by changing his mind, a Son of God has changed the most powerful device, which is his mind, that was ever given a Son of God for change. 7 This changing of a Son of God’s mind, in no way contradicts the changelessness of mind as God created the Son’s mind, but you think that you have changed the Son’s mind as long as you learn through the ego. 8 This learning through the ego places you in a position of needing to learn a lesson that seems contradictory;—you must learn to change your mind about your mind. 9 Only by this can you learn that the Son’s mind <is> changeless.

**Note # 35:** The lesson that seems contradictory is that by “changing” your egoic mind, you can prove that your Big “S” Self’s mind cannot change. What you are to change is your mistaken belief that you can actually change your mind because you believe that you are separate from the Mind of God. It is this belief in your separateness that you are asked to change. Your true state of mind, your Big “S” Self’s mind, is one with the Mind of God. Your Big “S” Self remains changeless as God created it.

T-7.V.8. When you heal, that is exactly what you <are> learning. 2 You are recognizing the changeless mind in your brother by realizing that your brother could not have changed his mind. 3 By recognizing the changeless mind in your brother, that is how you perceive the Holy Spirit in your brother. 4 It, the changeless mind in your brother, is only the Holy Spirit in your brother that never changes His Mind. (Your brother’s High-Self or High-Mind) 5 Your brother himself may think he can change his mind, or your brother would not perceive himself as sick. 6 Your brother therefore does not know what his Big “S” Self is. 7 If you see only the changeless in your brother you have not really changed your brother. p121 8 By changing your mind about your belief about your brother’s changeless mind <for> your brother, you help your brother undo the change his ego thinks his ego has made in him.

**Note # 36:** Healing restores your mind to its state of oneness, which is the Mind of God. You remember what you really are and what your brother really is. You realize that your mind and your brother’s mind are changeless. You see Mind as the One Self as God created it.

In healing, you, the healer, are not concerned with changing your brother, for your brother’s Big “S” Self is as changeless as your mind since both are from the Mind of God. You are changing your belief that your brother’s mind could be something that it is not and thus, truly be split-minded. You are recognizing that your brother’s mind cannot change. The ego cannot change your brother’s Big “S” Self because the ego has no power over the mind. The only power that the ego appears to possess comes only from the deluded mind’s choice to follow the thought system of the ego. This is a decision in your brother’s mind, not by his ego. He has erred as to which thought system his mind has temporarily chosen to listen to. Healing is your brother’s choice to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit and correct this illusion of split-mindedness.
As you can hear two voices, so you can see in two ways. One way, the way of the ego’s thought system, shows you an image, or an idol that you may worship out of fear, but will never love. The other, the way of the Holy Spirit’s thought system, shows you only truth, which you will love because you will understand truth. Understanding is appreciation, because what you understand you can identify with, and by making what you understand part of you, you have accepted what you understand with love. That, truth, understanding, appreciation, and love, is how God Himself created you; in understanding, in appreciation and in love. The ego is totally unable to understand this creative process of extension, because the ego does not understand what the ego makes, the ego does not appreciate what the ego makes and the ego does not love what the ego makes. The ego incorporates to take away. The ego literally believes that every time the ego deprives someone of something, the ego has increased. I have spoken often of the increase of the Kingdom by your creations, which can only be created as you were. The whole glory and perfect joy that the Kingdom lies in you to give. Do you not want to give the whole glory and perfect joy that the Kingdom?

Note # 37: The ego’s thought system is based on getting by taking away. The ego believes that life is a “zero-sum” game. If I’m to win, someone must lose. This is not creation, but rather making through projection. It is based on the egoic belief of exclusion and that “to have” is “to get.” This is not how God created His Son. Therefore, God’s Son can only create like his Father, which is by extending unconditional Love. To have all, give all to all, which is the first lesson of the Holy Spirit. This is the basis for creation.

You cannot forget the Father because I am with you, and I cannot forget the Father, Who created you. Our brothers are forgetful. Because our brothers are forgetful, that is why our brothers need your remembrance of me and of the Father, Who created me. Through your remembrance of me and of the Father, Who created me, you can change our brothers’ minds about themselves, as I can change your mind about yourselves. Your mind is so powerful a light that you can look into their mind and enlighten their mind, as I can enlighten your mind. I do not want to share my body in communion because to share my body is to share nothing. Would I try to share an illusion, which would be that I am an ego-body, with the most holy children of a most holy Father? Yet I do want to share my mind with you because we are of one Mind, and that Mind is ours. See only this one Mind everywhere, because only this is everywhere and in everything. Mind is everything because Mind encompasses all things within itself. Blessed are you who perceive only the Mind, which encompasses all things within itself, because you perceive only what is true.

Note # 38: You are Mind or Spirit. You are not an ego-body. This is truth. You are not an individual; you are the Oneness of Mind. Jesus tells us that he will always share this remembrance of God with us so that we can share it with another. Due to the holographic nature of Mind, all must have access to the truth of this Oneness. By sharing and holding this truth with and for another, a brother can end their own denial of this truth. They can accept the Atonement for themselves and be healed.
T-7.V.11. Come therefore unto me, and learn of the truth in you. 2 The mind we share is shared by all our brothers, and as we see all our brothers truly as the One Self, all our brothers will be healed. 3 Let your mind shine with my mind upon all our brothers’ minds, and by our gratitude to all our brothers make all our brothers aware of the light in all our brothers. 4 This light will shine back upon you and on the whole Sonship, because this light is your proper gift to God. 5 God will accept this light and give this light to the Sonship, because the sharing of this light is acceptable to God and therefore to God’s Sons. 6 The sharing of this light is true communion with the Holy Spirit, Who sees the altar of God in everyone, and by the Holy Spirit bringing the sharing of this light to your appreciation, the Holy Spirit calls upon you to love God and God’s creation. p122 7 You can appreciate the Sonship only as one. 8 The appreciate of the Sonship only as one is part of the law of creation, and therefore governs all thought.

Note # 39: The law of creation is the law of Oneness as demonstrated in the first lesson of the Holy Spirit, which is, “To have all, give all to all.” It is the extension of the Oneness. Nothing is held back and nothing is excluded. Unconditional love is just continually expanded and extended out to all.

VI. From Vigilance to Peace

T-7.VI.1. Although you can love the Sonship only as one, you can perceive the Sonship as fragmented. 2 It is impossible, however, to see something in part of the Sonship that you will not attribute to all of the Sonship. 3 That is why attack is never discrete, and why attack must be relinquished entirely. 4 If attack is not relinquished entirely attack is not relinquished at all. 5 Fear and love make or create, depending on whether the ego or the Holy Spirit begets or inspires the creation, but fear or love <will> return to the mind of the thinker and fear or love will affect the mind of the thinker’s total perception. 6 That fear or love will affect the mind of the thinker’s total perception includes his concept of God, of God’s creations and of his own creations. 7 The thinker will not appreciate any of his concepts of God, of God’s creations and of his own creations if he regards Them, God, God’s creations and the thinker’s own creations, fearfully through the eyes of the ego. 8 He will appreciate all of Them, which is the thinker’s concept of God, of God’s creations and of his own creations, if he regards God, God’s creations and the thinker’s own creations with the love of the Holy Spirit.

Note # 40: The ego’s thought system is based on fear and, therefore, can only make since the ego comes from the fear-based belief in lack. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is based on love and, therefore, creates since it comes from love and extends what it truly is which is love. Due to the Oneness, to attack any part of the Sonship is an attack on the whole. Thoughts never leave the mind of the thinker. They may be shared or projected outside oneself but they always maintain their roots in the soil of the mind that birthed the thought.
T-7.VI.2. The mind that accepts attack cannot love. 2 That is because the mind that accepts attack believes attack can destroy love, and therefore does not understand what love is. 3 If the mind that accepts attack does not understand what love is, the mind that accepts attack cannot perceive itself as loving. 4 The mind that cannot perceive itself as loving, loses the awareness of being, induces feelings of unreality and results in utter confusion. 5 Your thinking has done this loses of the awareness of being, which induces feelings of unreality that results in utter confusion, because of the mind’s power, but your thinking can also save you from this loses of the awareness of being, which induces feelings of unreality that results in utter confusion, because the mind’s power is not of your making. 6 Your ability to direct your thinking as you choose is part of the mind’s power. 7 If you do not believe you can direct your thinking you have denied the power of your thought powerless in your belief.

Note # 41: The power of the mind lays in your belief in your ability or inability to direct your thinking. It is a question of first reclaiming your mind’s decision-making ability and then next determining which thought system your decision-maker is going to value. If you deny that you can direct your thinking, you deny that you are the decision-maker and, therefore, render the mind powerless. The mind is never powerless since God has given you free will to choose. Yet, you can choose to believe that you are the powerless victim of outside forces and thus, deny and rob your decision-maker of its power. It is your thought that the mind is powerless that makes your decision-maker appear impotent. Thus, thoughts are things. It is your decision to be powerless that has become your provisional reality.

T-7.VI.3. The ingeniousness of the ego to preserve itself is enormous, but the preservation of the ego stems from the very power of the mind that the ego denies, which is your mind’s ability to direct your thinking. 2 This means that the ego attacks what is serving it, which is your mind’s ability to direct your thinking. This attack by the ego must result in extreme anxiety. 3 Due to the extreme anxiety that results from the ego’s attack on your mind’s ability to direct your thinking, the ego never recognizes what the ego is doing. 4 The ego is perfectly logical but clearly insane. 5 The ego draws upon the one source, which is your mind’s ability to direct your thinking, that is totally inimical, (hostile or unfriendly) to the ego’s existence. 6 Fearful of perceiving the power of this source, which is your mind’s ability to be the decision-maker, the ego is forced to depreciate your mind’s ability to be the decision-maker. 7 Your mind’s ability to be the decision-maker threatens the ego’s own existence. This threat is a state which the ego finds intolerable. 8 Remaining logical but still insane, the ego resolves this completely insane dilemma in a completely insane way. 9 The ego does not perceive <the ego’s> existence as threatened by projecting the threat onto <you, your decision-maker> and perceiving your being as nonexistent. p123 10 This projecting the threat onto <you> and perceiving your being as nonexistent ensures the ego’s continuance if you side with the ego, by guaranteeing that you, your decision-maker, will not know your own safety.
**Note # 42:** The ego’s goal is to attack your mind’s ability to be the decision-maker. If the ego can aid the mind in forgetting that the mind’s decision-maker controls the power to either make or create, the ego will insure its existence. If you forget that you are the decision-maker, you have lost your ability to reject the thought system of the ego since you no longer remember that you are spirit. You have abdicated your free will and your right to choose again. You believe yourself to be a victim of outside forces that are beyond your control. You disavow your divine birthright to be the cause of all you choose to call into your awareness. Believing you are powerless to choose again, you remain stuck under the control of the tyrannical thought system of the ego.

**T-7.VI.4.** The ego cannot afford to know anything. 2 Knowledge is total, and the ego does not believe in totality. 3 This unbelief, and the rejection of knowledge which leads to birth of perception, is the ego’s origin, and while the ego does not love you the ego <is> faithful to the ego’s own antecedents, which are anything logically preceding from the ego’s thought system, begetting out of fear as the ego was begotten. 4 Mind always produces as it was produced. 5 Produced by fear, the ego reproduces fear. 6 This fact that the ego was produced out of fear and the ego reproduces out of fear, is the ego’s allegiance, and this allegiance to fear makes the ego treacherous to love because you <are> love. 7 Love is your power, which the ego must deny. 8 The ego must also deny everything this power of love gives you <because> this power of love gives you everything. 9 No one who has everything wants the ego. 10 Its own maker, your mind, then, does not want the ego. 11 Rejection is therefore the only decision the ego could possibly encounter, if the mind that made the ego knew itself. 12 And if the mind that made the ego recognized any part of the Sonship, the mind that made the ego <would> know itself.

**Note # 43:** The ego was born when knowledge was lost and perception replaced it. Perception requires separation and individuality, since it needs something “out there” to observe. The ego’s thought system is based to perception and projection. Under the fear based guidance of the ego, the mind “makes” through perception rather than extending with love and knowledge. What the ego perceives is what will be produced and experienced. Perception proceeds from our thoughts and our thoughts are what we choose to value.

**T-7.VI.5.** The ego therefore opposes all appreciation, all recognition, all sane perception and all knowledge. 2 The ego perceives all appreciation, all recognition, all sane perception and all knowledge as a total threat because the ego senses that all commitments the mind makes are total. 3 The ego forced, therefore, to detach itself from you, is willing to attach itself to anything else. 4 But there <is> nothing else for the ego to attach itself to. 5 The mind can, however, make up illusions, and if the mind does make up illusions, the mind will believe in the illusions, because that is how the mind made the illusions.

**Note # 44:** What you project you believe. The creative power of the mind allows us to “make” out of fear and exclusion. Making is not real except within the imagination of the deluded mind of the dreamer. If we want to believe that we are separate, we can make a
body to “prove” this illusion to be “true.” Our projections become our provisional reality, which can imprison our mind in self-imposed temporary insanity.

**T-7.VI.6.** The Holy Spirit undoes illusions without attacking the illusions, because the Holy Spirit cannot perceive the illusions at all. 2 The illusions therefore do not exist for the Holy Spirit. 3 The Holy Spirit resolves the apparent conflict the illusions engender by perceiving conflict as meaningless. 4 I have said before that the Holy Spirit perceives the conflict exactly as the conflict is, and the conflict is meaningless. 5 The Holy Spirit does not want you to understand conflict; the Holy Spirit wants you to realize that, because conflict is meaningless, conflict is not understandable. 6 As I have already said, understanding brings appreciation and appreciation brings love. 7 Nothing else can be understood, because nothing else is real and therefore nothing else has meaning.

**Note # 45:** The Holy Spirit does not attack the illusion since such an attack would appear to make the fantasy real and thus, fearful to the dreamer. Rather than increase fear, the Holy Spirit merely recognizes that only truth is real and with that, the memory of the dream seemingly fades from the dreamer's mind. Being not real, the dream of making slips back into the nothingness from which it arose.

**T-7.VI.7.** If you will keep in mind what the Holy Spirit offers you, you cannot be vigilant for anything but God and His Kingdom. 2 The only reason you may find this fact that the apparent conflict that an illusions engender is meaningless because the illusion is not real, hard to accept is because you may still think there is something else. 3 Belief does not require vigilance unless belief is conflicted. 4 If belief is conflicted, there are conflicting components within the belief that have led to a state of war, and vigilance has therefore become essential. 5 Vigilance has no place in peace. 6 Vigilance is necessary against beliefs that are not true, and vigilance would never have been called upon by the Holy Spirit if you had not believed the untrue. p124 7 When you believe something, you have made what you believe true for you. 8 When you believe what God does not know, your thought seems to contradict God’s thought system, and this makes it appear as if you are attacking God.

**Note # 46:** Because we value our egoic specialness, we find it hard to relinquish all the values of the egoic thought system. If we knew the truth that we already have everything because we are unlimited spirit, we would not be conflicted. It is our conflicted belief as to whom we are that we must guard against. The split-minded, appear to have two allegiances. The ego values separation and specialness. The Big “S” Self knows that we are the shared Oneness of Everything. The Holy Spirit calls for the remembrance of God and the return to whole-mindedness. The Holy Spirit asks us to be vigilant only for God.

**T-7.VI.8.** I have repeatedly emphasized that the ego does believe that the ego can attack God, and tries to persuade you that you have done this attack on God. 2 If the mind cannot attack, the ego proceeds perfectly logically to the belief that you must be a body rather than mind which, as spirit is incapable of attack. 3 By not seeing you as you are, which is mind or spirit, the ego can see itself as the ego wants to be. 4 Aware of the ego’s weakness the ego wants your allegiance, but not as you really are. 5 The ego
therefore wants to engage your mind in the ego’s own delusional thought system, because otherwise the light of your understanding would dispel the ego. 6 The ego wants no part of truth, because the ego itself is not true. 7 If truth is total, the untrue cannot exist. 8 Commitment to either truth or untruth must be total. Truth or untruth cannot coexist in your mind without splitting your mind. 9 If truth or untruth cannot coexist in peace, and if you want peace, you must give up the idea of conflict entirely and for all time. 10 This requires vigilance only as long as you do not recognize what is true. 11 While you believe that the two totally contradictory thought systems of the ego and the Holy Spirit share truth, your need for vigilance is apparent.

Note # 47: The ego wants your allegiance to the idea that you are a body, not unlimited spirit or mind. As long as we believe that an illusion of the false is a viable choice, we need to be vigilant only for the truth. All fear-based thoughts must be abandoned. With the abandonment of the egoic thought system, all blocks to love are removed.

T-7.VI.9. Your mind is dividing your mind’s allegiance between two kingdoms, and you are totally committed to neither kingdom. 2 Your identification with the Kingdom is totally beyond question except by you, when you are thinking insanely. 3 What you are is not established by your perception, and what you are is not influenced by your perception at all. 4 Perceived problems in identification at any level are not problems of fact. 5 Perceived problems in identification are problems of understanding, since the presence of perceived problems in identification implies a belief that what you are is up to you to decide. 6 The ego believes that what you are is up to you to decide totally, and the ego is fully committed to the belief that what you are is up to you to decide. 7 The belief that what you are is up to you to decide is not true. 8 The ego therefore is totally committed to untruth, perceiving in total contradiction to the Holy Spirit and to the knowledge of God.

Note # 48: This belief that it is up to you to decide what you are is the foundation of the ego’s thought system. This erroneous belief insures your claim to the “reality” of the separation and your individuality. The ego tells us that we are the arbitrators of truth and that truth is conditional and changeable. Truth just is. Our denial of the truth cannot change the truth. Only the insane would believe that they control what is the truth.

T-7.VI.10. You can be perceived with meaning only by the Holy Spirit because your being is the knowledge of God. 2 Any belief you accept apart from this will obscure God’s Voice in you, and will therefore obscure God to you. 3 Unless you perceive God’s creation truly you cannot know the Creator, since God and God’s creation are not separate. 4 The Oneness of the Creator and the creation is your wholeness, your sanity and your limitless power. 5 This limitless power is God’s gift to you, because this limitless power is what you are. 6 If you dissociate your mind from this limitless power which is what you are you are perceiving the most powerful force in the universe as if this limitless power were weak, because you do not believe you are part of this limitless power which is your Oneness with the Creator. p125

Note # 49: Your power to create is the same as God, Your Father’s. It is the same power
due to your shared Oneness. When God creates, He extends everything that God is to His creations. Only your belief that you can be something other than as God created you, limits your ability to create like the Father. “To have all, give all to all.” The ego does not believe this first lesson of the Holy Spirit. Instead, the ego prefers to claim that what you choose to believe will change the truth. The ego claims that you have a will that can oppose and overrule God’s Will.

T-7.VI.11. Perceived without your part in the Oneness, God's creation is seen as weak, and those who see themselves as weakened do attack. 2 The attack must be blind, however, because there is nothing to attack. 3 Therefore they, who see themselves as outside the Oneness, make up images, perceive these made up images as unworthy and attack these made up images for their unworthiness. 4 That is all the world of the ego is. It is a projection of made up images. 5 The world of the ego is nothing. 6 The world of the ego has no meaning. 7 The world of the ego does not exist. 8 Do not try to understand the world of the ego because, if you do try to understand the world of the ego, you are believing that the world of the ego can be understood and the world of the ego is therefore capable of being appreciated and loved. 9 That if the world of the ego is capable of being appreciated and loved, then this would justify the world of the ego’s existence, which cannot be justified. 10 You cannot make the world of the ego, which is meaningless, meaningful. 11 This attempt to make the world of the ego meaningful can only be an insane attempt.

Note # 50: Do not value the world of the ego. It is an illusion based on fantasy and is not real. There can be no value in possessing what does not exist. What does not exist is nothing. When we attempt to give the egoic illusion of specialness and separation any value, we are empowering the illusion and making it appear real.

T-7.VI.12. Allowing insanity to enter your mind means that you have not judged sanity as wholly desirable. 2 If you want something else you will make something else, but because it is something else, it will attack your thought system and divide your allegiance. 3 You cannot create in this divided state of the split-mind, and you must be vigilant against this divided state because only peace can be extended. 4 Your divided mind is blocking the extension of the Kingdom, and the Kingdom’s extension is your joy. 5 If you do not extend the Kingdom, you are not thinking with your Creator and creating as your Creator created.

Note # 51: Since you are the Oneness of “All That Is”, there is nothing more to want. This truth is your reality. To want something other than the truth that you are the Oneness of “All That Is” only leaves the option of pretending that you are an illusion of limitation. This leads us into an egoic, made-up world of illusion that becomes our own “provisional reality” in which we claim to be the arbitrator for truth. This dream world is the ego’s battleground for its perceived attack against God and Truth. The ego attacks our Big “S” Self’s certainty on what it is. The ego attempts to usurp your Big “S” Self control over your mind’s decision-making ability. This leaves your mind in a powerless state of self-delusion.
T-7.VI.13. In this depressing state the Holy Spirit reminds you gently that you are sad because you are not fulfilling your function as co-creator with God, and because you are not fulfilling your function as co-creator with God, you are therefore depriving yourself of joy. 2 To deprive yourself of joy is not God's choice but your choice. 3 If your mind could be out of accord with God's, you would be willing without meaning. 4 Yet because God's Will is unchangeable, no conflict of will is possible. 5 That God's Will is unchangeable and that no conflict of will is possible is the Holy Spirit's perfectly consistent teaching. 6 Creation, not separation, is your will because creation, not separation is God's Will, and nothing that opposes God's Will means anything at all. 7 Being a perfect accomplishment, the Sonship can only accomplish perfectly, extending the joy in which the Sonship was created, and identifying itself, the Sonship, with both the Sonship's Creator and the Sonship's creations, knowing They are One.

Note # 52: If you are sad, you are not fulfilling your function as co-creator with God, your Father. God wills that His Child be happy. Being a Oneness of Everything, we cannot be happy pretending we are limited and frightened. We can only be happy when we are extending love for this is our co-creative nature and purpose. To be love, we must teach only love.

VII. The Totality of the Kingdom

T-7.VII.1. Whenever you deny a blessing to a brother you in the world of the ego will feel deprived, because denial is as total as love. 2 It is as impossible to deny part of the Sonship as it is to love part of the Sonship. 3 Nor is it possible to love the Sonship totally at times. 4 You cannot be totally committed sometimes. 5 Denial has no power in itself, but you can give denial the power of your mind, whose power, (your mind’s power), is without limit. 6 If you use the power of your mind to deny reality, reality is gone for you. 7 <Reality> cannot be partly appreciated. 8 Because <Reality> cannot be partly appreciated, that is why denying any part of <Reality> means you have lost the awareness of all of <Reality>. 9 Yet denial is a defense, and so denial is as capable of being used positively as well as negatively. 10 Denial used negatively will be destructive, because denial will be used for attack. 11 But in the service of the Holy Spirit, denial can help you recognize part of reality, and thus appreciate all of reality. 12 Mind is too powerful to be subject to exclusion. 13 You will never be able to exclude yourself from your thoughts.

Note #53: You are the product of your thoughts. You are mind and the world you perceive is produced by your thoughts. Thoughts never leave the mind of the thinker. Denial of the false is a proper use of denial, but to use it to reject the truth is an improper use of denial. You cannot be partially committed to the truth sometimes. It is an all or nothing decision. To value the false sometimes is not to be committed to the obtainment of the truth. Whatever you value you will attract into your awareness and experience.
T-7.VII.2. When a brother acts insanely, a brother is offering you an opportunity to bless your brother. 2 Your brother's need is your need. 3 You need the blessing you can offer your brother. 4 There is no way for you to have the blessing you can offer your brother except by giving the blessing to your brother. 5 What you give is what you receive. This is the law of God, and the Law of God has no exceptions. Thus, to receive a blessing, you must give a blessing, 6 What you deny you lack, not because what you deny is lacking, but because you have denied it in another and are therefore not aware of what you deny to another in yourself. 7 Every response you make is determined by what you think you are, and what you want to be <is> what you think you are. 8 What you want to be, then, must determine every response you make.

Note # 54: Thoughts are things. This, coupled with the law of God that states what you give, you receive, results in what you perceive yourself to be. Thus, if you are confused as to what you truly are and believe that you are a product of lack; you project this same lack out from our own mind into your world. What you want to be is thus, what you think you are. The goal of this course is not to change the world, but rather change your think about the world. Your response to anything is predicated on what you think you are. What you think you are, you become due to the power of your mind and this Law of God. “What you give, you receive.

T-7.VII.3. You do not need God's blessing because God's blessing you have forever, but you do need your blessing. 2 The ego's picture of you is deprised, unloving and vulnerable. 3 You cannot love the ego's picture of you. 4 Yet you can very easily escape from this image that you are deprised, unloving and vulnerable by leaving the ego's picture of you behind. 5 You are not there in the ego's image of you, and the ego's image of you, is not you. 6 Do not see this picture, the ego's image of you, in anyone, or you have accepted the ego's picture of you, <as> you. 7 All illusions about the Sonship are dispelled together as all illusions about the Sonship were made together. 8 Teach no one that he is what you would not want to be. 9 Your brother is the mirror in which you see the image of yourself as long as perception lasts. 10 And perception will last until the Sonship knows itself as whole. 11 You made perception and perception must last as long as you want perception to last.

Note # 55: Your brother is the mirror of how you see yourself. See your brother as limited in any way, and you place that same limitation on yourself. The Sonship is not complete until all that has been created, including you, are seen by you as whole, perfect and complete.

To deny the ego’s false image of you is an example of the proper use of denial. In this case, you are simply denying the false which leaves you only with the truth.

T-7.VII.4. Illusions are investments. 2 Illusions will last as long as you value illusions. 3 Values are relative, but values are powerful because values are mental judgments. 4 The only way to dispel illusions is to withdraw all investment from illusions, and illusions will have no life for you because you will have put illusions out of your mind. p127 5 While you include illusions in your mind, you are giving life to illusions. 6 Except since an illusion is nothing, there is nothing there in an illusion to receive your gift of life.
and thus, make it real.

**Note # 56:** There is nothing to receive the illusion since illusions have no reality in truth. Illusions only exist in your dream world of provisional reality. You cannot give life to an illusion since an illusion by definition does not exist. What you value, you include in our thoughts. The powers of our thoughts make the illusion appear real within your dreamer’s mind. When the dreamer ceases to value the unreal, the illusion will disappear from his mind.

**T-7.VII.5.** The gift of life is yours to give, because the gift of life was given you. 2 You are unaware of your gift of life because you do not give the gift of life. 3 You cannot make nothing live. *(Nothing is your illusions that you have created from your belief in limitation and fear.)* 3 You cannot make nothing live since nothing, your illusions, cannot be enlivened. 4 Therefore, you are not extending the gift of life, you both <have> and <are> and so you do not know your being. 5 All confusion comes from not extending life, because not extending life is not the Will of your Creator. 6 You can do nothing apart from your Creator, and you <do> do nothing apart from your Creator. 7 Keep your Creator’s way, which is extending the gift of life, to remember yourself, and teach your Creator’s way, which is extending the gift of life, lest you forget yourself. 8 Give only honor to the Sons of the living God, and count yourself among the Sons of the living God gladly.

**Note # 57:** Love is life. Being created by love, you are love and must extend love. This extension is in compliance with the God’s Law that to give is to receive. You cannot give life to an illusion. An illusion is basically everything that is not a Oneness of love because that is how the Father created you. To create is to extend. Since you are wholly love, you must extent love’s wholeness to create. Since you see yourself as incomplete and as a separate individual, you can only project the false. Coming from fear and lack, these projected illusions have no reality in Truth and lack love and thus, life.

**T-7.VII.6.** Only honor is a fitting gift for those whom God Himself created worthy of honor, and whom God honors. 2 Give those whom God Himself created the appreciation God accords those whom God Himself created always, because they, are God’s beloved Sons in whom God is well pleased. 3 You cannot be apart from those whom God Himself created and honor, because you are not apart from God. 4 You rest in God’s Love and protect your rest by loving. 5 But love everything God created, of which you are a part, or you cannot learn of God’s peace and accept God’s gift for yourself and as yourself. 6 You cannot know your own perfection until you have honored all those who were created perfect like you.

**Note # 58:** To reawaken to what you are, you must once again remember what you are. Since what you give, you receive; you must see the Oneness in all that God created in order to rediscover your own Oneness. If you cannot love yourself, you cannot love your brother.

**T-7.VII.7.** One child of God is the only teacher sufficiently worthy to teach another child
of God. 2 One Teacher, the Holy Spirit, is in all minds and the Holy Spirit teaches the same lesson to all. 3 The Holy Spirit always teaches you the inestimable worth of every Son of God, teaching you the inestimable worth of every Son of God, with infinite patience born of the infinite Love for which the Holy Spirit speaks. 4 Every attack is a call for the Holy Spirit’s patience, since the Holy Spirit’s patience can translate attack into blessing. 5 Those who attack do not know they, who choose to attack are blessed. 6 Those who choose to attack, attack because they believe they are deprived. 7 Give, therefore, of your abundance, and teach your brothers, who choose to attack their abundance. 8 Do not share your brothers’ illusions of scarcity, or you will perceive yourself as lacking.

Note # 59: We are all teachers. We teach what we value. We can choose to teach what our Big “S” Self values or, what our little “s” self values. Our Big “S” Self values the truth of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. If this is what you value, you will deny your brother’s false image of himself as a body and see him only as unlimited spirit. The vision you give your brother will be the same vision you receive and hold for yourselves.

T-7.VII.8. Attack could never promote attack unless you perceived attack as a means of depriving you of something you want. 2 Yet you cannot lose anything unless you do not value it, the thing you cannot lose, and therefore do not want it. 3 This not valuing it makes you feel deprived of it, the thing you cannot lose, and by projecting your own rejection you then believe that others are taking it, the thing you cannot lose, from you. 4 You must be fearful if you believe that your brother is attacking you to tear the Kingdom of Heaven from you. 5 This fear that your brother is attacking you to tear the Kingdom of Heaven from you is the ultimate basis for all the ego’s projection. p128

Note # 60: Fear destroys your sense of Oneness. To be fearful you must believe that there is something outside of you of which to be afraid. Since your egoic self claims you are not everything, you must lack what it perceives as outside of you. And what you perceive as separate from you can attempt to take what you have and also resist giving you what they possess. Thus, attack becomes the natural result of the ego’s thought system. Yet, because you are unlimited spirit, you cannot truly lack for anything. Our Big “S” Self values the truth and thus, we can never lose our divine birthright. When we value egoic littleness, we deny our spiritual being. Not valuing our spirit, we believe our divine birthright has been lost. It has not been lost. Rather, by our denial, we have chosen not to access it.

T-7.VII.9. Being the part of your mind that does not believe it is responsible for itself, (the part of mind under the guidance of the ego), and being without allegiance to God, the ego is incapable of trust. 2 By the ego projecting its insane belief that you have been treacherous to your Creator, the ego believes that your brothers, who are as incapable of being treacherous to your Creator as you are, are treacherous. Your ego believes that your brothers are out to take God from you. 3 Whenever a brother attacks another, that <is> what he believes. (That you are out to take God from him, your brother.) 4 Projection always sees your wishes as another brother’s wishes. 5 If you choose to separate yourself from God that is what you will think others are doing to you.
(Separating you from God)

Note # 61: The egoic mind claims that you are not responsible for what you experience. It claims that you are an innocent victim of outside forces that are beyond your control. The ego utilizes projection as the tool to convince you that this is so. Projection takes your own thoughts and transfers or projects these same thought upon another. We then claim that the originator of our thought was the other person. This allows us to shift the blame and guilt from our own mind to another. Thus, when we attack another, the ego claims that we are merely defending ourselves from our brother’s original attack.

T-7.VII.10. You are the Will of God. 2 Do not accept anything else as your will, or you are denying what you are, which is the Will of God. 3 Deny this, that you are the Will of God, and you will attack, believing you have been attacked. 4 But see the Love of God in you, and you will see the Love of God everywhere because the Love of God is everywhere. 5 See God’s abundance in everyone and you will know that you are in God with everyone. 6 Everyone is a part of you, as you are part of God. 7 You are as lonely without understanding this, that everyone is a part of you, as you are part of God, as God Himself is lonely when God’s Sons do not know God. 8 The peace of God is understanding this, that everyone is a part of you, as you are part of God. 9 There is only one way out of the world’s thinking, just as there was only one way into the world's thinking. 10 Understand totally by understanding totality.

Note # 62: Understand totality rests on the understanding that you are not an individual but a Oneness. Each indivisible part is a hologram of the totality. A true hologram contains the whole. If you cut a true hologram apart, as soon as you shine a laser beam through any part, you see the entire whole. We are a hologram of God; just as our brother is a hologram of God and us. There can be no separation but only equality within that One Self. We are all the Oneness of that One Self. Cause and Its Effect are inseparable.

T-7.VII.11. Perceive any part of the ego's thought system as wholly insane, wholly delusional and wholly undesirable, and you have correctly evaluated all of the ego’s thought system. 2 This correction to perceive any part of the ego's thought system as wholly insane enables you to perceive any part of creation as wholly real, wholly perfect and wholly desirable. 3 By wanting only to perceive any part of creation as wholly real, wholly perfect and wholly desirable, you will have this only and giving this only, (the perception of creation as wholly real, perfect and desirable), you will be only this, which is the wholly real, perfect and desirable. 4 The gifts you offer to the ego are always experienced as sacrifices, but the gifts you offer to the Kingdom are gifts to you. 5 The gifts you offer to the Kingdom will always be treasured by God because the gifts you offer to the Kingdom belong to God’s beloved Sons, who belong to God. 6 All power and glory are yours because the Kingdom is God’s.

Note # 63: By perceiving the ego’s thought system as insane, you have made the choice to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. This change in your thought system’s allegiance opens the door to reawakening the memory of what you really are. What you value, you call into your awareness and this becomes your experience.
Egoic giving is always perceived to be a sacrifice because the ego believes that “having” and “being” are not the same. To the ego, to have you must possess and to give you must lose what you originally possessed. Form cannot be shared since someone must be made to sacrifice what he or she had. To the ego, all are separate from each other and thus, to give and to receive are mutually exclusive.

**VIII. The Unbelievable Belief**

T-7.VIII.1. We have said that without projection there can be no anger, but it is also true that without extension there can be no love. 2 These, (without projection there can be no anger, and without extension there can be no love), reflect a fundamental law of the mind, and therefore one that always operates. 3 This fundamental law of the mind is the law by which you create and were created. 4 This fundamental law of the mind is the law that unifies the Kingdom, and keeps the Kingdom in the Mind of God. 5 To the ego, this fundamental law of the mind is perceived as a means of getting rid of something the ego does not want. p129 6 To the Holy Spirit, this fundamental law of the mind is the fundamental law of sharing, by which you give what you value in order to keep what you value in your mind. 7 To the Holy Spirit this fundamental law of the mind, which is the law of sharing, is also the law of extension. 8 To the ego this fundamental law of the mind has been modified to become the law of projection, which is the law of deprivation. 9 This fundamental law of the mind therefore produces abundance or scarcity, depending on how you choose to apply this fundamental law of the mind. 10 This choice of how you choose to apply this law is up to you, but it is not up to you to decide whether or not you will utilize this fundamental law of the mind. 11 Every mind must project or extend, because that is how every mind lives, and every mind is life.

Note # 64: This fundamental law of the mind is the law of sharing, which is also called the law of extension. This fundamental law of the mind states that mind must project or extend, because that is how mind lives, and every mind is life. The name that the law of sharing goes by may vary depending on what thought system your mind is following at any moment. Whether the mind is following the fearful ego or the loving Holy Spirit the results are the same, “what you share is returned onto you.” This is why it is called the law of sharing. This law of the mind works automatically. It is not something one can elect not to participate in. It is a mandatory requirement of life, which is what mind is. Mind expands, extends and creates.

When the mind believes in lack, the law of sharing becomes the law of deprivation since the split-mind is driven by fear and anger. The egoic mind uses projection as a means to attack. Projection is a tool to exclude some aspect of Creation from wholeness. Projection, which is based on lack, will result in anger and fear since that is what you are attempting to share. You are sharing your belief in lack which is the opposite of how God creates. When the ego “shares” and projects its own lack, fear, anger, sin, and guilt, the power of the mind has been utilized to “make” rather than “create.” “Making” is not real since it is not love-based and thus not shared with the
Mind of God. Since the split mind is creating unlike God, the law of sharing has been egoically modified to make and imagine the false and could be more accurately called the law of deprivation.

The Holy Spirit’s Law of Sharing is the law of extension or creation since the Holy Spirit operates under the principle “that to be all, give all to all.” Thus, the law of creation comes from love. In the sharing of love, cause and effect become so intertwined that they become the inseparably joined. You cannot have one without the other and thus, they become one. We share what we give to others and this is what we become.

T-7.VIII.2. The ego's use of projection must be fully understood before the inevitable association between projection and anger can be finally undone. 2 The ego always tries to preserve conflict. 3 The ego is very ingenious in devising ways that seem to diminish conflict, because the ego does not want you to find conflict so intolerable that you will insist on giving conflict up. 4 The ego therefore tries to persuade you that <the ego > can free you of conflict, lest you give the ego up and free yourself of conflict. 5 Using the ego’s own warped version of the laws of God, (the law of deprivation), the ego utilizes the power of the mind only to defeat the mind's real purpose, which is to create like the Father, which is the law of extension. 6 The ego projects conflict from your mind to other minds, in an attempt to persuade you that you have gotten rid of the problem of conflict.

Note # 65: The ego attempts to get rid of what it does not want by projecting that item onto someone else. The “Law of Deprivation”, which is the fundamental law of the egoic mind, returns the thoughts that you projected out to another back upon yourself. It appears that you have gotten ride of the problem, but the problem will return to you, its source, since the Law of Sharing/ Extension/ Deprivation must work. Therefore, what you give, which is conflict, is what you get. The law of sharing states that thoughts never leave the mind of the thinker. What you project, you get to keep.

T-7.VIII.3. There are two major errors involved in this, the ego’s attempt to get rid of conflict by projecting the problem of the conflict onto others. 2 First, strictly speaking, conflict cannot be projected because conflict cannot be shared. 3 Any attempt to keep part of conflict and get rid of another part of conflict does not really mean anything. 4 Remember that a conflicted teacher is a poor teacher and a poor learner. 5 A conflicted teacher’s lessons are confused, and the lessons transfer value is limited by the conflicted teacher’s confusion. 6 The second error is the idea that you can get rid of something you do not want by giving what you do not want away. 7 Giving what you do not want away is how you <keep> what you do not want. 8 The belief that by seeing what you do not want outside you, you have excluded what you do not want away from within you is a complete distortion of the power of extension. 9 This complete distortion of the power of extension is why those who project are vigilant for their own safety. 10 Those that project are afraid that their projections will return and hurt them who were the original source of the projection. 11 Believing they, (those who project), have blotted their projections from their own minds, those who project also believe their projections are trying to creep back into their mind. 12 Since the projections have not left their minds, those who project are forced to engage in constant
activity in order not to recognize this projection has returned into their own mind, which was the source of the initial projection.

**Note # 66:** Since to give is to receive, a thought can never leave its source. Thoughts that are shared or projected always remain with the thinker.

T-7.VIII.4. You cannot perpetuate an illusion about another without perpetuating an illusion about yourself. 2 There is no way out of this perpetuating cycle of the illusion about yourself because it is impossible to fragment the mind. 3 To fragment is to break into pieces, and mind cannot attack or be attacked. 4 The belief that the mind can attack or be attacked is an error the ego always makes. The belief that the mind can attack or be attacked underlies the ego’s whole use of projection. p.130 5 The ego does not understand what mind is, and therefore the ego does not understand what <you> are. 6 Yet the ego’s existence is dependent on your mind, because the ego is your mind’s belief. 7 The ego is a confusion in identification. 8 Since the ego never had a consistent model, the ego never developed consistently. 9 The ego is the product of the misapplication of the laws of God by distorted minds that are misusing their mind’s power.

**Note # 67:** The illusion about your self-identity arose due to the distorted, or split-mind’s belief in the separation. The belief in separation, or individuality, resulted from your belief in lack. Perception leads to projection and judgment, which perpetuates the belief in separation. The Law of Sharing or Extension is misapplied since you do not remember what you are. Rather than extending the everything that you are, you have chosen to project a fear-based image of lack. The ego arose out of the error that what you are could be something other than the Will of God. Projection perpetuates this error.

T-7.VIII.5. <Do not be afraid of the ego.> 2 The ego depends on your mind, and as you made the ego by believing in the ego, so you can dispel the ego by withdrawing your mind’s belief from the ego. 3 Do not project the responsibility for your belief in the ego onto anyone else, or you will preserve the belief in the ego existence. 4 When you are willing to accept sole responsibility for the ego's existence you will have laid aside all anger and all attack, because all anger and all attack come from an attempt to project responsibility onto others, for your own errors. 5 But having accepted the errors as yours, do not keep the errors. 6 Give the errors over quickly to the Holy Spirit to be undone completely, so that all these errors’ effects will vanish from your mind and from the Sonship as a whole.

**Note # 68:** You must be willing to accept responsibility for your own sourceness before you can correct your own mind’s error. If you claim that the source of the error is outside you, you lack the power to change your creation. Only cause can stop its own effect. Once you realize you are responsible for an error, give the error over to the Holy Spirit’s thought system so that the Holy Spirit can remove or reinterpret the error correctly. When you are under the influence of the thought system of the ego, your mind is split. Being split-minded, it is impossible to correct the error without help. The Holy Spirit, Who knows who you really are, will have no problem correcting the error since the Holy Spirit
has knowledge of the truth that you are spirit. As God’s Beloved Son you remain perfect, whole and complete.

In this world of perception, we often claim that how we define ourselves is based on other people’s opinions of what we are. We claim that outside forces make us what we are. We must understand that we are the master’s of our mind and take personal responsibility for how we define ourselves. Just because the “outside” world tells us that we are limited-ego-bodies does not make it true. We need to understand that our beliefs and thoughts determine our private provisional reality. Each can freely choose what thought system they will follow. You are the decision-maker of your own consciousness. We can pretend to project this responsibility upon another yet, this denial cannot change the fact that it is our own mind’s free will that decides what we choose to value.

T-7.VIII.6. The Holy Spirit will teach you to perceive beyond your belief, because truth is beyond belief and the Holy Spirit’s perception is true. 2 The ego can be completely forgotten at any time, because the ego is a totally incredible belief, and no one can keep a belief he has judged to be unbelievable. 3 The more you learn about the ego, the more you realize that the ego cannot be believed. 4 The incredible cannot be understood because the incredible is unbelievable. 5 The meaninglessness of perception based on the unbelievable is apparent, but the meaninglessness of perception based on the unbelievable may not be recognized as being beyond belief, because it, the meaninglessness of perception based on the unbelievable, is made by belief.

Note # 69: Because you have free will, you have the option to dream up any illusion that you want to believe to be true in your provisional reality. This, your dream, of course, does nothing to change reality, which is the Will of God, but it does become “real” for you, the perceiver. Free will does not mean that you can establish the curriculum. God’s curriculum that was established at the moment of the separation is the path to your remembering who you are. God’s curriculum will reestablish your knowledge that you are a Oneness with God. Free will means only that you can elect what you want to take of God’s curriculum at any given time. The Holy Spirit is your true teacher in this classroom of your dream world of provisional reality. The ego that knows nothing can teach nothing.

T-7.VIII.7. The whole purpose of this course is to teach you that the ego is unbelievable and will forever be unbelievable. 2 You who made the ego by believing the unbelievable cannot make this judgment that the ego is unbelievable alone. 3 By accepting the Atonement for yourself, you are deciding against the belief that you can be alone, thus dispelling the idea of separation and affirming your true identification with the whole Kingdom as literally part of you. 4 This identification that the whole Kingdom as literally part of you is as beyond doubt as it is beyond belief. 5 Your wholeness has no limits because being is infinity. p131

Note # 70: God’s curriculum is the Atonement process. The Atonement states that everything the egoic thought system claims to be true is actually false. Only through the acceptance of the Atonement for yourself is your return to Oneness guaranteed. By the Atonement, the “split-mind” is healed and you reclaim your birthright in the shared Mind
of God. The fact that the whole Kingdom is literally part of you is as beyond doubt as it is beyond belief because it is true. Truth is certain and is not contingent upon your belief. We can deny this truth but our denial cannot affect or change this true. The truth of the Oneness just is.

IX. The Extension of the Kingdom

T-7.IX.1. Only you can limit your creative power, but God wills to release your creative power. 2 God no more wills you to deprive yourself of your creations than God wills to deprive Himself of His creations. 3 Do not withhold your gifts to the Sonship, or you withhold yourself from God! 4 Selfishness is of the ego, but Self-fullness is of spirit because that is how God created spirit. 5 The Holy Spirit is in the part of the mind that lies between the ego and the spirit. The Holy Spirit mediating between the ego and the spirit always in favor of the spirit. 6 To the ego this is partiality, and the ego responds as if the ego were being sided against by the Holy Spirit. 7 To spirit this is truth, because spirit knows spirit’s fullness and cannot conceive of any part from which spirit is excluded.

Note # 71: Selfishness is ego based. Selfishness is the egoic attempt to be excluded from the Oneness. The selfish ones claim that they are not whole and have needs. The selfish believe they must get and keep something from outside themselves that they perceive they lack. Self-fullness is based in spirit. Since it is complete and whole, Self-fullness includes, extends and shares. Self-fullness is part of the natural expansion of the Sonship. Your reality is that you are spirit and not an ego-body. The Holy Spirit has the ability to know both the truth that you are spirit and also to understand the activities of the part of your mind that is under the guidance of the ego. Since the Holy Spirit knows who you are, It always reinterprets the activities of the lower self, which follows the ego’s thought system, in favor of the thought system of the Holy Spirit which speaks for truth.

Note: When the course uses the term, spirit it also means your High Self or the Christ conscious part of your mind. Before the separation, there was only the wholeness of Spirit.

T-7.IX.2. Spirit knows that the awareness of all its brothers is included in spirit’s own awareness, as awareness is included in God. 2 The power of the whole Sonship and of the Sonship’s Creator is therefore spirit’s own fullness, rendering spirit’s creations equally whole and equal in perfection. 3 The ego cannot prevail against a totality that includes God, and any totality must include God. 4 Everything God created is given all God’s power, because everything God created is part of God and shares God’s Being with God. 5 Creating is the opposite of loss, as blessing is the opposite of sacrifice. 6 Being must be extended. 7 Extension is how being retains the knowledge of itself. 8 Spirit yearns to share its being as spirit’s Creator, God the Father, did. 9 Created by sharing, spirit’s will is to create. 10 Spirit does not wish to contain God, but Spirit wills to extend God’s Being.
**Note # 72:** To contain would be to limit. God cannot be limited and, therefore, spirit, which is the Son of God, wills to extend God’s Being by extending itself like the Father. Extension or creation is how being retains the knowledge of itself. When the Sonship refused to co-create with God, it lost the knowledge of itself. Losing knowledge of what it was, the Sonship moved into the illusionary world of perception, projection and making. The egoic little “s” self was born.

**T-7.IX.3.** The extension of God's Being is spirit's only function. 2 Spirit’s fullness cannot be contained, any more than can the fullness of spirit’s Creator. 3 Fullness is extension. 4 The ego's whole thought system blocks extension, and thus the ego's whole thought system blocks your only function, which is extension or creation. 5 The ego's whole thought system therefore blocks your joy, so that you perceive yourself as unfulfilled. 6 Unless you create you <are> unfulfilled, but God does not know unfulfillment and therefore you must create. 7 You may not know your own creations, but this can no more interfere with your own creations’ reality than your unawareness of your spirit can interfere with spirit’s being.

**Note # 73:** You must create like the Father since that is how you were created. This is God’s Will. While under the influence of the ego’s thought system, our mind is “asleep” and, therefore, is not aware of truth and reality. When our awareness is placed in the world of perception, time and space, our true mind is safe and asleep in heaven. In our imagination, our split-mind plays the game of “What am I?” known as the separation. This dream state however, cannot change the Will of God. God continues to know His Son as a creator or extender of God’s Own Being.

**T-7.IX.4.** The Kingdom is forever extending because the Kingdom is in the Mind of God. 2 You do not know your joy because you do not know your own Self-fullness. 3 Exclude any part of the Kingdom from yourself and you are not whole. 4 A split mind cannot perceive its split mind’s fullness, and needs the miracle of the mind’s wholeness to dawn upon the split mind and heal the split mind. 5 This reawakens the wholeness in the split mind, and restores the split mind to the Kingdom because of the split mind’s acceptance of wholeness. p132 6 The full appreciation of the mind's Self-fullness makes selfishness impossible and extension inevitable. 7 Since Self-fullness makes selfishness impossible and extension inevitable, this is why there is perfect peace in the Kingdom. 8 Spirit is fulfilling spirit’s function, and only complete fulfillment is peace.

**Note # 74:** The extension of the Kingdom, which is the Mind of God, is inevitable since this is God’s Will. Nothing can stop this as we cannot oppose God’s Will that we share. Only in the illusions of the ego’s insane thought system can God’s Will be opposed. Our true Big “S” Self has never left the peace of God because it is impossible for us not to do God’s Will. Pretending has no impact on Heaven.

**T-7.IX.5.** Your creations are protected for you because the Holy Spirit, Who is in your mind, knows of your creations and can bring your creations into your awareness whenever you will let the Holy Spirit. 2 Your creations are there in your mind as part
of your own being, because your fulfillment includes your creations. 3 The creations of every Son of God are your creations, since every creation belongs to everyone, being created for the Sonship as a whole.

**Note # 75:** The reality of the Sonship, which is all that God created, is that the Sonship remains a oneness or wholeness as God created it. As such, the Sonship never experienced the separation and is still whole. However, the split-minded are currently failing to recognize this fact. As part of the whole, everything in the Sonship belongs to everyone. There is only equality in the Sonship as each indivisible part is a hologram of the whole. The Sonship, like God, its Creator, is a Oneness of “All That Is.”

**T-7.IX.6.** You have not failed to increase the inheritance of the Sons of God, and thus have not failed to secure the inheritance of the Sons of God for yourself. 2 Since it was the Will of God to give you this inheritance, God gave this inheritance forever. 3 Since the inheritance of the Sons of God was God’s Will that you have this inheritance forever, God gave you the means for keeping the inheritance. 4 <And you have done so and have this inheritance forever. > 5 Disobeying God's Will is meaningful only to the insane. 6 In truth disobeying God's Will is impossible. 7 Your Self-fullness is as boundless as God's. 8 Like God’s, Your Inheritance extends forever and in perfect peace. 9 Like God’s, Your Inheritance’s radiance is so intense that Your Inheritance creates in perfect joy, and only the whole can be born of Your Inheritance’s Wholeness.

**Note # 76:** It is God’s Will that His Son’s create like Him. This is our divine birthright that cannot be lost. Our function, as God’s Son, is to create or extend our “Beingness” to our creations. Thus, we extend God’s Kingdom. Our inheritance, being of God and from God, cannot be lost. In our insanity, we can temporarily forget where we put our inheritance, but paradise cannot be lost.

**T-7.IX.7.** Be confident that you have never lost your Identity and the extensions which maintain your Identity in wholeness and peace. 2 Miracles are an expression of this confidence that you have never lost your Identity. 3 Miracles are reflections of both your proper identification with your brothers, and of your awareness that your identification is maintained by extension. 4 The miracle is a lesson in total perception. 5 By including any part of totality in the lesson, you have included the whole of totality in the lesson.

**Note # 77:** Our true reality is that we are a Oneness. Whenever we share or extend, we experience or know our One Self as this Oneness. The lesson of the Holy Spirit is, “To have, give all to all.” Having and being are the same in the “eyes” of the Holy Spirit, Who keeps us in communication within the Mind of God.

**X. The Confusion of Pain and Joy**

**T-7.X.1.** The Kingdom is the result of premises, just as this world is the result of
premises. 2 You may have carried the ego's reasoning to the ego's logical conclusion, which is total confusion about everything. 3 If you really saw that the ego's logical conclusion of its' reasoning is total confusion about everything, you could not want this result. 4 The only reason you could possibly want any part of the ego's thought system, which results in total confusion about everything, is because you do not see the whole of the ego's thought system. 5 You are willing to look at the ego's premises, but not at the ego's premises' logical outcome. 6 Is it not possible that you have done the same thing with the premises of God? (Not looked at their logical outcome) 7 Your creations are the logical outcome of God's premises. 8 God's thinking has established your creations as the logical outcome of God's premises for you. 9 Your creations are exactly where your creations belong. 10 Your creations belong in your mind as part of your identification with God's Mind, but your state of mind and your recognition of what is in your mind depend on what you believe about your mind. p133 11 Whatever these beliefs may be, these beliefs are the premises that will determine what you accept into your mind.

Note # 78: As decision-maker, your mind must decide what thought system it will follow. It must choose between either the ego’s or the Holy Spirit’s thought system. Based on this decision, the results will be the logical outcome as determined by the basic premise of either lack or abundance, fear or love, separation or oneness.

T-7.X.2. It is surely clear that you can both accept into your mind what is not there, and deny what is there in your mind. 2 Yet the function God Himself gave your mind through His Mind you may deny, but you cannot prevent the function God Himself gave your mind. 3 The function God Himself gave your mind is the logical outcome of what you are, which is a Son of God. 4 The ability to see a logical outcome depends on the willingness to see the logical outcome, but the logical outcome’s truth has nothing to do with your willingness to see the logical outcome. 5 Truth is God's Will. 6 Share God's Will and you share what God knows. 7 Deny God’s Will as your will, and you are denying God’s Kingdom <and> denying your own kingdom, which is the same as God’s Kingdom.

Note # 79: God’s Will is truth and thus, changeless. You can deny or not accept God’s Will only in your dream world of provisional reality. Ultimately, we all must reawaken to what we are and follow God’s Will. This Will is the same and only will we have since we live in the Mind of God. Our dream world must give way to God’s Kingdom, which is Truth. Truth is not based on your perception but on the Knowledge of God. Although we can deny the truth, our denial does not change the truth.

T-7.X.3. The Holy Spirit will direct you only so as to avoid pain. 2 Surely no one would object to this goal if he recognized that the Holy Spirit’s goal is to avoid pain. 3 The problem is not whether what the Holy Spirit says is true, but whether you want to listen to what the Holy Spirit says. 4 You no more recognize what is painful than you know what is joyful, and are, in fact, very apt to confuse pain with joy. 5 The Holy Spirit's main function is to teach you to tell pain and joy apart. 6 What is joyful to you is painful to the ego, and as long as you are in doubt about what you are, you will be confused about
joy and pain. 7 This confusion about joy and pain is the cause of the whole idea of sacrifice. 8 Obey the Holy Spirit, and you will be giving up the ego. 9 But if you obey the Holy Spirit, you will be sacrificing nothing. 10 On the contrary, if you obey the Holy Spirit, you will be gaining everything. 11 If you believed that by obeying the Holy Spirit, you would be gaining everything, there would be no conflict.

Note # 80: Conflict is the result of not following your purpose. You cannot know your purpose if you do not know that you are spirit. The Holy Spirit’s thought system reminds you of what you are. You remember that you are spirit and, therefore, a Oneness. The outcome is the logical result of what thought system you choose to belief in. Spirit is everything and illusions are nothing. To give up nothing for everything cannot be a sacrifice.

T-7.X.4. That is why you need to demonstrate the obvious to yourself. 2 The obvious, which is doing God’s Will, is not obvious to you. 3 You believe that doing the opposite of God's Will can be better for you. 4 You also believe that it is possible to do the opposite of God's Will. 5 Therefore, you believe that an impossible choice of doing the opposite of God's Will is open to you, and this choice is one which is both fearful and desirable. 6 Yet God wills. 7 God does not wish. 8 Your will is as powerful as God’s Will because your will is God’s Will. 9 The ego's wishes do not mean anything, because the ego wishes for the impossible, which is not doing God’s Will. 10 You can wish for the impossible, but you can will only with God. 11 This is the ego's weakness and your strength.

Note # 81: Since ego is not mind, ego has no will of its own. The ego can only wish and the split-minded can only imagine that the false is possible. The ego must rely on your mind to utilize your mind’s will on behalf of the ego’s goals. The ego can only wish for your mind’s decision to choose to make rather than create. Your strength is that you are mind and, therefore, you are the decision-maker. Your mind has the power to will. Will, not wishes, become reality. Wishes, like the false, belong to the realm of fantasy.

T-7.X.5. The Holy Spirit always sides with you and with your strength, which is the will you share with God’s Will. 2 As long as you avoid the Holy Spirit’s guidance in any way, you want to be weak. 3 Yet weakness is frightening. 4 What else, then, can this decision to avoid the Holy Spirit guidance in any way, mean except that you want to be fearful? 5 The Holy Spirit never asks for sacrifice, but the ego always does asks for sacrifice. 6 When you are confused about this distinction in motivation, this confusion can only be due to projection. p134 7 Projection is a confusion in motivation, and given this confusion in motivation, trust becomes impossible. 8 No one gladly obeys a guide he does not trust, but this does not mean that the guide is untrustworthy. 9 In this case, it always means that the follower is untrustworthy. 10 However, this untrustworthiness of the follower, too, is merely a matter of the follower’s own belief. 11 Believing that the follower can betray, the follower believes that everything can betray him. 12 Yet this is only because the follower has elected to follow the false guidance of the ego. 13 Unable to follow the ego’s guidance without fear, the follower associates fear with guidance, and refuses to follow any guidance at all. 14 If the result of this decision is
confusion, this is hardly surprising.

**Note # 82:** Confusion and conflict result from the belief in two opposing thought systems. Projection is the result of the ego’s thought system, which always arises as some form of attack. Attack demonstrates your fear that confirms your separateness. Trust is impossible when you come from fear. Lacking trust, one is fearful of placing their trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Your Big “S” Self always trusts the Holy Spirit, but your little “s” self believes it has two possible choices to choose from. This egoic belief that you can pick the false leads to confusion, conflict and fear.

**T-7.X.6.** The Holy Spirit is perfectly trustworthy, as you are **perfectly trustworthy**. 2 God Himself trusts you, and therefore your trustworthiness is beyond question. 3 **Your trustworthiness** will always remain beyond question, however much you may question your trustworthiness. 4 I said before that you are the Will of God. 5 **God’s Will** is not an idle wish, and your identification with God’s Will is not optional, since God’s Will is what you are. 6 Sharing God’s Will with me is not really open to choice, though sharing God’s Will with me may seem to be open to choice. 7 The whole separation lies in this error that we have a choice to share or follow God’s Will. 8 The only way out of the error that we have a choice to share or follow God’s Will is to decide that you do not have to decide anything. 9 Everything has been given you by God's decision. 10 That everything has been given you by God's decision is God’s Will, and you cannot undo God’s Will which gave you everything.

**Note # 83:** The “authority problem” is based on the erroneous belief that we have a choice to do or not do God’s Will. This “mad idea” is the cause of the separation and the belief in individuality rather than Oneness. It claims that we are self-created and are the arbiters of truth. We have no choice to make these decisions since truth has already been established for us in the Mind of God, and God’s Will is changeless.

**T-7.X.7.** Even the relinquishment of your false decision-making prerogative, which the ego guards so jealously, is not accomplished by your wish. 2 The relinquishment of your false decision-making prerogative was accomplished for you by the Will of God, Who has not left you comfortless. 3 God’s Voice, which is the Holy Spirit, will teach you how to distinguish between pain and joy, and the Holy Spirit will lead you out of the confusion you have made. 4 There is no confusion in the mind of a Son of God, whose will must be the Will of the Father, because the Father's Will is His Son's will.

**Note # 84:** When this “mad idea” that we had decision-making prerogative in regards to the choice to follow God’s Will, God placed within our split mind the Voice for God, which is the Holy Spirit. Since creation is extension, our true will and God’s will must be One. This idea that we could oppose God’s Will is at the heart of the “Authority Problem” which forms the basis for the ego’s thought system. By placing our mind under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we remember the truth and are gently reawakened into God’s Kingdom, which is our home and divine inheritance.

**T-7.X.8.** Miracles are in accord with the Will of God. **God’s Will you do not know**
because you are confused about what <you> will. 2 This means that you are confused about what you are. 3 If you are God's Will and do not accept God’s Will, you are denying joy. 4 The miracle is therefore a lesson in what joy is. 5 Being a lesson in sharing, the miracle is a lesson in love, which <is> joy. 6 Every miracle is thus a lesson in truth, and by offering truth you are learning the difference between pain and joy. p135

Note # 85: God’s will is that we be happy. A miracle is a change in perception or thinking from the ego’s thought system to the Holy Spirit’s thought system. The ego’s thought system is based on individual competition and brings pain. The miracle shifts misperception to correct perception. It recalls your oneness with another and your common purpose. This sharing and joining in mind results in joy.

XI. The State of Grace

T-7.XI.1. The Holy Spirit will always guide you truly, because your joy is the Holy Spirit’s joy. 2 This joy is the Holy Spirit’s Will for everyone because the Holy Spirit speaks for the Kingdom of God, which <is> joy. 3 Following the Holy Spirit is therefore the easiest thing in the world, and the only thing that is easy, because following the Holy Spirit is not of the world. 4 Following the Holy Spirit is therefore natural. 5 The world goes against your nature, being out of accord with God's laws. 6 The world perceives orders of difficulty in everything. 7 This perception of orders of difficulty in everything in this world is because the ego perceives nothing as wholly desirable. 8 By demonstrating to yourself there is no order of difficulty in miracles, you will convince yourself that, in your natural state, there is no difficulty at all <because> your natural state is a state of grace.

Note # 86: We are a spiritual essence dreaming that we are having an earthly experience. Our natural state is unlimited spirit. To pretend that we are a limited ego-body is unnatural since it is foreign to our “beingness”. It is easy to be yourself. It is difficult to be something you are not. Conflict is the result of lack if certainty. When we deny our spiritual essences, we become conflicted and slip into fear. Any time we are not in a joyous and peaceful state, we have slipped into egoic fear-based thinking.

T-7.XI.2. Grace is the natural state of every Son of God. 2 When a Son of God is not in a state of grace, a Son of God is out of his natural environment and does not function well. 3 Everything a Son of God does becomes a strain, because a Son of God was not created for the environment that a Son of God has made, which is the illusionary world of the egoic perception, time and space. 4 A Son of God therefore cannot adapt to the illusionary world of the ego, nor can a Son of God adapt the illusionary world of the ego to his nature state as a Son of God. 5 There is no point in trying. 6 A Son of God is happy only when a Son of God, knows he, as a Son of God, is with God. 7 Being with God is the only environment in which a Son of God will not experience strain, because being with God is where a Son of God belongs. 8 Being with God is also the only environment that is worthy of a Son of God, because a Son of God’s own worth is
beyond anything a Son of God can make.

Note # 87: Grace is the natural state of the Son of God. Grace maintains the realization that our being rests with God. As Son’s of God, we are one with our Father. God’s Son can only be happy when he is joined with His Father. In the egoic world made from our fears and limitations, we are out of our natural element. Our Big “S” Self is spirit and part of the holographic Mind of God. Being in extension of God, we can only be love. Love, not fear, is the only reality worthy of a Son of God.

T-7.XI.3. Consider the kingdom you have made and judge the worth of this illusionary world of the ego fairly. 2 Is this illusionary world of the ego worthy to be a home for a child of God? 3 Does this illusionary world of the ego protect a child of God’s peace and shine love upon a child of God? 4 Does this illusionary world of the ego keep a child of God’s heart untouched by fear, and allow a child of God to give always, without any sense of loss? 5 Does this illusionary world of the ego teach a child of God that this giving is his joy, and that God Himself thanks a child of God for the child of God’s giving? 6 That is the only environment in which you can be happy. 7 You cannot make an environment in which you can be happy, any more than you can make yourself. 8 An environment in which you can be happy has been created for you, as you were created for God’s environment in which you can be happy. 9 God watches over His children and denies them nothing. 10 Yet when a child of God deny God, a child of God do not know that God watches over His children and denies His children nothing, because a child of God deny themselves everything. 11 You who could give the Love of God to everything you see and touch and remember are literally denying Heaven to yourself.

Note # 88: God’s gives everything to His creations. God denies them nothing. God’s children can refuse to accept this knowledge of what they really are and thus, perceive they have “fallen from grace”. This false perception needs to be corrected within the deluded mind. Yet, the true nature of how and what God created remains unchanged. Only in your ego’s dream world of provisional reality can you deny yourself heaven, which is the Kingdom.

T-7.XI.4. I call upon you to remember that I have chosen you to teach the Kingdom to the Kingdom. 2 There are no exceptions to this lesson for you to teach the Kingdom to the Kingdom, because the lack of exceptions is the lesson. 3 Every Son who returns to the Kingdom with this lesson that you must teach the Kingdom to the Kingdom with no exceptions, in his heart has healed the Sonship and given thanks to God. 4 Everyone who learns this lesson that you must teach the Kingdom to the Kingdom with no exceptions has become the perfect teacher, because he has learned it of the Holy Spirit.

Note # 89: We cannot exclude any of God’s creations from the truth of the Kingdom. There can be no exception since all God’s creations are equally blessed with the same divine birthright and inheritance. God gives only equally since God gives everything to everything. Extension of the hologram is the creative process of the Mind of God.
T-7.XI.5. When a mind has only light, a mind knows only light. 2 A mind's own radiance shines all around itself, and extends out into the darkness of other minds, transforming other minds into majesty. 3 The Majesty of God is there in other minds, for you to recognize and appreciate and know. 4 Recognizing the Majesty of God as your brother is to accept your own inheritance. 5 God gives only equally. 6 If you recognize God's gift and know the Majesty of God is in anyone, you have acknowledged what God has given you. 7 Nothing is so easy to recognize as truth. 8 This truth of what God has given you, your inheritance, is the recognition that is immediate, clear and natural. 9 You have trained yourself not to recognize your inheritance that God’s Majesty is you and this has been very difficult for you.

Note # 90: Because we have free will, we can dream or forget that we are Son’s of God. As such, we can deny our inheritance, but we cannot lose it. It cannot be lost because God has given us this inheritance and God’s Will is changeless. Since give is receiving, when we choose to see only the Big “S” Self in our brother, we realize that same Big “S” Self in ourselves.

T-7.XI.6. Out of your natural environment, which is the illusionary world of the ego, you may well ask, "What is truth?" since truth is the environment by which and for which you were created. 2 You do not know yourself, because you do not know your Creator. 3 You do not know your creations because you do not know your brothers, who created your creations with you. 4 I have already said that only the whole Sonship is worthy to be co-creator with God, because only the whole Sonship can create like the Father. 5 Whenever you heal a brother by recognizing his worth, you are acknowledging a brother’s power to create and your power to create. 6 A brother cannot have lost what you recognize, and you must have the glory you see in your brother. 7 A brother is a co-creator with God with you. 8 Deny a brother’s creative power and you are denying your creative power and the creative power of God Who created you.

Note # 91: To create like the Father, the Sonship must see itself as whole to be whole. Only the Oneness of the Sonship can create like the Father. If we attempt to exclude any part of the Sonship from sharing in our creation, we are engaged in making, not creating. Only a Oneness can extend the One Self that is the holographic Mind of God.

T-7.XI.7. You cannot deny part of truth. 2 You do not know your creations because you do not know their creator, which is the whole Sonship. 3 You do not know yourself because you do not know your creations. 4 Your creations cannot establish your reality, any more than you can establish God's reality. 5 But you can know both your creations and your true reality. 6 Being is known by sharing. 7 Because God shared His Being with you, you can know God. 8 But you must also know all God created, to know what all God created have shared. 9 Without your Father you will not know your fatherhood. 10 The Kingdom of God includes all His Sons and all His Sons’ children, who are as like the Sons as all His Sons’ children are like the Father. 11 Know, then, the Sons of God, and you will know all creation. p137
Note # 92: All God’s creation is a Oneness. This is why there is equality in the Kingdom. All creations, being an extension of everything that created them, are an indivisible part of the wholeness of everything. Each part is a holographic oneness of the whole, for each part is one with the Mind of God. Only the whole Sonship is worthy to be co-creator with God, because only the whole Sonship can create like God. Deny your brother’s creative power and you have denied your own creative power. Being is known by sharing. Since we are spirit, the only way to know our true Self is to <be>. True creation, or extension, is <Being>. Spirit feels, experiences and just is. The egoic mind thinks, compares, divides and than judges. Creation and making involve two different mindsets.
Chapter 8. THE JOURNEY BACK

I. The Direction of the Curriculum

T-8.I.1. Knowledge is not the motivation for learning this course. Peace is the motivation for learning this course. Peace is the prerequisite for knowledge only because those who are in conflict are not peaceful, and peace is the condition of knowledge because peace is the condition of the Kingdom. Knowledge can be restored only when you meet knowledge’s conditions. The requirement that peace is the prerequisite for knowledge is not a bargain made by God, Who makes no bargains. The requirement that peace is the prerequisite for knowledge is merely the result of your misuse of God’s laws on behalf of an imaginary will that is not God’s Will. Knowledge <is> God’s Will. If you are opposing God’s Will, how can you have knowledge? I have told you what knowledge offers you, but perhaps you do not yet regard what knowledge offers you as wholly desirable. If you did regard what knowledge offers you as wholly desirable, you would not be so ready to throw knowledge away when the ego asks for your allegiance.

Note #1: Knowledge is truth. Knowledge is lost as long as your mind is split due to the ego’s belief in separation. Egoic beliefs lead us into conflict and the loss of inner peace.

T-8.I.2. The distractions of the ego may seem to interfere with your learning, but the ego has no power to distract you unless you give the ego the power to distract you. The ego’s voice is an hallucination. You cannot expect the ego to say "I, the ego, am not real." Yet you are not asked to dispel your hallucinations alone. You are merely asked to evaluate your hallucinations of the ego, in terms of your hallucinations’ results to you. If you do not want your hallucinations’ results on the basis of loss of peace, your hallucinations’ results will be removed from your mind for you.

Note #2: Since the ego is a creation of your mind, the only power that the ego has is what your mind gives it. Your mind remains the decision-maker. You will only want to keep the ego if you value the results given to you by following its belief system. The egoic belief system says that you are a separate autonomous individual. It claims that you are special.

T-8.I.3. Every response to the ego is a call to war, and war does deprive you of peace. Yet in this war of the ego there is no opponent. The realization that there is no opponent for the ego to war against is the reinterpretation of reality that you must make to secure peace, and the only response to the ego you need ever make. Those whom you perceive as opponents are part of your peace, which you are giving up by attacking
those whom you perceive as opponents. 5 How can you have what you give up? 6 You share to have peace, but you do not give peace up yourself. 7 When you give up peace, you are excluding yourself from peace. 8 Excluding yourself from peace is a condition so alien to the Kingdom that you cannot understand the state that prevails within the Kingdom.

Note # 3: You, as decision-maker, always have a choice as to which thought system the mind will follow. The ego’s thought system offers war while the Holy Spirit’s thought system offers peace. If we claim we are separate and special, we will have to protect our “assets” against outside attack. By claiming specialness, we deny the reality of our spirit. We deny the reality of our oneness with everything. We now have opponents and attack becomes possible.

T-8.I.4.Your past egoic learning must have taught you the wrong things, simply because your past learning has not made you happy. 2 On this basis alone (The fact that your past egoic learning has not made you happy.) your egoic learning value should be questioned. 3 If learning aims at change, and that is always learning’s purpose, are you satisfied with the changes your egoic learning has brought you? p138 4 Dissatisfaction with learning outcomes is a sign of learning failure, since dissatisfaction with learning outcomes means that you did not get what you wanted.

Note # 4: If you are not happy, the Holy Spirit asks you to choose again and follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The egoic thought system is designed to value your claim to be right over your happiness.

T-8.I.5.The curriculum of the Atonement is the opposite of the curriculum you have established for yourself, but so is the curriculum of the Atonement’s outcome. 2 If the outcome of your ego’s curriculum has made you unhappy, and if you want a different outcome, a change in the curriculum is obviously necessary. 3 The first change to be introduced is a change in direction. 4 A meaningful curriculum cannot be inconsistent. 5 If it is planned by two teachers, each believing in diametrically opposed ideas, each teacher’s curriculum cannot be integrated. 6 If the curriculum is carried out by these two teachers simultaneously, each teacher’s curriculum merely interferes with the other teacher’s curriculum. 7 These conflicting teacher’s curriculums leads to fluctuation, but not to change. 8 The volatile have no direction. 9 The students cannot choose one teacher’s curriculum because the students, cannot relinquish the other teacher’s curriculum, even if other teacher’s curriculum does not exist. 10 Their conflicted curriculum teaches the student that <all> directions exist, and gives the student no rationale for choice.

Note # 5: Your mind cannot serve two opposing teachers. You must choose only one teacher’s voice to follow.

T-8.I.6.The total senselessness of such a conflicted curriculum must be fully recognized before a real change in direction becomes possible. 2 You cannot learn simultaneously from two teachers who are in total disagreement about everything. 3 Their joint
The curriculum presents an impossible learning task. The two teachers who are in total disagreement about everything are teaching you entirely different things in entirely different ways, which might be possible except that both are teaching you about yourself. Your reality is unaffected by both teachers, but if you listen to both teachers, your mind will be split about what your reality is.

Note #6: To reunify your split mind, you must choose only to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The ego teaches us that we are special and separate. The price for specialness is limitation and the acceptance of the body as our reality. The ego’s teachings result in the loss of our peace and happiness. It gives us conflict, fear, competition and lack. The Holy Spirit teaches us that we are unlimited spirit and part of the Oneness that is the holographic Mind of God. Knowing we are everything, It teaches equality and extension. The Holy Spirit’s teachings result in our obtainment of love, peace and happiness.

II. The Difference between Imprisonment and Freedom

T-8.II.1. There is a rationale for choice. Only one Teacher knows what your reality is. If learning to remove the obstacles to that knowledge is the purpose of the curriculum, you must learn to remove the obstacles to that knowledge of Him, the Holy Spirit, the one Teacher that knows what your reality is. The ego does not know what the ego is trying to teach. The ego is trying to teach you what you are without knowing what you are. The ego is expert only in confusion. The ego does not understand anything else but confusion. As a teacher, then, the ego is totally confused and totally confusing. Even if you could disregard the Holy Spirit entirely, which is impossible, you could still learn nothing from the ego, because the ego knows nothing.

Note #7: The ego knows nothing because its entire thought system is based on not knowing what you are. It is based on the belief in separation and that you can do something other than God’s Will. The ego claims you are an individual ego-body, not an unlimited spiritual essence. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is based on knowledge and its goal is your return to knowledge. Knowledge is God’s Will.

T-8.II.2. Is there any possible reason for choosing a teacher such as the ego who knows nothing? Does the total disregard of anything the ego teaches make anything but sense? Is the ego that knows nothing the teacher to whom a Son of God should turn to find himself? The ego has never given you a sensible answer to anything. Simply on the grounds of your own experience with the ego’s teaching, should not this alone disqualify the ego as your future teacher? Yet the ego has done more harm to your learning than this alone. Learning is joyful if learning leads you along your natural path, and facilitates the development of what you have. When you are taught against your nature, however, you will lose by your learning because your learning will imprison you. Your will is in your nature, and therefore cannot go against your nature.

Note #8: The ego teaches that you are not your mind, but rather a body. This goes
against your nature as unlimited spirit. If you are a body, you become a victim to outside forces. You lose your ability to be the decision-maker in charge of choosing your own experiences and awareness.

T-8.II.3. The ego cannot teach you anything as long as your will is free, because you will not listen to the ego if your will is free. 2 It is not your will to be imprisoned because your will is free. 3 Because the ego would imprison your will, this is why the ego is the denial of free will. 4 It is never God Who coerces you, because God shares God’s Will with you. 5 God’s Voice teaches only in accordance with God’s Will, but that is not the Holy Spirit's lesson because that is what you are. 6 The lesson of the Holy Spirit is that your will and God's Will cannot be out of accord because your will and God's Will are one. 7 That your will and God's Will are one is the undoing of everything the ego tries to teach. 8 It is not, then, only the direction of the curriculum that must be unconflicted, but also the content of the curriculum that must be unconflicted.

Note # 9: The entire egoic thought system is predicated on the belief that you have a will that is different from God’s and that your will can and does oppose God’s Will. The ego’s “will” claims that it is more important to claim that you are right even when you are wrong than it is to be happy. God and the Holy Spirit and your Big “S” Self all agree that Their one joint Will is that you be happy.

T-8.II.4. The ego tries to teach that you want to oppose God's Will. 2 That you want to oppose God's Will is an unnatural lesson that cannot be learned, and the attempt to learn the unnatural lesson that you want to oppose God's Will is a violation of your own freedom, making you afraid of your will because your will is free. 3 The Holy Spirit opposes any imprisoning of the will of a Son of God, knowing that the Will of the Son is the Father's Will. 4 The Holy Spirit leads you steadily along the path of freedom, teaching you how to disregard or look beyond everything that would hold you back.

Note # 10: Since you are an extension of the Mind of God, you have been created in God’s image. As such, your will and God’s Will are the same. The ego attempts to teach you that what is the same, your joint Will, is actually different. This is unnatural since it is contradictory to what you are and, therefore, false. Your Big “S” Self knows the truth and looks upon the ego’s thought system as unnatural and imprisoning since it opposes your divine birthright.

T-8.II.5. We have said that the Holy Spirit teaches you the difference between pain and joy. 2 The difference between pain and joy is the same as saying the Holy Spirit teaches you the difference between imprisonment and freedom. 3 You cannot make this distinction between imprisonment and freedom without the Holy Spirit because you have taught yourself that imprisonment is freedom. 4 Believing imprisonment and freedom to be the same how can you tell imprisonment and freedom apart? 5 Can you ask the part of your mind, your ego that taught you to believe imprisonment and freedom are the same, to teach you how imprisonment and freedom are different?

Note # 11: A teacher who knows nothing and only teaches the false cannot be expected
to miraculously start teaching the truth. To teach truth, the teacher must have knowledge of the truth. The ego’s thought system imprisons your free will by removing the mind as the decision-maker, and than claims that you are free to oppose God’s Will. It is only in your decision to be one with the Mind of God that you can be free since that is what you are. The goal of the Holy Spirit is to “Know Thyself”. The ego’s goal is that you “Never Know Thyself.” As long as you view yourself as a separate individual, you cannot know yourself as the whole. You need unity with your brother, who is a part of you, to realize that you are part of God, Who is everything.

T-8.II.6. The Holy Spirit's teaching takes only <one> direction and has only <one> goal. 2 The Holy Spirit's direction is freedom and the Holy Spirit's goal is God. 3 Yet the Holy Spirit cannot conceive of God without you, because it is not God's Will to <be> without you. 4 When you have learned that your will is God's Will, you could no more will to be without God than God could will to be without you. p140 5 This learning that your will is God's Will, is freedom and this learning that your will is God's Will is joy. 6 Deny yourself this learning that your will is God's Will and you are denying God His Kingdom, because God created you for this learning that your will is God's Will.

Note # 12: God created you as an extension of Himself. God is the cause and we are the Effect. Cause and effect are inseparable. We are God’s completion. Our purpose is to extend the Kingdom by becoming co-creators with our Father.

T-8.II.7. When I said, "All power and glory are yours because the Kingdom is God’s,” this is what I meant: The Will of God is without limit, and all power and glory lie within the Will of God. 2 The Will of God is boundless in strength and in love and in peace. 3 The Will of God has no boundaries because the Will of God’s extension is unlimited, and the Will of God encompasses all things because the Will of God created all things. 4 By creating all things, the Will of God made all things part of itself. 5 You are the Will of God because that is how you were created. 6 Because your Creator creates only like Himself, you are like your Creator. 7 You are part of your Creator Who is all power and glory, and you are therefore, as unlimited as God, your Creator is.

Note # 13: Because creation is an extension, we share all the powers of our source. Our powers only difference is that the Father is the First Cause. We did not self-create ourselves. We are the extension of the universal hologram that is the Mind of God.

T-8.II.8. To what else except all power and glory can the Holy Spirit appeal to restore God's Kingdom? 2 The Holy Spirit’s appeal, then, is merely to what the Kingdom is, and for the Kingdom’s own acknowledgment of what the Kingdom is. 3 When you acknowledge what the Kingdom is you bring the acknowledgment automatically to everyone, because you <have> acknowledged everyone. 4 By your recognition you awaken their recognition, and through their recognition your recognition is extended. 5 Awakening runs easily and gladly through the Kingdom, in answer to the Call for God. 6 This recognition and acknowledgement of what the Kingdom is, is the natural response of every Son of God to the Voice for his Creator, because this recognition and acknowledgement of what the Kingdom is, is the Voice for his son’s creations and for
his son’s own extension. **This recognition is the acknowledgment that all power and glory has been given to God’s creations since God’s creations are the extensions of the Will of God.**

**Note # 14:** The Kingdom is the Truth. When we realize that our divine birthright is the truth that we are the Oneness of Everything, we will freely embrace this truth and share it with our brother. Being One with the God of “All That Is,” we cannot be content with egoic littleness.

**III. The Holy Encounter**

T-8.III.1. Glory to God in the highest, and to you because God has so willed glory to you. 2 Ask and glory to you shall be given you, because glory to you has already been given to you. 3 Ask for light and learn that you are light. 4 If you want understanding and enlightenment you will learn understanding and enlightenment, because your decision to learn understanding and enlightenment is the decision to listen to the Teacher Who knows of light, which is the Holy Spirit, and can therefore teach understanding and enlightenment to you. 5 There is no limit on your learning because there is no limit on your mind. 6 There is no limit on the Holy Spirit’s teaching because the Holy Spirit was created to teach. 7 Understanding the Holy Spirit’s function perfectly the Holy Spirit fulfills the Holy Spirit’s function perfectly, because that is the Holy Spirit’s joy and your joy.

**Note # 15:** God gave the Holy Spirit the purpose of returning the Sonship to the Kingdom. The Holy Spirit cannot fail in this mission since Its purpose is backed by the Will of God. It will teach us the truth because It knows the truth.

T-8.III.2. To fulfill the Will of God perfectly is the only joy and peace that can be fully known, because to fulfill the Will of God perfectly is the only function that can be fully experienced. 2 When fulfilling the Will of God perfectly is accomplished, then, there is no other experience than to fulfill the Will of God perfectly. p141 3 Yet the wish for other experience will block the accomplishment of the fulfillment of the Will of God perfectly, because God's Will cannot be forced upon you, because God's Will is being an experience of total willingness. 4 The Holy Spirit understands how to teach the fulfillment of the Will of God perfectly but you do not understand how to teach the fulfillment of the Will of God perfectly. 5 Because you do not understand how to teach the fulfillment of the Will of God perfectly this is why you need the Holy Spirit, and why God gave the Holy Spirit to you. 6 Only the Holy Spirit’s teaching will release your will to God's Will, uniting your will with God’s power and glory and establishing God’s power and glory as your power and glory. 7 You share God’s power and glory as God shares God’s power and glory, because God’s power and glory is the natural outcome of God’s power and glory’s being.

**Note # 16:** Our function is to perfectly fulfill and experience the Will of God. We do this
by extending ourselves to our own creations as the Father extended Himself to His Son. We cannot create like our Father, if we do not know and accept our divine inheritance as unlimited spirit. Since to give is to receive, by sharing or extending our inheritance to others, we accept and receive our inheritance. Creation is “being.” It is a participatory process. We cannot participate in co-creation when we attempt to exclude anything from the Oneness that is the holographic Mind of God.

T-8.III.3. The Will of the Father and of the Son are One, by Their extension. 2 The extension of the One Will of the Father and Son is the result of the Father and Son’s Oneness holding Their unity together by extending the Father and Son’s joint Will. 3 This extension is perfect creation by the perfectly created Son of God in union with the perfect Creator, God, the Father. 4 The Father must give fatherhood to His Son, because God’s Own Fatherhood must be extended outward. 5 You who belong in God have the holy function of extending God’s Fatherhood by placing no limits upon God’s Fatherhood. 6 Let the Holy Spirit teach you how to do this holy function of extending God’s Fatherhood by placing no limits upon God’s Fatherhood, for you can know what this function of extending God’s Fatherhood means only of God Himself.

Note # 17: We must not place any limits on the extension of God, the Father. To limit is to not extend. To have all, give all, to all. This is first lesson of the Holy Spirit. If God did not give us all His powers, including the power of creation, we would not have been created in His image. By our failure to utilize this power, we are attempting to limit the extension of God. This cannot be done. Our function is to be co-creator with God. This is how we share God’s Will.

T-8.III.4. When you meet anyone, remember any meeting is a holy encounter. 2 As you see him you will see yourself. 3 As you treat him you will treat yourself. 4 As you think of him you will think of yourself. 5 Never forget this, for in your brother you will find yourself or lose yourself. 6 Whenever two Sons of God meet, they are given another chance at salvation. 7 Do not leave anyone without giving salvation to him and receiving salvation yourself. 8 For I am always there with you, in remembrance of <you.>

Note # 18: We receive what we give. What we perceive, we project out to others and this same projection is reflected back on us. What we think, we become. We can only perceive in another what we believe that we hold inside ourselves. Our purpose will determine what we allow ourselves to perceive. We cannot love another, if we do not love ourselves.

T-8.III.5. The goal of the curriculum, regardless of the teacher you choose, is "Know thyself." 2 There is nothing else to seek but to "Know thyself". 3 Everyone is looking for himself and for the power and glory he thinks he has lost. 4 Whenever you are with anyone, you have another opportunity to find them. 5 Your power and glory are in him because his power and glory are yours. 6 The ego tries to find power and glory in yourself alone, because the ego does not know where to look for your power and glory. 7 The Holy Spirit teaches you that if you look only at yourself you cannot find yourself, because that is not what you are. 8 Whenever you are with a brother, you are learning
what you are because you are teaching what you are to your brother. Your brother will respond either with pain or with joy, depending on which teacher, the ego or the Holy Spirit, you are following. Your brother will be imprisoned or released according to your decision on which teacher, the ego or the Holy Spirit, you are choosing to follow, and so will you be imprisoned or released by your decision. Never forget your responsibility to your brother, because your responsibility for your choice of teacher is your responsibility to yourself. Give your brother his place in the Kingdom and you will have given yourself your place in the Kingdom.

Note # 19: When we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we look past bodily form, and see the Christ in our brother. If not, we see limitation and imperfection. Since to give is to receive, we will be placing that same self-image upon ourselves. By seeing our brother as limited, we imprison ourselves as his jail warden.

T-8.III.6. The Kingdom cannot be found alone, and you who are the Kingdom cannot find yourself alone. To achieve the goal of the curriculum, which is to know thyself and thus, extend God’s Kingdom, then, you cannot listen to the ego, whose purpose is to defeat its own goal of knowing thyself. The ego does not know this, because the ego does not know anything. But you can know not to listen to the ego, and you will know not to listen to the ego if you are willing to look at what the ego would make of you. To look at what the ego would make of you is your responsibility, because once you have really looked at what the ego would make of you, you will accept the Atonement for yourself. What other choice could you make? Having made this choice of accepting the Atonement for yourself, you will understand why you once believed that, when you met someone else, you thought he was someone else. And every holy encounter in which you enter fully will teach you the idea of your separateness is not so.

Note # 20: Since the Sonship is also a Oneness, all God’s creations are part of the whole. In seeing the oneness of you and your entire brotherhood, the Sonship becomes reunited in perfect equality. Every holy encounter is utilized to teach and experience union with each other. These once egoic relationships have been transformed into a means of sharing and joining. The Holy Spirit has taken the teaching devices of egoic learning and turned them into learning lessons for the truth of the Oneness.

T-8.III.7. You can encounter only part of yourself because you are part of God, Who is everything. God’s power and glory are everywhere, and you cannot be excluded from God’s power and glory. The ego teaches that your strength is in you alone. The Holy Spirit teaches that all strength is in God and all strength is in you since you are part of God. God wills no one suffer. God does not will anyone to suffer for a wrong decision, including you. That is why God has given you the means for undoing a wrong decision. Through God’s power and glory all your wrong decisions are undone completely, releasing you and your brother from every imprisoning thought any part of the Sonship holds. Wrong decisions have no power, because wrong decisions are not true. The imprisonment that wrong decisions seem to produce is no more true than the wrong decision is true.
Note # 21: God only wills that His Child be happy. God does not condemn a child, when a child errs. Mistakes are not sin. They merely require correction. God asks through the Holy Spirit that His Child choose again. Punishment is not part of the Mind of God since God knows His Child only as He was created, perfect, whole and complete.

T-8.III.8. Power and glory belong to God alone. 2 So do you belong to God alone 3 God gives whatever belongs to God because God gives of Himself, and everything belongs to God. 4 Giving of yourself is the function God gave you. 5 Fulfilling the function of giving of yourself perfectly will let you remember what you have of God, and by this giving of yourself perfectly you will remember also what you are in God. 6 You cannot be powerless to do this giving of yourself perfectly, because this giving of yourself perfectly is your power. 7 Glory is God's gift to you, because glory is what God is. 8 See this glory of God everywhere to remember what you are, for you are the glory of God.

Note # 22: Giving of yourself is the function God gave you. By giving, you receive and remember that you are unlimited spirit. You are “being” what God created you to be. Creation is the giving of yourself, which is everything, to everything. By giving, you know you have. Being and having are the same under the thought system of the Holy Spirit, Who represents God’s Laws. By your being a co-creator with God, you extend the holographic Mind of God. This is God’s glory.

IV. The Gift of Freedom

T-8.IV.1. If God's Will for you is complete peace and joy, unless you experience only complete peace and joy you must be refusing to acknowledge God’s Will. 2 God’s Will does not vacillate, being changeless forever. 3 When you are not at peace it can only be because you do not believe you are in God. 4 Yet God is All in all. 5 God’s peace is complete, and you must be included in God’s peace. p143 6 God’s laws govern you because God’s laws govern everything. 7 You cannot exempt yourself from God’s laws, although you can disobey God’s laws. 8 Yet if you do disobey God’s laws, and only if you do disobey God’s laws, you will feel lonely and helpless, because you are denying yourself everything.

Note # 23: Because we have free will, our ego can temporarily choose to deny that the Laws of God apply to us. Yet, this denial can only result in our unhappiness since our Big “S” Self feels our lack of alignment with our true Source. Our split mind is in conflict and needs to be brought back into wholeness with God’s Will. God’s Will is that we be happy and know ourselves to be the completion of God, Herself.

T-8.IV.2. I am come as a light into a world that does deny itself everything. 2 This world that denies itself everything does this simply by dissociating itself, (our dream world of provisional reality), from everything that is real. 3 Our dream world of provisional
reality is therefore an illusion of isolation, maintained by fear of the same loneliness that our dream world’s illusion, which is the belief in the separation. 4 I said that I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. 5 Because I am with you always, that is why I am the light of the world. 6 If I am with you in the loneliness of the world, the loneliness is gone. 7 You cannot maintain the illusion of loneliness if you are not alone. 8 My purpose, then, is still to overcome the world of illusion. 9 I do not attack the world of illusion, but my light must dispel the world of illusion because of what the world is. 10 Light does not attack darkness, but light does shine darkness away. 11 If my light goes with you everywhere, you shine darkness away with me. 12 The light becomes our light, and you cannot abide in darkness any more than darkness can abide wherever you go. 13 The remembrance of me is the remembrance of yourself, and of God, Who sent me to you.

Note # 24: By denying our spiritual essence, we deny the fact that we are a Oneness of “All That Is”. Instead, we make an illusionary world in which we hide in fear. Jesus, as the way shower, dispels our illusions with his light of truth. As we share his light with our brother, his light becomes our light. We discover we were never alone, only sleeping.

T-8.IV.3. You were in darkness until God's Will was done completely by any part of the Sonship. 2 When God's Will was done completely by any part of the Sonship, it was perfectly accomplished by all of the Sonship. 3 How else could God's Will be perfectly accomplished? 4 My mission was simply to unite the will of the Sonship with the Will of the Father by being aware of the Father's Will myself. 5 This is the awareness I came to give you, and your problem in accepting the unity of the will of the Sonship with the Will of the Father is the problem of this world. 6 Dispelling the world’s problem of not accepting the unity of the will of the Sonship with the Will of the Father is salvation, and in this sense I <am> the salvation of the world. 7 The world must therefore despise and reject me, because the world <is> the belief that love is impossible. 8 If you will accept the fact that I am with you, you are denying the world and accepting God. 9 My will is God’s Will, and your decision to hear me is the decision to hear God’s Voice and abide in God’s Will. 10 As God sent me to you so will I send you to others. 11 And I will go to the others with you, so we can teach the others peace and union.

Note # 25: Jesus’ mission was to unite the will of the Sonship with the Will of the Father. Jesus accomplished this by being aware of God’s Will within himself. Our part in the salvation process is to accept God’s Will within ourselves as Jesus did and thus, unite the will of the Sonship with God’s Will. The Sonship is one and is also holographic. When Jesus completed his remembrance of God, the entire Sonship benefited from this unification.

T-8.IV.4. Do you not think the world needs peace as much as you do? 2 Do you not want to give peace to the world as much as you want to receive peace? 3 For unless you do want to give peace, you will not receive peace. 4 If you want to have the peace of me, you must give peace. 5 Healing does not come from anyone else. 6 You must accept guidance from within. 7 The guidance must be what you want, or the guidance will be meaningless to you. 8 That you must want guidance, or the guidance will be
meaningless to you, is why healing is a collaborative venture. 9 I can tell you what to do, but you must collaborate by believing that I know what you should do. 10 Only then by believing that I know what you should do, will your mind choose to follow me. 11 Without this choice to follow me you could not be healed because you would have decided against healing, and this rejection of my decision for you makes healing impossible.

Note # 26: Because we have free will, we must be willing to accept Jesus’ or the Holy Spirit’s guidance. Without our collaboration, the guidance of the High-Self will not be followed. Healing must come from within you. Only you can choose to be healed. Healing cannot be imposed upon someone by an outside force. If this were the case, it would prove that we are indeed separate and not created equally. Since our mind is split, you must accept guidance from the Holy Spirit and collaborate with this guide by believing the Holy Spirit knows what you should do. Healing reflects the joining of our Big “S” Self with another High-Self’s will by which the “mad idea” of the separation is overcome by union. By sharing, truth overcomes the fear of the false.

T-8.IV.5. Healing reflects our joint will. 2 This is obvious when you consider what healing is for. 3 Healing is the way in which the separation is overcome. 4 Separation is overcome by union. 5 Separation cannot be overcome by separating. 6 The decision to unite must be unequivocal, or the mind itself is divided and not whole. 7 Your mind is the means by which you determine your own condition, because mind is the mechanism of decision. 8 Mind’s mechanism of decision is the power by which you separate or join, and experience pain or joy accordingly. 9 My decision cannot overcome your decision, because your decision is as powerful as my decision. 10 If your decision was not as powerful as my decision, the Sons of God would be unequal. 11 All things are possible through our joint decision, but my decision alone cannot help you. 12 Your will is as free as mine, and God Himself would not go against your free will. 13 I cannot will what God does not will and God Wills your will be free. 14 I can offer my strength of my will to make your will invincible, but I cannot oppose your decision without competing with your decision and thereby violating God's Will for you.

Note # 27: Due to our free will, we must willingly join in any decision making process. Our mind is the decision-maker and our free will insures equality among the Sonship. Only by collaboration with the thought system of the Holy Spirit can we heal our split mind. We control every experience we call into our awareness. There are no victims and no outside force controls our destiny. God’s love allows us perfect freedom to co-create or to imagine anything that we want.

This also means that there are no “innocent victims.” Any experience that involves others is a collaborative effort. Someone must choose to be the “victim” and the other must choose to be the “victimizer.” No one, not even Jesus, can force us to do something against our free will. God wills that His Children be free to experience anything that we want. We can co-create like and with God or we can imagine the false in the non-real world of individual perception, time and space with the fragmented Sonship.

T-8.IV.6. Nothing God created can oppose your decision, as nothing God created can
oppose God’s Will. 2 God gave your will its power, which I can only acknowledge in honor of God’s Will. 3 If you want to be like me I will help you, knowing that we are alike. 4 If you want to be different, I will wait until you change your mind. 5 I can teach you, but only you can choose to listen to my teaching. 6 How else can it be, if God's Kingdom is freedom? 7 Freedom cannot be learned by tyranny of any kind, and the perfect equality of all God's Sons cannot be recognized through the dominion of one mind over another mind. 8 God's Sons are equal in will, all being the Will of their Father. 9 That God's Sons are equal in will, all being the Will of their Father, is the only lesson I came to teach.

Note # 28: Due to equality within the Sonship, our free will prevents Jesus or the Holy Spirit from forcing their Will upon another. Both are willing to wait patiently until we freely ask for their guidance. This asking is inevitable because God’s Will is that we be whole. The joining or union of our split mind is the goal of healing. This reestablishes the Will of God in our minds, which always remain part of the One Mind of God.

T-8.IV.7. If your will were not my will, your will would not be our Father's Will. 2 This would mean you have imprisoned your will, and have not let your will be free. 3 Of yourself you can do nothing, because of yourself you <are> nothing. 4 I am nothing without the Father and you are nothing without me, because by denying the Father you deny yourself. 5 I will always remember you, and in my remembrance of you lies your remembrance of yourself. 6 In our remembrance of each other lies our remembrance of God. 7 And in this remembrance lies your freedom because your freedom is in God.

Note # 29: It is our joining freely as one will and extending our true Self, (creation), that our praise of the Father is demonstrated. Since there is only One Will, to deny God’s Will to any part of the indivisible Oneness is to deny it to all. We can deny God’s Will but we cannot change God’s Will. Our denial has no affect upon the Kingdom.

God’s Will is that you be free. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we are accepting our total freedom. The Atonement states that we are sinless and guiltless. It states that our fear-based thoughts have no consequences and, therefore, cannot affect the reality of what we are. God allows all and does not judge. God’s love provides us this absolute freedom and safety.

T-8.IV.8. Freedom is the only gift you can offer to God's Sons, being an acknowledgment of what God's Sons are and what God is. 2 Freedom is creation, because freedom is love. 3 Whom you seek to imprison you do not love. 4 Therefore, when you seek to imprison anyone, including yourself, you do not love him and you cannot identify with him. 5 When you imprison yourself you are losing sight of your true identification with me and with the Father. 6 Your identification is with the Father <and> with the Son. 7
Your identification cannot be with only One, either Father or Son, and not the Other. 8 If you are part of One, either Father or Son, you must be part of the Other because the Father and Son are One. 9 The Holy Trinity is holy because the Holy Trinity is One. 10 If you exclude yourself from this union of the Holy Trinity, you are perceiving the Holy Trinity as separated. 11 You must be included in the Holy Trinity, because the Holy Trinity is everything. 12 Unless you take your place in the Holy Trinity and fulfill your function as part of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Trinity is as bereft as you are. 13 No part of the Holy Trinity can be imprisoned if the Holy Trinity’s truth is to be known.

Note #30: The Holy Trinity is the Oneness of everything. It encompasses everything and, therefore, we are part of it. This Holy Trinity is comprised of the Father, the Sonship, and the Holy Spirit. The function of the Sonship is to continue the extension of the Mind of God by creating like the Father. The function of the Holy Spirit is to be the bridge that connects the Father with His Son. We are part of this hologram of Oneness. Our reuniting of the Sonship through the Atonement process is the renunciations of the ego and the mad idea of the separation.

V. The Undivided Will of the Sonship

T-8.V.1. Can you be separated from your identification and be at peace? 2 Dissociation is not a solution; dissociation or, separation from your identification, is a delusion. 3 The delusional believe that truth will assail them, and they, who did not remember that they are unified spirit, do not recognize this delusional belief because they prefer the delusion of separation from their own identity. 4 Judging truth as something they, who did not remember what they are, do not want, these deluded minds perceive their illusions which block knowledge. 5 Help them, who did not remember their own identity, by offering them who are deluded, your unified mind on their behalf, as I am offering you my unified mind on behalf of your mind. 6 Alone we can do nothing, but together our minds fuse into something whose power is far beyond the power of our minds’ separate parts. 7 By not being separate, the Mind of God is established in our mind and as our mind. 8 The Mind of God is invincible because the Mind of God is undivided.

Note #31: Alone we can do nothing because only by sharing are ideas strengthened. Unshared ideas foster the belief in separation. Sharing thought is joining, union and creation.

T-8.V.2. The undivided will of the Sonship is the perfect creator, being wholly in the likeness of God, Whose Will is also the undivided will of the Sonship. 2 You cannot be exempt from the undivided will of the Sonship if you are to understand what the undivided will of the Sonship is and what you are. p146 3 By the belief that your will is separate from mine, you are exempting yourself from the Will of God which is yours. 4 Yet to heal is still to make whole. 5 Therefore, to heal is to unite with those who are like you, because perceiving this likeness is to recognize the Father. 6 If your
perfection is in the Father and only in the Father, how can you know the undivided will of the Sonship without recognizing the Father? 7 The recognition of God is the recognition of yourself. 8 There is no separation of God and God's creation. 9 You will realize this when you understand that there is no separation between your will and my will. 10 Let the Love of God shine upon you by your acceptance of me. 11 My reality is your reality and God’s reality. 12 By joining your mind with mine you are signifying your awareness that the Will of God is One.

Note # 32: By the belief that your will is separate from Jesus and God’s, you are claiming that you do not know what you are. This denial of our joint one Will is the underlying belief that birthed the idea of the separation and specialness.

T-8.V.3. God's Oneness and our oneness are not separate, because His Oneness encompasses our oneness. 2 To join with me is to restore God’s power to you because we are sharing our oneness. 3 I offer you only the recognition of God’s power in you, but in that recognition that God’s power is in you, lays all truth. 4 As we unite, we unite with God. 5 Glory be to the union of God and God’s holy Sons! 6 All glory lies in the union of God and God’s holy Sons <because> God and God’s holy Sons are united. 7 The miracles we do bear witness to the Will of the Father for His Son, and to our joy in uniting with God’s Will for us, God’s Sons.

Note # 33: There is just the Oneness of “All That Is”. Miracles, which are a change from misperception to correct perception, are natural because truth is the only reality of the One Self. Miracles merely allow deluded minds to reawaken to the truth that there is just One and we are that One. The Mind of God is perfect, whole and complete and nothing is outside of It.

T-8.V.4. When you unite with me you are uniting without the ego, because I have renounced the ego in myself and therefore I cannot unite with your ego. 2 Our union is therefore the way to renounce the ego in you. 3 The truth in both of us is beyond the ego. 4 Our success in transcending the ego is guaranteed by God, and I share this confidence for both of us and all of us that we can transcend the ego because it is God’s Will. 5 I bring God's peace back to all God’s children because I received the peace of God for us all. 6 Nothing can prevail against our united wills because nothing can prevail against God's Will.

Note # 34: God’s oneness encompasses our oneness and our union of the Sonship with Jesus in the way that our Oneness renounces the ego and the belief in the separation. By joining with our brother, we reject the thought system of the ego, for the ego cannot join. With this rejection of the belief in separation, our ego fades into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-8.V.5. Would you know the Will of God for you? 2 Ask it of me who know the Will of God for you and you will find the Will of God 3 I will deny you nothing, as God denies me nothing. 4 Our journey is simply the journey back to God Who is our home. 5 Whenever fear intrudes anywhere along the road to peace, this fear is because the ego
has attempted to join the journey with us and the ego cannot do so. 6 The ego sensing defeat and angered by potential defeat, the ego regards itself as rejected and becomes retaliative. 7 You are invulnerable to the ego’s retaliation because I am with you. 8 On this journey you have chosen me as your companion <instead> of the ego. 9 Do not attempt to hold on to both the ego and me, or you will try to go in different directions and will lose the way. p147

**Note # 35:** We cannot follow two opposing thought systems. By accepting Jesus or the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we are rejecting the thought system of the ego. The ego must be left behind. The ego, the representative of the false and darkness, cannot stand the light of truth.

T-8.V.6. The ego's way is not my way, but the ego's way is also not your way. 2 The Holy Spirit has one direction for all minds, and the one way the Holy Spirit taught me is your way, which is your Big “S” Self. 3 Let us not lose sight of the Holy Spirit's direction through illusions, for only illusions of another direction can obscure the one for which God's Voice, the Holy Spirit's voice, speaks in all of us. 4 Never accord the ego the power to interfere with the journey. 5 The ego has no power, because the journey is the way to what is true. 6 Leave all illusions behind, and reach beyond all attempts of the ego to hold you back. 7 I go before you because I am beyond the ego. 8 Reach, therefore, for my hand because you want to transcend the ego. 9 My strength will never be wanting, and if you choose to share my strength you will do so. 10 I give my strength willingly and gladly, because I need you as much as you need me.

**Note # 36:** We, as decision makers, have to decide which of the two thought system’s we will follow. The ego's thought system teaches that your strength lies in you alone. Therefore, your egoic belief in separation, individuality and specialness is stressed. The ego reinforces these beliefs with false witness that we misperceive. We see ourselves as limited ego-bodies in our dream world of provisional reality. We live in fear, lack and vulnerability.

The Holy Spirit’s thought system teaches that your strength lies in God. Its goal is to reawaken you to what you really are. Its message is that you are a Oneness and not an individual. It seeks to awaken you to your divine birthright as the Son of God. As God’s extension, you have been given everything because you are One with the Mind of God.

**VI. The Treasure of God**

T-8.VI.1. We are the joint will of the Sonship, whose Wholeness is for all. 2 We begin the journey back to the Oneness of what we really are by setting out together, and gather in our brothers as we continue together. 3 Every gain in our strength is offered for all, so our brothers too can lay aside their weakness and add their strength to us. 4 God's welcome waits for us all, and God will welcome us as I am welcoming you. 5 Forget not the Kingdom of God for anything the world has to offer.
**Note # 37:** You cannot desire and value your provisional dream world of specialness and also know God. What you value, you will choose to perceive. If you value separation, individuality and specialness, you will choose to remain deluded. God cannot be found in your fantasy world for God is real and the Sonship has never left his home, which is the Mind of God. In the world of perception, what you choose to believe becomes your provisional reality. It seems real only in the deluded mind of the dreamer.

T-8.VI.2. The world of perception can add nothing to the power and the glory of God and God’s holy Sons, but the world of perception can blind the Sons to the Father if God’s holy Sons behold the world of perception. 2 You cannot behold the world of perception and know God. 3 Only one, either the world of perception or God, is true. 4 I am come to tell you that the choice of which is true that you believe to be your choice of between either the world of perception or God’s reality, is not yours to make. 5 If the choice of which is true were yours to make you would have destroyed yourself. 6 Yet God did not will the destruction of God’s creations for eternity. 7 God’s Will has saved you, not from yourself but from your illusion of yourself. 8 God has saved you for yourself.

**Note # 38:** When ACIM states that if we “behold” the world of perception, it “can blind the Sons to the Father”, the word “behold” should be understood to mean that you have upgraded the dream of separation from a fantasy and given it a reality of its own. If you give all your perceptions over to the Holy Spirit, this world of perception will become the tool for your return to the truth. By following the egoic misperceptions of this world, your mind makes the fantasy of separation appear real. The acceptance of the dream of separation becomes your provisional reality that blinds you from the vision of God’s Oneness.

T-8.VI.3. Let us glorify God Whom the world denies, for over God’s Kingdom the world has no power. 2 No one created by God can find joy in anything except the eternal; not because he is deprived of anything else, but because nothing else is worthy of him who was created by God. 3 What God and His Sons create is eternal, and in this, the eternal, and this only is their joy.

**Note # 39:** God’s Will has saved us from our own illusions that we made into our dream world of separation. Our world of illusion adds nothing to the power of God or the Kingdom since it is nothing. Reality is changeless. It is eternal. Nothing in our world of provisional reality has permanence. Our world is based on our perceptions, beliefs and judgments, which change daily. Only in God’s Kingdom can we find peace and joy. The Will of God insures that the eternal joy of the Kingdom will always be our reality. We can deny reality but our denial will not change the eternal reality of God’s creations. Our illusions cannot change our divine spiritual nature that has been given to us by Our Creator.

T-8.VI.4. Listen to the story of the prodigal son, and learn what God's treasure is and what your treasure is: This son of a loving father left his home and thought he, the son, had squandered everything for nothing of any value, although the son had not understood
its worthlessness at the time. p148 2 The son was ashamed to return to his father, because the son thought he, the son, had hurt his father. 3 Yet when the son came home the father welcomed the son with joy, because the son himself was his father's treasure. 4 His father wanted nothing else.

Note # 40: God does not judge. He only wills that His Son be happy. We are happy when we co-create with our Father. By this co-creative process, we complete God. We join our will with His Will as One. This is the extension of the Mind of God.

T-8.VI.5. God wants only His Son because God's Son is God's only treasure. 2 You want your creations as God wants His creations. 3 Your creations are your gift to the Holy Trinity. Your creations are created in gratitude for your creation. 4 Your creations do not leave you any more than you left your Creator, but your creations extend your creation as God extended Himself to you. 5 Can the creations of God Himself take joy in what is not real, which is the egoic world of perception? 6 And what is real except the creations of God and those that are created like God's creations? 7 Your creations love you as you love your Father for the gift of creation. 8 There is no other gift that is eternal, and therefore there is no other gift that is true. 9 How, then, can you accept anything else than eternal creations or give anything else than eternal creations, and expect joy in return? 10 And what else but joy would you want? 11 You made neither yourself nor your function. 12 You made only the egoic decision to be unworthy of both yourself and your function. 13 Yet you cannot make yourself unworthy because you are the treasure of God, and what God values, is valuable. 14 There can be no question of what God values' worth, because its value lies in God's sharing Himself with whatever God values and thus establishing the value of whatever God values forever.

Note # 41: We are God's treasure because the Sonship is God's creation. The function of the Sonship is to continue to extend or create as their Father created them. This extension of the Son of God is the Son's gift to His Father and to the Kingdom. It is God, not our ego, which establishes our worth. God knows His creations to be only perfect, whole and complete.

T-8.VI.6. Your function is to add to God's treasure by creating your treasure. 2 God's Will to you is God's Will for you. 3 God would not withhold creation from you because God's joy is in creation. 4 You cannot find joy except as God does by creating like your Father. 5 God's joy lay in creating you, and God extends God's Fatherhood to you so that you can extend yourself as God did. 6 You do not understand that you can extend yourself as God did because you do not understand God. 7 No one who does not accept his function can understand what his function is, and no one can accept his function unless he knows what <he> is. 8 Creation is the Will of God. 9 God's Will created you to create. 10 Your will was not created separate from God's Will, and so you must will as God wills.

Note # 42: Your function is to create as God created you, perfect whole and complete. Since you have free will, you can make the decision to believe that you are unworthy of
your divine birthright, but you cannot change yourself or your function. Both were given by God to you and thus are eternal and changeless. This is God’s Will. Joy is to be found in creation, which is the sharing and extending of oneself. It is by this extension of your Big “S” Self that one knows and realizes their own spiritual magnificence.

T-8.VI.7. An "unwilling will" does not mean anything, being a contradiction in terms that actually means nothing. 2 When you think you are unwilling to will with God, you are not thinking. 3 God's Will <is> Thought. 4 God's Will being Thought cannot be contradicted <by> thought. 5 God does not contradict Himself, and God’s Sons, who are like God, cannot contradict themselves or God. 6 Yet God’s Sons’ thought is so powerful that God’s Sons’ thought can even imprison the mind of God's Son, if God’s Sons so choose to imagine the imprisonment of his own mind. p149 7 This choice for the imagined self-imprisonment of the mind of God's own Son does make the Son's function unknown to the Son, but never to his Creator. 8 And because this choice by the Son to imagine the imprisonment of his own mind is not unknown to God, the Creator, the Son’s ability to will with God’s Will is forever knowable to God’s Son.

Note # 43: In reality there is only God’s Will, which is Thought. Before the mad idea of the separation, only the thoughts harmonious with love, which are the Thoughts of God, existed. This was and is the thought system of the Holy Spirit, which knows that we are part of the Oneness. With the rise of the ego’s thought system, we believed that we could think without God. These “private thoughts” that exist only in our imagination are projected into your delusional world of provisional reality. Your private thoughts have the ability to imprison your mind since your split mind projects these ideas out into its own dream world thus, “confirming” the error that the ego is real and that we exist separate from God. In the changeless Mind of God, your true power to create like God waits your reawakening from the erroneous belief that you could be a limited ego-body. True creation only occurs when you think with God. When we think like God, we give all, to all. This is the co-creative function of creation. Although the Son can imagine he is separate from his Source, God knows that His Son is, and always will be, perfect, whole and complete. The Father sees His Son merely asleep, dreaming or pretending to be something that the child is not. The Father does not accept the Son's illusionary game as having any impact on the truth since to do so would be to attempt to make the false real. This is impossible. In a sleeping mind, the false can be mistaken for the truth but this error does not change the truth. God grants His Child the perfect freedom to be or imagine anything the child wants knowing that the Child remains perfectly safe within the Mind of God. This is because God knows that a game of make believe cannot change the reality of what the Child truly is. God knows that a sleeping Child will and must reawaken and reclaim His divine inheritance. This inheritance can be temporarily forgotten or denied by the child, but it can never be lost.

T-8.VI.8. There is no question but one question you should ever ask of yourself;—"Do I want to know my Father's Will for me?" 2 God will not hide His Will for you. 3 God has revealed His Will for you to me because I asked the question of God, and learned of what God had already given. 4 Our function, which is to create like Our Father, is to
work together, because apart from each other we cannot function at all. 5 The whole power of God's Son lies in all of us, but not in any of us alone. 6 God would not have us be alone because <God> does not will to be alone. 7 That is why God created His Son, and gave His Son the power to create with God, their Father. 8 Our creations are as holy as we are, and we are the Sons of God Himself, as holy as God is. 9 Through our creations we extend our love, and thus increase the joy of the Holy Trinity. 10 You do not understand that we are as holy as God is and that we must extend our love like our Father. This is because you who are God's Own treasure do not regard yourself as valuable. 11 Given this belief that you are not valuable, you cannot understand anything.

Note # 44: We are God’s prodigal sons. God holds and guards our birthright and awaits our return to the Kingdom. We, the Thoughts of God, are God’s treasure. Because we do not know what we are, we do not understand our value to Our Father. We fail to realize that we are the completion of Our Father. He is Cause and we His Effect. As such we are inseparable and priceless.

T-8.VI.9. I share with God the knowledge of the value God puts upon you. 2 My devotion to you is of God, being born of my knowledge of myself and God. 3 We, the Sonship and God, cannot be separated. 4 Whom God has joined cannot be separated, and God has joined all His Sons with Himself. 5 Can you be separated from your life and your being? 6 The journey to God is merely the reawakening of the knowledge of where you are always, and what you are forever. 7 The journey to God is a journey without distance to a goal that has never changed. 8 Truth can only be experienced. 9 Truth cannot be described and truth cannot be explained. 10 I can make you aware of the conditions of truth, but the experience of truth is of God. 11 Together we can meet truth’s conditions, but truth will dawn upon you of itself.

Note # 45: Truth will dawn upon you only when you choose to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. This is your reawakening to the truth of what and where you are. The truth is that you have never left the holographic Mind of God since what God Wills is eternal and thus, changeless. We cannot change our Cause. We must remain Its eternal Effect.

T-8.VI.10. What God has willed for you is yours. 2 God has given God’s Will to His treasure, whose treasure God’s Will is. 3 Your heart lies where your treasure is, which is in your creations just as does God’s heart lies with His treasure, which is God’s Son. 4 You who are beloved of God are wholly blessed. 5 Learn that you who are beloved of God are wholly blessed of me, and free the holy will of all those who are as blessed as you are. p150

Note # 46: By accepting the truth of the Atonement for oneself, you accept the Atonement for all your brothers. All parts of the Sonship are equal. The Sonship, being indivisible is joined as one.
VII. The Body as a Means of Communication

T-8.VII.1. Attack is always physical. 2 When attack in any form enters your mind you are equating yourself with a body, since this belief that you are a body is the ego’s interpretation of the body. 3 You do not have to attack physically to accept this interpretation that you are a body. 4 You are accepting this interpretation that you are a body simply by the belief that attack can get you something you want. 5 If you did not believe that you are a body, the idea of attack would have no appeal for you. 6 When you equate yourself with a body you will always experience depression. 7 When a child of God thinks of himself in this way he is belittling himself, and seeing his brothers as similarly belittled. 8 Since he can find himself only in his brother, he has cut himself off from salvation.

Note #47: You are mind or spirit, and not the body. The idea that you are a body, confirms the ego’s claim that you are a separate, special and unique individual. Separation and specialness are the natural outcome of the egoic thought system. Spirit or mind is a shared Oneness of Everything. When you already are “Everything”, to argue for your “littleness” is a depressing thought. Anytime we block the natural flow of God’s love to and through our mind, we will feel depressed, sad and lonely. Blocking this flow prevents us from fulfilling our function of co-creation. Being God’s Child, we are joyous only when we create and extend like Our Father.

T-8.VII.2. Remember that the Holy Spirit interprets the body only as a means of communication. 2 Being the Communication Link between God and God’s separated Sons, the Holy Spirit interprets everything you have made in the light of what God is. 3 The ego separates through the body. 4 The Holy Spirit reaches through the body to others. 5 You do not perceive your brothers as the Holy Spirit does, because you do not regard bodies solely as a means of joining minds and uniting your brothers’ mind with yours and mine. 6 This interpretation of the body as a means of communication and for the joining of minds will change your mind entirely about the body’s value. 7 Of itself the body has no value.

Note #48: The Holy Spirit utilizes the ego created body as a learning device to communicate with the various parts of the split Sonship to reawaken them to the truth of who they really are. A learning device has no value by itself. Its value comes from the usage of the learning device.

T-8.VII.3. If you use the body for attack, the body is harmful to you. 2 If you use the body only to reach the minds of those who believe they are bodies, and teach the minds of those who believe they are bodies through the body that this is not so, you will understand the power of the mind that is in you. 3 If you use the body for this and only for this, which is the teaching that your brothers are not a body, you cannot use the body for attack. 4 In the service of uniting the body becomes a beautiful lesson in communion, which has value until communion is
God's way of making unlimited what you have limited. 6 The Holy Spirit does not see the body as you do, because the Holy Spirit knows the only reality of anything is the service anything renders God on behalf of the function God gives it.

**Note #49:** In the world of egoic perception, the body was made to symbolize and prove that we are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. The Holy Spirit has reinterpreted the function of the body and utilizes it as a learning device to teach that the Sonship is not the body, but rather a Oneness united with God. This is the truth that is taught through the Atonement process.

T-8.VII.4. Communication ends separation. 2 Attack promotes separation. 3 The body is beautiful or ugly, peaceful or savage, helpful or harmful, according to the use to which the body is put. 4 And in the body of another you will see the use to which you have put your body. 5 If the body becomes a means you give to the Holy Spirit to use on behalf of union of the Sonship, you will not see anything physical except as what the body is. 6 Use the body for truth and you will see the body truly. 7 Misuse the body and you will misunderstand the body, because you have already misunderstand the body. 8 Interpret anything apart from the Holy Spirit and you will mistrust whatever you have interpreted apart from the Holy Spirit. 9 This mistrust caused by misinterpretation will lead you to hatred and attack and loss of peace.

**Note #50:** The body should be used only as a communication device to communicate only forgiveness and love. If we identify ourselves as the body, we will become fearful and use the body for attack.

T-8.VII.5. Yet all loss comes only from your own misunderstanding. 2 Loss of any kind is impossible. 3 But when you look upon a brother as a physical entity, his power and glory are "lost" to you and so are your own power and glory "lost" to yourself. 4 You have attacked a brother, but you must have attacked yourself first. 5 Do not see a brother this way for your own salvation, which must bring a brother his salvation. 6 Do not allow a brother to belittle himself in your mind, but give a brother freedom from his belief in littleness, and thus escape from your belief in littleness. 7 As part of you, a brother is holy. 8 As part of me, you are holy. 9 To communicate with part of God Himself is to reach beyond the Kingdom to its Creator, through God's Voice, which is the Holy Spirit, which God has established as part of you.

**Note #51:** We only can see in another what we believe is also in our mind. Thoughts never leave the mind of the thinker. Minds are joined and by discovering the Big “S” Self in another, we receive and give that same understanding to ourselves.

T-8.VII.6. Rejoice, then, that of yourself you can do nothing. 2 You are not of yourself. 3 God of Whom you are has willed your power and glory for you, with which you can perfectly accomplish God’s holy Will for you when you accept God’s holy Will for yourself. 4 God has not withdrawn God’s gifts of His holy Will from you, but you believe you have withdrawn God’s gifts of His holy Will from God. 5 Let no Son of God remain hidden for God’s Name’s sake, because God’s Name is yours.
**Note # 52:** Without our Cause, we would cease to be. This is impossible since that would change God by making Him incomplete without His Effect. Our denial of our birthright did not impact our inheritance or our Source. Cause and Effect remain eternally linked as One. Our power flows from our Source, through us and extends beyond. We cannot hide from our Source. Only the egoic self attempts to deny its birthright by claiming that it does not know what it is.

T-8.VII.7. The Bible says, "The Word (or thought) was made flesh." 2 Strictly speaking this idea that "The Word (or thought) was made flesh." is impossible, since this idea that "The Word or thought was made flesh." seems to involve the translation of one order of reality into another **order of reality**. 3 Different orders of reality merely appear to exist, just as different orders of miracles **appear to exist**. 4 Thought cannot be made into flesh except by belief, since thought is not physical. 5 Yet thought is communication, for which the body can be used. 6 **Communication** is the only natural use to which the **body** can be put to use. 7 To use the body unnaturally is to lose sight of the Holy Spirit's purpose which is to **reawaken**, or communicate, to you what you really are, and thus to confuse the goal of the **Holy Spirit's curriculum**, which is to **reawaken God's Son to his divine birthright and thus reclaim joy, peace, and knowledge**.

**Note # 53:** The Holy Spirit can use the body for communication so that the split-minded can once again know themselves. The body, being form, cannot be shared and is not real. God did not make the body; our deluded mind did. God does not create other than like Himself.

T-8.VII.8. There is nothing so frustrating to a learner as a curriculum he cannot learn. 2 A learner's sense of adequacy suffers, and the learner must become depressed. 3 Being faced with an impossible learning situation is the most depressing thing in the world. 4 In fact, being faced with an impossible learning situation is ultimately why the world itself is depressing. 5 The Holy Spirit's curriculum is never depressing, because the **Holy Spirit's curriculum** is a curriculum of joy. 6 Whenever the reaction to learning is depression, the reaction is because the true goal of the curriculum has been lost sight of.

**Note # 54:** The Holy Spirit utilizes the body to communicate that you are not the body; you are mind. The Holy Spirit’s goal is the end of your belief in separation. The goal of the Holy Spirit’s curriculum is that you know yourself. The ego utilizes the body for attack, which promotes the belief in separation. The ego’s goal is that you never know yourself. Our true goal is to be happy. The ego’s goal is to deny the truth that you are only love and God’s joy. We cannot be happy trying to find love and joy in an illusion designed to embody fear, loneliness and separation.

T-8.VII.9. In this world, not even the body is perceived as whole. 2 The body’s purpose is seen as fragmented into many functions with little or no relationship to each other, so that the body appears to be ruled by chaos. p152 3 The body’s purpose as guided by the ego <is> chaos. 4 The body’s purpose as guided by the Holy Spirit is not chaos. 5 Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit the body becomes a means by which the part of
the mind you tried to separate <from> spirit can reach beyond the split mind’s distortions and return <to> spirit. 6 The ego's temple, which is the body, thus becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit, where devotion to the Holy Spirit replaces devotion to the ego. 7 In this sense the body does become a temple to God; His Voice, the Holy Spirit, abides in the body by directing the use to which the body is put to use.

**Note # 55:** The Holy Spirit abides in the High-Self or Christ conscious part of mind. The Holy Spirit’s home cannot be the physical body since the body is part of the illusion of separateness. The Holy Spirit reinterprets the ego’s temple for separation, which is the body, and transforms it into a communication device to teach only union and truth.

**T-8.VII.10.** Healing is the result of using the body solely for communication. 2 Since using the body solely for communication is natural using the body solely for communication heals by making whole, which is also natural. 3 All mind is whole, and the belief that part of the mind is physical, or not mind, is a fragmented or sick interpretation. 4 Mind cannot be made physical, but the mind can be made manifest <through> the physical if the mind uses the body to go beyond itself. 5 By reaching out, the mind extends itself. 6 The mind does not stop at the body, for if the mind does stop at the body, the mind is blocked in the mind’s purpose, which is extension or creation. 7 A mind that has been blocked has allowed itself to be vulnerable to attack, because a blocked mind has turned against itself.

**Note # 56:** The mind is spirit. The mind is not the physical brain. A split mind is not whole and, therefore, is unable or blocked in its ability to create or extend itself like the Father creates. The body is used by the Holy Spirit to teach forgiveness and to reestablish the unity of the Sonship. Teaching forgiveness is the function of the Holy Spirit and leads to our acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves. The block that needs to be removed is the thought system of the ego. This removal returns the mind to its natural state of wholeness.

**T-8.VII.11.** The removal of blocks, then, is the only way to guarantee help and healing. 2 Help and healing are the normal expressions of a mind that is working through the body, but not <in> the body. 3 If the mind believes the body is the mind’s goal the mind will distort the mind’s perception of the body, and by blocking the mind’s own extension beyond the body, the mind will induce illness by fostering separation. 4 Perceiving the body as a separate entity cannot but foster illness, because perceiving the body, as a separate entity is not true. 5 A medium of communication loses its usefulness if the medium of communication is used for anything else. 6 To use a medium of communication as a medium of attack is an obvious confusion in purpose.

**Note # 57:** Our purpose forms the basis for our perception. If we have differing purposes such as communication versus attack, we will have differing perceptions of the same experience. Purpose determines our perception. Split proposes result in conflict and confusion.

**T-8.VII.12.** To communicate is to join and to attack is to separate. 2 How can you do both
simultaneously with the same thing and not suffer? 3 Perception of the body can be unified only by one purpose, which is the purpose of healing, or joining. 4 This unified purpose of healing, or joining releases the mind from the temptation to see the body in many lights, and gives the body over entirely to the One Light in which the body can be really understood. 5 To confuse a learning device, the body, with a curriculum goal, which is to know thyself through extension, is a fundamental confusion that blocks the understanding of both the learning device and the curriculum. 6 Learning must lead beyond the body to the re-establishment of the power of the mind in the mind. 7 This re-establishment of the power of the mind can be accomplished only if the mind extends to other minds, and does not arrest itself in the mind's extension. 8 This arrest of the mind’s extension to other minds is the cause of all illness, because only extension is the mind's function. p153

Note # 58: The Holy Spirit utilizes the body as a learning device for joining one brother’s mind to another. The ego utilizes the body to prove separation and, therefore, the body becomes an instrument for attacking a brother. The Holy Spirit’s learning curriculum is a process to lead the mind beyond the limiting belief that the mind is a body, thus re-establishing the power of the mind. The power of the mind is re-established by the reuniting of the mind of one brother with another. By healing, the Sonship to the reality of its wholeness, the power of extension, or creation, is returned to the Sonship.

T-8.VII.13. The opposite of joy is depression. 2 When your learning promotes depression instead of joy, you cannot be listening to God's joyous Teacher, the Holy Spirit, and learning the Holy Spirit’s lessons. 3 To see a body as anything except a means of communication is to limit your mind and to hurt yourself. 4 Health is therefore nothing more than united purpose. 5 If the body is brought under the purpose of the mind, the mind becomes whole because the mind's purpose is one. 6 Attack can only be an assumed purpose of the body, because apart from the mind the body has no purpose at all.

Note # 59: Health is the united purpose of the mind. When we speak of healing, we are not speaking of physical healing, since the body is not “real.” Rather, it is the healing of the split-mind and thus, the healing of the Sonship from the insane idea that it could be separate from the Mind of God. By healing, we realize that our will and God’s Will are One. We understand that cause and effect are forever intertwined as one.

T-8.VII.14. You are not limited by the body, and thought cannot be made flesh. 2 Yet mind can be manifested through the body if the mind goes beyond the body and does not interpret the body as a limitation of the mind. 3 Whenever you see another as limited to or by the body, you are imposing this same limitation to or by the body upon yourself. 4 Are you willing to accept this limitation of the body, when your whole purpose for learning should be to escape from limitations? 5 To conceive of the body as a means of attack and to believe that joy could possibly result from attack is a clear-cut indication of a poor learner. 6 The poor learner has accepted an egoic learning goal of attack and is thus promoting separation. This inappropriate learning goal is in obvious contradiction to the unified purpose of the Holy Spirit’s curriculum, which is health and joining, and the contradictory egoic goal of attack is interfering with the
poor learner’s ability to accept the curriculum’s purpose of healing as his own purpose.

**Note # 60:** Being created as a Oneness of Everything, we can never be happy with being less. To misperceive any part of the Oneness as limited is to place that same limitation on oneself. Separation and Oneness are like parallel lines; they never meet. We cannot have a purpose different than the purpose God established for His Son. Our unified purpose must be the co-creative extension of the Mind of God. Creation is the joy of God.

**T-8.VII.15.** Joy is unified purpose, and unified purpose is only God's purpose. 2 When your purpose is unified your purpose is God’s purpose. 3 Believe you can interfere with God’s purpose, and you need salvation. 4 You have condemned yourself, but condemnation is not of God. 5 Therefore, since condemnation is not of God, condemnation is not true. 6 No more are any of condemnation’s seeming results true. 7 When you see a brother as a body, you are condemning a brother because you have condemned yourself as a body. 8 Yet if all condemnation is unreal, and condemnation must be unreal since condemnation is a form of attack, then condemnation can have no results.

**Note # 61:** God does not judge. If God’s child chooses to pretend that he is something that he is not, God allows the child to play his childish games. The only thing God insures is that when the child grows tired of his war games, the child will always find his way back to his Father’s house. God placed the Holy Spirit within our playful mind to insure our safe return.

**T-8.VII.16.** Do not allow yourself to suffer from imagined results of condemnation which are not true. 2 Free your mind from the belief that condemnation is possible. 3 In condemnation’s complete impossibility lies your only hope for release from condemnation. 4 But what other hope would you want? 5 Freedom from illusions lies only in not believing the illusions. 6 There is no attack, but there is unlimited communication and therefore unlimited power and wholeness. 7 The power of wholeness is extension. 8 Do not arrest your thought in this world of illusion, and you will open your mind to creation in God. p154

**Note # 62:** Freedom from illusion lies in you not believing, actually, never even perceiving the illusion as a threat to your true reality. Freedom lies in truth. Illusion is false and, therefore, has no basis in reality, which is the Kingdom. What is false is false and what is true has never changed. The Holy Spirit’s task is to gently awaken a sleeping child’s mind to the fact that it was only dreaming. Once the child realizes that he is the dreamer, he can choose to release himself from all of his childish fears. He can leave the game of separation behind and rejoin the Kingdom and co-create with His Father.
VIII. The Body as Means or End

T-8.VIII.1. Attitudes toward the body are attitudes toward attack. 2 The ego’s definitions of anything are childish, and the ego's definitions are always based on what the ego believes the thing is <for>. 3 The ego's definitions are always based on what the ego believes the thing is <for> because the ego is incapable of true generalizations, and equates what the ego sees with the function the ego ascribes to the thing. 4 The ego does not equate the thing with what the thing <is>. 5 To the ego the body is to attack <with>. 6 Equating you with the body, the ego teaches that <you> are to attack with. 7 The body, then, is not the source of the body’s own health. 8 The body's condition lies solely in your interpretation of the body’s function. 9 Functions are part of being since functions arise from being, but the relationship is not reciprocal and therefore being does not arise from functions. 10 The whole does define the part, but the part does not define the whole. 11 Yet to know in part is to know entirely because of the fundamental difference between knowledge and perception. 12 In perception the whole is built up of parts that can separate and reassemble in different constellations. 13 But knowledge never changes, so knowledge’s constellation is permanent. 14 The idea of part-whole relationships has meaning only at the level of perception, where change is possible. 15 Otherwise, there is no difference between the part and whole.

Note # 63: Knowledge is unchanging and like a hologram since each part contains the whole. If truth were changeable, it would not be truth. Perception is based on interpretation and, therefore, changes as judgments shift. The perceptions of the mind under the thought system of the ego change from time to time because the ego knows nothing and is always uncertain. Time is the measure of change. Time exists and has a function in the ego’s thought system since there is something that changes and, therefore, is available to measure. The ego’s thought system is based on individuality and inequality of the parts, so different combinations result in different answers. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is based on equality. In the thought system of the Holy Spirit, all parts are the same since all parts contain everything. These indivisible parts are eternal. They do not change and thus, time in the Kingdom does not exist since there is no change to measure. Time is only necessary in the unreal world of perception. In the world of perception, time allows the split-minded to relearn what they are by healing and rejoining as one whole mind.

T-8.VIII.2. The body exists in a world that seems to contain two voices, the ego’s and the Holy Spirit’s. Both voices appear to be fighting for the possession of the body. 2 In this perceived constellation the body is seen as capable of shifting the body’s allegiance from one voice to the other voice, making the concepts of both health and sickness meaningful. 3 The ego makes a fundamental confusion between means and end as the ego always does. 4 Regarding the body as an end, the ego has no real use for the body because the body is <not> an end. 5 You must have noticed an outstanding characteristic of every end that the ego has accepted as the ego’s own. 6 When you have achieved the end, <the end has not satisfied you>. 7 This is why the ego is forced to shift ceaselessly from one goal to another, so that you will continue to hope the ego can yet offer you something.
**Note # 64:** The body, to the Holy Spirit, is a learning device, a means, which can be utilized for communication and joining. The thought system of the ego promises you happiness when you obtain something outside yourself. Yet, once the goal is achieved, you realize that it did not bring about the promised result. Due to this failure in obtaining happiness and peace, the ego then must substitutes a new goal with the same promised results of happiness and completeness. The ego’s motto is, ”Seek and never find.”

**T-8.VIII.3.** It has been particularly difficult to overcome the ego's belief in the body as an end, because the ego's belief in the body as an end is synonymous with the belief in attack as an end. 2 The ego has a profound investment in sickness. 3 If you are sick, how can you object to the ego's firm belief that you are not invulnerable? 4 This idea that since the body is sick, you are not invulnerable is an appealing argument from the ego's point of view, because the argument obscures the obvious attack that underlies the sickness. 5 If you recognized the obvious attack that underlies the sickness and also decided against attack, you could not give or allow this false witness of sickness to the ego's witness stand. p155

**Note # 65:** You must decide whether you are a separate ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies, or if you are a Child of God, a Oneness, prefect, whole and complete. Is the body what you are (an end), or is the body a learning device (a means)? Are you limitless spirit, or are you a limited body?

**T-8.VIII.4.** It is hard to perceive sickness as a false witness, because you do not realize that sickness is entirely out of keeping with what you want. 2 This witness, called sickness, then, appears to be innocent and trustworthy because you have not seriously cross-examined this witness, called sickness. 3 If you had seriously cross-examined this witness, called sickness, you would not consider sickness such a strong witness on behalf of the ego's views. 4 A more honest statement would be that those who want the ego are predisposed to defend the ego. 5 Therefore, those who are predisposed to defend the ego's choice of witnesses should be suspect from the beginning. 6 The ego does not call upon witnesses who would disagree with the ego’s case, nor does the Holy Spirit call upon witnesses who would disagree with the ego’s case. 7 I have said that judgment is the function of the Holy Spirit, and the function of judgment is one the Holy Spirit is perfectly equipped to fulfill. 8 The ego as a judge gives anything but an impartial judgment. 9 When the ego calls on a witness, the ego has already made the witness an ally.

**Note # 66:** The Holy Spirit does not call witness to testify against the ego since that would be an attack that would confirm the existence of the ego. The ego is not real as it is only a product of false thinking. The Holy Spirit takes the witnesses that the ego has called into your experience and converts them into witnesses for the truth. When we ask for guidance, we choose again and transform egoic misperception into correct perception. When the thinking is corrected; the ego disappears.

**T-8.VIII.5.** It is still true that the body has no function of itself, because the body is not
an end. 2 The ego, however, establishes the body as an end because, as such, the body’s true function as a learning device to facilitate communication and joining is obscured. 3 To obscure something’s true function is the purpose of everything the ego does. 4 The ego’s sole aim is to lose sight of the function of everything. 5 A sick body does not make any sense. 6 A sick body could not make sense because sickness is not what the body is for. 7 Sickness is meaningful only if the two basic premises on which the ego's interpretation of the body rests are true; the first basic premises is that the body is for attack, and the second basic premises is that you are a body. 8 Without these two premises that the body is for attack and you are a body, sickness is inconceivable.

Note # 67: Perception follows purpose. For the ego, the body’s purpose is to prove that you are not unlimited, invulnerable spirit. A sick body is the ego’s proof in the reality of the separation.

T-8.VIII.6. Sickness is a way of demonstrating that you can be hurt. 2 Sickness is a witness to your frailty, your vulnerability, and your extreme need to depend on external guidance. 3 The ego uses sickness as the ego’s best argument for your need for <the ego’s> guidance. 4 The ego dictates endless prescriptions for avoiding catastrophic outcomes. 5 The Holy Spirit, perfectly aware of the same situation, does not bother to analyze the same situation at all. 6 If data are meaningless there is no point in analyzing the meaningless data. 7 The function of truth is to collect information that is true. 8 Any way you handle error results in nothing. 9 The more complicated the results become the harder it may be to recognize the nothingness of the error, but it is not necessary to examine all possible outcomes to which premises give rise in order to judge the error truly.

Note # 68: It is not necessary to review all possible outcomes that may follow from insane thinking. Once the original idea is determined to be insane, we need not follow it down to all its logical conclusions. The Holy Spirit knows what you really are and, therefore, understands that the entire thought system of the ego rests on the ego’s false idea that the separation occurred and that you are a body. Once you accept the falseness of the ego’s first premise, anything that follows logically from the ego’s thought system cannot be trusted.

Example: Only humans have feathers. Birds have feathers. Therefore, birds are human. This is a logical conclusion but it is false since the major premise, “Only humans have feathers” is wrong.

T-8.VIII.7. A learning device is not a teacher. 2 A learning device cannot tell you how you feel. 3 You do not know how you feel because you have accepted the ego's confusion, and you therefore believe that a learning device, the body, <can> tell you how you feel. p156 4 Sickness is merely another example of your insistence on asking guidance of a teacher, the ego, who does not know the answer. 5 The ego is incapable of knowing how you feel. 6 When I said that the ego does not know anything, I said the one thing about the ego that is wholly true. 7 But there is a corollary to fact that the ego does not know anything. This corollary is if only knowledge has being and the ego has no knowledge, then the ego has no being.
Note # 69: The ego’s only existence comes from the power your mind chooses to give the ego. The ego was “made” by a split mind. Heal the split mind and the ego disappears. The ego has no power of being for it is not real and, therefore, the ego has no reality in the Mind of God.

T-8.VIII.8. You might well ask how the voice of something that does not exist, the ego, can be so insistently. 2 Have you thought about the distorting power of something you want, even if that something is not real? 3 There are many instances of how what you want distorts perception. 4 No one can doubt the ego’s skill in building up false cases. 5 Nor can anyone doubt your willingness to listen to the ego's false cases until you choose not to accept anything except truth. 6 When you lay the ego aside, the ego will be gone. 7 The Holy Spirit’s Voice is as loud as your willingness to listen. 8 The Holy Spirit’s Voice cannot be louder without violating your freedom of choice, which the Holy Spirit seeks to restore, never to undermine.

Note # 70: What we value, we call into our experience. Because we value the egoic promise of specialness and individuality that comes along with the belief in separation from the Oneness, we want and falsely choose the separation to be our “truth.” Because of free will, we have been given the power to either create the real or make the false appear real. When we choose to “create” differently from God (technically make) we choose to exclude and thus, refuse to extend perfection. It is our desire for specialness that makes the voice for the ego so insistently. Unfortunately, for the decision-maker, with the choice for specialness comes the unwanted baggage of limitation, sin, guilt and fear. We want specialness and individuality, but we get “littleness” and vulnerability instead.

T-8.VIII.9. The Holy Spirit teaches you to use your body only to reach your brothers, so the Holy Spirit can teach the Holy Spirit’s message through you. 2 Teaching the Holy Spirit’s message through you will heal your brothers and therefore heal you. 3 Everything used in accordance with its function as the Holy Spirit sees it cannot be sick. 4 Everything used not in accordance with its function as the Holy Spirit sees it, is sick. 5 Do not allow the body to be a mirror of a split mind. 6 Do not let the body be an image of your own perception of littleness. 7 Do not let the body reflect your decision to attack. 8 Health is seen as the natural state of everything when interpretation is left to the Holy Spirit, Who perceives no attack on anything. 9 Health is the result of relinquishing all attempts to use the body lovelessly. 10 Health is the beginning of the proper perspective on life under the guidance of the one Teacher, the Holy Spirit, Who knows what life is, the Holy Spirit being the Voice for Life Itself.

Note # 71: The Holy Spirit utilizes the body as a teaching device. As such, the body is a means to communicate the Holy Spirit’s message to you and your brothers that you are unlimited spirit and part of the unified Sonship. This is done by forgiveness and the eventual acceptance of the Atonement for yourself. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for Life, which is the Spirit of God. God is Love and Love is Life. We are the Children of the Living God.
IX. Healing as Corrected Perception

T-8.IX.1. I said before that the Holy Spirit is the Answer. The Holy Spirit is the Answer to everything, because the Holy Spirit knows what the answer to everything is. The ego does not know what a real question is, although the ego asks an endless number of questions. Yet you can learn that the ego does not know what a real question is, as you learn to question the value of the ego, and thus establish your ability to evaluate the ego’s questions. When the ego tempts you to sickness do not ask the Holy Spirit to heal the body, for to heal the body would merely be to accept the ego's belief that the body is the proper aim of healing. Ask, rather, that the Holy Spirit teach you the right perception of the body, for perception alone can be distorted. Only perception can be sick, because only perception can be wrong.

Note # 72: Ask that the Holy Spirit correct your misperception of the purpose of the body. The body’s purpose is that of a learning device for communication. It is a means not an end. It is your mind’s misperception not that of the body’s that leads to the sickness of the body.

T-8.IX.2. Wrong perception is the wish that things be as the things are not. The reality of everything is totally harmless, because total harmlessness is the condition of everything’s real reality. Total harmlessness is also the condition of your awareness of everything’s real reality. You do not have to seek reality. Reality will seek you and find you when you meet reality’s conditions. Reality’s harmless conditions are part of what reality is. And this part only, that you be totally harmless, is up to you. The rest is of reality, itself. You need do so little because your little part of being totally harmless is so powerful that being totally harmless will bring the whole to you. Accept, then, your little part, and let the whole be yours.

Note # 73: Your part is to correct your wrong perception that you are a body that can attack and be attacked. Wrong perception only requires the acceptance of reality as it is. Truth can be obscured by the false but truth still remains hidden behind the cloak of darkness. Reality is found in the Mind of God, which we share. Reality is rediscovering what you really are. The ego’s thought system utilizes the world of your provisional reality to attempt to “prove” that you are not the Son of God, created perfect, whole and complete. Fantasy is not your true reality.

Being totally harmless means that we are powerless to change the Will of God. Our misperceptions have no ability to impact or change the truth about God’s perfect Creation. Our egoic thoughts cannot change the Oneness that is the Mind of God.

T-8.IX.3. Wholeness heals because wholeness is of the mind. All forms of sickness, even unto death, are physical expressions of the fear of awakening to the wholeness of the mind. All forms of sickness are attempts to reinforce sleeping out of fear of waking. This “sleeping” out of fear of waking, is a pathetic way of trying not to see by rendering the faculties for seeing, which is the mind, not the physical eyes,
ineffectual. 5 "Rest in peace" is a blessing for the living, not the dead, because rest comes from waking, not from sleeping. 6 Sleep is withdrawing; waking is joining. 7 Dreams are illusions of joining, because dreams reflect the ego's distorted notions about what joining is. 8 Yet the Holy Spirit, too, has use for sleep, and can use dreams on behalf of waking if you will let Him.

Note # 74: Sickness is the result of the splitting of our mind that arose from our belief in the separation. The split mind holds within it two conflicting thought systems. The ego’s thought system believes in separation, individual “littleness” and limitation. Your world of provisional reality is the ego’s witness that you are a limited ego-body. The Holy Spirit’s thought system knows the truth about what you really are, and always “sees” you as an unlimited spirit, part of the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit utilizes your world of provisional reality and reinterprets this “dream world” based on truth. He asks you to choose again. By choosing for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are called to reawaken from the deep sleep that we have fallen into. The Holy Spirit can transform our egoic misperception by removing the false aspects of fear and allowing only loving and forgiving aspects to remain. Thus, egoic misperceptions are realigned with the truth and become correct perception that witnesses for only joining and union as one.

T-8.IX.4. How you wake is the sign of how you have used sleep. 2 To whom did you give your sleep and dreams? 3 Under which teacher did you place your sleep? 4 Whenever you wake dispiritedly, your sleep was not given to the Holy Spirit. 5 Only when you awaken joyously have you utilized sleep according to the Holy Spirit's purpose. 6 You can indeed be "drugged" by sleep, if you have misused sleep on behalf of sickness. 7 Sleep is no more a form of death than death is a form of unconsciousness. 8 Complete unconsciousness is impossible. 9 You can rest in peace only because you are awake.

Note # 75: The mind is always awake even when we appear to be physically sleeping. Sleeping is the withdrawal or resting of our conscious mind. Yet, our subconscious mind is active and continues to function. If we have given our subconscious mind over to the though system of the ego, our subconscious mind will continue to manifest and call into our experiences proof that we are a vulnerable and limited ego-body. If the subconscious mind is given over to the Holy Spirit’s thought system, it will attempt to remember what we really are. Sleep, therefore, can be utilized to “withdraw” or awaken from our dream world of provisional reality into the truth that we are unlimited Spirit.

T-8.IX.5. Healing is release from the fear of waking and the substitution of the decision to wake. 2 The decision to wake is the reflection of the will to love, since all healing involves replacing fear with love. 3 The Holy Spirit cannot distinguish among degrees of error, for if the Holy Spirit taught that one form of sickness is more serious than another, the Holy Spirit would be teaching that one error can be more real than another error. 4 The Holy Spirit’s function is to distinguish only between the false and the true, replacing the false with the true.

Note # 76: There is no degree of difficulty because there is nothing more false than the false. To the Holy Spirit, everything is either black or white. There is just the choice
between the true and the false. Yet, if choice does not result in a change in outcome, can it be a viable choice? The Holy Spirit recognizes that black, the false, is really no choice since it has no lasting and real effect. The Holy Spirit, therefore, merely advises that you simply choose again. When the choice for truth is finally made, the false always fades away into the nothingness from which it came.

T-8.IX.6. The ego, which always wants to weaken the mind, tries to separate the mind from the body in an attempt to destroy the mind. Yet the ego actually believes that the ego is protecting the body. This belief that the ego is protecting the body is because the ego believes that mind is dangerous, and that to make the body mindless is to heal. But to make mind mindless is impossible, since to make mind mindless would mean to make nothing out of what God created, which is only mind or spirit. The ego despises weakness, even though the ego makes every effort to induce weakness. The ego wants only what the ego hates. To the ego wanting only what the ego hates is perfectly sensible. Believing in the power of attack, the ego wants attack.

Note # 77: The ego wants the mind to forget that the mind is the decision-maker. If the ego can convince the mind that it is a ego-body rather than spirit, mind or thought, the mind will “forget” that the mind is the decision-maker. If the mind abdicates its decision-making abilities, the egoic thought system can fill this void. As such, the ego “existence” depends upon keeping the mind in this deluded state of consciousness. The ego’s goal is to keep you mindless and for you to identify yourself only as the body. Attack is the way to reinforce this belief that you are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies.

T-8.IX.7. The Bible enjoins you to be perfect, to heal all errors, to take no thought of the body as separate and to accomplish all things in my name. This is not my name alone, for our being is a shared identification. The Name of God's Son is One, and you are enjoined to do the works of love because we share this Oneness. Our minds are whole because our minds are one. If you are sick you are withdrawing from me. Yet you cannot withdraw from me alone. You can only withdraw from yourself and me.

Note # 78: You withdraw from the Oneness when you make yourself sick and claim that you are little. Sickness arises from your belief in split-mindedness. When we are sick, we have chosen to withdraw from the truth of our Big “S” Self and all others. We deny our Oneness with the Mind of God.

T-8.IX.8. You have surely begun to realize that “A Course In Miracles” is a very practical course, and one that means exactly what A Course In Miracles’ says. I would not ask you to do things you cannot do, and it is impossible that I could do things you cannot do. Given that it is impossible that I could do things you cannot do, and given this quite literally, nothing can prevent you from doing exactly what I ask, and everything argues for your doing exactly what I ask. I give you no limits because God lays no limits upon you. When you limit yourself we are not of one mind, and that is sickness. Yet sickness is not of the body, but sickness is of the mind. All forms of sickness are signs that the mind is split, and that the mind does not accept a unified purpose.
Note # 79: All parts of the Sonship, including Jesus, are equal. When we see differences and limitations, it is due to our valuing specialness, individuality and separation. Our mind is split trying to serve two masters. Healing requires one unified purpose to return wholeness to the split-minded. Our Big “S” Self can never accept the ego’s thought system. Jesus has demonstrated that only the Holy Spirit’s thought system can unify the split-mind and thus, conquer the illusion of the body and its associated death.

T-8.IX.9. The unification of purpose, then, is the Holy Spirit's only way of healing your mind’s belief that it is separate and therefore split. 2 This is because the mind is the only level at which healing means anything. 3 The re-establishing of meaning in a chaotic thought system is the way to heal a chaotic thought system. 4 Your task is only to meet the conditions for meaning, since meaning itself is of God. 5 Yet your return to meaning is essential to God, because your meaning is part of God. 6 Your healing, then, is part of God’s health, since your health is part of His Wholeness. 7 God cannot lose His Wholeness, but you can not know God’s Wholeness. 8 Yet God’s Wholeness is still God’s Will for you, and God’s Will must stand forever and in all things. p159

Note # 80: Sickness is of the mind and, therefore, the mind must be healed because it is at that level that the problem occurred. To attempt to heal the body would be addressing the symptom rather than the cause. The cause of sickness is the belief in separation, which resulted in the appearance of false choices for our purpose. These different choices in purpose results in conflict and competition within a now “split mind” that claims that it did not know what it was. The split mind gave rise to the ego and the egoic thought system. By healing, the Holy Spirit re-establishes the wholeness of the mind by once again unifying the purpose of the mind. This unified purpose is the reestablishment of the Sonship to the truth of the Oneness, the Sonship return to knowledge and the fulfilling of the Son’s function as a co-creator with His Father. The ego’s chaotic thought system is discarded for the thought system of truth, which is the Holy Spirit’s thought system. Our will and God’s Will are recognized as the same Will. Thus, healing re-established the wholeness of our minds with the Mind of God.
Chapter 9. THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE ATONEMENT

I. The Acceptance of Reality

T-9.I.1. Fear of the Will of God is one of the strangest beliefs the human mind has ever made. 2 Fear of the Will of God could not possibly have occurred unless the mind were already profoundly split, making it possible for the split minded to be afraid of what the Will of God and the mind really is. 3 Reality cannot "threaten" anything except illusions, since reality can only uphold truth. 4 The very fact that the Will of God, which is what you are, is perceived as fearful, demonstrates that you are afraid of what you are. 5 It is not, then, the Will of God of which you are afraid, but your will.

Note # 1: Because we perceive ourselves to be separate from God, we believe that we can oppose God’s Will. If we understood that we are God’s Will, there would be nothing to oppose. The truth of love just is. Love is not fearful. It is our denial of the fact that we are only the expression of God’s Love that is the source of our fear. We then project our misperception of what we are upon God. Our misperception of ourselves as a fearful being leads to our mind’s egoic projection that God is something to fear. Instead of God being only Love, the split-minded make up an egoic god of fear. Being split-minded, we are afraid of what we perceive our own “egoic” will to represent. We believe that we are something other than love. Our perceived provisional reality now becomes a frightening place.

T-9.I.2. Your will is not the ego's will, and that is why the ego is against you. 2 What seems to be the fear of God is really the fear of your own egoic provisional reality. 3 It is impossible to learn anything consistently in a state of panic. 4 If the purpose of this course is to help you remember what you are, and if you believe that what you are is fearful, then it must follow that you will not learn this course because you believe that what you are is fearful. 5 Yet the reason for the course is that you do not know what you are.

Note # 2: The ego’s thought system is based on fear. If we adopt the viewpoint of our egoic mind, we can only learn what is false. The opposite of love is fear and this is only what the ego would teach us. Only by seeking a different teacher will we find a spokesman for love and truth.

T-9.I.3. If you do not know what your reality is, why would you be so sure that your reality is fearful? 2 The association of truth and fear, which would be highly artificial at most, is particularly inappropriate in the minds of those who do not know what truth is.
All this association of truth with egoic fear could mean is that you are arbitrarily associating something beyond your awareness, which is truth, with something you do not want, which is fear. Because you are arbitrarily associating truth with egoic fear, which is something you do not want, it is evident, then, that you are judging something of which you are totally unaware of which is truth. You have set up this strange situation of judging something of which you are totally unaware of, which is the truth, so that it is impossible to escape from this strange situation without a Guide, the Holy Spirit, Who <does> know what your reality is. The purpose of this Guide, the Holy Spirit, is merely to remind you of what you want. The Holy Spirit is not attempting to force an alien will upon you. The Holy Spirit is merely making every possible effort within the limits you impose on the Holy Spirit to re-establish your own will in your awareness.

Note # 3: You believe that you are something you are not and are fearful. Therefore, it is impossible for you to self-correct because you are coming from a false belief that you are limited ego body. Since you believe that you are a limited ego body, you can never “find” yourself. Claiming that you are the frail body, you will never look past the bodily shroud to rediscover your inner Big “S” Self, which is the unlimited spirit that you are. You will search every other place within your dream world of provisional reality for something that can bring you happiness and wholeness. Since you have forgotten what you really are, you have forgotten that you already are what you seek. Only the Holy Spirit, Who knows your true reality and also is aware of your dream state, can guide you back home and awaken you to the remembrance that you are the Shared Mind of God.

T-9.I.4. You have imprisoned your will beyond your own awareness, where your will remains, but where your true will cannot help you. 2 When I said that the Holy Spirit's function is to sort out the true from the false in your mind, I meant that the Holy Spirit has the power to look into what you have hidden and recognize the Will of God there in what you have hidden. p160 3 The Holy Spirit's recognition of this true Will can make this true Will real to you because the Holy Spirit is in your mind, and therefore the Holy Spirit is your reality. 4 If, then, the Holy Spirit's perception of your mind brings your mind’s reality to you, the Holy Spirit <is> helping you to remember what you are. 5 The only source of fear in this process of helping you to remember what you are is what you think you will lose. 6 Yet it is only what the Holy Spirit sees, which is your true Big “S” Self that you can possibly have because this true Will is what you are.

Note # 4: The Holy Spirit knows the truth and, therefore, guides you back to the truth that you are God’s Son and as such, you cannot be a limited ego body. Outside your mind’s delusional dream world, you can only be as God created you.

T-9.I.5.I have emphasized many times that the Holy Spirit will never call upon you to sacrifice anything. 2 But if you ask the sacrifice of reality of yourself, the Holy Spirit must remind you that this self-imposed sacrifice of the reality about yourself is not God's Will because this self-imposed sacrifice of the reality about yourself is not your true Will. 3 There is no difference between your will and God's Will. 4 If you did not have a split mind, you would recognize that willing is salvation because willing is
communication.

**Note # 5:** Perceiving ourselves to be split-minded, we believe that we have a will that could be different from our Source. This error is based on your ego’s misinterpretation of what creation is. God’s Creation is the extension of God, Herself. To have a will other than God’s would be to claim that we are self-created, which has already been defined as the “authority problem.” God is Cause and we are Her Effect. We cannot be self-created.

**T-9.I.6.** It is impossible to communicate in alien tongues. 2 You and your Creator can communicate through creation, because creation and only creation is Your joint Will and thus, your true reality. 3 A divided mind cannot communicate, because a divided mind speaks for different things to the same mind. 4 Since a divided mind speaks for different things to the same mind, the divided mind loses the ability to communicate simply because confused communication does not mean anything. 5 A message cannot be communicated unless a message makes sense. 6 How sensible can your messages be, when you ask for what you do not want? 7 Yet as long as you are afraid of your will, asking for what you do not want is precisely what you are asking for.

**Note # 6:** The Holy Spirit follows your true Will, which is the Will of God. The Holy Spirit does not follow or attack the false egoic will that you have dreamed up in your illusionary world of provisional reality. To do so would only increase your fear by making the false appear real. The Holy Spirit’s goal is to release you from your self-imposed fear about your true will. You fear the false and illusionary will of your ego. Only by awakening to the truth can you rediscover your true will is one with the Will of God. God wills only that you be happy. You cannot be happy when you fail to co-create with God. Creation is communication.

**T-9.I.7.** You may insist that the Holy Spirit does not answer you, but it might be wiser to consider the kind of questioner you are. 2 You do not ask only for what you want. 3 You do not ask only for what you want because you are afraid you might receive only what you want, and you would receive only what you want from the Holy Spirit who knows your true Will. 4 That is why you persist in asking the teacher, the ego, who could not possibly give you what you want since the ego does not know your true Will. 5 Of the ego you can never learn what it is that you really want, and not to be able to get what you really want from the ego gives you the illusion of safety. 6 Yet you cannot be safe from truth, but you can only be safe in truth. 7 Reality is the only safety. 8 Your will is your salvation because your true Will is the same as God's Will. 9 The separation is nothing more than the belief that your will is different from God’s Will.

**Note # 7:** Because you believe you are an ego-body, you desire to believe that you are separate. We want to be special and different from how God created us. By refusing to choose the Holy Spirit as your guide, you never are reminded what you really are, which is a Oneness of “All That Is”. Instead, you take the ego as your guide. The ego cannot tell you what you are because the ego does not know. The ego can teach the false and claim that you have a special, separate and autonomous will that is different from God’s Will.
T-9.I.8. No right mind can believe that its will is stronger than God's Will. If, then, a mind believes that its will is different from God's Will, the “non right-minded” can only decide either that there is no God or that God's Will is fearful. The former, that there is no God, accounts for the atheist and the latter, that God's Will is fearful, accounts for the martyr, who believes that God demands sacrifices. Either of these insane decisions, that there is no God or that God's Will is fearful, will induce panic, because the atheist believes he is alone, and the martyr believes that God is crucifying him. Yet no one really wants either abandonment or retaliation, even though many may seek both abandonment and retaliation. Can you ask the Holy Spirit for "gifts" such as abandonment or retaliation and actually expect to receive them? (Abandonment or retaliation) The Holy Spirit cannot give you something you do not want with your true Will. When you ask the Universal Giver, the Holy Spirit, for what you do not want, you are asking for what cannot be given because what you do not want was never created. What you do not want was never created, because what you do not want was never your will.

Note # 8: God’s Will, of which you are an extension, only created joy and love, because that is what God willed for His Son. God never created anything that was harmful. To do so in a Oneness of Everything would mean God would have to will that He harm Himself. This would be insanity. Therefore, there can be nothing harmful within the Will of God.

T-9.I.9. Ultimately everyone must remember the Will of God, because ultimately everyone must recognize himself, which is the Will of God. This recognition of yourself is the recognition that your will and God's Will are one. In the presence of truth, there are no unbelievers and no sacrifices. In the security of reality, fear is totally meaningless. To deny what is can only seem to be fearful. Fear cannot be real without a cause, and God is the only Cause. God is Love and you do want God. This, Love <is> your will. Ask for this, God’s Love, and you will be answered, because you will be asking only for what belongs to you, which is God’s Love, your inheritance.

Note # 9: Like the prodigal son, God insures that you will never lose your inheritance. You can forget what you are, but you can never lose what you are. Our reawakening is assured because it is God’s Will that His Son be joyous and loved.

T-9.I.10. When you ask the Holy Spirit for what would hurt you the Holy Spirit cannot answer because nothing can hurt you, and so you are asking for nothing. Any wish that stems from the ego is a wish for nothing, and to ask for a wish that stems from the ego is not a request. A wish that stems from the ego is merely a denial in the form of a request. The Holy Spirit is not concerned with form, being aware only of meaning. The ego cannot ask the Holy Spirit for anything, because there is complete communication failure between the ego and the Holy Spirit. Yet <you> can ask for everything of the Holy Spirit, because your requests to be everything are real, being of your right mind. Would the Holy Spirit deny the Will of God? And could the Holy Spirit fail to recognize the Will of God in God’s Son?
**Note # 10:** The Holy Spirit hears only requests from the true “High-Self”. To respond to the request from the insane egoic thought system would only increase fear and thus, “confirm” the split-mind’s belief in the separation. This cannot be the Will of God and thus, it cannot be your true will. Requests for littleness and limitation are only the insane requests of the ego. Egoic requests are asking for the denial of the truth. The ego always requests that the false be made true. This is impossible.

**T-9.I.11.** You do not recognize the enormous waste of energy you expend in denying truth. 2 What would you say of someone who persists in attempting the impossible, believing that to achieve the impossible is to succeed? 3 The belief that you must have the impossible in order to be happy is totally at variance with the principle of creation. 4 God could not will that happiness depended on what you could never have. 5 The fact that God is Love does not require belief, but the fact that God is Love does require acceptance. 6 It is indeed possible for you to deny facts, although it is impossible for you to change facts. 7 If you hold your hands over your eyes, you will not see because you are interfering with the laws of seeing. 8 If you deny love, you will not know love because your cooperation is the law of love’s being. 9 You cannot change laws you did not make, and the laws of happiness were created for you, not by you. p162

**Note # 11:** God’s love allows you total freedom. It flows constantly to and through you. Due to free will, we can pretend that we are not the recipients of God’s love. Yet, our denial of the truth cannot change the truth.

**T-9.I.12.** Any attempt to deny what <is> must be fearful, and if the attempt is strong this denial of what <is> will induce panic. 2 Willing against reality, though impossible, can be made into a very persistent goal even though you, your Big “S” Self, do not want to will against reality. 3 But consider the result of this strange decision of willing against what you really want. 4 You are devoting your mind to what you do not want. 5 How real can this devotion be? 6 If you do not want it, it was never created. 7 If it were never created, it is nothing. 8 Can you really devote yourself to nothing?

**Note # 12:** Willing against what you really want is an insane wish of a split-mind under the influence of the ego’s guidance. Since the mind is split, the mind does not know what it really is. Not knowing what it really is, the split-minded cannot know what it really wants. The split-minded refuse to listen to the request of their Big “S” Self. The Holy Spirit does not respond to the ego, since both are not on the same level of communication. One only hears the voice for truth. The ego only asks for the false.

**T-9.I.13.** God in God’s devotion to you created you devoted to everything, and gave you what you are devoted <to>, which is everything. 2 Otherwise without being given everything, you would not have been created perfect. 3 Reality is everything, and you have everything because you are real. 4 You cannot make the unreal because the absence of reality is fearful, and fear cannot be created. 5 As long as you believe that fear is possible, you will not create. 6 Opposing orders of reality, which are fear and love, make reality meaningless, and reality <is> meaning.
**Note # 13:** Being everything, what is there to fear? Love is the only reality and Love is everything. As long as you believe that you are not everything, you cannot create because your beliefs are artificially limiting your creative ability. You cannot limit the Power of God, which is your inheritance, but you can fail to acknowledge that this power exists in you. Argue for your limitations and they will be yours. This limitation, however, only exist in your world of provisional reality. Your creative power can be denied, but they cannot be lost.

T-9.I.14. Remember, then, that God's Will is already possible, and nothing else will ever be. That God's Will is already possible and nothing else will ever be, is the simple acceptance of reality, because only this fact that God's Will is already possible, and nothing else will ever be, is real. You cannot distort reality and know what reality is. And if you do distort reality you will experience anxiety, depression and ultimately panic, because you are trying to make yourself unreal. When you feel these things, anxiety, depression and ultimately panic, do not try to look beyond yourself for truth, for truth can only be within you. Say, therefore:

7 Christ is in me, and where Christ is God must be, for Christ is part of God.

**Note # 14:** Do not go beyond yourself for truth because there is nothing that could be beyond you. Beyond yourself can only "exist" in an egoic dream world of your own provisional reality. Truth can only be found to the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Since the ego’s thought system is based on the insane and false belief that you can oppose the Will of God, you should not seek answers from the ego for it does not know who you are.

**II. The Answer to Prayer**

T-9.II.1. Everyone who ever tried to use prayer to ask for something has experienced what appears to be failure. This experience of what appears to be failure in prayer is not only true in connection with specific things that might be harmful, but also in connection with requests that are strictly in line with this course. The latter requests that are strictly in line with this course, in particular might be incorrectly interpreted as "proof" that the course does not mean what the course says. You must remember, however, that the course states, and repeatedly, that the course’s purpose is the escape from fear.

**Note # 15:** The Holy Spirit cannot answer your legitimate request affirmatively, if the answer would result in an increase in your fear. To do so, would only make your belief in the separation appear more real to your already deluded mind. This would be counterproductive and against the Holy Spirit’s function and purpose.

T-9.II.2. Let us suppose, then, that what you ask of the Holy Spirit is what you really want, but you are still afraid of what you ask of the Holy Spirit. Should this be the
case that you are still afraid of what you ask of the Holy Spirit, your attainment of what you ask of the Holy Spirit which if received would still frighten you, would no longer <be> what you want. p163 3 Because this would no longer <be> what you want, this is why certain specific forms of healing are not achieved, even when the state of healing is achieved. 4 An individual may ask for physical healing because the individual is fearful of bodily harm. 5 At the same time, if the individual were healed physically, the threat to the individual’s thought system might be considerably more fearful to the individual than the sickness’ physical expression. 6 In this case the individual is not really asking for release from fear, but for the removal of a symptom that the individual himself selected. 7 This request for the removal of a symptom that the individual himself selected is, therefore, not a request for healing at all.

Note # 16: All prayer is answered. Yet, because the Holy Spirit will not do anything that might increase your fear, the answer may not be recognized. Any increase in your level of fear would reinforce the belief in separation. Prayer is a request for healing which is a request for a release of fear. This is in alignment with the goal of the Holy Spirit. Since sickness’ source is the mind’s misperception of what you are, the Holy Spirit must heal at the problem’s source, which is at the level of the mind. The symptom may appear at the physical level of the body, yet, it is the mind, not the body where the healing must take place. The body is part of your dream world of provisional reality. The Holy Spirit will answer all requests but you may choose not to listen or recognize the answer. If the mind is healed, the imagined symptom in the body may or may not appear to change. Yet, when healed, the whole mind will recognize that you are not the body.

T-9.II.3. The Bible emphasizes that all prayer is answered, and this is indeed true that all prayer is answered. 2 The very fact that the Holy Spirit has been asked for anything will ensure a response. 3 Yet it is equally certain that no response given by the Holy Spirit will ever be one that would increase fear. 4 It is possible that the Holy Spirit’s answer will not be heard. 5 It is impossible, however, that the answer of the Holy Spirit will be lost. 6 There are many answers you have already received but have not yet heard. 7 I assure you that the answers of the Holy Spirit are waiting for you.

Note # 17: The Holy Spirit answers all requests, but you may choose not to listen or recognize the answer. If this is the case, the answer will not be wasted. It will be preserved for you until your free will chooses to listen and accept the answer.

T-9.II.4. If you would know your prayers are answered, never doubt a Son of God. 2 Do not question a Son of God and do not confound a Son of God, for your faith in a Son of God is your faith in yourself. 3 If you would know God and God’s Answer, believe in me whose faith in you cannot be shaken. 4 Can you ask of the Holy Spirit truly, and doubt your brother? 5 Believe your brother’s words are true because of the truth that is in your brother. 6 You will unite with the truth in your brother, and your brother’s words will <be> true. 7 As you hear your brother you will hear me. 8 Listening to truth is the only way you can hear truth now, and finally know truth.

Note # 18: We must look beyond our brother’s body to the truth of his Big “S” Self. We
must perceive our brother’s actions as only communicating love or a cry for love. This is how we listen only for truth. The proper response to a brother’s cry for love is to respond with love, not attack.

T-9.II.5. The message your brother gives you is up to you. 2 What does your brother say to you? 3 What would you have your brother say? 4 Your decision about your brother determines the message you receive. 5 Remember that the Holy Spirit is in your brother, and the Holy Spirit’s Voice speaks to you through your brother. 6 What can so holy a brother tell you except truth? 7 But are you listening to the truth that your holy brother tells you? 8 Your brother may not know who he is, but there is a light in your brother’s mind that does know the truth. 9 This light can shine into your mind, giving truth to your brother’s words and making you able to hear your brother’s words. 10 Your brother’s words are the Holy Spirit’s answer to you. 11 Is your faith in your brother strong enough to let you hear the Holy Spirit’s answer to you?

Note # 19: Your brother’s Big ‘S” Self lies hidden by his bodily form. If you quiet your egoic mind and stop and listen, the Holy Spirit will speak the truth about your brother’s Big ‘S” Self and your Big “S” Self will respond with love and forgiveness. You will join together for your common holiness is one.

T-9.II.6. You can no more pray for yourself alone than you can find joy for yourself alone. 2 Prayer is the restatement of inclusion, directed by the Holy Spirit under the laws of God. 3 Salvation is of your brother. 4 The Holy Spirit extends from your mind to your brother’s mind, and answers <you>. 5 You cannot hear the Voice for God, the Holy Spirit, in yourself alone, because you are not alone. p164 6 And the Holy Spirit’s answer is only for what you are. 7 You will not know the trust I have in you unless you extend the trust I have in you. 8 You will not trust the guidance of the Holy Spirit, or believe that the guidance of the Holy Spirit is for you unless you hear the guidance of the Holy Spirit in others. 9 The guidance of the Holy Spirit must be for your brother <because> the guidance of the Holy Spirit is for you. 10 Would God have created a Voice of the Holy Spirit for you alone? 11 Could you hear the Holy Spirit’s answer except as the Holy Spirit answers all of God’s Sons? 12 Hear of your brother what you would have me hear of you, for you would not want me to be deceived.

Note # 20: Since prayer is inclusive, you cannot pray alone. Prayer is answered through your brothers for the removal of fear is shared by all. The guidance of the Holy Spirit has universal application since we are all Son’s of God. Although denied by the egoic mind, we remain connected with our brother in the holographic web of God’s Mind. Healing is the coming together of those who once perceived themselves as separate. The Laws of God state that “To give is to receive.” for we are all joined as One.

T-9.II.7. I love you for the truth in you, as God does. 2 Your deceptions may deceive you, but your deceptions cannot deceive me. 3 I knowing what you are, I cannot doubt you. 4 I hear only the Holy Spirit in you and the Holy Spirit speaks to me through you. 5 If you would hear me, hear my brothers in whom God's Voice speaks. 6 The answer to all prayers lies in our brothers. 7 You will be answered by God's Voice as you hear the
answer in everyone. 8 Do not listen to anything else or you will not hear truly.

**Note # 21:** The answer comes from the thought system of the Holy Spirit’s eyes of love. Do not listen to the thought system of the ego. The ego’s goal is to deceive and keep you from reclaiming your power to choose again.

**T-9.II.8.** Believe in your brothers because I believe in you, and you will learn that my belief in you is justified. 2 Believe in me by believing in your brothers, for the sake of what God gave your brothers. 3 Your brothers will answer you if you learn to ask only truth of your brothers. 4 Do not ask for blessings without blessing your brothers, for only in this way of blessing your brothers first, can you learn how blessed you are. 5 By following this way of blessing your brothers first, you are seeking the truth in you. 6 Blessing your brothers first is not going beyond yourself but toward yourself. 7 Hear only God’s Answer in His Sons, and you are answered.

**Note # 22:** What we perceive ourselves to be, we extend or project upon another. Loving thoughts are extended, shared and strengthened. Fear-based thoughts make by excluding and separating. They are not shared. How we perceive another is how we view ourselves. We only give what we believe we have and by giving we prove we have it. We can either teach love or fear but not both.

**T-9.II.9.** To disbelieve is to side against, or to attack. 2 To believe is to accept, and to side with. 3 To believe is not to be credulous, but to accept and appreciate. 4 What you do not believe you do not appreciate and you cannot be grateful for what you do not value. 5 There is a price you will pay for judgment, because judgment is the setting of a price. 6 And as you set the price you will pay the price.

**Note # 23:** Since giving is receiving, any judgments you rendered will be return upon yourself. Condemn your brother and you condemn yourself. Thoughts never leave their source. What we value, we will perceive to be our experience.

**T-9.II.10.** If paying is equated with getting, you will set the price low but demand a high return. 2 You will have forgotten, however, that to price is to value, so that your return is in proportion to your judgment of worth. 3 If paying is associated with giving paying cannot be perceived as loss, and the reciprocal relationship of giving and receiving will be recognized. 4 If paying is associated with giving paying cannot be perceived as loss, and the reciprocal relationship of giving and receiving will be recognized. 4 If paying is associated with giving, the price will then be set high, because of the value of the return. 5 The price for getting is to lose sight of value, making it inevitable that you will not value what you receive. 6 Valuing the item a little, you will not appreciate the item and you will not want the item.

**Note # 24:** The judgment that you place on the item will set the price for the item. If you believe paying is getting, you are following the belief system of the ego, which believes in limitation and, therefore, always seeks a “bargain”. To the ego, having is getting. You only give to get more of something you perceive you lack and need. You will want to pay little but want to receive a lot. The ego always wants a “good trade”. If you believe paying is sharing or giving, you are under the thought system of the Holy Spirit which
knows “to have all, give all to all”. You will be willing to pay a high price because it will be shared or returned to you. This is why creation is the giving of all you are to everything. By giving all, you demonstrate that you really are all. Having and being are the same under the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-9.II.11. Never forget, then, that you set the value on what you receive, and price the value on what you receive by what you give for the item. 2 To believe that it is possible to get much for little is to believe that you can bargain with God. 3 God's laws are always fair and perfectly consistent. 4 By giving you receive. 5 But to receive is to accept, not to get. 6 It is impossible not to have, but it is possible not to know you have. 7 The recognition of having is the willingness for giving, and only by this willingness for giving can you recognize what you have. 8 What you give is therefore the value you put on what you have, being the exact measure of the value you put upon what you have. 9 And the value you put on what you have, in turn, is the measure of how much you want what you have.

Note # 25: You can only give what you have. Being only one, we can never lose what we have by giving it to the Oneness that is ourselves. By sharing thoughts, ideas are extended and strengthened. It is thought’s experience that is shared. The body form cannot be shared; only the holographic Mind of God can be shared.

T-9.II.12. You can ask of the Holy Spirit, then, only by giving to the Holy Spirit, and you can give to the Holy Spirit only where you recognize the Holy Spirit. 2 If you recognize the Holy Spirit in everyone, consider how much you will be asking of the Holy Spirit, and how much you will receive from the Holy Spirit. 3 The Holy Spirit will deny you nothing because you have denied the Holy Spirit nothing, and so you can share everything with the Holy Spirit. 4 By denying nothing to the Holy Spirit, this is the way, and the only way to have the Holy Spirit’s answer, because the Holy Spirit’s answer is all you can ask for and all you can want. 5 Say, then, to everyone:

6 Because I will to know myself, I see you as God's Son and my brother.

Note # 26: The price is set by what we give. The Law of Love states that by giving, you receive. Receiving is accepting, not getting. The recognition of having is based on our willingness to give. The first lesson of the Holy Spirit is to have all, give all to all. We cannot love God if we do not love our brothers and ourselves. All three are One. If we refuse to give all our misperceptions over to the Holy Spirit’s thought system, we are attempting to exclude some part from the Oneness. This cannot be love. To withhold love from any part is to withhold love from God, every brother and ourselves. All share equally because all are connected as One. Our denial cannot change the reality of our One Self, but denial does prevent us from remembering and recognizing our spiritual magnificence as “That One”.


III. The Correction of Error

T-9.III.1. The alertness of the ego to the errors of other egos is not the kind of vigilance the Holy Spirit would have you maintain. 2 Egos are critical in terms of the kind of "sense" the ego’s stand for. 3 Egos understand this kind of sense that alerts the ego to the errors of other egos, because finding errors in others is sensible to the ego. 4 To the Holy Spirit finding errors in others makes no sense at all.

Note # 27: To the Holy Spirit, any judgment is self-judgment. Why would a Oneness want to condemn itself? To the ego, judging another proves that you are separate and special. Thus, the ego perceives itself to be one big judging machine. The ego places its need to be right above your need to be happy.

T-9.III.2. To the ego, finding errors in others is kind and right and good to point out errors and "correct" these errors in others. 2 Finding errors in others makes perfect sense to the ego, which is unaware of what errors are and what correction is. 3 Errors are of the ego, and correction of errors lies in the relinquishment of the ego. 4 When you correct a brother, you are telling a brother that the brother is wrong. 5 A brother may be making no sense at the time, and it is certain that, if a brother is speaking from the ego, the brother will not be making sense. 6 But your task is still to tell a brother he is right. 7 You do not tell a brother this verbally, if a brother is speaking foolishly. 8 A brother needs correction at another level, because the brother’s error is at another level. 9 The brother is still right, because the brother is a Son of God. 10 A brother’s ego is always wrong, no matter what a brother’s ego says or what a brother’s ego does. p166

Note # 28: Our ego always wants to be right and goes to great lengths to maintain that it judged correctly even when it is wrong. The ego wants to fix others since this confirms its correctness and specialness. The Holy Spirit knows that the ego knows nothing and, therefore, cannot judge correctly. This is why the Holy Spirit looks past the form and focuses on content. The Holy Spirit sees the Big “S” Self in all because the Love of Christ is all that we are. Everything is judged by this simple test, “What would love have me do?” This is the only criterion that the Holy Spirit used to respond to a brother’s cry for love. This is the only criterion that our Big “S” Self knows is not insane.

T-9.III.3. If you point out the errors of your brother’s ego you must be seeing through your ego, because the Holy Spirit does not perceive your brother’s errors. 2 This seeing of the errors of your brother’s ego through your egoic mind <must> be true, since there is no communication between the ego and the Holy Spirit. 3 The ego makes no sense, and the Holy Spirit does not attempt to understand anything that arises from the ego since the ego makes no sense. 4 Since the Holy Spirit does not understand the ego, the Holy Spirit does not judge the ego, knowing that nothing the ego makes means anything.

Note # 29: The ego is on the level of illusion. Egoic illusions have no impact on the Mind of God. Because of this, any perceived error that the ego observes are ignored and dismissed as meaningless. The Holy Spirit does not attack them since to do so would be
giving the dream a false sense of reality. Instead of judging the illusion, the Holy Spirit dismisses the non-reality of the dream itself. This dismissal paves the way for the light of truth to resurface.

T-9.III.4. When you react at all to errors, you are not listening to the Holy Spirit. 2 The Holy Spirit has merely disregarded all errors, and if you attend to errors you are not hearing the Holy Spirit. 3 If you do not hear the Holy Spirit, you are listening to your ego and making as little sense as the brother whose errors you perceive. 4 This listening to your ego and making your brother wrong for errors you perceive in your brother cannot be correction. 5 Yet listening to your ego and making your brother wrong for errors you perceive in your brother is more than merely a lack of correction for your brother. 6 This listening to your ego and making your brother wrong for errors you perceive in your brother is the giving up of correction in yourself.

Note # 30: The ego relies on what it wants to perceive and makes judgments based on its false past perception and beliefs. Since the ego does not know what you are, all it “sees” are misperceptions. The split-minded, under the guidance of the ego, projects upon others, its own fear-based thoughts that it believes about itself but wishes to deny. It than judges the object of its projection based on what the ego has rejected in itself. The ego, not knowing what you are, always judges incorrectly. Since ideas cannot leave their source, this projection of limitation toward others, always returns to the mind of the sender. Thus, when you see your brother as less than a Son of God, you also deny the divinity of your Big “S” Self.

T-9.III.5. When a brother behaves insanely, you can heal a brother only by perceiving the sanity in this brother. 2 If you perceive a brother’s errors and accept a brother’s errors, you are accepting your errors. 3 If you want to give your errors over to the Holy Spirit, you must do this by giving your brother’s errors over to the Holy Spirit. 4 Unless this giving your brother’s errors over to the Holy Spirit to free yourself of your errors becomes the one way in which you handle all errors, you cannot understand how all errors are undone. 5 How is this giving your brother’s errors over to the Holy Spirit to free yourself of your errors different from telling you that what you teach you learn? 6 Your brother is as right as you are, and if you think your brother is wrong you are condemning yourself.

Note # 31: Since to give is to receive, whenever we see a brother as something other than perfect, whole and complete, we lay that same judgment upon ourselves. Because you are a Oneness, you must turn all misperception and egoic judgments over to the Holy Spirit. You cannot hate a little and be only Love. Any remnant of fear resists and blocks the flow of love.

T-9.III.6. <You> cannot correct yourself. 2 Is it possible, then, for you to correct another? 3 Yet you can see your brother truly, because it is possible for you to see yourself truly. 4 It is not up to you to change your brother, but merely to accept your brother as your brother is. 5 Your brother’s errors do not come from the truth that is in your brother’s Big “S” Self,” and only this truth, is your truth. 6 Your brother’s
egoic errors cannot change this truth of your brother’s Big “S” Self and these errors can have no effect at all on the truth in you that you also are unlimited spirit. 7 To perceive errors in anyone, and to react to the perceived errors in anyone as if perceived errors in anyone were real, is to make perceived errors in anyone real to you. 8 You will not escape paying the price for making the perceived errors in anyone real to you, not because you are being punished for making the perceived errors real to you, but because you are following the wrong guide, the ego, and will therefore lose your way.

Note # 32: When you believe yourself to be a limited ego-body, you are under the guidance of the ego and, therefore, are unable to self-correct. The insane cannot correct themselves since they do not realize that both they and their egoic guide are equally insane. Only by choosing a new guide, the Holy Spirit, will you be able to once again remember what you and your brother really are. The Holy Spirit reinterprets your misperceptions of yourself and your brother by acknowledging the fact that nothing from the ego belief system has any impact on the reality of God’s Kingdom. The only “reality” of egoic errors lies in the dreamer’s false world of provisional reality. Since you are the dreamer, you have the power to reawaken from your dream whenever you choose to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

T-9.III.7. Your brother’s errors are not of him, any more than yours are of you. 2 Accept your brother's errors as real, and you have attacked yourself. 3 If you would find your way and keep your way, see only truth beside you for you walk together with your brother. 4 The Holy Spirit in you forgives all things in you and in your brother. 5 Your brother's errors are forgiven with your errors. 6 Atonement is no more separate than love. 7 Atonement cannot be separate because Atonement comes from love. p167 8 Any attempt you make to correct a brother means that you believe correction by you is possible, and this can only be the arrogance of the ego. 9 Correction is of God, Who does not know of arrogance.

Note # 33: The ego will attempt to tell you that you can fix or save another person with your own egoic plan for salvation. Anytime you need to fix another, you are confirming our ego’s belief that you are a separate ego-body. You are claiming that your brother is not as God created him. You have judged your brother to be a child of a “lesser god.” This is making your brother’s error in thinking real and making his error your own. The Atonement is the acceptance of the fact that God’s Creations can only be perfect as God created them. Thus, your brother, like yourself remains sinless and guiltless. God’s correction is the Atonement. It says that what is true is true and can never be threatened or changed.

T-9.III.8. The Holy Spirit forgives everything because God created everything. 2 Do not undertake the Holy Spirit's function to forgive, or you will forget your function, which is to create like God, the Father. 3 Accept only the function of healing in time, because the function of healing is what time is for. 4 God gave you the function to create in eternity. 5 You do not need to learn to forgive, but you do need to learn to want to forgive. 6 For that you should forgive is what all learning was made for. 7 The function of healing in time is the Holy Spirit's use of an ability that you do not need, but
that you made. 8 Give the function of healing to the Holy Spirit! 9 You do not understand how to use the function of healing. 10 The Holy Spirit will teach you how to see yourself without condemnation, by learning how to look on everything without condemnation. 11 Condemnation will then not be real to you, and all your errors will be forgiven.

Note #34: Because of your belief in the separation, you perceive yourself and others as sick and in need of healing. This “sickness” is found only in your split-mind’s provisional reality, which is the unreal world of perception, time and space. Since the separation never really occurred in the Mind of God, time was “created” so that the Holy Spirit could heal your belief in split-mindedness. Time and space is where the dream world of your provisional reality occurs. Time is relevant here since change is possible in dreams. The Holy Spirit will teach the split-minded to stop denying their true One Self. The Holy Spirit uses time to teach you that the world of perception is only a dream and, therefore, nothing that is perceived in this dream can affect the changeless Mind of God. Thus, there is nothing in this fantasy that could require forgiveness. Illusions can have no affect on the real world, which is the Kingdom or Heaven. Self-condemnation is unnecessary since this world of perception was made in error. God did not create this world. Instead we made this world in error. Error needs correction, not judgment and condemnation. Give all your perception to the Holy Spirit so that He can correct them. Once healed, you can freely choose to reclaim your oneness with God’s Will and you can fulfill your function to co-create in eternity as God’s Child.

IV. The Holy Spirit’s Plan of Forgiveness

T-9.IV.1. Atonement is for all, because Atonement is the way to undo the belief that anything is for you alone. 2 To forgive is to overlook. 3 Look, then, beyond error and do not let your perception rest upon perceived error, for you will believe what your perception holds. 4 Accept as true only what your brother is, (his Big “S” Self) if you would know yourself. 5 Perceive what your brother is not (his little “s” self) and you cannot know what you are, because you see your brother falsely. 6 Remember always that your Identity as the Son of God is shared, and that Its sharing is the Son of God’s reality.

Note #35: You will identify with what you value. What you perceive follows your purpose. Value oneness and you will perceive the Christ in all. Value the specialness of littleness and you will perceive everything limited, different and separate. The Atonement asks you to look beyond all past egoic misperception and accept the truth of your divine birthright.

T-9.IV.2. You have a part to play in the Atonement, but the plan of the Atonement is beyond you. 2 You do not understand how to overlook errors, or you would not make errors. 3 It would merely be further error to believe either that you do not make perceived errors, or that you can correct perceived errors without the Holy Spirit’s
Guide to correction. 4 And if you do not follow the Holy Spirit’s Guide your errors will not be corrected. 5 The plan of the Atonement is not yours because of your limited ideas about what you are. 6 This sense of limitation is where all errors arise. 7 The way to undo all errors, therefore, is not <of> you but <for> you.

**Note # 36:** The plan for the Sonship’s return to knowledge comes from God, the Father. The Holy Spirit is given to be our Guide to follow in the implementation of God’s Plan of the Atonement. Being unaware of what we are and falsely believing that we are a limited body, how can we expect our little “s” self to lead us back safely to knowledge. Our ego is the part of our mind that claims it does not know what we are. Only the foolish would expect the ignorant or insane to develop a plan for would return the split-minded to the sanity of whole mindedness.

T-9.IV.3. The Atonement is a lesson in sharing, which is given you because <you have forgotten how to share.> 2 The Holy Spirit merely reminds you of the natural use of your abilities. 3 The Holy Spirit merely reminds you by reinterpreting the ability to attack into the ability to share. The Holy Spirit translates what you have made into what God created. 4 If you would accomplish this reinterpreting of what you have made into what God created through the Holy Spirit, you cannot look on your abilities through the eyes of the ego, or you will judge your abilities as <the ego> does. p168 5 All your abilities' harmfulness lies in the ego's judgment. 6 All your abilities helpfulness lies in the judgment of the Holy Spirit.

**Note # 37:** The Holy Spirit reinterprets your attack thoughts and converts them into lessons of sharing and forgiveness. This reinterpretation results in a new vision that is based on sharing. Since sharing is creating or extending, this new vision aligns more closely to the reality of Heaven. You learn this new vision by sharing forgiveness with your brother. This new vision is the correct perception that comes from forgiveness and love. Forgiveness is overlooking that we originally perceived as an error and remembering the true nature of everything. Content, not form, represents the true nature or essence of something.

T-9.IV.4. The ego, too, has a plan of forgiveness because you are asking for a plan of forgiveness, though not of the right teacher, which is the Holy Spirit. 2 The ego's plan of forgiveness, of course, makes no sense and will not work. 3 By following the ego’s plan you will merely place yourself in an impossible situation, to which the ego always leads you. 4 The ego's plan is to have you see error clearly first, and then overlook the error. 5 Yet how can you overlook what you have made real, which was the perceived error? 6 By seeing the error clearly, you have made the error real and <cannot> overlook the error. 7 This inability of your mind to overlook an error you have made real is where the ego is forced to appeal to "mysteries," insisting that you must accept the meaningless, which is your perceived or imagined error, to save yourself. 8 Many have tried to do this, accept the meaningless error as real and then overlook the error in my name, forgetting that my words make perfect sense because my words come from God. 9 My words are as sensible now as my words ever were, because my words speak of ideas that are eternal.
Note #38: The ego’s plan of forgiveness is to first make an error in our perception real and then to ask you to overlook the error. This is something that our mind finds impossible to do.

Example: You perceive that your brother has wronged or harmed you. Since you are unlimited spirit and not a body, you cannot be harmed. Yet, your ego has already convinced you that you are a body and, therefore, vulnerable to harm. Because of this untrue belief that you are body, your mind makes the body sick and it suffers pain. Sickness and hurt now become your provisional reality. The ego then asks you to forgive the wrongdoer, who you perceive to be your brother. Your mind is unable to “forgive and forget” since the mind has already made the sickness and pain the mind’s imagined reality. It has made the illusion of the body real. Your ego next tells the mind that your brother had unjustly wronged you and then asks that you to give up your rights of retribution. Giving up this right to revenge requires sacrifice. This sacrifice means that you must admit to inequality between your brother and yourself. This inequality proves you are separate, limited and very vulnerable. Egoic forgiveness thus, teaches the lesson that the separation is real. Egoic forgiveness teaches that you and your brother are not equal or do not share one mind.

The Holy Spirit takes this same misperception and takes you back to the original point that the error in perception occurred. This is your belief that you are a body. The Holy Spirit then tells you that since you are not a body, you could not be hurt. Since it could never have happened, this perceived hurt is easy to overlook, forget and forgive since it was not real. No sacrifice is required since the Holy Spirit is merely asking you to accept the truth that you are spirit and a part of the shared Sonship.

T-9.IV.5. Forgiveness that is learned of me, who represents the Holy Spirit, does not use fear to undo fear. 2 Nor does forgiveness that is learned of me make real the unreal and then destroy the unreal. 3 Forgiveness through the Holy Spirit lies simply in looking beyond error from the beginning, and thus keeping the error unreal for you. 4 Do not let any belief in the error’s realness enter your mind, or you will also believe that you must undo what you have made in order to be forgiven. 5 What has no effect does not exist, and to the Holy Spirit the effects of error are nonexistent. 6 By steadily and consistently cancelling out all the error’s effects, everywhere and in all respects, the Holy Spirit teaches that the ego does not exist and proves that the ego does not exist.

Note #39: The Holy Spirit does not lift an illusion up to the status of reality. The Holy Spirit does not raise the misperception that you are the body to the level of the truth. By maintaining that the perceived error has no effect on the truth and thus, is not real, the Holy Spirit merely allows the error to dissipate. Now there is no error to forgive. To “forgive and forget” the nothingness of the once perceived error is now easily accomplished.

T-9.IV.6. Follow the Holy Spirit's teaching in forgiveness, then, because forgiveness is the Holy Spirit’s function and the Holy Spirit knows how to fulfill the Holy Spirit’s function perfectly. 2 That is what I meant when I said that miracles are natural, and when miracles do not occur something has gone wrong. 3 Miracles are merely the sign of your
willingness to follow the Holy Spirit's plan of salvation, recognizing that you do not understand what the Holy Spirit's plan of salvation is. 4 The Holy Spirit's work is not your function, and unless you accept that the Holy Spirit's work is not your function, you cannot learn what your function is, which is to co-create in eternity.

**Note # 40:** Miracles are natural because they are the return to right-mindedness. This is the natural thought process of your Big “S” Self. This is how the One Self of the Mind of God operates. Your Big “S” Self knows the truth that only love is real and that love is sharing and the extension of the Oneness.

**T-9.IV.7.** The confusion of functions is so typical of the ego that you should be quite familiar with the confusion of functions by the ego by now. 2 The ego believes that all functions belong to the ego, even though the ego has no idea what your function truly is. 3 This belief that all functions belong to the ego, even though the ego has no idea what your function truly is, is more than mere confusion. 4 This belief that all functions belong to the ego, even though the ego has no idea what your function truly is, is a particularly dangerous combination of grandiosity and confusion that makes the ego likely to attack anyone and anything for no reason at all. 5 Being confused, the ego is likely to attack anyone and anything for no reason and this is exactly what the ego does. p169 6 The ego is unpredictable in the ego’s responses, because the ego has no idea of what the ego perceives.

**Note # 41:** The ego believes that one of its functions is to save you and your brother from what the ego perceives as your combined errors, sins and mistakes. The ego claims that it has a plan to make you happy. The ego equates happiness with being right even if it is wrong. The ego believes its plan is always right and sets about the task of correcting, changing, fixing and if necessary, killing anyone or anything that would get in its way. Since the ego claims to be right, attacking anything that opposes its “rightness” is justified. The need to be right and attack are inseparable. Since the ego has no real plan that can make you happy; the ego is unpredictable as its plan shifts with each new failed attempt at happiness. Attack becomes the ego’s best defense of its “rightness”.

**T-9.IV.8.** If you have no idea what is happening, how appropriately can you expect to react? 2 You might ask yourself, regardless of how you may account for the reaction, whether the ego’s unpredictability places the ego in a sound position as your guide. 3 Let me repeat that the ego's qualifications as a guide are singularly unfortunate, and that the ego is a remarkably poor choice as a teacher of salvation. 4 Anyone who elects a totally insane guide like the ego must be totally insane himself. 5 Nor is it true that you do not realize the guide is insane. 6 You realize the ego is an insane guide, because I realize the ego is an insane guide, and you have judged the ego by the same standard I have judged the ego.

**Note # 42:** Only the insane would trust their return to sanity by following the advice of the equally insane ego. Jesus recognized this fact that the egoic thought system is insane. We too have that same decision-maker inside our mind and thus, can also decide with Jesus to choose again.
T-9.IV.9. The ego literally lives on borrowed time, and the ego’s days are numbered. 2 Do not fear the Last Judgment, but welcome the Last Judgment and do not wait, for the ego's time is "borrowed" from your eternity. 3 The Last Judgment is the Second Coming that was made for you as the First was created. 4 The Second Coming is merely the return of sense. 5 Can this, the return of sense, possibly be fearful?

Note # 43: The First Coming was the creation of the Sonship by God. The Second Coming is the return to Oneness of the Sonship with the Father. It is the remembrance of what you are and thus, the return to knowledge. Whole-mindedness is your reality. This return to the One Self is the truth that is, always was, and always will be, for it is eternal.

T-9.IV.10. What can be fearful but fantasy and who turns to fantasy unless he despairs of finding satisfaction in reality? 2 Yet it is certain that you will never find satisfaction in fantasy, so that your only hope is to change your mind about reality. 3 Only if the decision that reality is fearful is wrong can God be right. 4 And I assure you that God is right. 5 Be glad, then, that you have been wrong to believe that reality was fearful, but this was only because you did not know who you were. 6 Had you known who you were, you could no more have been wrong than God can be wrong.

Note # 44: God preserves the Truth for all of His Creations. We have been given free will and thus, we can deny the truth but our denial cannot change the Truth. Eventually, we will freely realize that there is just the One Self, and we are that One.

T-9.IV.11. The impossible can happen only in fantasy. 2 When you search for reality in fantasies you will not find reality in fantasy. 3 The symbols of fantasy are of the ego, and of these symbols of egoic fantasy, you will find many. 4 But do not look for meaning in the ego’s symbols of fantasy. 5 The symbols of egoic fantasy have no more meaning than the fantasies into which the symbols are woven. 6 Fairy tales can be pleasant or fearful, but no one calls the fairy tales true. 7 Children may believe the fairy tales, and so, for a while, the tales are true for the children who believe in the fairy tale. 8 Yet when reality dawns, the fantasies are gone. 9 Reality has not gone in the meanwhile. 10 The Second Coming is the awareness of reality. The Second Coming is not the return of reality.

Note # 45: Fantasies do not change reality; they merely hide reality for a brief moment before the fantasy disappears and reality reappears from behind fantasy’s veil. The Bible states that a deep sleep fell upon Adam, but it never states that Adam awoke. The second coming is when “Adam”, the Son of God, awakens from this deep sleep. This is the Sonship’s awakening from the world of perception into the reality of the Kingdom, which is Heaven.

T-9.IV.12. Behold, my child, reality is here. 2 Reality belongs to you and me and God, and reality is perfectly satisfying to all of Us. 3 Only this awareness that reality is perfectly satisfying to all of Us heals, because this awareness that reality is perfectly satisfying to all of Us is the awareness of truth. p170
Note # 46: Our reality is that everything is a Oneness with God, and that nothing else is needed or wanted. Since we are everything, what is there to want? We are the One Self that is the holographic Mind of God.

V. The Unhealed Healer

T-9.V.1. The ego's plan for forgiveness is far more widely used than God's plan for forgiveness. 2 The ego's plan for forgiveness is far more widely used because it is undertaken by unhealed healers, and is therefore of the ego. 3 Let us consider the unhealed healer more carefully now. 4 By definition, the unhealed healer is trying to give what the unhealed healer has not received. 5 If an unhealed healer is a theologian, for example, unhealed theologian healer may begin with the premise, "I am a miserable sinner, and so are you." 6 If unhealed healer is a psychotherapist, he is more likely to start with the equally incredible belief that attack is real for both himself and the patient, but that attack does not matter for either himself or the patient.

Note # 47: The unhealed healer does not know the truth that he, like you are unlimited Spirit. Coming from the false egoic belief that we are something that we are not, the unhealed healers mistakenly believe that the patient is a body or a sinner. They come from the egoic belief in lack, fear and limitation. Coming from a false premise, their healing technique should be questioned and challenged.

T-9.V.2. I have repeatedly said that beliefs of the ego cannot be shared, and because beliefs of the ego cannot be shared this is why beliefs of the ego are unreal. 2 How, then, can "uncovering" the unreal beliefs of the ego make them real? 3 Every healer who searches fantasies for truth must be unhealed, because every healer who searches fantasies for truth does not know where to look for truth, and therefore does not have the answer to the problem of healing.

Note # 48: You cannot come to a correct solution by following an illogical or insane belief system. Truth cannot be found in the false. It is useless to look for your keys in a different country when you lost them in your own home.

T-9.V.3. There is an advantage to bringing nightmares into awareness, but only to teach that nightmares are not real, and that anything nightmares contain is meaningless. 2 The unhealed healer cannot teach that nightmares are not real because the unhealed healer does not believe that the nightmares are meaningless. 3 All unhealed healers follow the ego's plan for forgiveness in one form or another. 4 If the unhealed healers are theologians, the unhealed theologians are likely to condemn themselves, teach condemnation and advocate a fearful solution. 5 Projecting condemnation onto God, the unhealed theologians make God appear retaliative, and fear God’s retribution. 6 What the unhealed theologians have done is merely to identify with the ego, and by perceiving what <the ego> does, condemn themselves because of the ego’s confusion. 7
It is understandable that there have been revolts against this concept of projecting condemnation onto God and thus making God appear retaliative and, therefore, fearing God’s retribution, but to revolt against this concept is still to believe in this concept of projecting condemnation onto God and thus making God appear retaliative, and, therefore, fearing God’s retribution.

Note # 49: The unhealed theologian sees himself and all his brother’s as sinners and subject to limitations. Therefore, he cannot heal since he does not know what he is. The unhealed theologian would judge and condemn his brother for any “wrongs” done against him because sinners should be condemned for their sins against God. Because the unhealed theologian believes in retribution, he projects this same trait onto God. Fear must follow. Fear reinforces separation, not joining. Healing becomes impossible and the ego’s thought system is reinforced. We remain sinners rather than Son’s of God, perfect, whole and complete. You cannot heal if you see yourself as a limited sinner.

T-9.V.4. Some newer forms of the ego's plan are as unhelpful as the older ones, because form does not matter and the content has not changed. 2 In one of the newer forms, for example, a psychotherapist may interpret the ego's symbols in a nightmare, and then use the ego's symbols in the nightmare to prove that the nightmare is real. 3 Having made the nightmare real, the unhealed psychotherapist then attempts to dispel the nightmare’s effects by depreciating the importance of the dreamer. 4 This dispelling of the nightmare’s effects by depreciating the importance of the dreamer would be a healing approach if the dreamer were also identified as unreal. 5 Yet if the dreamer is equated with the mind, the mind's corrective power through the Holy Spirit is denied. 6 This depreciating the importance of the dreamer and the denial of the mind's corrective power is a contradiction even in the ego's terms, and one which the dreamer usually notes even in the dreamer’s state of confusion. p171

Note # 50: The unhealed psychotherapist first makes real the nightmare of the misperception that you are the body. He starts with the belief that you are a limited ego-body and fails to question the validity of this erroneous assumption. He then tells you not to worry about the nightmare since the dream, like you are insignificant and limited. The unhealed psychotherapist copes with the problem but does not correct the cause, which is your failure to remember who you are. The empowering value of your mind that lies with the decision maker is reduced by this limiting belief. The unhealed psychotherapist’s focus is on the effect and the behavior rather than the cause. By the failure of the unhealed psychotherapist to address and correct the true cause, the problem is never resolved. The patient's ability to cope with the problem may improve but the source of the problem remains lurking in the background to reappear whenever an opportunity presents itself.

T-9.V.5. If the way to counteract fear is to reduce the importance of the mind, how can this build ego strength? 2 Such evident inconsistencies account for why no one has really explained what happens in psychotherapy. 3 Nothing really does happen in psychotherapy. 4 Nothing real has happened to the unhealed healer, and the unhealed healer must learn from his own teaching. 5 The unhealed psychotherapist’s ego will
always seek to get something from the situation. The unhealed psychotherapist healer therefore does not know how to give, and consequently cannot share. The unhealed psychotherapist cannot correct because the unhealed healer is not working correctly. The unhealed psychotherapist believes that it is up to him to teach the patient what is real, although the unhealed healer does not know what is real himself.

Note # 51: If you do not know what you are, how can you teach someone what they are? You do not even know the truth about yourself and, therefore, do not know reality. Because the unhealed healer is coming from the thought system of the ego, fear and limitation are the primary motivating factors. “Sharing” your lack of wholeness cannot make the “sick person” well. It only reconfirms that everybody is sick and that “healing” is learning how to manage your sickness. The unhealed healer believes in specialness rather than oneness. The unhealed healer believes that he has some power or magic that the patient needs in order to be healed. He views himself as the healer and the other person as someone incapable of healing themselves. He does not believe that giving and receiving are the same. Nor does he understand that it is only the patient’s own mind that can heal the patient. A healer who himself is healed, knows that all healing takes place in the patient’s mind through the recovery of the patient’s own sense of Oneness. We need to correct the cause of the problem, not cover up the effect. The cause is at the level of mind. Any attempt to heal the body is only an attempt at covering up the symptoms.

T-9.V.6. What, then, should happen? When God said, "Let there be light," there was light. Can you find light by analyzing darkness, as the psychotherapist does, or like the theologian, by acknowledging darkness in yourself and looking for a distant light to remove the darkness in yourself, while emphasizing the distance you are from the light? Healing is not mysterious. Nothing will change unless the nothingness of darkness is understood, since light is understanding. A "miserable sinner" cannot be healed without magic, nor can an "unimportant mind" esteem itself without magic.

Note # 52: Magic is the belief that something outside you is needed to make or fix the perceived problem. Sickness arises anytime that you believe that you are not perfect, whole and complete. It is based on the belief in lack and separation. Seeing the “sick” person as incomplete, the unhealed healer claims that only something outside the “sick” person can return the sick person to wholeness again. This confirms that you are incomplete and incapable of finding wholeness within yourself.

T-9.V.7. Both forms of the ego's approach to healing, then, must arrive at an impasse; the characteristic "impossible situation" to which the ego always leads. The ego's approach to healing may help someone to point out where “that someone” is heading, but the point is lost unless “that someone” is also helped to change his direction. The unhealed healer cannot help “his patient” to change “the patient’s direction, since the unhealed healer cannot change the unhealed healer’s own direction for himself. The only meaningful contribution the healer can make is to present an example of one whose direction has been changed for the healer, himself, and that the healer no longer believes in nightmares of any kind. The light in the healer's mind will therefore answer the questioner. The questioner must decide with God that there is light because the questioner sees light. And by the healer’s acknowledgment of the light, the healer
knows the light is there. 7 By this acknowledgment of the light by the healer, the healer knows the light, and this is how perception ultimately is translated into knowledge. 8 The miracle worker begins by perceiving light, and translates the miracle worker’s perception into sureness by continually extending the light and accepting the light’s acknowledgment. 9 The light’s effects assure the miracle worker that the light is there.

Note # 53: Unlike the ego’s method of healing, the Holy Spirit’s method is to demonstrate and give witness to the truth about what you and the other person really are. The Holy Spirit does this by having the healer “be” the role model for the truth that we are only our Big “S” Self. The other person must ultimately “see” the truth that they are spirit and a part of the One Self. Since everyone has “free will”, you cannot heal someone else. Forcing someone to be “healed” is confirming the belief that the “sick person’s mind does not have the creative power to correct its own misperceptions. Rather than heal, this confirms to both the unhealed healer and the “sick person” that both are separate and not whole.

Light is understanding the truth and thus, knowing the truth.

T-9.V.8.A therapist does not heal; <a therapist lets healing be.> 2 A therapist can point to darkness but a therapist cannot bring light of himself, for light is not of the therapist. 3 Yet, light being <for> a therapist, this same light must also be for a therapist’s patient. 4 The Holy Spirit is the only Therapist. 5 The Holy Spirit makes healing clear in any situation in which the Holy Spirit is the Guide. 6 You can only let the Holy Spirit fulfill the Holy Spirit’s function of healing. p172 7 The Holy Spirit needs no help to fulfill the Holy Spirit’s function, which is healing the split-minded of all misperception. 8 The Holy Spirit will tell you exactly what to do to help anyone the Holy Spirit sends to you for help, and will speak to that same anyone that the Holy Spirit sent to you for help through you if you do not interfere. 9 Remember that you choose the guide for helping, and the wrong choice, the ego’s method for healing, will not help. 10 But remember also that the right choice for the Holy Spirit’s method for healing will help. 11 Trust the Holy Spirit, for help is the Holy Spirit’s function, and the Holy Spirit is of God. 12 As you awaken other minds to the Holy Spirit through the Holy Spirit, and not through your egoic self, you will understand that you are not obeying the laws of this world of perception, time and space. 13 But the laws of God you are obeying work. 14 "The good is what works" is a sound though insufficient statement. 15 Only the good <can> work. 16 Nothing else works at all.

Note # 54: Since you can only be “sick” in your dream world of provisional reality, the healer acknowledges the truth about himself and his brother and thus, allows the healing to <be>. Remove the belief in the illusion and healing becomes the only reality. The healer simple acknowledges that the “sick person” could not be sick in the Mind of God, which is where reality and truth reside. The healer is only a witness to the truth about what both he and his brother must be since there is only One Mind.

Healing is accepting the Laws of God and rejecting to false laws that seem to govern the egoic world of our own misperception. Healing does not come from you. Healing comes from reawakening to the truth of what you really are. This truth has never
been lost but it has been misplaced. In the Mind of God, you can only be perfect, whole and complete. Peace and joy are our birthright. We can dream that we have lost our birthright, but the Holy Spirit will guard and protect our inheritance for us. The function of the Holy Spirit is to gently reawaken us from our dream of not remembering what we are.

Only the good can work since the Laws of God are the Laws that govern the Kingdom, which is eternal reality. The good is what is real and true always. This is the Will of God, which has been extended to become our will since we share and are the Oneness of God.

T-9.V.9. This course offers a very direct and a very simple learning situation, and provides the Guide, the Holy Spirit, Who tells you what to do. 2 If you do what the Holy Spirit guides you to do, you will see that what the Holy Spirit guides you to do works. 3 The results of what the Holy Spirit guides you to do are more convincing than the Holy Spirit’s words. 4 The results of what the Holy Spirit guides you to do will convince you that the words of the Holy Spirit are true. 5 By following the right Guide, which is the Holy Spirit, you will learn the simplest of all lessons:

6 *By their fruits ye shall know them, and they shall know themselves.*

**Note # 55:** We are asked by the Holy Spirit to accept the Laws of God and reject the false laws that the ego has made up. Healing does not come from you but from the Holy Spirit. Healing comes from reawakening to the truth that you are unlimited Spirit. Your spiritual nature can never be lost. In the Mind of God, you can only be perfect, whole and complete. Peace and joy are your birthright. You can dream that you have lost your birthright, but the Holy Spirit will guard and protect your birthright for you. The function of the Holy Spirit is to gently reawaken you from your dream that you are separate from your Creator and have lost knowledge.

We are asked by the Holy Spirit to look at the results of the two thought systems and then make the choice. If we are not satisfied with the results of the guide that we are following, we are asked to choose again. If we want joy and peace, we need to choose the Holy Spirit for our guide. The Holy Spirit will help us relearn what we are. Light is understanding. Once we understand that our dream world of provisional reality is nothing but an illusion, the Holy Spirit will “heal” us by changing, or reinterpreting, our false perceptions into correct perceptions. When we understanding that our dream is a veil hiding the truth, we can choose to remove this veil and reclaim the truth about us. This reclamation of our spiritual truth as the Big “S” Self can be easily done because an illusion is “nothing.” Since the Holy Spirit knows that “nothing” really is “nothing”, this illusion of nothingness cannot change the truth of the Kingdom. We remain our Big “S” Self that is part of the holographic Oneness of the Mind of God. This One Self is our reality.

**VI. The Acceptance of Your Brother**
T-9.VI.1. How can you become increasingly aware of the Holy Spirit in you except by the Holy Spirit’s effects? 2 You cannot see the Holy Spirit with your eyes nor hear the Holy Spirit with your ears. 3 How, then, can you perceive the Holy Spirit at all? 4 If you inspire joy and others react to you with joy, even though you are not experiencing joy yourself there must be something in you that is capable of producing joy. 5 If what is capable of producing joy is in you and can produce joy, and if you see that what is capable of producing joy does produce joy in others, you must be dissociating from what is capable of producing joy in yourself.

Note # 56: We deny the recognition of the Holy Spirit within us when we are not in a joyous state. Since God’s Will is that His Son be happy, our natural state must be peace, joy and happiness. If we are not at peace, we have failed to align our thinking with our Big “S” Self and the Holy Spirit’s thought system.

T-9.VI.2. It seems to you that the Holy Spirit does not produce joy consistently in you only because you do not consistently arouse joy in others. 2 These other people’s reactions to you are your evaluations of the Holy Spirit consistency. 3 When you are inconsistent you will not always give rise to joy, and so you will not always recognize the Holy Spirit’s consistency. 4 What you offer to your brother you offer to the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit cannot go beyond your offering in the Holy Spirit’s giving. 5 This is not because the Holy Spirit limits the Holy Spirit’s giving, but simply because you have limited your receiving. 6 The decision to receive is the decision to accept. p173

Note # 57: Unless you accept the gifts of the Holy Spirit, you cannot receive them. Since you have “free will” the Holy Spirit will not force you to take something you are not willing to accept. To do so would only serve to increase your fear. You must be willing to freely choose to accept the Joy of the Holy Spirit. If we choose to selectively give some of our egoic misperception over to the Holy Spirit, while retaining some for our ego, we are inconsistent in our purpose. Differing purposes will result in our brother receiving mixed signals. We will be alternating between forgiveness and attack. What we give, we will receive. If we give all our perception over to the Holy Spirit, we will receive the consistent Joy of the Holy Spirit.

T-9.VI.3. If your brothers are part of you, will you accept your brothers? 2 Only your brothers can teach you what you are, for your learning is the result of what you taught your brothers. 3 What you call upon in your brothers you call upon in yourself. 4 And as you call upon something in your brothers that something becomes real to you. 5 God has but one Son, knowing God’s Son all as One. 6 Only God Himself is more than God’s one Son but God’s one Son is not less than God is. 7 Would you know what this means? 8 If what you do to my brother you do to me, and if you do everything for yourself because we are part of you, everything we do belongs to you as well. 9 Everyone God created is part of you and shares God’s glory with you. 10 God’s glory belongs to God, but God’s glory is equally to your glory. 11 You cannot, then, be less glorious than God is.
**Note # 58:** God is more than you only because God is the First Cause. God created you. Since creation is the sharing and extension of the Mind of God, God created a “carbon copy” of Himself when He extended Himself to His Son. God is Cause and we are His Effect. As such, we complete each other and are inseparable. God gave everything to His Son since God is everything. Creation is the extension of the Oneness. Since we are of one mind, we are joined in the holographic Mind of God. Each indivisible part contains the whole and the whole contains each part. What we perceive in our brother, we perceive in ourselves through this holographic web of consciousness.

T-9.VI.4. God is more than you only because He created you, but not even this would God keep from you. 2 Therefore you can create as God did, and your dissociation will not alter your ability to create as God did. 3 Neither God's light nor your light is dimmed because you do not see your light. 4 Because the Sonship must create as one, you remember creation whenever you recognize part of creation. 5 Each part of your creation you remember adds to your wholeness because each part of your creation <is> whole. 6 Wholeness is indivisible, but you cannot learn of your wholeness until you see your wholeness everywhere. 7 You can know yourself only as God knows His Son, for knowledge is shared with God. 8 When you awake in God you will know your magnitude by accepting God's limitlessness as your limitlessness. 9 But meanwhile you will judge your limitlessness as you judge your brother's limitlessness, and will accept your limitlessness as you accept his limitlessness.

**Note # 59:** In the Laws of God, receiving and giving are tied together. You cannot receive unless you give. You cannot receive or give if you are unwilling to accept. Judge your brother as less than whole and you condemn yourself to that same littleness. God is creation and when God creates He Gives His Son the same power to create. Our creations, however, must be “carbon copies” of ourselves as God created us since creation by God’s Law is extension and complete sharing. God’s creation is the Sonship. The Sonship is perfect, whole and complete and, therefore, our creations must be perfect. Our true creations are different than the things we “make” in our dream world of limitation. Making comes when we attempt to use our creative powers out of fear and littleness. When we make, we attempt to exclude, rather than include. Making is not sharing our Big “S” Self but rather trying to protect and project from our egoic little “s” self.

T-9.VI.5. You are not yet awake, but you can learn how to awaken. 2 Very simply, the Holy Spirit teaches you to awaken others. 3 As you see others waken you will learn what waking means, and because you have chosen to wake others their gratitude and their appreciation of what you have given them will teach you the value of being awake. 4 These awakened others will become the witnesses to your reality, as you were created witness to God's reality. 5 Yet when the Sonship comes together and accepts the Sonship’s Oneness the Sonship will be known by the Sonship’s creations, who witness to the Sonship’s reality as the Son witnesses to the reality of the Father.

**Note # 60:** Our true reality is unlimited Spirit. Unless we create by giving all to our creations, we have not created under the Laws of God. The Sonship’s Reality, as God
created it, is perfect, whole and complete. God knows Himself through the Sonship. We are God’s Effect. Similarly, we know ourselves through our creations. Our creations are our Effects. Our creations are our reality. When we “make” rather than create, we are coming from fear due to our belief in separateness and limitation. As a result, we make a false image in our dream world of provisional reality. This image is based on fear and is not part of the Mind of God. This illusionary world seems real to us. However, it has no reality in the Mind of God and cannot be shared since it is not a carbon copy of God’s Mind. Our false image of ourselves lacks the holographic nature of true creation. It claims to be less than “the everything” that we are.

T-9.VI.6. Miracles have no place in eternity, because miracles are reparative. 2 Yet while you still need healing, your miracles are the only witnesses to your reality that you can recognize. 3 You cannot perform a miracle for yourself, because miracles are a way of giving acceptance and receiving acceptance. 4 In time the giving comes first, though giving and receiving are simultaneous in eternity, where giving and receiving cannot be separated. 5 When you have learned giving and receiving are the same, the need for time is over. p174

Note # 61: Miracles take place in the world of perception. This world of time and space is what the split-mind made to imagine that it could hide from God. It is the place where we play at not being our true Big “S” Selves. It is the playfield for the game of “What Am I?” It is also the “place” that the Holy Spirit uses to teach us how to correct our misperception so that we can rediscover what we are. After this reawakening, we will discover that we had never left the Oneness. Being a Oneness of Everything, where could we have gone? Only in time can we learn what it would be like to pretend that we can change from being unlike God and becoming One with God. This is how we relearn about God and remember Our own Spiritual Magnificence.

T-9.VI.7. Eternity is one time, eternity’s only dimension being "always." 2 That eternity’s only dimension is "always" cannot mean anything to you until you remember God's open Arms, and finally know God’s open Mind. 3 Like God, <you> are "always" You are in God’s Mind and with a mind like God’s Mind. 4 In your open mind are your creations, in perfect communication born of perfect understanding. 5 Could you but accept one of your creations, you would not want anything the dream world of your provisional reality has to offer. 6 Everything else in your dream world of provisional reality would be totally meaningless. 7 God's meaning is incomplete without you, His Creation, and you are incomplete without your creations. 8 Accept your brother in this world and accept nothing else, for in your brother you will find your creations because your brother created your creations with you. 9 You will never know that you are co-creator with God until you learn that your brother is co-creator with you.

Note # 62: Since there is one mind, the Mind of God, all are a part of this One Mind. The Sonship and the Sonship’s creations, like God the Father, are perfect, whole and complete; a Oneness of Everything. God is First Cause. We are the Effect of God. God knows Himself through His Effect. Although we are God’s Effect, to know that we are the perfect extension of God, we too must have our effect. We are cause to our creations.
and our creations are our effect. In this way we know ourselves and know our Father. Cause and Effect are intertwined as One. Each completes the other and all become inseparable as part of the holographic Mind of God. Nothing is outside or apart from this Oneness of “All That Is.” Our ego and its world of perception is the Sonship’s joint creation made out of fear. It was our power of creativity that birthed this world of fear and it is our return to love that will correct our misperceptions of what we are and what we have made. When we claim ownership for our thoughts and no longer perceive our thoughts with fear and judgment, we will learn allowance, which is the bedrock to unconditional or real love. Love does not judge. Instead, love acceptance and allows the object of its love the perfect freedom to be whatever it desires to be. Love only desire that the object of its love be happy and free. We are happy when we know that no action or thought that we may take could ever have any adverse affect on this flow of God’s love toward us. With real love, the recipient of the love is unable to force the source of that love to withdrawal its love. The recipient can deny that love is flowing its way, but it is powerless to stop or change the source of the flow of love. While in time, we are learning to remove the blocks that we have place between yourselves and love. When we allow all and judge not, we have responded lovingly. When we respond only with love, we will remember that we could never lose our divine inheritance. We will understand that an effect cannot change its cause. We will accept the Atonement for ourselves and acknowledge the Sonship sinless and guiltless nature. By reclaiming our innocence, knowledge can be restored.

VII. The Two Evaluations

T-9.VII.1. God's Will is your salvation. 2 Would God not have given you the means to find your salvation? 3 If God wills you to have your salvation, God must have made your salvation possible and easy to obtain your salvation. 4 Your brothers are everywhere. 5 You do not have to seek far for salvation. 6 Every minute and every second gives you a chance to save yourself. 7 Do not lose these chances, not because these chances will not return, but because delay of joy is needless. 8 God wills you perfect happiness now. 9 Is it possible that perfect happiness now is not also your will? 10 And is it possible that perfect happiness now is not also the will of your brothers?

Note # 63: Salvation is only one choice away. When we decide to be only vigilant for God, we will awaken. Doing this means that we have made the decision to only follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit and “be” only love. We have decided to be happy rather than “right”. This decision is the free choice to share the same purpose as God’s Will. We have thus accepted that God’s Will and our will are One.

T-9.VII.2. Consider, then, that in this joint will for perfect happiness now, you are all united, and only in this joint will for perfect happiness now, are you all united. 2 There may be disagreement on anything else, but not on this joint will for perfect happiness now. 3 This joint will for perfect happiness now, then, is where peace abides. 4 And you abide in peace when you so decide. 5 Yet you cannot abide in peace
unless you accept the Atonement, because the Atonement <is> the way to peace. 6 The reason that the Atonement <is> the way to peace is very simple, and so obvious that the reason is often overlooked. 7 The ego is afraid of the obvious, since obviousness is the essential characteristic of reality. 8 Yet <you> cannot overlook the obvious unless you are not looking for the obvious.

Note # 64: Our goal is perfect happiness now because perfect happiness is what God has willed us. Our brother’s goal is perfect happiness now. Everything’s goal is perfect happiness now. Perfect happiness now is the joint will of everything. It is in this single purpose that we are joined. Form cannot be shared. It requires one person who originally had the totality of the object to now share that object with another. Sharing of a form requires at least one party to sacrifice. Yet, my goal of being perfectly happy now is an idea that can be shared. If I shared this goal with you and you accept it as your own goal, the idea is strengthened. No one loses when you share an idea.

T-9.VII.3. It is perfectly obvious that if the Holy Spirit looks with love on all that the Holy Spirit perceives, the Holy Spirit looks with love on you. 2 The Holy Spirit’s evaluation of you is based on the Holy Spirit’s knowledge of what you are, and so the Holy Spirit evaluates you truly. 3 And this evaluation must be in your mind, because the Holy Spirit is in your mind. 4 The ego is also in your mind, because you have accepted the ego there and put the ego into your mind. p175 5 The ego’s evaluation of you, however, is the exact opposite of the Holy Spirit’s, because the ego does not love you. 6 The ego is unaware of what you are, and wholly mistrustful of everything the ego perceives because the ego’s perceptions are so shifting. 7 The ego is therefore capable of suspiciousness at best and viciousness at worst. 8 Suspiciousness and viciousness is the ego’s range of capabilities. 9 The ego cannot exceed the range of suspiciousness and viciousness because of the ego’s uncertainty. 10 And the ego can never go beyond the range of suspiciousness and viciousness because the ego’s can never <be> certain.

Note # 65: Because the ego’s world is based on perceptions, the ego’s “world” of provisional reality is always uncertain. Perception, which is not knowledge, changes with time. Time does not exist in eternity since eternity is “always” and thus, changeless. Change and time are an integral part of your ego’s world of provisional reality. Time is not in the Mind of God since time is the measures of change and God is changeless.

The ego is in your split-mind only because you have placed the ego there. The ego does not exist without your permission. The ego serves at your mind’s command yet the ego has attempted to usurp the power of your mind, which resides as your Big “S” Self. In this way, the ego is the “authority problem”. The “authority problem” is our claim that we can usurp God’s Will. It states that we, God’s Effect, can somehow change its Cause, which is God. The ego also claims that the ego, which is our mind’s effect, can change its cause, which is our mind. The ego claims that it has become causative over our mind, when in actuality, all the ego’s power comes from our mind. Our world of perception and provisional reality was “made” by our mind so that we could act in and play the game of the “authority problem”. Another name for this game is “What Am I?” The “authority problem game” must end when all the players discover that an effect cannot change its cause and that cause and effect are intertwined and inseparable. Each is needed to
complete the other.

**T-9.VII.4.** You, then, have two conflicting evaluations of yourself in your mind, and the ego's and the Holy Spirit's evaluations cannot both be true. 2 You do not yet realize how completely different these evaluations of the ego's and the Holy Spirit's are, because you do not understand how lofty the Holy Spirit's perception of you really is. 3 The Holy Spirit is not deceived by anything you do, because the Holy Spirit never forgets what you are as the Son of God. 4 The ego is deceived by everything you do, especially when you respond to the Holy Spirit, because at such times the ego's confusion increases. 5 The ego is, therefore, particularly likely to attack you when you react lovingly, because the ego has evaluated you as unloving and you are going against the ego's judgment. 6 The ego will attack your motives as soon as your motives become clearly out of accord with the ego's perception of you. 7 This is when the ego will shift abruptly from suspiciousness to viciousness, since the ego's uncertainty is increased. 8 Yet it is surely pointless to attack the ego in return. 9 What can the attacking of the ego by you, our Big "S" Self, mean except that you are agreeing with the ego's evaluation of what you are, which is the ego's belief that you are vulnerable, unloving, limited being?

**Note # 66:** If you attack the ego, you are demonstrating that you are a body and, therefore, something separate that can attack. Only something that is not a Oneness or not everything can attack. Spirit does not attack.

Again note the parallels between the “authority problem” between God and His Son and our mind and our own “child”, which is our ego. How we respond to God and how the ego responds to our mind, our Big “S” Self, are the same. Both make up a fearful and unloving creator. Also, how God responds to His Son’s belief in the separation and how Jesus is telling us our Big “S” Self responds to the ego’s insane idea of the authority problem is the same. The Big “S” Self or Holy Spirit does not acknowledge or attack its creation but merely realizes that anything that the ego does has no ability to change its source or to change the truth. The ego is only playing a game of separation, and the child’s game is powerless to change the will of the Big “S” Self, which is the ego’s cause. The ego is the thoughts we hold about ourselves. When we remember that our Big “S” Self knows that its true will is God’s Will and that God wills us to be happy, we will not judge our thoughts. Instead, we will just allow, knowing that our thoughts have no consequences and are powerless to change our reality. The law of extension states that an effect must be like its cause. Thus, being love, we can only extend love’s freedom, joy and peace. Being happy now is the common purpose that joins and binds “All That Is” into the One Self. The Holy Spirit and Big “S” Self know that its creations must be like Its Father’s creation. Both must be perfect, whole and complete since that is the nature of their Source, which is the holographic Mind of God. The Holy Spirit will teach the ego, which is our creation, the truth about itself. Our ego will come to know that it, like its Father, our Big “S” Self, is only love. This realization completes the Sonship and extends the Mind of God. The Sonship, our Big “S” Self, and its child, our ego, join as one mind and the ego knows that its will and our Big “S” Self’s will is One. Whole-mindedness has returned to the Sonship’s split mind. The Sonship, like God, has created the perfect child, who is only the reflection of Love. This is the act of creation. This is the joy of being
happy now. This is the One shared Will of God.

It is not the idea of the separation that was the problem. The problem was that we
took seriously the idea that our thoughts could somehow change what we eternally are.
We thought an effect could change its source and thus, change God, Itself. When we
forgot to laugh, we took our playful thought of what it would be like to be other than
God, and transformed this thought into a real monster in our imagination. Now rather
than allow and experience, we judged, fragmented and were afraid. Our play world
became an image of sin, guilt and fear. Our ego, perception, time and space all took on a
perceived reality of their own.

T-9.VII.5. If you choose to see yourself as unloving, you will not be happy. 2 You are
condenosing yourself and must, therefore, regard yourself as inadequate. 3 Would you
look to the ego to help you escape from a sense of inadequacy that the ego has produced,
and that the ego must maintain for the ego’s existence? 4 Can you escape from the ego’s
evaluation of you by using the ego’s methods for keeping this picture of regarding
yourself as inadequate intact?

Note # 67: We cannot buy into the idea that the ego can change what we are. Our
deluded mind is the cause of the ego. Our Big “S” Self knows our true creation can only
be the extension of love. We cannot let our true Self believe that an effect can change its
cause. To do so would be to make the separation appear real.

T-9.VII.6. You cannot evaluate an insane belief system from within an insane belief
system. 2 An insane belief system’s range precludes the evaluating an insane belief
system from within the insane system. The ego’s range of capabilities is limited and
goes from suspiciousness to viciousness. 3 You can only go beyond the insane belief
system by looking back from a point where sanity exists and between sanity and insanity.
4 Only by this contrast between sanity and insanity can insanity be judged as insane. 5 With the grandeur of God in you, you have chosen to be little and to
lament your littleness. 6 Within the ego’s thought system that dictated this choice to
choose to be little instead of choosing the grandeur of God within you, is the lament
inevitable. 7 Your littleness is taken for granted there within the ego’s thought system,
and you do not ask, ”Who granted my littleness?” 8 The question of ”Who granted my
littleness?” is meaningless within the ego's thought system, because the question would
open the whole thought system to question.

Note # 68: To correct or even realize that something is illogical, you need to go outside
that something to see the error. You cannot discover that the world is round by standing
still and refusing to look beyond the apparent flatness of the surface. You need to rise
above the planet to see its true shape.

T-9.VII.7. I have said that the ego does not know what a real question is. p176 2 Lack of
knowledge of any kind is always associated with unwillingness to know, and this
unwillingness to know, produces a total lack of knowledge simply because knowledge is
total. 3 Not to question your littleness therefore is to deny all knowledge, and keep the
ego’s whole thought system intact. 4 You cannot retain part of a thought system, because
a thought system can be questioned only at a thought system’s foundation. 5 And this thought system’s foundation must be questioned from beyond the thought system, because within the thought system, the thought system’s foundation does stand. 6 The Holy Spirit judges against the reality of the ego's thought system merely because the Holy Spirit knows the ego’s thought system’s foundation is not true. 7 Therefore, nothing that arises from the ego’s thought system means anything. 8 The Holy Spirit judges every belief you hold in terms of where the belief comes from. 9 If the belief comes from God, the Holy Spirit knows the belief to be true. 10 If the belief does not come from God, the Holy Spirit knows that the belief is meaningless.

Note # 69: You cannot build an accurate thought system if its foundation rests on lies. The false cannot become the truth.

T-9.VII.8. Whenever you question your value, say:

2 God Himself is incomplete without me.

3 Remember this, that “God Himself is incomplete without you.” when the ego speaks, and you will not hear the ego speak. 4 The truth about you is so lofty that nothing unworthy of God is worthy of you. 5 Choose, then, what you want in these terms, that the grandeur of God is within you and the truth about you is so lofty that nothing unworthy of God is worthy of you, and accept nothing that you would not offer to God as wholly fitting for God. 6 You do not want anything else but the grandeur of God that is within you. 7 Return your part to God, and God will give you all of Himself in exchange for the return of what belongs to God and renders God complete.

Note # 70: God is Cause and we are God’s Effect. Together we are inseparable. If God is only love, we must also be only love. If God is a creator, so must His Child be a creator. We complete God by extending love to our creations. Our creations complete us by extending only love. When the ego learns that it is only love, the Sonship is complete and we are returned to whole-mindedness. We have experienced the joy of co-creating with God. Our will, our creations’ will and God’s Will are One. They are joined in one goal and one common purpose, which is “to be happy now.”

VIII. Grandeur versus Grandiosity

T-9.VIII.1. Grandeur is of God, and only of God. 2 Because grandeur is of God, and only of God, therefore grandeur is in you. 3 Whenever you become aware of the grandeur that is in you, however dimly, you abandon the ego automatically, because in the presence of the grandeur of God the meaningless of the ego becomes perfectly apparent. 4 When the meaningless of the ego becomes perfectly apparent occurs, you become aware that God’s grandeur is in you, even though the ego does not understand your grandeur, the ego believes that the ego’s "enemy" has struck, and the ego attempts to offer gifts to induce you to return to the ego’s "protection." 5 Self-
inflation is the only offering the ego can make. 6 The grandiosity of the ego, which is self-inflation, is the ego’s alternative to the grandeur of God. 7 Which will you choose? Your choice is between the ego’s grandiosity of self-inflation or the grandeur of God?

Note # 71: The ego’s grandiosity of self-inflation claims that you are separate, different and more importantly special. Unfortunately, what being special means is to argue for egoic littleness when you are already the grandeur of God. Instead, of claiming the truth that we are one with “All That Is,” we argue for egoic specialness, which is the equivalent to littleness.

T-9.VIII.2. Grandiosity is always a cover for despair. 2 Grandiosity is without hope because grandiosity is not real. 3 The ego’s grandiosity is an attempt to counteract your littleness, based on the belief that the littleness is real. 4 Without this belief that the littleness is real, grandiosity is meaningless, and you could not possibly want the ego’s grandiosity. p177 5 The essence of grandiosity is competitiveness, because the ego’s grandiosity always involves attack. 6 Grandiosity is a delusional attempt to outdo, but not to undo. 7 We said before that the ego vacillates between suspiciousness and viciousness. 8 The ego remains suspicious as long as you despair of yourself. 9 The ego shifts to viciousness when you decide not to tolerate self-abasement and seek relief. 10 Then the ego offers you the illusion of attack as a "solution" when you decide not to tolerate self-abasement and seek relief.

Note # 72: Due to the ego’s belief in separateness, competition is born. You are no longer a Oneness of Everything. Now you have needs. The ego claims that you are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. Competition fosters the attempt to outdo the “other side.” Yet, the ego refuses to look at the source of the competition problem, which is your belief in separation and lack. Rather than undo the error at its source, you accept the need for competition. Competition confirms your belief in the separation and that you are a body. To the ego, the body’s purpose and function is to compete, attack and defend.

T-9.VIII.3. The ego does not understand the difference between grandeur and grandiosity, because the ego sees no difference between miracle impulses and ego-alien beliefs of the ego’s own belief system. 2 I told you that the ego is aware of threat to the ego’s existence, but the ego makes no distinctions between these two very different kinds of threat, (between miracle impulses of grandeur and ego-alien beliefs of grandiosity). 3 The ego’s profound sense of vulnerability renders the ego incapable of judgment except in terms of attack. 4 When the ego experiences threat, the ego’s only decision is whether to attack now or to withdraw to attack later. 5 If you accept the ego’s offer of grandiosity, which is self-inflation to cover the ego’s belief in “littleness”, the ego will attack immediately. 6 If you do not accept the ego’s offer of grandiosity, the ego will wait to attack.

Note # 73: Miracle impulses of grandeur would foster healing, joining and sharing of wholeness. Ego-alien beliefs of grandiosity foster the idea of separateness, competition
and attack. The ego’s grandiosity is surrounded by the ego’s need to be right. The ego will defend its right to be right and attack whenever it feels threatened. When your ego feels it has been wronged, it will eventually retaliate and attack. The timing of this attack may not be immediate but it will come.

T-9.VIII.4. The ego is immobilized in the presence of God's grandeur, because God's grandeur establishes your freedom. 2 Even the faintest hint of your reality literally drives the ego from your mind, because you will give up all investment in the ego. 3 Grandeur is totally without illusions, and because grandeur is real grandeur is compellingly convincing. 4 Yet the conviction of reality will not remain with you unless you do not allow the ego to attack your conviction of reality and its grandeur. 5 The ego will make every effort to recover and mobilize the ego’s energies against your release from the ego’s illusions to the reality of your grandeur. 6 The ego will tell you that you are insane, and argue that grandeur cannot be a real part of you because of the littleness in which the ego believes you are. 7 Yet your grandeur is not delusional because you did not make your grandeur. God did. 8 You made egoic grandiosity and are afraid of grandiosity because grandiosity is a form of attack, but your grandeur is of God, Who created your grandeur out of God’s Love.

Note # 74: We made the belief in our littleness when our mind created our ego. Grandiosity is of our making since it is made based on our false notion that we are a limited and separate body. God created our grandeur, since grandeur is a part of the creative process, which is extension of God. God’s grandeur is our shared reality and truth.

T-9.VIII.5. From your grandeur you can only bless, because your grandeur is your abundance. 2 By blessing you hold your grandeur in your mind, protecting your grandeur from illusions and keeping yourself in the Mind of God. 3 Remember always that you cannot be anywhere except in the Mind of God. 4 When you forget you are in the Mind of God, you will despair and you will attack.

Note # 75: Despair is covered up by the ego’s grandiosity. The ego’s grandiosity is made from lack and represents our little “s” self. God’s grandeur is the extension of abundance and is represented by our Big “S” Self.

T-9.VIII.6. The ego depends solely on your willingness to tolerate the ego. 2 If you are willing to look upon your grandeur you cannot despair, and therefore you cannot want the ego. 3 Your grandeur is God's answer to the ego, because your grandeur is true. 4 Littleness and grandiosity cannot coexist, nor is it possible for littleness and grandeur to alternate. 5 Littleness and grandiosity can and must alternate, since both are untrue and are therefore both littleness and grandiosity are on the same level, which is the ego’s world of provisional reality. p178 6 Being the level of shift, littleness and grandiosity is experienced as shifting and extremes. Shifting and extremes are littleness and grandiosity’s essential characteristic.

Note # 76: The world of perception is a world of shifts and changes. The world of
perception is unstable since we are constantly shifting our beliefs about ourselves and it is our belief’s that “make’ the world we perceive. One moment we argue for our importance and insist on why we are right. The next moment we may think we are unworthy and guilty of sin. In either case, we are confirming our belief in separation, specialness and littleness.

T-9.VIII.7. Truth and littleness are denials of each other because grandeur is truth. 2 Truth does not vacillate; truth is always true. 3 When grandeur slips away from you, you have replaced grandeur with something you have made. 4 Perhaps the replacement for grandeur is the belief in littleness; perhaps the replacement for grandeur is the belief in grandiosity. 5 Yet the replacement for grandeur must be insane because the replacement for grandeur is not true. 6 Your grandeur will never deceive you, but your illusions always will deceive you. 7 Illusions are deceptions. 8 You cannot triumph, but you are exalted. 9 And in your exalted state you seek others like you and rejoice with the others like you.

Note # 77: We exalt when we believe we are egoically right. We exalt even more when we can get others of “littleness” to agree with our “correct” misperceptions and beliefs. An insane person agreeing with other insane people does not make their fantasies true.

T-9.VIII.8. It is easy to distinguish grandeur from grandiosity, because with grandeur love is returned and pride is not. 2 Pride will not produce miracles, and will therefore deprive you of the true witnesses to your reality. 3 Truth is not obscure nor is truth hidden, but truth’s obviousness to you lies in the joy you bring to truth’s witnesses, who show truth to you. 4 The witnesses for truth attest to your grandeur, but the witnesses for truth cannot attest to pride because pride is not shared. 5 God wants you to behold what God created because what God created is God’s joy.

Note # 78: Pride is an exaggerated belief in your worth or importance. It is exaggerated because you do not possess the characteristic in the quantity or quality that you claim to have. To express what you actually possess is not pride; it is simply the expression of the truth.

T-9.VIII.9. Can your grandeur be arrogant when God Himself witnesses to your grandeur? 2 And what can be real that has no witnesses? 3 What good can come of what has no witnesses? 4 And if no good can come of what has no witnesses the Holy Spirit cannot use what has no witnesses. 5 What the Holy Spirit cannot transform to the Will of God does not exist at all. 6 Grandiosity is delusional, because grandiosity is used to replace your grandeur. 7 Yet what God has created, your grandeur cannot be replaced. 8 God is incomplete without you because God’s grandeur is total, and you cannot be missing from God’s grandeur.

Note # 79: The Holy Spirit cannot take the illusion of littleness and make it real. Instead, It awakens the sleeping mind to the Son’s true reality as God’s grand completion. God’s Creations are the Grandeur of God.
T-9.VIII.10. You are altogether irreplaceable in the Mind of God. No one else can fill your part in the Mind of God, and while you leave your part of the Mind of God empty, your eternal place merely waits for your return. 3 God, through His Voice, the Holy Spirit, reminds you of your part in the Mind of God, and God Himself keeps your extensions safe within your part in the Mind of God. 4 Yet you do not know your extensions until you return to your extensions or creations. 5 You cannot replace the Kingdom, and you cannot replace yourself. 6 God, Who knows your value, would not have you replace yourself nor the Kingdom, and so to replace yourself or the Kingdom is not so. 7 Your value is in God's Mind, and therefore not in your mind alone. 8 To accept yourself as God created you cannot be arrogance, because to accept yourself as God created you is the denial of arrogance. 9 To accept your littleness is arrogant, because to accept your littleness means that you believe your evaluation of yourself is truer than God's.  

Note # 80: Arrogance is the denial of the truth. God knows us as He created us, perfect, whole and complete. To argue for our littleness is arrogant indeed. To claim that we are God's perfect Child is not pride. It is merely a statement of fact. To argue that God does not know what He created is arrogance at the highest level.  

T-9.VIII.11. Yet if truth is indivisible, your evaluation of yourself must be God's evaluation of yourself. 2 You did not establish your value and your value needs no defense. 3 Nothing can attack your value nor prevail over your value. 4 Your value does not vary. 5 Your value merely is. 6 Ask the Holy Spirit what your value is and the Holy Spirit will tell you, but do not be afraid of the Holy Spirit's answer, because the Holy Spirit’s answer comes from God. 7 The Holy Spirit’s answer is an exalted answer because of the answer’s Source, but the Source is true and so is the Source's answer. 8 Listen and do not question what you hear, for God does not deceive. 9 God would have you replace the ego's belief in littleness with God’s Own exalted Answer to what you are, so that you can cease to question what you are and know what you are for what it is.  

Note # 81: What you are comes from God and is unchangeable because this is God’s Will. To believe you could be something other than how God created you is the height of arrogance since you would be claiming that your evaluation of yourself would be “truer” than God’s knowledge of what you are.  

A good prayer would be. “God let me accept the reality of my being no matter how much more beautiful it is than I could ever imagine I could be.” We cannot imagine the magnificence of the truth of what we are.
Chapter 10. THE IDOLS OF SICKNESS

Introduction

T-10.in.1. Nothing beyond yourself can make you fearful or loving, because nothing is beyond you. 2 Time and eternity are both in your mind and time and eternity will conflict until you perceive time solely as a means to regain eternity. 3 You cannot perceive time solely as a means to regain eternity as long as you believe that anything happening to you is caused by factors outside yourself. 4 You must learn that time is solely at your disposal, and that nothing in the world can take this responsibility that time is solely at your disposal from you. 5 You can violate God's laws in your imagination, but you cannot escape from God's laws. 6 God's laws were established for your protection and God's laws are as inviolate as your safety.

Note # 1: Nothing is beyond us because God gave us everything. We are the creators of what we perceive and we need to take sole responsibility for our own provisional reality. We alone decide which of the endless possibilities that are available within the “All That Is” that we wish to call into our experience. We do this by choosing which part of the “All That Is” that we will focus our awareness upon. We are the decision-maker, scriptwriter and producer of our moment-to-moment experience within the Oneness. If we wish to experience our imagined separation or the totality of the Oneness, it is our choice. Ultimately, however, once we remember or reclaim what we are, we will accept and embrace the fact that we are unlimited Spirit. Our split mind will once again know and be a Oneness with Our Father. There is only one Law and one Will and that is the Law and Will of the Father. In the Kingdom, God’s Will and our will are the same.

T-10.in.2. God created nothing beside you and nothing beside you exists, for you are part of God. 2 What except God can exist? 3 Nothing beyond God can happen, because nothing except God is real. 4 Your creations add to God, as you add to God, but nothing is added that is different to God because everything has always been. 5 What can upset you except the ephemeral, and how can the ephemeral be real if you are God's only creation and God created you eternal? 6 Your holy mind establishes everything that happens to you. 7 Every response you make to everything you perceive is up to you, because your mind determines your perception of everything you perceive.

Note # 2: You are the decision-maker for everything you perceive. You can either perceive under the guidance of the Holy Spirit or the ego. The guide you choose to follow is up to you. This Course’s goal is to reawaken your ability to act as the decision-maker and choose again. This time, choose the Holy Spirit to guide you out of your egoic world.
of perception, space and time.

God is only love. Love does not limit. Love does not judge but instead allows us the freedom to be and experience whatever we wish. Love’s goal is that we be happy.

God’s love allows His Creation the absolute freedom to create and be, with the totality of God supporting you, loving you and delighting in that which His Child creates or makes. Nothing the Child creates or imagines (makes) can be wrong, a sin or inappropriate for there is only freedom and no judgment. Happiness is perfect freedom to be what you are with the totality of the universe support our desires and decisions.

T-10.in.3. God does not change God’s Mind about you, for God is not uncertain of Himself. 2 And what God knows can be known, because God does not know God’s Mind only for Himself. 3 God created you for Himself, but God gave you the power to create for yourself so you would be like God Who created you like Himself. 4 Because God created you like Himself, that is why your mind is holy. 5 Can anything exceed the Love of God? 6 Can anything, then, exceed your will? 7 Nothing can reach you from beyond your will because, being in God, you encompass everything. 8 Believe this, that being in God, you encompass everything, and you will realize how much is up to you. 9 When anything threatens your peace of mind, ask yourself, "Has God changed God’s Mind about me?" 10 Then accept God’s decision, for God’s decision is indeed changeless, and then refuse to change your mind about yourself. 11 God will never decide against you, or God would be deciding against Himself. p181

Note # 3: God gave us the power to create so we would be like Our Father. God has given this power and everything God “is” because that is how creation occurs. Extension is sharing all. God gives all (everything) to all, (the Sonship) and this is God’s Being. God knows His creation as Himself, perfect, whole and complete. This is our changeless reality because this is God’s Will. We can imagine we are not God’s Effect but we cannot change being God’s Effect.

I. At Home in God

T-10.I.1. You do not know your creations simply because you would decide against your creations as long as your mind is split, and to attack what you have created is impossible. 2 But remember that <it is as impossible for God to attack what has been created.> 3 The law of creation is that you love your creations as yourself, because your creations are part of you. 4 Everything that was created is therefore perfectly safe, because the laws of God protect everything that was created by God’s Love. 5 Any part of your mind that does not know everything that was created by God’s Love is perfectly safe and protected by the laws of God has banished itself, which is your egoic mind, from knowledge, because your split-mind has not met knowledge’s conditions. 6 Who could have done this but you? 7 Recognize that you have done this to yourself gladly, for in this recognition lies the realization that your banishment is not of God, and therefore does not exist.
Note # 4: You have dreamed that you could do something contradictory to God’s Will. God’s Will is changeless. Only in your dream world of provisional reality does time and space “exist”. This world is only in your mind. You imagined that you could create from a source other than that of love. Coming from fear, you do not know that the Law of God protects all of creation from attack. Making is only an imagined dreamed. You can choose to reawaken to reality whenever you choose to follow God’s Laws for creation.

T-10.I.2. You are at home in God, dreaming of exile but perfectly capable of awakening to reality. 2 Is it your decision to do so? (To reawaken?) 3 You recognize from your own experience that what you see in dreams you think is real while you are asleep. 4 Yet the instant you waken you realize that everything that seemed to happen in the dream did not happen at all. 5 You do not think this strange that what seemed to happen in the dream did not happen at all even though all the laws of what you awaken to were violated while you slept. 6 Is it not possible that you merely shifted from one dream to another, without really waking?

Note # 5: This dream world is our provisional reality. It is a pretend world in which we image that we do not know what we are. It is a world in which time and space appear to have reality. This whole dream appears to have reality to the dreamer while the dreamer is asleep. Provisional reality is your dream state of separation. It includes all the “time” your mind believed that it was separate from God. This includes our waking and sleeping moments on this earth plane. It also includes our moments when we are not on this earth plane (when we are “dead”). It is any time we perceive that we are not a Oneness with God; any time we do not remember what we are. Throughout this state of not remembering our true reality of our Big “S” Self, we still remain safe in the Oneness of the Mind of God. Our dream state does not change the truth that we are eternally God’s Effect.

T-10.I.3. Would you bother to reconcile what happened in conflicting dreams, or would you dismiss both conflicting dreams together if you discovered that reality is in accord with neither conflicting dream? 2 You do not remember being awake. 3 When you hear the Holy Spirit you may feel better because loving then seems possible to you, but you do not remember yet that loving once was so. 4 And it is in this remembering that loving once was so, that you will know loving can be so again. 5 What is possible has not yet been accomplished. 6 Yet what has once been is so now, if what has once been is eternal. 7 When you remember what has once been, you will know that what you remember is eternal, and therefore what you remember is now.

Note # 6: The Holy Spirit does not teach us to love; rather It assists us in removing all the blocks that we have placed in order to hide the love that we are. We were created as love and thus, we need only to remember that we are to once again allow our love to shine forth.

T-10.I.4. You will remember everything the instant you desire to remember everything wholly, for if to desire wholly is to create, you will have willed away the separation, returning your mind simultaneously to your Creator and your creations. 2 Knowing your
Creator and your creations you will have no wish to sleep, but only the desire to waken and be glad. 3 Dreams will be impossible because you will want only truth, and being at last your will, truth will be yours. p182

Note # 7: The dream of separation was our choice. The dream of separation will end when we no longer value anything that we believe the dream represents.

II. The Decision to Forget

T-10.II.1. Unless you first know something you cannot dissociate from that something. 2 Knowledge must precede dissociation, so that dissociation is nothing more than a decision to forget knowledge. 3 What has been forgotten then appears to be fearful, but only because the dissociation from your decision to forget knowledge is an attack on truth. 4 You are fearful <because> you have forgotten you decided not to remember knowledge. 5 And you have replaced your knowledge by an awareness of dreams because you are afraid of your dissociation from your decision to forget knowledge. You are not afraid of what you have dissociated, which is knowledge. 6 When what you have dissociated is accepted you remember knowledge and what you have dissociated ceases to be fearful.

Note # 8: It is fear of the unknown, not the truth itself that frightens us. When you know the truth that you are the Oneness of “All That is,” you realize there is nothing to fear. We choose to forget this truth and now fear what the truth might be. The laws of God protect everything that was created by God’s Love. Thus, there is nothing to fear, yet we have banished this knowledge of God’s laws from our own mind.

T-10.II.2. Yet to give up the dissociation of reality, which is the remembrance of the knowledge of God’s Kingdom, brings more than merely lack of fear. 2 In this decision to remember the knowledge of reality lie joy and peace and the glory of creation. 3 Offer the Holy Spirit only your willingness to remember, for the Holy Spirit retains the knowledge of God and of yourself for you, waiting for your acceptance. 4 Give up gladly everything that would stand in the way of your remembering God and yourself, for God is in your memory. 5 The Holy Spirit, God’s Voice will tell you that you are part of God when you are willing to remember God and know your own reality again. 6 Let nothing in your dream world of perception, time and space delay your remembering of God, for in this remembering of God is the knowledge of yourself.

Note # 9: When we questioned and rejected the truth about ourselves, we denied all the benefits associated with that fact. Happiness, peace joy and the creation process also were forgotten. When we valued our specialness more than the oneness, we obtained the entire package of the egoic thought system. Along with specialness, we also received sin, guilt and fear.

T-10.II.3. To remember is merely to restore to your mind <what is already there.> 2 You
do not make what you remember; you merely accept again what is already there, but was rejected. 3 The ability to accept truth in this world, your dream world of provisional reality, is the perceptual counterpart of creating in the Kingdom. 4 God will do God’s part if you will do your part, and God’s return in exchange for yours is the exchange of knowledge for perception. 5 Nothing is beyond God’s Will for you. 6 But signify your will to remember God, and behold! 7 God will give you everything but for the asking.

Note # 10: When we chose to forget the truth of our Oneness with God’s Will, we also lost our remembrance of the Kingdom, which is the real world of knowledge. We gave up knowledge in exchange for perception. Our split mind then projected the image of a world of perception, time and space. This projection became our dream world of provisional reality. To access knowledge again, we must demonstrate our willingness to do our part toward our remembrance of God by simply asking for and then following the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit reinterprets our misperceptions into correct perceptions that support and align with the truth of the Kingdom. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, God, our Father, exchanges perception for the return to knowledge.

T-10.II.4. When you attack, you are denying yourself. 2 You are specifically teaching yourself that you are not what you are. 3 Your denial of reality precludes the acceptance of God's gift, because you have accepted something else in the place of God’s gift of your Oneness. 4 If you understand that this acceptance of something else in the place of God’s gift is always an attack on truth, and truth is God, you will realize why the acceptance of something else in the place of God’s gift of your Oneness is always fearful. 5 If you further recognize that you are part of God, you will understand why it is that you always attack yourself first.

Note # 11: Some of God’s gifts are love, truth, joy, happiness, freedom and peace. Being a Oneness of Everything, to deny the truth is to deny our divine inheritance. We exchange the happiness of everything for the promise of specialness. The quest for specialness rewards us with limitation, competition, lack, lonesomeness, guilt and fear.

T-10.II.5. All attack is Self attack. 2 Attack cannot be anything else than attack upon your Big “S” Self. 3 Arising from your own decision not to be what you are, it is an attack on your identification as your Big “S” Self and your Oneness. 4 Attack is thus the way in which your identification is lost, because when you attack, you must have forgotten what you are. p183 5 And if your reality is God's, when you attack you are not remembering God. 6 This not remembering God is not because God is gone, but because you are actively choosing not to remember God.

Note # 12: Knowledge was not taken away from us. Instead it was our own free choice to forget the truth of what we are. We wondered what it would be like to be something other than God. Once we imagined it, we took the illusion seriously enough to become frightened. We forgot to laugh; let fear and uncertainty enter our now split-mind and made the dream of separation appear real within the mind of the dreamer. We identified ourselves as something other than the Oneness of all. Now there was an observer and
something outside the observer to observe. Perception was born and knowledge forgotten.

T-10.II.6. If you realized the complete havoc this not remembering God makes of your peace of mind you could not make such an insane decision. 2 You make the insane decision to not remember God only because you still believe that not remembering God can get you something you want. 3 It follows, then, that you want something other than peace of mind, but you have not considered what that something other than peace of mind that you want must be. 4 Yet the logical outcome of your decision is perfectly clear, if you will only look at the logical outcome of your decision. 5 By deciding against your reality, you have made yourself vigilant against God and God's Kingdom. 6 And by deciding against your reality, it is this vigilance against God that makes you afraid to remember God.

Note # 13: All attack is attack against your true reality which is Self attack against the Son of God. We attack our real identification as the Big “S” Self. Since we are part of God, any attack on our Big “S” Self is an attack on our Father. When we remember God, we also remember what we are and accept our true nature as God's Creation. We have exchanged our peace and happiness for the specialness of our egoic little “s” self. We cling to our ego’s decision to declare that we are right even when we are “dead” wrong.

III. The God of Sickness

T-10.III.1. You have not attacked God and you do love God. 2 Can you change your reality? 3 No one can will to destroy himself. 4 When you think you are attacking yourself, this attack on yourself is a sure sign that you hate what you think you are. 5 And what you think you are and only what you think you are, can be attacked by you. 6 What you think you are can be very hateful, and what this strange image of what you think you are makes you do can be very destructive. 7 Yet the destruction is no more real than the image of what you think you are, although those who make idols do worship the idols of their imaginations. 8 The idols are nothing, but their worshippers are the Sons of God in sickness. 9 God would have these sick Sons of God who worship the idols of their imagination released from their sickness and returned to God's Mind. 10 God will not limit your power to help these sick Sons of God who worship the idols of their imagination because God has given you the power to help your sick brothers. 11 Do not be afraid of the power to help your sick brothers because the power to help your sick brothers is your salvation.

Note # 14: You cannot attack what you really are because what God created is changeless and eternal. You can attack what you imagine yourself to be in your dream world of provisional reality. Since God created you like Himself, your mind has been given the power to remember the wholeness of the Sonship. That is what we really are, a Oneness. Your Big “S” Self coupled with the Holy Spirit can heal and reunite the Sonship and return It to right or whole-mindedness.
T-10.III.2. What Comforter can there be for the sick children of God except God’s power through you? 2 Remember that it does not matter where in the Sonship God is accepted. 3 God is always accepted for all, and when your mind receives God the remembrance of God awakens throughout the Sonship. 4 Heal your brothers simply by accepting God for your brothers. 5 You and your brother’s minds are not separate, and God has only one channel for healing because God has but one Son. 6 God’s remaining Communication Link with all God’s children joins all God’s children together, and all God’s children to God. 7 To be aware of this joining all God’s children together through this Communication Link is to heal all God’s children because it is the awareness that no one is separate, and so no one is sick. p184

Note # 15: We are all united in the Sonship, since the Sonship is all that the Father created. To heal any part of the Sonship is to heal the totality. The Comforter is the Holy Spirit.

T-10.III.3. To believe that a Son of God can be sick is to believe that part of God can suffer. 2 Love cannot suffer, because love cannot attack. 3 The remembrance of love therefore brings invulnerability with love. 4 Do not side with sickness in the presence of a Son of God even if a Son of God believes in sickness, for your acceptance of God in a Son of God acknowledges the Love of God that a sick Son of God has forgotten. 5 Your recognition of a Son of God as part of God reminds a Son of God of the truth about himself, which a sick Son of God is denying. 6 Would you strengthen a sick Son of God’s denial of God and thus lose sight of yourself? 7 Or would you remind a sick Son of God of his wholeness and remember your Creator with a sick Son of God?

Note # 16: By seeing a Son of God as “sick”, you are accepting the belief in limitation and that there can be something other than the Will of God. This reinforces both his and your own belief that the separation is real. This does not lead to healing and correction of the fundamental error that a sick person is not remembering what they are. To acknowledge the false in another, which is the belief that they are sick, is to accept the false as real. We have raised the false to the status of truth. We can choose to either share the truth or the false with our brother. Whichever we share, we strengthen. ACIM states that we should deny the existence of the false and accept and share the reality of the truth. This is how we assist the Holy Spirit in His healing of the split-minded Sonship.

T-10.III.4. To believe a Son of God is sick is to worship the same idol a sick Son of God does. 2 God created love, not idolatry. 3 All forms of idolatry are caricatures of creation, taught by sick minds too divided to know that creation shares power and never usurps power. 4 Sickness is idolatry, because sickness is the belief that power can be taken from you. 5 Yet the belief that power can be taken from you is impossible, because you are part of God, Who is all power. 6 A sick god must be an idol, made in the image of what its sick maker thinks the sick maker, himself, is. 7 And that idol to a sick god is exactly what the ego does perceive in a Son of God; a sick god, self-created, self-sufficient, very vicious and very vulnerable. 8 Is this the idol you would worship? 9 Is this idol to a sick god the image you would be vigilant to save? 10 Are you really afraid of losing this? (Losing this idol of a sick Son of God, which is a sick god, egoically self-created, self-
sufficient, very vicious and very vulnerable)

Note # 17: What we value, we will protect and defend. What we value, we perceive and project into our dream world. What we choose to believe, we will choose to perceive. Your perception follows your purpose. We value our littleness more than we value the Oneness that is the Love of God. Our sick minds have created an image of a false egoic god made in the likeness of our own egoic image of ourselves.

T-10.III.5. Look calmly at the logical conclusion of the ego's thought system and judge whether the ego's thought system’s offering is really what you want, for this image of a sick Son of God <is> what the ego's thought system offers you. 2 To obtain this logical conclusion of the ego's thought system’s image of a sick Son of God, you are willing to attack the Divinity of your brothers, and thus lose sight of your divinity. 3 And you are willing to keep your divinity hidden, to protect an idol you think will save you from the dangers for which the idol stands, but which the idol’s dangers do not exist since a sick Son of God is only imagined in a deluded mind.

Note # 18: Not remembering what we are, we fear losing the false protection that our idols to littleness offer us against the unknown. The unknown is our forgetting the truth of what we are. The ego’s thought system warns us that in a world of lack, we must compete against our brother’s if we are to survive. Attack becomes a way of life. The ego tells us this world is a zero sun-game and that we need the help of outside powers or idols if we are to survive, let alone be happy.

T-10.III.6. There are no idolaters in the Kingdom, but there is great appreciation for everything that God created, because of the calm knowledge that each one of the aspects that God created is part of God. 2 God's Son, the Big “S” Self, knows no idols, but the Big “S” Self does know his Father. 3 Health in this world is the counterpart of value in Heaven. 4 It is not my merit that I contribute to you but my love, for you do not value yourself. 5 When you do not value yourself you become sick, but my value of you can heal you, because the value of God's Son is one. 6 When I said, "My peace I give unto you," I meant it. 7 Peace comes from God through me to you. 8 Peace is for you although you may not ask for peace.

Note # 19: Thoughts never leave the mind of the thinker. What we give, we receive. If we are willing of receive the peace of God, we will also share that same peace with our brother. Extension is the sharing of thoughts which strengthens the thought.

T-10.III.7. When a brother is sick it is because he is not asking for peace, and therefore does not know he has peace. 2 The acceptance of peace is the denial of illusion, and sickness <is> an illusion. p185 3 Yet every Son of God has the power to deny illusions anywhere in the Kingdom, merely by denying illusions completely in himself. 4 I can heal you because I know you. 5 I know your value for you, and it is this value that makes you whole. 6 A whole mind is not idolatrous, and does not know of conflicting laws. 7 I will heal you merely because I have only one message, which is "My peace I give unto you," and this one message is true. 8 Your faith in this one message, which is "My
peace I give unto you," will make you whole when you have faith in me.

**Note # 20:** The peace of God is the acceptance of what you are. The illusion of the provisional reality of limitations and separateness fades away upon the reawakening and reclaiming our divine birthright as the Son of God. The Peace of God is our destiny. The acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves is the denial of all illusions. The Atonement is healing and salvation.

**T-10.III.8.** I do not bring God's message with deception, and you will learn **God's message** as you learn that you always receive as much as you accept. 2 You could accept peace now for everyone, and offer **everyone** perfect freedom from all illusions because you heard **God's Voice.** 3 But have no other gods before **God, your Father,** or you will not hear **God’s Voice, which is the Holy Spirit.** 4 God is not jealous of the gods you make, but you are **jealous of the gods you make.** 5 You would save **the gods you make** and serve **the gods you make,** because you believe that **the gods you make** made you. 6 You think **the gods you make** are your father, because you are projecting onto, **the gods you make** the fearful fact that you made **these false gods** to replace **God, Your Father.** 7 Yet when **these false gods you made** seem to speak to you, remember that nothing can replace **God, Your Father,** and whatever replacements you have attempted are nothing.

**Note # 21:** This replacement of Our Creator with idols is the “Authority Problem”. The ego would have you believe that you fathered yourself, and that God, Our Father, either does not exist, or has somehow lost His Power, or perhaps even has been “destroyed“ by you. The ego claims that an effect can change its cause. It claims that you have a will that can be different from the Will of God. Since there is only the Will of God, the images or dreams of the “sick” or “split-minded”, are only false imaginings. They are dreams that disappear once we choose to remember the truth. Outside the insane mind of the dreamer these magical fantasies are nothing. Thus, within the Mind of God, our dream world of idols, sin, guilt and fear are nothing since they are not real. The imaginings of an insane mind cannot change reality. The false cannot change the truth. God, as First Cause, will always have His Effect as He caused it.

**T-10.III.9.** Very simply, then, you may believe you are afraid of nothingness, but you are really afraid of nothing. 2 And in that awareness **that the ego’s world of false gods and idols is only imagined and not real,** you realize you were afraid of nothing and thus, you are healed. 3 You will hear the god you listen to. **This voice will be either the ego’s thought system or the thought system of the Holy Spirit.** 4 You made the god of sickness, and by making **the god of sickness** you made yourself able to hear **the god of sickness, which symbolizes the ego’s thought system.** 5 Yet you did not create **the god of sickness,** because he, **the god of sickness, which symbolizes the ego’s thought system,** is not the Will of the Father. 6 **The god of sickness, which symbolizes the ego’s thought system,** is therefore not eternal and will be unmade for you the instant you signify your willingness to accept only the eternal.

**Note # 22:** We did not create the god of sickness, because to create is the extension of the Mind of God. We “make” when we deny our Big “S” Self and believe in limitation and
fear. Sickness is not a part of the Mind of God. We did “make” the god of sickness “real” in our imagined dream world of provisional reality. Our provisional reality is based on our perception. If we give our perception to the Holy Spirit, He will reinterpret our misperceptions as a learning device to bring us back of the remembrance of God.

T-10.III.10. If God has but one Son, there is but one God. 2 You share reality with God, because reality is not divided. 3 To accept other gods before God is to place other images before yourself. 4 You do not realize how much you listen to your gods, the ego’s thought system, and how vigilant you are on your imagined gods’ behalf. 5 Yet your imagined gods exist only because you honor your imagined gods. 6 Place honor where honor is due and peace will be yours. 7 Peace is your inheritance from your real Father. 8 You cannot make your Father, and the father you made, your ego’s thought system with its false gods did not make you. 9 Honor is not due to illusions, for to honor your imagined gods is to honor nothing. 10 Yet fear is not due your imagined gods either, for nothing, which is what your imagined gods are, cannot be fearful. 11 You have chosen to fear love because of love’s perfect harmlessness, and because of this fear of love you have been willing to give up your own perfect helpfulness and your own perfect Help, which is the Love of God. p186

Note # 23: What we value, we will choose to perceive. When we no longer value the egoic specialness, we will be willing to give up the illusion of littleness and turn to the thought system of the Holy Spirit. By asking and accepting God’s Guide, we will be led back to the remembrance of knowledge.

T-10.III.11. Only at the altar of God will you find peace. 2 And this altar of God is in you because God put it there in you. 3 God’s Voice, the Holy Spirit, still calls you to return, and the Holy Spirit will be heard when you place no other gods before God, your Father. 4 You can give up the god of sickness for your brothers; in fact, you would have to do so if you give the god of sickness up for yourself. 5 For if you see the god of sickness anywhere, you have accepted the god of sickness. 6 And if you accept the god of sickness you will bow down and worship the god of sickness, because the god of sickness was made as God's replacement. 7 The god of sickness is the belief that you can choose which god is real. 8 Although the belief that you can choose which god is real is clear this has nothing to do with reality. It is equally clear that the belief that you can choose which god is real has everything to do with reality as you perceive reality within your split mind.

Note # 24: How we choose to view reality depends on which thought system we follow. Follow the ego and you will see yourself as a limited ego body. A world of limitation and competition will become your provisional reality. Follow the Holy Spirit, and you will see that you are unlimited Spirit and one with the Mind of God; that your will and God’s Will are the same since you are part of a Oneness. You are the decision-maker and the Holy Spirit invites you to choose again. When you make the choice, you choose for the entire Sonship. If you choose to exclude one brother from healing, you exclude the entire Sonship from healing. Healing is an all or nothing proposition.

The thought system of the ego claims that you are the arbitrator of truth. It claims
that you decide what will be the truth and when it will be truth. What you declare to be your “truth” will form the foundation for your making a false idol to this imagined “truth”. This belief that you are the arbitrator of truth birthed the world of perception from which you made your own private world of provisional reality. This is a world of delusion that within your mind’s imagination appears to be real because you choose to believe that it is “true”. Because what we choose to believe becomes our perceived reality’s truth, we can play the game of separation on the dimensional game board of time and space. Yet, childhood games of make believe cannot change the reality of the truth which remains eternally fix in the Mind of God.

IV. The End of Sickness

T-10.IV.1. All magic is an attempt at reconciling the irreconcilable. 2 All religion is the recognition that the irreconcilable cannot be reconciled. 3 Sickness and perfection are irreconcilable. 4 If God created you perfect, you are perfect. 5 If you believe you can be sick, you have placed other gods before God, our Father. 6 God is not at war with the god of sickness you made, but you are at war with the god of sickness. 7 The god of sickness is the symbol of deciding against God, and you are afraid of the god of sickness because the god of sickness cannot be reconciled with God's Will. 8 If you attack the god of sickness, you will make the god of sickness real to you. 9 But if you refuse to worship the god of sickness in whatever form the god of sickness may appear to you, and wherever you think you see him, the god of sickness will disappear into the nothingness out of which the god of sickness was made.

Note # 25: Truth cannot be reconciled with the false. Truth calls for the denial of the false, which leaves the truth remaining. The proper use of denial does not attack, it just acknowledges the fact that what is false is nothing and can have no impact or power over the truth. The Truth just is. When we choose to attack the false, we uplift the false illusion and give it an imagined power to attack and oppose the truth that it does not possess. When we defend the truth by attacking the false, we make the game of separation appear real within the mind of those who are uncertain of what they are. We took the imagined threat seriously and forgot to laugh. We allowed doubt into the Kingdom and thus, forgot knowledge. Perception took the place of knowledge and “paradise” was forgotten but not lost.

T-10.IV.2. Reality can dawn only on an unclouded mind. 2 Reality is always there to be accepted, but reality’s acceptance depends on your willingness to have reality. 3 To know reality must involve the willingness to judge unreality for what unreality is. 4 To overlook nothingness is merely to judge nothingness correctly, and because of your ability to evaluate nothingness truly, to let nothingness go. 5 Knowledge cannot dawn on a mind full of illusions, because truth and illusions are irreconcilable. 6 Truth is whole, and cannot be known by part of a mind.

Note # 26: Recognizing the false as the nothing that it is, allows us to dismiss the false
into the nothingness from which it arose. The false is powerless to change the truth. By
the simple denial of the existence of the false, the false fades away. We cannot know the
truth as long as we cling to the ego’s claim that we, not God, can determine what is to be
the truth. Give all perception over to the Guidance of the Holy Spirit Who knows the
difference between the true and false. The Holy Spirit will help you heal your split-mind
and return it to right-mindedness. You cannot do this alone.

T-10.IV.3. The Sonship cannot be perceived as partly sick, because to perceive the
Sonship as partly sick is not to perceive the Sonship at all. 2 If the Sonship is One, the
Sonship is One in all respects. 3 Oneness cannot be divided. 4 If you perceive other gods
your mind is split, and you will not be able to limit the split, because a split mind is the
sign that you have removed part of your mind from God's Will. 5 This means a split
mind is out of control. 6 To be out of control is to be out of reason, and then the mind
does become unreasonable. p187 7 By defining the mind wrongly, you perceive the mind
as functioning wrongly.

Note # 27: We cannot be a “little insane”. To be deluded about what you are is to be
insane. There is no such thing as a partial Oneness. It is a contradiction of terms and to
accept a partial Oneness as your reality demonstrates that your mind is insane.

T-10.IV.4. God's laws will keep your mind at peace because peace is God’s Will, and
God’s laws are established to uphold your mind at peace, which is God’s Will for you.
2 God's laws are the laws of freedom, but your laws are the laws of bondage. 3 Since
freedom and bondage are irreconcilable, God's laws and your laws cannot be
understood together. 4 The laws of God work only for your good, and there are no other
laws beside God's Laws. 5 Everything else that is not based on God's laws, are merely
lawless and therefore chaotic. 6 Yet God Himself has protected everything God
created by God's laws. 7 Everything that is not under God's laws does not exist. 8 "Laws of
chaos", which are your egoic laws, is a meaningless term. 9 Creation is perfectly lawful,
and the chaotic is without meaning because the chaotic is without God. 10 You have
"given" your peace to the gods of sickness that you made, but the gods that you made
are not there to take your peace from you for they are not real. And you cannot give
your peace to these false gods that you believe you have made.

Note # 28: You cannot give your peace to the gods that you made for two basis reasons.
The first is that this is not the Will of God. God wills you the Peace of God. Nothing can
take your Peace of God away from you, but you can choose to “forget” this during your
dream state of provisional reality, which is your denial of truth. The second reason is
basically a corollary to the first, which is that it was not God’s Will. Anything that is not
shared with the Will of God is not real and, therefore, does not exist. The gods you
“made” can only exist in your illusionary world of provisional reality. These false idols
appear “true” to the dreamer, but will disappear when the dreamer reawakens.

This section makes it clear that the two thought systems of the ego and the Holy Spirit
are irreconcilable. Only one can be correct. They can never co-exist. You must choose
which thought system you will give your allegiance to. This decision to follow either
thought system is a choice that the decision-making part of your mind must freely make.
Ultimately, the thought system of the Holy Spirit will be freely chosen by the Son of God, because that is the Will of God which must also be His Son’s will. One mind can have only one will.

T-10.IV.5. You are not free to give up freedom, but only to deny freedom. 2 You cannot do what God did not intend, because what God did not intend does not happen. 3 Your gods do not bring chaos; you are endowing the god’s you made with chaos, and accepting chaos of the god’s you made. 4 All this has never been, because what God did not intend does not happen. This has only appeared to happen in the imagination of the split-minded. 5 Nothing but the laws of God has ever been, and nothing but God’s Will will ever be. 6 You were created through God’s laws and by God’s Will, and the manner of your creation established you a creator. 7 What you have made is so unworthy of you that you could hardly want what you have made, if you were willing to see what you have made as it is. 8 You will see nothing at all when you look with true vision on what you have made. 9 And your vision will automatically look beyond what you have made, to what is in you and all around you. 10 Reality cannot break through the obstructions you interpose, but reality will envelop you completely when you let what you have made go.

Note # 29: Because you have free will, you can choose to be what you are or pretend that you are something that you are not. God is Love and love allows Its creations total freedom to experience anything that they wish to call into their awareness without God’s judgment or condemnation. God’s love insures us that our birthright of perfect freedom will be preserved for us because it is God’s Truth. We can deny God’s love but our denial cannot change God’s Love. Eventually, we will freely choose to accept, extend and be love. This is inevitable because it is our Cause’s Will for His Effect.

What you have made is your dream world of provisional reality. When you choose to reawaken from your dream, you will realize that your dream was never real and that your dream had no affect on reality since your dream was not part of the Mind of God. Creation, unlike making, is shared. Your world of provisional reality is a private world. It is not shared and, therefore, it was never created in the Mind of God. The Mind of God shares and gives all, to all. Your “making” shares nothing with anyone, not even our own split mind.

T-10.IV.6. When you have experienced the protection of God, the making of idols becomes inconceivable. 2 There are no strange images in the Mind of God, and what is not in God’s Mind cannot be in your mind, because you are of one mind and that mind belongs to God. 3 The Mind of God is your mind because the Mind of God belongs to God, for to God ownership is sharing. 4 And if it is so for God that ownership is sharing, it is so for you. 5 God’s definitions are God’s laws, for by God’s laws, God established the universe as what the universe is. 6 No false gods you attempt to interpose between yourself and your reality affect truth at all. 7 Peace is yours because God created you. 8 And God created nothing else.

Note # 30: Our perceived world of provisional reality has no effect on true reality, which is synonymous with God’s Will. Reality is changeless and eternal because that is God’s
The miracle is the act of a Son of God who has laid aside all false gods, and calls on his brothers to do likewise and laid aside all the brothers’ false gods. 2 The miracle is an act of faith, because the miracle is the recognition that his brother can also lay aside all his false gods. p188 3 The miracle is a call to the Holy Spirit in the miracle worker’s mind, a call that is strengthened by joining. 4 Because the miracle worker has heard God's Voice, the miracle worker strengthens God’s Voice in a sick brother by weakening a sick brother’s belief in sickness, which the miracle worker does not share. 5 The power of one mind can shine into another mind, because all the lamps of God were lit by the same spark. 6 That spark from God is everywhere and the spark is eternal.

Note # 31: The miracle is a process of rejoining perceived individualized aspects of the whole into the realization that they are joined together as part of a Oneness. The “Mind” of a Oneness is connected to all parts which are truly inseparable because there is only one mind. In a hologram all parts contain the whole and the whole is in all parts.

T-10.IV.8. In many only the spark remains, for the Great Rays are obscured. 2 Yet God has kept the spark alive so that the Rays can never be completely forgotten. 3 If you but see the little spark you will learn of the greater light, for the Rays are there unseen. 4 Perceiving the spark will heal, but knowing the light will create. 5 Yet in the returning the little light must be acknowledged first, for the separation was a descent from magnitude to littleness. 6 But the spark is still as pure as the Great Light, because the spark is the remaining call of creation. 7 Put all your faith in the spark, which is the remaining call of creation and God Himself will answer you.

Note # 32: This spark is the reality of our Big “S” Self or Christ consciousness which was never lost. This spark lies hidden behind the veil of the body. We need to look past our brother’s bodily form that obscures this light and “see” the Christ that is his reality. By sharing this vision with our brothers, our light and minds are joined and healed. Perceiving the spark is an individual act that is shared with a brother but unlike knowing is subject to change. Perception is in the realm of provisional reality. Knowing or knowledge is in the realm of the Mind of God. All creation comes from sharing, extending, or giving all, to the creation. Creation includes and nothing is held back.

V. The Denial of God

T-10.V.1. The rituals of the god of sickness are strange and very demanding. 2 Joy is never permitted, for depression is the sign of allegiance to the god of sickness. 3 Depression means that you have forsworn God. 4 Many are afraid of blasphemy, but they do not understand what blasphemy means. 5 The many who are afraid of blasphemy do not realize that to deny God is to deny their own Identity, and in this sense the wages of sin <<is>> death. 6 The sense is very literal; denial of life perceives its opposite, which is
death, as all forms of denial replace what is with what is not. 7 No one can really do this, replace what is with what is not, but that you can think you can replace what is with what is not and than believe that you have done this is beyond dispute.

Note # 33: God is Truth. Within the mind of the person that chooses to deny the truth, his denial becomes his perceived reality. Denying the truth cannot change the truth’s reality in the Kingdom of the real world, but it does affect how the insane relates to his imagined world of delusion. Since we are a part of the shared Oneness that is the Mind of God, when we deny the truth, we deny the identity of both God and Our Big “S” Self.

T-10.V.2. Do not forget, however, that to deny God will inevitably result in projection, and due to your own projections you will believe that others and not yourself have done this denial of God to you. 2 You must receive the message you give because the message you give is the message you want. 3 You may believe that you judge your brothers by the messages your brothers give you, but you have judged your brothers by the message you give to your brothers. 4 Do not attribute your denial of joy to your brothers, or you cannot see the spark in your brothers that would bring joy to you. 5 It is the denial of the spark that brings depression, for whenever you see your brothers without the spark you are denying God. p189

Note # 34: What we perceive in another mirrors our own beliefs about ourselves. This is how projection works. Deny our brother his divinity and we deny our own divinity for what we receive is what we have given.

T-10.V.3. Allegiance to the denial of God is the ego's religion. 2 The god of sickness obviously demands the denial of health, because health is in direct opposition to the god of sickness’ own survival. 3 But consider what this denial of health means to you. 4 Unless you are sick you cannot keep the gods you made, for only in sickness could you possibly want the god of sickness. 5 Blasphemy, then, is <self-destructive,> not God-destructive. 6 This blasphemy of the denial of your health means that you are willing not to know yourself in order to be sick. 7 This blasphemy of not to know yourself in order to be sick, is the offering your god of sickness demands because, having made your god of sickness out of your insanity, your god of sickness is an insane idea. 8 Your god of sickness has many forms, but although your god of sickness may seem to be many different things your god of sickness is but one idea;–the denial of God.

Note # 35: In order to deny God, you must deny your own identity. This denying of what you truly are is the denial of what God truly is. Your denial of yourself, of course, does not change the reality of what you are as God created you. God’s Will is unalterable. Sickness is not just lack of bodily health. Sickness is any denial of your own Big “S” Self’s divinity. Anytime you believe yourself to be something other than perfect, whole and complete as God created you, you are suffering from the delusions of a sick mind.

T-10.V.4. Sickness and death seemed to enter the mind of God's Son against God's Will. 2 The "attack on God" made His Son think he was Fatherless, and out of his depression he, God's Son, made the god of depression. 3 This was his alternative to joy, because he,
**God’s Son**, would not accept the fact that, although he was a creator, he, **being God’s Son**, had been created by **God**. 4 Yet the Son <is> helpless without the Father, Who alone is **God’s Son’s Help**.

**Note # 36:** This is the authority problem. The ego tells us that we are self-created. All our power, whether it is used to create or misused to make, comes from being an extension of the Mind of God. Without God as our Cause, we are powerless.

T-10.V.5.I said before that of yourself you can do nothing, but you are not <of> yourself. 2 If you were of yourself, the illusion of what you have made would be true, and you could never escape the illusion. 3 It is because you did not make yourself that you need be troubled over nothing. 4 Your gods are nothing, because your Father did not create **your gods of sickness that you made up**. 5 You cannot make creators who are unlike your Creator, any more than **God, Your Father**, could have created a Son who was unlike **God, Your Father**. 6 If creation is sharing, creation cannot create what is unlike itself. 7 **Creation** can share only what it is. 8 Depression is isolation, and so depression could not have been created.

**Note # 37:** Since creation is defined as extension, the only thing that can be created is a “carbon copy” of the original. Extension is sharing everything that the creator is with his creation. Since God, the Father, is our creator, only the attributes that are God-like can be real. God is unconditional Love and Truth. Because God is Love, attributes like hate, sickness and depression cannot exist. They are not part of the Mind of God. Attributes like sickness and depression can only exist in the illusions of the mind of the small “s” self, which is the dream world of provisional reality and misperception. God’s Child is never alone. Even in the split-minded the Big “S” Self remains as the home of the Holy Spirit. The small “s” self will claim that it is home alone, but our Big “S” Self has not deserted us. We have just chosen to forget to listen.

T-10.V.6.Son of God, you have not sinned, but you have been much mistaken. 2 Yet this **mistake** can be corrected and God will help you, knowing that you could not sin against **God**. 3 You denied **God** because you loved **God**, knowing that if you recognized your love for **God**, you could not deny **God**. 4 Your denial of **God** therefore means that you love **God**, and that you know **God** loves you. 5 Remember that what you deny you must have once known. 6 And if you accept denial, you can accept the undoing of your denial of **God**.

**Note # 38:** Your Big “S” Self, his never lost its remembrance of God and the Truth of its Oneness. Our egoic denial is blocking the hearing of the Voice for God but it cannot remove it totally from your insane mind. Everyone hears the Voice for Truth sporadically throughout his or her current physical existence. The only question is when will we stop and listen. Our mind has denied our love for God. However, that same mind, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, can correct this mistake.

T-10.V.7.**God**, Your Father has not denied you. 2 **God** does not retaliate, but **God** does call to you to return. 3 When you think **God** has not answered your call, you have not
answered God’s call. 4 God calls to you from every part of the Sonship, because of God’s Love for His Son. 5 If you hear God’s message God has answered you, and you will learn of God if you hear aright. p190 6 The Love of God is in everything God created, for God’s Son is everywhere. 7 Look with peace upon your brothers, and God will come rushing into your heart in gratitude for your gift to God.

Note # 39: The Sonship is all God created. You and your brother are all a part of this Sonship. Every time you look upon any part of the Sonship with true Christ Vision, you look upon the Face of God.

God is unconditional love. Love allows you the freedom to create or imagine anything you like. God does not condemn or judge. God knows His Creation as an extension of His Love, perfect whole and complete in the shared Oneness that is their Creator.

T-10.V.8. Do not look to the god of sickness for healing but only to the God of love, for healing is the acknowledgment of God, Your Father. 2 When you acknowledge God you will know that God has never ceased to acknowledge you, and that in God’s acknowledgment of you lies your being. 3 You are not sick and you cannot die. 4 But you can confuse yourself with things that do become sick and die. 5 Remember, though, that to do this denial of what you truly are and your belief that you can be sick is blasphemy, for this denial means that you are looking without love on God and God’s creation, from which God cannot be separated.

Note # 40: Our sickness, like all parts of a dream, has no reality outside the dream itself. Any perceived sickness of our small “s” self was just a part of the egoic dream for littleness. It never had any reality and thus, always remained powerless to affect any change in our Big “S” Self.

T-10.V.9. Only the eternal can be loved, for love does not die. 2 What is of God is God’s forever, and you are of God. 3 Would God allow Himself to suffer? 4 And would God offer His Son anything that is not acceptable to God? 5 If you will accept yourself as God created you, you will be incapable of suffering. 6 Yet to accept yourself as God created you, you must acknowledge God as your Creator. 7 This acknowledgment of God as your Creator is not because you will be punished otherwise. 8 It is merely because your acknowledgment of your Father is the acknowledgment of yourself as you are. 9 Your Father created you wholly without sin, wholly without pain and wholly without suffering of any kind. 10 If you deny your Father, you bring sin, pain and suffering into your own mind because of the power your Father gave your own mind. 11 Your mind is capable of creating worlds, but your own mind can also deny what your own mind creates because your own mind is free.

Note # 41: Because God has given us the power to create, our mind is powerful. In our dream world of provisional reality, we can “use” this power of the mind to make or “miscreate”. When we attempt to create from the false belief in lack and fear, we make a private dream world that is designed to bear witness to our false belief that we are separate from the Oneness. This delusional world is not shared and it is an attempt to
exclude and fragment the One Self. The denial of what we truly are, Son’s of our Father, is the cause of our inability to create like our Father created us. Because we view ourselves as limited and separate, we are unwilling to share ourselves completely. The Law of Creation is extension. To have and be all, we must give all, to all. By sharing ourselves completely, we become creators. This co-creation process is the completion of God.

T-10.V.10. You do not realize how much you have denied yourself, and how much God, in God’s Love, would not have you denied yourself so. 2 Yet God would not interfere with you, because God would not know His Son if His Son were not free. 3 To interfere with you would be to attack Himself, and God is not insane. 4 When you deny God <you> are insane. 5 Would you have God share your insanity? 6 God will never cease to love His Son, and God’s Son will never cease to love God. 7 This mutual exchange of love between Father and Son was the condition of God’s Son's creation, fixed forever in the Mind of God. 8 To know that God’s Son will never cease to love God and God will never cease to love His Son is to know sanity. 9 To deny that God’s Son will never cease to love God and God will never cease to love His Son is insanity. 10 God gave Himself to you in your creation, and God’s gifts are eternal. 11 Would you deny yourself to God?

Note # 42: Like God, we have been given freedom. Our free will does not give us the power to do anything outside the Mind of God since our will is the same as our Father’s Will. Free will does give us the power to temporarily deny the truth. In the illusionary world of time and space, we get to decide when we will choose to reawaken from our dream of separation. Until we freely choose to awaken, we are free to imagine anything that we want. We can even pretend what it would be like to experience something other than God’s love. What we are, Our Big “S” Self is eternal and always remains safe in the Kingdom, which is the Oneness of the Mind of God.

T-10.V.11. Out of your gifts to God the Kingdom will be restored to God’s Son. 2 His Son removed himself from God’s gift by refusing to accept what had been created for him, and what he, God’s Son, had created in the Name of his Father. 3 Heaven waits for God’s Son’s return, for the Kingdom, or Heaven, was created as the dwelling place of God's Son. p191 4 You are not at home anywhere else, or in any other condition. 5 Do not deny yourself the joy that was created for you for the misery you have made for yourself. 6 God has given you the means for undoing what you have made. 7 Listen, and you will learn how to remember what you are.

Note # 43: By following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we can escape from the world of perception and our provisional reality back to the Kingdom. This is God’s means with which the Sonship’s sanity is restored. By our acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves, we reject the false and embrace the truth. The Kingdom rests only on the knowledge of God. Illusion rests on the ego’s perception of separateness.

T-10.V.12. If God knows His children as wholly sinless, it is blasphemous to perceive God’s children as guilty. 2 If God knows His children as wholly without pain, it is
blasphemous to perceive suffering anywhere. 3 If God knows His children to be wholly joyous, it is blasphemous to feel depressed. 4 All of these illusions, and the many other forms that blasphemy may take, are refusals to accept creation as it is. 5 If God created His Son perfect, that is how you must learn to see His Son to learn of His Son’s perfect reality. 6 And as part of the Sonship, that perfection is how you must see yourself to learn of your perfect reality.

Note # 44: When we perceive the littleness of another or ourselves, we make the illusion appear real within our own split mind. All attempts at raising body thoughts to the level of mind are an attack on both God and our reality. Sin is any belief in lack and God, the Oneness of Everything, lacks for nothing. Give our brother his “Christness” and our brother returns you to your Big “S” Self. We can only give what we possess and what we give we receive.

T-10.V.13. Do not perceive anything God did not create or you are denying God. 2 God is the only Fatherhood, and fatherhood is yours only because God has given fatherhood to you. 3 Your gifts to yourself are meaningless, but your gifts to your creations are like God’s gifts to His creations, because they are given in God’s Name. 4 That is why your creations are as real as God’s creations. 5 Yet the real Fatherhood must be acknowledged if the real Son is to be known. 6 You believe that the sick things you have made are your real creations, because you believe that the sick images you perceive are the Sons of God. 7 Only if you accept the Fatherhood of God will you have anything, because God’s Fatherhood gave you everything. 8 That is why to deny God is to deny yourself.

Note # 45: Our purpose as God’s Son is to create like our Father. Because we believe that we are separated and, therefore, limited, we cannot create like our Father. We can only make, because we fail to understand the Law of Creation, which states that creation is giving or sharing. When we stop denying our divine birthright, we automatically recover our full creative powers. When we deny God’s Fatherhood, we deny that we are the extension of our Father. We claim that we are limited and, therefore, can only believe that we have littleness to give to our own creations. God knows that His Child is as unlimited as Himself and that creation is only the extension of the Oneness of Everything. When we remember God’s Fatherhood, we will reawaken to the truth about our own fatherhood. We, like our Father, only extended the perfect, the whole and the complete.

T-10.V.14. Arrogance is the denial of love, because love shares and arrogance withholds. 2 As long as both the denial and the sharing of love appear to you to be desirable the concept of choice, which is not of God, will remain with you. 3 While this concept of choice is not true in eternity the concept of choice is true in time, so that while time lasts in your mind there will be choices. 4 Time itself is your choice. 5 If you would remember eternity, you must look only on the eternal. 6 If you allow yourself to become preoccupied with the temporal, you are living in time. 7 As always, your choice is determined by what you value. 8 Time and eternity cannot both be real, because time and eternity contradict each other. 9 If you will accept only what is timeless as real, you will begin to understand eternity and make eternity yours.
Note # 46: Prior to the separation, there was no choice. What can a Oneness of Everything choose between? God is love and so there was only love. With our egoic belief that God’s love could be denied, choice appeared to be possible. Love and love’s denial, which is fear, now appeared to be possible choices. Now we had the choice for truth, which is love or the false, which is fear. Choice cannot exist in eternity since truth has no opposites. Choice is only possible where there is the belief in separation. Choice exists in the world of perception, or provisional reality, because we believe that we are separate. Prior to the belief in separation, there was nothing outside ourselves to perceive since we where everything. Once we believed that there was something outside ourselves, time and space came into being. Time and space allow for the measure of change which results from making different choices. Perception and provisional reality were birthed because now there was something to differentiate. All parts were not perceived as equal. Time, space, perception and choice all hinge on your mistaken belief in the “authority problem”. We believe we could be self-created instead of God-created. This mistaken belief made the world of separation appear real. Since these items are only mistaken beliefs in our deluded mind, we need only to reawaken from our insane dream to return to the wholeness of the Mind of God. Sin, guilt and fear are denials of love’s truth and do not exist in the Mind of God.
Chapter 11. GOD OR THE EGO

Introduction

T-11.in.1. Either God or the ego is insane. 2 If you will examine the evidence on both sides fairly, you will realize that either God or the ego is insane and this must be true. 3 Neither God nor the ego proposes a partial thought system. 4 Each thought system is internally consistent, but each thought system is diametrically opposed in all respects so that partial allegiance is impossible. 5 Remember, too, that each thought system’s results are as different as each thought system’s foundations, and each thought system’s fundamentally irreconcilable natures cannot be reconciled by vacillations between the two thought systems. 6 Nothing alive is Fatherless, for life is creation. 7 Therefore, your decision is always an answer to the question, "Who is my father?" 8 And you will be faithful to the father you choose

Note # 1: ACIM ask you to choose between the thought system of either God’s, which is represented by the Holy Spirit, or the thought system of the little “s” self, which is represented by the ego. The ego claims that you are egoically self-created and, therefore, different from God. The Holy Spirit states that you are God’s effect and, therefore, are the perfect extension of God. Due to each system different major premise, they give opposite answers to every question asked. Both cannot be right. ACIM states that our decision-maker must choose only one.

T-11.in.2. Yet what would you say to someone who believed this question, "Who is my father?" really involves conflict? 2 If you made the ego, how can the ego have made you? 3 The authority problem, which asks, "Who is my father?" is still the only source of conflict, because the ego was made out of the wish of God's Son to father God. 4 The ego, then, is nothing more than a delusional system in which you made your own father. 5 Make no mistake about this that the ego, then, is nothing more than a delusional system in which you made your own father. 6 It sounds insane when the ego that you made claims also to be your own father. Yet when you look at it with perfect honesty, this is what the ego is claiming. Because of this the ego never looks on what the ego does with perfect honesty. 7 Yet that is the ego’s insane premise of the fatherhood of you, which is carefully hidden in the dark cornerstone of the ego’s thought system. 8 And either the ego, which you made, <is> your father, or the ego’s whole thought system will not stand.

Note # 2: The authority problem forms the basis for the ego’s thought system. It claims that you are your own creator. Being egoically self-created, the ego claims that it also
will create a god in its own image. This god of the ego is a god of fear, limitation and judgment. If the ego’s thought system’s first premise is wrong, everything that follows logically will also be incorrect. ACIM points out that our mind made our ego and, therefore, our ego could not create our mind. Both beliefs are in conflict, which means that the egoic thought system must leave us fatherless.

**T-11.in.3.** You make by projection, but God creates by extension. 2 The cornerstone of God's creation is you, for God's thought system is light. 3 Remember the Rays that are there unseen. 4 The more you approach the center of God’s thought system, the clearer the light becomes. 5 The closer you come to the foundation of the ego's thought system; the darker and more obscure becomes the way. 6 Yet even the little spark in your mind is enough to lighten your mind to the way. 7 Bring this light fearlessly with you, and bravely hold this light up to the foundation of the ego's thought system. 8 Be willing to judge the ego's thought system with perfect honesty. 9 Open the dark cornerstone of terror on which the ego's thought system rests, and bring the ego's thought system out into the light. 10 There you will see that the ego's thought system rested on meaninglessness, and that everything of which you have been afraid was based on nothing. p193

**Note # 3:** Projection’s goal is exclusion. Creation or extension is inclusion. Creation is the process of extending all that you are to our creation. This is sharing and the extension of the Oneness. Projection is the process of trying to get rid of something you do not what. This is exclusion.

ACIM states that we need to be vigilant for God, which is truth. When we examine the thought system of the ego before the light of truth, we will discover that the ego’s thought system is fundamentally flawed and needs to be discarded.

**T-11.in.4.** My brother, you are part of God and part of me. 2 When you have at last looked at the ego's foundation without shrinking you will also have looked upon our foundation of your little “s” self. 3 I come to you from our Father to offer you everything again. 4 Do not refuse everything again in order to keep a dark cornerstone hidden, for the protection of this dark cornerstone of the ego’s thought system will not save you. 5 I give you the lamp and I will go with you. 6 You will not take this journey alone. 7 I will lead you to your true Father, Who hath need of you, as I have. 8 Will you not answer the call of love with joy?

**Note # 4:** Jesus asks that we follow him and the thought system of the Holy Spirit, which offers us everything. The ego’s thought system promises us specialness but gives us only the false. Instead of love, we get loves opposites of sin, guilt and fear. How can we sanely perceive this exchange of our happiness for the ego’s gifts as being a “good trade”?

**I. The Gifts of Fatherhood**

T-11.I.1. You have learned your need of healing. 2 Would you bring anything else but
healing to the Sonship, recognizing your need of healing for yourself? 3 For in this healing lies the beginning of the return to knowledge. Healing is the foundation on which God will help build again the thought system you share with God. 4 Not one stone you place upon the thought system you share with God but will be blessed by God, for you will be restoring the holy dwelling place of His Son, where God wills His Son to be and where His Son is. 5 In whatever part of the mind of God's Son you restore this reality, you restore this reality to yourself. 6 You dwell in the Mind of God with your brother, for God Himself did not will to be alone.

Note # 5: We share the mind of the Sonship with all our brothers. If a brother and we jointly heal our fragmented split-mind, all the Sonship benefits. Healing is accomplished by choosing to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Our egoic misperceptions and judgment are converted into correct perception.

T-11.I.2. To be alone is to be separated from infinity, but how can you be separated from infinity if infinity has no end? 2 No one can be beyond the limitless, because what has no limits must be everywhere. 3 There are no beginnings and no endings in God, Whose universe is Himself. 4 Can you exclude yourself from the universe, or from God Who <is> the universe? 5 I and my Father are one with you, for you are part of Us. 6 Do you really believe that part of God can be missing or lost to God?

Note # 6: Since God is the Oneness of everything, where could we be except in God? In a hologram, the whole is contained in each part. Because we are part of God’s Oneness, we must be part of the whole. This is why the return to knowledge is based on our healing which is part of the healing of the entire Sonship. All are interconnect on the Oneness that is the web of life that is the Mind of God.

T-11.I.3. If you were not part of God, God’s Will would not be unified. 2 Is this conceivable that God’s Will would not be unified? 3 Can part of God’s Mind contain nothing? 4 If your place in God’s Mind cannot be filled by anyone except you, and your filling God’s Mind was your creation, without you there would be an empty place in God's Mind. 5 Extension cannot be blocked, and extension and God’s Mind has no voids. 6 The extension of God’s Mind continues forever, however much the extension of God’s Mind is denied. 7 Your denial of the reality of the extension of God’s Mind may arrest the extension of God’s Mind in time, but not in eternity. 8 That is why your creations have not ceased to be extended, and why so much is waiting for your return.

Note # 7: In time, our creations await our return to whole-mindedness. Our denial of our Oneness does not change the truth; it merely limits our total recognition of the truth. Our Big “S” Self continues to co-create while our egoic mind chooses to make images of the false. In eternity, there can be nothing missing from the Oneness of Everything since that would be a contradiction in terms. In time, we can perceive the false and imagine a void in the Oneness. Our imagination cannot make the void real. In time, we can believe something that is not true. Yet, our erroneous belief is powerless to change reality.
Waiting is possible only in time, but time has no meaning. You who made delay can leave time behind simply by recognizing that neither beginnings nor endings were created by the Eternal. God placed no limits on His creation or upon those who create like God. You do not know this simply because you have tried to limit what God created, and so you believe that all creation is limited. How, then, could you know your creations, having denied infinity?

Note # 8: Time is needed until we decide to be vigilant only for truth. Time exists to allow us to imagine what it would be like to be something other than as God created us. Until we make the decision to be only love, we will continue to miscreate out of fear. Creation is extension. God’s Law of Creation is to have all, give all, to all. Since we believe that we are limited, we cannot create. Making is the attempt to exclude. Extension always is inclusive. Making attempts to confirm that there is something outside of you and that it is different. Creation always includes everything since that is what the creator is. You can only extend what you are. Making attempts to give something, which you are not. This something is the belief in the separation due to your belief that you are limited. When we accept the truth of the Atonement for ourselves, we will no longer value anything that time appears to offer. Placing no value in egoic littleness, time will become functionless and disappear.

The laws of the universe do not permit contradiction. What holds for God holds for you. If you believe you are absent from God, you will believe that God is absent from you. Infinity is meaningless without you, and you are meaningless without God. There is no end to God and His Son, for we <are> the universe. God is not incomplete, and God is not childless. Because God did not will to be alone, God created a Son like Himself. Do not deny God His Son, for your unwillingness to accept God’s Fatherhood has denied you your fatherhood. See God’s creations as His Son, for your creations were created in honor of God. The universe of love does not stop because you do not see the universe of love, nor have your closed eyes lost the ability to see. Look upon the glory of God’s creation, and you will learn what God has kept for you.

God has given you a place in God’s Mind that is yours forever. Yet you can keep your place in God’s Mind only by giving it, as your place in God’s Mind was given you, which is forever. Could you be alone there, when your place in God’s Mind was given you because God did not will to be alone? God's Mind cannot be lessened. God’s Mind can only be increased, for everything God creates has the function of creating. Love does not limit, and what love creates is not limited. To give without limit is God's Will for you, because only to give without limit can bring you the joy that is God’s and that God wills to share with you. Your love is as boundless as God’s because your love <is> God’s Love.
**Note # 10:** Your function is to create, (extend), like God, since the Sonship is created in God’s exact image. We cannot be happy unless we are fulfilling our function as co-creators with God. Creation is being and thus, extending only love.

T-11.I.7. Could any part of God be without God’s Love, and could any part of God’s Love be contained? 2 God is your heritage, because God’s one gift is Himself. 3 How can you give except like God if you would know God’s gift to you? 4 Give, then, without limit and without end, to learn how much God has given you. 5 Your ability to accept God depends on your willingness to give as God gives. 6 Your fatherhood and your Father are One. 7 God wills to create, and your will is God’s Will. 8 It follows, then, that you will to create, since your will follows from God’s Will. 9 And being an extension of God’s Will, your will must be the same as God’s Will. p195

**Note # 11:** Only by giving all, do we experience that we have all. If we decide to accept God’s love, we also have decided to give God’s love: Giving and receiving are two sides of the same coin. You cannot have a one sided coin. Each half completes the other and creates a whole. Through our creation, we know ourselves to be complete and with this being a co-creator with our Father, we complete each other. Cause must have its effect and God’s creations are not causeless. The only difference between the Father and Son is that God is First Cause. After this there is no difference. There is just the extension of the Oneness of “All That Is”.

T-11.I.8. Yet what you will you do not know. 2 This idea of not knowing what you will is not strange when you realize that to deny is to "not know." 3 God's Will is that you are His Son. 4 By denying that you are His Son, you deny your own will, and therefore do not know what your own will is. 5 You must ask what God's Will is in everything, because God’s Will is your will. 6 You do not know what your will is, but the Holy Spirit remembers your will for you. 7 Ask the Holy Spirit, therefore, what God's Will is for you, and the Holy Spirit will tell you your will. 8 It cannot be too often repeated that you do not know your will is God’s Will. 9 Whenever what the Holy Spirit tells you appears to be coercive, it is only because you have not recognized your will.

**Note # 12:** ACIM suggests that you ask the Holy Spirit’s advice, rather than asking the ego’s thought system. Only the Holy Spirit knows both your illusion of limitation and the truth about the Oneness that you really are. The Holy Spirit’s advice will always align your will, which is your Big “S” Self’s will, with God’s Will, for they are One and the same.

T-11.I.9. The projection of the ego makes it appear as if God's Will is outside yourself, and therefore that God’s Will is not your will. 2 In this interpretation of separate wills, it seems possible for God's Will and your will to conflict. 3 God, then, may seem to demand of you what you do not want to give, and thus God may seem to deprive you of what you want. 4 Would God, Who wants only your will, be capable of this desire to deprive you? 5 Your will is God’s life, which God has given to you. 6 Even in time you cannot live apart from God. 7 Sleep is not death. 8 What God created can sleep, but what
God created cannot die. 9 Immortality is God’s Will for His Son, and His Son's will for himself. 10 God's Son cannot will death for himself because his Father is life, and His Son is like His Father. 11 Creation is your will because creation is God’s Will.

Note # 13: The ego’s thought system is based on the concept of separation. It has made an entire illusionary world to entrap your mind into the belief that you are a limited ego-body. The ego will always claim that you are separate from your Father because the ego claims you are self-created and that what you created, your little “s” self, somehow could create you. The ego claims that somehow the child can create its father. Littleness cannot be the will of the Big “S” Self, which is the extension of the Creator’s Will. Creation, not making, is the Sonship’s will.

T-11.I.10. You cannot be happy unless you do what you will truly, and you cannot change this because to be happy you must do your true will for this fact is immutable. 2 To be happy you must do your true will is immutable by God's Will and your will, for otherwise God’s Will would not be extended. 3 You are afraid to know God's Will, because you believe God’s Will is not your will. 4 This belief that God’s Will is not your will is your whole sickness and your whole fear. 5 Every symptom of sickness and fear arises from this belief that God’s Will is not your will, because this belief that God’s Will is not your will is the belief that makes you not want to know. 6 Believing this belief that God’s Will is not your will, you hide in darkness, denying that the light is in you.

Note # 14: God’s will is only that His Creation be happy. How can we deny that this is not our own will? The ego sacrifices our happiness so that we can pretend to be right. This is not the will of our Big “S” Self.

Sickness is any belief that we are not as God created us to be. ACIM states clearly that our belief in sickness and fear arises from our wish to deny that our will and God’s Will are the same. This claim arises from our belief that we are separate and, therefore, different from how God created us. The ego claims that we could deny the Will of God, which is only that we be happy. The ego argues that the changeless and eternal could be changed. It argues for our littleness and that we could be something other than perfect, whole and complete. How can this claim for littleness make you happy? Would you rather be happy or “right”?

T-11.I.11. You are asked to trust the Holy Spirit only because the Holy Spirit speaks for you. 2 The Holy Spirit is the Voice for God, but never forget that God did not will to be alone. 3 God shares His Will with you; God does not thrust His Will upon you. 4 Always remember that what God gives God keeps, so that nothing God gives can contradict God. 5 You who share God’s life must share God’s Will to know God’s life, for sharing is knowing. 6 Blessed are you who learn that to hear the Will of your Father is to know your own will. 7 For it is your will to be like God, Whose Will it is that it be so that you are like your Father. 8 God's Will is that His Son be One, and united with Him in His Oneness. 9 That is why healing is the beginning of the recognition that your will is God’s Will.
**Note # 15:** To know is to be. This world of separation was made to keep God’s love out. The Holy Spirit has transformed the world of perception into a learning device in which we relearn what we really are. Here in time and space, we can reawaken to what it feels like to be only love. Since the world of perception allows for both love and the illusion of fear to exist side by side, it allows our decision-maker the choice of freely choosing between love and fear. The choice for love is the decision to create. The decision for fear only miscreates or makes. We remember God when we choose to co-create like and with Him. To be like your Father is to create like the Father. The only difference between the Sonship and the Father is that the Father came first. We, as God’s Children, can create our own “children”, who in turn can create their own “children”. In this way we are like the Father, but we cannot be father to ourselves. This egoic idea in self-creation is the underlying belief that results in the “authority problem”. It states that somehow a child can create or be his own parent.

### II. The Invitation to Healing

**T-11.II.1.** If sickness is separation, the decision to heal and to be healed is the first step toward recognizing what you truly want, **which is to be one will with God’s Will**. 2 Every attack is a step away from **what you truly want**, and every healing thought brings **what you truly want** closer. 3 The Son of God <has> both Father and Son, because **Son of God <is> both Father and Son**. 4 To unite <having> and <being> is to unite your will with **God’s Will**, for **God** wills you Himself. 5 And you will yourself to **God** because, in your perfect understanding of **God**, you know there is but one Will. 6 Yet when you attack any part of God and His Kingdom your understanding is not perfect, and what you really want is therefore lost to you.

**Note # 16:** Sickness is any belief that we are not one with God. Anytime we have thoughts that contradict the truth that we are perfect, whole and complete, our mind is in need of healing. It has slipped into fear-based thoughts and doubts about our own nature as unlimited spirit. Whole-mindedness is not intellectual egoic thinking that we are one. Instead, whole-mindedness is being One. It is being a co-participant with God in the dance of creation. It is our being a conduit for only love.

**T-11.II.2.** Healing thus becomes a lesson in understanding, and the more you practice **healing** the better teacher and learner you become. 2 If you have denied truth, what better witnesses to **truth’s reality** could you have than those who have been healed by **truth’s reality**? 3 But be sure to count yourself among **the healed**, for in your willingness to join **the healed** is your healing accomplished. 4 Every miracle that you accomplish speaks to you of the Fatherhood of God. 5 Every healing thought that you accept, either from your brother or in your own mind, teaches you that you are God’s Son. 6 In every hurtful thought you hold, wherever you perceive a **hurtful thought**, lies the denial of God’s Fatherhood and of your Sonship.

**Note # 17:** To heal is to accept the truth that God is the First Cause and that we are His
An effect cannot change its cause and Cause and Effect are inseparable, forever joined as one. We also need to be clear that like begets like and thus, being God’s creation we must also replicate God’s creation, which is the extension of the Oneness of the Mind of God. Creation is extension. We, God’s Effect, complete our Cause when we freely join in the co-creative process with God. Creating like Our Father is the demonstration that extension, not separation, of the Oneness is the only reality within the Oneness of the Mind of God.

T-11.II.3. And denial is as total as love. 2 You cannot deny part of yourself, because the rest of yourself will seem to be separate and therefore without meaning. 3 And the rest of yourself being without meaning to you, you will not understand yourself. 4 To deny meaning is to fail to understand. 5 You can heal only yourself, for only God’s Son needs healing. 6 You need healing because you do not understand yourself, and therefore know not what you do. 7 Having forgotten your will, you do not know what you really want.

Note # 18: The split-minded have moved into a state of doubt. Our Big “S” Self knows what it is. It operates from an “I AM” State of consciousness. The egoic little “s” self has moved into the questioning state. Instead of just being the “I AM” State, the ego is in the “What AM I?” state. The ego is the state of mind that claims it does not know that your will and God’s will are the same. Since the split-minded have forgotten that they are the Effect of their Creator, they fail to remember their true Source and deny their shared Oneness in the holographic Mind of God.

T-11.II.4. Healing is a sign that you want to make whole. 2 And this willingness to make whole opens your ears to the Voice of the Holy Spirit, Whose message is wholeness. 3 The Voice of the Holy Spirit will enable you to go far beyond the healing you would undertake, for beside your small willingness to make whole the Voice of the Holy Spirit will lay the Holy Spirit’s Own complete Will and make your will whole. 4 What can the Son of God not accomplish with the Fatherhood of God in him? 5 And yet the invitation to invite the Fatherhood of God back in him must come from you, for you have surely learned that whom you invite as your guest will abide with you.

Note # 19: The Holy Spirit will help you heal your split-mind and return it to wholeness or right-mindedness. The Holy Spirit cannot do this task alone. It requires that you ask or invite Its assistance. Once invited to be your guide, the Holy Spirit cannot fail in Its mission for that is not the One Will that we share with our Father.

T-11.II.5. The Holy Spirit cannot speak to an unwelcoming host, because the Holy Spirit will not be heard. p197 2 The Eternal Guest remains, but the Holy Spirit’s Voice grows faint in alien company. 3 The Holy Spirit needs your protection, only because your care is a sign that you want the Holy Spirit. 4 Think like the Holy Spirit ever so slightly, and the little spark becomes a blazing light that fills your mind so that the Holy Spirit becomes your only Guest. 5 Whenever you ask the ego to enter, you lessen the Holy Spirit’s welcome. 6 The Holy Spirit will remain, but you have allied yourself against the Holy Spirit. 7 Whatever journey you choose to take, the Holy Spirit will go with you, waiting. 8 You can safely trust the Holy Spirit’s patience, for the Holy Spirit
cannot leave a part of God. 9 Yet you need far more than patience.

**Note # 20:** The Holy Spirit always remains a part of you, but you must ask for His guidance and then silence the voice for the ego. Without quieting the voice of the ego, we will not hear or heed the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit’s home is our Big “S” Self and It will not and cannot leave Its host, our Christ Self. Being only part of the indivisible Oneness, where could It go? The Holy Spirit will wait patiently until the split-minded are tired of their game of separation and ask to be returned and reawakened in their home, which is the Kingdom. Upon awakening, the now whole-minded will realize that they had never left their home, which is the shared Oneness of the Mind of God.

T-11.II.6. You will never rest until you know your function and fulfill your function, for only in knowing your function can your will and your Father's Will be wholly joined. 2 To have God is to be like God, and God has given Himself to you. 3 You who have God must be as God, for God’s function became yours with God’s gift. 4 Invite this knowledge back into your mind, and let nothing that obscures knowing your function enter your mind. 5 The Guest Whom God sent you will teach you how to do this, if you but recognize the little spark and are willing to let the little spark grow. 6 Your willingness need not be perfect, because God’s witness, the Holy Spirit, is perfect. 7 If you will merely offer the Holy Spirit a little place, the Holy Spirit will lighten this little place so much that you will gladly let this little place be increased. 8 And by this increase, you will begin to remember creation.

**Note # 21:** Being an extension of God, we must fulfill our now shared function with God. This shared function is to co-create with God. The Holy Spirit will heal the split-minded so that the Sonship will know Himself and resume His rightful place as a conduit for love. By extending what we are, which is only love; we partake in the creative process.

T-11.II.7. Would you be hostage to the ego or host to God? 2 You will accept only whom you invite. 3 You are free to determine who shall be your guest, and how long he shall remain with you. 4 Yet this freedom to determine who shall be your guest and for how long is not real freedom, for who shall be your guest still depends on how you see it. 5 The Holy Spirit is there, although the Holy Spirit cannot help you without your invitation. 6 And the ego is nothing, whether you invite the ego in or not. 7 Real freedom depends on welcoming reality, and of your guests only the Holy Spirit is real. 8 Know, then, the Holy Spirit Who abides with you merely by recognizing what is there already, and do not be satisfied with imaginary comforters like the ego, for the Comforter of God is in you.

**Note # 22:** Only the Holy Spirit is real and, therefore, the only real choice you can ultimately make is to choose reality. The choice to follow the thought system of the ego is a choice for illusion and thus, is not a real choice. Any choice for an illusion is no choice since an illusion is powerless to change reality. Since illusions are nothing and not real, the choice to maintain an illusion is a choice for nothing. Nothingness is not a replacement for the truth of reality. Reality is everything since it is truth. The Holy Spirit, not an illusion, is real.
III. From Darkness to Light

T-11.III.1. When you are weary, remember you have hurt yourself. 2 Your Comforter, the Holy Spirit, will rest you, but you cannot rest yourself. 3 You do not know how to rest, for if you did know how, you could never have grown weary. 4 Unless you hurt yourself you could never suffer in any way, for that you be hurt is not God's Will for His Son. 5 Pain is not of God, for God knows no attack and God's peace surrounds you silently. p198 6 God is very quiet, for there is no conflict in God. 7 Conflict is the root of all evil, for being blind conflict does not see whom conflict attacks, which is truth and our Big “S” Self. 8 Yet conflict always attacks the Son of God, and the Son of God is you.

Note # 23: Conflict is failing to align our split mind’s thoughts with our shared will with God’s. Conflict is the result of this misalignment and is the source of all “evil”. When we fail to be our true Big “S” Self’s will, we attack ourselves. We are out of alignment with our true spiritual nature of what we are. An attack on any brother is an attack upon both ourselves and the entire oneness of the Sonship.

T-11.III.2. God's Son is indeed in need of comfort, for God's Son knows not what God's Son does, believing God's Son’s will is not his own. 2 The Kingdom is the Son of God’s kingdom, and yet God's Son wanders homeless. 3 At home in God, God's Son is lonely, and amid all his brothers God's Son is friendless. 4 Would God let His Son be lonely and could this be real, when God did not will to be alone Himself? 5 And if your will is God's Will, to be alone cannot be true of you, because to be alone is not true of God.

Note # 24: We are not at home in the world of time, space and perception. It is not God’s will that we should attempt to hide from our Creator. God asks his prodigal Son to return to the knowledge of the Oneness of all there is.

T-11.III.3. O my child, if you knew what God wills for you, your joy would be complete! 2 And what God wills has happened, for God's Will was always true. 3 When the light comes and you have said, "God's Will is mine," you will see such beauty that you will know the light is not of you. 4 Out of your joy you will create beauty in God’s Name, for your joy could no more be contained than God's joy. 5 The bleak little world will vanish into nothingness, and your heart will be so filled with joy that your heart will leap into Heaven, and into the Presence of God. 6 I cannot tell you what this will be like, for your heart is not ready. 7 Yet I can tell you, and remind you often, that what God wills for Himself God wills for you, and what God wills for you is your will.

Note # 25: The “light is not of you” means that the light does not come from your limited ego, but rather your shared Oneness with the Creator. All of our powers flow from our Source.
The way is not hard, but the way is very different. Yours is the way of pain, of which God knows nothing. That way, your way of pain, is hard indeed, and very lonely. Fear and grief are your guests, and fear and grief go with you and abide with you on the way. But the dark journey is not the way of God's Son. Walk in light and do not see the dark companions of fear and grief, for fear and grief are not fit companions for the Son of God, who was created of light and in light. The Great Light always surrounds you and shines out from you. How can you see the dark companions of fear and grief in a light such as this? If you see fear and grief, it is only because you are denying the light. But deny fear and grief instead, for the light is here and the way is clear.

Note # 26: We walk with our brother on our journey home. The direction in which we walk depends on which thought system we choose to follow. Do we value the light of truth or the darkness of fear and the false?

God hides nothing from His Son, even though His Son would hide himself. Yet the Son of God cannot hide his glory, for God wills His Son to be glorious, and gave His Son the light that shines in His Son. You will never lose your way, for God leads you. When you wander, you but undertake a journey that is not real. The dark companions of fear and grief, this dark way you wander alone, are all illusions. Turn toward the light, for the little spark in you is part of a light so great that this little spark of light in you can sweep you out of all darkness forever. For your Father is your Creator, and you like your Father.

Note # 27: We can choose to follow our Big “S” Self and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. By following the Voice for God, the darkness of our egoic world of fear and illusions will fade away. Darkness fades way before the light of truth. Our Big “S” Self represents this truth about what we are.

The children of light cannot abide in darkness, for darkness is not in God’s children. Do not be deceived by the dark comforters of fear and grief, and never let fear and grief enter the mind of God's Son, for fear and grief have no place in God’s temple. When you are tempted to deny God remember that there no other gods to place before God, and accept God’s Will for you in peace. For you cannot accept God’s Will for you otherwise. For God’s Will for you comes only in your own peace.

Note # 28: God’s temple is you, the Sonship, as God created it, perfect, whole and complete. Fear and grief are cornerstones of the egoic thought system. When we follow our ego, we lose our inner peace because our split-mind is in conflict.

Only God's Comforter, the Holy Spirit, can comfort you. In the quiet of God’s temple, the Holy Spirit waits to give you the peace that is yours. Give the Holy Spirit’s peace, that you may enter the temple and find God’s peace waiting for you. But be holy in the Presence of God, or you will not know that you are there in God’s temple. For what is unlike God cannot enter God’s Mind, because what is unlike God was not God’s Thought and therefore does not belong to God’s Mind. And your mind
must be as pure as **God’s Mind**, if you would know what belongs to you. 7 Guard carefully **God’s temple**, for **God** Himself dwells there and abides in peace. 8 You cannot enter God's Presence with the dark companions of **fear and grief** beside you, but you also cannot enter alone. 9 All your brothers must enter with you, for until you have accepted all your brothers <you> cannot enter **God’s temple**. 10 For you cannot understand wholeness unless you are whole, and no part of the Son can be excluded if he would know the Wholeness of his Father.

**Note # 29:** We need to forgive our brothers and view all parts of the Sonship as perfect if we are to know our own wholeness. To be holy is to be whole, for that is how God creates. Creation is extension. God created us in His image, therefore, like our Father, all the Sonship is perfect, whole and complete. God’s temple is His creation. We are God’s temple. When we believe that we are separate from God’s Will, we place the false idols of our ego into our split-mind. Our split-mind becomes the home for the false egoic gods we chose to worship.

God’s Temple and our temple are not places. Like everything else that is real, the term temple refers back to mind. God’s creation is God’s thoughts. Only ideas, not form, can be shared. The Holy Spirit is also a thought of God. The Holy Spirit is the thought within our mind that remembers God’s thoughts. God’s thoughts are only love, joy, peace and Oneness. The Mind of God is our temple as it is the Home of God and the Holy Spirit. Where else could thoughts be at home except in the mind that thinks them? When we have thoughts other than God’s thoughts, we are in conflict, pain and separation. Due to our free will, we have chosen to place blocks before the thoughts of God. These blocks are the thought system of the egoic separation. Remember, although we speak of the ego like it is a “bad thing,” the ego is only a group of thoughts that we currently utilize in time and space to define how we perceive ourselves. When we choose to define ourselves based on the thought system of the Holy Spirit, our “ego” does not really “disappear.” Instead, we choose to define ourselves as God knows us, which is only love, joy, peace and Oneness. As long as perception exists, our decision-maker will determine what thoughts we will call into our awareness. When we are vigilant only for God, we only hold thoughts of love, joy, peace and oneness in our mind’s awareness. This is the happy dream. From this state of mind, God will take the final step and return the Sonship to knowledge. Knowledge is certain. It is beyond perception since in does not involve thinking and choice. There is no conflict since knowledge just knows what is. Our mind and God’s mind are One Will and One Mind.

**T-11.III.8.** In your mind you can accept the whole Sonship and bless **the whole Sonship** with the light your Father gave **the whole Sonship**. 2 Then you will be worthy to dwell in the temple with God, because it is your will not to be alone. 3 God blessed His Son forever. 4 If you will bless **the whole Sonship** in time, you will be in eternity. 5 Time cannot separate you from God if you use **time** on behalf of the eternal.

**Note # 30:** We bless our brothers when we drop all our grievances and forgive our brothers of any wrong that we believe they have done to us. By utilizing time to grant forgiveness to our brothers, we also grant forgiveness to ourselves. By granting forgiveness to all, we remember that we are eternally One, created perfect, whole and
complete. In this remembering of our true nature, we remember God and time has served it purpose. We recall that we are God's temple and thus, reclaim our birthright as a Child of God. We return to the Oneness of God, which is our eternal reality. In the Mind of God, we have never left the Oneness. Our little "s" self has merely dreamed that our oneness had been shattered when it imagined that God's Son had denied God's Love. This dream of separation arose from our decision to experience thoughts that were not of God. We chose to believe that conflict, pain and separation were possible and thus, made them real within our now perceived split-mind. Since these thoughts are not of the Mind of God, they are only thoughts held in our imaginations. These fear-based thoughts are not shared with God and thus, are not real. We need to drop all fears and judgments and reawaken from our illusionary world of provisional reality and enter into the truth of the Kingdom. In truth, the Sonship stands united with the Oneness we call the Mind of God.

IV. The Inheritance of God's Son

T-11.IV.1. Never forget that the Sonship is your salvation, for the Sonship is your Big "S" Self. 2 As God's creation, the Sonship, your Big "S" Self and salvation is yours, and belonging to you. The Sonship, your Big "S" Self and salvation is God, the One Self. 3 Your Big "S" Self does not need salvation, but your mind needs to learn what salvation is. 4 You are not saved <from> anything, but you are saved <for> glory. 5 Glory is your inheritance, given you by your Creator that you might extend glory. 6 Yet if you hate part of your Self all your understanding is lost, because you are looking on what God created as yourself without love. 7 And since what God created is part of God, you are denying God His place in God's Own altar. p200

Note # 31: There is but One Self. This is the oneness of “All That Is”. This One Self is the united Sonship. It is our Christ or Big “S” Self. It is the face of God. They are One Self, indivisible and never changing. All parts once perceived as separate are now known as One. Because we perceive ourselves to exist in a dualistic world, ACIM must refer to them as if they are separate but this is only to aid in our understanding. In the Kingdom, there is but truth and that truth is the One Self and we are that One. Nothing exists outside or beyond the One Self for It is everywhere and everything.

T-11.IV.2. Could you try to make God homeless and know that you are at home? 2 Can the Son deny the Father without believing that the Father has denied the Son? 3 God's laws hold only for your protection, and God's laws never hold in vain. 4 What you experience when you deny your Father is still for your protection, for the power of your will cannot be lessened without the intervention of God against your will, and any limitation on your power is not the Will of God. 5 Therefore, look only to the power that God gave to save you, remembering that the power that God gave to save you is yours <because> the power that God gave to save you is God's power, and join with your brothers in God's peace.

Note # 32: God's Will protects us even when we appear to be trapped in our dream world
of provisional reality. God has insured that we will reawaken by placing the call of the Holy Spirit’s thought system in our split mind. The acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves is the means in which we recover what we really are, a capital “S” Self.

Our denial of God made our imagined world of provisional reality, real to us. Even in this illusion of suffering, pain and separation, we are protected by our Father’s Will. By allowing us to play our game of separation, God has protected our absolute freedom. God does not allow the illusion to become real in His Mind so He has protected our divine birthright. If God’s Will had not “trumped” our own desire, we would have made the illusion of separation real and condemned ourselves into everlasting limitation. God did not take our illusion seriously and, therefore, we could not share the illusion with God and make it real. Due to God’s Laws or God’s Will, ideas that remain unshared are not real and thus, are not so. The error in thinking that we could be different from our Cause was not allowed to be raised to the level of reality or knowledge. If this error had been accepted as part of the Mind of God, the error would have been elevated to the status of knowledge and thus, it would have made sin real. The error of our mistaken identity occurred only at the level of perception. It remained only an error that is only a mistake and just requires correction in the mind of the thinker. The Holy Spirit, God’s Voice, simply asks the thinking Sonship to choose again thus, correcting their erroneous thought. Because of this, in God’s Mind there was no harm and therefore no fowl. God’s Creation remains sinless and guiltless.

T-11.IV.3. Your peace lies in your Big “S” Self’s limitlessness. 2 Limit the peace you share, and your Big “S” Self must be unknown to you. 3 Every altar to God is part of you, because the light God created is one with God. 4 Would you cut off a brother from the light that is yours? 5 You would not do so if you realized that you can darken only your own mind. 6 As you bring a brother back to the light, so will you return to the light that is yours. 7 That is the law of God, for the protection of the Wholeness of His Son.

Note # 33: The law of God is that what you give, you will receive. Give forgiveness to your brother and you get forgiveness to yourself. All of the parts of the Sonship are connected. Just as the Sonship is One with the Father, we are united as one with the Sonship. There is just the One Self.

T-11.IV.4. <Only you can deprive yourself of anything.> 2 Do not oppose this realization that only you can deprive yourself of anything, for this realization that only you can deprive yourself of anything is truly the beginning of the dawn of light. 3 Remember also that the denial of this simple fact that only you can deprive yourself of anything takes many forms, and these many forms you must learn to recognize and to oppose steadfastly, without exception. 4 Your steadfast opposition of any form of denial that only you can deprive yourself of anything is a crucial step in the reawakening. 5 The beginning phases of this reversal and the realization that you are the source of all you experience are often quite painful, for as blame is withdrawn from without, there is a strong tendency to harbor blame within. 6 It is difficult at first to realize that this is exactly the same thing, for there is no distinction between blame within and blame without.
Reclaiming the realization that you have the power to project your thoughts outside yourself and into your own illusionary world of provisional reality is critical for remembering who you are. Until you accept responsibility for your world of provisional reality, you believe that you are a victim of some outside force beyond your control. Only by reclaiming the mind’s decision-making ability can you move out of victim consciousness, which is where the ego’s thought system is designed to entrap you. When you do finally realize that only yourself can deprive yourself of anything, you will need to guard against shifting the guilt you normally associate with being limited, which is defined as sin, from someone outside you, to yourself (inside you). As long as you believe guilt must be associated with your experiences, you will remain trapped in the ego’s world of victim consciousness. All blame must disappear if we are to reclaim our unlimited power that God gave to us.

Because of our belief that we have sinned against God, we use egoic projection to get rid of our own guilt and blame it on our brother. Blaming another is less painful to the split-minded than blaming ourselves. When you realize that you are 100% responsible for all that you call into your experience, blaming another become impossible. Yet, since you still believe you have sinned, you now must turn upon yourself and place the blame upon yourself. The blame you felt for another now becomes the guilt you feel towards yourself. This blaming yourself will feel worse than blaming your brother. You cannot escape this guilt until you accept the fact that you are not a body and that your belief in sin is not justified since the body is not real. When you disassociate your experience from all judgments of good and bad, sin no longer has any basis for reality. This is why sin is a preeminent player in the thought system of the ego and is nonexistent in the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

If your brothers are part of you and you blame your brothers for your deprivation, you are blaming yourself. 2 And you cannot blame yourself without blaming your brothers. 3 That is why blame must be undone, not seen elsewhere. 4 Lay blame upon yourself and you cannot know yourself, for only the ego blames at all. 5 Self-blame is therefore ego identification, and, therefore, self-blame is as much an ego defense as blaming others. 6 <You cannot enter God's Presence if you attack His Son.> 7 When His Son lifts his voice in praise of his Creator, he will hear the Voice for his Father. 8 Yet the Creator cannot be praised without His Son, for Their glory is shared and Father and Son are glorified together.

When we place blame on our brother or ourselves, we are placing our allegiance with the ego’s thought system. We are denying our divine birthright and, therefore, claiming that our Father was not our Creator. Any blame or guilt is a denial of our unlimited nature. Blame is associated with sin and if sin is real, it requires punishment for someone must judge and demand retribution. God and the thought system of the Holy Spirit deny the existence of sin. Without sin there is no blame.

Christ, your Big “S” Self, is at God's altar, waiting to welcome His Son. 2 But come wholly without condemnation, for otherwise you will believe that the door is barred and you cannot enter. 3 The door is not barred, and it is impossible that you cannot enter.
the place where God would have you be. p201 4 But love yourself with the Love of Christ, for so does your Father love you. 5 You can refuse to enter God’s altar, but you cannot bar the door that Christ holds open. 6 Come unto me who holds the door to God’s altar open for you, for while I live the door to God’s altar cannot be shut, and I live forever. 7 God is my life and yours, and nothing is denied by God to His Son.

Note # 36: God’s altar is the Christ in you. The Sonship is God’s creation, as God created It. We are the One Self and can do nothing to change that truth. When following our ego, we can and do deny the Christ within us. This denial takes the form of condemnation of any part of the Sonship. Deny the Christ in anyone and you deny it in yourself. This means that you have refused to accept the Atonement for yourself.

T-11.IV.7. At God's altar Christ waits for the restoration of Himself in you. 2 God knows His Son as wholly blameless as Himself, and God and the Christ is approached through the appreciation of His Son. 3 Christ waits for your acceptance of Him as yourself, and of Christ’s Wholeness as yours. 4 For Christ is the Son of God, Who lives in His Creator and shines with God’s glory. 5 Christ is the extension of the Love and the loveliness of God, as perfect as His Creator and at peace with Him.

Note # 37: We, the Big “S” Self, are the Christ, which is one with the Father. We share in all the Father’s attributes since extension of the totality of God, Himself, and is the law of creation. We can deny we are this Oneness, but our denial can never change the truth. We remain eternally as God created us. Accepting the Atonement for ourselves is all we need do to reclaim our Oneness. Blame, sin guilt and fear are all remove by this acceptance. We reclaim our divine birthright as the One Self.

T-11.IV.8. Blessed is the Son of God whose radiance is of his Father, and whose glory he wills to share as his Father shares glory with him. 2 There is no condemnation in the Son, for there is no condemnation in the Father. 3 Sharing the perfect Love of the Father the Son must share what belongs to Him, for otherwise he will not know the Father or the Son. 4 Peace be unto you who rest in God, and in whom the whole Sonship rests.

Note # 38: There is no condemnation in the Father, since the Father only knows His Son as perfect, whole and complete. The Sonship is God’s creation and always remains eternally perfect as God created Him. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we grant the Atonement to all the Sonship. We share the Atonement with our brother. Loving thoughts can be shared with God and our brother. This is extension or co-creation with God. To have all, we must give all to all. This is the fulfilling of our function as co-creator and the achieving of our destiny, which is the peace of God.

V. The "Dynamics" of the Ego

T-11.V.1. No one can escape from illusions unless he looks at illusions, for not looking at illusions is the way illusions are protected. 2 There is no need to shrink from illusions, for illusions cannot be dangerous. 3 We are ready to look more closely at the ego's
thought system because together we have the lamp that will dispel the illusions of the ego's thought system. And since you realize you do not want the ego's thought system, you must be ready. 4 Let us be very calm in looking at the ego’s thought system since in doing this, for we are merely looking honestly for truth. 5 The "dynamics" of the ego will be our lesson for a while, for we must look first at the "dynamics" of the ego to see beyond the ego, since you have made the ego real. 6 We will undo this error of making the ego real quietly together, and then look beyond this error of making the ego real to the truth.

**Note # 39:** If we refuse to examine the validity of our beliefs, we will never be able to move beyond them. Jesus asks that together we examine the beliefs of the egoic thought system objectively without first assuming that what we are to examine must be true. We will examine it under the light of Truth and see if it can stand up to cross-examination from Jesus.

**T-11.V.2.** What is healing but the removal of all that stands in the way of knowledge? 2 And how else can one dispel illusions except by looking at illusions directly, without protecting illusions? 3 Be not afraid, therefore, for what you will be looking at in an illusion is the source of fear, and you are beginning to learn that fear is not real for fear is based on only illusions. 4 You are also learning that fear’s effects can be dispelled merely by denying the illusion’s reality. p202 5 The next step is obviously to recognize that what has no effects does not exist. 6 Laws do not operate in a vacuum, and what leads to nothing has not happened. 7 If reality is recognized by reality’s extension, what leads to nothing could not be real. 8 Do not be afraid, then, to look upon fear, for illusions cannot be seen. 9 Clarity undoes confusion by definition, and to look upon darkness through light must dispel confusion.

**Note # 40:** Jesus states that we must not be afraid to look upon our fears. Fear arises from lack of knowledge and our raising of false beliefs into misperceptions of reality. Illusions are not real since they have no effect on the reality of truth. Examine your fears with the knowledge that you are unlimited, invulnerable spirit and your fears will be dispelled. If they disappear when confronted by Truth, they are powerless and, thus, must be nothing.

**T-11.V.3.** Let us begin this lesson in "ego dynamics" by understanding that the term, "ego dynamics", itself does not mean anything. 2 "Ego dynamics" contains the very contradiction in terms that makes it meaningless. 3 "Dynamics" implies the power to do something, and the whole separation fallacy lies in the belief that the ego <has> the power to do anything. 4 The ego is fearful to you because you believe in the fallacy that the ego <has> the power to do something. 5 Yet the truth is very simple:

6 All power is of God.
7 What is not of God has no power to do anything.

**Note # 41:** Since God did not create the ego the ego is powerless. We made the ego rather than created the ego. The egoic little “s” self was made out of fear born from our belief that we were separate and limited. Thus, the ego rests upon the false premise of
separation and can only be a witness to the false. The false cannot be real and is powerless to change the Truth. The ego is a symbol for this fallacy that we have made up about ourselves. It can have no reality except in the mind of the insane who claim they do not know what they are.

T-11.V.4. When we look at the ego, then, we are not considering dynamics but delusions. 2 You can surely regard a delusional system without fear, for a delusional system cannot have any effects if the delusional system's source is not real. The ego’s delusional system cannot be real since the egoic little “s” self is not real. 3 Fear becomes more obviously inappropriate if you recognize the ego's goal, which is so clearly senseless that any effort on the egoic goal’s behalf is necessarily expended on nothing. 4 The ego's goal is quite explicitly ego autonomy. 5 From the beginning, then, the ego's purpose is to be separate, sufficient unto itself and independent of any power except the ego's own. 6 This is why the ego is the symbol of separation.

Note # 42: Ego autonomy is the belief that the ego is self-created and has power independent of God. It is the belief that the ego, rather than God, is the source of our power. It is the belief that the ego, which was made by your own mind, has power over its own source. Ego autonomy is part of the authority problem. The ego, our mind’s effect, claims that it is self-created and that the mind’s effect, which is the ego, now controls its maker. Ego autonomy claims that the effect has somehow usurped the power of its creator and that the effect now is the creator of its cause. The ego claims that effect is now cause and cause, your mind, is now the ego’s effect.

T-11.V.5. Every idea has a purpose, and every idea’s purpose is always the natural outcome of what the idea is. 2 Everything that stems from the ego is the natural outcome of the ego’s central belief of ego autonomy. The way to undo the results in the ego’s central belief of ego autonomy is merely to recognize that the source of the belief, the ego, is not natural, being out of accord with your true nature. 3 I said before that to will contrary to God is wishful thinking and is not real willing. 4 God’s Will is One <because> the extension of God’s Will cannot be unlike itself. 5 The real conflict you experience, then, is between the ego's idle wishes and the Will of God, which you share. 6 Can an idle wish of the unreal ego be a real conflict to the Will of God?

Note # 43: ACIM states that since ego autonomy is based on the false premise that the ego has the power of self-creation, it is an illusion that can have no effect on reality. Ego autonomy defies our spiritual nature. The fantasy of ego autonomy is an illusion of nothing and cannot oppose God’s Will. Since it is not real, ego autonomy cannot conflict with God’s will and should not be perceive as fearful, but rather laughable. The thought of separation was not a problem. The problem arose when God’s Son took the illusion seriously and forgot to laugh. When we forgot to laugh, we made the illusion real within our mind and fear was birthed.

T-11.V.6. Your will is the independence of creation, not of autonomy. 2 Your whole creative function lies in your complete dependence on God, Whose function God shares with you. p203 3 By God’s willingness to share His function of creation with you, God
became as dependent on you as you are on God. 4 Do not ascribe the ego's arrogance to God. Who wills not to be independent of you. 5 God has included you in God's Autonomy. 6 Can you believe that autonomy is meaningful apart from God? 7 The belief in ego autonomy is costing you the knowledge of your dependence on God, in which your freedom lies. 8 The ego sees all dependency as threatening, and has twisted even your longing for God into a means of establishing itself. 9 But do not be deceived by the ego's interpretation of your conflict.

Note # 44: The undoing of the ego’s thought system rests on our reclaiming our divine birthright of what we are, God’s perfect creation, a Oneness with our Father. We need to realize that we are God-created and not self-created. By claiming our birthright, we reclaim all the power that resides in our Source. God, being real and “All That Is,” is the true source of all power. Since creation is the extension of God, we have become one with our Source. To deny our Cause is to render our mind powerless to created since by our denial of our spirit nature, we refuse to give all to all. The ego is nothing. Being nothing, the ego can only give nothing. The attempt to “share” nothing cannot be creation. It can only be nothing.

T-11.V.7. The ego always attacks on behalf of separation. 2 Believing the ego has the power to do this the ego does nothing else but attack on behalf of separation, because the ego’s goal of autonomy <is> nothing else but an attack on behalf of separation. 3 The ego is totally confused about reality, but the ego does not lose sight of the ego’s goal of ego autonomy. 4 The ego is much more vigilant than you are, because the ego is perfectly certain of the ego’s purpose of separation by obtaining ego autonomy. 5 You are confused because you do not recognize your purpose is to be a creator, like your Father.

Note # 45: The ego is single minded about its purpose. It understands that its existence rests on convincing its creator, your own mind, that the ego is the controller of your mind. If we accept the belief in egoic autonomy, we fail to maintain our One Self’s goal of co-creation, which is “to make happy”. We confuse our Big “S” Self’s purpose with the ego’s purpose of separation. The ego’s goal and purpose is to claim the correctness of ego autonomy. Now within our split mind, we have two conflicting purposes. Our Big “S” Self wants to be happy and our split-minded egoic side demands to be right in its claim of egoic autonomy.

T-11.V.8. You must recognize that the last thing the ego wishes you to realize is that you are afraid of the ego. 2 For if the ego could give rise to fear, fear would diminish your independence and weaken your power. 3 Yet the ego’s one claim to your allegiance is that the ego can give power to you. 4 Without this belief that the ego can give power to you, you would not listen to the ego at all. 5 How, then, can the ego’s existence continue if you realize that, by accepting the ego, you are belittling yourself and depriving yourself of power?

Note # 46: Sin, guilt and fear are the “unholy trinity” which keeps the ego’s thought system in power. The ego would “lose” its control over us if we realized that all three
concepts are based on the fallacy of our belief in egoic separation. The goal of the ego is to advise its follower that sin, guilt and fear are not of the ego’s making but that the ego has a plan that allows its followers to escape from them. Projection is one of the chief tools used by the ego to attempt to “save” us from the egoic sin, guilt and fear.

T-11.V.9. The ego can and does allow you to regard yourself as supercilious, unbelieving, "lighthearted," distant, emotionally shallow, callous, uninvolved and even desperate, but not really afraid. 2 Minimizing fear, but not the undoing of fear, is the ego's constant effort, and is indeed a skill at which the ego is very ingenious. 3 How can the ego preach separation without upholding separation through fear, and would you listen to the ego if you recognized upholding separation through fear is what the ego is doing?

Note # 47: Without the belief in the separation, the entire egoic thought system would fall apart along with the ego. A Oneness of everything has nothing to fear. Fear needs something outside itself to be afraid of. Since there is nothing outside the Oneness, the split-mind makes an illusionary world based on sin, guilt and fear. We fear because we believe that we lack something. The ego’s plan is to help you manage your fear but not eliminate fear totally. If fear were eliminated, only the truth of our wholeness would remain. Realizing that we are unlimited and invulnerable spirit, the ego would disappear.

T-11.V.10. Your recognition that whatever seems to separate you from God is only fear, regardless of the form the ego’s idea of separation takes and quite apart from how the ego wants you to experience the idea of separation. Our realization that only fear separates us from God is therefore the basic ego threat. 2 The ego’s dream of autonomy is shaken to its foundation by this awareness that only fear separates us from God. 3 For though you may countenance a false idea of independence, you will not accept the cost of fear if you recognize the price the false idea of independence brings. 4 Yet fear is the cost, and the ego cannot minimize this cost. 5 If you overlook love you are overlooking yourself, and you, who have overlooked God’s love, must fear unreality <because> you have denied yourself, which is love. 6 By believing that you have successfully attacked truth, you are believing that attack has power. p204 7 Very simply, then, you have become afraid of yourself, which is love. 8 And no one wants to find what he believes would destroy him.

Note # 48: Our belief in the ego is the result of the desire to be separate from the Oneness. It is a rejection of our true nature, which is the love that we share with our Creator. Our belief in sin, which has been defined as the lack of love, is a founding member for the rise of the ego to predominance. The ego’s thought system is based on the belief in sin, which is immediately accompanied by guilt and fear. We have replace God’s love, with the ego’s belief that God will seek His revenge upon us. Now the true God of Love has become the ego’s god of fear.

Our false belief in ego autonomy has birthed fear at the price of our true nature, which is love. The ego’s goal is to keeps us from remembering our true nature. When we rediscover our true nature, we will remember our true Creator. This would result in the undoing to the ego. It is our acceptance of the ego’s vision of what god is that keeps us afraid to seek God’s help. When we understand that only love is real and God is love, we
realize there is nothing to fear.

**T-11.V.11.** If the ego's goal of autonomy could be accomplished, God's purpose could be defeated, and this is impossible. 2 Only by learning what fear is can you finally learn to distinguish the possible from the impossible and the false from the true. 3 According to the ego's teaching, the ego's goal can be accomplished and God's purpose can not. 4 According to the Holy Spirit's teaching, only God's purpose can be accomplished, and God's purpose is accomplished already.

**Note # 49:** In eternity, we have never left the Mind of God. Only in the false world of provisional reality do we dream that we are separate ego-bodies. The Holy Spirit is God’s representative for truth while God’s Child sleeps.

**T-11.V.12.** God is as dependent on you as you are on God, because God’s Autonomy encompasses your autonomy, and is therefore incomplete without your autonomy. 2 You can only establish your autonomy by identifying with God, and fulfilling your function as your function exists in truth. 3 The ego believes that to accomplish the ego’s goal is happiness. 4 But it is given you to know that God's function, which is love demonstrated in his creation, the Sonship, is also your function, and happiness cannot be found apart from Your joint Will. 5 Recognize only that the ego's goal, which you have pursued so diligently, has merely brought you fear, and it becomes difficult to maintain that fear is happiness. 6 Upheld by fear, this is what the ego would have you believe. 7 Yet God's Son is not insane, and cannot believe that fear is happiness. 8 Let God's Son but recognize that the ego's goal has brought you fear, and God's Son will not accept the ego’s goal. 9 For only the insane would choose fear in place of love, and only the insane could believe that love can be gained by attack. 10 But the sane realize that only attack could produce fear, from which the Love of God completely protects them.

**Note # 50:** Our safety lies in the Will of God, which protects us from our delusions about ourselves. God wills only happiness for His Son. We need to honestly examine what our years of following the egoic thought system have brought us. Has it brought us happiness and love or fear and guilt? If we are dissatisfied with the results, the Holy Spirit advises us to drop all judgment and blame, and simply choose again.

**T-11.V.13.** The ego analyzes; the Holy Spirit accepts. 2 The appreciation of wholeness comes only through acceptance, for to analyze means to break down or to separate out. 3 The attempt to understand totality by breaking totality down is clearly the characteristically contradictory approach of the ego to everything. 4 The ego believes that power, understanding and truth lie in separation, and to establish this belief of the separation, the ego must attack. 5 Unaware that the belief of the separation cannot be established, and obsessed with the conviction that separation is salvation, the ego attacks everything it perceives by breaking everything it perceives into small, disconnected parts, without meaningful relationships and therefore without meaning. 6 The ego will always substitute chaos for meaning, for if separation is salvation, harmony is threat.
Note # 51: The ego divides and separates to prove that the Oneness does not exist. To the ego, a whole can be broken into distinct parts that are not equal. Separation and littleness is the law of the illusionary world of the ego. Yet, the Holy Spirit knows that hidden beneath the body-form is the content of what we truly are, which is the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. Mind is thought, not form, and thus, can be shared. By sharing thought, the thought is strengthened and is extended. When thought are shared and accepted as one’s own, the thought becomes one with that mind. True sharing excludes nothing and is given to all. We extend or co-create with God when we share God’s thoughts. God’s thoughts are love, joy, peace and Oneness. Mind is holographic in nature. In a hologram, each indivisible part contains the whole and the whole contains all parts. Indivisible wholeness is the Law of God. All God’s thoughts are shared completely and thus, all parts contain the whole of God and each part is the whole of God. There is no separation. There is only the extension of the One Mind of God.

T-11.V.14. The ego's interpretations of the laws of perception are, and would have to be, the exact opposite of the Holy Spirit's interpretations. The ego focuses on error and overlooks truth. The ego makes real every mistake the ego perceives, and with characteristically circular reasoning concludes that because of the ego’s mistake consistent truth must be meaningless. The next step the ego takes, then, is obvious. If consistent truth is meaningless, inconsistency must be true. Holding error clearly in mind, and protecting what the ego has made real, the ego proceeds to the next step in its thought system: Error is real and truth is error.

Note # 52: The idea that error is real and that Truth is error, demonstrates the insanity of the ego’s thought system. To the ego, Truth is not changeless but rather something that is arbitrarily determined by you based on your current desires and beliefs. It is the ego’s mistaken belief system that results in egoic misperception that the false is true and the true is false. The entire erroneous egoic thought system needs to be discarded. Truth cannot be found within a thought system, which is built upon the false. The ego would have us believe that truth is a “sometimes thing”. Sometimes truth is true and sometimes truth is false. Truth just is. Neither the ego nor we can be the arbitrators of truth. Truth belongs to God and is God.

T-11.V.15. The ego makes no attempt to understand this insane logic that “error is real and truth is error.” This insane logic is clearly not understandable, but the ego does make every attempt to demonstrate this insane logic that “error is real and truth is error. This attempt to demonstrate that the false is true the ego does constantly. Analyzing to attack meaning, the ego succeeds in overlooking totality and is left with a series of fragmented perceptions which the ego unifies on behalf of itself. The universe the ego perceives, then, becomes the universe the ego perceives. And it is this fragmented universe which, in turn, becomes the ego’s demonstration of its own reality.

Note # 53: By ignoring the totality of the Oneness, perception is born. Perception requires separation since there must be a perceiver and something outside to perceive. This gives rise to the birth of the ego, and the world of provisional reality. The physical
world and the body are both examples of the use of form to bear “false witness” on behalf of the egoic belief that the separation is real. Provisional reality is a world in which error is made to appear real in the mind of the perceiver, while the Truth of the Oneness is now perceived as error. We misperceive ourselves as separate bodies and fail to see our true content, which is that we exist as unlimited spirit that is of One Mind. We are the thought of God, not some body-form. Thought is the content. Form is only the wrapping paper for the gift, which is the content that is inside.

T-11.V.16. Do not underestimate the appeal of the ego's demonstrations to those who would listen. 2 Selective perception chooses its witnesses carefully, and the ego’s witnesses are consistent. 3 The case for insanity is strong to the insane. 4 For reasoning ends at its beginning, and no thought system transcends its source. 5 Yet reasoning without meaning cannot demonstrate anything, and those who are convinced by reasoning without meaning must be deluded. 6 Can the ego teach truly when the ego overlooks truth? 7 Can the ego perceive what it has denied? 8 The ego’s witnesses do attest to its denial, but hardly to what it has denied. 9 The ego looks straight at the Father and does not see Him, for the ego has denied His Son.

Note # 54: The ego’s major premise is the false belief in the separation and self-creation. If its major premise is false, any other conclusion that would be based on the major premise would not necessarily be true. If at the beginning of a system of logic, the original premise is false, we need to disregard the entire thought system that follows. The ego’s thought system is false because the major premise upon which it is based is false. The ego denies both the truth of what God is and what God’s creation is. Thus, the ego will never see that They are One. Cause and Effect cannot be separated yet; the ego denies that you are God’s Effect. The ego fragments, separates than judges a part that is inseparable from the whole. The ego attempts to separate Cause from Effect. Each cannot be understood without the other for each completes the other. They form different sides of the same coin. Yet, you cannot have one without the other. There are inseparable in their wholeness and oneness.

T-11.V.17. Would you remember the Father? 2 Accept God’s Son and you will remember the Father. 3 Nothing can demonstrate that God’s Son is unworthy, for nothing can prove that a lie is true. 4 What you see of God’s Son through the eyes of the ego is a demonstration that God’s Son does not exist, yet where the Son is the Father must be. 5 Accept what God does not deny, and it will demonstrate its truth. 6 The witnesses for God stand in God’s Son’s light and behold what He created. 7 Their silence is the sign that the witnesses for God have beheld God's Son, and in the Presence of Christ they need demonstrate nothing, for Christ speaks to the witnesses for God of Himself and of His Father. 8 The witnesses for God are silent because Christ speaks to them, and it is His words they speak.

Note # 55: The true witness for the Son of God knows and recognizes the Christ that is the very essence of the Sonship. The Holy Spirit is the bridge that is aware of our dream world of provisional reality and also, that of our true nature is mind or spirit. This is why it is important to request guidance from the Holy Spirit to reinterpret the “event” that
occurred in our dream world of provisional reality. Without Its assistance, we would believe the false witness of the ego’s thought system. The Christ or the Holy Spirit does not attack the ego’s witnesses, for to attack is to make real. Instead, They merely deny and look past the ego’s misperception of form and observe the content. They know that only love is real and, therefore, ask, “What would love have me do?” Love extends and thus, co-creates with God.

T-11.V.18. Every brother you meet becomes a witness for Christ or for the ego, depending on what you perceive in your brother. Everyone convinces you of what you want to perceive, and of the reality of the kingdom you have chosen for your vigilance. Everything you perceive is a witness to the thought system that you want to be true. Every brother has the power to release you, if you choose to be free. You cannot accept false witness of your brother unless you have evoked false witnesses against your brother. If your brother speaks not of Christ to you, you spoke not of Christ to your brother. You hear but your own voice, and if Christ speaks through you, you will hear Christ.

Note # 56: Which thought system we value will determine how we perceive another’s testimony. Our purpose will determine what we are willing to perceive. Each event and witness will give testimony to support the belief system with which we choose to align ourselves. Either, the ego’s or the Holy Spirit’s belief in what you are, will determine what you are willing to allow into your world of provisional reality.

VI. Waking to Redemption

T-11.VI.1. It is impossible not to believe what you see, but it is equally impossible to see what you do not believe. Perceptions are built up on the basis of experience, and experience leads to beliefs. It is not until beliefs are fixed that perceptions stabilize. In effect, then, what you believe you <do> see. That is what I meant when I said, "Blessed are ye who have not seen and still believe," for those who believe in the resurrection will see the resurrection. The resurrection is the complete triumph of Christ over the ego, not by attack but by transcendence. For Christ does rise above the ego and all the ego’s works, and ascends to the Father and His Kingdom.

Note # 57: You see what you believe. Perception is based on your beliefs. Once you have determined what you wish to believe, you will then project out the thought pattern that you wish to see. Thus “seeing” becomes your predetermined verification or witness to what you already believe. The resurrection is the complete triumph of the Christ mind over the ego. This is a triumph of Truth over error or misperception. The Christ Mind denies the false and correctly perceives what aligns with God’s Truth. ACIM makes the distinction between “seeing” and “vision”. Vision records the Truth about reality. Vision bypasses the nothingness of the false and only looks upon the truth that remains. Seeing only verifies your preconceived beliefs. Your perceptions are based only on what you choose to experience.
We have been given the power to extend the real or pretend to make the unreal. The unreal exists only in the unshared imagination of the dreamer. It is not shared with the totality that is the Mind of God. If you choose to experience yourself as a limited-ego body in your world of provisional reality, you will allow yourself to perceive experiences that only witness to your belief that you are a limited ego-body. Once your beliefs become fixed, how you perceive yourself will also become more ridged, fixed and stable. Since you falsely believe you are a body, you will perceive by utilizing the tool for making, which is projection. Projection is based on your belief in lack and limitation. You will make and project false witnesses that confirm your erroneous belief that your illusionary world of provisional reality is “true”. Therefore, you “see” what you believe and you believe what you see. But, it is the thought that always comes first.

T-11.VI.2. Would you join in the resurrection or the crucifixion? 2 Would you condemn your brothers or free your brothers? 3 Would you transcend your prison and ascend to the Father? 4 These questions are all the same, and are answered together. 5 There has been much confusion about what perception means, because the word, perception, is used both for awareness and for the interpretation of awareness. 6 Yet you cannot be aware without interpretation, for what you perceive is your interpretation.

Note # 58: Perception is your viewpoint, which is your interpretation. Perception is not based on truth, which would be associated with knowledge. We lost knowledge when we fell under the spell of the ego’s belief or thought system, which claimed that the separation was real. Now that which we choose to call into our awareness is based on our beliefs, which predetermine what we are willing to allow into our experience. Our viewpoint or interpretation shapes what we perceive. This is why, when we change our viewpoint; we automatically change how we perceive our world.

T-11.VI.3. This course is perfectly clear. 2 If you do not see this course clearly, it is because you are interpreting against this course, and therefore do not believe this course. 3 And since belief determines perception, you do not perceive what this course means and therefore do not accept this course. 4 Yet different experiences lead to different beliefs, and with different beliefs different perceptions. 5 For perceptions are learned beliefs, and experience does teach beliefs. 6 I am leading you to a new kind of experience that you will become less and less willing to deny. 7 Learning of Christ is easy, for to perceive with Christ involves no strain at all. 8 Christ’s perceptions are your natural awareness, and it is only the distortions you introduce that tire you. p207 9 Let the Christ in you interpret for you, and do not try to limit what you see by narrow little beliefs that are unworthy of God’s Son. 10 For until Christ comes into His Own, the Son of God will see himself as Fatherless.

Note # 59: The Christ in you is the home of the Holy Spirit. By perceiving through the vision of Christ, you are operating under the thought system of the Holy Spirit and allowing your Big “S” Self to act as the interpreter of your experience. By your willingness to choose again, you are allowing the Holy Spirit to reinterpret the same experience through the viewpoint of correct perception. This reinterpretation gives us a “new experience” from the old one and helps reform past beliefs. Beliefs can be changed
since beliefs are based on our experience. When we choose to reinterpret the same experience differently our beliefs are slowly realigned to correspond with our new interpretation.

T-11.VI.4. I am <your> resurrection and <your> life. 2 You live in me because you live in God. 3 And everyone lives in you, as you live in everyone. 4 Can you, then, perceive unworthiness in a brother and not perceive unworthiness in yourself? 5 And can you perceive unworthiness in yourself and not perceive unworthiness in God? 6 Believe in the resurrection because the resurrection, which is the triumph of truth over the fallacies of the ego’s thought system, has been accomplished, and the resurrection has been accomplished in you. 7 That the resurrection has been accomplished in you is as true now as it will ever be, for the resurrection is the Will of God, which knows no time and no exceptions. 8 But make no exceptions yourself, or you will not perceive what has been accomplished for you, which is the triumph of truth, which is the resurrection. 9 For we ascend unto the Father together, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, for such is the nature of God's Son as his Father created him.

Note # 60: Only our false belief in our true nature, limits us. When we correct our belief in “littleness”, we accept the resurrection of our divine birthright. We accept the truth that we are made like our Father to extend or co-create like our Father. Only in time, could we choose to perceive ourselves as separate and different from the Oneness of Everything that is the holographic Mind of God. In eternity, our Christ, the One Self, always knows the changeless truth.

T-11.VI.5. Do not underestimate the power of the devotion of God's Son, nor the power the god he worships has over him. 2 For he places himself at the altar of his god, whether it be the god he made or the God Who created him. 3 That is why his slavery is as complete as his freedom, for he will obey only the god he accepts. 4 The god of crucifixion, which is the gods of the ego’s thought system, demands that he crucify, and his worshippers obey. 5 In the gods of the ego’s thought system’s name they crucify themselves, believing that the power of the Son of God is born of sacrifice and pain. 6 The God of resurrection demands nothing, for the God of resurrection does not will to take away. 7 The God of resurrection does not require obedience, for obedience implies submission. 8 The God of resurrection would only have you learn your will and follow your will, not in the spirit of sacrifice and submission, but in the gladness of freedom.

Note # 61: When we believe that we are separate and self-created, we worship the false fearful gods of the ego’s belief system. If we believe we are as God created us, we will follow God’s Loving Will.

The ego’s gods always demand sacrifice and suffering because this is what the ego and its gods represent. The ego says we lack and are not perfect, whole and complete. The idols of the ego represent what we believe we need to complete our imperfect little “s” self. The God of the resurrection is Our Creator. Our Creator knows His Son as only perfect, whole and complete. Our Father wants us only to be happy. Our Father, being everything, gives everything to His Creations. Our Father, being everything, has no desire to remove anything from the Oneness since to do so would be to place limits on Himself.
T-11.VI.6. Resurrection must compel your allegiance gladly, because the resurrection is the symbol of joy. 2 The resurrection’s whole compelling power lies in the fact that the resurrection represents what you want to be. 3 The freedom to leave behind everything that hurts you and humbles you and frightens you cannot be thrust upon you, but this freedom to leave behind everything that hurts you can be offered you through the grace of God. 4 And you can accept this freedom to leave behind everything that hurts you by God’s grace, for God is gracious to His Son, accepting him without question as God’s Own. 5 Who, then, is your own? 6 The Father has given you all that is His, and God Himself is yours with all that is His. 7 Guard all that is His in their resurrection, for otherwise you will not awake in God, safely surrounded by what is yours forever.

**Note # 62:** All that is His or God’s is everything. God is truth. God’s Will is that we, His creation, know the Truth about ourselves. We are not limited, but rather, part of the Oneness of everything. With our brother, we share the Oneness that is part of the Sonship. God’s creation, the Sonship, is the extension of all that God is. The resurrection is the reclaiming of the Truth about the Sonship’s divine birthright. If we attempt to exclude part of the Sonship from the Oneness, we are also attempting to limit our Creator and ourselves. God cannot be limited since part of the definition of God is unlimitedness. Since creation is extension, we too must be unlimited, like our Father.

T-11.VI.7. You will not find peace until you have removed the nails from the hands of God's Son, and taken the last thorn from his forehead. p208 2 The Love of God surrounds His Son whom the god of crucifixion condemns. 3 Teach not that I died in vain. 4 Teach rather that I did not die by demonstrating that I live in you. 5 For the undoing of the crucifixion of God's Son is the work of the redemption, in which everyone has a part of equal value. 6 God does not judge His guiltless Son. 7 God, having given Himself to him, how could it be otherwise?

**Note # 63:** Jesus’ resurrection proved that we are not a limited ego-body. God only sees us as perfect, whole and complete. Jesus’ resurrection is the overthrowing of the ego’s thought system and the acceptance of the Truth of what we are. Like Jesus, we who are part of the Sonship, share in this triumph of Truth over falseness. Jesus demonstrated that he knows that he is the Christ by accepting the Atonement for himself. Being part of the united Sonship, Jesus lives in us. By our acceptance of this universal fact of the interconnectedness of Mind, we benefit from Jesus’ experience and belief. How could Jesus not be part of our shared oneness, which is the Mind of God? We need only accept the Atonement for ourselves, to acknowledge the return of the Sonship to the knowing found in eternity.

T-11.VI.8. You have nailed yourself to a cross, and placed a crown of thorns upon your own head. 2 Yet you cannot crucify God's Son, for the Will of God cannot die. 3 His Son has been redeemed from his own crucifixion, and you cannot assign to death whom God has given eternal life. 4 The dream of crucifixion still lies heavy on your eyes, but what you see in dreams is not reality. 5 While you perceive the Son of God as crucified, you are asleep. 6 And as long as you believe that you can crucify him, the Son of God, you
are only having nightmares. 7 You who are beginning to wake are still aware of dreams, and have not yet forgotten **these dreams of separation and crucifixion**. 8 The forgetting of dreams and the awareness of Christ come with the awakening of others to share your redemption.

**Note # 64:** We, due to our beliefs’ in littleness, perceive ourselves as something we are not. As long as we perceive ourselves to be separate from our brother or God, we will continue to crucify our brother, our God, and ourselves. Forgiveness will lead us back up the path to right-mindedness and the acceptance of truth. Giving is receiving and in order to forget, we must forgive all past egoic beliefs in littleness. We are our own crucifier.

**T-11.VI.9.** You will awaken to your own call, for the Call to awake is within you. 2 If I live in you, you are awake. 3 Yet you must see the works I do through you, or you will not perceive that I have done these works unto you. 4 Do not set limits on what you believe I can do through you, or you will not accept what I can do <for> you. 5 Yet these works I do through you are done already, and unless you give all that you have received you will not know that your redeemer liveth, and that you have awakened with your redeemer. 6 Redemption is recognized only by sharing redemption.

**Note # 65:** Our beliefs determine what we are willing to experience. Until we are willing to believe that we are guiltless and sinless, we will refuse to accept our true spiritual magnificence as the One Self. To give is to receive and you cannot give what you believe you do not possess. Unless we share or give, we cannot receive. God gives all, because God is all. To reclaim the Truth about ourselves, we must share this Truth with all our brothers. Through the tool of forgiveness, we reawaken to the Oneness that we share. To share involves sharing the truth with another. By sharing the idea, it becomes the other person's truth and both remain complete. When we share, it is inclusive and a joining. There is no one that we would withhold the truth from. Until we truly see the Christ in our brother, we cannot find the Christ in us. The Christ has always remained in us since this is God’s changeless Will.

**T-11.VI.10.** God's Son <is> saved. 2 Bring only this awareness that God's Son <is> saved to the Sonship, and you will have a part in the redemption as valuable as mine. 3 For your part must be like mine if you learn your part of me. 4 If you believe that your part is limited, you are limiting my part. 5 There is no order of difficulty in miracles because all of God's Sons are of equal value, and their equality is their oneness. 6 The whole power of God is in every part of Him, and nothing contradictory to His Will is either great or small. 7 What does not exist has no size and no measure. 8 To God all things are possible. 9 And to Christ it is given to be like the Father. p209

**Note # 66:** The Mind of God is holographic. All parts are indivisible yet contain the whole. The only limitation that can be placed of the Oneness is in the split-mind that temporarily chooses to deny the truth that he is a part of this One Self. This denial cannot affect the truth but it can change how that part of the mind perceives its “reality”. The illusion can be accepted as the provisional “truth” in this deluded mind until it chooses to reawaken to the Truth of its unlimited nature.
Being part of the Oneness of God, any part of the Sonship must share equally in the total power that is God. Extension is creating in the exact image. God holds nothing back. The only difference between God, the Father, and the Sonship is that the Father came first. Our will is the Will of the Father, and, therefore, nothing contradicts God’s Will since we share this same Mind of God.

**VII. The Condition of Reality**

**T-11.VII.1.** The world as you perceive the world cannot have been created by the Father, for the world is not as you see the world. 2 God created only the eternal, and everything you see is perishable. 3 Therefore, there must be another world that you do not see. **This is the eternal world of God, which is the Kingdom or Heaven.** 4 The Bible speaks of a new Heaven and a new earth, yet this cannot be literally true, for the eternal are not re-created. 5 To perceive anew is merely to perceive again, implying that before, or in the interval between, you were not perceiving at all. 6 What, then, is the world that awaits your perception when you see it?

**Note # 67:** Our illusionary world of egoic misperception has hidden the real world from our awareness. This veil has not changed eternity but it prevents the insane from being willing to allow the truth into their experience. Our refusal to look upon the Truth was a free will choice involving a decision in which we desired to experience something other than God’s Love. In this egoic world of individual perception, we have chosen to focus on the experience of imagining what it would be like to be something other than the Oneness of God. Our free will allows us to drop imagining limitation and return to being co-creator with God, whenever we decide to only value the Truth. The decision to be vigilant only for God is just one decision away. To be vigilant for God is to allow and desire only the thoughts of God into our awareness. The thoughts of God are love, joy, peace and oneness. Heaven is but one decision away.

**T-11.VII.2.** Every loving thought that the Son of God ever had is eternal. 2 The loving thoughts his mind perceives in this world are the world's only reality. 3 The loving thoughts are still perceptions, because he still believes that he is separate. 4 Yet the loving thoughts are eternal because the loving thoughts are loving. 5 And being loving these loving thoughts are like the Father, and therefore are eternal and cannot die. 6 The real world can actually be perceived. 7 All that is necessary is a willingness to perceive nothing else but the real world. 8 For if you perceive both good and evil, you are accepting both the false and the true and making no distinction between good and evil.

**Note # 68:** You cannot perceive correctly if you are aware of both good and evil. To “know” both good and evil implies that you still believe that there is something that opposes the Truth. This belief, that there is something that must be opposed, makes the separation appear real within your own mind. To perceive the real world, the Kingdom, you can only perceive what Truth is. Truth aligns with the Will of God. The false is
simply denied since it is nothing. Truth is the reality of the Mind of God and is the eternal, perfect, whole and complete as God created it. Truth is Thoughts of God. Truth is love, joy, peace and oneness.

T-11.VII.3. The ego may see some good, but never only sees good. 2 That is why the ego’s perceptions are so variable. 3 The ego’s perceptions do not reject goodness entirely, for that you could not accept. 4 But the ego’s perception always adds something that is not real to the real, thus confusing illusion and reality. 5 For perceptions cannot be partly true. 6 If you believe in truth and illusion, you cannot tell which is true. 7 To establish your personal autonomy you tried to create unlike your Father, believing that what you made is capable of being unlike your Father. 8 Yet everything true <is> like your Father. 9 Perceiving only the real world will make you capable of understanding the real world.

Note # 69: By adding any untruth to the ego’s perception, the entire perception becomes wrong. This misperception of conditional or partial truth once again supports the notion that there is separation. Truth cannot be compromised by attempting to join truth with illusion. This is why we need to be vigilant only for God, which is Truth. To see the real world we must have correct perception. Heaven is different from the real world in which love is only perceived. In Heaven, knowledge has replaced perception. Perception requires both an observer and something to observe. In correct perception, the observer observes the Oneness in all that is. Knowledge just knows that it is just the One Self. No interpretation or thinking is involved. The condition of knowledge requires awareness that there is nothing real that ever existed which could oppose the goodness of truth. Only in fantasies can it appear as if something opposes truth's reality. Wake up and the fantasy is gone.

T-11.VII.4. The perception of goodness is not knowledge, but the denial of the opposite of goodness enables you to recognize a condition in which opposites do not exist. 2 And this denial of the existence of anything that could oppose goodness <is> the condition of knowledge. 3 Without this awareness of the denial of the existence of anything that could oppose goodness, you have not met knowledge’s conditions, and until you do, you will not know knowledge is yours already. 4 You have made many ideas that you have placed between yourself and your Creator, and these beliefs are the world as you perceive to be your illusionary world of provisional reality. 5 Truth is not absent here, but truth is obscure. 6 You do not know the difference between what you have made and what God created, and so you do not know the difference between what you have made and what <you> have created. p210 7 To believe that you can perceive the real world is to believe that you can know yourself. 8 You can know God because to know God is God’s Will to be known. 9 The real world is all that the Holy Spirit has saved for you out of what you have made, and to perceive only this is salvation, because it is the recognition that reality is only what is true.

Note # 70: True loving thoughts can and are shared with the entire holographic Mind of God. They are real extensions of a co-creation with the Father. The Holy Spirit saves our
creations which arise out of love and forgiveness. Anything that we make to defend the thought system of the ego is not preserved or saved by the Holy Spirit. These defenses are fear based attack thoughts that are not real and, therefore, are not eternal. Making arises from projection, which is exclusion. Creation is extension, which is sharing. Love and forgiveness can be shared because they are co-creative thoughts. They are part of the real world and are our true creations.

**VIII. The Problem and the Answer**

**T-11.VIII.1.** This is a very simple course. 2 Perhaps you do not feel you need a course which, in the end, teaches that only reality is true. 3 But do you believe that only reality is true? 4 When you perceive the real world, you will recognize that you did not believe that only reality is true. 5 Yet the swiftness with which your new and only real perception will be translated into knowledge will leave you but an instant to realize that this alone (that only reality is true) is true. 6 And then everything you made will be forgotten; the good and the bad, the false and the true. 7 For as Heaven and earth become one, even the real world will vanish from your sight. 8 The end of the world is not its destruction, but its translation into Heaven. 9 The reinterpretation of the world is the transfer of all perception to knowledge.

**Note # 71:** ACIM is a simple course since it involves only black and white. There is no gray in ACIM. Everything is either true or false. There is no sometimes. Our problem is that we have been taught by the ego that change is possible and that both maybe and sometimes do exist. Truth, false, maybe and sometimes all appear to exist in the dream world of time and perception but they have no reality in changeless eternity. ACIM states simply what is not truth is false and that the false does not exist.

Everything you have made will be forgotten because to make is to exclude. Projection, which is always making, comes from the belief that you lack something. This is why all projected thoughts, both “good and bad,” will be forgotten. The belief that there could be something outside of the Oneness is the belief in separation. Perception arises from the viewpoint that there is something you lack. Therefore, you identify yourself as something other than as God created you, which is perfect, whole and complete.

Even “true or correct” perception “confirms” that there is something observable outside of you that you then recognize as part of the your One Self. Perception involves thinking and is not part of knowledge. Knowledge just knows.

**T-11.VIII.2.** The Bible tells you to become as little children. 2 Little children recognize that they do not understand what they perceive, and so little children ask what they do not understand means. 3 Do not make the mistake of believing that you understand what you perceive, for the meaning of what you perceive has been lost to you. 4 Yet the Holy Spirit has saved the true meaning of what you perceive for you, and if you will let the Holy Spirit interpret what you perceived, the Holy Spirit will restore to you what you have thrown away. 5 Yet while you think you know what you perceived’s meaning is,
you will see no need to ask for reinterpretation byte Holy Spirit.

**Note # 72:** We need to ask the Holy Spirit to reinterpret our perceived experiences since only the Holy Spirit is aware of both our illusions and the truth about ourselves. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of all the facts of God’s Plan for salvation and, therefore, is the only one that is capable of judging the experience correctly. The only judgment we need make is to realize that due to our belief in the separation, our mind is “split” and, therefore, we are incapable of judging correctly. Correct judgment requires knowledge that we have chosen to forget. We need to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance in our world of perception, so that we can regain knowledge of the Kingdom.

**T-11.VIII.3.** You do not know the meaning of anything you perceive. 2 Not one thought you hold is wholly true. 3 The recognition that not one thought you hold is wholly true is your firm beginning. 4 You are not misguided; you have accepted no guide at all. **The Holy Spirit is the guide you seek.** 5 Instruction in perception is your great need, for you understand nothing. 6 Recognize that you understand nothing but do not accept that you understand nothing, for understanding is your inheritance. 7 Perceptions are learned, and you are not without a Teacher, **which is the Holy Spirit.** 8 Yet your willingness to learn of the Holy Spirit as your Teacher depends on your willingness to question everything you learned of yourself, *(your ego small “s” self)* for you who learned amiss should not be your own teacher.

**Note # 73:** Perception is based on values and beliefs. What you choose to value and believe can be changed by a simple decision. By adopting a new teacher with different beliefs, we can relearn about the truth of our Big “S” Self. If we attempt to keep both teachers, we will remain confused and in conflict.

**T-11.VIII.4.** No one can withhold truth except from himself. 2 Yet God will not refuse you the Answer **God** gave. p211 3 Ask, then, for what is yours, but which you did not make, and do not defend yourself against truth. 4 You made the problem God has answered. 5 Ask yourself, therefore, but one simple question:

6 Do I want the problem or do I want the answer?

7 Decide for the answer and you will have the answer, for you will see the problem as it is, and the answer is yours already.

**Note # 74:** The problem is our denial of the truth. It is our claim to be something other than as God made us. It is our desire to be a separate, special individual at the cost of our Oneness of Everything. The problem is the claim for self-creation that births the illusion of “littleness”. God’s answer is the truth. The truth never ceased to be, we have just refused to listen. The acceptance of the Atonement is the acceptance of the Truth about us. To want the answer, is to want to know the truth about what we are. We are and remain sinless and guiltless, God’s perfect creation. The only thing that can keep the answer from our awareness is our own egoic desire not to want to hear the answer.
T-11.VIII.5. You may complain that this course is not sufficiently specific for you to understand and use. Yet perhaps you have not done what this course specifically advocates. This is not a course in the play of ideas, but in their practical application of these ideas. Nothing could be more specific than to be told that if you ask you will receive. The Holy Spirit will answer every specific problem as long as you believe that problems are specific. The Holy Spirit’s answer is both many and one, as long as you believe that the one is many. You may be afraid of the Holy Spirit’s specificity, for fear of what you think the Holy Spirit’s specificity will demand of you. Yet only by asking will you learn that nothing of God demands anything of you. God gives; He does not take. When you refuse to ask, it is because you believe that asking is taking rather than sharing.

Note # 75: The Holy Spirit will answer all questions asked. We believe that we have specific problems that vary from place to place. We believe that if the form that the problem appears in is different from another form of the same problem the solution must be different. All problems are the same. They are all different forms of the “authority problem”. The ego tells us that we are the arbitrators of truth; that we are self-created. To correct all forms of the same and only problem is simply to accept the truth. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we accept the truth and all forms of the one common problem disappear. Accept the truth that our will and God’s will are the same. God is everything because God is everything. There is nothing else. God creates by extension. To be everything, God gives everything to everything. This is God’s Law of Creation or Sharing. God demands nothing since God shares all that He is. By sharing thought, there is no diminishment and the idea is strengthened. This sharing is the extension of the Mind of God. Because we have identified with the ego-body, we have made a world of form. Form cannot be shared, since to share form would result in diminishment to the original “owner” and giver of the form. Sharing requires no sacrifice. Thoughts of love and forgiveness can be shared and, therefore, they are real. Ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, and He will reinterpret your misperceptions into thoughts of love and forgiveness.

T-11.VIII.6. The Holy Spirit will give you only what is yours, and will take nothing in return. For what is yours is everything, and you share everything with God. That is its reality. Would the Holy Spirit, Who wills only to restore, be capable of misinterpreting the question you must ask to learn the Holy Spirit’s answer? You have heard the answer, but you have misunderstood the question. You believe that to ask for guidance of the Holy Spirit is to ask for deprivation.

Note # 76: Since we identify, with the body, we believe that we “live” in a world of form. Form cannot be shared since the giver would have less after he gave. Because we believe we live in a world of form, lack and separation, we think to give is not the same as to receive. We fail to understand God’s basic law that to give is to receive. Because of the ego’s belief in the need for sacrifice, we refuse to hear the true answer from the Holy Spirit. We are afraid to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. We fear that the Holy Spirit’s answer will require that we sacrifice something that we value. The Holy Spirit knows that we are not the body and that form is of no value to unlimited spirit. Form attempts to
limit, imprison and bind. The Holy Spirit’s criterion is “How would love respond?” Only love and forgiveness is the proper response to a perceived problem since only love and forgiveness can be shared and by sharing both parties are strengthened. No sacrifice is required when thoughts are shared.

T-11.VIII.7. Little child of God, you do not understand your Father. 2 You believe in a world that takes, because you believe that you can get by taking. 3 And by that perception you have lost sight of the real world. 4 You are afraid of the world as you see the world, but the real world is still yours for the asking. 5 Do not deny the real world to yourself, for the real world can only free you. 6 Nothing of God will enslave His Son whom God created free and whose freedom is protected by God’s Being. 7 Blessed are you who are willing to ask the truth of God without fear, for only thus by asking the truth of God without fear can you learn that God’s answer is the release from fear.

Note # 77: God’s Will is that we be happy. By not asking for and claiming our divine birthright, we choose to deny ourselves the happiness that is the peace of God. A Oneness has no wants and no fears.

T-11.VIII.8. Beautiful child of God, you are asking only for what I promised you. 2 Do you believe I would deceive you? 3 The Kingdom of Heaven <is> within you. p212 4 Believe that the truth is in me, for I know that the truth is in you. 5 God’s Sons have nothing they do not share. 6 Ask for truth of any Son of God, and you have asked the truth of me. 7 Not one of us, any Son of God, but has the answer in him, to give to anyone who asks the truth of him.

Note # 78: The answer to the question of “What are we?” is found within us. It is arrogance to claim that you do not know what you are or that you are something that you are not. All mystic traditions say the same thing. They advise their devotee to go within. God is everything, everywhere and every when. If we wish to find God, we need only look within ourselves. ACIM is no different. If there is only a Oneness of which we are part, God must be within us and our brother. Deny not the truth in your brother and he will not deny that same truth in you. God must be in all that is real and we all are that One Self. The ego tells us to look outside ourselves to find wholeness and completeness. What could we expect to find outside a Oneness of All that Is? There can only be the false illusions of nothingness outside the Oneness of Everything.

T-11.VIII.9. Ask anything of God’s Son and his Father will answer you, for Christ is not deceived in His Father and His Father is not deceived in God’s Son. 2 Do not, then, be deceived in your brother, and see only your brother’s loving thoughts as your brother’s reality, for by denying that your brother’s mind is split you will heal your own mind. 3 Accept your brother as his Father accepts your brother and heal your brother unto Christ, for Christ is your brother’s healing and your own healing. 4 Christ is the Son of God Who is in no way separate from His Father, Whose every thought is as loving as the Thought of His Father by which the Son of God was created. 5 Be not deceived in God’s Son, for thereby you must be deceived in yourself. 6 And being deceived in yourself you are deceived in your Father, in Whom no deceit is possible.
Note # 79: Your brother’s true self, like you, is the Christ consciousness or Big “S” Self. Look past the body form and egoic littleness to your brother’s spiritual essence. We are not an ego-body in competition with only limited ego-bodies. We are Mind, the shared Thought of God, our Creator. Deny your brother’s illusion of his own littleness and only acknowledge his Big “S” Self. By granting your brother this truth, he will share that same truth with you. Truth can be shared. The false is impossible to share since it is nothing.

T-11.VIII.10. In the real world there is no sickness, for there is no separation and no division. 2 Only loving thoughts are recognized, and because no one is without your help, the Help of God goes with you everywhere. 3 As you become willing to accept this Help from the Holy Spirit by asking for this Help, you will give this Help because you want this Help from the Holy Spirit. 4 Nothing will be beyond your healing power, because nothing will be denied your simple request. 5 What problems will not disappear in the Presence of God's Answer, which is the Holy Spirit’s correct perception and the Atonement? 6 Ask, then, to learn of the reality of your brother, because the reality of your brother is what you will perceive in your brother, and you will see your beauty reflected in your brother’s beauty.

Note # 80: Because of our shared Oneness with our brother and God, anything we do to or for our brother, we do onto our Father and ourselves. To heal our split mind, we must not perceive our brother’s mind as split. To aid in the healing of our brother’s mind is to heal our own.

T-11.VIII.11. Do not accept your brother's variable perception of himself for his split mind is your split mind, and you will not accept your healing without his healing. 2 For you share the real world as you share Heaven, and his healing is your healing. 3 To love yourself is to heal yourself, and you cannot perceive part of you as sick and achieve your goal of healing your split mind. 4 Brother, we heal together as we live together and love together. 5 Be not deceived in God's Son, for God's Son is one with himself and one with his Father. 6 Love God's Son who is beloved of his Father, and you will learn of the Father's Love for you.

Note # 81: We are all connected. There is one Sonship, which is all God created as God created it. You cannot deny a brother his divine nature without denying it to all the Sonship. There is only one will and one mind and that is the shared indivisible holographic Mind of God.

T-11.VIII.12. If you perceive offense in a brother pluck the offense from your mind, for you are offended by Christ and are deceived in your perception of the Christ that is your brother. 2 Heal in Christ and be not offended by the Christ that is your brother, for there is no offense in Him, the Christ that is your brother. 3 If what you perceive offends you, you are offended in yourself and are condemning God's Son whom God condemneth not. p213 4 Let the Holy Spirit remove all offenses of God's Son against himself and perceive no one but through the Holy Spirit’s guidance, for the Holy Spirit would save you from all condemnation. 5 Accept the Holy Spirit’s healing power and
use the Holy Spirit’s healing power for all the Holy Spirit sends you, for the Holy Spirit wills to heal the Son of God, in whom the Holy Spirit is not deceived.

**Note # 82:** When we condemn another, we condemn ourselves. Only the egoic thought system condemns because it judges what it does not know. The Holy Spirit condemns nothing for the Holy Spirit knows that God’s Child is sinless and guiltless. Give all our perception over to the Holy Spirit, Who will heal them with His correct perception.

T-11.VIII.13. Children perceive frightening ghosts and monsters and dragons, and these children are terrified. 2 Yet if these frighten children ask someone these children trust for the meaning of what they perceive, and are willing to let their own frightening interpretations go in favor of reality, their fear goes with them. 3 When a child is helped to translate his "ghost" into a curtain, his "monster" into a shadow, and his "dragon" into a dream the child is no longer afraid, and laughs happily at his own fear.

**Note # 83:** By asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we will be told the truth about our egoic misperception. We will be told that we are unlimited invulnerable spirit that is part of the indivisible shared Oneness of the Mind of God. We will understand this truth and join with our brothers and once again choose to remember to laugh at the illusion of separation.

T-11.VIII.14. You, my child, are afraid of your brothers and of your Father and of yourself. 2 But you are merely deceived in your brothers, your Father and yourself. 3 Ask what your brothers, your Father and you are of the Teacher of reality, which is the Holy Spirit, and hearing the Holy Spirit’s answer, you too will laugh at your fears and replace your fears with peace. 4 For fear lies not in reality, but in the minds of children who do not understand reality. 5 It is only their lack of understanding that frightens the child, and when the child learns to perceive truly of reality the child is not afraid. 6 And because of this perceiving the truth about reality, the child will ask for truth again when the child is frightened. 7 It is not the reality of your brothers or your Father or yourself that frightens you. It is your misperception of what they are. 8 You do not know what your brothers, your Father or you are, and so you perceive them as ghosts and monsters and dragons. 9 Ask what your brothers’, your Father or yourselves’ reality is from the One, the Holy Spirit, knows their true reality and the Holy Spirit will tell you what they really are. 10 For you do not understand your brothers, your Father or yourself, and because you are deceived by what you see you need reality to dispel your fears.

**Note # 84:** Ask the Holy Spirit for His guidance, and the Holy Spirit will correct your misperceptions that you hold in your split mind. Only the Holy Spirit is capable of doing this, for only the Holy Spirit is aware of your illusionary misperception about the world and the reality of what you really are. It is our belief that our illusion of separation is real that is frightening. By learning the truth of our Oneness, we understand that we were just pretending to play the “game of separation.” This game was not to be taken seriously and had no affect of the reality of what we are or the Mind of God. We learn that we are the dreamer and as such, we can choose to awaken whenever we wish. Dreams lose their
ability to frighten when we understand they are not real.

T-11.VIII.15. Would you not exchange your fears for truth, if the exchange from fear to truth is yours for the asking? 2 For if God is not deceived in you, you can be deceived only in yourself. 3 Yet you can learn the truth about yourself from the Holy Spirit, Who will teach you that since you are part of God, deceit in you is also impossible. 4 When you perceive yourself without deceit, you will accept the real world in place of the false world you have made through your own misperception. 5 And then your Father will lean down to you and take the last step for you, by raising you unto Himself. p214

Note # 85: We are the wardens of our own prison. Only we have the power to free ourselves from our own self-imprisonment for we alone condemned and then made our prison. When we not longer value egoic specialness, we will freely ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and accelerate our journey back to the truth. Once you have accepted the correction of all of your own misperceptions, God, the Father, will take the final step in returning you to the knowledge of the Kingdom. The Holy Spirit prepares you for this remembrance of God through the use of the tools of forgiveness and love. Unless we relearn the reality of our Oneness with our brother, we cannot remember our Oneness with our Father. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, the Sonship is healed.
Chapter 12. THE HOLY SPIRIT'S CURRICULUM

I. The Judgment of the Holy Spirit

T-12.I.1. You have been told not to make error real, and the way to not make error real is very simple. 2 If you want to believe in error, you would have to make error real because error is not true. 3 But truth is real in truth’s own right, and to believe in truth <you do not have to do anything>. 4 Understand that you do not respond to anything directly, but to your interpretation of that something. 5 Your interpretation thus becomes the justification for the response. 6 That is why analyzing the motives of others is hazardous to you. 7 If you decide that someone is really trying to attack you or desert you or enslave you, you will respond as if he had actually done so, having made his error real to you. 8 To interpret error is to give error power, and having given error power, you will overlook truth.

Note # 1: Our individual interpretation does not correspond to the truth, but rather, to how we perceive something. Based on how we perceive something, this interpretation becomes our individual “truth.” Our belief, however, has no impact on truth. Truth is eternal and changeless. Our perception is unstable and subject to change. Since our interpretation is changeable, it is not fixed. If we wish to, we can utilize the learning experience to decide to choose again and follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit instead of the ego’s.

T-12.I.2. The analysis of ego motivation is very complicated, very obscuring, and never without your own ego involvement. 2 The whole process of the analysis of ego motivation represents a clear-cut attempt to demonstrate your own ability to understand what you perceive. 3 This demonstration of your own ability to understand what you perceive is shown by the fact that you react to your interpretations as if your interpretations were correct. 4 You may then control your reactions behaviorally, but not emotionally. 5 This ability to control your reactions behaviorally, but not emotionally would obviously be a split or an attack on the integrity of your mind, pitting one level within your mind against another.

Note # 2: This ability to control your reactions behaviorally, but not emotionally, demonstrates the conflict within your mind itself. This is an attack against your right-mindedness. The body takes orders from our mind. Our emotions are the result of conflict within our mind. If part of our mind erroneously believes that it is a body, its will respond with attack which is out of alignment with our Big "S" Self that knows that we are one unlimited spirit. Actions inappropriate to our Big "S" Self’s truth will ultimately result in our loss of peace.
T-12.I.3. There is but one interpretation of motivation that makes any sense. 2 And because the one interpretation of motivation that makes any sense is the Holy Spirit's judgment this interpretation requires no effort at all on your part. 3 Every loving thought is true. 4 Everything else that is not a loving thought is an appeal for healing and help, regardless of the form everything else takes. 5 Can anyone be justified in responding with anger to a brother's plea for help? 6 No response to a brother's plea for help can be appropriate except the willingness to give help to him, for help and only help is what the brother is asking for. 7 Offer the brother anything else to a brother's plea for help and you are assuming the right to attack your brother’s reality by interpreting your brother’s reality as you see fit. 8 Perhaps the danger of this interpreting your brother’s reality as you see fit to your own mind is not yet fully apparent. 9 If you believe that an appeal for help is something else you will react to something else. 10 Your response will therefore be inappropriate to reality as it is, but not to your perception of what you believe your brother’s reality might be, which you have misinterpreted to be something other than to plea for help.

Note # 3: Because we fail to interpret correctly, our response to any situation may not be what is really justified. If we knew the truth about our brother’s or our own situation, our response would be different. If we perceive a brother’s cry for help and love as an attack, we will respond with a counterattack instead of with loving help. Only the Holy Spirit has the ability to “judge” correctly and thus, guide us to the appropriate response.

T-12.I.4. There is nothing to prevent you from recognizing all calls for help as exactly what they are, which is a brother’s call for help, except your own imagined need to attack. p215 2 It is only your own imagined need to attack that makes you willing to engage in endless "battles" with reality, in which you deny the reality of the need for healing by making the need for healing unreal. 3 You would not attack your brother except for your unwillingness to accept reality as it is, and which you therefore withhold from yourself the reality of what you real are.

Note # 4: Because we misperceive our oneness with our brother, we fail to recognize our brother’s cry for help. Since we believe that we are a body-form, we also believe that to help our brother would require sacrifice on our part. We believe that we are not everything and, therefore, answer our brother’s cry for help and love as if it were a personal attack. Because we perceive ourselves as different and separate from our brother, we believe that we will be diminished if we aid our brother. This belief in diminishment and sacrifice is true only if we believe that we are separate limited ego-bodies. If we see ourselves as one mind, we understand that there can be no diminishment. Thoughts can be shared and by sharing our own thoughts are strengthened. This sharing of our mind with our brother returns us to the reality of what we are, one mind. We are joined together in the shared, unlimited Oneness of the Mind of God.

T-12.I.5. It is surely good advice to tell you not to judge what you do not understand. 2
No one with a personal investment is a reliable witness, for truth to him has become what he wants truth to be. If you are unwilling to perceive an appeal for help as what the appeal for help is, it is because you are unwilling to give help and to receive help. To fail to recognize a call for help is to refuse help. Would you maintain that you do not need help? Yet this claim that you do not need help is what you are maintaining when you refuse to recognize a brother's appeal, for only by answering his appeal you be helped. Deny your brother your help and you will not recognize God's Answer to you, which is the Atonement. The Holy Spirit does not need your help in interpreting motivation, but you do need the Holy Spirit's help in interpreting a brother's motivation.

Note # 5: The ego always misperceives and will interpret our brother's call for help as an attack. If we do not understand this error in thinking, we will fail to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We will respond to our brother cry for help by attacking him and thus, making this misperception real in the minds of both parties. By following the thought system of the ego, we fail to ask for higher guidance and deny our brother and ourselves the Holy Spirit's help.

T-12.I.6.Only appreciation is an appropriate response to your brother. Gratitude is due your brother for both your brother’s loving thoughts and your brother’s appeals for help, for both are capable of bringing love into your awareness if you perceive both your brother’s loving thoughts and your brother’s appeals for help truly as they are. And all your sense of strain comes from your attempts not to appropriately respond to your brother’s loving thoughts and appeals. How simple, then, is God's plan for salvation. There is but one response to reality, for reality evokes no conflict at all. Reality knows only the truth. There is but one Teacher of reality, the Holy Spirit Who understands what reality is. The Holy Spirit does not change His Mind about reality because reality does not change. Although your interpretations of reality are meaningless in your divided state, the Holy Spirit’s interpretations of reality remain consistently true. The Holy Spirit gives His interpretation of reality to you because the Holy Spirit’s interpretation of reality is for you. Do not attempt to "help" in your way, for you cannot help yourself. But hear a brother’s call for the Help of God, and you will recognize your own need for the Father.

Note # 6: All our sense of strain and conflict comes from our inappropriate response to our brother’s loving thoughts and appeals for help. Because we believe that we are the body, we generally follow the thought system of the ego. Our egoic little “s” self responds to our brother’s actions as an attack upon our perceived, vulnerable ego-body. This egoic response conflicts with the proper response that both our Big “S” Self and the Holy Spirit knows is correct. This conflict between the two parts of our split-mind represents misalignment and is associated emotionally with our loss of peace. Any misalignment between our behavior and our Big “S” Self’s reality and truth is felt emotionally as a bad feeling and results in our loss of inner peace. Thus, our emotional feelings help monitor and gage our alignment of the split mind with the thought system of the Holy Spirit. When we feel true joy, our behavior and our thoughts are in alignment with our Big “S” Self. When we feel bad, angry, and guilty or have lost our inner peace,
we can rest assured that we are in misalignment with the true loving nature of our One Self.

T-12.I.7. Your interpretations of your brother's needs are your interpretation of your needs. 2 By giving help you are asking for help, and if you perceive but one need in yourself you will be healed. 3 For you will recognize God's Answer as you want God's Answer to be, and if you want God's Answer in truth, God's Answer will be truly yours. 4 Every appeal you answer in the Name of Christ brings the remembrance of your Father closer to your awareness. 5 For the sake of your need, then, hear every call for help as what it is, which is a cry for help so God can answer <you.> God’s answer is the Atonement. p216

Note # 7: Our one need is the remembrance of God. When we choose to remember God, we reclaim the Sonship’s divine birthright. We realize the Atonement principle’s truth of the sinless and guiltless reality of God’s Son. God’s Law states that by giving help, we receive help.

T-12.I.8. By applying the Holy Spirit's interpretation of the reactions of others more and more consistently, you will gain an increasing awareness that the Holy Spirit's criteria are equally applicable to you. 2 For to recognize fear is not enough to escape from fear, although the recognition is necessary to demonstrate the need for the escape from fear. 3 The Holy Spirit must still translate the fear into truth. 4 If you were left with the fear, once you had recognized fear, you would have taken a step away from reality, not towards reality. 5 Yet we have repeatedly emphasized the need to recognize fear and face fear without disguise as a crucial step in the undoing of the ego. 6 Consider how well the Holy Spirit's interpretation of the motives of others will serve you then. 7 The Holy Spirit's interpretation of the motives of others will have taught you to accept only loving thoughts in others and to regard everything else as an appeal for help. The Holy Spirit's interpretation of the motives of others has taught you that fear itself is an appeal for help. 8 This is what recognizing fear really means. 9 If you do not protect fear, the Holy Spirit will reinterpret fear as a cry for help. 10 That is the ultimate value in learning to perceive attack as a call for love. 11 We have already learned that fear and attack are inevitably associated. 12 If only attack produces fear, and if you see attack as the call for help that it is, the unreality of fear must dawn on you. 13 For fear <is> a call for love, in unconscious recognition of what has been denied, which is love.

Note # 8: The idea of the separation is our denial of God’s unconditional love toward us, God’s Creation. This belief that we are other than God’s Effect has led us into fear. If we follow the Holy Spirit’s thought system and perceive any experience as either love or cry for love, we no longer move into “fear-mode.” We can transform fear into truth. The Holy Spirit will only respond to any situation with truth. When we perceive fear in another as only a cry for love, we will not respond by egoically attacking our brother. When we are in fear, we move into attack-mode. This results in misalignment and conflict between our split-mind. By controlling our fear and asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we can move back into realignment with our One Self and regain our inner peace.
T-12.I.9. Fear is a symptom of your own deep sense of loss. 2 If when you perceive a sense of loss in others you learn to supply the loss, the basic cause of fear is removed. 3 Thereby you teach yourself that fear does not exist in you. 4 The means for removing the sense of loss caused by fear is in yourself, and you have demonstrated this by giving love, which removes fear. 5 Fear and love are the only emotions of which you are capable. 6 Fear is false, for fear was made out of denial; and denial depends on the belief in what is denied for its own existence. 7 By interpreting fear correctly as a positive affirmation of the underlying belief that fear masks, you are undermining fear’s perceived usefulness by rendering fear useless. 8 Defenses that do not work at all are automatically discarded. 9 If you raise love, which is what fear conceals, to clear-cut unequivocal predominance, fear becomes meaningless. 10 You have denied fear’s power to conceal love, which was fear’s only purpose. 11 Fear, the veil that you have drawn across the face of love has disappeared.

Note # 9: There are only two emotions of which we are capable; either love or fear. In the world of perception, both fear and love seem possible. In eternity, only love is real. When we follow the thought system of the ego, we are operating out of fear. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is the path to love. The little “s” self believes that both fear and love are viable choices. The Big “S” Self knows that the only real choice is love. When our behavior and thoughts align with fear, we feel stressed and conflicted because we are not following the true nature of our Big “S” Self. When we control our fears, we are able to ask for guidance. The Holy Spirit will bring truth to fear and fear will dissipate. Fear is removed by the realization that you are truly one with the Love of God. Being love, you can only give love. Fear disappears, since fear only existed in your split-mind. It is our fear from our sense of loss of God’s love that makes the illusion of separation appear real within our split-mind.

T-12.I.10. If you would look upon love, which is the world's reality, how could you do better than to recognize, in every defense against love, the underlying appeal for love? 2 And how could you better learn of love’s reality than by answering the appeal for love by giving love? 3 The Holy Spirit’s interpretation of fear does dispel fear, for the awareness of truth cannot be denied. 4 Thus does the Holy Spirit replace fear with love and translate the error of fear into truth. 5 And thus will you learn of the Holy Spirit how to replace your dream of separation with the fact of unity. 6 For the separation is only the denial of union, and correctly interpreted, attests to your eternal knowledge that union is true.

Note # 10: Fear arises out of the denial of truth. The belief in the separation results in fear since the separation is the denial of God’s love for the Sonship. If we recognize that fear arises only from our belief in our lack of love, we can utilize any thought of fear, as a triggering mechanism to remind us to ask for the Holy Spirit’s help. The Holy Spirit will reinterpret our fearful perception into a tool for forgiveness, unity and love. This reinterpretation of our fearful perception will help us remember the truth that we are united with the Oneness of our Father.
II. The Way to Remember God

T-12.II.1. Miracles are merely the translation of denial into truth. 2 If to love oneself is to heal oneself, those who are sick do not love themselves. 3 Therefore, those who are sick are asking for the love that would heal them, but which those who are sick are denying to themselves. 4 If those who are sick knew the truth about themselves those who are sick could not be sick. 5 The task of the miracle worker thus becomes <to deny the denial of truth.> 6 The sick must heal themselves, for the truth is in them, the sick person. 7 Yet having obscured the denial of truth in themselves, the light in another mind must shine into the sick person’s mind because that light of the miracle worker <is> also the light of the sick person.

Note # 11: The miracle worker translates the denial of truth in their brother back into the truth. The miracle worker observes the Christ, rather than the little “s’ self in his brother. In the miracle, the miracle worker refuses to see any limitation in his brother and looks past the apparent form that “sickness” has taken within their brother. When given this correct perception of himself by the miracle worker, the sick brother may be able to accept the truth about himself and thus, heal himself. Only the sick person can heal himself or herself. The miracle takes place within the individual’s own mind and is merely a change from wrong perception to correct perception.

T-12.II.2. The light in the sick person shines as brightly regardless of the density of the fog that obscures the sick person’s light. 2 If you give no power to the fog to obscure the light, the fog, which arose by the denial of the truth, has no power. 3 For the fog, which arose by the denial of the truth, has power only if the Son of God gives power to the denial of the truth. 4 The Son of God must himself withdraw that power that he gave the denial of the truth, remembering that all power is of God. 5 You can remember that all power is of God for all the Sonship. 6 Do not allow your brother not to remember that all power is of God, for our brother’s forgetfulness is your forgetfulness. 7 But your remembering is our brother’s remembering. for God cannot be remembered alone. 8 <Because if you try to remember alone, you have forgotten that God cannot be remembered alone and this is what you have forgotten.> 9 To perceive the healing of your brother as the healing of yourself is thus the way to remember God. 10 For when you forgot your brothers you forgot God also, and God's Answer to your forgetting is but the way to remember the truth about your brother and God.

Note # 12: Healing is realizing the Oneness that we share with all God’s creations because we live in the one Mind of God. It is only by our abdicating to the ego our own mind’s power as decision-maker that makes the illusion appear real. All egoic power comes from our own mind. Thus, we imagine that we have given to the ego creative powers that belong only to our mind. This transfer of our creative power is what gives the illusion a life of its own. When we choose to forget the truth about our brother or ourselves, we perceive both our brother and ourselves as a little “s” self. This also transforms the God of Love into an idol to fear. We need to deny the false and thus,
observe the truth, which is all that remains.

T-12.II.3. Perceive in sickness but another call for love, and offer your brother what your brother believes he cannot offer himself, which is the truth about himself that he is only love’s Big “S” Self. 2 Whatever the sickness, there is but one remedy. 3 You will be made whole as you make whole, for to perceive in sickness the appeal for health is to recognize in hatred the call for love. 4 And to give a brother what he really wants is to offer what he really wants, which is love, unto yourself, for your Father wills you to know your brother as yourself. 5 Answer his call for love, and your call for love is answered. 6 Healing is the Love of Christ for His Father and for Himself.

Note # 13: Sickness is a form of self-hatred, which is a denial of God’s love. Love, which is all we are and is all that is real, heals all illusions. When the false is brought into the light of truth, the false fades into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-12.II.4. Remember what was said about the frightening perceptions of little children, which terrify them because the little children do not understand their frightening perceptions. If the little children ask for enlightenment and accept enlightenment, their fears vanish. 3 But if the little children hide their nightmares, the little children will keep their nightmares. 4 It is easy to help an uncertain child, for an uncertain child recognizes that he does not understand what his perceptions mean. 5 Yet you believe that you do understand what your perceptions mean. 6 Little child, you are hiding your head under the cover of the heavy blankets you have laid upon yourself. 7 You are hiding your nightmares in the darkness of your own false certainty, and refusing to open your eyes and look at your nightmares.

Note # 14: By misinterpreting our perception, we fail to realize that we need outside guidance to understand our problems. Because we believe that we understand the source of our problems, we fail to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit knows the truth about what we are and what we perceive ourselves to be. Therefore, only the Holy Spirit is capable of judging correctly. The ego is the problem. We cannot expect to find the solution to the problem of not knowing our divine nature by asking the ego for an answer that the ego refuses to hear and accept.

T-12.II.5. Let us not save nightmares, for our nightmares are not fitting offerings for Christ, and so our nightmares are not fit gifts for you. 2 Take off the covers and look at what you are afraid of. 3 Only the anticipation will frighten you, for the reality of nothingness cannot be frightening. 4 Let us not delay this looking at what you are afraid of, for your dream of hatred will not leave you without help, and Help, in the form of the Holy Spirit, is here. 5 Learn to be quiet in the midst of turmoil, for quietness is the end of strife and this quietness that ends strife is the journey to peace. 6 Look straight at every image that rises to delay you, for the goal is inevitable because peace is eternal. 7 The goal of love is but your right, and love belongs to you despite your dreams.

Note # 15: The ego will always tell you why it is right and why you are justified in your fear, anger, hurt and ultimate attack. Quiet your egoic chatter and ask for the guidance of
the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit knows how to regain your inner peace.

**T-12.II.6.** You still want what God wills, and no nightmare can defeat a child of God in his purpose. *What both God and you will is love. This is your purpose.* 2 For your purpose was given you by God, and you must accomplish *your purpose* because *your purpose* is *God’s Will.* 3 Awake and remember your purpose of love, for it is your will to do so. 4 What has been accomplished for you must be yours. 5 Do not let your hatred stand in the way of love, for nothing can withstand the Love of Christ for His Father, or His Father's Love for Him, the Christ.

**Note # 16:** Our Father, our Big “S” Self and the Holy Spirit all know the truth; our Will is one for we are the One Self. A false illusion of the nothingness of separation can have no affect upon the holographic Mind of God. Our little “s” self’s reawakening is inevitable for God’s Will is not mocked.

**T-12.II.7.** A little while and you will see me, for I am not hidden because <you> are hiding. 2 I will awaken you as surely as I awakened myself, for I awoke for you. 3 In my resurrection is your release. 4 Our mission is to escape from crucifixion, not *to escape* from redemption. 5 Trust in my help, for I did not walk alone, and I will walk with you as our Father walked with me. 6 Do you not know that I walked with our Father in peace? 7 And does not that mean that peace goes with <us> on the journey?

**Note # 17:** Jesus has already shone the way and will continue to do so until we too arrive in the knowing of the peace of God. We, not Jesus, are the ones that are currently choosing to deny our truth under the veil of egoic littleness.

**T-12.II.8.** There is no fear in perfect love. 2 We will but be making perfect to you what is already perfect in you. 3 You do not fear the unknown, *which is the perfection of your Big “S” Self,* but *you do fear* the known, *which is the false image of your egoic little “s” self.* 4 You will not fail in your mission because I did not fail in *my mission of the return to truth and love.* 5 Give me but a little trust in the name of the complete trust I have in you, and we will easily accomplish the goal of perfection together. 6 For perfection <is,> and cannot be denied. p219 7 To deny the denial of perfection is not so difficult as to deny truth, and what we can accomplish together will be believed when you see *truth’s perfection* as accomplished.

**Note # 18:** Truth just is. It is the false that must be made to cover-up the truth. To maintain the illusion of separation requires work and a great deal of effort. This is why the aim of ACIM is not to teach love, but instead to remove all the blocks that we have placed in front of love. We cannot be taught how to love because love is our natural state of being.

**T-12.II.9.** You who have tried to banish love have not succeeded, but you who choose to banish fear must succeed. 2 The Lord is with you, but you know not *that the Lord is with you.* 3 Yet your Redeemer liveth, and abideth in you in the peace out of which your Redeemer, the Christ in you, was created. 4 Would you not exchange this awareness of
perfect love for the awareness of fear? 5 When we have overcome fear—not by hiding fear, not by minimizing fear, and not by denying fear’s full import in any way—this, perfect love, is what you will really see. 6 You cannot lay aside the obstacles to real vision without looking upon the obstacles to real vision, for to lay aside means to judge against. 7 If you will look, the Holy Spirit will judge, and the Holy Spirit will judge truly. 8 Yet the Holy Spirit cannot shine away what you keep hidden, for you have not offered what you keep hidden to the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit cannot take what you keep hidden from you.

Note # 19: Because we have free will, we must make the conscious choice of asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. Only we have the power to overcome our fears. We must control our fears and then turn them over to the truth of the Holy Spirit. Neither Jesus nor the Holy Spirit can remove our fears, for the source of fear is in your own mind. The Holy Spirit will guide us to the truth about our nightmares but we alone must choose for truth over illusions.

T-12.II.10. We are therefore embarking on an organized, well-structured and carefully planned program aimed at learning how to offer to the Holy Spirit everything you do not want. 2 The Holy Spirit knows what to do with everything you do not want. 3 You do not understand how to use what the Holy Spirit knows. 4 Whatever is given the Holy Spirit that is not of God is gone. 5 Yet you must look at what the Holy Spirit knows within yourself in perfect willingness, for otherwise the Holy Spirit’s knowledge remains useless to you. 6 Surely the Holy Spirit will not fail to help you, since help is the Holy Spirit’s only purpose. 7 Do you not have greater reason for fearing the world as you perceive the world, than for looking at the cause of fear and letting fear go forever?

Note # 20: The cause of fear is the result of the guilt we feel for our belief that we have “sinned” against the Will of God. This belief of sin, guilt and fear arose from the belief of the separation. The Holy Spirit was placed inside our minds to provide guidance for our remembrance of the truth about our Father and ourselves. The purpose of the Holy Spirit is to assist in the healing of our split mind. This healing is our reawakening into the One Self that is the holographic Mind of God.

III. The Investment in Reality

T-12.III.1. I once asked you to sell all you have and give to the poor and follow me. 2 This is what I meant: If you have no investment in anything in this world, you can teach the poor where their treasure is. 3 The poor are merely those who have invested wrongly, believing that in this world of illusion, they will find the treasure they seek and, therefore, they are poor indeed! 4 Because the poor are in need it is given you to help the poor, since you are among the poor. 5 Consider how perfectly your lesson would be learned if you were unwilling to share their poverty, which is their belief in lack of love. 6 For poverty is lack of love, and there is but one lack since there is but one need.
**Note # 21:** A person’s perceptions follow what that person values. We are poor when we give value to the nothingness of the illusion of fear and separation. We are poor when we value the idols of egoic specialness. We need to accept the Atonement for ourselves. The Atonement is the denial of the false and the acceptance of the true. It is the healing of the split mind. When we look past the littleness of the ego and look upon the Christ in our brother, we receive and see the Christ within us. Love replaces fear and God, which is love, is remembered.

**T-12.III.2.** Suppose a brother insists on having you do something you think you do not want to do. A brother’s very insistence should tell you that this brother believes salvation lies in you doing something that he wants. If you insist on refusing and experience a quick response of opposition, you are believing that your salvation lies in not doing something that he wants. You, then, are making the same mistake this brother is, and are making this brother’s error real to both of you. Insistence means investment, and what you invest in is always related to your notion of salvation. The question is always twofold; first, <what> is to be saved? And second, <how> can it be saved?

**Note # 22:** When we insist upon something in this world of nothingness, we are saying that our salvation rests upon doing something. We have placed value on the worthless. God’s love is freely given and requires nothing of us. Love allows; it does not demand someone get “fixed”. We are arguing for our ego’s rightness over our brother’s. Our happiness rests on being love, not in being egoically right. By requiring that we fix our brother, we make his belief in his sickness and lack real. Since to give is to receive, we acknowledge our own lack. What we insist on is related to where and what we believe is needed to make us happy. Do we believe that our salvation must come from something outside ourselves, that we lack something or that we must do something? We need do nothing. All we need do is to be as God created us. This requires no effort. Yet, to attempt to be something that we are not does require effort. The idea that something outside ourselves must take place in order for us to be fulfilled indicates that we have accepted the idea that we are a limited, ego-body. This insistence that we are not perfect, whole and complete makes your illusionary world of provisional reality real for us. We perceive that we lack. Perceive our brother’s belief in lack and you confirm your own belief that you need something to happen for you to be “saved.” This is an affirmation that you are not whole yourself. When you argue for your limitations, you get to keep them.

**T-12.III.3.** Whenever you become angry with a brother, for whatever reason, you are believing that the ego is to be saved, and to be saved by attack. If a brother attacks, you are agreeing with this belief that the ego is to be saved by attack; and if you attack, you are reinforcing this belief that the ego is to be saved by attack since there is lack. Remember that those who attack are poor. Their poverty asks for gifts, not for further impoverishment. You who could help those who attack are surely acting destructively if you accept their poverty as yours. If you had not invested in the treasures of illusions as those who attack had, it would never occur to you to overlook their need.
**Note # 23:** The world of illusion is not real. There is nothing of value in the unreal. Our salvation and happiness cannot be found in the unreal. If we substitute an illusion for the truth about ourselves, we will never escape the dream world. Our insistence that something outside ourselves is needed for us to be loved and to love is the insistence that we lack love. Defense and attack both act as false witnesses for our vulnerability as a limited ego-body. Attack is never justified. The proper response to a brother’s cry for help is love. Only through the eyes of love will we properly perceive our brother. If we look with fear, we will respond with attack in the name of egoic self-defense.

**T-12.III.4.** *<Recognize what does not matter,>* and if your brothers ask you for something "outrageous," do the "outrageous," for your brother *<because>* it does not matter. 2 Refuse a brother’s “outrageous” request, and your opposition establishes that it does matter to you. 3 It is only you, therefore, who have made the request outrageous, and every request of a brother is for you. 4 Why would you insist in denying a brother’s request? 5 For to do so is to deny yourself and impoverish both. 6 A brother is asking for salvation, as you are asking for salvation. 7 Poverty is of the ego, and never of God. 8 No "outrageous" requests can be made of one who recognizes what is valuable and wants to accept nothing else.

**Note # 24:** Nothing of this dream world is real and, therefore, of value. Only love is real. The only value this dream world can provide is as a learning device for reawakening from this dream to the realization that we are only love and invulnerable to the false. We are the One Self. By learning forgiveness and love for our brother, we give this to ourselves. This leads us back up the path of remembering God and thus, reclaiming our divine birthright.

**T-12.III.5.** Salvation is for the mind, and salvation is attained through peace that arises out of love. 2 The mind is the only thing that can be saved and the only way to save the mind is through the attainment of the peace of God. 3 Any response other than love arises from a confusion about the "what" and the "how" of obtaining salvation, and this, love, is the only answer. 4 Never lose sight that salvation is found in love, and never allow yourself to believe, even for an instant, that there is another answer than love. 5 For you will surely place yourself among the poor, who do not understand that they, who believe they are poor actually dwell in abundance and that salvation is come.

**Note # 25:** We can deny reality, but our erroneous belief cannot change the truth. We remain always as God created us, for in reality we have never left the Mind of God. There has never been a time that God did not love His Son unconditionally. We alone have chosen to deny this truth. What we value becomes what we perceive as our “truth”. Discard fear and value only love, which is the truth that is the peace of God.

**T-12.III.6.** To identify with the ego is to attack yourself and make yourself poor. 2 That is why everyone who identifies with the ego feels deprived. 3 What he experiences by identifying with the ego then is depression or anger, because what he did by identifying with the ego was to exchange Self-love for self-hate, making him afraid of himself. 4 He,
who identifies with the ego, does not realize he has exchange Self-love for self-hate. 5 Even if he is fully aware of anxiety he does not perceive anxiety’s source as his own ego identification, and he always tries to handle this anxiety that result from ego identification by making some sort of insane "arrangement" with the world. 6 He always perceives this world as outside himself, for this is crucial to his adjustment. p221 7 He does not realize that he makes this world, for there is no world outside of him.

Note # 26: When we identify with the ego, we fall into a state of victim consciousness. Playing the role of victim, we abdicate responsibility for the events in our life. We fail to see ourselves as the source or creator of the dream and, instead, hope something outside ourselves will arrive and make us complete and thus, “save” us. We cannot find the truth about ourselves in an unreal illusion. Only by reclaiming our decision making ability can we choose for the Holy Spirit and against the thought system of the ego. It is our choice to follow the thought system of the ego that transports us into the dream world of ego identification.

When we identify with the ego, we have moved out of alignment with our Big “S” Self. Our mind is split in its allegiance and this results in conflict and stress. Self-love and self-hate cannot co-exist. When we feel bad, our Big “S” Self is attempting to signal that we are out of balance with our true nature. Feelings of blame, fear, anger, frustration and depression all are tell us that our behavior is not in alignment with love’s correct response. We will have lost our joy and inner peace. Treat any bad feeling as a warning to stop thinking egoically and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit knows the way back to the inner peace of the One Self.

T-12.III.7. If only the loving thoughts of God's Son are the world's reality, the real world must be in his mind. 2 The split-mind’s insane thoughts, too, must be in his mind, but an internal conflict of this magnitude within the son’s mind cannot tolerate. 3 A split mind is endangered in God's Son, and the recognition that the split mind encompasses completely opposed thoughts within itself is intolerable. 4 Therefore the mind projects the split, not the reality. 5 Everything you perceive as the outside world is merely your split-mind’s attempt to maintain your ego identification, for everyone believes that identification with the ego is salvation. 6 Yet consider what has happened when you identify with the ego, for thoughts do have consequences to the thinker. 7 You have become at odds with the world as you perceive the world, because you think that your perceived world is antagonistic to you. 8 This is a necessary consequence of what you have done. 9 You have projected outward what is antagonistic to what is inward, in your own split mind, and therefore you would have to perceive your outside world as antagonistic to you in this way. 10 That is why you must realize that your hatred is in your mind and not outside your mind before you can get rid of your hatred; and why you must get rid of your hatred before you can perceive the world as the world really is.

Note # 27: This viewpoint of the antagonistic outside world is the natural outcome of projection. In projection, we take something inside our mind and project it outside ourselves in an attempt to get rid of it. This results in our denial of ourselves as the source of the item that is actually found in our mind. All thoughts must originate from mind.
T-12.III.8. I said before that God so loved the world that God gave the real world to God’s only begotten Son. God does love the real world, and those who perceive the real world’s reality cannot see the world of death. For death is not of the real world, in which everything reflects the eternal. God gave you the real world in exchange for the world you perceive that you made out of your split mind. The world you perceive that you made out of your split mind is the symbol of death. For if you could really separate yourself from the Mind of God you would die.

Note # 28: The real world is the Kingdom or Heaven, which is only love. Heaven is not a place but a state of mind in which only love is real. Our Big “S” Self knows this truth that only love is real. Our split-minded ego believes that both love and fear are possible. The split-mind has made an illusionary world so that it can play the game of separation until it has relearned the truth about itself.

T-12.III.9. The world you perceive is a world of separation. Perhaps you are willing to accept even death to deny your Father. Yet God would not have you die, and so your death cannot be so. You still cannot will against God, and because you cannot will against God this is why you have no control over the world you made. It is not a world of will because the world you made is governed by the desire to be unlike God, and this desire is not will. The world you made is therefore totally chaotic, governed by arbitrary and senseless "laws," and without meaning of any kind. For the world you made is made out of what you do not want, projected from your mind because you are afraid of what you do not want. Yet this world is only in the split mind of its maker, along with his real salvation. Do not believe the world you made is outside of yourself, for only by recognizing where the world you made is will you gain control over the world you made within your mind. For you do have control over your mind, since the mind is the mechanism of decision.

Note # 29: Only in the mind of the dreamer can the dream be undone. The nightmare can only be stopped at its source, which is the insane mind that is the thought projector. If we reclaim our mind’s decision-making ability and realize that we are the dreamer of the dream of separation, we can choose again. By remembering what we are, we will remember God, Whose love we have never lost.

T-12.III.10. If you will recognize that all the attack you perceive is in your own mind and nowhere else, you will at last have placed the source of the attack, and where the attack begins the attack must end. For in this same place, which is your mind, there also lies salvation. The altar of God where Christ abideth is there in your mind. You have defiled the altar, but not the real world. Yet Christ has placed the Atonement on the altar for you. Bring your perceptions of the world to this altar, for Christ’s altar which holds the Atonement is the altar to truth. There you will see your vision changed, and there you will learn to see truly. From this place, where God and His Son dwell in peace and where you are welcome, you will look out in peace and behold the world truly. Yet to find the place, you must relinquish your investment in the world as you project it, allowing the Holy Spirit to extend the real world to you from the altar of God.
Note # 30: By accepting of the Atonement for ourselves, we reclaim the remembrance of God and what we are. The Atonement principle undoes all misperception with the truth. The Atonement principle states that what we perceived in our dreams was never real since it was not in the Mind of God. The dream world of provisional reality is only a dream. Therefore, God demands no sacrifice or punishment from us since we have never “sinned”. To God, we will always be perfect as He created us. God’s Son remains eternally sinless and guiltless. This is our reality and our birthright. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we cease to deny God’s Fatherhood and accept our divine birthright. We reawaken to the Kingdom, which is the real world from which we have never left. We have always been and always will remain part of the Mind of God for we are eternal.

IV. Seeking and Finding

T-12.IV.1. The ego is certain that love is dangerous, and that love is dangerous is always the ego’s central teaching. The ego never puts it this way that love is dangerous; on the contrary, everyone who believes that the ego is salvation seems to be intensely engaged in the search for love. Yet the ego, though encouraging the search for love very actively, makes one proviso; do not find love. The ego’s dictates, then, can be summed up simply as: "Seek and do <not> find love." "Seek and do <not> find love." is the one promise the ego holds out to you, and the one promise the ego will keep. For the ego pursues the ego’s goal with fanatic insistence, and the ego’s judgment, though severely impaired, is completely consistent.

Note # 31: The ego does not understand what love is and, therefore, views it as dangerous. True love is dangerous to something that opposes the truth. What the ego would term love is not true love, but rather conditional love. Conditional love is acceptable to the ego because conditional love only gives to get. Conditional love confirms that the giver is not perfect, whole and complete. The giver is in need of “something” from outside itself to make it better. If this “something” is not forthcoming, the “giver” is free to take their sacrifice to another in search of a “better trade”. Thus, the ego’s goal and motto is "Seek and do <not> find love." The ego is very diligent and single minded in working to achieve its goal.

T-12.IV.2. The search the ego undertakes is therefore bound to be defeated. And since the ego also teaches that the ego is your identification, the ego’s guidance leads you to a journey which must end in perceived self-defeat. For the ego cannot love, and in the ego’s frantic search for love the ego is seeking what the ego is afraid to find, which is love. The ego’s search, which is “seek and do <not> find love”, is inevitable because the ego is part of your mind, and because of the ego’s source, which is the mind, the ego is not wholly split off, or the ego could not be believed at all. For it is your mind that believes in the ego and gives existence to the ego. Yet it is also your mind that has the power to deny the ego's existence, and you will surely do so when you realize exactly what the journey is on which the ego sets you.
**Note # 32:** Because the ego’s goal is "seek and do <not> find love”, the ego wants to hide this goal from your mind. If you realized that never finding love was the true goal of the ego, you would not want to play the ego’s game of “let’s hide and never find God’s Love.” The goal of the ego is to bring you pain; yet, the ego constantly holds out to you the idea that love is just around the corner. Once we obtain what the ego claims would bring us love, we realize that we are still unhappy. The ego then changes its story and tells us that although we failed to find love in the achievement of this item or goal, something else will bring us love. **Example:** First, the ego tells us that we will be happy when we get married. Once married, the ego tells us that we will be happy when we get a divorce. And so it goes, on and on. We are constantly seeking things outside ourselves only to find that once obtained, they do not bring us happiness. By this constant seeking outside yourself, the ego confirms that you are not perfect, whole and complete. This guarantees that you will continue your false belief in the separation. This "seek and do <not> find” motto is what makes the ego’s thought system so insidious and insane. As long as the ego can keep our mind, which is the true source of the ego’s alleged power, in victim consciousness, our mind will never realize that the mind has the ability to choose again. Our mind will continue to believe that it is powerless and that its fate is controlled by everything outside of it. Therefore, our mind can continue to claim that it is not responsible for the “bad luck” which so often brings pain.

**T-12.IV.3.**It is surely obvious that no one wants to find what would utterly defeat him. Being unable to love, the ego would be totally inadequate in love's presence, for the ego could not respond at all to love. Then, you would have to abandon the ego's guidance, for it would be quite apparent that the ego had not taught you the response you need to obtain and be love. The ego will therefore distort love, and teach you that love really calls forth the responses the ego <can> teach. Follow the ego's teaching, then, and you will search for love, but will not recognize love.

**Note # 33:** The ego teaches that love is always conditional. Conditional love, which is not to be confused with true love, only gives in order to get something of greater value in return. Egoic, conditional love is based on separation and demands sacrifice. Each party only “give to get.” This insures that you will always be lacking something and that the return to whole-mindedness will not be achieved. If we can find a “better trade”, we quickly leave the old relationship in search of greener pastures.

**T-12.IV.4.**Do you realize that the ego must set you on a journey of "seek and do <not> find love", which cannot but lead to a sense of futility and depression? To seek and not to find is hardly joyous. Is this the promise you would keep? The Holy Spirit offers you another promise, and the Holy Spirit’s promise is one that will lead to joy. For the Holy Spirit's promise is always, "Seek and you <will> find Love," and under the Holy Spirit’s guidance you cannot be defeated. The Holy Spirit’s promise is the journey to accomplishment, and the goal the Holy Spirit sets before you the Holy Spirit will give you. For the Holy Spirit will never deceive God's Son whom the Holy Spirit loves with the Love of the Father.
**Note # 34:** The goal of the Holy Spirit is to guide you to your return to God and the remembrance of who you really are, which, like your Father, is perfect love. The Holy Spirit’s promise of "Seek and you <will> find Love," must be achieved since this is God’s Will.

**T-12.IV.5.** You <will> undertake a journey because you are not at home in this _illuminary_ world of your own misperception. 2 And you <will> search for your home whether you realize where your <i>home</i> is or not. 3 If you believe your <i>home</i> is outside you the search will be futile, for you will be seeking your <i>home</i> where it is not in your _illuminary world of provisional reality_. 4 You do not remember how to look within for you do not believe your home is there within you. 5 Yet the Holy Spirit remembers where your <i>home</i> is for you, and the Holy Spirit will guide you to your home within you because that is the Holy Spirit's mission. 6 As the Holy Spirit fulfills His mission the Holy Spirit will teach you your _mission_, for your mission is the same as the Holy Spirit's mission, which is to return to your home in the Mind of God. 7 By guiding your brothers home you are but following the Holy Spirit’s mission.

**Note # 35:** Your home is your source. Your source is the Mind of God. Although in reality you never left your Source, due to our free will, we can temporarily deny the truth about ourselves and pretend that we live in our illuminary world of perception. If you lost your keys in the United States it is futile to seek them in Brazil. You need to seek your keys in the place you lost them. We lost our knowledge of love in our mind. That is where we will find it. To look outside our mind is a futile waste of time.

**T-12.IV.6.** Behold the Holy Spirit, the Guide your Father gave you, that you might learn you have eternal life. 2 For death is not your Father's Will nor your <i>will</i> and whatever is true is the Will of the Father. 3 You pay no price for life for _eternal life_ was given you, but you do pay a price for death, and a very heavy one. 4 If death is your treasure, you will sell everything else to purchase _death_. 5 And you will believe that you have purchased _death_, because you have sold everything else to _obtain your treasure of death_. 6 Yet you cannot sell the Kingdom of Heaven. 7 Your inheritance, which is the _Kingdom of Heaven_, can neither be bought nor sold. 8 There can be no disinherited parts of the Sonship, for God is whole and all God’s extensions are like God.

**Note # 36:** Since creation is extension, we are exactly like our Father. We share all the attributes of the Father because we share one mind, which is the Mind of God. Free will allows us to deny the truth but denial cannot change truth’s reality. Since our will is God’s Will, eventually, we will freely decide to choose the truth and be that Love.

**T-12.IV.7.** The Atonement is not the price of your wholeness, but the Atonement <i>is</i> the price of your awareness of your wholeness. 2 For what you chose to "sell" had to be kept for you, since you could not "buy" what you chose to "sell" back, which was your _divine inheritance of eternal life_. 3 Yet you must invest in what you chose to "sell", not with money but with spirit. p224 4 For spirit is will, and will is the "price" of the Kingdom. 5 Your inheritance awaits only the recognition that you have been redeemed. 6 The Holy Spirit guides you into life eternal, but you must relinquish your investment in
death, or you will not see life though eternal life is all around you.

**Note # 37:** We must accept the Atonement for ourselves. The Atonement is our healing since it is the acceptance to the truth that God’s Son is guiltless and sinless. The Holy Spirit will show us the way but the ultimate choice to recognize the Holy Spirit’s thought system as our only thought system is a choice we must freely make. To freely realize that our will is the same as the Father’s Will, will bring us home to the remembrance of God and our true spiritual nature. We will reclaim our divine inheritance.

**V. The Sane Curriculum**

T-12.V.1.Only love is strong because love is undivided. 2 The strong do not attack because the strong see no need to attack. 3 Before the idea of attack can enter your mind, you must have perceived yourself as weak. 4 Because you attacked yourself and believed that the attack was effective, you behold yourself as weakened. 5 No longer perceiving yourself and your brothers as equal, and regarding yourself as weaker, you attempt to "equalize" the situation you made. 6 You use attack to attempt to "equalize" the situation you made of being unequal in the strength with your brother because you believe that attack was successful in weakening you.

**Note # 38:** When we perceive ourselves as limited ego-body, we adopt the belief that we are vulnerable and can be hurt. The world of perception becomes a fearful place that is predicated on limited resources and lack. Life becomes a competitive “zero-sum game”. If I am to win, someone must lose. Self-defense is required to maintain what you have and the best defense is a good offense. To insure your body’s survival “preemptive strikes” becomes a way of life.

T-12.V.2.**Because you believe that attack was successful in weakening you, this** is why the recognition of your own invulnerability is so important to the restoration of your sanity. 2 For if you accept your invulnerability, you are recognizing that attack has no effect and, therefore, you remain strong. 3 Although you have attacked yourself, you will be demonstrating that nothing really happened since you recognize that you are invulnerable. 4 Therefore, by attacking you have not done anything. 5 Once you realize that by attacking you have not done anything, you will no longer see any sense in attack, for attack manifestly does not work and cannot protect you. 6 Yet the recognition of your invulnerability has more than negative value. 7 If your attacks on yourself have failed to weaken you, you are still strong. 8 You therefore have no need to "equalize" the situation to establish your strength by attacking your brother.

**Note # 39:** Unlimited spirit is invulnerable. Only when you perceive yourself as an ego-body, do you believe you are vulnerable to attack. We are not self-created. Since God is love and you are an extension of God, you must be love. Unconditional love is invulnerable and comes from strength. Attack cannot weaken it and love does not attack. Any attack on the one you love unconditionally would be an attack on yourself. The love
of God gives all to all and the Christ in us is the expression of God’s love. We are the One Self. A Oneness knows there can be nothing outside itself to attack.

T-12.V.3. You will never realize the utter uselessness of attack except by recognizing that your attack on yourself has no effects. 2 For others do react to attack if they perceive an attack, and if you are trying to attack another you will be unable to avoid interpreting this attack on another as reinforcement to the idea that attack has no effect since your brother will react to your attack. 3 The only place you can cancel out all reinforcement for the idea that attack produces no effects is in yourself. 4 For you are always the first point of your attack, and if this has never been, attack has no consequences.

Note # 40: The Laws of God state that what we give, we will receive. Only when we perceive ourselves as a body, do we believe that we are vulnerable to attack. It is this belief that we can be hurt that leads us to believe that “preemptive strikes” are a means of self-defense. If you realize that you are spirit, the One Self, you will understand that love and forgiveness are your function. Being a Oneness, you will see no gain in attack since all attack is a form of self-attack and self-hatred.

T-12.V.4. The Holy Spirit’s Love is your strength, for your strength is divided and therefore not real. 2 You cannot trust your own love when you attack your own love. 3 You cannot learn of perfect love with a split mind, because a split mind has made itself a poor learner. 4 You tried to make the separation eternal, because you wanted to retain the characteristics of creation, but with your own content. p225 5 Yet creation is not of you, and poor learners do need special teaching.

Note # 41: Believing that we could be separate from God, we wanted to be able to make something other than an extension of our Big “S” Selves. We wanted to “create” based on limitation and specialness. Unlike God, Who gives everything of Himself, we wished to give selectively. We wished to exclude rather than include and thus, maintain our claim to a unique, individual separateness that we perceive to be our little “s” self. This egoic mindset of making is an attack on our Big “S” Self. Special or conditional love is not the Love of God. The split mind is divided and cannot learn two opposing concepts of love. We need the Holy Spirit’s guidance.

T-12.V.5. You have learning handicaps in a very literal sense. 2 There are areas in your learning skills that are so impaired that you can progress only under constant, clear-cut direction, provided by a Teacher Who can transcend your limited resources. 3 The Holy Spirit becomes your Resource because of yourself you cannot learn. 4 The learning situation in which you placed yourself is impossible, and in this situation you clearly require a special Teacher, who is the Holy Spirit, and a special curriculum. 5 Poor learners are not good choices as teachers, either for themselves or for anyone else. 6 You would hardly turn to poor learners to establish the curriculum by which the poor learners can escape from their limitations. 7 If the poor learners understood what is beyond them, the poor learners would not be handicapped.

Note # 42: Someone who does not know the truth can neither teach the truth nor establish
its curriculum. They lack the basic knowledge to achieve the desired results. The split-minded do not know the truth. The egoic thought system cannot teach what it does not know. Only the Holy Spirit knows the truth and thus, can teach it.

**T-12.V.6.** You do not know the meaning of love, and that is your handicap. 2 Do not attempt to teach yourself what you do not understand, and do not try to set up curriculum goals where yours have clearly failed. 3 Your learning goal of the meaning of love has been <not> to learn, and this cannot lead to successful learning of love. 4 You cannot transfer what you have not learned, and the impairment of the ability to generalize is a crucial learning failure. 5 Would you ask those who have failed to learn what learning aids are for? 6 Those who have failed to learn do not know what learning aids are for. 7 If those who have failed to learn could interpret the aids correctly, they would have learned from the learning aids.

**Note # 43:** The ego’s goal is for us to “Seek and never find love.” To the ego, the body is a device for separation. The body has become a tool of attack and vulnerability. To the Holy Spirit the body is a communication device that the Holy Spirit can utilize to teach us that we are that One Self.

**T-12.V.7.** I have said that the ego's rule is, "Seek and do not find." 2 Translated into curricular terms this means, "Try to learn but do not succeed." 3 The result of the ego’s curriculum goal is obvious. 4 Every legitimate teaching aid, every real instruction, and every sensible guide to learning will be misinterpreted, since they are all for facilitating the learning this strange curriculum is against. 5 If you are trying to learn how not to learn, and the aim of your teaching is to defeat itself, what can you expect but confusion? 6 Such a curriculum as "Try to learn but do not succeed," does not make sense. 7 This attempt at "learning" has so weakened your mind that you cannot love, for the curriculum you have chosen is against love, and amounts to a course in how to attack yourself. 8 A supplementary goal in the ego’s curriculum of “Try to learn but do not succeed,” is learning how <not> to overcome the split that makes the ego’s primary aim, the belief in the separation, believable. 9 And you will not overcome the split in the ego’s curriculum, for all your learning will be on the ego’s behalf. 10 Yet your mind, our Big “S” Self, speaks against your egoic learning as your egoic learning speaks against your mind’s Big “S” Self, and so you fight against all learning and succeed, for that is what you want. p226 11 But perhaps you do not realize, even yet, that there is something you want to learn, and that you can learn it because to learn what you really want to learn <is> your choice to do so.

**Note # 44:** The ego does not know love or how to love and, therefore, cannot teach love. Love is inclusive and the ego teaches exclusion. As long is we follow the instructions of the ego, we will fail to learn about love. The ego can only teach what it knows, which is the belief in separation. We need to change our teacher if we wish to learn about love. The Holy Spirit, which is love, is the only logical choice to teach us how to remove all the blocks that we place before love. Until we make the choice for this new teacher, our “two selves” will continue to be in conflict and whole-mindedness cannot return.
T-12.V.8. You who have tried to learn what you do not want should take heart, for although the curriculum you set yourself is depressing indeed, it is merely ridiculous if you look at the curriculum you set yourself, which was, "Try to learn but do not succeed." 2 Is it possible that the way to achieve a goal is not to attain the goal? 3 Resign now as your own teacher. 4 This resignation will not lead to depression. 5 Your resignation as your own teacher is merely the result of an honest appraisal of what you have taught yourself, and of the learning outcomes that have resulted. 6 Under the proper learning conditions, which you can neither provide nor understand, you will become an excellent learner and an excellent teacher. 7 But the proper learning conditions are not so yet, and will not be so until the whole learning situation as you have set it up is reversed.

Note # 45: As long as we believe and value the egoic thought system, we will not be willing to change teachers. ACIM asks us to look at the results of our ego’s curriculum and honestly ask if we are pleased with our progress toward our goal of love and happiness. If we are not, we need to realize we cannot self-teach what we do not know. Yet, under the tutelage of the Holy Spirit, we will become both an excellent student and teacher.

T-12.V.9. Your learning potential, properly understood, is limitless because your learning potential will lead you to God. 2 You can teach the way to God and learn the way to God, if you follow the Teacher, the Holy Spirit, Who knows the way to God and understands His curriculum for learning the way to God. 3 The curriculum is totally unambiguous, because the goal is not divided and the means and the end are in complete accord. 4 You need offer only undivided attention. 5 Everything else will be given you. 6 For you really want to learn aright, and nothing can oppose the decision of God's Son to learn. 7 God's Son's learning is as unlimited as he is.

Note # 46: We have truly only wanted to experience love, extend love and thus, be love. This is our goal. When we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, both the means to achieve the goal of being only love and the goal of love are in alignment. The Holy Spirit’s curriculum is designed to teach the remembrance of love. Since the means and the goal are in alignment, our learning will be quick and easy. When we follow the egoic little “s” self, the curriculum’s goal is never to obtain love and thus, we could not learn to be love.

VI. The Vision of Christ

T-12.VI.1. The ego is trying to teach you how to gain the whole world and lose your own soul. 2 The Holy Spirit teaches that you cannot lose your soul and there is no gain in the world, for of itself to gain the whole world and lose your own soul, you profit nothing. 3 To invest without profit is surely to impoverish yourself, and the overhead is high. 4 Not only is there no profit in the investment to gain this illusionary world but the cost to you is enormous. 5 For this investment costs you the real world's reality by denying your
divine birthright, and gives you nothing in return. 6 You cannot sell your soul, but you can sell your awareness of your soul. 7 You cannot perceive your soul, but you will not know your soul while you perceive something else as more valuable.

Note # 47: Since this world of perception is not of the Mind of God, it is unreal. A fantasy world is nothing in eternity; therefore, to attain an illusionary dream world would be to gain nothing. Yet, when we believe in and value an illusionary world of nothing, we deny your divine birthright as unlimited spirit. If you value your false belief in individuality, specialness and separation over the reality of your Oneness in the Mind of God, you deny the truth and prefer a false illusion. The decision to cast this vote comes from the egoic belief in the reality of the separation and is your attempt to make the dream real. What you value, you will choose to perceive for perception flows from your beliefs. The value you place on specialness is greater than the value you place on the truth that you are that One Self. Truth can be denied, but your denial of truth will never affect the truth in eternity. You are not a body. You are unlimited spirit. You are the Christ.

T-12.VI.2. The Holy Spirit is your strength because the Holy Spirit knows nothing but the spirit as you. 2 The Holy Spirit is perfectly aware that you do not know yourself, and perfectly aware of how to teach you to remember what you are. p227 3 Because the Holy Spirit loves you, the Holy Spirit will gladly teach you what the Holy Spirit loves, for the Holy Spirit wills to share His knowledge of what you truly are with you. 4 Remembering you always, the Holy Spirit cannot let you forget your worth. 5 For the Father never ceases to remind the Holy Spirit of the Father’s Son, and the Holy Spirit never ceases to remind God’s Son of the Father. 6 God is in your memory because of the Holy Spirit. 7 You chose to forget your Father but you do not really want to do so, and therefore you can decide otherwise. 8 As it was my decision not to forget my Father, so is it your decision not to forget your Father.

Note # 48: The Holy Spirit knows the truth that you are the Christ, the One Self and will teach you to rediscover your divine birthright. When the idea of the separation occurred, God placed the Holy Spirit within the split mind of the Sonship so that His Son would eternally remain safe and always be able to find his way home. The Christ in you is the home of the Holy Spirit and is your remembrance of God. Your return home is guaranteed. In eternity, the separation never occurred but in time the guidance of the Holy Spirit is needed to reawaken God’s Son and return him to the Kingdom. Time arose in order to allow for the correction of this mad idea of the separation. Time allows us to play the “game of forgetfulness” in perfect safety. Time exists only in the world of perception and will disappear along with the dream of the “game of forgetfulness” when knowledge returns to God’s Son.

T-12.VI.3. You do not want the world of perception. 2 The only thing of value in the world of perception is whatever part of the world of perception you look upon with love. 3 Your love thought gives the world of perception the only reality the world of perception will ever have. 4 The world of perception’s value is not in itself, but your value is in you. 5 As self-value comes from self-extension, so does the perception of self-
value come from the extension of loving thoughts outward. 6 Make the world real unto
yourself, for the real world is the gift of the Holy Spirit, and so the real world belongs to
you.

Note # 49: Even in the “game of forgetfulness,” we have the power to create. We create
whenever we respond to any experience with only loving thoughts. Being the One Self,
loving thoughts are really self-love. If we respond out of fear, the Holy Spirit only asks
for us to choose again. In this way, we relearn the truth that only love is real and we are
only love. Creation is extension. Only by the sharing of love, which is what you are, does
creation occur. Creation does not exclude but only gives what it truly is. Being love, only
loving thoughts can create and are part of the Mind of God.

T-12.VI.4. Correction is for all who cannot see. 2 To open the eyes of the blind is the
Holy Spirit’s mission, for the Holy Spirit knows that all who cannot see have not lost
their vision, but all who cannot see merely sleep. 3 The Holy Spirit would awaken all
who cannot see from the sleep of forgetting to the remembering of God. 4 Christ’s eyes
are open, and Christ will look upon whatever you see with love if you accept Christ’s
vision as your vision. 5 The Holy Spirit keeps the vision of Christ for every Son of God
who sleeps. 6 In the Holy Spirit’s sight the Son of God is perfect, and the Holy Spirit
longs to share Christ’s vision with you. 7 The Holy Spirit will show you the real world
because God gave you Heaven. 8 Through the Holy Spirit’s your Father calls His Son to
remember. 9 The awakening of His Son begins with His Son’s investment in the real
world, and by this he will learn to re-invest in himself. 10 For reality is one with the
Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit blesses the real world in Their Name.

Note # 50: By following the guidance of the ego’s thought system, you block the vision
of Christ. By asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, the vision of Christ overcomes this
“egoic way of seeing”. The Christ represents the right-minded part of the split-minded
son’s mind. The Christ is your remembrance of God and what you are. It is the home of
the Holy Spirit. Your Christ consciousness can never be lost, but you can refuse to hear
it.

T-12.VI.5. When you have seen this real world, as you will surely do, you will remember
Us, the Christ, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. 2 Yet you must learn the cost of sleeping,
which is the forgetting of your divine birthright, and refuse to pay this cost. 3 Only
when you refuse to pay the cost of your divine birthright will you decide to awaken. 4
And then the real world will spring to your sight, for Christ has never slept. 5 Christ is
waiting to be seen, for Christ has never lost sight of you. 6 Christ looks quietly on the
real world, which Christ would share with you because Christ knows of the Father’s
Love for His Son. 7 And knowing the Father’s Love for His Son, Christ would give
you what is yours. 8 In perfect peace Christ waits for you at His Father’s altar, holding
out the Father’s Love to you in the quiet light of the Holy Spirit’s blessing. 9 For the Holy
Spirit will lead everyone home to his Father, where Christ waits as his Big “S” Self.
p228

Note # 51: When we choose to play the “game of forgetfulness”, the price that we pay to
play this game is the forgetting of our divine birthright. This game ends when we no longer value anything but the Oneness of the Mind of God. We are no longer willing to continue paying the painful price of our birthright in order to play this game of “What AM I?” We choose to be love and, therefore, transcend the world of perception and reawaken back into the real world of the loving One Self. Christ is the Big “S” Self. The Christ has never lost the truth of what you are. The ego’s thought system represents the small or little “s” self.

**T-12.VI.6.** Every child of God is one in Christ, for his being is in Christ as Christ's is in God. 2 Christ's Love for you is Christ’s Love for His Father, which Christ knows because Christ knows His Father's Love for Him, the Christ. 3 When the Holy Spirit has at last led you to Christ at the altar to His Father, perception fuses into knowledge because perception has become so holy that perception’s transfer to holiness is merely perception’s natural extension. 4 Love transfers to love without any interference, for the two, holiness and knowledge, are one. 5 As you perceive more and more common elements in all situations, the transfer of training under the Holy Spirit's guidance increases and becomes generalized. 6 Gradually you learn to apply the Holy Spirit's guidance to everyone and everything, for the Holy Spirit's guidance applicability is universal. 7 When this has been accomplished, this holy perception and knowledge have become so similar that they share the unification of the laws of God.

**Note # 52:** The Holy Spirit will reinterpret your misperceptions into correct perceptions. This occurs through the tool of forgiveness and love. The Holy Spirit’s thought system comes from the knowledge that we are joined in the Mind of God and, therefore, what we do to our brother, we do onto ourselves. By forgiving our brother, we forgive ourselves and realize our shared oneness with God’s Will. Correct perception aligns with the truth. When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, egoic misperception is replaced with correct perception. When we choose to exclusively follow the Holy Spirit’s thought system, we perceive only with the eyes of Christ and our perception becomes holy perception that is easily transformed into knowledge. When we are vigilant only for God, God will return His Son to knowledge.

**T-12.VI.7.** What is one cannot be perceived as separate, and the denial of the separation is the reinstatement of knowledge. 2 At the altar of God, the holy perception of God's Son becomes so enlightened that light streams into the altar of God, and the spirit of God's Son shines in the Mind of the Father and becomes one with the altar of God. 3 Very gently does God shine upon Himself, loving the extension of Himself that is His Son. 4 The world has no purpose as the world blends into the purpose of God. 5 For the real world has slipped quietly into Heaven, where everything eternal in the real world has always been. 6 There the Redeemer and the redeemed join in perfect love of God and of each other. 7 Heaven is your home, and being in God, heaven must also be in you.

**Note # 53:** When we share the same goal and purpose of love’s extension, we realize that we are one. When our holy perception mirrors the knowledge of God, the Father takes the final step to raise the Son back to the return to knowledge. Our total denial of the belief that the separation was real is needed to return our split minds to whole-mindedness.
With this denial of the false, our world of provisional reality and individual perception will disappear. The Sonship will return to the Kingdom, which is the Oneness of the Mind of God. The Father, the Holy Spirit, the Sonship and the Son’s Creation will continue to extend the wholeness of this One Self throughout eternity. The unified Mind of God, perfect, whole and complete, will continue to know Itself by extending itself to all of Itself. This is the co-creative process that we call love.

VII. Looking Within

T-12.VII.1. Miracles demonstrate that learning has occurred under the right guidance of the Holy Spirit, for learning is invisible and what has been learned can be recognized only by learning’s results. 2 The generalization of the Holy Spirit’s learning is demonstrated as you use the Holy Spirit’s guidance in more and more situations. 3 You will recognize that you have learned there is no order of difficulty in miracles when you apply the Holy Spirit’s guidance to all situations. 4 There is no situation to which miracles do not apply, and by applying the Holy Spirit’s guidance to all situations you will gain the real world. 5 For in this holy perception under the Holy Spirit’s guidance you will be made whole, and the Atonement will radiate from your acceptance of the Atonement for everyone the Holy Spirit sends you for your blessing. 6 In every child of God, God’s blessing lies, and in your blessing of the children of God is God’s blessing to you. p229

Note # 54: Miracles are natural when we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit instead of the ego’s system. The Holy Spirit applies the Atonement principle to all that we perceive. Our alignment of perception with the truth becomes the basis for miracle mindedness.

T-12.VII.2. Everyone in the world must play his part in the world’s redemption, in order to recognize that the world has been redeemed. 2 You cannot see the invisible. 3 Yet if you see the invisible’s effects upon the world’s redemption you know the invisible must be there. 4 By perceiving what the invisible’s effect does, you recognize the invisible’s being. 5 And by what the invisible’s effect does, you learn what the invisible is. 6 You cannot see your strengths, but you gain confidence in your strengths’ existence as your invisible strengths enable you to act. 7 And the results of your actions you see.

Note # 55: You will know the effects of anything by observing their results. If the effect is there, you assume the effect’s cause was also present. You learn that you exist as a Oneness by Its effects. You learn that the Holy Spirit exists in you by Its effects. If the results do not bring you peace, the Holy Spirit asks that you choose again. All parts have a role to play in the return to knowledge. No one can be left out.

T-12.VII.3. The Holy Spirit is invisible, but you can see the results of the Holy Spirit’s Presence, and through the results of the Holy Spirit’s Presence you will learn that the
Holy Spirit is there. 2 What the Holy Spirit enables you to do is clearly not of this world, for miracles violate every law of reality as this world judges reality. 3 Every law of time and space, of magnitude and mass is transcended by miracles, for what the Holy Spirit enables you to do is clearly beyond all of the laws of time and space, of magnitude and mass. 4 Perceiving the Holy Spirit’s results, you will understand where the Holy Spirit must be, and finally know what the Holy Spirit is.

Note # 56: Although invisible, the result of the Holy Spirit’s thought system is obvious to the follower because the results bring the follower peace. The miracle follows the Laws of God, not the laws of time and space.

T-12.VII.4. You cannot see the Holy Spirit, but you can see the Holy Spirit’s manifestations. 2 And unless you do see the Holy Spirit’s manifestations, you will not realize the Holy Spirit is there. 3 Miracles are the Holy Spirit’s witnesses, and speak for the Holy Spirit’s Presence. 4 What you cannot see becomes real to you only through the witnesses that speak for what you cannot see. 5 For you can be aware of what you cannot see, and what you cannot see can become compellingly real to you as the presence of what you cannot see becomes manifest through you. 6 Do the Holy Spirit’s work, for you share in the Holy Spirit’s function. 7 As your function in Heaven is creation, so your function on earth is healing. 8 God shares the Father’s function with you in Heaven, and the Holy Spirit shares the Holy Spirit’s function of healing with you on earth. 9 As long as you believe that you have other functions than creation in heaven or healing on earth, so long will you need correction. 10 For this belief that you have other functions than creation in heaven or healing on earth is the destruction of peace. The destruction of peace is a goal in direct opposition to the Holy Spirit's purpose, which is to return God’s Son to peace thought healing to son’s split mind.

Note # 57: In the real world of the Kingdom, we share God’s function and co-create with our Father. In our present split-minded state that resulted from our belief in separation, we currently share the function of the Holy Spirit, which is the healing of the Sonship’s split mind. The Father is unaware of our belief in the separation and, therefore, never sees His Creation as anything but perfect, whole and complete. The function of the Holy Spirit is healing since the Holy Spirit is aware of both our true nature and our misperception that we are a limited ego-body. Forgiveness is the major tool that the Holy Spirit uses to teach the sleeping child to reawaken to whole-mindedness. While we participate in the dream of separation, our purpose becomes healing of both our brother’s mind and our own mind.

T-12.VII.5. You see what you expect, and you expect what you invite. 2 Your perception is the result of your invitation. Your perception comes to you as you sent for it, based on what you expected. 3 Whose manifestations would you see? 4 Of whose presence would you be convinced? 5 For you will believe in what you manifest, and as you look out so will you see in what you believe. 6 Two ways of looking at the world are in your mind, and your perception will reflect the guidance you have chosen.

Note # 58: Our perception follows our purpose or intention. Because thoughts are
causative and what we become aware of is the effect of the causative thought, what we think becomes important. Our thoughts become our perceived reality. If we follow the thought system of the ego, what we choose to manifest into our awareness will confirm the idea that the separation was real. If we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we will manifest into our awareness the unity and oneness with our brother. There are only two thought systems and, therefore, only two choices are available for the decision-maker.

T-12.VII.6.1. Jesus, am the manifestation of the Holy Spirit, and when you see me it will be because you have invited the Holy Spirit. 2 For the Holy Spirit will send you the Holy Spirit’s witnesses if you will but look upon the Holy Spirit’s witnesses. 3 Remember always that you see what you seek, for what you seek you will find. 4 The ego finds what the ego seeks, and only what the ego seeks. 5 The ego does not find love, for love is not what the ego is seeking. 6 Yet seeking and finding are the same, and if you seek for two goals you will find both goals, but you will recognize neither goal. 7 You will think both goals are the same because you want both of them. 8 The mind always strives for integration, and if the mind is split and wants to keep the split, the split mind will still believe the split mind has one goal by making both goals seem to be one goal.

Note # 59: We cannot follow both thought systems and expect to achieve the goal of either since we will always be in conflict. We cannot serve two conflicting masters and be at peace. The ego’s thought system teaches and brings all the obstacles to block love and peace. The Holy Spirit’s thought system will bring love and inner peace by healing our split mind. We must be only vigilant for God if we wish to return to the peace of God.

T-12.VII.7. I said before that what you project or extend is up to you, but you must do one or the other. (project or extend), for that, (to project or extend), is a law of mind, and you must look in before you look out. 2 As you look in, you choose either the ego or the Holy Spirit as the guide for seeing. 3 And then you look out and behold your chosen guide’s witnesses. 4 This is why you find what you seek. 5 What you want in yourself you will make manifest, and you will accept what you want in yourself from the world because you put what you want in the world by wanting what you want in yourself. 6 When you think you are projecting what you do not want, it is still because you <do> want what you believe that you do not want. 7 This leads directly to dissociation, for wanting what you believe you do not want represents the acceptance of two goals, each perceived in a different place; separated from each other because you made each goal different. 8 The mind then sees a divided world outside itself, but not within its own mind. 9 This gives the split mind an illusion of integrity, and enables the split mind to believe that the split mind is pursuing one goal. 10 Yet as long as you perceive the world as split, you are not healed. 11 For to be healed is to pursue one goal, because you have accepted only one and want but one.

Note # 60: Whether we project or extend is contingent on whether we are coming from fear or love. Due to the creative power of the mind, we always manifest our thoughts.
However, we are often not aware of what we are actually thinking in our subconscious mind. What we say we want and what we actually want are often at opposite ends of the same pole. We will manifest what we actually want. No decision is a decision. Both the ego and the Holy Spirit claim their goal is that we are happy and find love. Yet, because of opposing beliefs as to what we are, they seek different result. When we first look within mind to choose our guide, we will be making this choice based on what we value the most. Will it be egoic specialness or the Holy Spirit’s truth of our One Self?

T-12.VII.8. When you want only love you will see nothing else. 2 The contradictory nature of the witnesses you perceive is merely the reflection of your conflicting invitations to both the Holy Spirit and the ego. 3 You have looked upon your mind and accepted opposition there, having sought conflicting goals of both the Holy Spirit and the ego there in your split mind. 4 But do not then believe that the witnesses for opposition, the ego’s, are true, for the egoic witnesses for opposition attest only to your decision about reality, returning to you the messages you gave them about your individualized provisional reality of separation. 5 Love, too, is recognized by its messengers, which come from the Holy Spirit. 6 If you make love manifest, the Holy Spirit’s messengers will come to you because you invited the Holy Spirit’s messengers.

Note # 61: You cannot have love if you want exclusion. The thought system of the ego requires specialness, which is based on exclusion. Love requires sharing. Our Big “S” Self always seeks only love. It is our little “s” self that believes it has a choice between love and fear, inclusion and exclusion. When we choose for fear, we will feel conflicted and lose our peace. Individualization or specialness requires the belief in inequality.

T-12.VII.9. The power of decision is your one remaining freedom as a prisoner of this world of perception or your provisional reality. 2 You can decide to see the world of perception right. 3 What you made of the world of perception is not its reality, for the world of perception’s reality is only what you give it. 4 You cannot really give anything but love to anyone or anything, nor can you really receive anything but love from anyone or anything. 5 If you think you have received anything else but love, it is because you have looked within your mind and thought you saw the power to give something else within yourself other than love. 6 It was only this decision of what you wish to project that determined what you found, for it was the decision for what you sought. p231

Note # 62: Although we are only love, in our dream world, we can believe we are something other than as God created us. This incorrect remembering of what we are leads us to the thought that we can be something that we are not. Projection comes from exclusion and the belief in limitation. Creation comes from inclusion, which is sharing. Whatever we value the most will determine whether we project (fear based) or extend (love based). Whichever thought system we value will determine the witnesses we choose to perceive.

T-12.VII.10. You are afraid of me because you looked within and are afraid of what you saw. 2 Yet you could not have seen reality, for the reality of your mind is the loveliest of God's creations. 3 Coming only from God, your mind’s true power and grandeur could
only bring you peace <if you really looked upon your true mind.> 4 If you are afraid, it is because you saw something that is not there in your true mind. 5 Yet in that same place with your true Big “S” Self’s mind, you could have looked upon me and all your brothers, in the perfect safety of the Mind which created us, which is the Mind of God. 6 For we are there in your true Big “S” Self’s mind in the peace of the Father, Who wills to extend the Father’s peace through you.

Note # 63: If we are afraid to look within our mind, it is because we once misperceived what we were. We saw the split mind of the ego, not our Big “S” Self’s mind, which is the Christ. We all share in the Oneness of the Mind of God. We are all that One Self.

T-12.VII.11. When you have accepted your mission to extend peace you will find peace, for by making your mission the extension of peace, peace’s manifest you will see. 2 Peace’s holy witnesses will surround you because you called upon peace’s holy witnesses, and peace’s holy witnesses will come to you. 3 I have heard your call and I have answered your call, but you will not look upon me nor hear the answer that you sought. 4 That is because you do not yet want <only> the extension of peace. 5 Yet as I become more real to you, you will learn that you do want only the extension of peace. 6 And you will see me as you look within your mind, and we will look upon the real world together. 7 Through the eyes of Christ, only the real world exists and only the real world can be seen. 8 As you decide so will you see. 9 And all that you see but witnesses to your decision of which thought system you will follow.

Note # 64: We will vacillate between the two thought systems for a while. If our goal is the extension of peace then when we compare the differing results, we will tend to decide more and more in favor of the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

T-12.VII.12. When you look within and see me, it will be because you have decided to manifest truth. 2 And as you manifest truth you will see truth both without and within your mind. 3 You will see truth without <because> you saw truth first within your mind. 4 Everything you behold without is a judgment of what you beheld within your mind. 5 If what you beheld within your mind is your egoic judgment your judgment will be wrong, for judgment is not your function. 6 If what you beheld within your mind is the judgment of the Holy Spirit the judgment will be right, for judgment <is> the Holy Spirit’s function. 7 You share the Holy Spirit’s function only by judging as the Holy Spirit does, reserving no judgment at all for your egoic self. 8 You will judge against yourself, but the Holy Spirit will judge <for> you.

Note # 65: Because we have forgotten what we are, we are incapable of judging correctly. We lack knowledge because our mind is split. The only judgment that we should make is to accept the fact that we are incapable of judging correctly and, therefore, ask the Holy Spirit to replace our judgment with His. Only the Holy Spirit is capable of judging correctly because He knows both the truth about what we are and is also, aware that we have fallen asleep. The Holy Spirit’s judgment comes from knowledge, not perception.
T-12.VII.13. Remember, then, that whenever you look without and react unfavorably to what you see, you have judged yourself unworthy and have condemned yourself to death. 2 The death penalty is the ego's ultimate goal, for the ego fully believes that you are a criminal, as deserving of death as God knows you are deserving of life. 3 The death penalty never leaves the ego's mind, for the death penalty is what the ego always reserves for you in the end. 4 Wanting to kill you as the final expression of the ego's feeling for you, the ego lets you live but to await death. 5 The ego will torment you while you live, but the ego's hatred is not satisfied until you die. p232 6 For your destruction is the one end toward which the ego works, and your destruction is the only end with which the ego will be satisfied.

Note # 66: The ego’s thought system requires your destruction because your death is the ultimate proof that you are not created by God. Death is the ego’s ultimate proof that you are an individual, separate from God. Ego autonomy is the goal of the ego and this can only be achieved by the denial of the Oneness that you share in the Mind of God. Your belief and participation in death confirms to your split mind that you are a body, not spirit and, therefore can and must die.

T-12.VII.14. The ego is not a traitor to God, to Whom treachery is impossible. 2 But the ego is a traitor to you who believe that you have been treacherous to your Father. 3 That is why the undoing of guilt is an essential part of the Holy Spirit's teaching. 4 For as long as you feel guilty because you believe that you have been treacherous to your Father, you are listening to the voice of the ego, which tells you that you have been treacherous to God and therefore deserve death. 5 You will think that death comes from God and not from the ego because, by confusing yourself with the ego, you believe that you want death. 6 And from what you want God does not save you.

Note # 67: When we believe that we are a body, we identify with the thought system of the ego. We believe that we are the ego and not God’s Son. Because we have free will, God will not prevent us from exercising our ability to choose for the ego’s thought system. If God were to prevent us from choosing for the ego and thus, save us from ourselves, God would be giving reality to our illusion of the separation. God would be acknowledging that His Son is flawed. God knows us to always be perfect as God created us. It is the task of the Holy Spirit to gently reawaken God’s Son to the Sonship’s own spiritual magnificent. The Son will do this freely by relearning what he is and thus, freely choosing for the remembrance of God and whole-mindedness. Reality will be restored in the healed mind of the Son. This is why healing is the function of the Holy Spirit. Healing is also our function as long as we choose to believe that we are split minded and thus, in need of healing.

T-12.VII.15. When you are tempted to yield to the desire for death, <remember that I did not die.> 2 You will realize that this is true when you look within your mind and see me. 3 Would I have overcome death for myself alone? 4 And would eternal life have been given me of the Father unless the Father had also given eternal life to you? 5 When you learn to make me manifest, you will never see death. 6 For you will have looked upon the deathless in yourself, and you will see only the eternal as you look out
upon a world that cannot die.

**Note # 68:** When you see with the Vision of Christ, you will be aware of the eternal truth of reality. You will see the great rays in your brother, not his physical body. This truth never left your Christ consciousness, which is the home of the Holy Spirit. You will reawaken to the Kingdom when you accept the Atonement for yourselves.

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**VIII. The Attraction of Love for Love**

T-12.VIII.1. Do you really believe that you can kill the Son of God? 2 The Father has hidden His Son safely within Himself, and kept His Son far away from your destructive thoughts, but you know neither the Father nor the Son because of your destructive thoughts. 3 You attack the real world every day and every hour and every minute, and yet you are surprised that you cannot see the real world. 4 If you seek love in order to attack love, you will never find love. 5 For if love is sharing, how can you find love except through itself? 6 Offer love and love will come to you, because love is drawn to itself. 7 But offer attack and love will remain hidden, for love can live only in peace.

**Note # 69:** Because perception follows our purpose, we will see love only when love is our purpose. The real world of the Kingdom remains safe from any egoic fear-based thoughts since fear is not part of love’s reality, which is the Kingdom.

T-12.VIII.2. God's Son is as safe as his Father, for the Son knows his Father's protection and cannot fear. 2 His Father's Love holds God's Son in perfect peace, and needing nothing, God's Son asks for nothing. 3 Yet God's Son is far from you whose Self, God's Son is, for you chose to attack God's Son and God's Son disappeared from your sight into his Father. 4 God's Son did not change, but you did. 5 For a split mind and all a split mind’s works were not created by the Father, and could not live in the knowledge of the Father.

**Note # 70:** In the split mind of someone who is under the ego’s thought system, God’s Son appears to have disappeared. Yet, this is not true in reality. God’s Son, our Big “S” Self, remains within our mind as the Christ consciousness part of our split mind. The Christ appears to be asleep because the Voice for God, the Holy Spirit, is not being listened to. We cannot hear the Voice for God because we have chosen to follow the ego’s thought system. Our split mind has chosen to believe that we are a limited ego-body rather than unlimited spirit.

T-12.VIII.3. When you made visible what is not true, which was your illusionary world of provisional reality, what <is> true, the Kingdom, which is reality, became invisible to you. 2 Yet the Kingdom, which is reality, cannot be invisible in itself, for the Holy Spirit sees the Kingdom, which is the real world, with perfect clarity. 3 The Kingdom, which is the real world, is invisible to you because you are looking at something else which is your illusionary world of provisional reality. 4 Yet it is no more up to you to
decide what is visible and what is invisible, than it is up to you to decide what reality is. 5 What can be seen is what the Holy Spirit sees. 6 The definition of reality is God's, not yours. 7 God created what reality is, and God knows what reality is. 8 You who knew have forgotten what reality is, and unless God had given you a way to remember what reality is, you would have condemned yourself to oblivion, which is your illusionary world of provisional reality.

Note # 71: The ego tells us that we are the arbitrators of truth. If we can decide what truth is for us, it also follows that egoic thought would claim that we are the arbitrators or creators of our own reality. We can deny reality; yet, our denial does not change the truth of what reality is. Yet, within our split mind, our denial does result in our belief that our illusionary world of misperception is real. Because of this denial by the split-minded, the false has replaced the real and become our provisional reality.

T-12.VIII.4. Because of your Father's Love you can never forget your Father, for no one can forget what God Himself placed in his memory. 2 You can deny what God placed in your memory, but you cannot lose what God placed in your memory. 3 A Voice, which is the Holy Spirit's, will answer every question you ask, and a vision, which is the Vision of Christ, will correct the perception of everything you see. 4 For what you have made invisible is the only truth, and what you have not heard is the only Answer. 5 God would reunite you with yourself, and did not abandon you in your distress. 6 You are waiting only for God, and do not know you are waiting only for God. 7 Yet God's memory shines in your mind and God's memory cannot be obliterated. 8 God's memory is no more past than future, being forever always.

Note # 72: The Christ consciousness always remembers God even when we are unaware of Christ’s presence. This “forgetfulness” is due to our mind’s erroneous belief in the separation. Yet, our denial is powerless to change the Will of God.

T-12.VIII.5. You have but to ask for this memory of God, and you will remember. 2 Yet the memory of God cannot shine in a mind that has obliterated this memory of God and wants to keep this memory of God in oblivion. 3 For the memory of God can dawn only in a mind that chooses to remember, and that has relinquished the insane desire to control reality. 4 You who cannot even control yourself should hardly aspire to control the universe. 5 But look upon what you have made of your world of provisional reality, and rejoice that your world of provisional reality is not so.

Note # 73: Because we have free will, we must freely request the guidance of the Holy Spirit. With His guidance, we can freely choose to align our will with the Will of God. When we do this, we understand that God’s Will and our will are one. The memory of God is in our Christ consciousness and is reawakened in God’s sleeping Son through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

T-12.VIII.6. Son of God, be not content with nothing, which is what your illusionary world of provisional reality is! 2 What is not real cannot be seen and has no value. 3 God could not offer His Son what has no value, nor could His Son receive what has no
value. 4 You were redeemed the instant you thought you had deserted God. 5 Everything you made has never been, and is invisible because the Holy Spirit does not see every illusion that you made in your dream world as real. 6 Yet what the Holy Spirit does see is yours to behold, and through the Holy Spirit’s vision your perception is healed. 7 You have made invisible the only truth that this world holds. 8 Valuing nothing, you have sought nothing. 9 By making nothing real to you, you have seen nothing that was real. 10 <But what you wrongly thought and saw as real is not there.> 11 And Christ is invisible to you because of what you have made visible to yourself, which is your belief that you are a limited ego-body.

Note # 74: We allow ourselves to “see” only what we choose to value. Our perception always follows our purpose. Our dream world of perception is not real and is worthless since it is nothing. The world of perception was made by our egoic selves for the purpose of hiding the truth about our spiritual nature from us. This world was made by us as a place to keep out God’s love so that we could pretend that we were separate from God and could do something other than God’s Will. We wanted to be special individuals, not an equal Oneness of Everything. Whenever we attempt to deny our divine birthright, our inheritance remains safe in the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit will guide God’s prodigal Son back home.

T-12.VIII.7. Yet it does not matter how much distance you have tried to interpose between your awareness and truth. p234 2 God’s Son, the Christ, can be seen because his Christ vision is shared. 3 The Holy Spirit looks upon him, and sees nothing else in you, but God’s Son. 4 What is invisible to you is perfect in the Holy Spirit and Christ’s sight, and encompasses all of what is invisible to you. 5 The Holy Spirit and the Christ has remembered you because Christ forgot not the Father. 6 You looked upon the unreal and found despair. 7 Yet by seeking the unreal, what else could you find but despair? 8 The unreal world is a thing of despair, for the unreal world can never be. 9 And you who share God’s Being with God could never be content without reality. 10 What God did not give you has no power over you, and the attraction of love for love remains irresistible. 11 For it is the function of love to unite all things unto itself, and to hold all things together by extending love’s wholeness.

Note # 75: The Holy Spirit helps reawaken your split mind to the truth that you are the Christ, God’s Son. This knowledge of what you are has never been lost to the Christ conscious part of our split mind. We just choose to ignore Its voice and, therefore, to the split-minded, the Christ consciousness mind appears to have fallen asleep. Thus the split-minded only chose to listen to the egoic thought system’s version of “reality” and “truth”.

T-12.VIII.8. The real world was given you by God in loving exchange for the world of illusion you made and the world of illusion you see. 2 Only take the real world, which is the Kingdom, from the hand of Christ and look upon the real world. 3 The real world’s reality will make everything else invisible, for beholding the real world is total perception. 4 And as you look upon the real world you will remember that the real world was always so. 5 Nothingness will become invisible, for you will at last have seen truly. 6 Redeemed perception is easily translated into knowledge, for only perception is
capable of error and perception has never been. 7 Being corrected perception gives place to knowledge, which is forever the only reality. 8 The Atonement is but the way back to what was never lost. 9 Your Father could not cease to love His Son. p235

**Note # 76:** When we no longer value any part of the illusion of perception, we will freely exchange our egoic misperception and judgments for the Holy Spirit’s correct perception and correct judgment. When we ask for only the Holy Spirit’s guidance, the light of truth will dissolve all illusion of the false. Misperception will be replaced with correct perception. This is the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves. The Atonement is the realization that the separation never happened and we remain sinless and guiltless. All illusions are undone and fade away into the nothingness from which they arose. Sin, which can be defined as belief in lack, never occurred in the Mind of God. God is unconditional love. Being Love, God gives Love totally to His Creation. God created by extending Himself completely to the Sonship. There can never be a moment when God’s Love for His Son is not total and perfect. God’s Son has never lacked God’s love and thus, could never lack for anything. The split-minded, however, have chosen to deny God’s love for His Son. This denial is a mistake, not a sin. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, this mistake is corrected and the split-minded are returned to the sanity of whole-mindedness. Illusions are dispelled and the real world reappears.
Chapter 13. THE GUILTLESS WORLD

**Introduction**

**T-13.in.1.** If you did not feel guilty you could not attack, for condemnation is the root of attack. 2 Condemnation is the judgment of one mind by another as unworthy of love and deserving of punishment. 3 But this condemnation of another as unworthy of love and deserving of punishment is caused by the belief in separation and herein lies the split of your mind. 4 For the mind that judges perceives itself as separate from the mind being judged, believing that by punishing another, the mind that judges will escape punishment. 5 All this condemnation and judgment of another is but the delusional attempt of the mind to deny itself, and escape the penalty of denial. 6 This condemnation and judgment of another is not an attempt to relinquish denial, but to hold on to denial. 7 For denial of another as being worthy of love is the guilt that has obscured the Father to you and this denial of another as being worthy of love is the guilt that has driven you insane.

**Note #1:** ACIM defines Condemnation as the judgment of one mind by another as unworthy of love and deserving of punishment. Condemnation is caused by the belief in separation. Perceiving our brother as separate from our own mind, we believe that by condemning another we can escape our own condemnation and our feelings of guilt within our own split mind. We first project our guilt upon another and then see our brother as guilty and as being unworthy of our love. Since thoughts never leave the mind of the thinker, our mind still harbors the projected thought and also the guilt and the condemnation that we have placed upon our brother. We deny both our brother’s and our own Big "S" Selves and strengthen our split mind’s belief that we are separate and unworthy of God’s love.

**T-13.in.2.** The acceptance of guilt into the mind of God’s Son was the beginning of the separation, as the acceptance of the Atonement is the separation’s end. 2 The world you see is the delusional system of those made mad by guilt. 3 Look carefully at this world that was born from your guilt, and you will realize that this is so. 4 For this world of your misperception is the symbol of punishment, and all the laws that seem to govern your dream world of provisional reality are the laws of death. 5 Children are born into this world that was made from your guilt through pain and in pain. 6 The children’s growth is attended by suffering, and the children learn of sorrow and separation and death. 7 The children’s minds seem to be trapped in their brain, and the mind’s powers seem to decline if their bodies are hurt. 8 The children seem to love, yet they desert and are deserted. 9 The children appear to lose what they love, perhaps the most insane
belief of all. 10 And the children’s bodies wither and gasp and are laid in the ground, and are no more. 11 Not one of the children but has thought that God is cruel.

**Note # 2:** When the Sonship accepted the idea that it could be guilty of something, the separation began. The Sonship, not God, made this world from its split-mind. The Sonship’s mind appeared to split into two separate parts when it forgot to laugh and took seriously the imagined game of being something other than God. The Sonship insanely claimed it did not know that it was God’s perfect Creation. Sin, guilt and fear are related. They are “kissing cousins” that arose out of the belief in the separation. Out of these three, the split-minded Sonship birthed the dream world of provisional reality and the egoic thought system upon which it rests. This world of illusion was an attempt to keep God and God’s love away from God’s Son. It was our self-inflected punishment caused from the guilt the Sonship felt from the denial of our divine birthright. Guilt is the feeling that results in our mind when we attack our innocence. Due to our self-inflected punishment, we, the fragmented Sonship, all perceive God as cruel. Our ego projects our own actions of self-inflected punishment upon God and than blames God and calls Him cruel.

**T-13.in.3.** If this world, which was actually born or made from your own guilt, were the real world, God would be cruel. 2 For no Father could subject His children to this world of punishment as the price of salvation and be loving. 3 Love does not kill to save. 4 If love did kill to save, attack would be salvation, and this is the ego’s interpretation, not God's interpretation. 5 Only the world of guilt could demand this killing to save, for only the guilty could conceive that killing to save could bring salvation. 6 Adam's "sin" could have touched no one, had Adam not believed it was the Father Who drove Adam out of Paradise. 7 For in that belief that God drove Adam out of Paradise, the knowledge of the Father was lost, since only those who do not understand the Father could believe a God of love would do such a cruel thing.

**Note #3:** A classic example of projection occurred when Adam claimed that God drove him from paradise. Adam attempted to get rid of his own guilt by blaming it on someone else, in this case, God. Thus, Adam denied that he was the source of his own made-up dream. This denial of sourcenseness makes the belief in separation real; for now rather than a Oneness, there is something outside itself. We have lost or denied knowledge of what God is and that we are an extension of that One Self. God did not make this world. We did. This world of perception is not part of the Mind of God. Therefore, it is neither eternal nor real. The illusion of separation has no reality outside the mind of the dreamer who is dreaming that this world of guilt and punishment is real.

**T-13.in.4.** This world born of our guilt is a picture of the crucifixion of God's Son. 2 And until you realize that God's Son cannot be crucified, this is the world you will see. p236 3 Yet you will not realize that God's Son cannot be crucified until you accept the eternal fact that God's Son is not guilty. 4 God’s Son deserves only love because he has given only love. 5 God’s Son cannot be condemned because he has never been condemned by His Father. 6 The Atonement is the final lesson God’s Son need learn, for the Atonement teaches God’s Son that, never having sinned, God’s Son has no need
of salvation.

Note # 4: The Atonement principle states that the separation never was real. The illusion of separation is not part of the Mind of God and thus, we have not done anything wrong. We merely dreamed a nightmare. Dreams are not punishable for they never happened. The Atonement is the acknowledgment of the fact that God’s Creation remains sinless and guiltless. The Atonement must be accepted for oneself since the belief in the separation is only in the deluded mind of the dreamer.

I. Guiltlessness and Invulnerability

T-13.I.1. Earlier, I said that the Holy Spirit shares the goal of all good teachers, whose ultimate aim is to make the teacher unnecessary by teaching their pupils all that the teacher knows. 2 The Holy Spirit wants only that we learn the truth about ourselves, for sharing the Father's Love for His Son, the Holy Spirit seeks to remove all guilt from the pupil’s mind that the Son of God may remember his Father in peace. 3 Peace and guilt are antithetical, and the Father can be remembered only in peace. 4 Love and guilt cannot coexist, and to accept love and guilt is to deny the other. 5 Guilt hides Christ from your sight, for guilt is the denial of the blamelessness of God's Son.

Note # 5: The Holy Spirit’s function is to gently reawaken the split-minded into remembering and reawakening to their divine birthright. This birthright was never lost, it was only forgotten.

T-13.I.2. In the strange world that you have made the Son of God <has> sinned. 2 How could you see him, then? 3 By making him invisible, the world of retribution rose in the black cloud of guilt that you accepted, and you hold this cloud of guilt and world of retribution you made dear to your little “s” self. 4 For the blamelessness of Christ is the proof that the ego never was, and can never be. 5 Without guilt the ego has no life, and God's Son <is> without guilt.

Note # 6: It is our own self-denial of the Christ, our Big “S” Self, that resulted in our making a world that is absent from God’s love. Our ego’s guilt requires that we believe in our personal littleness, rather than the great Oneness that we are. The ego’s thought system is based on the belief in sin, guilt and fear. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is based on the idea that we are as God created us, always perfect, whole and complete.

T-13.I.3. As you look upon yourself and judge what you do honestly, you may be tempted to wonder how you can be guiltless. 2 Yet consider this: You are not guiltless in time, but in eternity. 3 You have "sinned" in the past, but there is no past. 4 Always has no direction. 5 Time seems to go in one direction, but when you reach time’s end time will roll up like a long carpet spread along the past behind you, and time will disappear. 6 As long as you believe the Son of God is guilty you will walk along this carpet of time, believing that time leads to death. 7 And the journey will seem long and cruel and
senseless, for so this journey is senseless.

Note # 7: Time is a concept that became necessary due to our belief that the separation was real. Since reality is changeless, time does not exist in the Kingdom. Time, however, is required in our dream world of illusion. Time measures the rate of change. Only in the world of perception is there any change. Time measures the rate of change in our perceptual viewpoints. As our misperceptions and beliefs about what we are change, time moves “forward”. Learning is the change of our misperceptions into correct perceptions. The more often our decision-maker “chooses again,” the faster time moves. When we refuse to “choose again,” time stands still. When we are return to knowledge, time will disappear since there is no change occurring. The eternal is changeless by definition. Only in the dream world of perception is change possible. Only in the dream world of illusion can you perceive God’s Child as sinful and guilty.

T-13.I.4. The journey the Son of God has set himself is useless indeed, but the journey on which his Father sets him is one of release and joy. 2 The Father is not cruel, and His Son cannot hurt himself. 3 The retaliation that the son fears and that the son sees will never touch the son, for although the son believes in God’s retaliation the Holy Spirit knows it is not true. p237 4 The Holy Spirit stands at the end of time, where you must be because the Holy Spirit is with you. 5 The Holy Spirit has already undone everything unworthy of the Son of God, for such was the Holy Spirit’s mission, given the Holy Spirit by God. 6 And what God gives has always been.

Note # 8: The journey that the split-minded have set for themselves is useless since it is a journey into madness and the false. For to deny what you truly are is madness. This journey is also impossible to achieve because we remain changeless as our Father created us. We can deny the truth but our denial of the truth will not change the truth. The truth will always remain in the Mind of God and, therefore, we will remain in eternity as perfect, whole and complete. If this were not so, our imperfection would also make God imperfect. The journey on which God sends his split-minded son is one that releases God’s Son from the son’s own egoic journey into the illusion of separation. This journey ends in joy with the return of the prodigal son to knowledge and the Kingdom. This second journey back to God was only made necessary due to our taking the illusion of separation seriously and responding to this false illusion with fear.

T-13.I.5. You will see me, the Christ consciousness, as you learn the Son of God is guiltless. 2 The Son of God has always sought his guiltlessness, and the Son of God has found it. 3 For everyone is seeking to escape from the prison he has made, and the way to find release is not denied the Son of God. 4 Being in him, he has found the way to find release from the prison he has made for himself. 5 When he finds his release from his self-imposed prison is only a matter of time, and time is but an illusion. 6 For the Son of God is guiltless now, and the brightness of his purity shines untouched forever in God's Mind. 7 God's Son will always be as he was created. 8 Deny your egoic world and judge the Son of God not, for his eternal guiltlessness is in the Mind of his Father, and protects the Son of God forever.
Note # 9: By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we accept guiltlessness for all the Sonship and ourselves.

T-13.I.6. When you have accepted the Atonement for yourself, you will realize there is no guilt in God's Son. And only as you look upon him as guiltless can you understand God's Son's oneness. For the idea of guilt brings a belief in condemnation of one by another, projecting separation in place of unity. Because you are a oneness, you can condemn only yourself, and by condemning yourself, you cannot know that you are God's Son. You have denied the condition of God's Son's being, which is his perfect blamelessness. Out of love God's Son's was created, and in love God's Son's abides. Goodness and mercy have always followed God's Son, for God's Son has always extended the Love of his Father.

Note # 10: Being an extension of the Father, we also have been given the power to create like Him. Love creates, for love is sharing. When we create, we extend our true Big “S” Self onto our creation. There is no diminishment for creation is based on inclusion. When we make, we exclude, which confirms our belief in separation. Guilt and condemnation imply separateness. Since we are a Oneness, to give is to receive.

T-13.I.7. As you perceive the holy companions who travel with you, you will realize that there is no journey, but only an awakening. The Son of God, who sleepeth not, which is the Christ consciousness in you, has kept faith with his Father for you. There is no road to travel on, and no time to travel through. For God waits not for His Son in time, being forever unwilling to be without His Son. And so it has always been that God's Son has never left His Father. Let the holiness of God's Son, the Christ consciousness in you, shine away the cloud of guilt that darkens your mind, and by accepting Christ's purity as yours, learn of the Christ consciousness that it is yours.

Note # 11: Within our split mind, the Christ consciousness has always remained. The Christ consciousness is the home of right-mindedness and also the home of the Holy Spirit. In eternity, It has never left the Mind of God. While the son listens to the voice of the ego, the Voice for Christ falls on the deaf ears of the split-minded. Yet, our Big “S” Self and the Father remain united together through and with the Holy Spirit. We are that One Self.

T-13.I.8. You are invulnerable because you are guiltless. You can hold on to the past only through guilt. For guilt establishes that you will be punished for what you have done, and thus depends on one-dimensional time, proceeding from past to future. No one who believes in one-dimensional time, which proceeded from past to future, can understand what "always" means, and therefore guilt must deprive you of the appreciation of eternity. You are immortal because you are eternal, and "always" must be now. Guilt, then, is a way of holding past and future in your mind to ensure the ego's continuity. For if what has been will be punished, the ego's continuity is guaranteed. Yet the guarantee of your continuity is God's, not the ego's guarantee. And immortality is the opposite of time, for time passes away, while immortality is
constant.

**Note # 12:** Because of the ego’s belief in sin, guilt and fear, all “sin” must be punished some time in the future. The need for time arises in the thought system of the ego since time measure rates of change. The sinful must be punished to make amends for their sinful ways. To the ego, change is required because you are imperfect. If you were perfect, whole and complete, you would be changeless. In the world of perception, time has a purpose and is needed. Time allows for learning to occur. In the eternal changeless Kingdom there is no change to measure and, therefore, time serves no purpose. Time, being functionless in eternity, disappears.

**T-13.I.9.** Accepting the Atonement teaches you what immortality is, for by accepting your guiltlessness you learn that the past has never been, and so the future is needless and will not be. 2 The future, in time, is always associated with expiation, and only guilt could induce a sense of a need for expiation. 3 Accepting the guiltlessness of the Son of God as your guiltlessness is therefore God's way of reminding you of His Son, the Christ, and what His Son, the Christ, is in truth. 4 For God has never condemned His Son, and being guiltless he is eternal.

**Note # 13:** Expiation is the removal of guilt by suffering punishment.
It is only in our split-mind’s illusionary world that the belief that we could do something other than God’s Will is possible. God, however, always knew His Son as perfect and, therefore, guiltless. By accepting the Atonement, which is the truth of the Sonship’s sinlessness and guiltlessness, our need to suffer punishment in the future is gone. Being both sinless in the past and guiltless in the future, our need for time is no longer necessary. We can be in the changeless now that is the “always” of eternity.

**T-13.I.10.** You cannot dispel guilt by making guilt real, and then atoning for guilt. 2 Making guilt real and then atoning for the guilt is the ego's plan, which the ego offers instead of dispelling guilt. 3 The ego believes in atonement through attack, since the ego is fully committed to the insane notion that attack is salvation. 4 And you who cherish guilt must also believe that attack is salvation, for how else but by identifying with the ego could you hold dear what you do not want, which is guilt?

**Note # 14:** If we make guilt real, we are required to do some sort of penance for our sins which we believe that we have committed. We are making both sin and guilt real within our split-mind. By making them real, we get to keep both sin and guilt in our deluded mind. If sin is real, we are not perfect, whole and complete. The ego wants our decision-maker to agree with its egoic logic since this confirms that the separation actually occurred. The Atonement rejects the idea of sin since we are eternally perfect as God created us. Any illusion in which we believe that we have sinned does not require punishment because it is only an error in our deluded mind. The dreamer needs to only awaken to the truth. Therefore, there is no sin to forgive and nothing that requires punishment now or in the future. The Atonement just reawakens the sleepy child to His divine birthright.
T-13.I.11. The ego teaches you to attack yourself because you are guilty, and this self-attack must increase the guilt, for guilt is the result of attack. 2 In the ego's teaching, then, there is no escape from guilt. 3 For attack makes guilt real, and if guilt is real there is no way to overcome guilt. 4 The Holy Spirit dispels guilt simply through the calm recognition that both sin and guilt have never been. 5 As the Holy Spirit looks upon the guiltless Son of God, the guiltless Son of God knows that this is true. 6 And being true for you, you cannot attack yourself, for without guilt attack is impossible. 7 You, then, are saved because God's Son is guiltless. 8 And being wholly pure, you are invulnerable.

**Note # 15:** To accept the Atonement for oneself, all attacks on any brother or yourself must cease. Attack is the tool of the ego and strengthens both our belief in sin and guilt’s reality within our deluded mind. What we attack, we must fear. This perpetuates our belief in separation.

**II. The Guiltless Son of God**

T-13.II.1. The ultimate purpose of projection is always to get rid of guilt. 2 Yet, characteristically, the ego attempts to get rid of guilt from the ego’s viewpoint only, for much as the ego wants to retain guilt find guilt intolerable, since guilt stands in the way of your remembering God, Whose pull is so strong that you cannot resist the pull to remember God. 3 On this issue of guilt versus the pull to remember God, then, the deepest split of all occurs, for if you are to retain guilt, as the ego insists, you cannot be you who desires to remember God. 4 Only by persuading you that the ego is you could the ego possibly induce you to project guilt, and thereby keep guilt in your mind. p239

**Note # 16:** The ego’s thought system is predicated on sin, guilt and fear. The Holy Spirit’s is based on the remembrance of God. If the ego can convince you that you are the ego, you will place your faith in its thought system and choose guilt over the remembrance of God. Your decision-maker will abdicate it rights to the ego and you will identify your mind as the ego. The ego’s goal is for you to believe that you exist as a limited ego-body, rather than believe you are an unlimited spirit. You will deny our Big “S” Self’s existence in our split mind. It is the Big “S” Self that remembers God and your reality. This difference in beliefs results in misalignment with God’s will. Misalignment will be felt as conflict, stress and loss of inner peace. Only by our asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit can our peace be recovered.

T-13.II.2. Yet consider how strange a solution the ego’s arrangement is. 2 You project guilt to get rid of guilt, but you are actually merely concealing guilt. 3 You do experience the guilt, but you have no idea why you still experience the guilt. 4 On the contrary, you associate guilt with a weird assortment of "ego ideals," which the ego claims you have failed. 5 Yet you have no idea that you are failing the Son of God by seeing the Son of God as guilty. 6 Believing you are no longer you, you do not realize that you are failing yourself.
Note # 17: If you forget what you are, the Son of God, you will believe you are powerless to resist the ego’s thought system. Being powerless you become an innocent victim of the world around you. You lose your ability to be source or the cause of the events surrounding you. Projection is a useful tool for the giving and receiving of egoic guilt. We project our guilt upon another in the hope of getting rid of this guilt within ourselves. Since ideas never leave their source, they remain hidden deep within our mind and we are powerless to change them for we have forgotten that we are the source of the guilt. Thus, projection insures that we retain our feelings of deep-seated guilt.

T-13.II.3. The darkest of your hidden cornerstones holds your belief in guilt from your awareness. 2 For in that dark and secret place is the realization that you have betrayed God's Son by condemning God's Son to death. 3 You do not even suspect this murderous but insane idea of you condemning God's Son to death lies hidden there as a cornerstone in your belief in guilt, for the ego's destructive urge is so intense that nothing short of the crucifixion of God's Son can ultimately satisfy the ego. 4 The ego does not know who the Son of God is because the ego is blind. 5 Yet let the ego perceive guiltlessness anywhere, and the ego will try to destroy guiltlessness because the ego is afraid of guiltlessness.

Note # 18: The ego is afraid of guiltlessness because without your belief that you are guilty, you will regain your ability as decision-maker and choose again. This time your decision-maker would choose the Holy Spirit’s thought system that leads to the remembrance of God. Your belief in guilt helps your ego keep you in victim consciousness thus, keeping you under its sin, guilt and fear-based thought system.

T-13.II.4. Much of the ego's strange behavior is directly attributable to the ego’s definition of guilt. 2 To the ego, <the guiltless are guilty.> 3 Those who do not attack are the ego’s “enemies” because, by not valuing the ego’s interpretation of salvation, they, the guiltless, are in an excellent position to let go of the ego and the ego’s insane interpretation of salvation which rests on the belief that you have killed the Son of God and, therefore, are no longer your real Christed Self. 4 The guiltless have approached the darkest and deepest cornerstone in the ego's foundation, and while the ego can withstand your raising all else to question, the ego guards this one secret about guilt with the ego’s life, for the ego’s existence depends on keeping this secret, that to the ego <the guiltless are guilty.> 5 So it is this secret that to the ego <the guiltless are guilty> that we must look upon, for the ego cannot protect you against truth, and in truth’s presence the ego is dispelled.

Note # 19: According to the ego, if your decision-maker is to side with the ego’s insane thought system, truth must be made false and the false made true. This is why to the ego’s secret that <the guiltless are guilty> must be kept from you. For if you understood that this is what the ego’s thought system is based upon, who could believe it? The teaching that <the guiltless are guilty> is self-contradictory.

T-13.II.5. In the calm light of truth, let us recognize that you believe you have crucified
God's Son. You have not admitted to this "terrible" secret that you believe you have crucified God's Son because you would still wish to crucify him if you could find him. Yet the wish has hidden God's Son from you because this wish is very fearul, and so you are afraid to find God's Son. You have handled this wish to kill yourself by not knowing who you are, and identifying yourself with something else, who is the little “s” self ego-body. You have projected guilt blindly and indiscriminately, but you have not uncovered guilt’s source. For the ego does want to kill you, and if you identify with the ego you must believe the ego’s goal is your goal.

Note # 20: To the ego, God’s guiltless Son must be destroyed. Since the ego has no power in itself, you who have denied your existence as God’s Son, must desire to kill yourself so that the ego can maintain its existence. Egoic projection is the tool in which you appear to get rid of your guilt by placing it upon another. With projection you forget your sourceness and make someone else your victimizer. Projection is the ego’s tool that keeps you in victim consciousness. You have forgotten your Big “S” Self and instead have identified yourself as a limited ego-body.

T-13.II.6.I have said that the crucifixion is the symbol of the ego. When the ego was confronted with the real guiltlessness of God's Son the ego did attempt to kill God's Son, and the reason the ego gave was that guiltlessness is blasphemous to God. To the ego, the <ego> is God, and guiltlessness must be interpreted as the final guilt that fully justifies murder. You do not yet understand that any fear you may experience in connection with this course stems ultimately from this interpretation, that guiltlessness must be interpreted as the final guilt that fully justifies murder, but if you will consider your reactions to this interpretation that guiltlessness fully justifies murder, you will become increasingly convinced that any fear you may experience in connection with this course stems ultimately from this interpretation that this is so.

Note # 21: The ego wants to usurp the power of God. What better way to usurp God’s power than to replace God with the ego? To do this, the ego must destroy the Oneness of God by killing the Oneness that is God’s Son. The separation represents this destruction of the Oneness. The egoic replacement of God is the natural result in our belief that the separation was real. Our belief in sin, guilt and fear has allowed the ego to substitute an egoic god of fear and retribution in place of the God of Love.

T-13.II.7.This course has explicitly stated that this course’s goal for you is happiness and peace. Yet you are afraid of this course’s goal of happiness and peace. You have been told again and again that happiness and peace will set you free, yet you sometimes react as if happiness and peace is trying to imprison you. You often dismiss happiness and peace more readily than you dismiss the ego's thought system. To some extent, then, you must believe that by not learning the course you are protecting yourself. And you do not realize that it is only your guiltlessness that <can> protect you.

Note # 22: Truth’s guiltlessness protects you because it comes from God, Himself. Your innocence comes from what you are, which is the perfect extension of God. All power
has already been given to you by God. You need only to reclaim your divine birthright as His beloved Son. By accepting the Atonement for yourself, you reclaim your inheritance.

T-13.II.8. The Atonement has always been interpreted as the release from guilt, and this is correct if it is understood. Yet even when I interpret the Atonement for you, you may reject the Atonement and do not accept the Atonement for yourself. You have perhaps recognized the futility of the ego and the ego’s offerings, but though you do not want the ego’s offerings, you may not yet look upon the alternative to the ego’s offerings with gladness. In the extreme, you are afraid of redemption and you believe redemption will kill you. Make no mistake about the depth of this fear of redemption. For you believe that, in the presence of truth, you might turn on yourself and destroy yourself.

Note # 23: Although we do not want the guilt that is associated with the ego’s belief system, we may still value some of its supposed gifts. We may still value egoic specialness and individuality. If we identify ourselves as the body, we get to be special. If we accept the Holy Spirit and “become” a Oneness with our brother, we fear that we are killing our specialness. We would like to get rid of the guilt, yet, keep our body and our perceived specialness. We like the ego’s idea that we are the arbitrator’s for truth and can pick and choose the “truth for the day”. We cannot keep some things outside the forgiveness of the Holy Spirit’s thought system and claim that we have accepted the Atonement for ourselves. We must choose to be vigilant only for God.

T-13.II.9. Little child, this is not so. You did not kill God’s Son for you are, and always will be, God’s perfect, guiltless Son. Your “guilty secret” is nothing, and if you will but bring your “guilty secret” to the light, the light will dispel your “guilty secret”. And then no dark cloud will remain between you and the remembrance of your Father, for you will remember His guiltless Son, who did not die because he is immortal. And you will see that you were redeemed with him, and have never been separated from him, God’s guiltless Son. In this understanding lies your remembering, for this understanding is the recognition of love without fear. There will be great joy in Heaven on your homecoming, and the joy will be yours. For the redeemed son of man is the guiltless Son of God, and to recognize him, the son of man, as the guiltless Son of God is your redemption.

Note # 24: By seeing our brother as guiltless, we accept that same guiltlessness. For to give, is to receive. When we use only our Christ Vision, we recognize our brother’s Big “S” Self, not his body, and we recognize the truth of our eternal Oneness that is the One Self that we share. We are back home.
III. The Fear of Redemption

T-13.III.1. You may wonder why it is so crucial that you look upon your hatred and realize the full extent of your hatred. 2 You may also think that it would be easy enough for the Holy Spirit to show the full extent of your hatred to you, and to dispel the full extent of your hatred without the need for you to raise it to awareness yourself. 3 Yet there is one more obstacle you have interposed between yourself and the Atonement. 4 We have said that no one will countenance fear if he recognizes fear. 5 Yet in your disordered state of mind you are not afraid of fear. 6 You do not like fear, but it is not your desire to attack that really frightens you. 7 You are not seriously disturbed by your hostility. 8 You keep your hostility hidden because you are more afraid of what your hostility covers. 9 You could look even upon the ego's darkest cornerstone without fear if you did not believe that, without the ego, you would find within yourself something you fear even more. 10 You are not really afraid of crucifixion. 11 Your real terror is of redemption.

Note # 25: We are afraid to look within because we fear what we may find. This is the fear of the unknown; our belief that we may discover something that is worse than our present state. Believing we are the ego-body, we fear we will lose what little we have. We fear that if we looked within our mind, our belief in specialness and separation that has become our identity may disappear and be destroyed. Not understanding what God’s love is, we fear being returned to the equality of God’s love.

T-13.III.2. Under the ego's dark foundation, which is based on sin, guilt and fear, is the memory of God, and it is of this memory of God, that you are really afraid. 2 For this memory of God would instantly restore you to your proper place, and it is this place of the memory of God that you have sought to leave. 3 Your fear of attack is nothing compared to your fear of love. 4 You would be willing to look even upon your savage wish to kill God's Son, if you did not believe that your wish to kill God's Son saves you from love. 5 For this wish to leave the memory of God and God’s love caused the separation, and you have protected this wish to forget the memory of God because you do not want the separation healed. 6 You realize that, by removing the dark cloud that obscures the memory of God, your love for your Father would impel you to answer God’s Call and leap into Heaven. 7 You believe that attack is salvation because attack would prevent you from the memory of God and God’s call for His Son’s return to Heaven. 8 For still deeper than the ego's foundation, and much stronger than the ego's foundation will ever be, is your intense and burning love of God, and God’s love for you. 9 This love for and from God is what you really want to hide.

Note # 26: The ego cannot love and, therefore, it fears love. Since we are created in God’s image, which is love, love is our divine birthright. The memory of God will return us to our true nature, which is only love. This would be returning to whole-mindedness and our Big “S” Self would act as the decision-maker and freely follow God’s Will. To the ego, this would result in the disappearance and destruction of the “little s” self, which is the ego. Thus, the ego fears our return, or redemption to whole-mindedness. This healing would result in our Big “S” Self resuming total control as decision-maker over
our split-minded egoic small “s” self.

T-13.III.3. In honesty, is it not harder for you to say "I love" than "I hate"? 2 You associate love with weakness and hatred with strength, and your own real power, which is love, seems to you as your real weakness. 3 For you could not control your joyous response to the call of love if you heard the call of love, and the whole world you thought you made would vanish. 4 The Holy Spirit, then, seems to be attacking your fortress, which is your unloving world of provisional reality that you made to shut out God, and God does not will to be excluded.

Note # 27: We made the world of perception based on our belief that the separation was real. This world is our attempt to exclude ourselves from the memory of God and God’s love for his Son. We wanted to be special. Being a Oneness of Everything, it is impossible for the One Self to be torn away from perfection. Without this world of illusion, God’s Call for His Son’s return to sanity (right-mindedness) would be so strong that we would lose the specialness of separation that we value. We would return control of our decision-maker over to our Big “S” Self. We would return to our true home, which is Heaven. The Love of the Father for His Son and our love for the Father would be remembered. We would abandon the mad idea of the separation and return to the Oneness of the Mind of God, which is our only true reality.

T-13.III.4. You have built your whole insane belief system because you think you would be helpless in God's Presence, and you would save yourself from His Love because you think God's Love would crush you into nothingness. 2 You are afraid God’s Love would sweep you away from yourself and make you little, because you believe that magnitude lies in defiance, and that attack is grandeur. 3 You think you have made a world God would destroy; and by loving God, which you do, you would throw this world of the little “s” self away, which you <would>. 4 Therefore, you have used the world to cover your love, and the deeper you go into the blackness of the ego's foundation, the closer you come to the Love that is hidden there within you true Self, the Christ. 5 <And it is this return to love, that frightens you>.

Note # 28: The return to the Christ in you is the return to right-mindedness. The ego fears the Christ within you, since that would lead to the ego’s disappearance and your return to the Oneness of the Mind of God. The ego’s goal is that your Big “S” Self would never regain control of your split mind. The ego does not want you to reclaim your decision-making power. As long as you remain in victim consciousness, you will never realize that you can choose again. The ego does not want you to know that there is another thought system that you can freely choose to follow. It does not want you to hear the voice for God. If the ego is to continue to exist, it cannot let you decide to remember God’s love.

T-13.III.5. You can accept insanity because you made insanity, but you cannot accept love because you did not make love. 2 You would rather be a slave of the crucifixion than a Son of God in redemption. 3 Your individual death seems more valuable than your living oneness, for what is given you is not so dear as what you made. 4 You are more afraid of God than of the ego, and love cannot enter where love is not welcome. 5 But
hatred can enter your mind for hatred enters of hatred’s own volition and cares not for your true volition, which is based on love.

**Note # 29:** We value our egoic specialness and individuality over our true Big “S” Self. The ego’s thought system is based on separation. We value the illusion of specialness over the truth of our Oneness. We prefer the ego’s thought system since it alone promises the specialness that we desire. Believing that we are limited ego-bodies, we would rather die than lose our individuality. We like the idea of being separate and fear the return to the Oneness because we fear that this will cost us our individuality. The price that the ego demands for maintaining our belief in separation is pain, suffering and death. If we, the decision-maker, realized this cost, we would feely chose to return to the memory of God. Our little “s” self fears the restoration of love and the reawakening of the Sonship.

T-13.III.6. You must look upon your illusions and not keep your illusions hidden, because your illusions do not rest on their own foundation. 2 In concealment your illusions appear to rest on their own foundation, and thus your illusions seem to be self-sustained. 3 This concealment of your illusions’ foundation from yourself is the fundamental illusion on which the others rest. 4 For beneath your illusions, and concealed as long as your illusions’ foundations are hidden, is the loving mind that thought it made your illusions in anger. 5 And the pain in your loving mind is so apparent, when the pain is uncovered, that your mind’s need of healing cannot be denied. 6 Not all the tricks and egoic games you offer your loving mind can heal your mind, for here is the real crucifixion of God's Son.

**Note # 30:** Our dream world of illusions hides our true loving nature. Being created by God’s Love, we are love. We believed that we attacked and sinned against God when we denied God’s Love. In our world of illusions, we can pretend that we are something other than what we are. We can pretend to hide from God’s Love. We can even believe that we can do something other than the Will of God but our illusions have no affect on the truth of the One Self. We cannot change the divine inheritance of our Christ Mind.

T-13.III.7. And yet God's Son is not crucified. 2 Here in the Son’s illusionary dream world is both God's Son pain and God's Son healing, for the Holy Spirit's vision is merciful and the Holy Spirit's remedy is quick. 3 Do not hide suffering from the Holy Spirit's sight, but bring your suffering and pain, which are born in your illusions gladly to the Holy Spirit. 4 Lay all your hurts caused by your illusions and misperceptions before the Holy Spirit's eternal sanity, and let the Holy Spirit heal you. 5 Do not leave any spot of pain hidden from the Holy Spirit's light, and search your mind carefully for any thoughts you may fear to uncover. 6 For the Holy Spirit will heal every little thought you have kept to hurt you and cleanse these hurtful thoughts of their littleness, restoring your every thought to the magnitude of God.

**Note # 31:** If we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, He will reinterpret all our misperceptions. The Holy Spirit’s reinterpretation will allow us to recover the true nature of our Big “S” Self. The correcting mechanism that the Holy Spirit utilizes is the tool of forgiveness. We forgive our brother, which in turn results in our forgiving ourselves. Our
fear-based thoughts are transformed into the Big “S” Self’s relationships of love and forgiveness.

T-13.III.8. Beneath all the grandiosity you hold so dear is your real call for help. 2 For you call for love to your Father as your Father calls you to Himself. 3 In that place which you have hidden, the Christ within your split mind, you will only to unite with the Father, in loving remembrance of the Father. p243 4 You will find this place of truth as you see this place of truth, the Christ consciousness, in your brothers, for though your brothers may deceive themselves, like you, your brothers long for the grandeur that is within themselves. 5 And perceiving the Christ consciousness in your brothers you will welcome it, and the Christ consciousness in your brothers will be your Christ consciousness. 6 For grandeur is the right of God's Son, and no illusions can satisfy God's Son or save God's Son from what he is. 7 Only God's Son’s love is real, and God's Son will be content only with his reality.

Note # 32: Being like God, we have everything because we are everything. This is the natural result of God’s extension of Himself. When God created the Sonship, God gave all of Himself, which was everything. When we realize that we are everything, why would we settle for anything less? Why would we give up everything for littleness? This choice for littleness demonstrates why anyone following of the ego’s thought system must be insane.

T-13.III.9. Save God's Son from his illusions that you may accept the magnitude of your Father in peace and joy. 2 But exempt no one from your love, or you will be hiding a dark place in your mind where the Holy Spirit is not welcome. 3 And by withholding love from a brother, thus you will exempt yourself from the Holy Spirit’s healing power, for by not offering total love you will not be healed completely. 4 Healing must be as complete as fear, for love cannot enter where there is one spot of fear to mar love’s welcome.

Note # 33: We cannot withhold our love from any part of the Sonship if we wish to be completely healed. Healing can only be accomplished completely. We cannot be partially healed. The Sonship shares its Oneness with God. We cannot exclude a brother without denying our own Oneness. All minds are part of the shared reality of the Mind of God. Forgiveness is the tool that is utilized by the Holy Spirit to exchange our fears for our return to love.

T-13.III.10. You who prefer separation to sanity cannot obtain separation in your right mind. 2 You were at peace until you asked for special favor. 3 And God did not give the special favor for the request was alien to God, and you could not ask this special favor of a Father Who truly loved His Son. 4 Therefore you made of God an unloving father, demanding of God what only such an unloving father could give, which would be to place limits on His Son. 5 And the peace of God's Son was shattered, for God's Son no longer understood his Father. 6 God’s Son feared what he had made, which was an unloving father who would grant his child specialness at the cost of his child’s unlimitedness. But still more did God’s Son fear his real Father, since the son had
attacked his own glorious equality with his true Father.

**Note # 34:** God created us perfect, whole, and complete. As such, we are everything God is. When we ask for “a special favor,” the only thing that we could be asking for is limitation. If God granted us limitation, God, Himself, would be limited for we share equally in the Mind of God. God cannot extend limitation because God is unlimited. In order to obtain specialness, we had to make-believe that God was something other than unconditional Love. Our Father, the God of Love, would not be willing to create something that was imperfect, not complete, and not whole. This idea could never be part of the Mind of a Loving God. Therefore, we denied our Father’s Loving nature and substituted an egoic idol for separation, limitation and specialness. We made a god of limitation and littleness. We rejected the equality of the Oneness for the belief that we could be limited, which made us special. This was the birth of our belief that we had attacked God, our Father. We believed that we had usurped the power of God. We claimed that we, God’s Effect, were now self-created.

T-13.III.11. In peace God’s Son needed nothing and asked for nothing. 2 In war God’s split-minded Son demanded everything and found nothing. 3 For how could the gentleness of love respond to God’s split-minded Son’s demands for separation and limitation, except by love departing in peace and returning to the Father? 4 If the Son did not wish to remain in peace, he could not remain at all. 5 For a darkened mind cannot live in the light, and a darkened mind must seek a place of darkness where this darkened mind can believe it is where this darkened mind is not. 6 God did not allow His split-minded Son to leave the peace of the Mind of God. The Son leaving the Mind of God did not happen. 7 Yet you, the split minded child, demanded that you could leave the peace and Oneness of the Mind of God and that this could happen, and therefore you believed in your imaginings that it was so. In your imagination you believed that you could and actually did leave the Mind of God and thus, became separate from the Will of God. Although this could not happen in reality, God’s love allows your free will to imagine anything you want.

**Note # 35:** Since we are changeless, we could not change what we truly are and, therefore, we always remain perfect, whole and complete. Yet, we can choose to deny this truth of our perfection. Our world of provisional reality was birthed by the Sonship’s collective denial of the truth. Although we remain part of the Mind of God, which is our Christ consciousness, the rest of our split mind appears to have forgotten our Oneness. We, the dreamer, have been caught up in our own dream, and believe that our dream is our reality. Our belief in our dream has no effect on the Mind of God since the Mind of God only deals with truth. Illusions are unknown to God, our Father.

T-13.III.12. To "single out" is to "make alone," and thus make lonely. 2 God did not do this to you. 3 Could God set you apart, knowing that your peace lies in God’s Oneness? 4 God denied you only your request for pain, for suffering is not of God’s creation. 5 Having given you creation, God could not take creation from you. 6 God could but answer your insane request with a sane answer that would abide with you in your insanity. 7 And this God did. 8 No one who hears God’s answer but will give up
insanity. 9 For God’s answer is the reference point beyond illusions, from which you can look back on illusions and see illusions as insane. p244 10 But seek this place beyond illusions and you will find this place, for Love is in you and will lead you there.

Note # 36: Your Christ consciousness remains within your split mind. This is the home of the Holy Spirit who will guide you back to the remembrance of God and whole-mindedness. The Christ is the love in you and It is your true reality from which you never left the Mind of God. The Christ remains within the Peace of God. The acceptance of the Atonement for yourselves will return you to the Kingdom, which is eternal reality. We will remember that our will and God’s Will are One since we shared this One Self that is the Mind of God.

IV. The Function of Time

T-13.IV.1. And now the reason why you are afraid of this course should be apparent. 2 For this is a course on love, because this course is about you. 3 You have been told that your function in this world of perception is healing, and your function in Heaven is creating. 4 The ego teaches that your function on earth is destruction, and you have no function at all in Heaven. 5 The ego would thus destroy you here in this illusionary world of your perception and bury you here in this illusionary world of your perception, leaving you no inheritance except the dust out of which the ego thinks you were made. 6 As long as the ego is reasonably satisfied with you, as the ego’s reasoning goes, the ego offers you oblivion. 7 When the ego becomes overtly savage, the ego offers you hell.

Note # 37: It is important to remember our purpose under each thought system:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Reality</th>
<th>Thought System of:</th>
<th>Holy Spirit’s Function of</th>
<th>Ego Function of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level #1: Heaven</td>
<td>Co-creation</td>
<td>Healing</td>
<td>No Function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level #2: World of Perception</td>
<td>Healing</td>
<td>No Function</td>
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</tbody>
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T-13.IV.2. Yet neither oblivion nor hell is as unacceptable to you as Heaven. 2 Your definition of Heaven <is> hell and oblivion, and the real Heaven is the greatest threat you think you could experience. 3 For hell and oblivion are ideas that you made up, and you are bent on demonstrating the reality of ideas you made up, (hell and oblivion), to establish the reality that you wish yourself to be which is the littleness of specialness. 4 If the reality of ideas you made up, (hell and oblivion), is questioned, you believe that the reality that you wish yourself to be which is the littleness of specialness is questioned. 5 For you believe that attack is your reality, and that your destruction is the final proof that you were right.

Note # 38: We fear Heaven for we believe it to be the destruction of our desire to be separate and special. The ego’s thought system is determined to be right at all costs. The ego needs to be right since without you belief that you are the ego, the ego would
disappear. The ego is powerless and any power it appears to have is abdicated from your own mind. Because of this dependence when you are following the ego’s thought system, the ego insists that it is more important to be “right” than to be happy. This is why the ego would rather have you choose hell, the need to be right, over Heaven, the need to be happy. Being born as the unlimited Spirit of Oneness that is Everything, how can we be happy with “littleness”? When we believe in death, we are claiming that we are a little “s” self. Death is the ultimate proof that we are not eternal and separate from God. To the ego, our death “proves” that God is powerless to impose His will upon us. The ego has thus, usurped the power of life from the Living God of Love.

T-13.IV.3. Under the circumstances that your death is required for you and the ego’s thought system to be “right,” would it not be more desirable to have been wrong, even apart from the fact that you were wrong? 2 While it could perhaps be argued that death suggests there <was> life, no one would claim that death proves there <is> life. 3 Even the past life that death might indicate, could only have been futile if the past life must come to death, and needs death to prove that the past life was once alive at all. 4 You question Heaven, but you do not question the need to use death to prove that you live in your own world of littleness. 5 Yet you could heal and be healed if you did question that death is required to prove you live. 6 And even though you know not Heaven, might Heaven not be more desirable than death? 7 You have been as selective in your questioning as in your perception. 8 An open mind is more honest than this selective questioning and selective perception in which you have engaged upon.

Note # 39: Your death is the ego’s ultimate proof that you exist separate from God. ACIM suggest that we need to look very closely at a thought system that is demanding that we sacrifice our immortality and happiness, in order for the ego to be right. Why insist on our littleness when the Holy Spirit’s thought system offers us Heaven. Heaven grants us everything including our happiness. To choose to claim that you are right, even when you are wrong, is a questionable philosophy. But the demand that you lose your divine birthright in order to be “right” is insanity. ACIM requests that you ask this question, “Would I rather be right, or happy?” If happiness is the answer, ACIM suggests that you too choose the Holy Spirit’s thought system.

T-13.IV.4. The ego has a strange notion of time, and it is with this notion of time that your questioning might well begin. 2 The ego invests heavily in the past, and in the end believes that the past is the only aspect of time that is meaningful. 3 Remember that the ego’s emphasis on guilt enables the ego to ensure the ego’s continuity by making the future like the past, and thus avoiding the present. p245 4 By the notion of paying for the past in the future, the past becomes the determiner of the future, making the past and the future continuous without an intervening present. 5 For the ego regards the present only as a brief transition to the future, in which the ego brings the past to the future by interpreting the present in past terms.

Note # 40: Only when we are in the presence of the <now> can we make a different choice. The ego wants time to continue exactly like the past since in the past your mind was under the influence of the ego’s thought system. In the past, you believed that you
were an innocent victim of outside forces that were beyond your control. When you are in victim consciousness, you cannot reclaim your decision-making ability and choose again. If the ego can use the memory of the past to color or, more correctly, distort the present, you will continue to make to same misperceptions over and over again. Because you believe you are a victim, you believe that you are powerless to affect any change in your fate. Your future life experience will thus, remain the same as the past upon which they were based. When we fail to focus on the present, the <now>, we live in the past. This guarantees that the future will be a replica of the past. ACIM states that we should focus our awareness only upon the <now> and choose differently.

T-13.IV.5."Now" has no meaning to the ego. 2 The present merely reminds the ego of past hurts, and the ego reacts to the present as if the present were the past. 3 The ego cannot tolerate release from the past, and although the past is over, the ego tries to preserve the past's image by responding as if the past were present. 4 The ego dictates your reactions to those you meet in the present from a past reference point, obscuring the present reality of those you meet. 5 In effect, if you follow the ego's dictates you will react to your brother as though he were someone else based on a reference point from your own past, and this will surely prevent you from recognizing your brother as he is. 6 And you will receive messages from your brother out of your own past because, by making your own past real in the present, you are forbidding yourself to let your own past go. 7 You thus deny yourself the message of release that every brother offers you <now> in the present because you choose to base your current perception on some past reference point.

Note # 41: We live in our own private world of provisional reality. This is a world of perception. Perception is based on our current viewpoint. Change our viewpoint and we can change our perception. If we consistently use our past viewpoint to interpret our present experiences, we will obtain the same results in the present as we received from our past misperceptions. To reference and interpret the present based on the past, dooms us to having the past, present and future all be the same. The <now> does not appear in our awareness since we have chosen to live our present as a reenactment of the past. The ego has our minds under its current control, keeping us in victim consciousness which is exactly where the ego wants our decision-maker to remain. Thus, to the ego, the past is the most important element of time. If the ego can keep us referencing our past misperception about our private world, our future will be a copy of our past victimhood and we will continue to forget that we have the power to choose a different guide.

T-13.IV.6. The shadowy figures from the past are precisely what you must escape. 2 The shadowy figures from the past are not real, and have no hold over you unless you bring these shadowy figures from the past with you. 3 The shadowy figures from the past carry the spots of pain in your mind, directing you to attack in the present in retaliation for a past that is no more. 4 And this decision to attack based on past misperception is one of future pain. 5 Unless you learn that past pain is an illusion, you are choosing a future of illusions and losing the many opportunities you could find for release in the present. 6 The ego would preserve your nightmares, and prevent you from awakening and understanding these current nightmares that require you to attack are based on your
past misperceptions. 7 Would you recognize a holy encounter if you are merely perceiving a holy encounter as a meeting with your own past? 8 For you would be meeting no one, and the sharing of salvation, which makes the encounter holy, would be excluded from your sight. 9 The Holy Spirit teaches that you always meet yourself, and the encounter is holy because you are holy. 10 The ego teaches that you always encounter your past, and because your dreams were not holy, the future cannot be holy, and the present is without meaning since it is really the past repeating itself.

Note # 42: The Holy Spirit always teaches that you are always meeting yourself in each encounter. This is true for a number of reasons. At its very basics, you are a Oneness and, therefore, there is nothing outside yourself to perceive. But more importantly, since we are dealing in the realm of provisional reality, our world is based on our own projections. We are constantly reinventing our private world based on our current projections. Projection is the process that we predetermine what we wish to perceive about a topic. We then project or send outside ourselves this same thought pattern that we wish to “see” confirmed by some “outside witness”. Our senses then search out and find something that will confirm that what we thought was right. Thus, our senses have already prejudged what our “outside reality” will be. Based on projection, we choose to selectively “see” only what thought patterns we originally sent out. Because our selective “seeing” comes from projection, we always meet the thoughts we hold about ourselves. If we utilize our past misperception, which are based of the fact that we are sinners, our current interpretation of present events will be the same as our past misperceptions. The Holy Spirit knows the Sonship is only holy and that each encounter must be holy. To the Holy Spirit, the present is the only thing that is and each encounter becomes an opportunity to be transformed into a holy encounter if perceived correctly.

T-13.IV.7. It is evident that the Holy Spirit's perception of time is the exact opposite of the ego’s. 2 The reason is equally clear, for the ego and the Holy Spirit perceive the goal of time as diametrically opposed. 3 The Holy Spirit interprets time's purpose as rendering the need for time unnecessary. p246 4 The Holy Spirit regards the function of time as temporary, serving only the Holy Spirit's teaching function, which is temporary by definition. 5 The Holy Spirit's emphasis is therefore on the only aspect of time that can extend to the infinite, for <now> is the closest approximation of eternity that this world offers. 6 It is in the reality of "now," without past or future, that the beginning of the appreciation of eternity lies. 7 For only "now" is here, and only "now" presents the opportunities for the holy encounters in which salvation can be found.

Note # 43: On Level #1, which is true reality of the Kingdom, there is only the eternal now. Time is the measure of change. Eternity is changeless; therefore, there is no change to measure. Only in the world of perception, which is predicated on the misperception that there is something outside you, is there anything that can change. The Holy Spirit places no value of past illusionary misperception that you have had since they must be false. The Holy Spirit’s focus is on what is truly happening in your current dream state. By following the guidance and the correct perception of the Holy Spirit, any current experience can be transformed into a holy encounter.
**T-13.IV.8.** The ego, on the other hand, regards the function of time as one of extending itself, the ego, in place of eternity, for like the Holy Spirit, the ego interprets the goal of time as the ego’s own goal. 2 The continuity of past and future, under the ego’s direction, is the only purpose the ego perceives in time, and the ego closes over the present so that no gap in the ego’s own continuity can occur. 3 The ego’s continuity, then, would keep you in time, while the Holy Spirit would release you from time. 4 It is the Holy Spirit’s interpretation of the means of salvation that you must learn to accept, if you would share the Holy Spirit’s goal of salvation for you.

**Note # 44:** The ego only exists in time. Therefore, the ego requires time to continue to be under egoic control if the ego is to continue to exist.

The Holy Spirit’s goal is to return you to the reality of what you are. Time is the means that is used to allow for our split mind to be returned to wholeness. Once this healing is achieved, time’s purpose will have been served. The Sonship will have retuned to the truth about Itself. Being eternal, perfect, whole and complete, we are changeless and time has no purpose or function in eternity.

**T-13.IV.9.** You, too, will interpret the function of time as you interpret your own function. 2 If you accept your function in the world of time as one of healing, you will emphasize only the aspect of time in which healing can occur, which is the present of the <now>. 3 Healing cannot be accomplished in the past. 4 Healing must be accomplished in the present to release the future. 5 This interpretation of healing ties the future to the present, and extends the present rather than the past. 6 But if you interpret your function as destruction, which is the ego’s function for you in the world of perception, you will lose sight of the present and hold on to the past to ensure a destructive future. 7 And time will be as you interpret time, for of itself, time, is nothing.

**Note # 45:** Time is necessary only when we value the illusion of specialness and separation. Time, itself, has no reality in eternity. Time became necessary due to our belief that the separation was real. Time is needed only where change appears to be possible, which is the world of perception. How we perceive the present will depend on which thought system we choose to follow. We will either perceive the reality of the now or the misperceptions of our past. If we demand littleness and the need to pretend that we are right, we will choose to relive the past. If we choose happiness and the truth of our Big “S” Self, we will see the present as a <now> moment in which we can choose to live the present as a holy encounter. In a holy encounter, you would view the event with forgiving and loving eyes. This sharing might be directed at our brother, but since to give is to receive, the blessing of forgiveness and love will return to its source, which, of course, is our own mind.

**V. The Two Emotions**

**T-13.V.1.** I have said you have but two emotions, love and fear. 2 Love is changeless but continually exchanged, love being offered by the eternal to the eternal. 3 In this exchange
love is extended, for love increases as love is given. 4 The other emotion, fear, has many forms, for the content of individual illusions differs greatly. 5 Yet the many forms of the emotion of fear have one thing in common; the many forms of the emotion of fear are all insane. 6 The many forms of the emotion of fear are made of sights that are not seen, and sounds that are not heard. 7 The many forms of the emotion of fear make up a private world of your provisional reality that cannot be shared. 8 For the illusionary forms of fear in your own private world of your provisional reality are meaningful only to their maker, you, and so the illusionary forms of fear have no meaning at all. 9 In this private world their maker moves alone, for only their maker perceives his illusions of fear. p247

Note # 46: Your private world of provisional reality appears to be real to the maker, who is also the perceiver. Because we are projecting from our mind’s viewpoint, what we wish to believe to be our provisional reality is projected from our mind’s thoughts out into our “outside world”. Our physical senses then confirm these same thoughts that we have projected into the world of perception. Whatever our egoic senses pick up have already been predetermined within the mind of the perceiver and, therefore, the senses only confirm your predetermined judgments. Because of projection, everyone who follows the ego’s fear–based thought system makes up his or her own private world of provisional reality. Because everyone is projecting out from their own individual split mind’s viewpoint, each person perceives their world differently. Projection is based on exclusion arising from fear. Projection is making. Creation or extension is sharing which comes from the emotion of love.

T-13.V.2. Each one peoples his world with figures from his individual past, and it is because of this utilization of individualized past perceived experiences that private worlds do differ. 2 Yet the figures that he sees were never real, for these figures are made up only of his reactions to his brothers, and do not include their reactions to him. 3 Therefore, he, the maker, does not see he made these figures from his own past reactions and perceptions and that these figures are not whole. 4 For these figures have no witnesses, being perceived in one separate mind only, the mind of the maker.

Note # 47: Perception is based on the individual viewpoint of the perceiver. The perceiver does not share his true perceptions with what is being observed. The perceiver is not concerned about how others actually view or react to him and the event. Therefore, the interpretation is one-sided. The other person is not allowed to even present their case or call any other witnesses that would support their side of the story. Because we lack knowledge, we lack all the facts. We are in no position to judge any event in the world of time. ACIM states the only judgment that we should make is that we are incapable of judging anything correctly. Because we identify ourselves as a limited ego-body, we need to ask the Holy Spirit to guide us. The function of the Holy Spirit is judgment and healing. Only the Holy Spirit can judge correctly, because only the Holy Spirit knows the truth about our Big “S” Self and is also aware of our temporary insanity in this illusionary world of littleness and limitation. If asked, the Holy Spirit will reinterpret our misperception so that we can choose correct perception.
T-13.V.3. It is through these strange and shadowy figures that the insane relate to their insane world. 2 For the insane see only those shadowy figures who remind the insane of these images, and it is to these shadowy figures that the insane relate. 3 Thus do the insane communicate with those shadowy figures who are not there, and it is the insane, who answer for those shadowy figures that are not there. 4 And no one else hears those shadowy figures answer save the insane, who called upon his made-up shadowy figures to respond. And the insane alone believes his made-up shadowy figures have answered him. 5 Projection makes perception, and you cannot see beyond your self-induced projection. 6 Again and again have you attacked your brother, because you saw in your brother a shadow figure in your private world. 7 And thus it is you must attack yourself first, for what you attack is not in others. 8 For these shadowy figures that you make, perceive and attack in others do not exist. There only reality is in your own mind, and by attacking others you are literally attacking what is not there.

Note #48: Our private world is produced by projection. The thoughts of the perceiver are being sent out; yet, these projected thoughts can never escape the mind of the projector. This private world is only seen as reality in the mind of the image-maker. This is why what we call “seeing” is actually “image making”. We make up what we wish to “see” based on our past interpretation of previous experiences. By formulating judgments based on past misperceptions, we reincorporate the past into the present and future. In order to perceive the present correctly or even differently from the past, we have to be aware of the present. Unfortunately, since we have never released or forgiven ourselves from the judgments of our past, we shift into similar past reactive modes whenever we perceive current events. Rather than experience the now, we replay our past misperceptions. This constant modification of the present insures that we will continue to misperceive the present moment since we fail to be aware of what is really happening in the <now>. We remain in judgment and victim consciousness, constantly insuring that the future will replicate the past since our mind is never truly experiencing the now. Refusing to experience the now with another, we remain trapped in our own private world of provisional reality that cannot be shared. Our world of provisional reality is a private world no one else can enter because it only exists in the mind of the perceiver. The way to gain release from the past and this “private reality” is to ask the Holy Spirit to reinterpret the present correctly. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of truth and can judge the <now> correctly and transform the <now> into a holy encounter.

T-13.V.4. The delusional can be very destructive, for the delusional insane do not recognize that the delusional insane have condemned themselves. 2 The delusional insane do not wish to die, yet the delusional insane will not let condemnation go. 3 And so the delusional insane separate into their private worlds, where everything is disordered, and where what is within appears to be without. 4 Yet what is within the delusional insane, which is their own imprisoned Big “S” Self, they do not see, for the reality of their brothers’ Big “S” Self they, the delusional insane, cannot recognize.

Note #49: Projection is an egoic attempt to get rid of something the mind does not want. It is the source of our guilt. When we project something outside our mind, we are unaware that we are the source of the thought and, therefore, are the true director of
everything we perceive. We believe that the source for what we are “observing” is from outside our own mind. Thus, not realizing that we are the actual generator of the image, we believe the outside world is acting as the independent source of what we perceive. We, the source of the projection, now claim that we are its effect and are being “done upon”. These internal mirrors of projection help insure that we will never discover the source to the “problem”. The ultimate source can be traced back to our own guilt. We will never find the source of our guilt out there because we have hidden the source of our guilt deep inside our minds. This is why the motto of the ego is “seek and never find”. Looking outside ourselves, we blame everyone but ourselves. We refuse to accept the fact that the true source of guilt is our own mind. Projection is the main tool that allows the ego to remain in control of our thought system and keep us in victim consciousness. Being a victim, we believe that we are powerless to effect our world and incapable of choosing again.

The Holy Spirit, if asked, will reinterpret our projection and correct our misperception. Through the use of the tool of forgiveness, the Holy Spirit returns us to the understanding that we have the power to decide again and choose for the truth of the One Self. The goal of the Holy Spirit is to gently reawaken the decision maker to right-mindedness. Right-mindedness is in the Christ consciousness part of our split mind. Because your split mind is a mind in conflict, it holds two opposing viewpoints. These opposite beliefs of what you are results in constant warring within you. The split-minded see duality where only a oneness exists. You believe that you are both good and evil, loving and hating, mind and body. These are opposite and are not reconcilable. Only one is true. You cannot be both. Until you recognize that you can only be as God created you, you cannot heal your split mind and make it whole. The Holy Spirit knows you as your Big “S” Self. Yet, your egoic little “s” self believes that you are limited because it believes that you have a will other than Your Father’s Will. The split-minded cannot reawaken to knowledge alone. They must have their brother beside them. Having lost knowledge, you live in your own private world of illusion. Since you fail to realize that you are the dreamer, you are incapable of correcting the problem. You have become so heavily involved in the dream that you are incapable of making a decision outside the dream to end it. You have forgotten that you are the dreamer. The solutions to the illusionary problems you experience in a dream cannot be corrected in the dream itself. The only away to correct this fictitious problem is to reawaken the mind so that the dreamer will know the illusion was never real. To seek an answer within the dream of separation is to give reality to the dream. This would only increase the dreamer’s fears. The Holy Spirit will never do this, for the Holy Spirit will never do anything that would increase your fear. Fear is a cornerstone in the thought system of the ego. Therefore, to increase fear is contrary to the function and goal of the Holy Spirit, which is the healing of the split-minded.

T-13.V.5. You have but two emotions, love and fear, yet in your private world you react to each of them, love and fear, as though it were the other. 2 For love cannot abide in a world apart, where when love comes love is not recognized. 3 If you see your own hatred as your brother, you are not seeing your brother but rather your own hatred. 4 Everyone draws nigh unto what he loves, and recoils from what he fears. 5 And you react with fear to love, and draw away from love. 6 Yet fear attracts you, and believing fear is
love, you call fear to yourself. 7 Your private world is filled with figures of fear you have invited into your private world, and all the love your brothers offer you, you do not see.

Note # 50: Following the ego’s thought system, we made an up-side down world. The ego does not comprehend true love since the ego believes that you only give to get. Love becomes fear and fear love. Conditional love, which is based on fear, is accepted by the ego and is what the ego calls “love.” Unconditional love is rejected and guarded against by the ego since it is viewed as a bad trade and a direct threat to egoic separation. Unconditional love is feared by the ego. This is insane and insures only unhappiness. In the world of perception, there are only two emotions. Fear rules the ego’s thought system; love rules the Holy Spirit’s. In the real world of the Kingdom there is only love, for love is only real.

T-13.V.6. As you look with open eyes upon your private world of perception, it must occur to you that you have withdrawn into insanity. 2 Within your own private world of provisional reality, you see what is not there, and you hear what makes no sound. 3 Your manifestations of emotions are the opposite of what the emotions are. Fear becomes love and love, fear. 4 You communicate with no one, and you are as isolated from reality as if you were alone in all the universe. 5 In your madness you overlook reality completely, and you see only your own split mind everywhere you look. p248 6 God calls you and you do not hear, for you are preoccupied with your own egoic voice. 7 And the vision of Christ is not in your sight, for you look upon yourself alone3.

Note # 51: Projection differs from creation or extension, since projection is based on exclusion, rather than inclusion. Extension is sharing and, therefore, inclusive. In creation, we are sharing what we truly are, which is thought, not form. In projection, a thought never truly leaves the mind of the projector. It is not shared. In projection, we are attempting to get rid of what we do not want. Although we believe that what we perceived was caused by someone other than us, the thought remains fixed in our own minds. Because of the use of projection, we never see our brother’s real Big “S” Self. We only see the image we have made of our brother as a little “s” self. It is not our brother’s littleness that we see, but rather our own mind’s little “s” self. We are not communicating with anybody real, since we have chosen to “talk” only to the shadowy figures that we have created within our own minds. This image-making allows us to replace the reality of Christ vision with the egoic “seeing”. Physical sight only “sees” the illusionary veils we have made to hide from the Mind of God. Christ vision is our only reality since it is part of the Mind of God and is the truth. Egoic seeing comes from fear because it was born from fear. Christ vision bears witness to love because it arises from love.

T-13.V.7. Little child, would you offer this private world born out of your own fear to your Father? 2 For if you offer a world of fear to yourself, you <are> offering a world of fear to your Father. 3 And your Father will not return a world of fear, for a world of fear is unworthy of you because a world of fear is unworthy of your Father. 4 Yet your Father would release you from your world of fear and set you free. 5 Your Father’s sane Answer tells you what you have offered yourself, your world of fear is not true, but your Father’s offering to you has never changed. 6 You who know not what
you do can learn what insanity is, and look beyond your private world of insanity and fear. 7 It is given you to learn how to deny insanity, and come forth from your private world in peace. 8 You will see all that you denied in your brothers because you denied these same things in yourself. 9 For you will love your brothers, and by drawing near (near or close to) unto your brothers you will draw your brothers to yourself, perceiving your brothers as witnesses to the reality you share with God. 10 I am with your brothers as I am with you, and we will draw your brothers from their private worlds, for as we are united so would we unite with your brothers. 11 The Father welcomes all of us in gladness, and gladness is what we should offer the Father. 12 For every Son of God is given you to whom God gave Himself. 13 And it is God Whom you must offer your brothers, who are Son of God, to recognize God’s gift to you.

Note # 52: God’s law states that to give is to receive. Being a Oneness, we can only give to ourselves. We cannot love God unless we love all of God. We, along with the entire Sonship, share in the unity of the Mind of God. Any withholding of love to any part of the Oneness is the rejecting of our Oneness and is not true unconditioned love. This is why when God extended Himself, He give everything to the Sonship because God is everything. God could not create except like Himself, perfect, whole and complete. We must freely decide to accept the unity for the entire Sonship and become that One Self. We cannot withhold our love from part of the indivisible Mind of God.

T-13.V.8. Vision depends on light. 2 You cannot see in darkness. 3 Yet in darkness, in the private world of sleep, you see in dreams although your eyes are closed. 4 And it is here in the darkness of your private world that what you see you made. 5 But let the darkness go and all you made you will no longer see, for sight of what you made in the darkness of your own private world depends upon denying vision. 6 Yet from denying vision it does not follow you cannot see. 7 But this is what denial does, for by denying Christ’s Vision you accept insanity, believing you can make a private world and rule your own perception. 8 Yet for your belief that you can make a private world and rule your own perception light must be excluded. 9 Dreams disappear when light has come and you can see.

Note # 53: Light is an understanding of what you truly are. Light represents the truth. Christ vision, being of light, dispels the darkness so that your private delusionary world can fade away. With darkness gone, we can rediscover the reality of the One Self. This is our returning to the holographic oneness of whole-mindedness. With Christ vision, we look with the eyes of love and forgiveness upon all our brothers and ourselves.

T-13.V.9. Do not seek vision through your egoic eyes, for you made your way of seeing that you might see in darkness, and in this way of seeing in darkness you are deceived. 2 Beyond this darkness, and yet still within you, is the vision of Christ, Who looks on all in light. 3 Your egoic "vision" comes from fear, as Christ vision comes from love. 4 And Christ sees for you, as Christ is your witness to the real world. 5 Christ is the Holy Spirit's manifestation, looking always on the real world, and calling forth the real world's witnesses and drawing the real world's witnesses to you. 6 The Holy Spirit loves what Christ sees within you, and Christ would extend what Christ truly sees
within you. 7 And Christ will not return unto the Father until the Holy Spirit has extended your perception even unto the Father. p249 8 And there perception is no more, for the Holy Spirit has returned you to the Father with the Christ.

Note # 54: Christ is the manifestation of the Holy Spirit. Although we speak of the Holy Trinity as being made up of three separate beings, the Father, Sonship, and Holy Spirit, they are part of the same Oneness and are not separate. They are the One Self. Because we are in the habit of dealing in a world of duality, we speak of things as being separate and distinct. The reality of the Oneness of God cannot be understood in language, which is limited. For the sake of discussion, the Holy Spirit and Christ could be used almost interchangeably. ACIM also states that the Christ is the home of the Holy Spirit. The Christ normally refers to the part of the split mind that has never lost the remembrance of God. The Holy Spirit is the bridge that reconnects the split-minded son and brings him back home to the Father.

T-13.V.10. You have but two emotions, and one you made, which is the emotion of fear, and one was given you by God and is the emotion of love. 2 Each emotion is a way of seeing, and different worlds arise from love and fear’s different sights. 3 See through the vision of love that is given you, for through Christ's vision Christ beholds Himself, the Sonship. 4 And seeing what Christ is, Christ knows His Father. 5 Beyond your darkest dreams Christ sees God's guiltless Son within you, shining in perfect radiance that is undimmed by your dreams. 6 And this <you>, God's guiltless Son, will see as you look with Christ, for Christ’s vision is God’s gift of love to you, given to the Son of the Father for you.

Note # 55: You will decide on which thought system to follow based on what you value. With this choice, you will choose what you perceive yourself to be. The ego’s thought system is based on sin, fear and guilt and, therefore, it breeds an illusionary world based on fear. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is based on love and the truth about what you really are. It is the path that leads the insane back to the real world, Level #1, the Kingdom or Heaven, which is the remembrance of God.

T-13.V.11. The Holy Spirit is the light in which Christ stands revealed. 2 And all who would behold Christ can see Christ, for they have asked for light. 3 Nor will they, who have asked for light, see Christ alone, for Christ is no more alone than they are who have asked for light. 4 Because they, who have asked for light, saw the Son, they have risen in the Son to the Father. 5 And all this will they, who have asked for light, understand, because they looked within and saw beyond the darkness the Christ in them, who have asked for light and recognized Christ. 6 In the sanity of Christ’s vision they, who have asked for light, looked upon themselves with love, seeing themselves as the Holy Spirit sees them. 7 And with this vision of the truth in them came all the beauty of the world to shine upon them, who have asked for light and who now see with the Vision of Christ.

Note # 56: When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are asking for the reinterpretation of our misperceptions into the Vision of Christ. With the Vision of
Christ, we rediscover the truth about our brothers and ourselves. We “see” though the healing eyes of love and forgiveness.

**VI. Finding the Present**

T-13.VI.1. To perceive truly is to be aware of all reality through the awareness of your own reality. 2 But for this, the ability to perceive truly, no illusions can rise to meet your sight, for reality leaves no room for any error. 3 This means that you perceive a brother only as you see him <now, > with no reference to the past. 4 A brother’s past has no reality in the present, so you cannot see a brother’s past in the present and perceive truly. 5 Your past reactions to a brother are also not there, and if it is there, it is to these past reactions to a brother that you react, you see but an image of your brother that you made and cherish instead of your brother’s reality. 6 In your questioning of illusions, ask yourself if it is really sane to perceive what was as now. 7 If you remember the past as you look upon your brother, you will be unable to perceive the reality that is now.

**Note # 57:** True perception allows for correct awareness of the whole through our correct awareness of our own reality. Each mirrors the other since they share the same Will of God. This is an example of “as above so below. “Knowledge and the Laws of God are universally applicable. Thus, we can go from a specific form of an example and generalize that same knowing to the abstract or general. If we allow our perception to be clouded by our past beliefs about our brother, we will not be able to accept the reality of the present. Old beliefs and judgments give rise to past misperceptions that we now project into the present. Thus, our viewpoints and perception remain the same as the past. Viewing the present from a past reference point dooms us to repeating our past perceived experiences as current events. This is why ACIM’s goal is not to change the world, but rather change how you view your world. ACIM suggests that we need to replace all judgments with forgiveness if we are to rediscover what is the real truth about our Big “S” Self.

T-13.VI.2. You consider it "natural" to use your past experience as the reference point from which to judge the present. 2 Yet this is <unnatural> because your past experiences were based on misperceptions and, therefore, this is delusional. 3 When you have learned to look on everyone with no reference at all to the past, either his past or your past as you perceived the past, you will be able to learn from what you see <now, > p250 4 For the past can cast no shadow to darken the present, <unless you are afraid of light, > 5 And only if you are afraid of light would you choose to bring darkness with you, and by holding the darkness from the past in your mind, see the <now> as a dark cloud that shrouds your brothers and conceals their reality from your sight.

**Note # 58:** The dark thought system of the ego sees the past as the most important element of time. If the ego can keep your mind focused on the past, you will never see the
present as an opportunity for your decision-maker to choose again. Thus, you remain in victim consciousness which insures the continued existence of your ego because the future will be interpreted as a reenactment of your past belief of separation and littleness.

T-13.VI.3. *<This darkness, which is cause by your past judgments and misperceptions, is in you.*> 2 The Christ as revealed to you now has no past, for *the Christ* is changeless, and in *the Christ's* changelessness lies your release. 3 For if *the Christ* is as *the Christ* was created, there is no guilt in *the Christ*. 4 No cloud of guilt has risen to obscure *the Christ*, and *the Christ* stands revealed in everyone you meet because you see *the Christ* through Himself. 5 To be born again is to let the past go, and look without condemnation upon the present. 6 The cloud that obscures God's Son to you *is* the past, and if you would have the cloud past and be gone, you must not see *any past cloud of misperceptions that obscures God's Son in the present, which is the now*. 7 If you see *any reference to the past now in your current illusions, these past misperceptions have* not gone from you, although *these past clouds are* not there since they were *reference points to a imagined past, which was an illusion and, therefore, never real.*

Note # 59: To be born again is to let the past go, and look without condemnation upon the present. This is how the vision of Christ functions. Its focus is only in the *<now>*.

T-13.VI.4. Time can release as well as imprison, depending on whose interpretation, *(the ego's or the Holy Spirit's)*, of *time* you use. 2 Past, present and future are not continuous, unless you force continuity on *the past, present and future*. 3 You can perceive *the past, present and future* as continuous, and *thus make the time continuous* for you. 4 But do not be deceived, and then believe that this *continuousness of time* is how *time* is. 5 For to believe reality is what you would have *reality* be according to your use for *time* *<is>* delusional. 6 You would destroy time's continuity by breaking *time* into past, present and future for your own purposes. 7 You would anticipate the future on the basis of your past experience, and plan for *the future accordingly*. 8 Yet by doing so you are aligning past and future, and not allowing the miracle, which could intervene between *past and future in the presence of the <now>* , to free you to be born again. **Miracles are always in the now, the present.**

Note # 60: Time is not required to be linear. When we can accept the Holy Spirit’s understanding of time, the focus on the past and future are dropped and we live in the now. Miracle-mindedness utilizes the time of *<now>*. The present and the future do not have to be based on the past. If we choose be believe that time is linear, then that is how we will perceive it to be. Time is always eternally *<now>*.

Miracles are defined as a change in perception. In a miracle, we move from wrong perception to correct perception. The miracle is a decision to change the thought system we choose to follow. Since time arose out of a belief in the separation, time is a temporary tool required to facilitate the relearning process until the Sonship returns to whole-mindedness. When knowledge has returned, time will once again disappear. The closest thing that we currently can experience to aid us in our understanding of eternity is the *<now>*. The miracle compresses time. We believe that any change takes time. The miracle makes change happen instantaneously. Eternity is changeless; therefore, in
eternity there is no change for time to measure. Unlike the thought system of the ego that utilizes the past to make the future, the Holy Spirit deals in the reality of the <now>. Any past reference points are laid aside so that nothing obscures the true light of the Christ we share. Forgiveness is the tool utilized by the Holy Spirit to remove these past reference points from our mind.

T-13.VI.5. The miracle enables you to see your brother without his past, and so perceive your brother as born again. 2 Your brother’s errors are all past, and by perceiving your brother without past errors you are releasing your brother. 3 And since your brother’s past is your past, you share in this release. 4 Let no dark cloud out of your past obscure your brother from you, for truth lies only in the present, and you will find truth if you seek truth in the present. 5 You have looked for truth where truth is not, and therefore have not found truth. 6 Learn, then, to seek truth where truth is, and truth will dawn on eyes that see. 7 Your past was made in anger, and if you use your past to attack the present, you will not see the freedom that the present holds.

Note # 61: In utilizing the vision of Christ, we are aided by the Holy Spirit. We let the past go and look without condemnation upon the present. The miracle’s focus is only on the <now>. Without past judgment, misperceptions are transformed into true or correct perception. The miracle is a change in perception that transcends time by eliminating the past. With the past gone, we can truly experience the <now> instead of reenacting our past misperceptions.

T-13.VI.6. Judgment and condemnation are behind you, and unless you bring judgment and condemnation with you, you will see that you are free of judgment and condemnation. 2 Look lovingly upon the present, for the present holds the only things that are forever true. 3 All healing lies within the present because the present’s continuity is real. The present extends to all aspects of the Sonship at the same time, and thus enables all aspects of the Sonship to reach each other. 5 The present is before time was, and will be when time is no more. 6 In the present are all things that are eternal, and in the present all things are one. 7 The continuity of all things is timeless and their communication is unbroken, for all things are not separated by the past. 8 Only the past can separate, and the past is nowhere.

Note # 62: In the real world of the Mind of God, there is only the eternal, which shares the Oneness of God’s Will. In our world of perception, the Holy Spirit teaches us to be in the <now>. All healing and decisions to choose again only happen in the <now>. If your present moment’s focus is referenced to the past or the future even though you perceive yourself to be in the present, you are not in the <now>. The <now> is a state of “being” in the present moment only. “Being,” not “thinking,” is required if one is to experience the <now>.

T-13.VI.7. The present offers you your brothers in the light that would unite you with your brothers, and free you from the past. 2 Would you, then, hold the past against your brothers? 3 For if you do hold the past against your brothers, you are choosing to remain in the darkness that is not there, and refusing to accept the light that is offered
you. 4 For the light of perfect vision is freely given as the light of perfect vision is freely received, and the light of perfect vision can be accepted only without limit. 5 In this one, still dimension of time that does not change, and where there is no sight of what you were, you look at Christ and call Christ’s witnesses to shine on you because you called Christ’s witnesses forth. 6 And Christ’s witnesses will not deny the truth in you, because you looked for the truth in Christ’s witnesses and found the truth there.

Note # 63: The past binds and imprisons us to reenact these same past perceptions in present and future time frames. Instead of being in the <now> and choosing differently, we relive past illusions and misperception and continue to make the separation appear real in the present. In the <now> of a holy instant we can drop all past judgments and be free to utilize the vision of Christ. The vision of Christ looks past all remnants of the false and observes correctly with the eyes of love and forgiveness. This heals and releases the Big “S” Self from the imprisonment of the egoic thought system.

T-13.VI.8. Now is the time of salvation, for now is the release from time. 2 Reach out to all your brothers, and touch all your brothers with the touch of Christ. 3 In timeless union with all your brothers is your continuity, unbroken because your continuity is wholly shared with all your brothers. 4 God's guiltless Son is only light. 5 There is no darkness in God's guiltless Son anywhere, for God's guiltless Son is whole. 6 Call all your brothers to witness to God's guiltless Son's wholeness, as I am calling you to join with me. 7 Each voice has a part in the song of redemption, the hymn of gladness and thanksgiving for the light to the Creator of light. 8 The holy light that shines forth from God's Son is the witness that God's Son's light is of his Father.

Note # 64: Only in the <now> can we make the decision to accept the Atonement for ourselves. This healing of the split-minded Sonship happens in the <now>. The <now> of correct perception mirrors the truth of the changeless eternal One Self.

T-13.VI.9. Shine on your brothers in remembrance of your Creator, for you will remember your Creator as you call forth the witnesses to your Creator’s creation. 2 Those whom you heal bear witness to your healing, for in their wholeness you will see your own wholeness. 3 And as your hymns of praise and gladness rise to your Creator, your Creator will return your thanks in your Creator’s clear Answer to your call. 4 For it can never be that God’s Son called upon God and that the Son’s call remained unanswered. 5 God’s Call to you is but your call to God. 6 And in God you are answered by God’s peace.

Note # 65: God placed the Holy Spirit inside your Christ consciousness to insure the safety of your Big “S” Self during your temporary insanity while you dreamed the game of separation. The Holy Spirit is the Voice or Call for the Sonship’s remembrance of God. The Atonement is God’s answer to the belief that the separation was real.

T-13.VI.10. Child of Light, you know not that the light is in you. 2 Yet you will find the light through the light’s witnesses, for having given light to them they, your brothers, will return the light. 3 Each one of your brothers that you see in light brings your light
closer to your awareness. 4 Love always leads to love. 5 The sick, who ask for love, are grateful for your love, and in their joy the sick, who ask for love, shine with holy thanks. p252 6 And it is this joy and love that the sick, who have received your love, offer back to you who gave them joy. 7 The sick, who have asked for love, are your guides to joy, for having received joy of you they would keep it. 8 You have established the sick, who have asked for love, as guides to peace, for you have made peace manifest in them. 9 And seeing peace manifest in them, peace’s beauty calls you home.

**Note # 66:** Even though our goal is to accept the Atonement for ourselves, because of the unity of the Sonship in the shared Mind of God, all the Sonship shares the benefit. By correctly perceiving any experience as either an act of love or a cry for love, we move closer to our homecoming. By realizing that a supposed attack is merely a brother’s cry for love, we can respond appropriately with loving and forgiving thoughts. Since what we give, we receive, our love and forgiveness to our brother is returned to ourselves. By seeing the Christ in our brother, we rediscover the Christ that was hidden in our own split-mind.

T-13.VI.11. There is a light that this egoic world cannot give. 2 Yet you can give this light, as this light was given you. 3 And as you give this light, this light shines forth to call you from the egoic world and follow this light. 4 For this light will attract you as nothing in this egoic world can do. 5 And you will lay aside the egoic world and find another world. 6 This other world is bright with love which you have given this other world. 7 And here in this other world will everything remind you of your Father and His holy Son. 8 Light is unlimited, and spreads across this world in quiet joy. 9 All those you brought with you will shine on you, and you will shine on them in gratitude because all those you brought with you also brought you here to this world of light. 10 Your light will join with theirs in power so compelling, that this light will draw the others out of darkness as you look on them.

**Note # 67:** Light is the Christ consciousness. Light is the understanding of what we really are, God’s guiltless Son, perfect, whole and complete. We are spirit, not a bodily form. We are God’s Thoughts, a Oneness in the holographic Mind of God that comprises the One Self.

T-13.VI.12. Awaking unto Christ is following the laws of love out of your own free will, and out of quiet recognition of the truth in the laws of love. 2 The attraction of light must draw you willingly, and willingness is signified by giving. 3 Those who accept love of you become your willing witnesses to the love you gave them, and it is they who hold love freely out to you. 4 In sleep you are alone, and your awareness is narrowed to yourself. 5 And that is why the nightmares come. 6 You dream of isolation because your eyes are closed. 7 You do not see your brothers, and in the darkness you cannot look upon the light you gave to your brothers.

**Note # 68:** The law of love is that love gives all that it is, for by giving love you receive love. Love must be given for its nature is one of sharing. In this sharing is the oneness of the Sonship reborn. Your free will determines when you will choose to accept the fact
that your will is your Father’s Will. God’s Will is that His Son be happy. The awakening of the Christ is the reclaiming of your divine inheritance that comprises everything. We remain one with God, perfect, whole and complete.

T-13.VI.13. And yet the laws of love are not suspended because you sleep. 2 And you have followed the laws of love through all your nightmares, and have been faithful in your giving, for you were not alone. 3 Even in sleep has Christ protected you, ensuring the real world for you when you awake. 4 In your name Christ has given for you, and given you the gifts Christ gave. 5 God's Son is still as loving as his Father. 6 Continuous with his Father, he has no past apart from his Father. 7 So God’s Son, the Christ, has never ceased to be his Father's witness and his own. 8 Although, the split-minded son slept, Christ's vision did not leave the split-minded son. 9 And so it is that the split-minded son can call unto himself the witnesses that teach him that he never slept.

Note # 69: Although we have forgotten our divine birthright due to our belief in the separation, our inheritance has been preserved in the Christ consciousness part of our mind. Our Big “S” Self has never forgotten the truth and remains aware of Its Oneness with the Mind of God. The light of Christ has shone continuously. It has been obscured by the ego’s thought system, but it has never dimmed. Even during the illusion of separation, the Holy Spirit has continued to preserve any loving thoughts and will restore these creations to our awareness in eternity.

VII. Attainment of the Real World

T-13.VII.1. Sit quietly and look upon the world you see, and tell yourself: “The real world is not like the egoic world I see. 2 The real world has no buildings and there are no streets where people walk alone and separate. 3 In the real world there are no stores where people buy an endless list of things they do not need. 4 The real world is not lit with artificial light, and night comes not upon the real world. 5 In the real world there is no day that brightens and grows dim. 6 In the real world there is no loss. 7 In the real world nothing is there but shines, and shines forever.”

Note # 70: The real world is based on truth. It is not a place or location set in time. It is a state of being. When we lost knowledge, we lost “sight” in the real world. We replaced truth with a world based on perception. Perception is not knowledge and our perception changes as our viewpoints shift. The real world is changeless and, therefore, eternal. The world of perception is an unstable, changeable world that becomes our private world of provisional reality. The world of perception was made by the split-minded to maintain the belief that our will could be separate from our Source. The Holy Spirit will use this same world of perception as a learning device to teach us that we are love and that only love is real. When we have relearned this lesson, we will be ready to accept the Atonement for ourselves and return to the real world.

T-13.VII.2. The world you see must be denied, for sight of the world you see is costing
you a different kind of vision, the vision of Christ. 2 <You cannot see both worlds,> for each of these worlds involves a different kind of seeing, and depends on what you cherish. Do you cherish oneness or specialness born from the belief in separation? Do you cherish truth, or false illusions? 3 The sight of one is possible because you have denied the other. 4 Both worlds are not true, yet either one will seem as real to you as the amount to which you hold that one world dear. 5 And yet the powers of these two worlds are not the same, because their real attraction to you is unequal.

Note # 71: The world we “see” will be based in where we, as decision-makers, place our allegiance. If we side with the thought system of the ego, we see a world of form based on our belief in separateness, specialness and limitation. Since we perceive ourselves as an ego-body, we project out of our mind a world that conforms to and bears witness to our belief that the separation is real. If we side with the Holy Spirit’s thought system, our world of provisional reality will be reinterpret to become a learning tool that will lead us back to the reality of the real world. The real world is based on truth, and truth was something that was lost when we chose littleness or specialness, over our Big “S” Self. Denial of truth led us to project or make an imaginary world based on sin, guilt and fear. This world we made is our egocentric attempt to keep out God and God’s love.

T-13.VII.3. You do not really want the world you see, for the world you see has disappointed you since time began. 2 The homes you built have never sheltered you. 3 The roads you made have led you nowhere, and no city that you built has withstood the crumbling assault of time. 4 Nothing you made but has the mark of death upon it. 5 Hold the world you made and see it not dear, for the world you made and see is old and tired and ready to return to dust even as you made it. 6 This aching world has not the power to touch the living world at all. 7 You could not give the world you made the power to be real, and so although you turn in sadness from the world you made, you cannot find in the world you made the road that leads away from the world you made into another world, which is real and eternal.

Note # 72: This passage in ACIM clearly states that we, not God, made our private world of provisional reality which is based on our shifting perception. This world we made is not real because we made it. It is important to realize that the word “make” is different from “create.” When we made this world, we failed to extend all what we are, which is unlimited spirit. Instead, we chose to limit or exclude something. Creation is extension. When God creates, being everything, God gives everything to His creations. It is not that we, as Son’s of God, do not have the ability to create like God, but rather that when we made this world, we believed that we were something less than what God created. Believing that we were limited, imperfect and incomplete, the world we made was also limited, imperfect and incomplete. Creation is born out of love, which is sharing. Our world of perception was born out of fear, which is exclusion. The world of perception is Level # 2. The real world, the Kingdom or Heaven, is Level # 1. These two levels are parallel lines. They never met. We cannot find Heaven, Level #1, by looking in Level # 2’s illusions. The Holy Spirit acts as the bridge between these two worlds. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of both the world of truth and the world of illusion. For ACIM purposes nothing is real in the world of perception, for a dream, by its very definition is an illusion
and, therefore, a fantasy. Salvation cannot be found in a dream. It can only be found by reawakening to the truth.

T-13.VII.4. Yet the real world has the power to touch you even here, because you love the real world. 2 And what you call with love will come to you. 3 Love always answers, being unable to deny a call for help, or not to hear the cries of pain that rise to love’s awareness from every part of this strange world you made but do not want. 4 All that you need to give this world of illusion away in glad exchange for what you did not make, which is the real world of the Kingdom, is willingness to learn the one you made, the illusionary world of perception, is false.

Note # 73: The world of perception exists only in the mind of the perceiver. It has no real impact on truth. If we realize that we are the dreamer, we can choose to reawaken to the truth. The dream will fade away into the nothingness from which it arose. The Christ consciousness remembers the reality of what you are. It is your Big “S” Self that feels love’s pull for you to rejoin the Kingdom.

T-13.VII.5. You have been wrong about the world because you have misjudged yourself and believed yourself limited. 2 From such a twisted reference point, what could you see? 3 All seeing starts with the perceiver, who judges what is true and what is false. 4 And what the perceiver judges false the perceiver does not see. 5 You who would judge reality cannot see reality, for whenever judgment enters reality has slipped away. 6 The out of mind is out of sight, because what is denied is there but is not recognized. 7 Christ is still there, although you know Christ not. 8 Christ’s Being does not depend upon your recognition. 9 Christ lives within you in the quiet present, and waits for you to leave the past behind and enter into the world Christ holds out to you in love.

Note # 74: Christ has never left our mind. We have just refused to hear His Voice for God and the Truth. Christ is eternally in our mind since that is truth’s reality. The changeless eternal has no past. The eternal is the “always”. In perception, time, which arose to accommodate our belief that the separation was real, does appear to have a past, present and future. The ego wants us to remain tied to our past illusion so that we will continue to misperceive ourselves as limited and separate small “s” selves.

T-13.VII.6. No one in this distracted world but has seen some glimpses of the other world about him. 2 Yet while he still lays value on his own private world of specialness, he will deny the vision of the other real world, maintaining that he loves what he loves not, and following not the road that love points out. He, the split-minded claims he loves his private world of specialness over the world of truth. 3 Love leads so gladly! 4 As you follow Christ, you will rejoice that you have found Christ’s company, and learned of Christ the joyful journey home. 5 You wait but for yourself. 6 To give this sad world over and exchange your errors for the peace of God is but <your> will. 7 And Christ will always offer you the Will of God, in recognition that you share the Will of God with Christ.

Note # 75: We will continue to perceive the world that we value. The egoic split-mind
values separation, specialness and littleness. The Big “S” Self values the wholeness of Love’s One Self. The Christ is the part of the split-mind that is the home of whole or right-mindedness. The Christ is also the home of the Holy Spirit. The Christ resides in the truth that you are the One Self of the Mind of God.

T-13.VII.7. It is God's Will that nothing touch His Son except Himself, and nothing else comes nigh (close to) unto him. 2 Christ, God’s Son, is as safe from pain as God Himself, Who watches over him in everything. 3 The world about Christ, God’s Son, shines with love because God placed him in God, Himself, where pain is not, and love surrounds him without end or flaw. 4 Disturbance of his peace can never be. 5 In perfect sanity God’s Son looks on love, for love is all about him and within him. 6 God’s Son must deny the world of pain the instant he perceives the arms of love around him. 7 And from this point of safety Christ, God’s Son looks quietly about him and recognizes that the world is one with him.

Note # 76: We are part of the Mind of God. As such, we have never left the Love of the Father and continue to abide in the Mind of God. This is the Christ in us. There is nothing outside the Mind of God since God is everything. Again ACIM describes the oneness that exists between God and His Creation. The Cause and Its Effect are intertwined until They are the inseparable One Self.

T-13.VII.8. The peace of God passeth your understanding only in the past. 2 Yet here the peace of God is, and you can understand the peace of God now. 3 God loves His Son forever, and His Son returns his Father's Love forever. 4 The real world is the way that leads you to remembrance of the one thing that is wholly true and wholly yours, which is God’s Love. 5 For all else you have lent yourself in time, and time will fade. 6 But this one thing, God’s Love, is always yours, being the gift of God unto His Son. 7 Your one reality, God’s Love, was given you, and by God’s Love, God created you as one with God

Note # 77: Being changeless, we can never lose God’s Love for this is not part of God’s Will. Only in time can we pretend to lack God’s Love. Time exists only in the illusionary dream state in which the false appears to exist along with the truth. When we forgot knowledge, we denied the peace of God. Time allows us to correct our misperception that arose from our belief in the separation. With our reawakening, time will disappear along with the dream of separation. God’s peace will be remembered.

T-13.VII.9. You will first dream of peace, and then awaken to peace. 2 Your first exchange of what you made for what you want is the exchange of nightmares for the happy dreams of love. 3 In these happy dreams of love, lie your true perceptions, for the Holy Spirit corrects the world of dreams, where all perception is. 4 Knowledge needs no correction. 5 Yet the dreams of love lead unto knowledge. 6 In the happy dreams of love you see nothing fearful, and because of this the happy dreams of love are the welcome that you offer knowledge. 7 Love waits on welcome, not on time, and the real world is but your welcome of what always was. 8 Therefore the call of joy is in the happy dreams of love, and your glad response is your awakening to what you have not
Note # 78: Even the happy dream of love is still an illusion. But within this illusion, we begin to recognize the truth. The happy dream of love is as close as we can come to the return to the knowledge of Level # 1, while still within the world of perception, which is Level # 2. Knowledge and even correct perception is not the same. Knowledge is just being; it requires no thought. Since Level # 1 and # 2 never meet, God will take the final step to return His Son to the state of knowledge. Knowledge is the return to the Kingdom, which is the real world of Level # 1.

T-13.VII.10. Praise, then, the Father for the perfect sanity of His most holy Son. 2 Your Father knoweth that you have need of nothing. 3 In Heaven this is so that you have need of nothing, for what could you need in eternity? 4 In your world of perception, born out of the belief in limitation you do need things. 5 Your world of perception is a world of scarcity in which you find yourself <because> you are lacking. 6 Yet can you find and rediscover yourself, your Big “S” Self, in such a world? Can you rediscover what you really are in the world of illusion? 7 Without the Holy Spirit the answer would be no. 8 Yet because of the Holy Spirit the answer is a joyous <yes!> 9 As Mediator, the Holy Spirit, is between the two worlds, the Holy Spirit knows what you have need of and what will not hurt you. 10 Ownership is a dangerous concept if ownership of your true needs were left to you. 11 The ego wants to have things for salvation, for possession is the ego’s law. 12 Possession for possession’s own sake is the ego’s fundamental creed, a basic cornerstone in the churches the ego builds to itself. 13 And at the ego’s altar the ego demands you lay all of the things the ego bids you get, leaving you no joy in all of the things you got.

Note # 79: The ego’s thought system is based on limitation and on you not being a oneness. Form is one of the best “proofs” that the ego has to verify that you are not everything. The ego then tells us that we will be saved when we collect something special from outside ourselves. The ego always places our happiness outside of our control because the ego does not want us to be the source for our own happiness. We learn to place value on the worthless changing world of form and thus, misperceiving our needs. When we request the aid of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit will reinterpret the events that we misperceived into holy experiences. The tool of forgiveness is the major transformational weapon against the ego’s thought system. Misperception is converted into correct perception through the Holy Spirit’s guidance. The Holy Spirit knows that our only true need is to follow God’s Will and thus, be happy.

T-13.VII.11. Everything the ego tells you that you need will hurt you. 2 For although the ego urges you again and again to get, the ego leaves you nothing, for what you get the ego will demand of you. 3 And even from the very hands that grasped what the ego said you needed, the item will be wrenched from you by the ego and hurled into the dust. 4 For where the ego sees salvation the ego sees separation, and so you lose whatever you have gotten in the ego’s name. 5 Therefore ask not of yourself what you need, for you do not know what you need, and your advice to yourself will hurt you. 6 For what you think you need will merely serve to tighten up your world against the light, and render you
unwilling to question the value that this world of illusion can really hold for you.

Note # 80: The ego teaches that we are limited forms. Believing that we are limited ego bodies, we perceive that we need something outside ourselves. This helps the ego convince us that we are lacking and are not whole. This strengthens our belief that the separation was real and reinforces the ego’s thought system. Needs are things that we value. We believe that without these things, we will either die or remain incomplete. Until we are willing to give all our perception of vulnerability over to the Holy Spirit’s correct perception, we will remain bound in the egoic world of lack and limitation. The Holy Spirit will provide everything you truly need in time, for the Holy Spirit will do nothing that would increase your fear. We cannot be unlimited spirit while we cling to a body-form. We only need God’s love but God’s love is impossible to either lose or earn. God’s love is freely given because it is the unconditional Love of God for His One Self.

T-13.VII.12. Only the Holy Spirit knows what you need. 2 For the Holy Spirit will give you all things that do not block the way to light. 3 And what else could you need? 4 In time, the Holy Spirit gives you all the things that you need to have in the illusionary world of time, and will renew all the things that you need to have in the illusionary world of time as long as you have need of them. 5 The Holy Spirit will take nothing from you as long as you have any need of it. 6 And yet the Holy Spirit knows that everything you need is temporary, and will but last until you step aside from all your needs and realize that all of your needs have been fulfilled. 7 Therefore the Holy Spirit has no investment in the things that the Holy Spirit supplies, except to make certain that you will not use them on behalf of lingering in time. 8 The Holy Spirit knows that you are not at home there in the illusionary world of time, and the Holy Spirit wills no delay to wait upon your joyous homecoming.

Note # 81: Because we have lost knowledge, we are trapped in our illusionary world of time and perception, which arises out of the projection of our belief in sin, guilt and fear. Since we believe that we are separate, the concept of time was needed temporarily until we reawaken to the reality of the Oneness. We need the experiences of the dream world of perception so that we can freely choose to accept God’s Will as our own will. The Holy Spirit, if asked, will reinterpret our misperception into correct perception. Our misperceptions are born out of fear. Correct perceptions arise from forgiveness, love and the realization of our common oneness with our brother. The Holy Spirit will not do anything that would increase our fear for that would drag us deeper into the unreality of the illusions. The Holy Spirit insures that we gently reawaken to the truth of our Big “S” Self’s Oneness with God.

T-13.VII.13. Leave, then, your needs to the Holy Spirit. 2 The Holy Spirit will supply your needs with no emphasis at all upon your needs. 3 What comes to you of the Holy Spirit comes safely, for the Holy Spirit will ensure that what comes to you of the Holy Spirit never can become a dark spot, hidden in your mind and kept to hurt you. p256 4 Under the Holy Spirit’s guidance you will travel light and journey lightly, for the Holy Spirit’s sight is ever on the journey’s end, which is the Holy Spirit’s goal. 5 God's Son is not a traveller through outer worlds. 6 However holy his perception may become, no
world outside himself holds **God's Son's** inheritance. 7 Within himself **God's Son** has no needs, for light needs nothing but to shine in peace, and from itself to let the rays extend in quiet to infinity.

**Note # 82:** Being an extension of God, we need nothing for we, like Our Creator, are everything. We need do nothing, for the truth about what we really are is unalterable.

**T-13.VII.14.** Whenever you are tempted to undertake a useless journey that would lead away from light, remember what you really want, and say:

2 *The Holy Spirit leads me unto Christ, and where else would I go?* 3 *What need have I but to awake in Christ?*

**Note # 83:** Always be willing to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance since He speaks on behalf of your Big “S” Self.

**T-13.VII.15.** Then follow the Holy Spirit in joy, with faith that the Holy Spirit will lead you safely through all dangers to your peace of mind this world of perception may set before you. 2 Kneel not before the altars to sacrifice to the false gods of the ego’s thought system, and seek not what you will surely lose. 3 Content yourself with what you will as surely keep, and be not restless, for you undertake a quiet journey to the peace of God, where **God** would have you be in quietness.

**Note # 84:** The Holy Spirit’s thought system will return you home. Home cannot be found in the world of perception for illusions are nothing in the real world. The Holy Spirit’s thought system will reinterpret all your misperceptions and return you to the Christ consciousness thus, healing your split-mind so that you can reawaken to the real world of knowledge. Christ never lost His place in the Mind of God. Anytime we lose our peace of mind, we can rest assured that our current thinking is out of alignment with your Big “S” Self. Use this loss of peace as a warning signal to ask for guidance and then choose again. Only the Holy Spirit knows the fastest return journey to the peace of God.

**T-13.VII.16.** *In me, Jesus, who along with you share the Christ consciousness that is a part of every brother,* you have already overcome every temptation that would hold you back. 2 We walk together on the way to quietness that is the gift of God. 3 Hold me dear, for what except your brothers can you need? 4 We, your brothers, will restore to you the peace of mind that we must find together. 5 The Holy Spirit will teach you to awaken unto us, your brothers, and to yourself the Christ that we share. 6 This, the peace of God, which is the Christ, is the only real need to be fulfilled in time. 7 Salvation from the world lies only here. 8 My peace I give you. 9 Take the peace of God, which is the Christ, of me in glad exchange for all the world has offered but to take away. 10 And we will spread the peace of God like a veil of light across the world's sad face, in which we hide our brothers from this sad world, and the world's sad face from our brothers’ peace of God.

**Note # 85:** Because Jesus has already overcome all temptations that could hold us from
the peace of God, we all have shared this experience. We all share the same mind; we
need only to freely accept the gifts that Jesus offers us. Jesus and the Christ, which is in
all of the Sonship, knows the peace of God. It is this peace of God that is offered to all
the Sonship. Being united, we all share equally in the accomplishments of any part of the
Sonship. We are the Christ. The resurrection has already been achieved long ago. We
need merely to remove all our past reference points to sin, guilt and fear and time, itself,
will disappear.

T-13.VII.17. We cannot sing redemption's hymn alone. 2 My task is not completed until I
have lifted every voice with mine. 3 And yet redemption's hymn is not mine, for as
redemption’s hymn is my gift to you, so was redemption's hymn the Father's gift to
me, given me through His Spirit. 4 The sound of redemption's hymn will banish sorrow
from the mind of God's most holy Son, where sorrow cannot abide. 5 Healing in time is
needed, for joy cannot establish joy’s eternal reign where sorrow dwells. 6 You dwell not
here, in an illusionary world of fear, but in eternity. 7 You travel but in dreams, while
you remain safe at home. 8 Give thanks to every part of you that you have taught how to
remember you. p257 9 Thus does the Son of God give thanks unto his Father for his
purity.

Note # 86: Redemption's hymn is God’s Call for His Son’s remembrance of what God’s
Son is. This is the remembrance of God and our freely choosing of God’s Will as our
will. Salvation’s healing is our only function here in the illusionary dream world of
separation. God is and will always be only Love. This world of fear, which we made, is
not God’s Will. We are asked to set aside all our self-made fears and know ourselves as
love, which has no opposites in us. We must freely choose to be no other self than the Big
“S” Self God created us to be. The acceptance of this is our salvation or redemption. This
is the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves. By our acceptance of the Atonement,
all the Sonship benefits because we are all connected in the Mind of God that is the One
Self.

VIII. From Perception to Knowledge

T-13.VIII.1. All healing is release from the past. 2 That is why the Holy Spirit is the only
Healer. 3 The Holy Spirit teaches that the past does not exist, a fact which belongs to the
sphere of knowledge, and which therefore no one in the world can know. 4 It would
indeed be impossible to be in the world with this knowledge that the past does not exist.
5 For the mind that knows that the past does not exist unequivocally knows also it, the
mind that knows that the past does not exist, dwells in eternity, and utilizes no
perception at all. 6 The mind that knows that the past does not exist, therefore does
not consider where it is, because the concept "where" does not mean anything to the
mind that knows that the past does not exist. 7 The mind that knows that the past
does not exist, knows that it is everywhere, just as it has everything, and forever.
**Note # 87:** The Holy Spirit is the only one that is aware of both the truth and our perceptions that create our dream world of provisional reality. We, the dreamer, are unaware of our true nature when we believe we are part of the dream. Because of this, only the Holy Spirit can correctly interpret the proper use of time, which is the healing of the belief in separation.

**T-13.VIII.2.** The very real difference between perception and knowledge becomes quite apparent if you consider this: There is nothing partial about knowledge. 2 Every aspect is whole, and therefore no aspect of knowledge is separate. 3 You are an aspect of knowledge, being in the Mind of God, Who knows you. 4 All knowledge must be yours, for in you is all knowledge. 5 Perception, at perception’s loftiest, is never complete. 6 Even the perception of the Holy Spirit, as perfect as perception can be, is without meaning in Heaven. 7 Perception can reach everywhere under the Holy Spirit’s guidance, for the vision of Christ beholds everything in light. 8 Yet no perception, however holy, will last forever.

**Note # 88:** Perception cannot last forever because perception requires both the perceiver and the item being perceived. With the return to Knowledge, there is only a Oneness. Therefore there is nothing to perceive.

**T-13.VIII.3.** Perfect perception, then, has many elements in common with knowledge, making transfer to knowledge possible. 2 Yet the last step must be taken by God, because the last step in your redemption, which seems to be in the future, was accomplished by God in your creation. 3 The separation has not interrupted your creation. 4 Creation cannot be interrupted. 5 The separation is merely a faulty formulation of reality, with no effect at all. 6 The miracle, without a function in Heaven, is needful here only in the perceived world of time and space. 7 Aspects of reality can still be seen, and aspects of reality will replace aspects of unreality. 8 Aspects of reality can be seen in everything and everywhere. 9 Yet only God can gather aspects of reality together, by crowning them, all the aspects of reality, as one with the final gift of eternity. p258

**Note # 89:** Our dream that we have become separate from God holds no reality and, not being of the Mind of God, has no impact on truth. We remain a Oneness with our creator, the Father, Himself. This is truth. This is our reality.

**T-13.VIII.4.** Apart from the Father and the Son, the Holy Spirit has no function. 2 The Holy Spirit is not separate from Either, the Father or the Son, being in the Mind of Both, and knowing that Mind is One. 3 The Holy Spirit is a Thought of God, and God has given the Holy Spirit to you because God has no Thoughts God does not share. 4 The Holy Spirit message speaks of timelessness in time, and that is why Christ's vision looks on everything with love. 5 Yet even Christ's vision is not His reality. 6 The golden aspects of reality that spring to light under the Holy Spirit’s loving gaze are partial glimpses of the Heaven that lies beyond time and are partial aspects of the reality of God’s Thoughts.
Note # 90: Again, we speak as if each part of the trinity is separate from each other. This is because we think in terms of duality. In reality each “part” is holographic in nature and contains the entire whole. In reality there is only the shared Oneness since the Mind of God is all there is. Mind is One.

In time, the Holy Trinity appears to be separate parts of the One Self. In eternity, the illusion of separation and time are no more. Separation and time allowed indivisible parts to be defined with separate purposes and functions. As time’s relearning function is completed, it fades away into the one and only function, which is to be Love. When there is but one shared function there is only the indivisible One extending Itself as the Thoughts of God, which are only Love.

T-13.VIII.5. This is the miracle of creation; creation is one forever. Every miracle you offer to the Son of God is but the true perception of one aspect of the whole. Though every aspect the whole, you cannot know this until you see that every aspect is the same, perceived in the same light and therefore one. Everyone seen without the past thus brings you nearer to the end of time by bringing healed and healing sight into the darkness, and enabling the world to see. For light must come into the darkened world to make Christ's vision possible even here. Help the Holy Spirit to give the Holy Spirit’s gift of light, which makes Christ's vision possible, to all who think they wander in the darkness, and let the Holy Spirit gather them, who think they wander in the darkness, into His quiet sight that makes them, one.

Note # 91: Christ’s vision sees only the truth of the equality of all aspects of the oneness. The Vision of Christ is not based on any past perception since this would make the present false. Our erroneous beliefs that we normally bring from the past have been discarded or suspended. The Holy Spirit understands that past misperceptions have no impact on reality and, therefore, do not belong in the present. This understanding brings light or understanding that dissolves past misperception into the light of truth that we remain eternally changeless as God created us.

T-13.VIII.6. They, all parts of the oneness that is creation, are all the same; all beautiful and equal in their holiness. And He, the Christ, will offer all parts of the oneness that is creation unto His Father as all parts of the oneness that is creation were offered unto Him, the Sonship, which is all God created, as God created It. There is one miracle, which is creation, as there is one reality. And every miracle you do contains them all, as every aspect of reality you see blends quietly into the one reality of God. The only miracle that ever was is God's most holy Son, created in the one reality that is his Father. Christ's vision is God’s gift to you. 7 His Being is His Father's gift to Him, God’s Son.

Note # 92: The miracle of creation is the process of extension. In extension, God has given Himself, which is everything, to everything, which is the Sonship. The Oneness is maintained and is shared fully. Holiness is wholeness. Cause and Effect are indivisibly
intertwined thus, completing each other and are that One Self.

**T-13.VIII.7.** Be you content with healing, for Christ's gift of healing you can bestow, and your Father's gift, your perfect wholeness, you cannot lose. 2 Offer Christ's gift of healing to everyone and everywhere, for miracles, offered the Son of God through the Holy Spirit, attune you to reality. 3 The Holy Spirit knows your part in the redemption, and who are seeking you and where to find them who seek you. 4 Knowledge is far beyond your individual concern. 5 You who are part of it, this perfect wholeness, and all of it need only realize that it, your perfect wholeness, is of the Father, not of you. 6 Your role in the redemption leads you to it, your perfect wholeness, by re-establishing its oneness in your mind.

**Note # 93:** The healing power of the miracle lays in its ability to correct our misperception of how we view our world of provisional reality. You see yourself and your brother as connected to the whole. This reconnects you to the holiness of the Sonship. The miracle is a change in the mind of the miracle worker. It does not take place in the mind of your brother since it sees nothing wrong with your brother’s mind. The role of miracle workers is to accept the Atonement for themselves. The oneness of our brother will be realized when we see our Oneness with our Creator.

Knowledge is re-established by acceptance of your perfect wholeness in your mind. Knowledge and perfect wholeness are one and the same. You cannot have one without the other. Knowledge is cause and perfect wholeness is its effect. The Atonement process is the means by which the Sonship returns to knowledge.

**T-13.VIII.8.** When you have seen your brothers as yourself you will be released to knowledge, having learned to free yourself through Him, the Christ, Who is the home of the Holy Spirit, Who knows of freedom. p259 2 Unite with me under the holy banner of the Holy Spirit’s teaching, and as we grow in strength the power of God's Son will move in us, and we will leave no one untouched and no one left alone. 3 And suddenly time will be over, and we will all unite in the eternity of God the Father. 4 The holy light you saw outside yourself, in every miracle you offered to your brothers, will be returned to you. 5 And knowing that the light is in you, your creations will be there with you, as you are in your Father.

**Note # 94:** To be like our Father, we need to create like our Father. Our function, with the return of knowledge, is to fulfill our role as co-creators with our Father. Thus, extension continues through the Sonship. We are the light and light extends itself. Knowledge is the returning to the Oneness. With the return to knowledge all thoughts of separation disappear.

**T-13.VIII.9.** As miracles in this world join you to your brothers, so do your creations establish your fatherhood in Heaven. 2 You are the witness to the Fatherhood of God, and God, the Father, has given you the power to create the witnesses to your fatherhood, which is as His. 3 Deny a brother here in your world of provisional reality, and you deny the witnesses to your fatherhood in Heaven. 4 The miracle that God created is perfect, as are the miracles that you established in God’s Name. 5 They, your brothers
and your creations, need no healing, nor do you need healing when you accept your creations as part of the Oneness.

**Note # 95:** In the world of perception we create our own reality. By seeing the holiness or the wholeness in all that we perceive, we accept the oneness of God. By extending oneness to our brother, we mirror what God does when God creates. Our miracles are the return to right-mindedness. These are our creations, which are saved by the Holy Spirit for us when we return to the whole-mindedness of knowledge. Your shared oneness with your brother is your creation. See your brother as perfect, whole and complete and you extend what you truly are.

**T-13.VIII.10.** Yet in this world of your own perception your perfection is unwitnessed. 2 God knows your perfection, but you do not know your perfection, and so you do not share with God's witness, which is the Sonship, to your perfection. 3 Nor do you witness unto God and God's Son, the Sonship, for reality is witnessed to as one. 4 God waits your witness to His Son and to Himself. 5 The miracles you do on earth are lifted up to Heaven and to God. 6 They (the miracles you do on earth) witness to what you do not know (your wholeness), and as they, (the miracles you do on earth) reach the gates of Heaven, God will open the gates of Heaven. 7 For never would God leave His Own beloved Son outside the gates of Heaven, and beyond Himself.

**Note # 96:** Until we reclaim our divine birthright, we cannot see ourselves as perfect, whole and complete. By rejecting the thought system of the ego, we can choose again. When we allow the Holy Spirit to reinterpret our experiences, this also reactivates the return to the Vision of Christ. With the blinders to our past misperceptions removed, we can see your brother’s actions as a cry for love and then extend the healing power of forgiveness to your brother. By doing this, we extend this healing to ourselves, for by giving, do we receive. When we extend forgiveness and love to our brother, we have created a witness to our own perfection as the Christ, which is our shared Oneness with our Father. Our miracles are our creations and our witnesses to the extension of our Father, which is Love.

**IX. The Cloud of Guilt**

**T-13.IX.1.** Guilt remains the only thing that hides the Father, for guilt is the attack upon His Son. 2 The guilty always condemn, and having done so the guilty will still condemn. The guilty linking the future to the past as this is the ego's law, which the guilty follow. 3 Fidelity to this law of linking the future to the past lets no light in, for this law of the ego demands fidelity to darkness and forbids awakening. 4 The ego's laws are strict, and breaches are severely punished. 5 Therefore give no obedience to the ego's laws, for the ego's laws are laws of punishment. 6 And those who follow the ego's laws believe that they are guilty, and so those who follow the ego's laws must condemn. 7 Between the future and the past the laws of God must intervene, if you would free yourself from the
ego’s laws. 8 Atonement stands between the ego’s laws and God’s laws, like a lamp shining so brightly that the chain of darkness in which you bound yourself will disappear.

p260

Note # 97: Since the ego’s laws emphasize the use of the past in which we perceived ourselves as guilty, the guilt ridden past will continue to control our future. As long as we carry our past misperceptions to our present experiences, we will continue to make the same errors. We will remain in victim consciousness. Only by seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, which knows the truth of God’s Laws, can we break the cycle of believing we are powerless victims.

T-13.IX.2. Release from guilt is the ego's whole undoing. 2 <Make no one fearful.> for his guilt is your guilt, and by obeying the ego's harsh commandments you bring the ego’s condemnation on yourself, and you will not escape the punishment the ego offers those who obey the ego. 3 The ego rewards fidelity to the ego’s laws with pain, for faith in the ego <ix> pain. 4 And faith can be rewarded only in terms of the belief in which the faith was placed. 5 Faith makes the power of belief, and where faith is invested determines faith’s reward. 6 For faith is always given what is treasured, and what is treasured is returned to you.

Note # 98: What we give is what we receive. This is the Law of God, which remains true even in our dream world of perception. Projection maintains the guilt within us even though projection is our attempt to transfer our guilt to something outside ourselves. Projection helps maintain our victim consciousness.

T-13.IX.3. The world can give you only what you gave your world of perception, for being nothing but your own projection, your world of perception has no meaning apart from what you found in your world of perception and placed your faith in. 2 Be faithful unto darkness and you will not see with the Vision of Christ, because your faith will be rewarded as you gave it to the ego’s laws. 3 You <will> accept your treasure, and if you place your faith in the past, the future will be like the past. 4 Whatever you hold dear you think is yours. 5 The power of your valuing will make whatever you hold dear so.

Note # 99: Because we are the creator of the dream, whatever we wish to project will appear real to the dreamer. If we value our little “s” self, we will follow the laws of the ego. For the laws of the ego were made to confirm that we are limited ego-bodies. Believing we are limited, it is impossible for us to believe the truth about ourselves. The dreamer has mistaken the dream for reality.

T-13.IX.4. Atonement brings a re-evaluation of everything you cherish, for Atonement is the means by which the Holy Spirit can separate the false and the true, which you have accepted into your mind without distinction. 2 Therefore you cannot value one without the other, and guilt has become as true for you as innocence. 3 You do not believe the Son of God is guiltless because you see the past, and see him not as he truly is, which is guiltless. 4 When you condemn a brother you are saying, "I who was guilty choose to remain so." 5 You have denied a brother’s freedom, and by so doing you have denied
the witness unto your freedom. 6 You could as easily have freed your brother from the past, and lifted from your brother’s mind the cloud of guilt that binds him to guilt. 7 And in your brother’s freedom would have been your own freedom.

Note # 100: In the Atonement process, we realize that what we perceive to have happened was only a dream. Therefore, there is nothing that was real for which penance is demanded. We need only to reawaken to the reality of the truth. This is why ACIM defines forgiveness as the process in which we forgive our brother for the wrongs that we have erroneously projected upon our brother. We realize that we were the source to our experience and that our brother was only an actor in a dream play in which we wrote, directed and starred. We mistook this dream play to be our essence’s actual reality. With the Atonement, we recognize the dream for what it was, and the need for fear, guilty and punishment disappear along with the dream. The problem of the separation was not the dream, but rather our association with the dream as something that is real. It was our association of our true nature with the dream that made the dream appear real to us. We forgot it was a game; we took it seriously and replaced laughter with fear.

T-13.IX.5. Lay not your guilt upon your brother, for his guilt lies in your brother’s secret thought that he has done this unto you. 2 Would you, then, teach your brother he is right in his delusion of wrongdoing you? 3 The idea that the guiltless Son of God can attack himself and make himself guilty is insane. 4 In any form, in anyone, for the guiltless Son of God cannot be made guilty by self attack 5 For sin and condemnation are the same, and the belief in either sin or condemnation is faith in the other one, calling for punishment instead of love. 6 Nothing can justify insanity, and to call for punishment upon yourself must be insane.

Note # 101: Again, God does not condemn us for some make believe dream. Even in our earthly world, we do not punish someone for something only he imaged has happened. We try to tell them the truth that nothing happened. If they insist that their dream was real, we realize that they are sick or insane and must be suffering from delusional thinking and need our help. We do not agree that they are correct in their dream and punish them for it. Dreams have no effect on reality except in the mind of the dreamer.

T-13.IX.6. See no one, then, as guilty, and you will affirm the truth of guiltlessness unto yourself. 2 In every condemnation that you offer the Son of God lies the conviction of your own guilt. 3 If you would have the Holy Spirit make you free of our belief that you are guilty, accept the Holy Spirit’s offer of Atonement for all your brothers. p261 4 For so you learn that the Atonement and your guiltlessness is true for you. 5 Remember always that it is impossible to condemn the Son of God in part. 6 Those whom you see as guilty become the witnesses to guilt in you, and you will see guilt there, for guilt <is> there until guilt is undone. 7 Guilt is always in your mind, which has condemned itself. 8 Project guilt not, for while you do project guilt, guilt cannot be undone. 9 With everyone whom you release from guilt great is the joy in Heaven, where the witnesses to your fatherhood rejoice.

Note # 102: The Sonship is united in the Mind of God. All shattered parts of the Sonship
remain as a Oneness even though in our dream we appear to have separate existences. The Sonship, which is all that God created as He created It, remains one with the Father.

T-13.IX.7. Guilt makes you blind, for while you see one spot of guilt within you, you will not see the light. 2 And by projecting guilt the world seems dark, and shrouded in your guilt. 3 You throw a dark veil over the world, and cannot see the world because you cannot look within. 4 You are afraid of what you would see there within, but the guilt is not there. 5 <The thing you fear, the guilt, is gone.> 6 If you would look within you would see only the Atonement, shining in quiet and in peace upon the altar to your Father.

Note # 103: The acceptance of the Atonement for yourself removes the dream of guilt you had placed upon yourself. The Atonement corrects this error in your thinking. A mistake requires only correction, not punishment.

T-13.IX.8. Do not be afraid to look within. 2 The ego tells you all is black with guilt within you, and bids you not to look within. 3 Instead, the ego bids you look upon your brothers, and see the guilt in your brothers. 4 Yet this seeing of guilt in your brothers you cannot do without remaining blind. 5 For those who see their brothers in the dark, and guilty in the dark in which they shroud their brothers, are too afraid to look upon the light within. 6 Within you is not what you believe is there, and what you put your faith in. You have placed your faith in guilt and, therefore, believe that guilt is within you. 7 Within you is the holy sign of perfect faith your Father has in you, which is your guiltlessness. 8 God does not value you as you do. 9 God knows Himself, and knows the truth in you. 10 God knows there is no difference, for God knows not of differences. 11 Can you see guilt where God knows there is perfect innocence? 12 You can deny God’s knowledge, but you cannot change God’s knowledge. 13 Look, then, upon the light God placed within you, and learn that what you feared was there, your self-imposed guilt, has been replaced with love.

Note # 104: Nothing can change in the Mind of God. God created us as perfect replicas of Himself. We share the same Mind. God’s Will cannot be opposed or changed. This is where our salvation lays. Being an extension of God, Himself, we can only be as our Father, a perfect Oneness. Knowledge, which is truth, cannot be changed because someone has chosen to deny the truth. The truth remains the same regardless of how we choose to perceive it. We will always remain perfect, whole and complete because that is God’s Will. Our dream world is based on sin, guilt and fear. It has no reality in the Mind of God. The Atonement process reawakens us to this fact. Our split-mind is returned to right-mindedness. The dream that we could be a little “s” self is gone.

X. Release from Guilt

T-13.X.1. You are accustomed to the notion that the mind can see the source of pain where the source of pain is not. 2 The doubtful service of such displacement of the
location of the real source of the pain is to hide the real source of guilt, and keep from your awareness the full perception that to place the source of pain where it is not is insane. 3 Displacement always is maintained by the illusion that the source of guilt, from which attention is diverted, must be true; and must be fearful, or you would not have displaced the guilt onto what you believed to be less fearful. p262 4 You are therefore willing to look upon all kinds of "sources," provided these imagined sources are not the deeper source to which they, these imagined sources, bear no real relationship at all to the true source of guilt.

NOTE # 105: The purpose of projection is to attempt to get rid of the source of the “guilt problem.” The problem always comes from your own errors in perception and our desire to transfer the guilt generated by the problem to something outside yourself. This projection of the true source of your guilt upon something other than you, allows you to disassociate yourself as the source of the guilt. The source of the guilt can be traced back to the mind’s erroneous concept of what you are. Thinking that the problem is outside you, you are now powerless to change your experience. You remain in victim consciousness and thus, maintain your belief that you are a separate little “s” self.

T-13.X.2. Insane ideas have no real relationships, for that is why insane ideas are insane. 2 No real relationship can rest on guilt, or even hold one spot of guilt to mar a real relationship’s purity. 3 For all relationships that guilt has touched are used but to avoid the person and the guilt. 4 What strange relationships you have made for this strange purpose of hiding the guilt from you, its true source! 5 And you forgot that real relationships are holy, and cannot be used by you at all. 6 Real relationships are used only by the Holy Spirit, and it is the use by the Holy Spirit that makes these real relationships pure. 7 If you displace your guilt upon these relationships, the Holy Spirit cannot use these relationships and make them pure. 8 For, by pre-empting these relationships for your own ends, which is your projection of guilt, what you should have given the Holy Spirit, He, the Holy Spirit, cannot use these guilt-ridden relationships for your release. 9 No one who would unite in any way with anyone for his individual salvation will find salvation in that strange relationship. 10 A pre-empted guilty relationship is not shared, and so a pre-empted guilty relationship is not real.

NOTE # 106: Creation is extension that is shared. Projection is exclusion and cannot be shared. Relationships in our world of provisional reality must be shared with the Holy Spirit so they can be properly reinterpreted into something that can be shared, thus promoting the return to Oneness. If they are reinterpreted with the eyes of Christ, they will become a tool for forgiveness and love. This makes the relationship real because it comes from love that arises from the shared Mind of God.

T-13.X.3. In any union with a brother in which you seek to lay your guilt upon a brother, or share guilt with a brother or perceive a brother’s own guilt, you will feel guilty. 2 Nor will you find satisfaction and peace with a brother, because your union with a brother is not real. 3 You will see guilt in that relationship with your brother because you put guilt there. 4 It is inevitable that those who suffer guilt will attempt to displace guilt, because they who suffer guilt do believe that it is possible to project or to place
their own guilt upon another thereby removing the guilt from themselves. 5 Yet though the people who attempt to project their own guilt upon another continue to suffer, they will not look within and let their own guilt go. 6 The person, who attempts to displace their own guilt, cannot know they love, and cannot understand what loving is. 7 This person’s main concern is to perceive the source of guilt outside themselves, beyond their own control.

NOTE # 107: This explains the use of projection and guilt in making our illusionary world of perception.

T-13.X.4. When you maintain that you are guilty but the source of your guilt lies in the past, you are not looking inward. 2 The past is not in you. 3 Your weird associations to the past have no meaning in the present. 4 Yet you let your weird associations to the past stand between you and your brothers, with whom you find no real relationships at all. 5 Can you expect to use your brothers as a means to "solve" the past, and still to see your problems as they really are? 6 Salvation is not found by those who use their brothers to resolve past problems that are not there. 7 You wanted not salvation in the past. 8 Would you impose your idle wishes on the present, and hope to find salvation now?

NOTE # 108: The Holy Spirit’s goal is for time is to be viewed based on the present. The ego’s focus with time is always with the past. This focus by the ego on past misperception helps insure the future will not change for the dreamer. If you continue to view the present from the same reference point that you judged the past with, you will obtain the same misperception that you are a limited ego-body trapped in a world of victim consciousness. In victim consciousness you can claim that you are not guilty because something outside yourself has control over you.

Your past misperceptions and the <now> are mutually exclusive.

T-13.X.5. Determine, then, to be not as you were in the past. 2 Use no relationship to hold you to the past, but with each one each day be born again. 3 A minute, even less, will be enough to free you from the past, and give your mind in peace over to the Atonement. 4 When everyone is welcome to you as you would have yourself be welcome to your Father, you will see no guilt in you. p263 5 For you will have accepted the Atonement, which shone within you all the while you dreamed of guilt. And while you dreamed of guilt, you would not look within and see that the source of your guilt was imagined and not real.

NOTE# 109: The Atonement releases us from the past because the Atonement is the realization that any thought of separation was not real. Thoughts of separation are not shared in the Mind of God and, therefore, are not God’s Will. In the Atonement, we realize freely that our will and God’s Will are shared. A dream cannot change the truth that is found in the eternal.

T-13.X.6. As long as you believe that guilt is justified in any way, in anyone, whatever anyone may do, you will not look within, where you would always find Atonement. 2
The end of guilt will never come as long as you believe there is a reason for guilt. 3 For you must learn that guilt is always totally insane, and has no reason. 4 The Holy Spirit seeks not to dispel reality. 5 If guilt were real, Atonement would not be real. 6 The purpose of Atonement is to dispel illusions, not to establish illusions as real and then forgive the illusion.

NOTE #110: If the Holy Spirit were to confirm the reality of our illusion, this would do multiple things all of which would confirm that the separation as being real. It would increase our fear because the Holy Spirit would be saying that we are something other than perfect, whole and complete. This is why the Holy Spirit is gentle in helping us reawaken to our true reality. The Holy Spirit needs us to freely ask for guidance from the ego’s thought system so that we can rediscover our Christ center. If the Holy Spirit were to just “correct” our “problems” for us, It would be confirming that we lack within us the power to reawaken to the truth. If this were the case, again, we would be less than our Father, thus, making our Father also imperfect and not whole.

T-13.X.7. The Holy Spirit does not keep illusions in your mind to frighten you, and show these illusions to you fearfully to demonstrate what the Holy Spirit has saved you from. 2 What the Holy Spirit has saved you from is gone. 3 The Holy Spirit gives no reality to guilt, and see no reason for guilt. 4 The Holy Spirit does what God would have the Holy Spirit do, and has always done so. 5 The Holy Spirit has seen separation, but knows of union. 6 The Holy Spirit teaches healing, but the Holy Spirit also knows of creation. 7 The Holy Spirit would have you see and teach as the Holy Spirit does, and through the Holy Spirit. 8 Yet what the Holy Spirit knows you do not know, though it, what the Holy Spirit knows, is your reality.

NOTE # 111: The Holy Spirit’s home is the Christ within our mind. The Christ and the Holy Spirit share the same thought system since there is a shared Oneness. This Oneness is also shared with the Father. Since we are use to thinking in terms of duality, ACIM utilizes the Holy Trinity as separate parts for discussion purposes only. The Oneness of this Trinity has never been lost. In our dream of separation, we appear to have lost the reality of what we are. This has not been lost, but merely forgotten by the dreamer who has associated himself with the dream itself. The knowledge of what we are is preserve in the Christ consciousness of our shared Mind. We can appear to imagine ourselves to be lost in time, but we remain holy, perfect and One in eternity.

T-13.X.8. <Now> it is given you to heal and teach, to make what will be <now.> 2 As yet it is not now for you remain trapped in our past misperceptions. 3 The Son of God believes that he is lost in guilt, alone in a dark world where pain is pressing everywhere upon him from without. 4 When the split-minded has looked within and seen the radiance there, the split-minded will remember how much his Father loves him. 5 And it will seem incredible that the split-minded ever thought his Father loved him not, and looked upon him, God’s Son, as condemned. 6 The moment that you realize guilt is insane, wholly unjustified and wholly without reason, you will not fear to look upon the Atonement and accept the Atonement wholly.
NOTE # 112: We fear the Atonement because the ego’s thought system has convinced us that we are indeed sinners and, therefore, deserve punishment and death. Because of this, the split-mind is terrified that the acceptance of the Atonement would result in its destruction by God. This belief of destruction is a part of the ego’s misperception of what God is. To the ego, God is something that is the opposite of love. The god of the ego is a petty, unforgiving, revengeful god that requires sacrifice to be appeased. This is why the Holy Spirit must help us undo all that the ego has taught us so we can reawaken to our divine inheritance.

T-13.X.9. You who have been unmerciful to yourself do not remember your Father’s Love. 2 And looking without mercy upon your brothers, you do not remember how much you love God, your Father. 3 Yet this mutual love is forever true. 4 In shining peace within you is the perfect purity in which you were created. 5 Fear not to look upon the lovely truth in you. 6 Look through the cloud of guilt that dims your vision, and look past darkness to the holy place where you will see the light. 7 The altar to your Father is as pure as your Father, Who raised the altar to Himself. 8 Nothing can keep from you what Christ would have you see. 9 Christ’s Will is like His Father’s, and Christ offers mercy to every child of God, as Christ’s Father would have you do. p264

NOTE # 113: The altar to the Father is the truth of what you are. It is the Christ that we have hidden deep within our apparent split-mind. The Christ is the shared extension of what God is.

T-13.X.10. Release your belief in your brother’s guilt so that you would be released from your own self-imposed guilt. 2 There is no other way to look within and see the light of love, shining as steadily and as surely as God Himself has always loved His Son. 3 <And as His Son loves God, the Father> 4 There is no fear in love, for love is guiltless. 5 You who have always loved your Father can have no fear, for any reason, to look within and see your holiness. 6 You cannot be as you believed you were. 7 Your guilt is without reason because your guilt is not in the Mind of God, where you are. 8 And this <is> reason, which the Holy Spirit would restore to you. 9 The Holy Spirit would remove only illusions. 10 All else the Holy Spirit would have you see. 11 And in Christ’s vision the Holy Spirit would show you the perfect purity that is forever within God's Son.

NOTE # 114: The Holy Spirit will restore your mind from insanity to reason and sanity by undoing your belief that you could ever be something other than God’s Son, perfect, whole and complete. In order to do this, you must relearn your oneness with your brother. When you forgive your brother of the wrong that you thought he did to you, you also free yourself. This forgiveness of your brother and the automatic forgiveness of yourself which accompanies it, confirms the fact that the Law of God state that “by giving, we receive.”

T-13.X.11. You cannot enter into real relationships with any of God's Sons unless you love all parts of the Sonship and love them equally. 2 Love is not special. 3 If you
single out part of the Sonship for your love, you are imposing guilt on all your relationships and making all your relationships unreal. 4 You can love only as God loves. 5 Seek not to love unlike God, for there is no love apart from God’s Love. 6 Until you recognize that this is true that you can love only as God loves and there is no love apart from God’s Love, you will have no idea what love is like. 7 No one who condemns a brother can see himself as guiltless and in the peace of God. 8 If he is guiltless and in peace and sees it not, he is delusional, and has not looked upon himself as he truly is. 9 To him I say:

10 Behold the Son of God, and look upon his purity and be still. 11 In quiet look upon the Son of God’s holiness, and offer thanks unto his Father that no guilt has ever touched him.

NOTE # 115: The Sonship is also a Oneness. As long as we perceive guilt anywhere, we are denying our divine inheritance. We can deny the truth about ourselves but we cannot change the Will of God. God created or extended Himself to His Son and His Son must share the Oneness of the Father. To be anything less than whole would be to make the Father incomplete. This is not possible for the eternal is changeless.

T-13.X.12. No illusion that you have ever held against one of God’s Sons has touched his innocence in any way. 2 The Son of God’s shining purity, wholly untouched by guilt and wholly loving, is bright within you. 3 Let us look upon God’s Son, together and love him. 4 For in love of God’s Son who is your brother is your guiltlessness. 5 But look upon yourself, and gladness and appreciation for what you see will banish guilt forever. 6 I thank You, Father, for the purity of Your most holy Son, whom You have created guiltless forever.

NOTE # 116: All of God’s creations share equally in their total Oneness. There is no specialness among God’s Children for they all share equally in God’s love. God knows no separation, since God is all there is. There is only the extension of God’s Love, which is the Sonship.

T-13.X.13. Like you, my faith and my belief are centered on what I treasure. 2 The difference is that I love <only> what God loves with me, and because of this I treasure you beyond the value that you set on yourself, even unto the worth that God has placed upon you. 3 I love all that God created, and all my faith and my belief I offer unto all that God created. 4 My faith in you is as strong as all the love I give my Father. 5 My trust in you is without limit, and without the fear that you will hear me not. 6 I thank the Father for your loveliness, and for the many gifts that you will let me offer to the Kingdom in honor of its wholeness that is of God.

NOTE # 117: Jesus is confirming our shared Christ consciousness with the Sonship. Jesus only has pure Love for the Father. Jesus loves us like the Father because Jesus knows we are in the Father. This is the confirmation by Jesus that we are worthy of love because we are God’s Love extended. I and the Father are One.

T-13.X.14. Praise be to you who make the Father One with His Own Son. 2 Alone we are
all lowly, but together we shine with brightness so intense that none of us alone can even think of our brightness. 3 Before the glorious radiance of the Kingdom guilt melts away, and guilt transformed into kindness will never more be what guilt was. 4 Every reaction you experience will be so purified that every reaction you experience is fitting as a hymn of praise unto your Father. 5 See only praise of God in what God has created, for God will never cease God's praise of you. 6 United in this praise we stand before the gates of Heaven where we will surely enter in our sinlessness. 7 God loves you. 8 Could I, then, lack faith in you and love God perfectly?

NOTE # 118: When we believe that we are special, we believe ourselves to be a little “s” self. When we see with the Vision of Christ, we realize that we are unlimited spirit and not a limited ego-body. When we reclaim the big “S” Self, we reaffirm our Oneness in the Mind of God. Jesus knows us as His equal. We are part of the wholeness that is the Sonship. Jesus knows that God’s Will is all-powerful and, therefore, our return from the dream is both certain and our true reality.

XI. The Peace of Heaven

T-13.XI.1. Forgetfulness and sleep and even death become the ego's best advice for dealing with the perceived and harsh intrusion of guilt on peace. 2 Yet no one sees himself in conflict and ravaged by a cruel war unless he believes that both opponents in the war are real. Peace and guilt, truth and illusion, are the opponents in this “war” upon your Big “S” Self. 3 Believing that both opponents in the war are real, he must escape, for such a war would surely end his peace of mind, and so destroy him. 4 Yet if he could but realize the war is between real and unreal powers, he could look upon himself and see his freedom. 5 No one finds himself ravaged and torn in endless battles if he himself perceives these battles to be between real and unreal powers and thus, as wholly without meaning.

NOTE #119: The ego would like us to believe that we have real enemies that are “out to get us”. Since our dream world of provisional reality is not real in the Mind of God, the dream itself has no power to change reality. The ego’s goal for this world of perception is to get the dreamer to believe that the dream is real. Without this belief, the dream would hold no real terror to the dreamer. It would be like going to a scary movie. While watching a movie, we tend to get caught up in the movie but we always know that we are merely witnessing projected light upon a screen. The goal of the ego is that we never recover our decision-making ability, which would allow us to decide to leave the theater if we don’t like the movie. The ego does not want us to rediscover that we can change the reel in the projector of our mind. This rediscovery would allow us to escape from victim consciousness.

T-13.XI.2. God would not have His Son embattled, and so His Son's imagined "enemy" is totally unreal. 2 You are but trying to escape a bitter war, in which you played the part of a limited ego-body of the small “s” self, from which you <have> already escaped. 3 The war is gone. You have heard the voice for God. The Holy Spirit is calling you
home. 4 For you have heard the hymn of freedom rising unto Heaven. 5 Gladness and joy belong to God for your release, because you did not make your release from this imagined war. God did. 6 Yet as you made not freedom, so you made not a war that could endanger freedom. 7 Nothing destructive ever was or will be. 8 The war, the guilt, the past are gone as one into the unreality from which they, the imagined war, guilt and past came.

NOTE #120: Due to our belief in the separation, both guilt and the idea that we could do something other than the Will of God appeared real to the dreamer. Both of these concepts are not true. God never shared our belief and, therefore, our dream had no reality in the Mind of God. God always knew His Son to be perfect, whole and complete. God gave and placed within our mind, the Holy Spirit as our protector to safe guard God’s Son during the Sonship “voyage of rediscovery.” The role of the Holy Spirit is to gently reawaken the sleeping child without increasing fear in the child. The Holy Spirit will do nothing that would make the nightmare seem real to the child. Although the child sleeps, we still have free will. It is up to the child to control his own self-generated fear and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. We wanted to experience the dream of separation. The Holy Spirit will not awaken us without our permission. Because our will is God’s Will, this request for our awaking must be honored and is inevitable. In the real world, which is the Mind of God, we always are perfect, whole and complete.

T-13.XI.3. When we are all united in Heaven, you will value nothing that you value here in the world of individual perception. 2 For nothing that you value here in the world of individual perception, do you value wholly, and so you do not value these things at all. p266 3 Value is where God placed value, and the value of what God esteems cannot be judged, for the value of what God esteems has been established by God. 4 What God esteems is wholly of value. 5 What God esteems can merely be appreciated or not. 6 To value what God esteems partially is not to know its value. 7 In Heaven is everything God values, and nothing else. 8 Heaven is perfectly unambiguous. 9 Everything is clear and bright, and calls forth one response, which is the love, joy and peace of the Mind of God. 10 There is no darkness and there is no contrast. 11 There is no variation. 12 There is no interruption. 13 There is a sense of peace so deep that no dream in this world of individual perception has ever brought even a dim imagining of what the peace of Heaven is.

NOTE # 121: What God esteems is His Son. The Son is perfect, whole and complete, as is the Son’s Father. God’s Will is that His Son be happy and know the peace and joy that is the Father.

T-13.XI.4. Nothing in this world can give this peace, for nothing in this world is wholly shared. 2 Perfect perception can merely show you what is capable of being wholly shared. 3 Perfect perception can also show you the results of sharing, while you still remember the results of not sharing. 4 The Holy Spirit points quietly to the contrast, knowing that you will finally let the Holy Spirit judge the difference for you, allowing the Holy Spirit to demonstrate which must be true. 5 The Holy Spirit has perfect faith
in your final judgment, because the Holy Spirit knows that the Holy Spirit will make your final judgment for you. 6 To doubt this would be to doubt that the Holy Spirit’s mission will be fulfilled. 7 How is this possible, when the Holy Spirit’s mission of returning you to truth is given from God?

NOTE # 122: Form cannot be shared because that would cause diminishment to the “owner” of the item. More importantly, it would be giving reality to the idea that there is something outside of you and, therefore, you would not be a Oneness. This cannot be the truth of what you are.

The home of the Holy Spirit is the Christ in you. Although for simplicities purposes, ACIM tries to explain to us this concept in a dualistic matter, in reality, there is just a Oneness even in the Holy Trinity. For ACIM purposes, the Holy Spirit is aware of both our dream and the truth. Therefore, only the Holy Spirit can judge because only the Holy Spirit knows “all the facts.” The Holy Spirit’s judgment comes from knowledge and correct perception. Because we believe that we are limited due to our belief in the separation, we have lost knowledge. The only judgment that we should make is that we are incapable of judging anything. Therefore, ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. The Holy Spirit will allow the Vision of Christ to reawaken our split-mind. Only the Holy Spirit can reinterpret our perceived experience correctly based on God’s Plan for the return of the Sonship to knowledge.

T-13.XI.5. You whose mind is darkened by doubt and guilt, remember this: God gave the Holy Spirit to you, and gave the Holy Spirit the mission to remove all doubt and every trace of guilt that God’s dear Son has laid upon himself. 2 It is impossible that this mission to remove all doubt and guilt could fail. 3 Nothing can prevent what God would have accomplished from accomplishment. 4 Whatever your reactions to the Holy Spirit’s Voice may be, whatever voice, either the ego’s or the Holy Spirit’s, that you choose to listen to, whatever strange thoughts may occur to you, God’s Will is done. Our egoic thoughts that you could do something other than God’s Will has no power to change God’s Will. 5 You will find the peace in which God has established you, because God does not change His Mind. 6 God’s Mind is invariable as the peace in which you dwell, and of which the Holy Spirit reminds you that you dwell in the Peace of God.

NOTE # 123: God’s Will is changeless for it is eternal and real. We can deny the truth, but we cannot change the truth. God’s Will is truth.

T-13.XI.6. You will not remember change and shift in Heaven. 2 You have need of contrast only here in your world of perception, which has become your provisional reality. 3 Contrast and differences are necessary teaching aids, for by contrast and differences you learn what to avoid and what to seek. 4 When you have learned what to avoid and what to seek, you will find the answer that makes the need for any differences disappear. 5 Truth comes of truth’s own will unto truth’s own. 6 When you have learned that you belong to truth, truth will flow lightly over you without a difference of any kind. 7 For you will need no contrast to help you realize that truth is what you want, and only truth. 8 Fear not the Holy Spirit will fail in what your Father has given the
Holy Spirit to do, which is to return you to the truth of what you are. 9 The Will of God can fail in nothing. p267

NOTE # 124: God is truth. Being truth, which is changeless, the Holy Spirit’s mission is to return the Sonship to the truth about itself. Being an extension of our Father, we must also be truth. We will and must return to the knowledge that we are a shared Oneness in the Mind of God.

In the world of perception, we have the idea that there is something other than a Oneness. This results in our perceiving differences. The ego utilizes these differences as witnesses that the separation must be true. The Holy Spirit utilizes these perceived differences to return you to the truth that you are a shared Oneness by teaching forgiveness. Thus, these perceived differences and contrasts are utilized by the Holy Spirit as learning devices to help you reevaluate which thought system you choose to follow. In the world of perception, all events are neutral. It is only how we choose to perceive them that colors the event as something good or bad. These contrasting viewpoints help us determine which voice we are to follow. The ego’s thought system is based on the false belief in limitation. You are not the limited-ego body that you have chosen to identify yourself to be. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is based on the truth that you are unlimited spirit. When we understand the truth of what we are, all thoughts of limitation will disappear.

T-13.XI.7. Have faith in only this one thing, which is the truth of the Holy Spirit, and this faith will be sufficient: God wills you be in Heaven, and nothing can keep you from being in Heaven or Heaven from you. 2 Your wildest misperceptions, your weird imaginings, your blackest nightmares all mean nothing. 3 Your misperceptions will not prevail against the peace God wills for you. 4 The Holy Spirit will restore your sanity because insanity is not the Will of God. 5 If that suffices the Holy Spirit, it is enough for you. 6 You will not keep what God would have removed, because your misperceptions breaks communication with you with whom God would communicate. 7 God’s Voice, which is the Holy Spirit’s <will> be heard.

NOTE # 125: God’s Will cannot be usurped. In the world of perception, the body is a communication device. The body, like everything in the world of perception, is neutral. The body is a learning device. It was our identifying our true unlimited spirit as being the body that birthed the thought of separation.

T-13.XI.8. The Communication Link, which is the Holy Spirit that God Himself placed within you, joining your mind with God’s Mind, cannot be broken. 2 You may believe you want the Communication Link with God’s Mind broken, and this belief does interfere with the deep peace in which the sweet and constant communication God would share with you is known. 3 Yet God’s channels of reaching out cannot be wholly closed and separated from the Christ in you. 4 Peace will be yours because God’s peace still flows to you from God Whose Will is peace. 5 You have God’s peace, now. 6 The Holy Spirit will teach you how to use God’s peace, and by extending God’s peace, to learn that God’s peace is in you. 7 God willed you Heaven, and will always will you nothing else but Heaven. 8 The Holy Spirit knows only of God’s Will. 9 There is no chance that
Heaven will not be yours, for God is sure, and what God wills is as sure as God is.

**NOTE # 126:** God’s channel for reaching the split-minded dreamer is the Holy Spirit and the Christ consciousness. The Christ consciousness is that part of the split mind that remembers God and what you really are. The Christ part of our split-mind is the home of the Holy Spirit. While we are dreaming, we identify ourselves as being limited ego-bodies. The Christ maintains correct mindedness and provides us with perfect, correct perception when we follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

T-13.XI.9. You will learn salvation because you will learn how to save. 2 It will not be possible to exempt yourself from what the Holy Spirit wants to teach you. 3 Salvation is as sure as God. 4 God’s certainty suffices. 5 Learn that even the darkest nightmare that disturbs the mind of God's sleeping Son holds no power over God's sleeping Son. 6 God's sleeping Son will learn the lesson of awaking. 7 God watches over His sleeping Son and light surrounds God's sleeping Son.

NOTE # 127: We are never outside the Grace of God. The Holy Spirit will reawaken us to reclaim our divine birthright as God’s Son. Our divine inheritance can be denied but it can never be lost.

T-13.XI.10. Can God's Son lose himself in dreams, when God has placed within God's sleeping Son the glad Call to waken and be glad? 2 God's sleeping Son cannot separate himself from what is in him, which is the call to reawaken to the remembrance of God and be the Christ. 3 God's sleeping Son’s sleep will not withstand the Holy Spirit’s Call to wake. 4 The mission of redemption will be fulfilled as surely as the creation will remain unchanged throughout eternity. 5 You do not have to know that Heaven is yours to make it so. 6 That Heaven is yours is so. 7 Yet to know that Heaven is yours, the Will of God must be accepted as your will.

NOTE # 128: Everything is in the Mind of God. When God extended Himself, He gave everything because He is everything. Thus, our will and God’s Will are the same Will. Heaven is the state of mind in which Truth reigns unopposed. When we remember God, we know the truth and reawaken in heaven, which is the holographic Mind of God, from which we never left. Knowledge has been restored to the Sonship.

T-13.XI.11. The Holy Spirit will undo for you everything you have learned from the ego's thought system, which teaches that what is not true must be reconciled with truth. 2 This egotic belief that what is not true must be reconciled with truth is the reconciliation that the ego would substitute for your reconciliation to sanity and to peace. p268 3 The Holy Spirit has a very different kind of reconciliation in the Holy Spirit's Mind for you, and one the Holy Spirit will effect as surely as the ego will not effect what the ego attempts. 4 Failure is of the ego, not of God. 5 From God you cannot wander, and there is no possibility that the plan the Holy Spirit offers to everyone, for the salvation of everyone, will not be perfectly accomplished. 6 You will be released, and you will not remember anything you made that was not created for you and by you in
return. 7 For how can you remember what was never true, or not remember what has always been? 8 It is this reconciliation with truth, and only truth, in which the peace of Heaven lies. Utilizing the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we remember only the truth, which results in the disappearance of any recollection of the false. This is the only sane way to reconcile the false with the true. p269

NOTE # 129: The ego would have us try to reconcile an untruth and somehow make the untruth become true. The Holy Spirit’s method is simply to recognize that untruth has no reality and thus, dismiss the untruth. The Holy Spirit does not try to make an illusion into the truth. Instead, the Holy Spirit encourages the dreaming child to wake up and let the dream disappear. Only the truth remains. In the world of perception, events are only neutral learning devices. They have no life or reality of their own. When we attempt to make our dream world real, we are trying to reconcile an illusion with truth. We then fall into the ego’s trap of identifying our unlimited spirit with being a limited body. Form cannot be shared. It is only the shared thoughts of forgiveness and love that have been saved in Heaven. Only the shared thoughts of forgiveness and love are our real creations. We cannot share something that we are not, since that would imply that we were something other than perfect, whole and complete. Our function in the playschool of provisional reality is to learn forgiveness. Our function in Heaven is to be co-creators with God, Who is only Love.
T-14.in.1. Yes, you are blessed indeed. Yet in this world you do not know that you are blessed indeed. But you have the means for learning that you are blessed indeed and seeing that you are blessed indeed quite clearly. The Holy Spirit uses logic as easily and as well as does the ego, except that the Holy Spirit's conclusions are not insane. The Holy Spirit's conclusions take a direction exactly opposite the conclusions of the insane ego’s thought system, pointing as clearly to Heaven as the ego points to darkness and to death. We have followed much of the ego's logic, and have seen the ego's logical conclusions. And having seen the ego’s logical conclusions, we have realized that the ego’s logical conclusions cannot be seen except in illusions, for there alone in illusions the ego’s seemingly clear conclusions’ can be clearly seen for the insanity that they are. Let us now turn away from the ego’s insane thought system, and follow the simple logic by which the Holy Spirit teaches the simple conclusions that speak for truth, and only truth.

Note # 1: ACIM is about to contrast the sane thought system of the Holy Spirit to the insane thought system of the ego.

I. The Conditions of Learning

T-14.I.1. If you are blessed and do not know you are blessed, you need to learn it must be so. The knowledge that you are blessed is not taught, but its conditions of you being blessed must be acquired for it is the conditions of you being blessed that have been thrown away. You can learn to bless, and cannot give what you have not. If, then, you offer blessing, being blessed must have come first to yourself. And you must also have accepted being blessed as yours, for how else could you give blessings away? That is why miracles offer <you> the testimony that you are blessed. If what you offer is complete forgiveness you must have let guilt go, accepting the Atonement for yourself and learning you are guiltless. How could you learn what has been done for you, unknown to you, unless you do what you would have to do if being blessed <had> been done for you?

Note # 2: ACIM states that we fail to act as a Son of God because we have forgotten and denied what we truly are. Because we do not realize our true nature, we do not even attempt to test our capability of dong a given task. Like Lambert, the sheepish lion, we
act like a sheep because we have allowed the ego to raise us as a sheep. We actually are unlimited spirit, but we fail to act like it. We believe that we are limited ego-bodies. We mistakenly identify ourselves as the body form, rather than as our true spiritual reality.

T-14.I.2. Indirect proof of truth is needed in a world made of denial and without direction. 2 You will perceive the need for this indirect proof of truth if you realize that to deny is the decision not to know. 3 The logic of the world must therefore lead to nothing, for the goal of this illusionary world is nothing. 4 If you decide to have and give and be nothing except a dream, you must direct your thoughts unto the oblivion of the dream. 5 And if you have and give and are everything, and all this, your divine birthright of being everything, has been denied, your thought system is closed off and wholly separated from the truth. p270

Note # 3: We believe that we are separate from God and that we also have a will other than God’s Will. We placed this belief deep within our own split mind and it has become the egoic thought system. As soon as this belief was taken seriously by the Sonship (ACIM states “the Son forgot to laugh”), God placed that answer in our mind. The answer is within our Christ consciousness and is part of our mind. The Holy Spirit’s Atonement principle is God’s answer for the mind that now believes it is separate from the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit teaches us this answer and the answer is the Atonement principle. The answer was placed within our mind because the source of the problem in our mind. To correct the problem properly, you need to heal the cause of the problem, instead of putting a bandage over the cause’s effect.

T-14.I.3. Egoic seeing is always outward. 2 Were your thoughts wholly of you, the thought system you made would be forever dark. 3 The thoughts the mind of God's Son projects or extends have all the power that the mind of God's Son gives to these thoughts. 4 The thoughts God's Son shares with God are beyond God's Son’s belief, but those thoughts made by the egoic little “s” self <are> the egoic little “s” self’s beliefs. 5 And it is these self-made erroneous beliefs the egoic little “s” self and not the truth, that the little “s” self has chosen to defend and love. 6 These self-made erroneous beliefs of the egoic little “s” self will not be taken from the split minded. 7 But these self-made erroneous egoic beliefs can be given up <by> the split minded for the Source of their undoing is in God’s Son’s own split mind. 8 There is nothing in the world to teach God’s split minded Son that the logic of the world is totally insane and leads to nothing. 9 Yet in the split minded who made this insane logic there is One, which is the Holy Spirit, Who knows that these self-made erroneous egoic beliefs made up this illusionary world and lead to nothing, for the Holy Spirit knows everything.

Note # 4: Because we are among the trees, we cannot see the forest. Only the Holy Spirit
has the proper perspective to see over the trees and know that we are in a forest of illusion. The Holy Spirit is both aware of the dream that we perceive as our provisional reality and, also, the truth about what we are, which is perfect, whole and complete. We, the dreamer, have taken our dream seriously and, therefore, believe it to be reality. Identifying ourselves with the dream, we appear to be limited by the dream. We can never find any witnesses within our own perception of the dream, which would demonstrate that we are not the dream. This is why the Holy Spirit’s guidance is needed. If asked, the Holy Spirit takes the events of the dream and reinterprets them so that we can reawaken to the truth of our divine birthright. The Holy Spirit utilizes the tool of forgiveness for this purpose.

T-14.I.4. Any direction that would lead you where the Holy Spirit leads you not, goes nowhere. 2 Anything you deny that the Holy Spirit knows to be true you have denied yourself, and the Holy Spirit must therefore teach you not to deny the truth about what you are, unlimited spirit in the Mind of God. 3 Undoing <is> indirect, as doing is. 4 You were created only to create, neither to see nor do. 5 To see or do are but indirect expressions of the will to live, which has been blocked by the capricious and unholy whim of death and murder that your Father does not share with you. 6 You have set yourself the task of sharing what cannot be shared, which is the untrue belief that you are something other than as God created you and, therefore, are limited. 7 And while you think it possible to learn to do something other than be as God created you and therefore limit yourself, you will not believe all that <is> possible to learn to do.

Note # 5: Again, if you believe that you are limited, you will project thoughts that are based on limitation. We project or make our world based on our beliefs of separation, limitation, sin, guilt and fear. We have prejudged and now seek to verify the existence of our own projected images through the physical senses. The ego then claims that these imagined forms are the “proof” that confirms our previously determined beliefs in limitation. The ego then declares that the source of these projected images is outside us and, therefore, we did not make them and are powerless to change them. This leaves our mind in victim consciousness. We cannot find the resolution of a dream problem until we wake up to the fact that it is only a dream that has no effect on the real world. The Kingdom or the Mind of God remains unaffected by the dream of separation. When we reawaken, our dream disappears.

T-14.I.5. The Holy Spirit, therefore, must begin the Holy Spirit’s teaching by showing you what you can never learn. 2 The Holy Spirit’s message is not indirect, but the Holy Spirit must introduce the simple truth into a thought system, which is based on the insane logic of the ego, which has become so twisted and so complex you cannot see that the ego’s thought system means nothing. 3 The Holy Spirit merely looks at the foundation of the ego’s thought system and dismisses the ego’s thought system. 4 But you who cannot undo what you have made, which is the ego’s thought system, nor escape the heavy burden of the dullness of the ego’s thought system that lies upon your mind, cannot see through the ego’s thought system. 5 The ego’s thought system deceives you, because you chose to deceive yourself. 6 Those who choose to be deceived will merely attack direct approaches, because direct approaches seem to encroach upon
the deception of the ego’s thought system and strike at the ego’s thought system. p271

Note # 6: The Holy Spirit will not do anything that would increase our fear or make the dream appear to be real. If the Holy Spirit were to use a “direct approach” like slapping us across the head and telling us we are stupid, two things would happen. The first would be the confirmation that since we are “stupid”, we cannot be perfect, whole and complete. The second result would be to increase our fear. Being told by the Holy Spirit that we are stupid, we would be even more fearful than we were when the exercise first began. This is why the Holy Spirit waits patiently to be asked to help, rather than force correction upon an unwilling student. By reinterpreting the events, the Holy Spirit, can allow your Christ consciousness to recover Its ability to act as the decision-maker. You are now asked to choose again, this time allowing the choice to be based on the Vision of Christ, which is under the realm of the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

II. The Happy Learner

T-14.II.1. The Holy Spirit needs a happy learner, in whom the Holy Spirit’s mission can be happily accomplished. 2 You who are steadfastly devoted to misery must first recognize that you are miserable and not happy. 3 The Holy Spirit cannot teach without this contrast between misery and happiness, for you believe that misery <is> happiness. 4 This belief that misery <is> happiness has so confused you that you have undertaken to learn to do what you can never do, believing that unless you learn to do what you can never do, which is to make misery equal to happiness, you will not be happy. 5 You do not realize that the foundation on which this most peculiar learning goal depends means absolutely nothing. 6 Yet this goal, which is to make misery equal to happiness, may still make sense to you. 7 Have faith in nothing and you will find the "treasure" that you seek which is nothing. 8 Yet you will add another burden to your already burdened mind. 9 You will believe that nothing is of value, and will value nothing, which are your illusions. 10 A little piece of glass, a speck of dust, a body or a war are one to you. 11 For if you value one thing made of illusions, which are nothing, you have believed that nothing can be precious, and that you <can> learn how to make the untrue true.

Note # 7: The goal of the ego’s thought system is to create the illusion that what you perceive is real. Therefore, the ego strives to make illusions, which are not true or real, into truth. Since you have already been given everything through God’s extension of Himself, the ego, which always desires specialness, must attempt to convince you that you are something other than a Oneness. Anything that is not found in the Mind of God, which is based on truth, is nothing.

T-14.II.2. The Holy Spirit, seeing where you are but knowing you are elsewhere, begins the Holy Spirit’s lesson in simplicity with the fundamental teaching that <truth> is true. 2 This fundamental teaching that <truth> is true is the hardest lesson you will ever learn, and in the end the only one lesson you will ever learn. 3 Simplicity is very difficult for twisted minds. 4 Consider all the distortions you have made of nothing; all
the strange forms and feelings and actions and reactions that you have woven out of it, the illusionary world of your perception.  5 Nothing is so alien to you as the simple truth, and nothing are you less inclined to listen to than the simple truth that truth is true.  6 The contrast between what is true and what is not is perfectly apparent, yet you do not see the contrast between what is true and what is false.  7 The simple and the obvious are not apparent to those who would make palaces and royal robes of nothing, believing they are kings with golden crowns because they believe that their imagined dream world is real.

Note # 8: If we believe that the dream is real, we have no reason to question the reality of the dream itself. This means that the Holy Spirit must correct our perception by reawakening us to the truth that we are only dreaming that we are separate from God. This reawakening process does not try to make the dream real; rather it makes the dream disappear into the nothingness from which it arose. Dreams cannot overcome the light of truth.

T-14.II.3. All this, your belief in the realness of your illusionary world of provisional reality, the Holy Spirit sees, and teaches, simply, that all your belief in the reality of your illusionary world is not true. 2 To those unhappy learners who would teach themselves nothing, and delude themselves into believing that nothing is not nothing, the Holy Spirit says, with steadfast quietness:

3 The truth is true. 4 Nothing else matters, nothing else is real, and everything beside truth is not there. 5 Let Me, the Holy Spirit, make the one distinction for you that you cannot make, but need to learn (that truth is true). 6 Your faith in nothing is deceiving you. 7 Offer your faith to Me, the Holy Spirit, and I will place your faith gently in the holy place where your faith belongs. p272 8 You will find no deception there in the holy place where your faith belongs, but only the simple truth. 9 And you will love the simple truth because you will understand the simple truth that truth is true.

Note # 9: The Holy Spirit’s thought system is based on the truth that you are God’s perfect Son. You are unlimited spirit. The ego’s thought system is based on the idea that you are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies and live in a world of lack. As long as we believe that we are part of the ego’s world of lack, we will never question the logic of the ego’s thought system. Unless we realize that the ego’s major premise is false, we will assume that the false idea that we are a limited ego-body is true. This is why the Holy Spirit needs only to teach the truth about our divine birthright. Truth is true, and the ego’s belief system, which is based on false beliefs, must collapse.

Faith is the power behind a given belief. It is your mind’s faith or lack of faith that gives a belief its “reality.” The more faith you have in a particular belief, the more constantly “true” it will become for you. Without faith in a belief, the belief is powerless since it is transformed into a whimsical wish or fantasy. Your mind has failed to activate it by refusing to utilize your own mind’s creative powers.

T-14.II.4. Like you, the Holy Spirit did not make truth. 2 Like God, the Holy Spirit knows the truth to be true. 3 The Holy Spirit brings the light of truth into the darkness,
and lets the light of truth shine on you. 4 And as the light of truth shines, your brothers see the light of truth, and realizing that this light is not what you have made. Your brothers see in you more than you see. 5 Your brothers will be happy learners of the lesson this light brings to your brothers, because the lesson that truth is true teaches your brothers release from the false illusions of nothing and from all the works of nothing. 6 The heavy chains of false illusions that seem to bind your brothers to despair are not see as nothing until you bring the light, which is the lesson that truth is true, to your brothers. 7 And then your brothers see the chains of these false illusions have disappeared, and so the chains must have been nothing. 8 And you will see that the chains were nothing with your brothers. 9 Because you taught your brothers gladness and release from the egoic illusion that the false could be made true, your brothers will become your teachers in release and gladness.

Note # 10: By seeing and teaching the truth about the Oneness of the Sonship, all parts of the Sonship benefit. When there is only one, to give is to receive. By projecting forgiving and loving thoughts, these same thoughts are returned to us. By seeing and telling the truth about your brother, you learn the truth about yourself. Your faith is no longer being misplaced to make the false appear real.

T-14.II.5. When you teach anyone that truth is true, you learn that truth is true with him. 2 And so you learn that what seemed hardest was the easiest. 3 Learn to be a happy learner. 4 You will never learn how to make nothing everything. 5 Yet see that “to make nothing everything” has been your goal, and recognize how foolish it, the ego’s goal “to make nothing everything,” has been. 6 Be glad the ego’s goal “to make nothing everything,” is undone, for when you look at the ego’s goal “to make nothing everything,” in simple honesty, the ego’s goal is undone. 7 I said before, "Be not content with nothing," for you have believed that nothing could content you. 8 It is not so that nothing could content you since you have been given everything.

Note # 11: ACIM makes the point that being an extension of God, the Father, you are everything. Being everything, how can you be happy being something less than yourself? How and why would you trade the happiness of being everything, for the nothingness of an illusionary dream that brings only misery?

T-14.II.6. If you would be a happy learner, you must give everything you have learned from the ego’s thought system to the Holy Spirit, to be unlearned for you. 2 And then begin to learn the joyous lessons that come quickly on the firm foundation that truth is true. 3 For what is built there based on the Holy Spirit’s thought system is true, and built on truth. 4 The universe of learning will open up before you in all its gracious simplicity. 5 With truth before you, you will not look back.

Note # 12: Once we realize that the thought system of the ego is based on erroneous thinking, we will abandon its falseness for truth. Once we get the major premise correct, that we are perfect, whole and complete, the rest falls into place. The return to knowledge is guaranteed to us as soon as we realize our guiltlessness as God’s Son and we accept the Atonement for ourselves.
T-14.II.7. The happy learner meets the conditions of learning here in our world of perception, as the happy learner meets the conditions of knowledge in the Kingdom. 2 All this lies in the Holy Spirit's plan to free you from the past, and open up the way to freedom for you. 3 For truth <is> true. 4 What else could ever be, or ever was? 5 This simple lesson that truth <is> true holds the key to the dark door that you invented to prevent your return to knowledge and the Kingdom. It is this door that you believe is locked forever. 6 You made this door of nothing, and behind this door, that you invented to prevent your return to knowledge and the Kingdom, <is> nothing. 7 The key is only the light that shines away the shapes and forms and fears of nothing. 8 Accept this key to freedom from the hands of Christ, Who gives this key to freedom to you, that you may join Christ in the holy task of bringing light. 9 For, like your brothers, you do not realize the light has come and freed you from the sleep of darkness. p273

Note # 13: Truth dispels illusion. The only barrier to the return to the Kingdom lies within our split-mind. Correct your false belief that we can be something other than the Will of God, and all illusions disappear. The Christ consciousness will once again become the decision-maker in our mind. The Christ in us knows that we share only one mind, and that is the One Mind of God.

T-14.II.8. Behold your brothers in their freedom, and learn of your brothers how to be free of darkness. 2 The light in you will waken your brothers, and your brothers will not leave you asleep. 3 The vision of Christ is given the very instant that vision of Christ is perceived. 4 Where everything is clear, everything is all holy. 5 The quietness of the lesson that truth <is> true is simple and in yet this lesson’s simplicity is so compelling that you will realize it is impossible to deny the simple truth. 6 For there is nothing else but truth. 7 God is everywhere, and His Son is in God with everything. 8 Can he sing the dirge of sorrow when this is true?

Note # 14: By reawakening to the truth about what we are, we are returned to the Oneness of God. Extension is God’s Law and we have never left the Mind of God. We can deny this truth, but our denial will not make the truth become false. Truth is unchangeable and eternal. We have been, and always will be, God’s beloved Child, perfect, whole and complete. This is the truth that the Holy Spirit teaches us.

III. The Decision for Guiltlessness

T-14.III.1. The happy learner cannot feel guilty about learning. 2 This is so essential to learning that a happy learner cannot feel guilty about learning and that this should never be forgotten. 3 The guiltless learner learns easily because his thoughts are free. 4 Yet, that a guiltless learner learns easily because his thoughts are free entails the recognition that guilt is interference, not salvation, and guilt serves no useful function at all.
Note # 15: Guilt places limits on thought and thus, impedes the free flow of thought.

T-14.III.2. Perhaps you are accustomed to using guiltlessness merely to offset the pain of guilt, and do not look upon guiltlessness as having value in itself. 2 You believe that guilt and guiltlessness are both of value, each representing an escape from what the other. guilt or guiltlessness, does not offer you. 3 You do not want either alone, for without both guilt and guiltlessness you do not see yourself as whole and therefore happy. 4 Yet you are whole only in your guiltlessness, and only in your guiltlessness can you be happy. 5 There is no conflict here in your guiltlessness. 6 To wish for guilt in any way, in any form, will lose appreciation of the value of your guiltlessness, and push appreciation of the value of your guiltlessness from your sight.

Note # 16: The ego has a vested interest in our belief in guilt. Guilt comes from the belief that we have usurped God’s Will and are now separate from God. This usurping of God’s authority, births our belief in individuality and our specialness. Unfortunately for us, the ego’s belief in guilt results in pain for now we must be punished for our attack on God. Under the ego’s belief system, we are constantly attempting to get rid of the pain that results from our guilt. Under the ego’s thought system, we utilize projection to get rid of this guilt by claiming that we are guiltless and that we are, therefore, innocent victims. Seeing ourselves as an effect, rather than a cause, the ego maintains its control over us. We continue to believe that we lack the ability to choose again. Truth has no opposites. If guiltlessness is true, it’s opposite, which is guilt, can have no reality in the Mind of God. It is only in our world of perception that opposites appear to exist. A Oneness can know no opposites since it is everything.

T-14.III.3. There is no compromise that you can make with guilt, and escape the pain that only guiltlessness allays. 2 Learning is the key element of living here in our world of individual perception, as creating is being in Heaven. 3 Whenever the pain of guilt seems to attract you, remember that if you yield to guilt, you are deciding against your happiness, and will not learn how to be happy. 4 Say therefore, to yourself, gently, but with the conviction born of the Love of God and of His Son:

5 What I experience I will make manifest.
6 If I am guiltless, I have nothing to fear.
7 I choose to testify to my acceptance of the Atonement, not to the Atonement’s rejection.
8 I would accept my guiltlessness by making my guiltlessness manifest and sharing my guiltlessness.
9 Let me bring peace to God’s Son from his Father.

Note # 17: Prior to the mad idea that there was a will different from the Father’s Will, there was only a shared Oneness. God’s Son, being an extension of the Father, created like the Father. Beingness is the nature of God and creation. Being is what is shared. Creation is sharing. With the belief in separation, knowledge was lost to the now split-minded little “s” self. The split-mind had now replaced the power of creation, with the power of decision. This power of decision arose when the belief in the Oneness had been
shattered. Prior to this loss of knowledge, there was only truth and, therefore, no alternative or opposite choice existed. With the birth of perception, however, there was something to perceive and, therefore, something to decide about. Now, with a perceived something outside ourselves, there was something we could learn because we no longer believed we were perfect, whole and complete. Our private illusionary world of provisional reality now became a classroom for learning. Living is learning in our private world. Existence is what we think we are after the separation. The Holy Spirit utilizes our power of decision to reinterpret our current experiences so that we can learn to choose again and reclaim our divine birthright, which is a state of being. The ego utilizes our power of decision for the self-crucifixion of God’s Son. The Atonement corrects the belief that the separation occurred and, therefore, the Atonement declares that we have always been and continue to be guiltless.

T-14.III.4. Each day, each hour and minute, even each second, you are deciding between the crucifixion and the resurrection; between the ego and the Holy Spirit. 2 The ego is the choice for guilt; the Holy Spirit the choice for guiltlessness. 3 The power of decision is all that is yours. 4 What you can decide between is fixed, because there are no alternatives except truth and illusion. 5 And there is no overlap between truth and illusion, because truth and illusion are opposites, which cannot be reconciled, and cannot both be true. 6 You are guilty or guiltless, bound or free, unhappy or happy.

Note # 18: The egoic thought system utilizes the decision for its belief in guilt as justification for crucifying ourselves. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is designed so that the Christ consciousness part of our mind can regain its power of decision. Once this is done, we can choose again and reclaim, or resurrect, our divine inheritance. There can be no happiness as long as we compromise with the belief that there is guilt in the world as we perceive it. Truth is true and all illusions must be dissolved before we can reclaim our divine birthright. Only in the world of perception do opposites appear to exist. This is why ACIM states that there is no overlap between truth and illusions.

T-14.III.5. The miracle teaches you that you have chosen guiltlessness, freedom and joy. 2 The miracle is not a cause, but the miracle is an effect. 3 The miracle is the natural result of choosing right, attesting to your happiness that comes from choosing to be free of guilt. 4 Everyone you offer healing to returns the miracle of guiltlessness to you. 5 Everyone you attack keeps guilt and cherishes guilt by holding guilt against you. 6 Whether he does hold guilt against you, or does not hold guilt against you, it will not make any difference; for you will think he does hold guilt against you. 7 It is impossible to offer what you do not want without this penalty of what you do not want being return onto you. 8 The cost of giving <is> receiving. 9 Either the cost of giving is a penalty from which you suffer, or the cost of giving is a happy purchase of a treasure to hold dear. Giving is receiving.

Note # 19: Giving is receiving because that is how projection works. Projection differs from creation since it comes from a sense of lack. Projection is exclusive, not inclusive. We try to give away or transfer our own deep-seated guilt to our brother. But by giving guilt, we receive guilt. God’s Law is that what we give, we will receive. Because this is
God’s Law, in the world of perception, what we give, we also receive. Only by seeing our brother as guiltless is our own guiltlessness returned to us. A thought never leaves the mind of the thinker. Thoughts can be shared, but there is no such thing as an idle thought. Our thoughts become our experiences.

T-14.III.6. No penalty is ever asked of God's Son except by himself and of himself. 2 Every chance given God's Son to heal is another opportunity to replace darkness with light and fear with love. 3 If God's Son refuses to replace darkness with light and fear with love, he binds himself to darkness, because he did not choose to free his brother and enter light with his brother. 4 By giving power to nothing, God's Son throws away the joyous opportunity to learn that nothing has no power. 5 And by not dispelling darkness, God's Son became afraid of darkness and of light. 6 The joy of learning that darkness has no power over the Son of God is the happy lesson the Holy Spirit teaches, and would have you teach with Him. 7 That darkness has no power over the Son of God is the Holy Spirit’s joy to teach this lesson, as this lesson that darkness has no power over the Son of God will be your joy to also teach.

**Note # 20:** Because the Atonement principle has always protected the Sonship’s guiltlessness, nothing that we perceived outside the Mind of God is real. There is no punishment required by God since the Father only knows His Son as perfect, whole and complete. Only our belief in the ego’s thought system makes us believe that the ego’s “god of revenge” must require some sort of penance. The Holy Spirit would teach us that the ego, itself, is unreal and, therefore, nothing. The ego, being nothing, cannot have any power over the Son of God who was created perfect, whole and complete. It is only our belief in guilt that gives our ego any power over us. This apparent power of the ego comes only from our belief and decision to abdicate our divine birthright. The ego, itself, has no power over the mind. The Holy Spirit requests that we choose love over the ego’s belief in fear.

T-14.III.7. The way to teach this simple lesson that darkness has no power over the Son of God and, therefore, we must choose love over fear is merely this: Guiltlessness is invulnerability. 2 Therefore, make your invulnerability manifest to everyone. 3 Teach him that you are invulnerable, whatever he may try to do to you, your perfect freedom from the belief that you can be harmed shows him that he is guiltless. 4 Your brother can do nothing that can hurt you, and by refusing to allow your brother to think he can hurt you, you teach your brother that the Atonement, which you have accepted for yourself, is also his Atonement. p275 5 There is nothing to forgive. 6 No one can hurt the Son of God. 7 You and your brother’s guilt is wholly without cause, and being without cause, guilt cannot exist.

**Note # 21:** The Atonement acknowledges that God’s Will is changeless. God created us guiltless like Himself. We will always remain perfect, whole and complete since this is God’s Will. God is the only Cause and the only Source and no illusion that we have imagined can change the reality of the Mind of God.

T-14.III.8. God is the only Cause, and guilt is not of God. 2 Teach no one he has hurt
you, for if you do **teach that someone has hurt you**, you teach yourself that what is not of God has power over you. 3 *The causeless cannot be.* 4 Do not attest to the false belief that the causeless can exist in reality and do not foster belief in the existence of the causeless in any mind. 5 Remember always that mind is one, and cause is one. **There is one Cause and one Mind and it is God’s.** 6 You will learn communication with this oneness only when you learn to deny the causeless, and accept the Cause of God as your cause. 7 The power that God has given to His Son *is* His Son’s power, and nothing else can His Son, the Christ, see or choose to look upon without imposing on himself the penalty of guilt, in place of all the happy teaching the Holy Spirit would gladly offer him, who now suffers from split-mindedness and no longer sees himself as the Christ.

**Note # 22:** The separation is referred to as the authority problem. The separation is the result of the mad idea that the child could somehow be self-created and give birth to itself. That something was created from nothing. Our denial of the Fatherhood of God is the authority problem. It claims that something other than the Mind of God is possible and that we are that something. This error resulted into our descent from knowledge into the illusionary world of perception. We became a decision maker because we denied the knowledge of our true Source and Creator. The Christ consciousness is the home of right-mindedness and the home of the Holy Spirit. The Christ in us has never lost the truth of what we are or the remembrance of the Father as our Creator. The split-minded person has abdicated his power of creation to the thought system of the ego. Believing the separation to be real, the split-mind now believes that there is lack. The split-minded have exchanged the power of creation, which is sharing and represents the power of God within us, for the limiting power of decision, which claims we are something other than as God created us. The power of decision can lead to exclusion, which can never be part of the Mind of God. When the decision-maker identifies itself with the ego’s thought system, it rejects the Love of God. When God’s Love has been denied by the split-minded child, it has been replaced by the ego’s own unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear. The Holy Spirit teaches the split-minded to reclaim their divine birthright and to choose for the remembrances of God. God is Love. Nothing exists outside of the Mind of God. The belief in separation is unreal and causeless since the belief in separation is not part of God’s Will. The Sonship, which is an extension of God, must remain guiltless, for the eternal is by definition, changeless. There is just the Oneness. We will once again remember God when we cease to deny our divine birthright inherited from our Source. Accept that the Mind of God birthed us, and we will understand that we are of the Mind of God. There is only One Mind and One Will.

**T-14.III.9.** Whenever you choose to make decisions for yourself you are thinking destructively, and the decision you make by yourself will be wrong. 2 The decision you make by yourself will hurt you because this new decision is based on your erroneous concept that you are self-created. The belief that you are somehow self-created led to the decision that you can do something contrary to God’s Will. 3 It is not true that you can make decisions by yourself or for yourself alone. 4 No thought of God's Son can be separate or isolated in the thought’s effects. 5 Every decision is made for the whole Sonship, directed in and out, and influencing a constellation larger than anything you ever dreamed of.
Note # 23: Our thoughts affect the entirety of the Sonship. In reality, there are no private thoughts. Private thoughts are not shared and, therefore, are not real. They cannot be true in the Mind of God. Private thoughts appear real to the perceiver and affect only the perceiver’s perception of their illusionary world of provisional reality.

T-14.III.10. Those who accept the Atonement <are> invulnerable. 2 But those who believe they are guilty will respond to guilt, because those who believe they are guilty think guilt is salvation, and, therefore, those who believe they are guilty will not refuse to see guilt and they will side with guilt. Those who believe they are guilty will also refuse to side with the Atonement and their own invulnerability. They will believe they are self-created and, therefore, can do something contrary to God’s Will 3

Those who believe they are guilty believe that increasing guilt is self-protection. 4 And those who believe they are guilty will fail to understand the simple fact that what they do not want, which is there belief in guilt, must hurt them. 5 All this arises because those who believe they are guilty do not believe that what they want is good. 6 Yet free will was given them because free will is holy, and will bring to them all that they need, coming as naturally as peace that knows no limits. Since self-creation is impossible, having a will different from the Father’s is equally impossible. Since both never happened in the Mind of God, our true will, which is found in our Christ consciousness, is the Will of God. Our free will is the shared Will of God. 7 There is nothing their free will fails to provide that offers them anything of value. 8 Yet because they believe they are something other than the Christ, they do not understand their free will is really the shared Will of God. The Holy Spirit quietly understands their free will for them who believe that they are guilty and have separated from God, and gives them what they truly want without effort, strain, or the impossible burden of deciding what they want and need alone. What they truly want is the return to right-mindedness. Christ consciousness is shared and is invulnerable for it is the acceptance of the Will of God.

Note # 24: Because we have lost knowledge, we are incapable of knowing what we want. We have mistakenly identified our real self with the dream. We have slipped into the belief that we are something other than perfect, whole and complete. The Christ consciousness is the remembrance for God. The Christ appears to be asleep but in reality, our decision-maker is not listening to it. Our decision-maker has chosen to follow the guidance of the ego. Free will does not mean that we can establish the curriculum for the return to the Oneness. God has already established the curriculum. Free will does mean that we can elect what parts of the course we choose to take at any given time. With the return to the thought system of the Holy Spirit, the vision of Christ will be reclaimed freely by the decision-making part of our mind. We will then freely choose God’s Will as our own will. The Atonement is the remedy to the mad idea that our true identify could be something that was limited. Neither God nor His Creations can lack since They are everything. The Oneness of God is always perfect, whole and complete.

T-14.III.11. It will never happen that you must make decisions for yourself. 2 You are not bereft of help, and Help, which is the Holy Spirit, knows the answer. 3 Would you be
content with little, which is all that you alone can offer yourself, when the Holy Spirit, Who gives you everything, will simply offer everything to you? 4 The Holy Spirit will never ask what you have done to make you worthy of the gift of God, which is everything. p275 5 Ask it (the question of why you are worthy of God’s Love) not therefore of yourself. 6 Instead, accept the Holy Spirit’s answer, for the Holy Spirit knows that you are worthy of everything God wills for you. 7 Do not try to escape the gift of God that the Holy Spirit so freely and so gladly offers you. 8 The Holy Spirit offers you but what God gave the Holy Spirit for you. 9 You need not decide whether or not you are deserving of God’s Gift of our divine birthright. 10 God knows you are.

Note # 25: The Father knows our reality, which is eternal, changeless and true. God placed the Holy Spirit within our Christ consciousness so that we would be invulnerable to any thought of misperception. Time, which is only found in the world of form, arose out of our own misperception. In the world of time, we believe that we are limited ego-bodies. The Holy Spirit, Who is aware of both our perception and our reality, will return us to whole-mindedness. Thus, we return to the Kingdom, which in eternity has always been our home. The Atonement proves the Son’s guiltlessness. The Holy Spirit teaches us to realize that the truth is always true. It teaches us that what is unreal must be always false and, therefore, nothing. Our illusions about ourselves have no power over the truth, which is the shared Mind of God.

T-14.III.12.Would you deny the truth of God's decision that you are perfect, whole and complete, and place your pitiful appraisal of yourself in place of God’s calm and unswerving value of His Son, the Big “S” Self? 2 Nothing can shake God's conviction of the perfect purity of everything that God created, for everything that God created is wholly pure. 3 Do not decide against your perfect purity, for being of God, your perfect purity must be true. 4 Peace abides in every mind that quietly accepts the plan God set for its Atonement, relinquishing its own self-made plan for its salvation, which was authored by the ego. 5 You know not of salvation, for you do not understand salvation. 6 Make no decisions about what salvation is or where salvation lies, but ask the Holy Spirit everything, and leave all decisions to the Holy Spirit’s gentle counsel.

Note # 26: Since we do not understand what we are, we are in no position to know what we truly want. Only the Holy Spirit knows that we truly seek the return to whole-mindedness. Ask the Holy Spirit who knows the truth and He will reinterpret all that the ego sees with the vision of Christ.

T-14.III.13.The Holy Spirit is the One Who knows the plan of God that God would have you follow. The Holy Spirit can teach you what God’s plan is. 2 Only the Holy Spirit’s wisdom is capable of guiding you to follow God’s plan of salvation. 3 Every decision you undertake alone but signifies that you would define what salvation is and what you would be saved from. 4 The Holy Spirit knows that all salvation is escape from guilt. 5 You have no other "enemy" than your escape from self-inflicted guilt, and against this strange distortion of the purity of the Son of God the Holy Spirit is your only Friend. 6 The Holy Spirit is the strong protector of the innocence that sets you free. 7 And it is the Holy Spirit’s decision to undo everything that would obscure your
innocence from your unclouded mind.

**Note # 27:** God’s plan for salvation is the removal of all our self-inflicted guilt. The Atonement removes guilt because it corrects the error of our belief that the separation was real. We cannot be guilty of something that never was a part of the Mind of God. Dreams are not real and, therefore, cannot alter the truth.

**T-14.III.14.** Let the Holy Spirit, therefore, be the only Guide that you would follow to salvation. 2 The Holy Spirit knows the way, and leads you gladly on the way to our recovery of our guiltlessness. 3 With the Holy Spirit you will not fail to learn that what God wills for you <is> your will. 4 Without the Holy Spirit’s guidance you will think you know alone, and will decide against your peace as surely as you decided that salvation lay in you alone. 5 Salvation is of the Holy Spirit to Whom God gave the salvation of your guiltlessness for you. 6 The Holy Spirit has not forgotten your guiltlessness. 7 Forget the Holy Spirit not and the Holy Spirit will make every decision for you, for your salvation and the peace of God in you.

**Note # 28:** Without the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will continue to follow the thought system of the ego. Coming from lack, the ego tells us to look outside ourselves for salvation. Since the error of the belief in separation arose from our mind, the correction must be found within our mind. The Holy Spirit reawakens the Christ conscious part of our split-mind so that the decision-maker can choose again. This time, siding for the remembrance of God, which is the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

**T-14.III.15.** Seek not to appraise the worth of God's Son whom God created holy, for to do so is to evaluate his Father and judge against His Father. 2 And you <will> feel guilty for this imagined crime of judging against God, Your Father, which no one in this world or Heaven could possibly commit. 3 The Holy Spirit teaches only that the "sin" of self-replacement on the throne of God is not a source of guilt. p277 4 What cannot happen (this imagined crime of judging against God) can have no effects to fear. 5 Be quiet in your faith in God Who loves you, and would lead you out of insanity. 6 Madness may be your choice, but not your reality. 7 Never forget the Love of God, Who has remembered you. 8 For it is quite impossible that God could ever let His Son drop from the loving Mind wherein His Son was created, and where His Son’s abode was fixed in perfect peace forever.

**Note # 29:** God does not punish someone He Loves. We should not try to punish ourselves because we imagined that we deny the love of God. God’s love for His Son is eternal. We can deny God’s Love but we cannot change it. For God’s endless love of the Sonship is the Will of God. The Christ in us always abides in the Mind of God, which is our home. God’s Love cannot be earned; instead, God’s Love freely flows unceasingly to all of His Creation.

**T-14.III.16.** Say to the Holy Spirit only, "Decide for me," and it is done. 2 For the Holy Spirit’s decisions are reflections of what God knows about you, and in this light, error of any kind becomes impossible. 3 Why would you struggle so frantically to anticipate all
you cannot know, when all knowledge lies behind every decision the Holy Spirit makes for you? 4 Learn of the Holy Spirit’s wisdom and the Holy Spirit’s Love, and teach the Holy Spirit’s answer to everyone who struggles in the dark. 5 For you decide for everyone who struggles and for yourself.

**Note # 30:** The decision-maker needs only to realize that lacking knowledge of what it is, the decision-maker is incapable of knowing what is in its own best interest. The decision-maker must decide to turn everything over to the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit can guide us home. Since the Sonship is part of the shared Mind of God, by making the decision to remember God, we affect the consciousness of the entire Sonship. Although we believe that we are separate from our brother, we remain connected through the Mind of God.

**T-14.III.17.** How gracious it is to decide all things through the Holy Spirit’s wisdom Whose equal Love is given equally to all alike! 2 The Holy Spirit leaves you no one outside you. 3 And so the Holy Spirit gives you what is yours, because your Father would have you share what is yours with your Father. 4 In everything be led by the Holy Spirit, and do not reconsider. 5 Trust the Holy Spirit to answer quickly, surely, and with Love for everyone who will be touched in any way by the decision. 6 And everyone will be touch by the decision. 7 Would you take unto yourself the sole responsibility for deciding what can bring only good to everyone? 8 Would you know this?

**Note # 31:** Because the Sonship is actually a shared oneness, every decision made effects the collective consciousness of the whole. This is a large responsibility for anyone. Since we do not know what we are, ACIM tells us to follow someone that does know the truth. Ask the Holy Spirit and He will make the proper decision. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of the interconnectedness of the Sonship and how the parts interrelate to each other.

**T-14.III.18.** You taught yourself the most unnatural habit of not communicating with your Creator. 2 Yet you remain in close communication with your Creator, and with everything that is within your Creator, as it is within yourself. 3 Unlearn the ego’s belief in isolation through the Holy Spirit’s loving guidance, and learn of all the happy communication that you have thrown away but could not lose.

**Note # 32:** The Christ consciousness part of our split-mind has always remained in communication with God. Communication is sharing. Anything that we create through love and forgiveness is shared and is communicated with God. The Holy Spirit saves all our true creations for us and protects them for our return to the Kingdom where we will once again accept our function as co-creator with our Father.

**T-14.III.19.** Whenever you are in doubt what you should do, think of the Holy Spirit Presence in you, and tell yourself this, and only this:

2 *He, the Holy Spirit, leadeth me and knows the way, which I know not.*
3 *Yet He, the Holy Spirit, will never keep from me what the Holy Spirit would have me*
4 And so I trust the Holy Spirit to communicate to me all that the Holy Spirit knows for me.

5 Then let the Holy Spirit teach you quietly how to perceive your guiltlessness, which is already there. p278

Note # 33: When we claim to be the little “s” self, we are powerless. When we follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit, which knows the Will of our Father, all the power of God follows through His Son. We thus, become invulnerable, as we were created.

IV. Your Function in the Atonement

T-14.IV.1. When you accept a brother's guiltlessness you will see the Atonement in your brother. The Atonement is the acceptance of the guiltlessness of the Sonship. 2 For by proclaiming the guiltlessness in your brother you make guiltlessness yours, and you will see what you sought, which is the Atonement and your guiltlessness. 3 You will not see the symbol of your brother's guiltlessness shining within him while you still believe your brother's guiltlessness is not there within your brother. 4 Your brother’s guiltlessness is <your> Atonement. 5 Grant your brother his guiltlessness to him, and you will see the truth of what you have acknowledged that your brother is guiltless. 6 Yet truth of guiltlessness is offered first to be received, even as God gave truth of guiltlessness first to His Son. 7 The first in time means nothing, but the First in eternity is God the Father, Who is both First and One. 8 Beyond the First there is no other, for there is no order, no second or third, and nothing but the First.

Note # 34: God is the First and One cause of everything. What God created is eternal and real. Time is not known in eternity since the real is changeless. Time is meaningless in Heaven. Only in the dream world of perception does time serve some purpose. We make in time because what is made is not real and is subject to modification as our viewpoints change. Time allows us to relearn what we have chosen to forget and finally choose again for the certainty of truth. Time will slip into the nothingness from which it arose when we return to knowledge. There will be no change to measure since only the oneness of truth is real. Having served its purpose, time will disappear along with our dream world of perception.

The Atonement is the acceptance of the guiltless of God and all His Creations. The Sonship has maintained its innocence and thus, remains sinless.

T-14.IV.2. You who belong to the First Cause, created by God like unto Himself and part of God, are more than merely guiltless. 2 The state of guiltlessness is only the condition in which what is not there has been removed from the disordered mind that thought what is not there was really to be found within its own disordered mind. 3 This state of guiltlessness, and only this, must you attain, with God beside you. 4 For until you do attain the state of guiltlessness, you will still think that you are separate from God. 5
You can perhaps feel God's Presence next to you, but cannot know that you are one with God. This oneness with God cannot be taught. Learning applies only to the condition in which it happens of itself.

Note # 35: Guiltlessness is merely the returning to the truth about you. God knows the Sonship is guiltless. It is only God's Son that is under the insane belief that he has sinned and has separated from his Source, which is the Father.

T-14.IV.3. When you have let all that obscured the truth in your most holy mind be undone for you, and therefore stand in grace before your Father, your Father will give Himself to you as your Father has always done. 2 Giving Himself is all your Father knows, and so giving Himself is all knowledge. 3 For what God knows not cannot be, and therefore cannot be given. 4 Ask not to be forgiven, for this has already been accomplished. 5 Ask, rather, to learn how to forgive, and to restore what always was, which was your guiltlessness, to your unforgiving mind. 6 Atonement becomes real and visible to those who use Atonement, which is the acceptance of guiltlessness. 7 On earth the acceptance of guiltlessness is your only function, and you must learn that the acceptance of guiltlessness is all you want to learn. You will feel guilty till you learn the acceptance of guiltlessness. 9 For in the end, whatever form guilt takes, your guilt arises from your failure to fulfill your function in God's Mind with your entire mind. 10 Can you escape this guilt by failing to fulfill your function here?

Note # 36: Guilt arises from our belief in sin. Sin, like guilt is unreal God knows that sin is impossible and is not part of the Mind of God. Since we made up sin by our belief in the separation, we must learn the unreality of sin. From our belief in sin, guilt and fear, we birthed the dream world of our provisional reality. Only in this dream can we learn how to recover our guiltlessness since it is only in this dream world that we could be “guilty”. The Holy Spirit is the only teacher that has knowledge and can teach us how to undo the dream of guilt. This lesson is taught in the dream by the tool of forgiveness. The tool of forgiveness recognizes that what we thought happened was unreal and, therefore, there is nothing to forgive. Since there is nothing to forgive, there is nothing to be guilty of. Sin, guilt and fear all disappear with the acceptance of the guiltlessness of the Sonship. Time has served its purpose and we awaken from the dream. Forgiveness is our function as long as our mind is split. The acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves is what we are here to learn. The Atonement undoes the illusion within our split-mind that sin, guilt and fear have reality in the real world, which is found only in the Mind of God.

Forgiveness is accepting and sharing the guiltlessness of all. This guiltlessness must be granted and extended within our own mind to God, the Sonship and yourself. There can be no exceptions.

T-14.IV.4. You need not understand creation to do what must be done before that knowledge would be meaningful to you. 2 God breaks no barriers; neither did God make barriers. 3 When you release barriers they are gone. 4 God will not fail, nor ever has failed in anything. p279 5 Decide that God is right and your perceptions and judgments are wrong about yourself. 6 God created you out of Himself, but still within
Himself. 7 God knows what you are. 8 Remember that there is no second to God. 9 Since there is no second to God, there cannot be anyone without God’s Holiness, nor anyone unworthy of God’s perfect Love. 10 Fail not in your function of loving in a loveless place made out of darkness and deceit, which is your made-up world of individual perception, for thus are darkness and deceit undone. 11 Fail not yourself, but instead offer to God and you, God’s blameless Son. 12 For this small gift of appreciation for His Love, God will Himself exchange your gift for His gift.

Note # 37: There is nothing outside of God; God is everything. Creation by God is an extension of Himself, which is the Oneness. There are no barriers in a Oneness. We create barriers when we believe that there is something outside the Mind and Will of God. We believe that we are a second cause and that we can change what God created thus, imposing our will and changing eternity. There is only the First Cause, God. Extension can only give or share what it is. Accept your divine birthright and guilt, sin and fear must disappear because this unholy trinity is not found in God. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we release our mind from our belief in the reality of sin, guilt and fear. Forgive our brother and we forgive ourselves. The denial of the reality of our dream is our gift to Our Father. It is merely the acceptance of the truth about what we are. It is the acceptance of our inherited divine birthright. It is the acceptance of the Father as the First and only Cause. In exchange for this acceptance of the truth, we cease our self-denial of being the Oneness of everything that we truly are.

T-14.IV.5. Before you make any decisions for yourself, remember that you have decided against your function in Heaven, which is extension of creation, and then consider carefully whether you want to make decisions here in your world of individual perception. 2 Your function here in your world of individual perception is only to decide against deciding what you want, in recognition that you do not know. 3 How, then, can you decide what you should do? 4 Leave all decisions to the One, the Holy Spirit, Who speaks for God, and for your function as the Holy Spirit knows your function, which is forgiveness. 5 So will the Holy Spirit teach you to remove the awful burden you have laid upon yourself by loving not the Son of God, and trying to teach the Son of God guilt instead of love. 6 Give up this frantic and insane attempt which teaches guilt to God’s Son, for this attempt cheats you of the joy of living with your God and Father, and of waking gladly to His Love and Holiness that join together as the truth in you, making you one with God.

Note # 38: ACIM states that since we have lost knowledge, we no longer realize our divine nature as unlimited spirit. We think that we are limited ego-bodies. We have made up an entire dream world to prove that we are limited. Since we have denied what we are, we cannot know what we really want. When we believe that the dream is real, we will cling to our claim of littleness because that is what we believe we are. Only the Holy Spirit knows the truth and, therefore, we need His help to undo what our egoic thought system has taught us. Lacking knowledge, we need to decide that we are not of sound mind to know what we want. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to guide us back to the reality of the truth, which is that we remain God’s beloved Son.
T-14.IV.6. When you have learned how to decide with God, all decisions become as easy and as right as breathing. 2 There is no effort, and you will be led as gently as if you were being carried down a quiet path in summer. 3 Only your own volition seems to make deciding hard. 4 The Holy Spirit will not delay in answering your every question what to do. 5 The Holy Spirit knows. 6 And the Holy Spirit will tell you, and then do it for you. 7 You who are tired will find allowing the Holy Spirit to decide for you, is more restful than sleep. 8 For you can bring your guilt into sleeping, but you cannot bring your guilt into allowing the Holy Spirit to decide for you.

Note # 39: We must ask for the Holy Spirit’s help, for having free will, the Holy Spirit will not “force” Himself upon an unwilling mind.

T-14.IV.7. Unless you are guiltless you cannot know God, Whose Will is that you know God, Who is guiltless. 2 Therefore, you <must> be guiltless. 3 Yet if you do not accept the necessary conditions for knowing God, you have egoically denied God and do not recognize God, though God is all around you. 4 God cannot be known without God’s Son, whose guiltlessness is the condition for knowing God. 5 Accepting God’s Son as guilty is denial of the Father so complete, that knowledge is swept away from recognition in the very mind where God Himself has placed knowledge. 6 If you would but listen, and learn how impossible this is! 7 Do not endow God with attributes you egoically understand. 8 You made God not, and anything you egoically understand is not of God.

Note # 40: The ego has made up a myth about what God is. The god of the ego is made in the image of the ego. As such, the mythical god of the ego is petty, revengeful, unforgiving and very judgmental and limited. Rather than the Son of God being created in the image of the God, which is a Loving Father-Mother figure, we have made the egoic God into the worst qualities that we believe ourselves to be. We believe God to be imperfect, not whole and very incomplete. This is what the ego tells us we are. The ego implies that creation or extension is similar to how God creates. So, like its petty father, the son must also be petty. The ego thus, makes up a false image of a god, and then extends this false image upon you. This means that you are self-created since the ego made the image of god. This egoic image of god then in turn made you yet you are the ego. Thus, to the ego, which claims self-creation for the son, the notion of what god must be is predicted on how the ego sees you. Therefore, the god of a limited son must also be a limited god.

ACIM states that we are created in God’s loving image and, therefore, must be perfect, whole and complete. There is no guilt in the Mind of God, which is the Sonship’s home.

T-14.IV.8. Your task is not to make reality. 2 Reality is here without your making, but reality is not without you. 3 You who have tried to throw yourself away and valued God so little, hear me speak for God and for yourself, which is the Big “S” Self. 4 You cannot understand how much your Father loves you, for there is no parallel in your experience of the world to help you understand how much your Father loves you. 5 There is nothing on earth with which you can compare how much your Father loves you, and nothing you have ever felt apart from God resembles how much your Father
loves you ever so faintly. 6 You cannot even give a blessing in perfect gentleness. 7 Would you know of One, your Father, Who gives forever, and Who knows of nothing except giving?

**Note # 41:** God, being unconditional Love, gives everything and asks for nothing in return.

T-14.IV.9. The children of Heaven live in the light of the blessing of their Father, because the children of Heaven know that the children of Heaven are sinless. 2 The Atonement was established as the means of restoring guiltlessness to minds that have denied their guiltlessness, and thus denied Heaven to themselves. 3 Atonement teaches you the true condition of the Son of God. 4 Atonement does not teach you what you are, or what your Father is. 5 The Holy Spirit, Who remembers what you are for you, merely teaches you how to remove the blocks that stand between you and what you know. 6 The Holy Spirit's memory is your memory. 7 If you remember what you have egoically made, you are remembering nothing. 8 Remembrance of reality is in the Holy Spirit, and therefore in you.

**Note # 42:** Heaven resides in the Mind of God. When we believe in sin, guilt and fear, we have placed ourselves in an illusionary world outside the Mind of God. Sin, guilt and fear were never real and, therefore, the Atonement testifies to the unreality of the dream of the split-minded. The Atonement is the denial of the false, which only leaves the truth to become visible to the split-minded. Reality is the return to the remembrance of God.

T-14.IV.10. The guiltless and the guilty are totally incapable of understanding one another. 2 Each perceives the other as like himself, making both unable to communicate, because each sees the other unlike the way the other sees himself. 3 God can communicate only to the Holy Spirit in your mind, because only the Holy Spirit shares the knowledge of what you are with God. 4 And only the Holy Spirit can answer God for you, for only the Holy Spirit knows what God is. 5 Everything else that you have placed within your sleeping mind cannot exist, for what is not in communication with the Mind of God has never been. 6 Communication with God is life. 7 Nothing without it, (Life, which is communication with God), is at all. p281

**Note # 43:** True communication comes from a foundation that is based on truth. Those who believe in guilt do not understand the truth about the guiltlessness of reality. They misinterpret everything because their thought system is based on the illusion of guilt. The Holy Spirit is the mediator between Level # 1 and Level # 2. Level # 2 is the dream world of individual perception. Level # 1 is the reality of Truth, which is heaven or the Kingdom. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of what we experience in Level # 2’s dream world of individual perception and also is aware of the reality of the truth of Level # 1. Because of this, only the Holy Spirit can communicate, or bridge the gap between these two levels. By following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will cross the bridge back to the gates of heaven and God will take the final step in our return to knowledge. Forgiveness is the tool that the Holy Spirit utilizes to bridge this gap between truth and illusion, perception and knowledge.
V. The Circle of Atonement

T-14.V.1. The only part of your mind that has reality is the part that links you still with God. 2 Would you have all of your mind transformed into a radiant message of God's Love, to share with all the lonely ones who have denied God and God's Love? 3 <God makes this possible> for you to transform your mind into a radiant message of God's Love 4 Would you deny God's yearning to be known? 5 You yearn for God, as God for you. 6 This mutual yearning is forever changeless. 7 Accept, then, the immutable that you yearn for God as God yearns for you. 8 Leave the world of death behind, and return quietly to Heaven. 9 There is nothing of value here in the world of death and everything of value there in Heaven. 10 Listen to the Holy Spirit, and to God through the Holy Spirit. 11 The Holy Spirit speaks of you to <you>. 12 There is no guilt in you, for God is blessed in His Son, the Christ, as the Son is blessed in God.

Note # 44: The Christ part of our split mind has never left its source, which is the Mind of God. Tonight when you are asleep and dreaming you may visit the planet of Mars but when you awake the next morning, you will realize you never left your bed. The split-minded are like this example. The Christ-mind remains in the bed of the Mind of God. The egoic mind dreams that it is separated from the Mind of God and is actually in the dream world of death, which in this example is represented by Mars. When we awaken, we realize that our real mind, the Christ-mind, never left its home, which is Heaven or the Mind of God. You are not judged guilty for anything that you had dreamed happened while you “defended” yourself in the dream world of Mars. Dreams have no reality once you have awakened.

T-14.V.2. Everyone has a special part to play in the Atonement, but the message given to each one is always the same; <God's Son is guiltless.> 2 Each one teaches the message differently, and learns the message that God's Son is guiltless differently. 3 Yet until he teaches the message that God's Son is guiltless and learns the message that God's Son is guiltless, he will suffer the pain of dim awareness that his true function remains unfulfilled in him. Our true function is to grant ourselves forgiveness for denying ourselves the experience of receiving God’s Love. It is the restoration of our split-mind to the sanity of the Oneness. 4 The burden of guilt is heavy, but God would not have you bound by the burden of guilt for not fulfilling your function. 5 God’s plan for your awaking is as perfect as your egoic plan is fallible. 6 You know not what you do, but the Holy Spirit, Who knows is with you. 7 The Holy Spirit’s gentleness is yours, and all the love you share with God, the Holy Spirit holds in trust for you. 8 The Holy Spirit would teach you nothing except how to be happy.

Note # 45: Our true function is to grant ourselves forgiveness for denying ourselves the experience of receiving God’s Love. In the dream world of provisional reality, our function is the restoration of our split-mind to the sanity of the Oneness. After the return to whole-mindedness, our function in Heaven is to create like our Father and thus, extend
the Mind of God.

God’s plan for the salvation of His split –minded son is simple. Forgive and be forgiven; for as you give, you will receive. God’s gift to His Son is that the truth is changeless and eternal. God’s Will is that we be happy.

T-14.V.3. Blessed Son of a wholly blessing Father, joy was created for you. 2 Who can condemn whom God has blessed? 3 There is nothing in the Mind of God that does not share God’s shining innocence. 4 Creation is the natural extension of perfect purity. 5 Your only calling here is to devote yourself, with active willingness, to the denial of guilt in all its forms. 6 To accuse is <not to understand.> 7 The happy learners of the Atonement become the teachers of the innocence that is the right of all that God created. 8 Do not deny any part of the Sonship what is their due, for you will not withhold what is their due from them alone. You will also be denying your own guiltlessness and innocence, which is the Sonship’s due or divine birthright.

Note # 46: Being on extension of God, the Sonship must be totally guiltless, like God, its Creator. The “innocence of God” refers to that which does not exist. God is everything and has everything and knows everything. God does not know what does not exist. It is in not knowing what does not exist that God’s state of innocence rests. We are like our Creator and must also be innocence. Yet, we have chosen to deny our innocence in our egoic attempt to make what does not exist, which is the false, into the real.

T-14.V.4. The inheritance of the Kingdom is the right of God's Son, given God's Son in his creation. 2 Do not try to steal the divine birthright of innocence from God's Son, or you will ask for guilt and will experience guilt. 3 Protect God's Son’s purity from every thought that would steal the Sonship’s purity away and keep God's Son’s purity from his split-minded sight. 4 Bring innocence to light, in answer to the call of the Atonement. 5 Never allow purity to remain hidden, but allow purity to shine away the heavy veils of guilt within which the Son of God has hidden himself from his own sight. p282

Note # 47: We have cloaked the Sonship in heavy garments that are meant to hide the Christ in each part of the Sonship. These garments are made from our belief in sin, guilt and fear. The belief in sin, guilt and fear prevent us from accessing the Vision of Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit and He will remove all barriers to our ability to access the Christ in us. The acceptance of the Sonship’s guiltless removes all these barriers.

T-14.V.5. We are all joined in the Atonement here, and nothing else can unite us in this world but the Atonement. 2 So will the world of separation slip away, and full communication be restored between the Father and the Son. 3 The miracle acknowledges the guiltlessness that must have been denied to produce the need of healing. 4 Do not withhold this glad acknowledgment of guiltlessness, for hope of happiness and release from suffering of every kind lie in the acknowledgment of guiltlessness, which is the Atonement. 5 Who is there but wishes to be free of pain? 6 He may not yet have learned how to exchange guilt for innocence, nor realize that only in this exchange of guilt for innocence can freedom from pain be his. 7 Yet those who have failed to learn need teaching, not attack. 8 To attack those who have need of teaching is to fail to learn from
those who have need of teaching.

**Note # 48:** Teach the guiltlessness of God’s Son to every brother and you reclaim your own guiltlessness and innocence. God’s gift is simply forgive to be forgiven, for as you give, you receive. When we listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will hear this message.

**T-14.V.6.** Teachers of innocence, each in his own way, have joined together, taking their part in the unified curriculum of the Atonement. 2 There is no unity of learning goals apart from the unified curriculum of the Atonement, which teaches the guiltlessness of God’s Son. 3 There is no conflict in this curriculum, which has one aim, which is the teaching of the guiltlessness of God’s Son however it is taught. 4 Each effort made on the unified curriculum of the Atonement’s behalf is offered for the single purpose of release from guilt, to the eternal glory of God and God’s creation. 5 And every teaching that points to this points straight to Heaven, and the peace of God. 6 There is no pain, no trial, no fear that teaching the guiltlessness of God’s Son can fail to overcome. 7 The power of God Himself supports this teaching of the guiltlessness of God’s Son and guarantees its teaching’s limitless results.

**Note # 49:** The teaching of the guiltlessness of God’s Son, which is the Atonement principle, dissolves the ego’s thought system, which is comprised on the unholy alliance of sin, guilt and fear.

**T-14.V.7.** Join your own efforts to the power that cannot fail and must result in peace, which is the Atonement. 2 No one can be untouched by teaching such as this, the guiltlessness of God’s Son. 3 You will not see yourself beyond the power of God if you teach only the guiltlessness of God’s Son. 4 You will not be exempt from the effects of this most holy lesson, which seeks but to restore what is the right of God's creation. 5 From everyone whom you accord release from guilt you will inevitably learn your innocence. 6 The circle of Atonement has no end. 7 And you will find ever-increasing confidence in your safe inclusion in the circle with everyone you bring within the circle of Atonement’s safety and the circle of Atonement’s perfect peace.

**Note # 50:** The goal of the miracle worker is to accept the Atonement for himself. By giving or teaching the Atonement, you receive the Atonement. For God’s Plan is that by forgiving, you are forgiven, for as you give, you receive. By giving guiltlessness to our brother, we, in turn, receive and accept our innocence.

**T-14.V.8.** Peace, then, be unto everyone who becomes a teacher of peace. 2 For peace is the acknowledgment of perfect purity, from which no one is excluded. 3 Within perfect purity’s holy circle is everyone whom God created as His Son. 4 Joy is perfect purity’s unifying attribute, with no one left outside to suffer guilt alone. 5 The power of God draws everyone to the circle of Atonement’s safe embrace of love and union. 6 Stand quietly within this circle, and attract all tortured minds to join with you in the safety of the circle of Atonement’s peace and holiness. 7 Abide with me within the circle of Atonement as a teacher of Atonement, not a teacher of guilt. p283
Note # 51: When we attack another, which is anytime we fail to see only the face of Christ in our brother, we are teaching, or projecting guilt. Assuming our brother has not accepted the Atonement for himself; this guilt will stick to our brother and will return to us. To give is to receive. In our world of individual perception, there are only two emotions, love or fear. We cannot teach both. The teaching of guiltlessness is the voice for the remembrance of God. When we teach guiltlessness, we align ourselves with the Holy Spirit and all the Power of God is give to us. We acknowledge both our own and our brother’s innocence.

T-14.V.9. Blessed are you who teach with me. 2 Our power comes not of us, but of our Father. 3 In guiltlessness we know our Father, as our Father knows us guiltless. 4 I stand within the circle of Atonement, calling you to peace. 5 Teach peace with me, and stand with me on holy ground. 6 Remember for everyone your Father's power that your Father has given to the Sonship. 7 Believe not that you cannot teach your Father’s perfect peace to every part of the Sonship. 8 Stand not outside, but join with me within the circle of Atonement. 9 Fail not the only purpose to which my teaching calls you, which is the acknowledgment of the guiltlessness of the Sonship, God’s Son. 10 Restore to God His Son as God created him, by teaching the split-minded his innocence.

Note # 52: Jesus is acknowledging that we all have an equal role to play in the God’s Plan for the return of His Son to knowledge and the Kingdom. We are all joined in a common goal and purpose. The denial to any part of the Sonship of our divine birthright is to deny our inheritance to all the Sonship.

T-14.V.10. The crucifixion had no part in the Atonement. 2 Only the resurrection became my part in the Atonement. 3 The resurrection is the symbol of the release from guilt by guiltlessness. 4 Whom you perceive as guilty you would crucify. 5 Yet you restore guiltlessness to whomever you see as guiltless. 6 Crucifixion is always the ego's aim. 7 The ego sees everyone as guilty, and by the ego’s condemnation the ego would kill. 8 The Holy Spirit sees only guiltlessness, and in the Holy Spirit’s gentleness the Holy Spirit would release your split-mind from fear and re-establish the reign of love. 9 The power of love is in the Holy Spirit’s gentleness, which is of God and therefore cannot crucify nor suffer crucifixion. 10 The temple you restore becomes your altar, for your altar was rebuilt through you. 11 And everything you give to God is yours. 12 Thus God creates, and thus must you restore the split minded to the altar of the Christ.

Note # 53: The ego's thought system crucifies or attacks the unity of the Sonship and God. These attacks increase our belief in guilt. The Holy Spirit’s thought system proclaims God’s Son as innocent and guiltless. The acceptance of our guiltlessness removes the misperceptions within our mind that have been hiding the Christ within us. The Christ is the part of our mind that is the remembrance of God.

T-14.V.11. Each one you see you place within the holy circle of Atonement or leave outside the holy circle of Atonement, judging him fit for crucifixion or for redemption. 2 If you bring him into the circle of purity, you will rest there with him within the circle
of purity. 3 If you leave him without, you join him there outside the circle of purity. 4 Judge not except in the quietness of the Holy Spirit, which is not of your egoic little “s” self. 5 Refuse to accept anyone as without the blessing of Atonement, and bring him into the circle of Atonement by blessing him. 6 Holiness must be shared, for therein the sharing lies everything that makes it holy. 7 Come gladly to the holy circle, and look out in peace on all who think they are outside. 8 Cast no one out of the holy circle of purity, for here is what he seeks along with you. 9 Come, let us join him in the holy place of peace which is for all of us, united as one within the Cause of peace. This Cause is the Mind of God. p284

Note # 54: We are told in sentence # 4 to “judge not except in quietness, which is not of you.” This is why we are told to seek the Holy Spirit’s guidance. Only the Holy Spirit has knowledge of all things and can judge properly the events that we perceive. The Atonement is the call to the return of the Sonship to the right-mindedness of the Christ. The Christ has never left the unified Mind of God. The Sonship’s return to the Oneness can leave no brother behind in the darkness of the ego’s thought system that demands littleness. When we quiet our egoic mind’s self-talk, we will hear in the silence the voice of the Holy Spirit.

VI. The Light of Communication

T-14.VI.1. The journey that we undertake together is the exchange of dark for light, of ignorance for understanding. 2 Nothing you understand is fearful. 3 It is only in darkness and in ignorance that you perceive the frightening, and shrink away from what you do not understand to further darkness. 4 And yet it is only the hidden that can terrify, not for what the hidden is, but for its hiddenness. 5 The obscure is frightening because you do not understand the obscure’s meaning. 6 If you did understand the obscure’s meaning, it would be clear and you would be no longer in the dark. 7 Nothing has hidden value, for what is hidden cannot be shared, and so the value of what is hidden is unknown. 8 The hidden is kept apart, but value always lies in joint appreciation. 9 What is concealed cannot be loved, and so what is concealed must be feared.

Note # 55: Only what is shared is real. Creation is sharing. When we hide something, we are attempting to exclude.

T-14.VI.2. The quiet light in which the Holy Spirit dwells within you is merely perfect openness, in which nothing is hidden and therefore nothing is fearful. 2 Attack will always yield to love if attack is brought to love, not hidden from love. 3 There is no darkness that the light of love will not dispel, unless the darkness is concealed from love's beneficence. 4 What is kept apart from love cannot share love’s healing power, because what is kept apart from love has been separated off and kept in darkness. 5 The sentinels of darkness watch over what is kept apart from love carefully, and you who made these guardians of illusion out of nothing are now afraid of these guardians of illusion.
Note # 56: These guardians of illusion protect your belief in your littleness. Sin, guilt and fear are some of the major guardians for the little “s” self.

T-14.VI.3. Would you continue to give imagined power to these strange ideas of safety? 2 These strange ideas of safety are neither safe nor unsafe. 3 These strange ideas of safety do not protect; neither do they attack. 4 These strange ideas of safety do nothing at all, being nothing at all. 5 As guardians of darkness and of ignorance look to them only for fear, for what these strange ideas of safety keep obscure is fearful. 6 But let them go, and what was fearful will be so no longer. 7 Without protection of obscurity only the light of love remains, for only the light of love has meaning and can live in light. 8 Everything else must disappear.

Note # 57: ACIM states that we need to bring everything into the light of love. Understanding is love. We do not understand the fearful for we have lost knowledge. We need to bring all our experiences to the light of the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will reinterpret everything we perceive with the light of love. It is our job to control our fear and remember to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Without this guidance, we will not be able to break the cycle of ignorance. We cannot bring the light of understanding by following the thought system of the ego. The thought system of the ego is the source of the sin, guilt and fear and, therefore, has a vested interest in maintaining the darkness. The ego is the home of fear and attack and knows nothing of love. Since the ego is not shared nor created by God, it is nothing and begets only nothing, for it is not real.

T-14.VI.4. Death yields to life simply because destruction is not true. 2 The light of guiltlessness shines guilt away because, when guiltlessness and guilt are brought together, the truth of guiltlessness must make the falsity of its opposite, guilt, perfectly clear. 3 Keep not guilt and guiltlessness apart, for your belief that you can have both guiltlessness and guilt is meaningless. 4 All you have done by keeping guiltlessness and guilt apart is lose their meaning by confusing guiltlessness and guilt with each other. 5 And so you do not realize that only one, guiltlessness, means anything. 6 The other, guilt, is wholly without sense of any kind.

Note # 58: Truth is true and what is false has no reality. God made us guiltless and, therefore, the idea that the Son of God could be guilty must be false. One of God’s greatest gifts to His Son is that God cannot see His Son as anything other than perfect, whole and complete. This is the result of God’s innocence. The Innocence of God refers to that which does not exist. Thus God does not know the false. Our egoic belief that we could be the little “s” self is totally rejected and not part of the Mind of God. God’s gift of His changeless Innocence to His Son is our protection from our self-imposed denial of the light of God’s Love. If we were guilty, God, being a Oneness, would also have to be guilty. The child cannot change its creator. An effect cannot change its cause.

T-14.VI.5. You have regarded the separation as a means for breaking your communication with your Father. p285 2 The Holy Spirit reinterprets the separation as a
means of re-establishing your communication with your Father which was not broken, but <has> been made obscure. 3 All things you made have use to the Holy Spirit, for the Holy Spirit’s most holy purpose. 4 The Holy Spirit knows you are not separate from God, but the Holy Spirit perceives much in your mind that lets you think you are separate from God. 5 All that makes you perceive that you are separate from God and nothing else, would the Holy Spirit separate from you. 6 The power of decision, which you made in place of the power of creation, the Holy Spirit would teach you how to use the power of decision on your behalf. 7 You who made the power of decision to crucify yourself must learn of the Holy Spirit how to apply the power of decision to the holy cause of restoration.

Note # 59: Prior to our descent into the belief in separation, there was no power of decision. There was only a oneness. So what was there to decide? There was creation but this is only the extension of the Oneness. When we decided for the mad idea of believing that we could be something other than what God created, we exchanged the power of creation for the power of the decision-maker. We decided that there could be something outside the One Self. We believed that we could do something other than share or extend love, which is the Mind of God. We believed that we could contract or exclude something from the oneness due to our desire to be special. The goal of the Holy Spirit is to reinterpret the world of individual perception to realign with the truth. The egoic world was made for the expressed purpose of keeping God’s love from us. The Holy Spirit utilizes this world of illusion by reinterpreting all events into neutral learning devices, which reawaken the communication of the Christ-mind with God’s Mind. The Holy Spirit reawakens and encourages the decision-maker within us to freely choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit over the ego’s thought system. This is the call for the remembrance of God.

T-14.VI.6. You who speak in dark and devious symbols do not understand the language you have made. 2 The language you have made has no meaning, for this language’s purpose is not communication, but rather the disruption of communication. 3 If the purpose of language is communication, how can this tongue, which was made to disrupt communication, mean anything? 4 Yet even this strange and twisted effort to communicate through not communicating holds enough of love to make this twisted language meaningful if its Interpreter is not its maker but rather the Holy Spirit. 5 You who made this twisted language are but expressing conflict, from which the Holy Spirit would release you. 6 Leave what you would communicate to the Holy Spirit. 7 The Holy Spirit will interpret this twisted language to you with perfect clarity, for the Holy Spirit knows with Whom you are in perfect communication, which is God through the Christ part of your mind.

Note # 60: Everything in the world of perception is a neutral learning device. It is the decision-maker that colors these events with either love or fear. This coloration of the neutral event is the choice of the decision-maker. Because of our descent down the ladder of knowledge into perception, we now find ourselves not believing that we even have any control over the events within our own dream world. We have slipped deeply into victim consciousness and forgotten that we are, in fact, the dreamer. We no longer believe we
are the cause of the events, but rather, that we are an effect of everything outside ourselves. The Holy Spirit’s job is first to reawaken the decision-maker within us. By succeeding in this task of reawakening the decision-maker within us, we can begin to recover our power to choose again. Our goal is not to make the decision, but rather, to realize that in our current state of confusion we do not even know what we are. Thus, it is in our best interest to hand over the task of actually making the decision to someone that knows the truth about what we truly are. The Holy Spirit is the only One Who can correctly decide on our behalf since only the Holy Spirit knows both the truth and our perceived illusion.

T-14.VI.7. You know not what you say, and so you know not what is said to you. 2 Yet your Interpreter, the Holy Spirit, perceives the meaning in your alien language. 3 The Holy Spirit will not attempt to communicate the meaningless. 4 But the Holy Spirit will separate out all that has meaning, dropping off the rest and offering your true communication to those who would communicate as truly with you. 5 You speak two languages at once, and this speaking with two languages at once must lead to unintelligibility. 6 Yet if one means nothing and the other everything, only that one is possible for purposes of communication. 7 The other one that means nothing but interferes with the purposes of communication.

Note # 61: These two languages are the language of fear and the language of love. The language of love speaks truthfully and is the language of the Father, the Holy Spirit and the Christ, the big “S” Self. The language of fear is the thought system of the ego. It is the voice for littleness and the small “s” self. It is the voice for the separation and its allies are sin, guilt and fear. It is the voice for all that is untrue and not part of the Mind of God.

T-14.VI.8. The Holy Spirit's function is entirely communication. 2 The Holy Spirit therefore must remove whatever interferes with communication in order to restore communication. 3 Therefore, keep no source of interference from the Holy Spirit’s sight, for the Holy Spirit will not attack your sentinels of guilt. 4 But bring your sentinels of guilt to the Holy Spirit and let the Holy Spirit’s gentleness teach you that, in the light, your sentinels of guilt are not fearful, and cannot serve to guard the dark doors behind which nothing at all is carefully concealed. 5 We must open all doors and let the light come streaming through. 6 There are no hidden chambers in God's temple. 7 The gates of God’s temple are open wide to greet God’s Son. 8 No one can fail to come where God has called him, if he close not the door himself upon his Father's welcome.

Note # 62: Having the power of the decision-maker does not give us the power to make what is false, into truth. Truth is unaffected by what we believe for truth is fixed and changeless in the Mind of God. The decision-maker does have the ability to choose to deny the truth. This denial of the truth does not change the truth but it allows you to choose not to recognize the truth within yourself. Only we can choose the self-imposed exile from Heaven that the denial of the truth brings to us. We can deny God’s Love for us but we cannot change God’s Love. Perhaps, the refusal of God to see His Son as something other than perfect, whole and complete, is God’s greatest gift to His Son. This
is God’s innocence. Our salvation rests on this changelessness of God’s Love for His Son. We do not earn God’s Love. It is just given totally and freely to all. God’s Plan for salvation is simple. Forgive to be forgiven, for as you give, you receive.

VII. Sharing Perception with the Holy Spirit

T-14.VII.1. What do you want? 2 Light or darkness, knowledge or ignorance are yours, but not both. 3 Opposites must be brought together, not kept apart. 4 For their separation is only in your mind, and opposites are reconciled by union, as you are reconciled by union. 5 In union, everything that is not real must disappear, for truth <is> union. 6 As darkness disappears in light, so ignorance fades away when knowledge dawns. 7 Perception is the medium by which ignorance is brought to knowledge. 8 Yet the perception must be without deceit, for otherwise perception with deceit becomes the messenger of ignorance rather than a helper in the search for truth.

Note # 63: ACIM wants us to compare the thought system of the ego, which represents darkness and ignorance, against the thought system of Holy Spirit, which represents light and comes from knowledge. If we place them side-by-side, our ability to choose for our happiness over our need to be right, even if we are wrong, becomes apparent. The decision for truth will be easily recognized.

T-14.VII.2. The search for truth is but the honest searching out of everything that interferes with truth. 2 Truth <is> Truth can neither be lost nor sought nor found. 4 Truth is there, wherever you are, being within you. 5 Yet truth can be recognized or unrecognized, real or false to you. 6 If you hide truth, truth becomes unreal to you <because> you hid truth and surrounded truth with fear. 7 Under each cornerstone of fear on which you have erected your insane system of belief, the truth lies hidden. 8 Yet you cannot know that truth lies hidden under each cornerstone of fear for by hiding truth in fear, you see no reason to believe that the more you look at fear the less you see fear, and the clearer the truth that fear conceals becomes. What becomes clear is the truth that was hidden and concealed by your fear.

Note # 64: By examining our fears, the truth becomes clear. We fail to examine our fear because we are afraid to look fear in the eye. ACIM states that if you can control your fear long enough to look at the source of the fear, fear will be undone by the truth. By asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, the Holy Spirit reinterprets what we perceived wrongly, into correct perception. Our task is to control our fear and ask for guidance. The Holy Spirit cannot remove our fear, but He can shine the light of truth upon our fear and it will fade away. Fear is based on our belief that we are limited ego bodies, in competition with other ego bodies and, therefore, can be hurt. This is the thought system of the ego. The Holy Spirit speaks the truth that we are unlimited spirit that lacks nothing and cannot be hurt.

T-14.VII.3. It is not possible to convince the unknowing that they, the unknowing,
know. 2 From the unknowing’s point of view it is not true that they know. 3 Yet it is true that they know because God knows all. 4 These are clearly opposite viewpoints on what the "unknowing" are. 5 To God, unknowing is impossible. 6 Unknowing is therefore not a point of view at all, but merely a belief in something that does not exist. 7 Unknowing is only this belief that the unknowing have, and by holding this false belief they, the unknowing, are wrong about themselves. 8 The unknowing have mistakenly chosen to defined themselves as they were not created. 9 Yet, their creation by God was not a point of view, but rather a certainty. 10 Uncertainty brought to certainty does not retain any conviction of reality.

Note # 65: ACIM points out that we can believe any untruth about ourselves and act accordingly, but false beliefs cannot change the truth. Truth is found eternally in the Mind of God. Our limiting beliefs will impact what the believer of the limitation will attempt to do. If I believe that man was not meant to fly because he does not have wings, I will never choose to explore the possibilities for flight. My beliefs, not reality, limit what I am capable of doing. Argue for your limitations and you get to keep them.

T-14.VII.4. Our emphasis has been on bringing what is undesirable to the desirable; what you do not want to what you do want. 2 You will realize that salvation must come to you this way by direct comparison between opposites, if you consider what dissociation is. 3 Dissociation is a distorted process of thinking whereby two systems of belief which cannot coexist are both maintained. 4 If the two systems of belief are brought together, their joint acceptance becomes impossible. 5 But if one is kept in darkness from the other belief system, their separation seems to keep them both alive and equal in their reality. 6 Their joining of the two opposing systems of beliefs thus becomes the source of fear, for if they meet, acceptance must be withdrawn from one of them. 7 You cannot have both belief systems, for each denies the other. 8 If kept apart, this fact that each thought system denies the other is lost from your sight, for each thought system is in a separate place and can be endowed with firm belief. 9 Bring each thought system together, side-by-side, and the fact of their complete incompatibility is instantly apparent. 10 One belief will go, because the other belief is seen in the same place.

Note # 66: ACIM wants us the compare the thought system of the ego and the Holy Spirit side-by-side. If we do this, our decision-making ability will be recovered and we will freely choose for the truth of what we are. We will realize that if our goal is happiness, then our will and God’s Will must be the same.

T-14.VII.5. Light cannot enter darkness when a mind believes in darkness, and will not let darkness go. 2 Truth does not struggle against ignorance, and love does not attack fear. 3 What needs no protection, which is truth and love, does not defend itself. 4 Defense is of your making. 5 God knows defense not. 6 The Holy Spirit uses defenses on behalf of truth only because you made defenses against truth. 7 The Holy Spirit’s perception of your defenses against the truth is reinterpreted according to the Holy Spirit’s purpose. This reinterpretation merely changes your defenses against the truth into a call for the truth that you have attacked with your defenses. 8 Defenses, like everything you made, must be gently turned to your own good, translated by the
Holy Spirit from means of self-destruction to means of preservation and release. 9 The Holy Spirit’s task is mighty, but the power of God is with the Holy Spirit. 10 Therefore, to the Holy Spirit, It’s task, which is the return to truth, is so easy that It’s task of the return to truth was accomplished the instant it was given the Holy Spirit by God for you. 11 Do not delay in your return to peace by wondering how the Holy Spirit can fulfill what God has given the Holy Spirit to do. 12 Leave that to the Holy Spirit. Who knows. 13 You are not asked to do mighty tasks yourself. 14 You are merely asked to do the little that the Holy Spirit suggests you do, trusting the Holy Spirit only to the small extent of believing that, if the Holy Spirit asks you to do something, you can do it. 15 You will see how easily all that the Holy Spirit asks can be accomplished.

Note # 67: The small task that the Holy Spirit asks of us is to ask for His guidance and then follow it. Because we lack knowledge of what we are, we are not capable of judging what is in our best interest. We believe the dream is true. Because of this belief, we will fail to even consider the possibility that we could just awaken from our false nightmare. The Holy Spirit, if asked, will reinterpret all misperception into correct perception. We need to realize that the world of perception was made by the split-minded for the explicit purpose of making the separation appear real. The truth cannot be found in the illusion of the dream. It can only be found by bringing the illusion to the light and reawakening from the dream, itself. Only the Holy Spirit stands outside the dream yet is also aware of our delusional state for only the Holy Spirit knows the truth. The Holy Spirit will gently reawaken the sleeping son to the truth about the Son of God’s divine birthright. In our innocence lies the strength of God.

T-14.VII.6. The Holy Spirit asks of you but this; bring to Him every secret you have locked away from the Holy Spirit. 2 Open every door to the Holy Spirit, and bid the Holy Spirit enter the darkness and lighten the darkness away. 3 At your request the Holy Spirit enters gladly. 4 The Holy Spirit brings the light to darkness if you make the darkness open to the Holy Spirit. 5 But what you hide the Holy Spirit cannot look upon. 6 The Holy Spirit sees for you, and unless you look with the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit cannot see. 7 The vision of Christ is not for the Holy Spirit alone, but for the Christ within you. 8 Bring, therefore, all your dark and secret thoughts to the Holy Spirit, and look upon these dark and secret thoughts with the Holy Spirit. 9 The Holy Spirit holds the light, and your egoic little “s” self, the darkness. 10 They, light and darkness, truth and ignorance, cannot coexist when both the Holy Spirit and You, the big “S” Self, together look on truth and ignorance. 11 The Holy Spirit’s judgment must prevail, and the Holy Spirit will give His judgment to you as you join your perception to the Holy Spirit’s perception and ignorance will disappear.

Note # 68: The Holy Spirit’s home in your mind is the Christ consciousness. The Christ is what we truly are. The Holy Spirit’s reinterpretation of your misperceptions, are brought before the Christ in you. If you allow yourself to see with the vision of Christ, the truth will be apparent, and the decision-maker within you will be asked to choose again. This time the decision-maker’s choice will be for truth over illusion.

T-14.VII.7. Joining with the Holy Spirit in seeing is the way in which you learn to share
with the Holy Spirit the interpretation of perception that leads to knowledge. 2 You cannot see alone. 3 Sharing perception with the Holy Spirit, Whom God has given you, teaches you how to recognize what you see. p288 4 Sharing perception with the Holy Spirit is the recognition that nothing you see means anything alone. 5 Seeing with the Holy Spirit will show you that all meaning, including yours, comes not from double vision, but from the gentle fusing of everything into \(<one>\) meaning, \(<one>\) emotion and \(<one>\) purpose. This is the remembrance of God. 6 God has one purpose which God shares with you. 7 The single vision which the Holy Spirit offers you will bring this oneness to your mind with clarity and brightness so intense you could not wish, for all the world, not to accept what God would have you have. 8 Behold your will, accepting your will as God’s Will, with all God’s Love as yours. 9 All honor to you through the Holy Spirit, and through the Holy Spirit unto God.

Note # 69: The Holy Spirit is the communicator between God and the split-minded son. ACIM states we need to give all our perceptions to the Holy Spirit for His correct judgment or interpretation of what they truly mean. We cannot see alone because our past erroneous viewpoints cloud or actually make our present misperceptions. The ego’s thought system is always placing its emphasis on the past. By utilizing past misperception to observe the present, the ego helps insure that the future will be a duplication of the past and we will remain in victim consciousness. The Holy Spirit’s emphasis is on the <now>. With the past misperceptions released, the Holy Spirit can turn the present moment into a learning lesson that will help us reawaken to the oneness that we share. God’s will for His Son is to be happy. When we understand the failure of the ego’s thought system to bring us happiness, we will freely reject the ego’s need to be special. Our egoic specialness has cost us our happiness.

   Everything in the world of perception is a neutral learning device. If we believe ourselves to be limited ego-bodies, we will always side with the ego. Since we do tend to believe that we are limited because everything in the physical universe of form points in that direction, we need to be leery of our own judgments. ACIM states clearly that we cannot hope to rediscover the truth, unless we ask for the help of someone who knows the truth. We must ask someone who is outside of our own limited and very restricted egoic point of view. The Holy Spirit is that someone. We cannot see alone. We need the Holy Spirit’s guidance to reawaken the vision of Christ that lays dormant within us as long as we still remain under the influence or darkness of the ego’s thought system. Once we can compare the results of these two thought systems side-by-side, we will freely make a choice for our happiness. We will realize that we can only be happy by choosing to follow the Will of God, for both our wills and God’s Will are truly One.

VIII. The Holy Meeting Place
T-14.VIII.1. In the darkness you have obscured the glory God gave you, and the power God bestowed upon God’s guiltless Son. 2 All this glory and power God gave you lies hidden in every darkened place, shrouded in guilt and in the dark denial of innocence. 3 Behind the dark doors you have closed lies nothing, because nothing can obscure the gift of God, which is the power God gave you. 4 It is the closing of the doors that interferes with recognition of the power of God that shines in you. 5 Banish not power from your mind, but let all that would hide your glory be brought to the judgment of the Holy Spirit, and there what hides your glory is undone. 6 Whom the Holy Spirit would save for glory is saved for glory. 7 The Holy Spirit has promised the Father that through the Holy Spirit you would be released from littleness to glory. 8 To what the Holy Spirit promised God the Holy Spirit is wholly faithful, for the Holy Spirit shares with God the promise that was given the Holy Spirit to share with you.

Note # 70: God established and placed the Holy Spirit within us in order to insure our return to right-mindedness and our acceptance of all the power of the Big “S” Self. The message of the Holy Spirit is shared with us and cannot fail for this mission has the power of God behind it. The Holy Spirit’s message of the Atonement speaks of our innocence, guiltlessness and sinlessness.

T-14.VIII.2. The Holy Spirit shares the promise of your glory and power still, for you. 2 Everything that promises otherwise, great or small, however much or little valued, the Holy Spirit will replace with the one promise given unto the Holy Spirit to lay upon the altar to your Father and God’s Son. 3 No altar stands to God without God’s Son. 4 And nothing brought there to the common altar to your Father and God’s Son that is not equally worthy of Both the Father and the Son, but will be replaced by gifts wholly acceptable to Father and to Son. 5 Can you offer guilt to God? 6 You cannot, then, offer guilt to God’s Son. 7 For the Father and the Son are not apart, and gifts to One are offered to the Other. 8 You know not God because you know not this shared Oneness. 9 And yet you, the Christ, do know God and also this shared Oneness. 10 All this shared Oneness is safe within you, where the Holy Spirit shines. 11 The Holy Spirit shines not in division, but in the meeting place where God, united with His Son, speaks to God’s Son through the Holy Spirit. 12 Communication between what cannot be divided cannot cease. p289 13 The holy meeting place of the unseparated Father and His Son lies in the Holy Spirit and in you, the Christ. 14 All interference in the communication that God Himself wills with His Son is quite impossible here in the Christ. 15 Unbroken and uninterrupted love flows constantly between the Father and the Son, as Both would have this constant flow of love be. 16 And so it is.

Note # 71: Even though we appear to have lost our shared Oneness with our Father, this is not our reality. The reality of the shared Oneness remains in the Christ mind. It is here, in the home of the Holy Spirit that the mutual flow of love and understanding remain constant in eternity. We can deny and choose to forget this truth in the dream of individual perception, but we cannot change the truth of its eternal reality.

T-14.VIII.3. Let your mind wander not through darkened corridors, away from light’s center. 2 You and your brother may choose to lead yourselves astray, but you can be
brought together only by the Guide, the Holy Spirit, appointed for you. 3 The Holy Spirit will surely lead you to where God and His Son await your recognition. 4 God and God’s Son are joined in giving you the gift of oneness, before which all separation vanishes. 5 Unite with what you are, God Himself. 6 You cannot join with anything except reality. 7 God’s glory and His Son’s glory belong to you in truth. 8 This shared glory with God has no opposite, and nothing else can you bestow upon yourself than this shared glory with God.

**Note # 72:** Nothing can oppose God’s Will. God shares all His power and glory with His creations because that is what extension or creation is. We can deny God’s gifts but this does not change the Will of God for His Son. We remain like our Father; perfect, whole and complete, for this is the truth, which never can change. God’s child is eternally innocent.

**T-14.VIII.4.** There is no substitute for truth. 2 And truth will make this plain to you as you are brought into the place where you must meet with truth. 3 And there you must be led, through gentle understanding which can lead you nowhere else but to the place of truth. 4 Where God is, there are you. 5 Such is the truth. 6 Nothing can change the knowledge, given you by God, into unknowingness. 7 Everything God created knows its Creator. 8 For by this knowing of its Creator is how creation is accomplished by the Creator and by His creations. 9 In the holy meeting place, which is Heaven, are joined the Father and His creations, and the creations of His Son with Them together. 10 There is one link that joins the Father and His creations, and the creations of His Son all together, holding Them in the oneness out of which creation happens.

**Note # 73:** God is truth. With the return of the Son to truth, the Son will reclaim the Son’s rightful place in heaven. Heaven is real. Heaven is the home, or abode, of truth. Heaven is not a place, but a state of Mind. The Son’s creations are what the Son extended, or created, out of the knowledge of His true nature, the Big “S” Self. Creation is shared and is inclusion. Creation is not what the little “s” self made through projection>. Projection is based on exclusion and is, therefore, not real nor to be found in the Mind of God.

**T-14.VIII.5.** The link with which the Father joins Himself to those the Father gives the power to create can never be dissolved. 2 Heaven itself is union with all of creation, and with its one Creator, the Father. 3 And Heaven remains the Will of God for you. 4 Lay no gifts other than this shared union of creation upon your altars, for nothing can coexist with the shared Oneness. 5 Here your little offerings are brought together with the gift of God, and only what is worthy of the Father will be accepted by the Son, for whom these offerings is intended. 6 To whom God gives Himself, God is given. 7 Your little gifts will vanish on the altar, where God has placed His Own gift upon the altar. The gift of God is all the power and glory, which is God, which God extends to His creations. It is the power of creation. . p290

**Note # 74:** God gives Himself totally to His creations. God holds nothing back, since that would be a limitation on the Father, Himself. God is not limited. God extends everything
to His Son. The Sonship has the power to create and utilizes this power when we co-create with God. The Sonship’s creations must also be unlimited since that is what we truly are as the Big “S” Self. Heaven is the eternal and is the shared home of all of creation. Heaven is the truth, which is the holographic Mind of God. There is nothing outside the Mind of God. This is the Oneness and the Will of God, which is shared by all of creation. All “parts” of creation share the holographic nature of the Oneness. There is only union in the Mind of God.

Only our gifts of forgiveness and love are worthy of the Christ, God’s Son. These gifts are saved by the Holy Spirit and are part of the Kingdom of Heaven. With the return to knowledge, we will rediscover our true creations. The Son has all the creative power of the Father. The only difference is that the Father is the First Cause. The Son can have “children” who themselves have “children”, but the Sonship cannot birth the Father, since the Father is the First and One Source. All else is an ultimate effect of the Father. Thus, in heaven our function is to co-create with our Father. We extend the Oneness of Everything, which is the One Self.

**IX. The Reflection of Holiness**

T-14.IX.1. The Atonement does not make holy. 2 You were created holy. 3 The Atonement merely brings unholiness to holiness; or what you made to what you are. 4 Bringing illusion to truth, or the ego to God, is the Holy Spirit's only function. 5 Keep not your making from your Father, for hiding your making from your Father has cost you knowledge of your Father and knowledge of yourself. 6 The knowledge of both your Father and yourself is safe, but where is your safety apart from this knowledge? 7 The making of time to take the place of timelessness lay in the decision to be not as you are. 8 Thus truth was made past, and the present was dedicated to illusion. 9 And the past, too, was changed and interposed between what always was and now. 10 The past that you remember never was, and represents only the denial of what always was.

**Note # 75:** Time was born with the acceptance of the mad idea by the Sonship that God’s Son could be something other than perfect, whole and complete. Prior to this, there was only the Oneness. Since the idea of the separation is not part of the Mind of God, it is not real. Time was birthed with perception. Time, which measures change, had no function in eternity since there was no change to measure. When the Sonship returns to whole-mindedness, the need for time will disappear. The ego utilizes time to help maintain the illusion that you are different from the Oneness. The Holy Spirit utilizes time to correct your illusion about what you are and thus, return you to knowledge.

T-14.IX.2. Bringing the ego to God is but to bring error of the ego, to truth, which is of God. This is where error stands corrected because error is the opposite of what it meets, which is the truth of God. 2 Error and the ego are undone because the contradiction can no longer stand. 3 How long can contradiction stand when its impossible nature is clearly revealed? 4 What disappears in light is not attacked. 5 What disappears in light merely vanishes because error is not true. 6 Different realities are meaningless, for
reality must be one. 7 Reality cannot change with time or mood or chance. 8 Reality’s changelessness is what makes reality real. 9 Reality’s changelessness cannot be undone. 10 Undoing is for unreality. 11 And this undoing of the unreality of error is what reality will do for you.

Note # 76: Truth will undo illusion when the thought system of the ego is compared to the Holy Spirit’s thought system. God’s Son is changeless and, therefore, guilty of nothing. By following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, you will inevitably accept the Atonement for yourself.

T-14.IX.3. Merely by being what the truth is, does truth release you from everything that the truth is not. 2 The Atonement is so gentle you need but whisper to the Atonement, and all the Atonement’s power will rush to your assistance and support. 3 You are not frail with God beside you. 4 Yet without God you are nothing. 5 The Atonement offers you God. 6 The gift of your guiltlessness that you refused is held by God in you, the Christ. 7 The Holy Spirit holds the gift of guiltlessness there for you. 8 God has not left His altar, though God’s worshippers placed other gods upon the altar. 9 The temple still is holy, for the Presence that dwells within the temple, the Christ <<is> Holiness.

Note # 77: The Son of God remains holy because that is the changeless Will of God. We can deny that we are made in our Father’s image. Indeed, we can even deny God’s Fatherhood, but our denial does not change the truth. Perhaps the greatest gift the Father gave us is that of God’s Innocence. The innocent cannot know what does not exist. Thus, our Creator has never bought into our limiting belief that His Creation, the Sonship, could be anything other than like the Father, perfect, whole and complete. Our Father’s knowledge of the truth about His Son insures that we remain guiltless and that our self-imposed denial of the truth will be brief. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for God that awakes the split-minded back to the oneness of the truth of reality and the Kingdom.

T-14.IX.4. In the temple, Holiness waits quietly for the return of them who represents our whole-minded Big “S” Self that loves Holiness. 2 The Presence knows they that are currently split-minded will return to purity and to grace. 3 The graciousness of God will take them that are currently split-minded gently in, and cover all their sense of pain and loss with the immortal assurance of their Father's Love. 4 There, fear of death will be replaced with joy of life. They that are currently split-minded will be healed. 5 For God is life, and they that are currently split-minded, abide in life. 6 Life is as holy as the Holiness by which life was created. p291 7 The Presence of Holiness lives in everything that lives, for Holiness created life, and leaves not what the Holiness of God created holy as Itself.

Note # 78: We are the shared Oneness of God. Everything that is created is an extension of the One. All our power to create comes from the shared power of the Mind of God. The Christ remains in the Mind of God and never loses the Love of God or the Christ’s love for Its Creator. God is Life. Anything outside of the Mind of God is “dead” since what could be outside everything except the illusion of nothingness. Holiness means wholeness, which is God and the everything that comprises God. The “Everything” is
T-14.IX.5. In this world you can become a spotless mirror, in which the Holiness of your Creator shines forth from you to all around you. 2 You can reflect Heaven here. 3 Yet no reflections of the images of other gods that would arise from the ego’s thought system must dim the mirror that would hold God’s reflection in a mirror that reflects only the truth of Heaven. 4 Earth can reflect Heaven or hell; Earth can reflect God or the ego. 5 You need but leave the mirror clean and clear of all the images of hidden darkness caused by egoic consciousness that you have drawn upon your mirror. 6 God will shine upon your mirror, which is a reflection of God, Himself. 7 Only the clear reflection of Himself can be perceived upon your mirror.

Note # 79: When we allow all egoic thinking to disappear from the mind of the decision-maker, we reclaim our divine birthright. When error has been removed from our split-mind, the whole-mindedness of our Christ consciousness will radiate what we are, which is the perfect reflection of the Creator and First Cause.

T-14.IX.6. Reflections are seen in light. 2 In darkness reflections are obscure, and reflection’s meaning seems to lie only in shifting interpretations, rather than in themselves. 3 The reflection of God needs no interpretation. 4 The reflection of God is clear. 5 Clean but the mirror, and the message that shines forth from what the mirror holds out for everyone to see, no one can fail to understand. 6 The mirror’s reflection of God is the message that the Holy Spirit is holding to the mirror that is in him, the split-minded. 7 The split-minded recognizes the message of the Holy Spirit because he, the split-minded, has been taught his need for the message of the Holy Spirit, but knows not where to look to find the message for the remembrance for God. 8 Let him, the split-minded, then, see the message for the remembrance for God in you and share the Holy Spirit’s message with you.

Note # 80: The truth of what you are will be reawakened in you through the use of the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Give all your egoic misperceptions to the Holy Spirit so that the Holy Spirit can reinterpret and correct the errors in your thinking. This will allow the decision-maker within you to choose again. For to give, is to receive. When we forgive we wipe away egoic thinking from the mirror within our mind. This mirror should reflect only the Will of God within our mind. The Christ conscious part of the split-mind knows that our will and God’s will are the same. The remembrance of God is the message of the Holy Spirit. It asks us to reclaim our divine birthright and our shared inheritance with the entire Sonship.

T-14.IX.7. Could you but realize for a single instant the power of healing that the reflection of God, shining in you, can bring to all the world, you could not wait to make the mirror of your mind clean to receive the image of the holiness that heals the world. 2 The image of holiness that shines in your mind is not obscure, and will not change. 3 The image’s meaning to those who look upon it is not obscure, for everyone perceives the image’s meaning, which is the remembrance of God, as the same. 4 All bring their different problems to the image’s healing light, and all their problems find but healing
there in the remembrance of God.

**Note # 81:** Remember God as your Creator and all the power that is of God is given onto you. God, being perfect love, shares this with you. Healing is simply the removal of all feelings and beliefs that you could be something other than as God created you. Healing wipes away all delusions that you are a little “s” self and, therefore, removes all obstacles that were hiding the light that you are. Healing is the return to whole-mindedness. The perfectness of the Father is reflected from you because it is you. The Big “S” Self, the Christ, shines forth.

**T-14.IX.8.** The response of holiness to any form of error is always the same. 2 There is no contradiction in what holiness calls forth. 3 Holiness’s one response is healing, without regard for what error is brought to holiness. 4 Those who have learned to offer only healing, because of the reflection of holiness in them, are ready at last for Heaven. 5 There in heaven, holiness is not a reflection, but rather the actual condition of what was but reflected to them, who offer only healing here on earth. 6 God is no image, and God’s creations, as part of God, hold God in them in truth. 7 They, who offer only healing here on earth, do not merely reflect truth, for they who offer only healing here, are truth. p292

**Note # 82:** The world of perception, if given to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, becomes a temporary learning device. It becomes a tool that the Holy Spirit utilizes for the remembrance for God. If given to the thought system of the ego, the world of perception becomes a tool that the ego utilizes to bear false witness to its erroneous belief that we are limited ego-bodies in competition with other separate ego-bodies. The Holy Spirit, if asked, will correct our egoic misperceptions into correct perception. Correct perception will teach us the underlying unity of ourselves with our brothers. The Laws of God dictate that to give is to receive. This is why the Atonement’s message to the split-minded son is that the son must forgive to be forgiven, for as you give you receive. Forgiveness is the “Windex” or cleaning solvent that removes all beliefs born out of guilt from the mind of the split-minded. Forgiveness removes the ego’s unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear. With the removal of sin, guilt and fear, the world of perception becomes more reflective of reality, which is the truth found in the Kingdom or Heaven.

**X. The Equality of Miracles**

**T-14.X.1.** When no perception stands between God and God’s creations, or between God’s children and their own children, the knowledge of creation must continue forever. 2 The reflections you accept into the mirror of your mind in time but bring eternity nearer or farther. 3 But eternity itself is beyond all time. 4 Reach out of time and touch eternity, with the help of eternity’s reflection in you. 5 And you will turn from time to holiness, as surely as the reflection of holiness calls everyone to lay all guilt aside. 6 Reflect the peace of Heaven here in your world of perception, and bring this world of individual perception to Heaven. 7 For the reflection of truth draws everyone to truth, and as they
enter into **truth** they leave all reflections behind.

**Note # 83:** Truth just is. Truth comes from knowledge, which is changeless. The world of individual perception is based upon the concept that separation is possible. Separation is impossible for nothing exists outside the shared Mind of God. Since we lack knowledge, the closest that we can come to experiencing heaven’s reality while in the world of perception, time and space is to perceive correctly. Correct or true perception reflects the truth but the perceiver does not “know” the truth. For knowing is being. And to perceive by definition is something less than knowledge. Perception involves thinking. Knowledge just is. This is why the world of perception can only reflect the truth of heaven. For how can nothing, which is what this world of limitation is, be a symbol for the truth? An illusion, even if it represents the reality of truth, is still an illusion. An illusion can symbolize our image of the truth but it is not the truth. It is merely a learning device so that the truth can shine forth and be understood and, therefore, correctly perceived.

**T-14.X.2.** In Heaven, reality is shared and not reflected. 2 By sharing the reflection of Heaven’s reality here in the world of perception, Heaven’s truth becomes the only perception the Son of God accepts. 3 And thus, remembrance of his Father dawns on him, and he can no longer be satisfied with anything but his own reality. 4 You on earth have no conception of limitlessness, for the world you seem to live in is a world of limits. 5 In this world, it is not true that anything without order of difficulty can occur. 6 The miracle, which recognizes that there is no order of difficulty within miracles, therefore, has a unique function, and is motivated by a unique Teacher, the Holy Spirit, Who brings the laws of another world, Heaven, to this world of perception. 7 The miracle is the one thing you can do on earth that transcends order of difficulty, being based not on differences but on equality.

**Note # 84:** The miracle contracts time because the Holy Spirit does not require any time to correct error. The only time required is to determine how long you will insist on the denial of reality or truth. The miracle does not change the truth. It merely brings illusions into the light, which results in the ego’s thought system dissolving into the nothingness from which it arose. The miracle is based on the truth that there is no inequality in a shared oneness. In a shared Oneness, there is nothing outside the whole. The miracle transcends time since it only removes the imagined blocks we have placed to hide the truth. It does not change the truth; it only changes misperception into correct perception.

**T-14.X.3.** Miracles are not in competition, and the number of miracles that you can do is limitless. 2 Miracles can be simultaneous and legion. 3 This is not difficult to understand, once you conceive of miracles as possible at all. 4 What is more difficult to grasp is the lack of order of difficulty that stamps the miracle as something that must come from elsewhere, not from here in the world of form and perception, in which order of difficulty appears everywhere. 5 From the world's viewpoint, this lack of order of difficulty is impossible.

**Note # 85:** This world of form was made to obscure the truth. Again, the thought system of the ego is the opposite of the Holy Spirit’s. In the world of perception, we see that
there is a difference between tasks and that some tasks are more difficult to accomplish than others. To the Holy Spirit, there is no order of difficulty because there is only the changeless truth. The Holy Spirit realizes that illusions do not change truth. Illusions can have no reality of their own. All illusions disappear when brought into the light of truth. Heaven has no order of difficulty since Heaven is the Love of God, which is the truth. The “laws of perception” have no power over the Laws of God. The Holy Spirit simply knows that, “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God.” Due to this truth, all illusions then simple melt away.

T-14.X.4. Perhaps you have been aware of lack of competition among your thoughts, which even though your thoughts may conflict, your thoughts can occur together and in great numbers. 2 You may indeed be so used to this multiplicity of thoughts that it causes you little surprise. 3 Yet you are also used to classifying some of your thoughts as more important, larger or better, wiser, or more productive and valuable than others thoughts. 4 This varying degree of importance you place of upon your numerous thoughts is true of the thoughts that cross the mind of those who think they live apart. 5 For some are reflections of Heaven, while others are motivated by the ego, which but seems to think.

Note # 86: Since our mind is split, our thoughts come from two different thought systems. There does appear to be differences in the importance of our numerous and often conflicting thoughts. Since one is based on truth and the other on illusion, there can be no real value on illusions except in the discovery that illusions cannot change truth. Because we believe that we are a limited ego-body, the thoughts of the ego must be given to the Holy Spirit so that these ideas that bear witness to the false idea that we are separate can be brought into the light of truth. Our split-mind is too identified with form to be able to overcome the illusion of the dream of separation. Being caught up in the belief that we are limited ego-bodies, our mind accepts that there must be degrees of difficulty because the thought system is based on differences, not equality and oneness. The Christ consciousness is aware of the truth. The ego or lower mind is aware of the illusion.

T-14.X.5. The result is a weaving, changing pattern that never rests and is never still. The changing pattern shifts unceasingly across the mirror of your mind, and the reflections of Heaven last but a moment and grow dim, as darkness blots the reflections of Heaven out. 3 Where there was light, darkness removes light in an instant, and alternating patterns of light and darkness sweep constantly across your mind. 4 The little sanity that still remains is held together by a sense of order that you establish. 5 Yet the very fact that you can do this, and bring any order into chaos shows you that you are not an ego, and that more than an ego must be in you. 6 For the ego is chaos, and if the ego were all of you, no order at all would be possible. 7 Yet though the order you impose upon your mind limits the ego, the order you impose upon your mind also limits you. 8 To order is to judge, and to arrange by judgment. 9 Therefore the order you impose upon your mind, which is based on judgment, is not your function, but the Holy Spirit's function.
**Note # 87:** Being split-minded and without knowledge, we are incapable of judging anything correctly. If we do not know what we are, how can we know what is in our best interest. Believing that we are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies, we fail to see the unity of creation. Believing in separation, we believe we have differing goals. Only the Holy Spirit can judge, as only the Holy Spirit knows both the truth of what we are and what we dream we are. The function of the Holy Spirit is to turn our misperception into correct perception. Only the Holy Spirit understands the “Big Picture” and the role we are to play in it. ACIM states that the only judgment that we should make is that we are incapable of judging correctly. We should let the Holy Spirit do all our judging for us until we cease identifying ourselves as being within the dream of separation.

**T-14.X.6.** It will seem difficult for you to learn that you have no basis at all for ordering your thoughts. 2 This lesson that you have no basis at all for ordering your thoughts, the Holy Spirit teaches by giving you the shining examples of miracles to show you that your way of ordering is wrong, but that a better way is offered you. 3 The miracle offers exactly the same response to every call for help. 4 The miracle does not judge the call for help. 5 The miracle merely recognizes what the call for help is, and answers accordingly. 6 The miracle does not consider which call is louder or greater or more important. 7 You may wonder how you who are still bound to judgment can be asked to do that which requires no judgment of your own. 8 The answer is very simple. 9 The power of God, and not of you, engenders miracles. 10 The miracle itself is but the witness that you have the power of God in you. 11 That is the reason why the miracle gives equal blessing to all who share in the miracle, and that is also why everyone shares in the miracle. 12 The power of God is limitless. 13 And being always maximal, the power of God, which is represented in the miracle, offers everything to every call from anyone. 14 There is no order of difficulty here. 15 A call for help is given help.

**Note # 88:** The miracle comes from the power of God, not from us. When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, all God’s power is available to us.

**T-14.X.7.** The only judgment involved is the Holy Spirit's one division into two categories; one of love, and the other the call for love. 2 You cannot safely make this division into the two categories; one of love and the other the call for love, for you are much too confused either to recognize love, or to believe that everything else is nothing but a call for love. 3 You are too bound to form, and not to content. 4 What you consider content is not content at all. 5 What you consider content is merely form, and nothing else. 6 For you do not respond to what a brother really offers you, but only to the particular perception of his offering by which the ego judges the brother’s offering.

**Note # 89:** Believing we are limited and in competition with our brother, we cannot judge what we perceive correctly. Relying on past misperception, we reach incorrect judgments of what we currently experience. Our viewpoint comes from the ego and, therefore, we perceive everything to be an attack. These alleged attacks upon us justify our own retaliatory attack in self-defense against what the ego perceives as a threat to its existence.
T-14.X.8. The ego is incapable of understanding content, and is totally unconcerned with content. To the ego, if the form is acceptable, the content must be acceptable. Otherwise the ego will attack the form. If you believe you understand something of the "dynamics" of the ego, let me assure you that you understand nothing of the "dynamics" of the ego. For of yourself you could not understand the "dynamics" of the ego. The study of the ego is not the study of the mind. In fact, the ego enjoys studying itself, and thoroughly approves the undertakings of students who would "analyze" the ego, thus approving the ego's importance. Yet the students who study the ego but study form with meaningless content. For their teacher, which is the ego, is senseless, though careful to conceal this fact behind impressive sounding words, but which lack any consistent sense when the words are put together.

Note # 90: The ego wants us to get caught up in the form of this world because form arose out of the idea that we were separate. The Holy Spirit reinterprets form into the idea that everything in the ego’s world of perception must be either love or a cry for love. To the Holy Spirit, any apparent attack by a brother upon another is a cry for love and, therefore, should be responded to with love rather than attack. To the ego this would justify a counter-attack in order to defend the ego’s need to be right. All apparent form is either a demonstration of love or a cry for love. Love or a cry for love is the content that is hidden beneath all experience in the world of perception.

If we choose to study the ego, we confirm the ego’s existence and its reality. This strengthens our belief that the separation is real.

T-14.X.9. This total unconcern with content is characteristic of the ego's judgments. Separately, the ego's judgments seem to hold, but put the ego's judgments together and the system of thought that arises from joining the ego's judgments is incoherent and utterly chaotic. For form is not enough for meaning, and the underlying lack of content makes a cohesive system impossible. Separation therefore remains the ego's chosen condition. For no one alone can judge the ego truly. Yet when two or more join together in searching for truth, the ego can no longer defend the ego’s lack of content. The fact of union tells them that they are joined together and that the ego’s thought system is not true.

Note # 91: The ego’s thought system is based on separation, which births conflict and competition. The goal of the ego is to keep the split-minded apart so that they continue to believe that they are not connected to another and have no common purpose or goal. Love is unknown to the ego and, therefore, the ego is incapable of understanding that love or the cry for love could be the underlying content or message behind any form of experience that the ego perceives. Since God is love, we, the Sonship, must be love. The ego’s thought system, which knows nothing of love, cannot make sense to the Holy Spirit Who knows us as God’s loving Son. The Holy Spirit simply bypasses and ignores the insane ego and realigns our mind’s thinking to the truth.

T-14.X.10. It is impossible to remember God in secret and alone. For remembering God means you are not alone, and are willing to remember that you are not alone. Take no
thought for yourself, for no thought you hold <is> for yourself. 4 If you would remember your Father, let the Holy Spirit order your thoughts and give only the answer with which the Holy Spirit answers you. 5 Everyone seeks for love as you do, but knows love not unless he joins with you in seeking love. 6 If you undertake the search together, you bring with you a light so powerful that what you see is given meaning. 7 The lonely journey fails because the lonely journey has excluded what love would find.

Note # 92: We cannot find love by exclusion. Love is inclusive and requires more than one in the world of form. The world of form was made to exclude. We cannot find love in the world of form unless we include something to love. Love must be shared; therefore, we cannot find love alone. Since love is a shared joining, the journey for love cannot be made alone.

T-14.X.11. As God communicates to the Holy Spirit in you, so does the Holy Spirit translate God’s communications through you, so you can understand God’s communications to you. 2 God has no secret communications, for everything of God is perfectly open and freely accessible to all, being for all. 3 Nothing lives in secret, and what you would hide from the Holy Spirit is nothing. 4 Every interpretation you would lay upon a brother is senseless. 5 Let the Holy Spirit show your brother to you, and teach you both your brother’s love and your brother’s call for love. 6 Neither his mind nor your mind holds more than these two orders of thought. In the world of perception there is only love or a cry for love.

Note # 93: God communicates with us through the constant flow of His Love to His Creations. True communication is shared with all. In the world of perception, we believe that we can have private thought. There can be no private thought that we withhold from the Holy Spirit. If we are to accept the Atonement for ourselves, we need to give all our experience over to the Holy Spirit for proper interpretation. The ego judges incorrectly since it lacks knowledge and is concerned with form and ignores content. Yet, the Holy Spirit translates everything in the world of perception as either love or a cry for love. Form is ignored and the Holy Spirit observes content. Love or a cry for love is the underlying content of all we perceive and forgiveness and love are the lessons to be remembered. These are the only thoughts that reflect the truth and are real in our mind. Attack thoughts arise from the ego’s belief in lack and separation. The nothingness of egoic illusions must give way to the light of truth.

T-14.X.12. The miracle is the recognition that this is true. 2 Where there is love, your brother must give love to you because of what love is. 3 But where there is a call for love, you must give love because of what you are. p295 4 Earlier I said this course will teach you how to remember what you are, restoring to you your Identity. 5 We have already learned that this Identity is shared. 6 The miracle becomes the means of sharing your Identity, which is love. 7 By supplying your Identity wherever your Identity is not recognized, you will recognize your Identity. 8 And God Himself, Who wills to be with His Son forever, will bless each recognition of His Son with all the Love God holds for him. 9 Nor will the power of all God’s Love be absent from any miracle you offer to
God’s Son. 10 How, then, can there be any order of difficulty among the miracles?

Note # 94: To remember God, Who is love, is to be loved. Love does not exclude, therefore, everything that is real is part of the Mind of God and is to be loved. We cannot deny love to a brother and not deny love to ourselves, for to give is to receive. The miracle recognizes that in the world of perception, form must not be mistaken for the underlying content. The content or message, which is actually being communicated during the experience, is either love or a cry for love. With the unity of the Sonship, all misperception can be handled the same. No illusion can stand up to the light of the truth, which holds the Power of God.

XI. The Test of Truth

T-14.XI.1. Yet the essential thing is learning that <you do not know.> 2 Knowledge is power, and all power is of God. 3 You who have tried to keep power for yourself have "lost" power. 4 You still have the power, but you have interposed so much between power and your awareness of power that you cannot use power. 5 Everything you have taught yourself has made your power more and more obscure to you. 6 You know not what power is, nor where. 7 You have made a semblance of power and a show of strength so pitiful that what you have made of your power must fail you. 8 For power is not a seeming strength, and truth is beyond semblance of any kind. 9 Yet all that stands between you and the power of God in you is but your learning of the false, and of your attempts to undo the true.

Note # 95: All power comes from God. When we deny what we are, which is a creation of God, we deny our inherited birthright. By denying the Fatherhood of God, we deny that we are an extension of all of the power that is of God. We deny the truth and argue for our littleness. The little “s” self lives in fear and, therefore, cannot create like God because it believes itself to be limited. Instead of creating, we utilize our mind for projection, which is a process of exclusion. Projection is based on the ego’s belief in lack. We believe that we are limited ego-bodies and, therefore, sharing is impossible. When we believe we are a body, we learn from the ego’s thought system that any form of sharing requires sacrifice. True love requires no sacrifice.

T-14.XI.2. Be willing, then, for all of your learning of the false to be undone, and be glad that you are not bound to your false egoic learning forever. 2 For you have taught yourself how to imprison the Son of God, a lesson so unthinkable that only the insane, in deepest sleep, could even dream of how to imprison the Son of God. 3 Can God learn how not to be God? 4 And can His Son, given all power by God, learn to be powerless? 5 What have you taught yourself that you can possibly prefer to keep, in place of what you <have> and what you <are>?

Note # 96: The egoic thought system teaches that we wish to be a little “s” self, rather than the Oneness of the Christ. To be everything is to be what we are, the Big “S” Self.
If we remembered the truth, we would not choose specialness over the right to be happy. The Holy Spirit’s task is to guide us through the unlearning process of everything the ego has taught us. Once the ego’s thought system is brought into the light of truth, we will freely choose happiness over specialness. We will reclaim our place in the Mind of God and realize our will and the Father’s Will are One.

T-14.XI.3. Atonement teaches you how to escape forever from everything that you have taught yourself in the past, by showing you only what you are <now>. 2 Learning has been accomplished before learning’s effects are manifest. 3 Learning is therefore in the past, but past learned influence determines the present by giving the present whatever meaning the past holds for you. 4 Yet, in fact, <Your> learning gives the present no meaning at all. 5 Nothing you have ever learned can help you understand the present, or teach you how to undo the past. 6 Your past is what you have taught yourself. 7 Your past all go. 8 Do not attempt to understand any event or anything or anyone in the past’s "light," for the darkness in which you try to see can only obscure. 9 Put no confidence at all in darkness from the past to illuminate your understanding, for if you do you contradict the light, and thereby think you see the darkness. 10 Yet darkness cannot be seen, for darkness is nothing more than a condition in which seeing becomes impossible.

Note # 97: The focus of time for the ego is in the past. If the present is viewed from the reference point of past misperceptions, the ego can insure that the past “mislearnings” will generate the same misperceptions in the present and future. The Holy Spirit’s emphasis is on the present or the <now>. If we do not carry past misperceptions into the present, we will be able to see the present experience as a neutral learning device and decide to choose differently.

T-14.XI.4. You who have not yet brought all of the darkness you have taught yourself into the light in you, can hardly judge the truth and value of this course. 2 Yet God did not abandon you. 3 And so you have another lesson sent from God, already learned for every child of light by the Holy Spirit to Whom God gave the lesson. 4 This lesson shines with God's glory, for in this lesson lies God’s power, which God shares so gladly with His Son. 5 Learn of God’s happiness, which is your happiness. 6 But to accomplish this learning that God’s happiness is your happiness, all your dark egoic lessons must be brought willingly to truth, and joyously laid down by hands open to receive, not hands closed to take. 7 Every dark egoic lesson that you bring to the Holy Spirit Who teaches light the Holy Spirit will accept from you, because you do not want the egoic lessons of darkness. 8 And the Holy Spirit will gladly exchange each one for the bright lesson the Holy Spirit has learned for you. 9 Never believe that any lesson you have learned apart from the Holy Spirit means anything.

Note # 98: Give our misperception to the Holy Spirit and He will reinterpret them correctly. The Holy Spirit only teaches the truth about what you and your brother by bringing the ego’s misperception into the light of love and forgiveness. The Holy Spirit proclaims the guiltlessness of God’s Son. Without the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are unable to rediscover our guiltlessness. We believe the ego which teaches that we have
sinned and so we deserve punishment. Since we believe in sin, guilt and fear, we fail to question the sanity of the ego’s thought system.

**T-14.XI.5.** You have one test, as sure as God, by which to recognize if what you learned is true. 2 This test is if you are wholly free of fear of any kind, and if all those who meet or even think of you share in your perfect peace, then you can be sure that you have learned God’s lesson, and not your own egoic lesson. 3 Unless all this is true, there are dark lessons in your mind that hurt and hinder you, and everyone around you. 4 The absence of perfect peace means but one thing: You think you do not will for God’s Son what his Father wills for him. 5 Every dark lesson teaches you that your will differs from God’s Will, in one form or another. 6 And each bright lesson with which the Holy Spirit will replace the dark ones you do not accept, teaches you that you will with the Father and His Son, the Christ.

**Note # 99:** The test is the perfect peace of God. If anyone in your world of perception, including yourself, fails to share in the peace of God, then you still harbor guilt within you. The absence of perfect peace means that you think your will for God's Son is different than what his Father wills for him. Fear cannot be undone until the Sonship’s guiltlessness has been accepted unconditionally. The Holy Spirit teaches the unity of both the Sonship and the Father. Being of One Mind, They have the same shared Will. Nothing exists outside the Mind of God.

**T-14.XI.6.** Do not be concerned about how you can learn a lesson so completely different from everything that you have taught yourself. 2 How would you know? 3 Your part is very simple. 4 You need only recognize that everything you learned from the thought system of the ego, you do not want. 5 Ask to be taught by the Holy Spirit, and do not use your past egoic experiences to confirm what you have learned from your egoic past. 6 When your peace is threatened or disturbed in any way, say to yourself:

7 *I do not know what anything, including this, means.* 8 And so *I do not know how to respond to this experience or anything.* 9 And *I will not use my own past egoic learning as the light to guide me now.*

10 By this refusal to attempt to teach yourself what you do not know, the Guide, the Holy Spirit, Whom God has given you will speak to you. 11 The Christ will take His rightful place in your awareness the instant you abandon the attempt to teach yourself, and offer this experience to the Holy Spirit.

**Note # 100:** ACIM states that we need to realize that we do not know that we do not know. We need to realize that we operate under the egoic belief system that does not even know what we are. It is a system whose goal is to keep you ignorant to the idea that you are ignorant. If you do not know that there are other possibilities and options, you will remain in victim consciousness. We will remain at the level of learning, which would be called unconscious incompetence. There are four levels of learning.

**The four levels of understanding or learning are:**
1) **Unconscious Incompetence:** You don’t know that you don’t know. **Example:** Someone who doesn’t know that he can’t ride a bike.

2) **Conscious Incompetence:** You know that you don’t know. **Example:** Trying to ride a bike, you fall off. Now you know, you don’t know how to ride a bike.

3) **Conscious Competence:** You need to be consciously aware of the task in order to perform it. **Example:** When you first learn to ride a bike you need to focus your attention on the task at hand. Being attentive and careful, you succeed at riding the bike.

4) **Unconscious Competence.** You can perform the task automatically without any conscious effort. **Example:** Riding a bike after you have mastered the task.

The ego’s goal is to keep us unconsciously incompetent so that we remain mindless. It does this through victim consciousness. The ego does not want us to reclaim our mind’s ability to act as the decision-maker.

The Holy Spirit’s thought system is designed to help us at least reach the level of conscious incompetence. At this level we can at least decide to choose again and quickly move up the competency ladder.

T-14.XI.7. You cannot be your guide to miracles, for it is your egoic self who made miracles necessary. 2 And because you did make miracles necessary, the means on which you can depend for miracles has been provided for you. 3 God's Son can make no needs his Father will not meet, if God's split-minded Son will but turn to God ever so little. 4 Yet the Father cannot compel His Son to turn to the Father and remain God, Himself. 5 It is impossible that God lose His Identity, for if God did lose His Identity, you would lose your identity. 6 And being your identity, God cannot change Himself, for your Identity is changeless. 7 The miracle acknowledges God’s changelessness by seeing God’s Son as he always was, and not as he would make himself. 8 The miracle brings the effects that only guiltlessness can bring, and thus establishes the fact that guiltlessness must be God’s Son.

**Note # 101:** The Christ is the home of the Father. They are One. Perhaps the greatest gift that the Father gave to the Sonship is God’s own innocence. Since God does not know what does not exist, you imagined dreams cannot affect truth’s reality. Our imagined and insane dreams can do nothing to change the reality that the Sonship is an extension of the Father and always perfect, whole and complete like His Father. This is what protects the guiltlessness of the Sonship. We can pretend that we are something that we are not, but we cannot change our perfect nature as host of our Father. We have made a play school where we can pretend that we are limited and separate, but when we get tired of playing the game of specialness, we will lay down our toys and return to the real world of union with God. God has guaranteed that His Children cannot hurt themselves because their toy guns have no real bullets. We can pretend we are good or bad guys. We can pretend that we even die; yet, this pretending can never change what we are because we have always been, and always will be like our Father, changeless, perfect, whole and complete.

Projection is the egoic tool that the split-mind utilizes for image making. These projected images are what we perceive to be our provisional reality.

T-14.XI.8. How can you, so firmly bound to guilt and committed so to remain in guilt, establish for yourself your guiltlessness? 2 It is impossible for you who believe you are
guilty to establish for yourself your own guiltlessness. 3 But be sure that you are willing to acknowledge that to establish for yourself your own guiltlessness when you believe you are guilty is impossible. 4 It is only because you think that you can run some little part, or deal with certain aspects of your life alone, that the guidance of the Holy Spirit is limited. 5 Thus would you make the Holy Spirit’s guidance undependable, and use this fancied undependability as an excuse for keeping certain dark lessons from the Holy Spirit. 6 And by so limiting the guidance that you would accept from the Holy Spirit, you are unable to depend on miracles to answer all your problems for you.

Note # 102: As long as we fail to understand that we are totally unable to self-correct, we will insist that we can self-direct our own relearning process of what we are. We will believe that there are degrees of difficulty and that some matters can be handled by ourselves alone. We will fail to turn all of our experiences over to the Holy Spirit. Thus, we will believe that the thought system of the Holy Spirit is ineffective simply because we have failed to request the Holy Spirit’s guidance of everything that matters. ACIM states that we need to control our fears and turn everything that matters over to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit has been given the mission to return the split-minded to right-mindedness. The Holy Spirit cannot fail in this mission for the power of God guarantees its success. The only thing that delays the return of the Son to the remembrance of God is the Son’s claim that there is something outside the Mind of God. God’s Will cannot be mocked since there is nothing outside the Will of God. When we refuse to give all our perceptions over to the Holy Spirit, it is due to our desire to maintain egoic specialness. We still place value on certain aspects of egoic specialness and we wish to continue to claim that we are the arbitrators of truth.

T-14.XI.9. Do you think that what the Holy Spirit would have you give the Holy Spirit would withhold from you? 2 You have no problems that the Holy Spirit cannot solve by offering you a miracle. 3 Miracles are for you. 4 And every fear or pain or trial you have has been undone. 5 The Holy Spirit has brought all of your fear, pain or trial to light. The Holy Spirit having accepted all your fear, pain or trial on behalf of you, has recognized that your fear, pain or trial never were real. 6 There are no dark lessons the Holy Spirit has not already lightened for you. 7 The egoic lessons you would teach yourself the Holy Spirit has corrected already. 8 The egoic lessons you would teach yourself do not exist in the Holy Spirit’s Mind at all. 9 For the past binds the Holy Spirit not, and therefore the past binds not you. 10 The Holy Spirit does not see time as you do. 11 And each miracle the Holy Spirit offers you corrects your use of time, and makes your use of time, the Holy Spirit’s use of time. p298

Note # 103: The Holy Spirit utilizes time to correct errors. Errors exist only in your mind’s belief in the past. It is your belief in the past that the ego focuses upon because this guarantees that in the present you will continue to rerun your past egoic programs, thus insuring the same results. The Holy Spirit removes past misperception from your vision so that you become only aware of the <now>. Without your past baggage, the decision-maker in you can choose again.

T-14.XI.10. The Holy Spirit Who has freed you from the past would teach you are free
of your past. 2 The Holy Spirit would but have you accept the Holy Spirit’s accomplishments as your accomplishments, because the Holy Spirit did these accomplishments for your behalf. 3 And because the Holy Spirit did these accomplishments on your behalf, these accomplishments <are> your accomplishments. 4 The Holy Spirit has made you free of what you egoically made. 5 You can deny the Holy Spirit, but you cannot call on the Holy Spirit in vain. 6 The Holy Spirit always gives the Holy Spirit's gifts in place of your egoic gifts, which you made to attempt to prove your belief in your own littleness. 7 The Holy Spirit would establish the Holy Spirit’s bright teaching so firmly in your mind, that no dark lesson of guilt can abide in what the Holy Spirit has established as holy by the Holy Spirit’s Presence. 8 Thank God that the Holy Spirit is there and works through you. 9 And all the Holy Spirit’s works are your works. 10 The Holy Spirit offers you a miracle with every miracle you let the Holy Spirit do through you.

Note # 104: The Holy Spirit will not fail to fulfill His function of correcting our split-minded thinking if we ask for His Guidance. Because we have free will, the Holy Spirit will wait to be asked before He can teach us the truth about our true-shared nature of the One Self. By asking for guidance, we become happy learners of the Atonement principle that the Holy Spirit teaches.

T-14.XI.11. God's Son will always be indivisible. 2 As we are held as one in God, so do we learn as one in God. 3 God's Teacher, the Holy Spirit, is as like to His Creator as is His Son, and through His Teacher, the Holy Spirit, does God proclaim His Oneness and His Son's Oneness. 4 Listen in silence, and do not raise your voice against the Holy Spirit. 5 For the Holy Spirit teaches the miracle of oneness, and before the Holy Spirit’s lesson division disappears. 6 Teach like the Holy Spirit here on earth, and you will remember that you have always created like your Father created. 7 The miracle of creation has never ceased, having the holy stamp of immortality upon the miracle of creation. 8 This shared Oneness is the Will of God for all creation, and all creation joins in willing this same shared Oneness of God for all creation.

Note # 105: The Holy Spirit does not actually teach oneness, but rather removes all the blocks we have placed to block the remembrance of the Oneness that we are. Once the blocks have been removed from our mind, we simply recall what we really are. The Holy Spirit does not have to teach us what we naturally are. It merely must gently reawaken the Son of God from what the split-minded erroneously thought we had become. We always remain perfect, whole and complete, but during the dream of specialness, we identify ourselves as actually being a body in the dream of separation. We remain the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. Created like our Father, the Son of God has been given the same power to extend the Christ to His own creations. Thus, the Father, the First Cause, “becomes” a “Grandparent” to His Son’s Children. All parts share the Oneness of the Mind of God. Creation continues to extend Itself eternally and infinitely. For this is the Will of God.

T-14.XI.12. Those who remember always that they know nothing, and who have become willing to learn everything, will learn everything. 2 But whenever they trust themselves,
they fail to remember that they know nothing and, therefore, they will not learn. 3 They who fail to remember that they know nothing have destroyed their motivation for learning by thinking they already know. 4 Think not you understand anything until you pass the test of perfect peace, for peace and understanding go together and never can be found alone. 5 Peace and understanding each brings the other with it, for it is the law of God that peace and understanding not be separate. 6 Peace and understanding are cause and effect, each to the other, so where one is absent the other cannot be.

**Note # 106:** The test to know that learning is truth is that true learning will bring you peace. If you do not recover peace from the lesson, you can be sure that you have chosen the ego’s thought system as your teacher. For the ego always teaches guilt through attack. The thought system of the Holy Spirit always teaches the Peace of God. Peace and understanding are always found together. They are what the Holy Spirit teaches. The ego always teaches attack through its use of sin, guilt, and fear.

The Holy Spirit requires a happy learner who wants Its guidance. If we believe that we already know but actually are ignorant of the truth, we are at the level of unconscious incompetence. At this level of unconscious incompetence, we fail to know that we don’t know and, therefore, we see no need to ask for the Holy Spirit’s help. This level of understanding and learning, unconscious incompetence, is where the ego wants us to remain. The Holy Spirit needs us to be at the minimum level of conscious incompetence. At this level of conscious incompetence, we know that we do not know and, therefore, can ask for help from the Holy Spirit. We can allow the decision-maker to choose again. We are no longer trapped in victim consciousness.

Line # 6 states, “Peace and understanding are cause and effect, each to the other, so where one is absent the other cannot be.” Similarly the Father is Cause and the Sonship is the Effect. We complete God. Cause and Effect are so interconnected that you cannot have one without the other. This is the inseparability of the Oneness. Only extension, not separation is possible.

**T-14.X1.13.** Only those who recognize they cannot know unless the effects of understanding are with them, can really learn at all. 2 For to recognize the effects of understanding, it must be peace they want, and nothing else. 3 Whenever you think you egoically know, peace will depart from you, because you have abandoned the Teacher of peace, which is the Holy Spirit. 4 Whenever you fully realize that you know not, peace will return, for you will have invited Him, the Teacher of peace, to do so by abandoning the ego on behalf of the Holy Spirit. 5 Call not upon the ego for anything; it is only this abandoning of the ego on behalf of the Holy Spirit that you need do. 6 The Holy Spirit will, of Himself, fill every mind that so makes room for the Holy Spirit.

**Note # 107:** Give all your beliefs of limitation to the Holy Spirit and those limiting beliefs will be dissolved into the nothingness. The nothingness of your limiting beliefs birthed the mad idea that your will could be different from the shared Will of the Father. The peace and understanding that is our divine birthright will not be denied us since the function of the Holy Spirit is to return us to whole-mindedness. Understanding and peace are the forerunners to the return to knowledge. God will take this final step to the return of knowledge on our behalf. Therefore, we cannot fail. Our role is merely to offer all of
our perceptions to the Holy Spirit and accept the Atonement for ourselves.

T-14.XI.14. If you want peace you must abandon the teacher of attack, which is the ego. 2 The Teacher of peace, the Holy Spirit, will never abandon you. 3 You can desert the Holy Spirit but the Holy Spirit will never reciprocate, for the Holy Spirit’s faith in you is the Holy Spirit’s understanding. p299 4 The Holy Spirit’s understanding of you as the Christ is as firm as is the Holy Spirit’s faith in His Creator, and the Holy Spirit knows that faith in His Creator must encompass faith in His creation, God’s Son. 5 In this consistency lies God’s Holiness, which God cannot abandon, for it is not God’s Will to abandon His Holiness. 6 With your perfection ever in God’s sight, God gives the gift of peace to everyone who perceives the need for peace. and who would have peace. 7 Make way for peace, and it will come. 8 For understanding is in you, and from understanding peace must come.

Note # 108: To obtain the understanding and the peace that the Father wants for His Son, we must unlearn everything that the egoic thought system has taught us. This unlearning process is the function of the Holy Spirit. It is not our function to teach the undoing of the ego, since we lack knowledge of what we are. Believing that we are a limited-ego body, we cannot self-correct this same error. We are oblivious to even the realization that we have committed this error. Only the Holy Spirit can correct our misperception because only the Holy Spirit knows the truth about what we are and is also aware of the dream we have entrapped ourselves within. God has never abandoned His Son. The idea of the Holy Spirit came into being at the time of the separation to counteract the belief that God’s Son was not guiltless. If asked, the Holy Spirit will correct the error of guilt by teaching the Atonement to the split-minded. Peace and understanding are the natural result of the lessons taught by the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Our innocence is reclaimed.

T-14.XI.15. The power of God, from which understanding and peace both arise, is yours as surely as understanding and peace is God’s. 2 You think you know God not, only because, alone, it is impossible to know God. 3 Yet see the mighty works that God will do through you, and you must be convinced you did these mighty works through God. 4 It is impossible to deny the Source of effects so powerful that these mighty works could not be of your egoic little “s” self. 5 Leave room for God, and you will find yourself so filled with power that nothing will prevail against your peace. 6 And this will be the test by which you recognize that you have understood. p300

Note # 109: Of myself, my little “s” self, I can do nothing. But if I accept my divine birthright and be the Big “S” Self, God can do everything through me. This is not arrogance on my part. It is merely the acceptance of truth. The height of arrogance is when we deny God’s Fatherhood and claim to make ourselves limited and little. Because we, the Sonship, are all interconnected, we cannot know God alone. Ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. His guidance will reunite the Sonship and reclaim our denied remembrance for God. The return of peace and understanding to our minds will demonstrate that we are following the correct Teacher, the Holy Spirit, and not the ego’s thought system.

Our inner peace is the litmus test that determines with whom our decision-maker
is siding. If our inner peace is lost, we have slipped into fearful egoic thinking. We need to quiet our egoic chatter and choose again. Be aware that the ego will always answer first so it is important that once we have chosen again, we recheck our feelings. If inner-peace has not been restored, we need to rerun the procedure until our peace of mind has returned.
Chapter 15. THE HOLY INSTANT

I. The Two Uses of Time

T-15.1.1. Can you imagine what it means to have no cares, no worries, no anxieties, but merely to be perfectly calm and quiet all the time? Yet to be perfectly calm all the time is what time is for; to learn just perfect calmness and nothing more. God's Teacher, the Holy Spirit, cannot be satisfied with His teaching until His teaching constitutes all your learning. 4 The Holy Spirit has not fulfilled the Holy Spirit’s teaching function until you have become such a consistent learner that you learn only of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. 5 When you learn only of the Holy Spirit interpretation of what has happened, you will no longer need a teacher or time in which to learn.

Note # 1: The goal of the Holy Spirit is to teach you Its thought system which will restore you to the Christ, which is the remembrance of God. The Holy Spirit teaches the lessons necessary for the restoration of knowledge and acceptance of your divine birthright.

T-15.1.2. One source of perceived discouragement from which you may suffer is your belief that this perfect calmness takes time to learn and that the results of the Holy Spirit's teaching are far in the future. 2 This is not so. 3 For the Holy Spirit uses time in the Holy Spirit’s Own way, and is not bound by time. 4 Time is the Holy Spirit’s friend in teaching. 5 Time does not waste the Holy Spirit, as time does waste you. 6 And all the waste that time seems to bring with time is due but to your identification with the ego, which uses time to support the ego’s belief in destruction. 7 The ego, like the Holy Spirit, uses time to convince you of the inevitability of the goal and end of the ego’s teaching. 8 To the ego the goal of time is death, which <is> time’s end. 9 But to the Holy Spirit the goal of time is life, which <has> no end.

Note # 2: The ego uses time to demonstrate that you are a limited ego-body. The ultimate proof of this is your death. The Holy Spirit knows that you are unlimited spirit and that you are eternal. The Holy Spirit uses time to demonstrate that you are a shared oneness with your Creator.

T-15.1.3. The ego is an ally of time, but not a friend of time. 2 For the ego is as mistrustful of death as the ego is of life, and what the ego wants for you the ego cannot tolerate for the ego, itself. 3 The ego wants <you> dead, but not itself dead. 4 The outcome of the ego’s strange religion must therefore be the conviction that the ego can pursue you beyond the grave. 5 And out of the ego unwillingness for you to find peace even in death, the ego offers you immortality in hell. 6 The ego speaks to you of Heaven,
but assures you that Heaven is not for you. 7 How can the guilty hope for Heaven?

**Note # 3:** The ego associates itself with you and the body but does not wish the ultimate death of its host. If your existence were to end, the ego’s existence would also be terminated. It is this termination of the ego’s existence that it fears most since its specialness would end. Therefore, the ego offers you some hope that you may exist after the death of the body. Unfortunately for us, the ego’s thought system has already condemned its host, our split mind, to hell. Due to our mind’s acceptance of the ego’s belief in sin, guilt and fear, the ego demands eternal punishment for us. Thus, we, the ego’s guilty host, burn forever in Hell.

T-15.1.4. The belief in hell is inescapable to those who identify with the ego. 2 For those who identify with the ego, their nightmares and their fears are all associated with hell. 3 The ego teaches that hell is in the future, for this is what all the ego’s teaching is directed to. 4 Hell is the ego’s goal. 5 For although the ego aims at death and dissolution as an end, the ego does not believe in death and dissolution. 6 The goal of death, which the ego craves for you, leaves the ego unsatisfied. 7 Yet if death were thought of merely as an end to pain, would death be feared? 9 We have seen this strange paradox in the ego’s thought system before, but never so clearly as here in the ego’s teaching of death. 10 For the ego must seem to keep fear from you to hold your allegiance. 11 Yet the ego must engender fear in order to maintain the ego, itself. 12 Again the ego tries, and all too frequently succeeds, in doing both. The ego keeps you from fear yet also engenders fear. The ego does this by using dissociation for holding the ego’s contradictory aims together so that these contradictory egoic aims of both keeping you from fear yet also engendering fear seem to be reconciled. 13 The ego teaches thus: Death is the end as far as hope of Heaven goes. 14 Yet because you and the ego cannot be separated, and because the ego cannot conceive of the ego’s own death, the ego will pursue you still, because guilt is eternal. 15 Such is the ego’s version of immortality. 16 And it is the ego’s belief that guilt is eternal which the ego’s version of time supports.

**Note # 4:** The ego wants eternal life. If the ego’s thought system were to result in the permanent death of the existence of its host, the ego’s existence would also be terminated. In order to get around this dilemma, the ego says to its host that there is something beyond the death of the body. In the belief system of the ego, heaven or hell awaits you after death. This is because the mind is not the body and, therefore, the mind or “soul” continues after death. Unfortunately for us, sin with its accompanying guilt is also eternal. Sin demands punishment for the god of the ego is a revengeful god. The possibility of Heaven or happiness is offered to us by the ego. This egoic possibility of Heaven helps us control our fear and, therefore, our mind continues to support the ego’s thought system. Yet, the law of the ego is, “Seek, but do not find.” The ego tells us to look for happiness and heaven but the ego never wants us to find either. The ego’s vested interest in sin, guilt and fear require that you never achieve the removal of guilt. This unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear must always remain in our minds to insure the survival of the ego.

Hell was invented as the place where the ego can maintain its existence by
keeping your mind trapped in guilt. What better place than hell to keep our mind in victim consciousness? Hell, being eternal and with no escape, insures the continuation of the ego existence. Unfortunately for us, our belief in sin, guilt and fear, dooms us to hell. Our desire for specialness and the little “s” self that specialness brings costs us our happiness. Yet, this trade-off allows us to continue to claim that we are right. We continue to claim that we are the arbitrator of truth. We have traded our divine birthright in exchange for hell so that we could say we are capable of doing something other than God’s Will. We exchange the happiness of everything, which is God’s Will for His Son, for the need to be special, limited, egoically “right” and unhappy. This is the logical conclusion of the ego’s thought system. It is this final outcome of the ego’s thought system that the ego attempts to hide from us. This is why the ego is constantly telling us that something outside ourselves will bring us happiness. The mantra of the ego is always, “I will be happy when…” Yet, when we achieve that goal and we are still unhappy, the ego tells us something else will do the trick. “Seek but do not find.” is the endless goal of the ego.

T-15.I.5. The ego teaches that Heaven is here and now because the future is hell. 2 Even when the ego attacks so savagely that it tries to take the life of someone who thinks the ego is the only voice, it speaks of hell even to him. 3 For the ego tells him hell is here as well, and bids him leap from hell into oblivion. 4 The only time the ego allows anyone to look upon with equanimity is the past. 5 And even there, the past’s only value is that the past is no more.

Note # 5: The ego’s focus for time is the past. The ego knows that we were under the control of its thought system in the past. Therefore, the ego desires that we remain in the victim consciousness that our egoic past represents. We bring our egoic past judgments into the present so that we never experience the <now> and thus, our future replicates the past. Since we are never in the <now>, we fail to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit. We do not hear the call to choose again. Happiness can be in the past but it can never become our future reality. We are allowed to strive for happiness but never find it. The guilt of sin must always be maintained and sin requires eternal punishment. Under the thought system of the ego, this punishment can be temporarily put off until our body’s death. At death, the wages of sin will be rewarded in the fires of hell. This is what the thought system of the ego offers us and this is why our ego does not want its host, our mind, to examine its logic.

T-15.I.6. How bleak and despairing is the ego's use of time! 2 And how terrifying! 3 For underneath the ego’s fanatical insistence that the past and future be the same is hidden a far more insidious threat to peace. 4 The ego does not advertise its final threat, for it would have the ego’s worshippers still believe that the ego can offer them escape. 5 But the belief in guilt must lead to the belief in hell, and always does. 6 The only way in which the ego allows the fear of hell to be experienced is to bring hell here, but always as a foretaste of the future. 7 For no one who considers himself deserving of hell can believe that punishment will end in peace.

Note # 6: The ego holds out the possibility that heaven may be temporarily won, but the
truth of the ego’s thought system is that you, its victim, must ultimately end up in hell. Moments of fleeting happiness may be temporarily won in order to keep us willing to play the egoic game of specialness. But happiness within a body can never last. Ultimately, death must be experienced. To the ego, heaven would also result in the death of ego and egoic specialness. It is only in hell that the ego’s continued existence is guaranteed. Sin demands eternal punishment for the egoic god is an unmerciful, revengeful god.

**T-15.1.7.** The Holy Spirit teaches thus: There is no hell. 2 Hell is only what the ego has made of the present. 3 The belief in hell is what prevents you from understanding the present, because you are afraid of the present since you believe that it results in hell. 4 The Holy Spirit leads as steadily to Heaven as the ego drives to hell. 5 For the Holy Spirit, Who knows only the present, uses the present to undo the fear by which the ego would make the present useless. 6 There is no escape from fear in the ego's use of time. 7 For time, according to the ego's teaching, is nothing but a teaching device for compounding guilt until guilt becomes all-encompassing, demanding vengeance forever.

**Note # 7:** The Holy Spirit knows that the guiltless Son of God cannot sin. Any past guilt that you bring with you to the present has no basis in reality, for it is not found in the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit’s focus on time is the present. The Holy Spirit knows that the Son’s past must be sinless since sin does not exist in the Mind of God. By the removal of the past misperceptions, the Holy Spirit will reawaken the vision of Christ that appears to be asleep within your split-mind. Thus, the fear of the present will be corrected since the Holy Spirit only knows that God’s Son is innocent and guiltless. The Sonship remains eternally perfect, whole and complete as the Creator intended.

Under the egoic thought system, the present is a fearful place. The present is where and when we get to experience being constantly judged, attacked and found guilty. Being under attack, we must always be enhancing our defenses. The ego tells us that the best defense is the “preemptive first strike.” Yet, both attacking and defensive strategies confirm our separation. Our fear leads to additional sins which increase our guilt and in turn, compound our fear. Time becomes a vicious cycle in which we are doomed to continually repeat the failures of our past egoic misperceptions.

**T-15.1.8.** The Holy Spirit would undo all of this self-imposed guilt that demands eternal vengeance <now: 2 Fear is not of the present, but fear is only of the past and future, which do not exist. p302 3 There is no fear in the present when each instant stands clear and separated from the past, without any of fears past shadow reaching out into the future. 4 Each instant is a clean, un tarnished birth, in which the Son of God emerges from the past into the present. 5 And the present extends forever. 6 The Son of God is so beautiful and so clean and free of guilt that nothing but happiness is there in the present. 7 No darkness is remembered, and immortality and joy are now.

**Note # 8:** Without the past misperception, the present can be correctly perceived. By undoing or erasing, the past misperception that we carry with us into the present, the Holy Spirit unclouds the vision of Christ. We realize through the use of the tool of forgiveness that we remain connected with our brother. God’s Will is our will that we
share and we are guiltless. Happiness and peace are returned to our split-mind.

When we understand that the Sonship is guiltless, the past loses the fearful grip it held upon the present. Each moment in the <now> stands alone. It is not affected by past experiences. We realize that we determine our current experiences based on our current thought patterns. This is the recovery of the creative power that resides with our decision-maker. Each moment we have the opportunity to choose again. The Holy Spirit suggests that before we decide, we should ask the Holy Spirit, “What would love have me do?” If we do this, we will follow our bliss and quickly return to the remembrance of God.

T-15.I.9. This lesson that we are guiltless takes no time. 2 For what is time without a past and future? 3 The ego has taken time to misguide you so completely, but it takes no time at all to be what you are. 4 Begin to practice the Holy Spirit's use of time as a teaching aid to happiness and peace. 5 Take this very instant, now, and think of this very instant, the now, as all there is of time. 6 Nothing can reach you here out of the past, and it is here, in the now of this very instant, that you are completely absolved, completely free and wholly without condemnation. 7 From this holy instant wherein holiness was born again you will go forth in time without fear, and with no sense of change with time.

Note # 9: Although it took the ego a long time to misguide you into your present state of victim consciousness, it requires no time for the Holy Spirit to return you to guiltlessness. For guilt never existed in reality and, therefore, there is nothing to change. The only “correction” that is needed is that the Son of God must reawaken from the dream that he could be something other than what he is. He must reawaken to his innocence. Time measures change. Once we realize the changelessness of truth, there is no change for time to measure. Time will disappear into the only reality, which is the now.

In the holy instant, all past judgments have been suspended and thus, we can experience and be in the <now>. This suspension of judgment allows us to abandon egoic “seeing” and become aware of the truth through the “eyes” of Christ.

T-15.I.10. Time is inconceivable without change, yet holiness does not change. 2 Learn from this holy instant more than merely that hell does not exist. 3 In this redeeming instant lies Heaven. 4 And Heaven will not change, for the birth into the holy present is salvation from change. 5 Change is an illusion, taught by those who cannot see themselves as guiltless. 6 There is no change in Heaven because there is no change in God. 7 In the holy instant, in which you see yourself as bright with freedom, you will remember God. 8 For remembering God <is> to remember freedom.

Note # 10: The consequence of the removal of all guilt within the Sonship has sweeping results. With the removal of guilt, the Sonship reawakens to the reality of what it is. The Sonship is the extension of the Mind of God. There is nothing outside the Mind of God. There is just the changeless Oneness. In the holy instant, all past judgments are suspended. This allows for the beginning of the remembrance of God. Time’s ultimate function is to allow for the return of the Sonship to the remembrance of God. When this remembrance is accomplished, time has served is purpose. With the function of time fulfilled, time, which is the measurement of change, will disappear. Both the illusion of change and time disappear into the nothingness from which they arose and the changeless
eternal mind of God is all that remains.

T-15.I.11. If you are tempted to be dispirited by thinking how long it would take to change your mind so completely, ask yourself, “How long is an instant?” 2 Could you not give so short a time to the Holy Spirit for your salvation? 3 The Holy Spirit asks no more than an instant, for the Holy Spirit has no need of more. 4 It takes far longer to teach you to be willing to give the Holy Spirit this instant than for the Holy Spirit to use this tiny instant to offer you the whole of Heaven. 5 In exchange for this instant the Holy Spirit stands ready to give you the remembrance of eternity.

Note # 11: For the Holy Spirit to return us to sanity, we must first ask for his guidance. When our need to be happy is greater than our need to be special, we will ask for the return to truth. Until that request, we will exchange our happiness for the desire to be right, even though we are wrong. We need to learn to become vigilant only for God.

T-15.I.12. You will never give this holy instant to the Holy Spirit on behalf of your release while you are unwilling to give this holy instant to your brothers on behalf of your brother’s release. 2 For the instant of holiness is shared, and cannot be yours alone. 3 Remember, then, when you are tempted to attack a brother, that his instant of release is your instant of release. 4 Miracles are the instants of release you offer, and will receive. p303 5 Miracles attest to your willingness to be released, and to offer time to the Holy Spirit for the Holy Spirit’s use of time.

Note # 12: To give is to receive. We cannot obtain our own freedom from guilt without giving that same freedom to our brother. We are all connected in Christ consciousness. We are One.

T-15.I.13. How long is an instant? 2 An instant is as short for your brother as an instant is for you. 3 Practice giving this blessed instant of freedom to all who are enslaved by time, and thus make time the friend of all who were previously enslaved by time. 4 The Holy Spirit gives their blessed instant to you through your giving your blessed instant to your brothers. 5 As you give your blessed instant to your brothers, He, the Christ consciousness in your brothers, offers your blessed instant back to you. 6 Be not unwilling to give what you would receive of Him, the Christ consciousness in your brothers, for you join with Him, the Christ consciousness in your brothers, in giving. 7 In the crystal cleanness of the release you give is your instantaneous escape from guilt. 8 You must be holy if you offer holiness to your brother.

Note # 13: Holiness is wholeness. When we see ourselves as whole, we see our brother as whole. In the reality of our holiness and wholeness, we rediscover our shared Oneness. By granting our brother his guiltlessness, we receive and reclaim our own.

T-15.I.14. How long is an instant? 2 As long as it takes to re-establish perfect sanity, perfect peace and perfect love for everyone, for God and for yourself. 3 An instant is as long as it takes to remember immortality, and your immortal creations who share your immortality with you. 4 An instant is as long as it takes to exchange hell for Heaven. 5
An instant is long enough to transcend all of the ego's making, and ascend unto your Father.

**Note # 14:** All that is needed for the return to knowledge is the willingness to accept only the truth. Truth never changes but we can deny the truth. ACIM asks how long we will cling to our desire to be special when the price is our happiness? Happiness can only be found in truth. Only the insane believe that they are the arbitrators of the truth. Our little willingness is our request for the Holy Spirit to guide us home.

**T-15.I.15.** Time is your friend, if you leave time to the Holy Spirit to use on your behalf. 2 The Holy Spirit needs but very little time to restore God's whole power to you. 3 The Holy Spirit, Who transcends time for you, understands what time is for. 4 Holiness lies not in time, but **holiness lies** in eternity. 5 There never was an instant in which God's Son could lose his purity. 6 **The Son of God’s purity is the Son’s** changeless state, **which** is beyond time, for his purity remains forever beyond attack and without variability. 7 Time stands still in his holiness, and **time** changes not. 8 And so **time, which measures change**, is no longer time at all. 9 For caught in the single instant of the eternal sanctity of God's creation, **time** is transformed into forever. 10 Give the eternal instant, that eternity may be remembered for you, in that shining instant of perfect release. 11 Offer the miracle of the holy instant through the Holy Spirit, and leave the **Holy Spirit’s giving this perfect release** to you to Him.

**Note # 15:** When all guilt has been removed from the mind of the Sonship, the need for time will be no more. Time came into our awareness to allow for the correction of the belief that we could be separate from our Father. With the acceptance of the Atonement, we reawaken to the fact that we are and always will be guiltless. Sin is impossible. With the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves, we give the Atonement’s guiltlessness to all our brothers since we are all connected within the Mind of God. Time no longer has a purpose since the Mind of God is changeless. Therefore, there is no change to measure. Sanity is the return to whole-mindedness and the end of the mad idea that God could be limited. The release from littleness that arose from the desire to be special has been obtained.

**II. The End of Doubt**

**T-15.II.1.** The Atonement is <i>in</i> time, but the **Atonement** not <i>for</i> time. 2 Being in you, the **Atonement** is eternal. 3 What holds remembrance of God, the **Atonement**, cannot be bound by time. 4 **With the Atonement** no more are you bound by time. 5 For unless God is bound, you cannot be **bound**. 6 An instant offered to the Holy Spirit is offered to God on your behalf, and in that instant you will awaken gently in God. 7 In the blessed instant you will let go all your past learning, and the Holy Spirit will quickly offer you the whole lesson of peace, **which is the truth that God’s Son is guiltless**.

p304 8 What can take time, when all the obstacles to learning the **whole lesson of peace, which is the truth that God’s Son is guiltless** have been removed? 9 Truth is so far
beyond time that all of truth happens at once. 10 For as truth was created one, so truth’s oneness depends not on time at all.

**Note # 16:** Truth is constant. The Atonement removes the obstacles that we place in front of truth. Our belief in guilt hides the truth of what we are. Remove the guilt and only truth remains. There is no lesson to learn about truth since truth is all there is. We need only wake up from the illusionary world that we perceive of as sin, guilt and fear.

**T-15.II.2:** Do not be concerned with time, and fear not the instant of holiness that will remove all fear. 2 For the instant of peace is eternal _because_ peace is without fear. 3 Peace will come, being the lesson God gives you, through the Teacher, the Holy Spirit, which God has appointed to translate time into eternity. 4 Blessed is God's Teacher, the Holy Spirit, Whose joy it is to teach God's holy Son his holiness. 5 The Holy Spirit’s joy is not contained in time. 6 The Holy Spirit’s teaching is for you because the Holy Spirit’s joy is your joy. 7 Through the Holy Spirit you stand before God's altar, where the Holy Spirit gently translates hell into Heaven. 8 For it is only in Heaven that God would have you be.

**Note # 17:** The function of the Holy Spirit is to teach you the truth of your Holiness, which is your wholeness with God and all His creations. This is taught by removing the obstacle to truth, which is your belief in guilt. By the removal of guilt, all that is left is the truth of what you truly are, unlimited spirit, which is perfect, whole and complete.

**T-15.II.3:** How long can it take to be in Heaven where God would have you? 2 For you are in Heaven where you have forever been and will forever be. 3 All that you have, you have forever. 4 The blessed instant reaches out to encompass time, as God extends Himself to encompass you. 5 You who have spent days, hours and even years in chaining your brothers to your ego in an attempt to support the ego and uphold the ego’s weakness, do not perceive the Source of strength, which is the power of God. 6 In this holy instant you will unchain all your brothers, and refuse to support either their weakness or your own weakness.

**Note # 18:** A decision for the ego is a choice for littleness. When we deny our divine birthright, the price of specialness comes at the cost of everything. For God created us, as an extension of Himself. The Creator gave everything to us. When we deny God his Fatherhood, we deny that we have been created holy and have all the power of God at our disposal. We believe ourselves to be limited, which is the denial of truth.

**T-15.II.4:** You do not realize how much you have misused your brothers by seeing your brothers as sources of ego support. 2 As a result, your brothers witness to the ego in your perception, and seem to provide reasons for not letting your perceptions go. 3 Yet your brothers are far stronger and much more compelling witnesses for the Holy Spirit. 4 And your brothers support the Holy Spirit’s strength. 5 It is, therefore, your choice whether your brothers support the ego or the Holy Spirit in you. 6 And you will recognize which you have chosen by _your brother’s_ reactions. 7 A Son of God who has been released through the Holy Spirit in a brother is always recognized as a Son of
God. 8 A Son of God who has been released through the Holy Spirit cannot be denied. 9 If you remain uncertain, it is only because you have not given complete release to your brothers. 10 And because you have not given complete release to your brothers, you have not given a single instant completely to the Holy Spirit. 11 For when you have given a single instant completely to the Holy Spirit, you will be sure you have been released from your misperceptions. 12 You will be sure because the witness to the Holy Spirit will speak so clearly of the Holy Spirit that you will hear and understand that your brothers are witness for the Holy Spirit. 13 You will doubt that your brother can be a compelling witness for the Holy Spirit until you hear a brother as one witness whom you have wholly released through the Holy Spirit. 14 And then you will doubt no more.

Note # 19: All that we perceive are actually neutral experiences or events. Yet, these perceptions can be utilized as witnesses for either the true or the false. The Holy Spirit has the ability to remove past egoic misperceptions so that current events can be perceived correctly. The ego relies on past misperception to maintain its control over the decision-maker, and thus, keep you playing the role of victim. Our brother is a witness for the ego when we perceive him to be like the little “s” self we claim to be. We perceive our brother as only a limited ego-body. Perceiving ourselves to be separate, limited and sinful, we project these same imagined traits upon our brother. If we see ourselves under the thought system of the Holy Spirit and the vision of Christ, we perceive a brother as deserving of love. The Holy Spirit correctly interprets any perception as a neutral event deserving of only love. The proper interpretation is that an event is either a cry for love or is love. The proper response to any event is, therefore, only love.

T-15.II.5. The holy instant has not yet happened to you. 2 Yet the holy instant will, and you will recognize the holy instant with perfect certainty. p305 3 No gift of God is recognized in any other way except with perfect certainty. 4 You can practice the mechanics of the holy instant, and will learn much from doing so. 5 Yet the holy instant’s shining and glittering brilliance, which will literally blind you to this world by it’s own vision, you cannot supply. 6 And here the recognition of the gift of God is, all in this holy instant, complete, accomplished and given wholly.

Note # 20: The purpose of the Holy Instant is to suspend judgment entirely. This suspension of judgment removes all barriers that prevent the Holy Spirit from teaching the meaning of love. God is Love. The Holy Instant allows for the reclaiming and reawakening of the Christ, which is the Big “S” Self. The Sonship shares with God as God shares His Self with Christ. All brothers are joined in the Christ. This is the recognition that there is but One Self that is the extension of the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. The Holy Instant is the realization that we are not separate and that the separation has never occurred. Both God and His Child’s innocence is reclaimed. We, like our Father do not know what does not exist and this is the innocence of God. All that remains is the truth. Thus as ACIM states, “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God.”

T-15.II.6. Start now to practice your little part in separating out the holy instant. 2 You
will receive very specific instructions as you go along. 3 To learn to separate out this single second, and to experience this single second as timeless, is to begin to experience yourself as not separate. 4 Fear not that you will not be given help in this rediscovery that you are not separate. 5 God's Teacher, the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit’s lesson will support your strength. 6 It is only your weakness that will depart from you in this practice of rediscovery that you are not separate, for it is the practice of the power of God in you. 7 Use the power of God in you but for one instant, and you will never deny the power of God in you again. 8 Who can deny the Presence of what the universe bows to, in appreciation and gladness? 9 Before the recognition of the universe that witnesses to God’s power your doubts of the power of God within you must disappear.

**III. Littleness versus Magnitude**

T-15.III.1. Be not content with littleness. 2 But be sure you understand what littleness is, and why you could never be content with littleness. 3 Littleness is the offering you egoically give yourself. 4 You offer littleness in place of magnitude, and you accept littleness. 5 Everything in this world is little because this world is a world made out of littleness, in the strange belief that littleness can content you. 6 When you strive for anything in this world in the belief that anything in this world will bring you peace, you are belittling yourself and blinding yourself to glory. 7 Littleness and glory are the choices open to your striving and your vigilance. 8 You will always choose either littleness or the glory of magnitude at the expense of the other.

**Note # 22:** This world was born out of the desire to be separate from God. It is the attempt of the ego to keep out God’s Love for His Son. It was born out of the desire for specialness, which is to be something less than “the everything” that the Sonship was created to be. The egoic little “s” self wanted to be the arbitrator of truth and thus, usurp God’s authority. Specialness is the desire to get, which flows from the belief that you no longer are everything. The Christ is the Home of “the everything” that we are. The Christ is the big “S” Self. The ego’s thought system is the origin for our belief in “littleness”.

T-15.III.2. Yet what you do not realize, each time you choose, is that your choice is your evaluation of yourself. 2 Choose littleness and you will not have peace, for you will have judged yourself unworthy of peace. 3 And whatever you offer as a substitute for peace is much too poor a gift to satisfy you. 4 It is essential that you accept the fact, and accept it gladly, that there is no form of littleness that can ever content you. 5 You are free to try as many forms of littleness as you wish, but all you will be doing is to delay your homecoming to the glory of your own magnitude. 6 For you will be content only in magnitude, which is your home. p306

**Note # 23:** Being everything, we cannot be happy with less than what we are
There is a deep responsibility you owe yourself, and this responsibility that you owe yourself, you must learn to remember all the time. The lesson of responsibility that you owe yourself may seem hard at first, but you will learn to love the lesson when you realize that the lesson is true and the lesson is but a tribute to your power. You who have sought and found littleness, remember this: Every decision you make stems from what you think you are, and every decision you make represents the value that you put upon yourself. Believe the little can content you, and by limiting yourself you will not be satisfied. For your function is not little, and it is only by finding your function and fulfilling your function that you can escape from littleness.

Note # 24: Our responsibility is to be as the Father created us. We are seekers and our single purpose is to reach the truth. Nothing “sources” or causes my perceived experience but my own thinking in each moment. Nothing has an effect on me since everything in the world of perception is neutral. Every decision I make is a decision of love or fear. Nothing can have any effect on me unless I chose to allow it to effect me. This understanding that I am responsible for my own viewpoint is critical for my ability to recover my decision-making abilities. Until I claim self-responsibility of my private world, I remain in the ego’s world of victim consciousness. Once I realize I am not a victim, I can ask for guidance of the Holy Spirit and choose again. We are seekers and our single purpose is to reach the truth. With the Holy Spirit as our guide, our rediscovery of the truth is inevitable.

While we perceive ourselves to be in time and space, our function is forgiveness. In eternity, our function is co-creation. Our destiny is the peace of God. Love is our reality and truth.

There is no doubt about what your function is, for the Holy Spirit knows what your function is. There is no doubt about your function’s magnitude, for your function’s magnitude reaches you through the Holy Spirit. You do not have to strive for your function’s magnitude, because you have your function’s magnitude. All your striving must be directed against littleness, for littleness does require vigilance to protect your magnitude in this world. To hold your magnitude in perfect awareness in a world of littleness is a task the little cannot undertake. Yet the task of holding your magnitude in perfect awareness in a world of littleness is asked of you, in tribute to your magnitude and not your littleness. Nor is the task of holding your magnitude in perfect awareness in a world of littleness asked of you alone. The power of God will support every effort you make on behalf of His dear Son. Search for the little, and you deny yourself God’s power. God is not willing that His Son be content with less than everything. God is not content without His Son, and His Son cannot be content with less than the everything that his Father has given him.

Note # 25: In the world of perception we are asked to freely choose for the Will of our Father. We are asked to choose between the oneness of everything versus the specialness of limitation. Although the choice would appear obvious to the sane person, we need to realize that the split-minded are not sane. The split-minded have sided with the ego to experience littleness. Littleness is separate individuality. Littleness is specialness. When you look at the planet earth, you see that the desire for separate autonomy is great. We, as
a society highly value individuality. We value it so much that according to ACIM, we sacrifice our happiness for the wish to be right, even if we are wrong. Ask yourself this question. Would I rather be happy or would I rather be right? We are seekers and our single purpose is to reach the truth. Truth cannot be found if we are not willing to look at our beliefs and question whether they serve our search for truth. It is important to realize that if you believe that an illusion is true, you will never be able to question the validity of the illusion because you will never think to question it. We are suffering from a form of unconscious incompetence. We don’t know that we don’t know. ACIM ask that we question what we believe and not simply accept it because we were indoctrinated into a particular belief system.

T-15.III.5. I asked you earlier, "Would you be hostage to the ego or host to God?" 2 Let this question, "Would you be hostage to the ego or host to God?" be asked you by the Holy Spirit every time you make a decision. 3 For every decision you make does answer this question of "Would you be hostage to the ego or host to God?" and invites sorrow or joy accordingly. 4 When God gave Himself to you in your creation, God established you as host to God forever. 5 God has not left you, and you have not left God. 6 All your attempts to deny God’s magnitude, and make God’s Son hostage to the ego, cannot make little whom God has joined with Himself. 7 Every decision you make is for Heaven or for hell, and brings you the awareness of what you decided for.

Note # 26: There are only two choices, truth or the falsity of illusion. Every decision we make is a choice between following the ego’s thought system of littleness or the thought system for magnitude or truth, which is the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit’s thought system leads us back to the truth that we are a Big “S” Self. We are perfect, whole and complete. We are part of the shared Will of God. The Mind of God is changeless and this is our home. We can deny the truth about ourselves, but we cannot change the truth. Truth is the great gift that we received when God extended Himself to His Son. Our magnitude is simply the truth about what we are.

T-15.III.6. The Holy Spirit can hold your magnitude, clean of all littleness, clearly and in perfect safety in your mind, untouched by every little gift the world of littleness would offer you. 2 But for this, the magnitude of your Christ consciousness, you cannot side against God in what God wills for you. 3 Decide for God through the use of your Christ consciousness. For the Christ is the home of the Holy Spirit in your apparent split-mind. 4 For littleness, and the belief that you can be content with littleness, are decisions you make about yourself when you follow the thought system of the ego. 5 The power and the glory that lie in you from God are for all who, like you, perceive themselves as little, and believe that littleness can be blown up into a sense of magnitude that can content them. The power and the glory that lie in you from God reside in your Christ conscious part of your split-mind. p307 6 Neither give littleness, nor accept littleness. 7 All honor is due the host of God, the Christ. 8 Your littleness deceives you, but your magnitude is of God, Who dwells in you, and in Whom you dwell. 9 Touch no one, then, with littleness in the Name of Christ, eternal Host unto God, His Father.
Note # 27: The Christ is the part of the mind that always remembers God. For discussion purposes, ACIM speaks in terms of the Holy Trinity as if each part was separate and distinct from the other parts. This is done because we are use to dualistic thinking. We do not perceive the true oneness of the whole, which is the Mind of God. In reality, the Father, Sonship and Holy Spirit are different aspects of the whole. There is only the Oneness but since we have lost the use of knowledge, we must speak in terms of symbols. The Father, the Sonship and the Holy Spirit abide in each other for They are only the One Self, a Oneness of Everything, which is the Mind of God, eternal, changeless, perfect, whole and complete.

T-15.III.7. In this season (Christmas) which celebrates the birth of holiness into this world, join with me, Jesus, who decided for holiness for you. 2 It is our task together to restore the awareness of magnitude to the host, the Christ, whom God appointed for Himself. 3 It is beyond all your littleness to give the gift of God, but not beyond your magnitude to give the gift of God. 4 For God would give Himself through you, the Christ, the Big “S” Self. 5 God reaches from you to everyone and beyond everyone to the Son of God’s creations, but without leaving you, the Christ. 6 Far beyond your little world but still in you, God extends forever. 7 Yet God brings all God’s extensions to you, as host to God.

Note # 28: This speaks of the shared Oneness. Everything extends from the Mind of God and is the Mind of God. There can never be separation in a Oneness comprised of everything. Only the extension of the Oneness is possible.

T-15.III.8. Is it a sacrifice to leave littleness behind, and wander not in vain? 2 It is not a sacrifice to wake to glory. 3 But it is a sacrifice to accept anything less than glory. 4 Learn that you must be worthy of the Prince of Peace, the Christ, born in you in honor of God Whose host you are. 5 You know not what love means because you have sought to purchase love with little gifts, thus valuing love too little to understand love’s magnitude. 6 Love is not little and love dwells in you, for you are host to God. 7 Before the greatness that lives in you, your poor appreciation of yourself and all the little offerings you give slip into nothingness.

Note # 29: Illusions must give way to the truth. The glory of God, which resides in us, cannot be limited by our denial of the truth. The little “s” self arose because of our belief in the separation. It has never been shared in the Mind of God and, therefore, being nothing, is nothing. Nothingness can have no impact on everything. When we remove all the veils of guilt that attempt to hide the truth from our split-minds, all that remains is the truth that we are the Christ. The Christ is the expression of the love of God. The truth is that there is only Love. We are the Love of God and the Love of God is “Us”, the Big “S” Self.

T-15.III.9. Holy child of God, when will you learn that only holiness can content you and give you peace? 2 Remember that you learn not for yourself alone, no more than I, Jesus, did. 3 It is because I learned for you that you can learn of me. 4 I would but teach you what is yours, so that together we can replace the shabby littleness that binds the host of
God to guilt and weakness with the glad awareness of the glory that is in him. 5 My birth in you is your awakening to grandeur. 6 Welcome me not into a manger, but into the altar to holiness, where holiness abides in perfect peace. 7 My Kingdom is not of this world because My Kingdom is in you. 8 And you are of your Father. 9 Let us join in honoring you, who must remain forever beyond littleness.

**Note # 30:** Jesus expresses the fact that we are all interconnected. Each part is a hologram of God, Himself. God abides in you and me, as we abide in God. God is like the ocean and we are like a wave. But in reality, we are only “ocean” for the ocean is all that is. We can dream or appear for a split second to be a wave but in the end we dissolve back into the ocean.

**T-15.III.10.** Decide with me, a symbol for the Christ and the thought system of the Holy Spirit, who has decided to abide with you. 2 I will as my Father wills, knowing our Father’s Will is constant and at peace forever with itself. 3 You will be content with nothing but God’s Will. p308 4 Accept no less than God’s Will, remembering that everything I learned is yours. 5 What my Father loves I love as God does, and I can no more accept God’s Will as what it is not, than God can accept what is not His Will. 6 And no more can you accept what is not God’s Will. 7 When you have learned to accept what you are, you will make no more egoic gifts to offer to yourself, for you will know you are complete, in need of nothing, and unable to accept anything for yourself. 8 But you will gladly give, having received. 9 The host of God, you, the Christ, needs not seek to find anything for you are everything.

**Note # 31:** There is no will but God’s Will. Because of what we are, which is an extension of God, we are everything. The idea that we are everything is difficult for us to comprehend because we associate ourselves so strongly as “the body”. We need to constantly remind ourselves that we are not a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies, but rather unlimited spirit. God is not form. God is Unlimited Spirit, Mind, an Idea, a Thought. We are not a body. We are unlimited spirit, mind, an idea and a thought. Thoughts can be shared. When thoughts are shared they are strengthened. There is not loss; there is just the extension of the thought. No sacrifice is required. Having received a thought, we in turn give the thought to another. There is no diminishment. The thought of God is Love. This is what we are, for Love is everything. Love is the Truth about God. Love is the Truth about us. And the truth will set us free. As ACIM proclaims, “I am not a body. I am free, for I am exactly as God created Me.”

**T-15.III.11.** If you are wholly willing to leave salvation to the plan of God and unwilling to attempt to grasp for peace yourself, salvation will be given you. 2 Yet think not you can substitute your egoic plan for God’s Plan for salvation. 3 Rather, join with me in God’s Plan for salvation, that we may release all those who would be bound, proclaiming together that the Son of God is host to God. 4 Thus will we let no one forget what you would remember. 5 And thus will you remember you are host to God.

**Note # 32:** Being an extension of God, we must be guiltless as our Father, who is us. God’s Plan for Salvation is the Atonement. The acceptance of the Atonement is the
acceptance of truth and the denial and abandonment of all that is false. It is the acceptance that God’s Son is guiltless and that sin is impossible. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we allow for the awakening of the Christ consciousness within us. We thus, have the return of the remembrance of God.

T-15.III.12. Call forth in everyone only the remembrance of God, and of the Heaven that is in him, the Christ. 2 For where you would have your brother be, there will you think you are. 3 Hear not your brother’s appeal to hell and littleness, but hear only your brother’s call for Heaven and greatness. 4 Forget not that your brother’s call is your call, and answer your brother with me. 5 God’s power is forever on the side of God’s host, the Christ, for God’s power protects only the peace in which God dwells. 6 Lay not littleness before God’s holy altar, which rises above the stars and reaches even to Heaven, because of what is given God’s holy altar. God’s holy altar is everything, because it is the Power of God.

Note # 33: We are God’s altar and the only thing worthy to be place on God’s altar is the truth. When we attempt to place the egoic gift of littleness upon God’s altar, it cannot be accepted. For the false has no place on the altar of Truth. Instead of the gift of magnitude upon God’s altar, we place the gifts of limitation on the altar to the false gods of the ego. The gift of littleness comes from the ego’s thought system. It comes from the belief that we have some power outside the power of God. By myself, I can do nothing. But if I act as an instrument of my Father, God can do everything through me for I am the recipient of the Power of God.

IV. Practicing the Holy Instant

T-15.IV.1. This course is not beyond immediate learning, unless you believe that what God wills takes time. 2 And this course is not beyond immediate learning; it means only that you would rather delay the recognition that God’s Will is so. 3 The holy instant is this instant and every instant. 4 The Holy Instant is when you want it to be the Holy Instant is. 5 The one instant you would not have the Holy Instant be is lost to you. 6 You must decide when the Holy Instant is. 7 Delay the Holy Instant not. 8 For beyond the past and future, where you will not find the Holy Instant, the Holy Instant stands in shimmering readiness for your acceptance. 9 Yet you cannot bring the Holy Instant into glad awareness while you do not want the Holy Instant, for the Holy Instant holds the whole release from littleness.

Note # 34: When the Holy Instant is recognized by us, it is under our control. The Holy Instant will appear in our consciousness the moment we recognize there is no will but God’s Will. We share God’s Will because we are the host of God. A Oneness knows no separation. The Holy Instant will be when we choose again for the truth. Ideas never leave their source. Thoughts we hold are mighty and illusions are as strong in their effect upon the thinker as the truth would be. It is our refusal to reject all thoughts of separation that keep us trapped in the unreal world of erroneous thoughts. Change our thoughts and
our world of provisional reality changes. We need to change from egoic thinking to the thought system of the Holy Spirit. We need to reawaken to the fact that the separation is not real and has never occurred and thus, suspend all past judgments. God’s Son is holy, sinless and innocent. When we freely and wholly choose against the littleness of the ego, the Holy Instant will arrive.

T-14.IV.2. Your practice must therefore rest upon your willingness to let all littleness go. 2 The instant in which magnitude dawns upon you is but as far away as your desire for magnitude, which is the choice to be your Big “S” Self. 3 As long as you do not desire magnitude and cherish littleness instead, by so much is the Holy Instant far from you. 4 By so much as you want magnitude; due to your desire for magnitude will you bring the Holy Instant nearer. 5 Think not that you can find salvation in your own way and have littleness. 6 Give over every egoic plan you have made for your salvation in exchange for God’s plan for salvation. 7 God’s plan for salvation will content you, and nothing else can bring you peace. 8 For peace is of God, and no one beside God.

Note # 35: God’s Plan for salvation rests upon you reclaiming your Big “S” Self. The ego’s plan for salvation is based on your desire for the specialness that comes from littleness. Our claim for our littleness is the demand for specialness and individuality that comes from inequality. The acceptance of the Atonement is the rejection of littleness and the guilt that arose from our mad idea that we could be something other than as we were created.

T-14.IV.3. Be humble before God, and yet great <in> God. 2 And value no plan of the ego before the plan of God. 3 For you leave empty your place in God’s plan, which you must fill if you would join with me, by your decision to join in any plan but God’s plan. 4 I call you to fulfill your holy part in the plan that God has given to the world for your release from littleness. 5 God would have His host, which is you, the Christ, abide in perfect freedom. 6 Every allegiance to a plan of salvation apart from God’s plan diminishes the value of God’s Will for you in your own mind. 7 And yet it is your mind that is the host to God.

Note # 36: Be humble before God, and yet great <in> God, calls for the recognition that by myself I can do nothing, but through me, God can do everything. We are the host of God. If we choose not to be arrogant, we will accept our role as the Big “S” Self. We are an extension of the Mind of God. The Mind of God is limitless. It cannot be made little because we imagine something about ourselves that is not true. The acceptance of the Atonement is the removal of any thoughts of guilt that prevent us from reclaiming our magnitude, our Big “S” Self, the Christ, which is the Host for God.

T-14.IV.4. Would you learn how perfect and immaculate is the holy altar on which your Father has placed Himself? 2 This holy altar you will recognize in the holy instant, in which you willingly and gladly give over every plan but God’s plan for salvation. 3 For in the acceptances of God’s plan for salvation, there lies peace, perfectly clear because you have been willing to meet peace’s conditions, which is the abandonment of egoic thinking. 4 You can claim the holy instant any time and anywhere you want the Holy
Instant. 5 In your practice, try to give over every egoic plan you have accepted for finding magnitude in littleness. 6 <Salvation from littleness is not there in any egoic plan for salvation.> 7 Use the holy instant only to recognize that you alone cannot know where salvation is, and can only deceive yourself with egoic planning.

**Note # 37:** Because our ego does not remember what we are, we cannot expect to find the truth about ourselves from something like the ego, which does not know truth. The ego is the representative for untruth and littleness. The ego knows nothing because it is nothing. The ego is not real. Only the Holy Spirit is the proper guide for God’s plan since only the Holy Spirit can bridge the gap between your illusion about yourself and the truth. Only the Holy Spirit knows the truth about what you are and is aware of your self-imposed belief in littleness.

**T-15.IV.5.** I stand within the holy instant, as clear as you would have me. 2 And the extent to which you learn to accept me is the measure of the time in which the holy instant will be your Holy Instant. 3 I call to you to make the holy instant your Holy Instant at once, for the release from littleness in the mind of the host of God depends on the host of God’s willingness to be released from his belief in littleness, and not on time.

**Note # 38:** Time “exists” only to serve as a measure for change during our journey home from perception to truth. Time measures change and change exists only in the world of perception. The world of perception was born only in the split-mind of one who believed in specialness, which is the call for the littleness of separation. Since ideas never leave their source, the belief that we are separate must be changed within our own minds. This is why ACIM asks us to choose again. This time siding for the truth that is the magnitude of the Christ.

**T-15.IV.6.** The reason this course is simple is that truth is simple. 2 Complexity is of the ego, and complexity is nothing more than the ego's attempt to obscure the obvious, which is the truth. 3 You could live forever in the holy instant, beginning now and reaching to eternity, but for a very simple reason. 4 Do not obscure the simplicity of this reason, for if you do obscure the truth, it will be only because you prefer not to recognize the truth and not to let go of the ego's attempt to obscure the obvious, which is truth. 5 The simple reason that you are not living forever in the holy instant currently is, simply stated, this: The holy instant is a time in which you receive and give perfect communication. 6 This means, however, that the holy instant is a time in which your mind is open, both to receive and give communication. 7 The holy instant is the recognition that all minds are in communication. 8 The holy instant therefore seeks to change nothing, but merely to accept everything.

**Note # 39:** The Holy Instant cannot change truth, since truth is the changeless eternal. The holy instant seeks the acceptance of truth, which is everything that is real and, therefore, everything that is real is also eternally changeless. The egoic thought system places clouds over the truth, but cannot change the truth. The Holy Spirit teaches how to remove the ego’s barriers to truth, which all arise from sin, guilt and fear. As long as we
place value in egoic thinking, we are unable to be a clear channel for the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Lacking this commitment to only receive and give communication for truth, we postpone the realization of the holy instant within our own mind. An attempt to communicate the false is an attempt to communicate nothing, for the false is nothing.

T-15.IV.7. How can you do this, communicate with an open mind that both gives and receives proper communication, when you would prefer to have private thoughts and keep private thoughts? 2 The only way you could keep private thoughts would be to deny the perfect communication that makes the holy instant what the holy instant is. 3 You believe you can harbor thoughts you would not share, and that salvation lies in keeping thoughts to yourself alone. 4 For in private thoughts, known only to yourself, you think you find a way to keep what you would have alone, which are your private thoughts, and share what <you> would share, which are your non-private or shared, thoughts. 5 And then you wonder why it is that you are not in full communication with those around you, and with God Who surrounds all of you together.

Note # 40: Perfect communication is open to all. It is both given and received by all. This is why reality is a shared Oneness. Nothing is unknown from the whole. Private thoughts are not shared with all and, therefore, are meant to exclude, rather than include. The Holy Instant is inclusive; nothing is left outside the communication process of the whole. The whole is the Mind of God.

Our world of egoic perception is predicted on projection. In projection, we take a fear-based thought we do not want, like guilt, and project it out of our mind upon another. Our senses then “observe” this same thought as being outside ourselves. This “observation” is merely a confirmation of our prejudged belief that we have projected from our mind. Thus, our egoic senses are not objective, but rather predetermined thought confirmation devices. They witness only for our private thoughts. We then deny that we are the source for these projected, private thoughts and misperceive and judge our world. This is not sharing or communication. It is delusional and exclusive.

T-15.IV.8. Every thought you would keep hidden shuts communication off, because you would have the private, hidden thoughts not shared with the whole. 2 It is impossible to recognize perfect communication while breaking communication holds value to you. 3 Ask yourself honestly, "Would I want to have perfect communication, and am I wholly willing to let everything that interferes with perfect communication go forever?" 4 If the answer is no, then the Holy Spirit's readiness to give perfect communication to you is not enough to make perfect communication yours, for you are not ready to share perfect communication with the Holy Spirit. 5 And perfect communication cannot come into a mind that has decided to oppose perfect communication. 6 For the holy instant is given and received with equal willingness, being the acceptance of the single Will that governs all thought.

Note # 41: In order to want perfect communication, we must give all our perceptions to the Holy Spirit for reinterpretation into correct perception. Correct perception will only see love or a cry for love and, therefore, respond appropriately. The appropriate response to a cry for love is love. We cannot have perfect communication with the Holy Spirit if
we are unwilling to turn over all our perceptions. If we still choose to value certain aspect of the ego’s thought system, we will be unwilling to turn these private thoughts over to the Holy Spirit for correction. We cannot pick and choose. The Holy Instant is an all or nothing decision. For the Holy Instant to arrive in our mind, we must surrender all of our perceptions over to the thought system of the Holy Spirit so that we can “be” the Christ that we are.

T-15.IV.9. The necessary condition for the holy instant does not require that you have no thoughts that are not pure. 2 But the holy instant does require that you have no egoic thoughts that you would keep private. 3 Innocence is not of your making. 4 Innocence is given you the instant you would have innocence. 5 Atonement would not be if there were no need for Atonement. 6 You will not be able to accept perfect communication as long as you would hide perfect communication from yourself. 7 For what you would hide <is> hidden from you. 8 In your practice, then, try only to be vigilant against deception, and seek not to protect the private thoughts of the ego, which you would keep to yourself. 9 Let the Holy Spirit's purity shine your egoic thoughts away, and bring all your awareness to the readiness for purity the Holy Spirit offers you. 10 Thus will the Holy Spirit make you ready to acknowledge that you are host to God, and hostage to no one and to nothing.

Note # 42: We believe we are the host of the ego; not the host to God. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is the means for the return of God’s Son to right-mindedness. The supposed split mind is comprised of two parts, the ego and the Christ consciousness. For the decision-maker to reclaim his divine birthright, he must freely choose to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Following this guidance leads to the return to the whole-mindedness of the Christ. God’s Son will reawaken to the perfect communication, which continues to always flow between the Christ and His Father even during the apparent dream of separation. We will reclaim our magnitude, the Big “S” Self, which is the shared Mind of God. The Father shares Himself as His Son shares His Big “S” Self. Perfect communication is reestablished throughout the Oneness. We drop the desire for private thought, which we would not share. All identification with egoic thoughts disappears into the nothingness from which they arose.

V. The Holy Instant and Special Relationships

T-15.V.1. The holy instant is the Holy Spirit's most useful learning device for teaching you love's meaning. 2 For the holy instant’s purpose is to suspend judgment entirely. 3 Judgment always rests on the past, for past experience is the basis on which you judge. 4 Judgment becomes impossible without the past, for without the past you do not understand anything. 5 You would make no attempt to judge, because without the past, it would be quite apparent to you that you do not understand what anything means. 6 You are afraid of this suspension of the past and its related reference points for judgment because you believe that without the ego, all would be chaos. 7 Yet I assure you that without the ego, all would be love.
Note # 43: The thought system of the Holy Spirit is based on truth. God is love and, therefore, truth is love. The thought system of the ego is based on limitation. The unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear, teach that we are limited ego-bodies, in competition with other ego-bodies. This belief system breeds competition and conflict since everything becomes a “zero sum game”. For me to win, someone else must lose. There is no such thing as a “win-win solution.” For unlike the world of thought and ideas, form cannot be shared. Sharing form would result in diminishment to the one that originally possessed the object. Sacrifice would, therefore, be required of the giver.

T-15.V.2. The past is the ego's chief learning device, for it is in the past that you learned to define your own needs and acquired methods for meeting your own needs on your own egoic terms. 2 We have said that to limit love to part of the Sonship is to bring guilt into your relationships, and thus make your relationships unreal. 3 If you seek to separate out certain aspects of the totality and look to certain aspects of the totality to meet your imagined needs, you are attempting to use separation to save you. 4 How, then, since you are introducing the belief in separation, could guilt not enter? 5 For separation is the source of guilt, and to appeal to separation for salvation is to believe you are alone. 6 To be alone <is> to be guilty. 7 For to experience yourself as alone is to deny the Oneness of the Father and His Son, and thus to attack reality.

Note # 44: When we believe that we are separate, we believe that we come from lack. Lacking the belief in our own oneness, we believe that we are incomplete. We then look outside ourselves for what we perceive we lack. Being not everything, we are lonely for we no longer know ourselves to be perfect, whole and complete. We usurp the authority of the Creator and claim that we are something other than as He created us. We claim that our ego mind is the arbitrator of truth. This rejection of both our Father’s Will and His Love for us leaves us with a belief that we have sinned. Sin spawns guilt and the fear that we must be punished for our supposed “sins”. The Atonement is the reestablishing of the guiltlessness of God’s Son. Yet, before the guiltlessness is returned to our consciousness, all judgment must be suspended. Without the suspension of judgment, which is the purpose of the holy instant, we would never be willing to turn the misperceived events of the day to the Holy Spirit for His correction. By correcting our misperception, the Holy Spirit reawakens our Christ consciousness so that the Christ can once again assume its role as advisor to the decision-maker of our mind. We can once again make the choice for love, which is the choice for Christ, our Big “S” Self, which is also the host of God. The Oneness of the Father and His Son has been returned.

T-15.V.3. You cannot love parts of reality and understand what love means. You must love the whole. 2 If you would love unlike to God, Who knows no special love, how can you understand love? 3 To believe that <special> relationships, with <special> love, can offer you salvation is the belief that separation is salvation. 4 For it is the complete equality of the Atonement in which salvation lies. 5 How can you decide that special aspects of the Sonship can give you more than other aspects of the Sonship? 6 The past judgment on behalf of separation has taught you those <special> relationships, with <special> love, can offer you salvation. 7 Yet the holy instant teaches you it is not so
that <special> relationships, with <special> love, can offer you salvation.

Note # 45: The holy instant’s purpose is to teach the suspense of all judgments. Judgment is based on your misperception from the past in which you misperceived yourself to be a limited ego-body that could be hurt and made to suffer. Believing that we are guilty, we attempt to project our guilt upon the imagined outside world. Since ideas never leave their source, we maintain both our guilt and our imagined outside world. Both these ideas appear to have reality only within the split-mind of the dreamer. Believing that we are not a Oneness but rather a little “s” self, we look for something outside ourselves to complete us. A special relationship is the egoic quest to get something that you believe you lack from someone you believe has what you want. Unfortunately, since we perceive a world of limitation and lack, we now must take or steal from another what we believe we are lacking. The egoic thought system states that what you have, you have taken. This egoic belief places us on the slippery slope of sin, guilt and fear. We are caught within the victim consciousness of the ego’s thought system. Rather than correct the mistake in our original thinking, we remain trapped in this perpetual cycle of egoic victim consciousness. This all arose from our belief that the separation was real. Anytime we relive the present through the eyes of past egoic judgments, we get to keep these same past results. We never become aware of the now. The future constantly reconfirms these false witnesses from our past. To break the cycle of victim consciousness, we need to suspend all judgments, which are always based on our past misperceptions. The holy instant is the suspension of all these judgments.

T-15.V.4. Because of guilt, all special relationships have elements of fear in the special relationship. 2 This is why special relationships shift and change so frequently. 3 Special relationships are not based on changeless love alone. 4 And love, where fear has entered, cannot be depended on because love, where fear has entered, is not perfect love. 5 In the Holy Spirit’s function as Interpreter of what you made, the Holy Spirit uses special relationships, which you have chosen to support the ego, as learning experiences that point to truth. 6 Under the Holy Spirit’s teaching, every relationship becomes a lesson in love. p312

Note # 46: The Holy Spirit does not take your special relationships from you. The Holy Spirit utilizes these relationships to teach the lessons of forgiveness and love. To the Holy Spirit, the events surrounding these relationships are either love or a cry for love. The Holy Spirit will reinterpret these relationships so that we relearn the interdependence of giving and receiving. What we give, we receive. We must learn to control our fear and turn all perceived events over to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The event, as in all things in the world of perception, is simply a neutral learning device and only our response to the experience colors the event as “good, bad or neutral”. The ego teaches fear and attack. The Holy Spirit teaches forgiveness and love. We, as decision maker, must choose what thought system we will support.

T-15.V.5. The Holy Spirit knows no one is special. 2 Yet the Holy Spirit also perceives that you have made special relationships, which the Holy Spirit would purify and not let you destroy. 3 However unholy the reason you made a special relationship may be, the
Holy Spirit can translate these special relationships into holiness by removing as much fear as you will let the Holy Spirit remove. You can place any relationship under the Holy Spirit’s care and be sure that placing any relationship under the Holy Spirit’s care will not result in pain, if you offer to the Holy Spirit your willingness to have the relationship serve no need but the Holy Spirit’s need, which is to teach love and never fear. All the guilt in these special relationships arises from your use of guilt. All the love in these special relationships arises from the Holy Spirit’s use of love. Do not, then, be afraid to let go your imagined egoic needs, which would destroy the relationship.

8 Your only need is the Holy Spirit’s need.

Note # 47: The Holy Spirit takes our special relationships and utilizes them to teach love and the truth of our interconnectedness within the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit keeps the shared parts of the relationship, our love and forgiveness, which are real, and removes or reinterprets the false perceptions of the relationship, which are based on our belief in lack, sin, guilt and fear. We must be willing to control the fear that arose from our belief in littleness. When we control our fear, we are able to turn our misperceived events over to the guidance of the Holy Spirit’s thought system.

T-15.V.6. Any relationship you would substitute for another relationship has not been offered to the Holy Spirit for the Holy Spirit’s use. No substitute for love. If you would attempt to substitute one aspect of love for another aspect of love, you have placed less value on one aspect of love and more on the other aspect of love. You have not only separated each relationship into separate aspects of love, but you have also judged against both relationships as lacking love first, or you would never have imagined that you needed your brothers, as they were not, which is the belief that your brothers also lack love and are incomplete. Unless you had seen yourself as without love, you could not have judged your brothers as so like you in lack of love.

Note # 48: Seeing ourselves as limited, imperfect and not complete, we cannot see our brother as perfect, whole and complete. Coming from the ego’s thought system, we view everything as a zero-sum game. We lack and, therefore, we must take what we need. “Love” becomes conditional love at best. Conditional love says to another, “I will love you if you do this and that for me.” Pure love is unconditional. It asks for nothing. God gives everything to everything. God’s love has no conditions. It is not earned. It is given freely and without any sacrifice on the part of the giver. This is the love that the Holy Spirit would teach us. In reality, the Holy Spirit does not teach us how to love, for love is what we are. Rather the Holy Spirit teaches us how to remove all the barriers we have placed before love. We never lacked love; we just forgot that we had hidden it from ourselves.

T-15.V.7. The ego's use of relationships is so fragmented that the ego frequently goes even farther; one part of one aspect suits the ego’s purposes, while the ego prefers different parts of another aspect. Thus does the ego assemble reality to the ego's own capricious liking, offering for your seeking a picture whose likeness does not exist. For there is nothing in Heaven or earth that resembles this egoic picture whose likeness does
not exist, and so, however much you seek for the ego’s reality, you cannot find the ego’s reality because a picture on limited and separate aspects of the indivisible whole does not exist is not real.

Note # 49: The ego’s motto is, “seek and never find.” The ego is very good at telling us, “We will be happy when…” Of course, when we achieve the when or what that we had been told to seek, we discover that it does not bring us happiness. At best, it appears to bring us temporary happiness but this happiness is fleeting and quickly dissipates. The ego guarantees that even if we were to somehow find “happiness” here on earth, death will inevitably take away what we value. The ego tells us to constantly look outside ourselves to be happy. Believing in lack, we fail to look within for the truth about ourselves. Being an extension of God, Who is love, we have always had everything within our mind that we sought outside of it. The ego’s search for happiness is endless, because the ego does not know that we are unlimited spirit. We are not what the ego teaches. We are not limited ego-bodies that are in competition with other ego-bodies. We are unlimited spirit or mind. How can the ego correctly advise us on our happiness when the ego denies the reality of what we are? The ego attempts to fragment the indivisible whole into parts. It then judges these imagined separate aspects of the whole as not perfect, whole and complete. This is a self-fulfilling prophecy. The ego’s purpose of separation determines its warped perception.

T-15.V.8. Everyone on earth has formed special relationships, and although this is not so in Heaven, the Holy Spirit knows how to bring a touch of Heaven to the special relationships that we have formed on earth. 2 In the holy instant no one is special, for your personal needs intrude on no one to make your brothers seem different. 3 Without the values from the past, you would see your brothers all the same and like yourself, perfect, whole and complete. 4 Nor would you see any separation between yourself and your brothers. 5 In the holy instant, you see in each relationship what each relationship will be when you perceive only the present.

Note # 50: We judge our present perceptions based on past egoic viewpoints and beliefs. The holy instant removes the guilt and judgments we associate with the past experiences. Seeing each event without previous judgments, we have no reference points to judge the current event. We are being present in the <now> of the moment. Since everything in the world of perception is neutral, we can learn the lesson of the day with an open mind. We can choose again if we so desire.

T-15.V.9. God knows you <now>. 2 He remembers nothing, having always known you exactly as God knows you now. 3 The holy instant reflects God’s knowing by bringing all perception out of the past, thus removing the past frame of reference you have built by which to judge your brothers. 4 Once the past frame of reference you have built by which to judge your brothers is gone, the Holy Spirit substitutes His frame of reference for your past frame of reference. p313 5 The Holy Spirit’s frame of reference is simply God. 6 The Holy Spirit's timelessness lies only here, in the now. 7 For in the holy instant, free of the past, you see that love is in you, and you have no need to look without and snatch love guiltily from where you thought it was, which was outside of you.
Note # 51: For the Holy Spirit, the important aspect of our notion of time is the present. Unlike the ego’s thought system, the past is not the focus. In eternity, which is beyond time, there is only the changeless <now>. In the world of perception, the present time frame is the closest thing that resembles the eternal <now>. By the removal of the past, the Holy Spirit removes the reference point for judgment. This allows us the opportunity for the decision-maker within us to choose again.

T-15.V.10. All your relationships are blessed in the holy instant, because the blessing is not limited. 2 In the holy instant the Sonship gains as one, and united in your blessing the Sonship becomes one to you. 3 The meaning of love is the meaning God gave to love. 4 Give to love any meaning apart from God’s meaning, and it is impossible to understand love. 5 God loves every brother as God loves you; neither less nor more. 6 God needs them all equally, and so do you need them all equally. 7 In time, you have been told to offer miracles as I direct, and let the Holy Spirit bring to you those who are seeking you. 8 Yet in the holy instant you unite directly with God, and all your brothers join in Christ. 9 Those who are joined in Christ are in no way separate. 10 For Christ is the Self the Sonship shares, as God shares His Self with Christ.

Note # 52: We are all part of the Mind of God and, therefore, interconnected as a united oneness. All parts benefit equally since there is no separation. Note: Christ is defined as the Big “S” Self that the Sonship shares with the God, the Creator. God also shares Himself completely with the Christ, our Big “S” Self. The “Christ” is the home of the Father, the Holy Spirit and our Big “S” Self. When the mad idea of the separation occurred, the unified Sonship appeared to shatter into innumerable pieces. Each one of us perceives ourselves as one of these separate pieces. This is an illusion within our mind. We have chosen through the use of projection, to deny knowledge and project part of our thoughts outside the whole. We claim that we do not know what we are. The whole mind now appears to be split in two. Instead of the state of knowing and certainty, we entertain a state of “What Am I?” Uncertainty has arisen and perception has been substituted for knowledge. The shattering of the Sonship is not real, but is how we perceive ourselves to be. In the real world, the Kingdom, the unity of the Oneness remains perfect, whole and complete.

T-15.V.11. Think you that you can judge the Self of God? 2 God has created the Self of God beyond judgment, out of God’s need to extend His Love. 3 With love in you, you have no need except to extend love. 4 In the holy instant there is no conflict of needs, for there is only one need, which is the extension of love. We are co-creators with God. 5 For the holy instant reaches to eternity, and to the Mind of God. 6 And it is only there, in the Mind of God, that love has meaning, and only there in the Mind of God can love be understood.

Note # 53: Love does not judge. Love only accepts. We are an expression of God’s Love. In reality there is nothing outside the Mind of God since there is only the Mind of God. This Mind is eternal and changeless. The Sonship is the extension of this Mind. We are co-creators with God. While on earth, our function is forgiveness and our purpose is love.
While in Heaven, our function is co-creation. We extend the Mind of our Creator.

**VI. The Holy Instant and the Laws of God**

T-15.VI.1. It is impossible to use one relationship at the expense of another relationship and not to suffer guilt. 2 And it is equally impossible to condemn part of a relationship and find peace within the relationship. 3 Under the Holy Spirit's teaching all relationships are seen as total commitments, yet all relationships do not conflict with one another in any way. 4 Perfect faith in each relationship, for the relationship's ability to satisfy you completely, arises only from perfect faith in yourself. 5 And perfect faith in yourself, you cannot have while guilt remains. 6 And there will be guilt as long as you accept the possibility, and cherish the possibility, that you can make a brother into what he is not, which is a limited ego-body, because you would have a brother be so limited.

**Note # 54:** We must make a choice as to what we believe. If we believe that we are a body, as opposed to unlimited spirit, we will see ourselves as being vulnerable. If we are vulnerable, we must be a body, which is something that can be hurt and has needs. We will also view our brother as someone we are competing against in this frightening world of limited resources. We will always be attempting to get our perceived needs met by entering into a special relationship in which we can steal from another that which we believe we lack. To have needs implies that we lack something and that our brother has it. Sacrifice and bartering are required in this type of relationship. Seeing ourselves as something other than perfect, whole and complete, we perceive ourselves as something less than the everything God created us to be. We need perfect faith in what we are, our Big “S” Self. If we see ourselves as the Big “S” Self, which is everything, we can communicate like our Father. Extension is possible because we have accepted our true reality as unlimited spirit. “I am not a body. I am free, for I am still as God created me.” Believe our brother is limited and we place the same chain of limitation on ourselves. For an idea never leaves its source.

T-15.VI.2. You have so little faith in yourself because you are unwilling to accept the fact that perfect love is in you. 2 And so you seek without for what you cannot find without, which is perfect love. p314 3 I offer you my perfect faith in you, in place of all your doubts. 4 But forget not that my faith must be as perfect in all your brothers as my faith is in you, or my faith would be a limited gift to you. 5 In the holy instant we share our faith in God's Son because we recognize, together, that our brother is wholly worthy of our faith, and in our appreciation of his worth we cannot doubt our brother’s holiness. 6 And so we love our brother.

**Note # 55:** Jesus, like the Holy Spirit, knows what we are. He sees us perfect, whole and complete; a united oneness with our brother. Being a Oneness, nothing can be viewed as limited or imperfect, for to do so would limit the Oneness. Our split-mind is unwilling to accept the fact that we must be perfect love since we are an extension of the Father. Holiness is the recognition that we are as God created us, whole, perfect and complete.
T-15.VI.3. All separation vanishes as holiness is shared. 2 For holiness is power, and by sharing holiness, holiness gains in strength. 3 If you seek for satisfaction in gratifying your needs as you perceive your needs, you must believe that strength comes from another, and what you gain he loses. 4 Someone must always lose if you perceive yourself as weak. 5 Yet there is another interpretation of relationships that transcends the concept of loss of power completely.

Note # 56: When we follow the ego’s thought system, we believe that we are involved in a zero-sum game. To win, someone else must lose.

T-15.VI.4. You do not find it difficult to believe that when another calls on God for love, your call still remains as strong. 2 Nor do you think that when God answers him, your hope of God answering your call is diminished. 3 On the contrary, you are more inclined to regard his success as witness to the possibility that your call will be successful answered by God. 4 That is because you recognize, however dimly, that God is an idea, and so your faith in God is strengthened by sharing the idea of God. 5 What you find difficult to accept is the fact that, like your Father, <you> are an idea. 6 And like your Father, you can give yourself completely, wholly without loss and only with gain. 7 Herein the belief that you are an idea and, therefore, can share yourself without diminishment lies peace, for here being an idea there <is> no conflict.

Note # 57: Ideas can be shared and by sharing an idea the idea is strengthened. Form cannot be shared because to share form would result in diminishment to the giver. If a giver had two dollars and gave you one of his dollars, together you would still have two dollars. The giver would have lost one of his dollars to you. The world of form is a zero-sum game. If we believe that we are a bodily form, we cannot share that form without diminishment and sacrifice. The ego’s thought system tells us that we are limited ego-bodies. The thought system of the Holy Spirit, states that we are unlimited spirit, an idea or thought of God. Ideas can be shared. Thus, the two thought systems are constantly arriving at opposite conclusions because their underlying major premises are contradictions of each other. Accept the major premise of either thought system and the rest follows logically. ACIM asks us to question what appears to be the unthinkable. What if everything we see within our world of form, which appears so solid, is merely a dream or thought that we made up in our imagination? Because we have identified ourselves so heavily with the dream, the dreamer no longer is aware that he, the dreamer, is the cause of the dream he “sees.” ACIM states that if the dreamer chose to awaken, the dream of the limited ego-body would disappear. We are an unlimited idea in the Mind of God and thus, everything is possible. Ideas can be extended without diminishment. By giving an idea, we reinforce or receive the idea. To give, therefore, is to receive. Conflict, which is birthed out of belief in the limitation caused by form, has disappeared.

This paragraph is clear that the terms such as spirit, mind, God and ourselves are not physical but rather thoughts or ideas. Form is but perceived images that arise from our thoughts and ideas. If they are shared with love, they create. If they are fear-based, they are not shared and result in making by projection. Thus, heaven and hell are not places but states of mind.
T-15.VI.5. In the world of scarcity, love has no meaning and peace is impossible. 2 For gain and loss are both accepted in a world of scarcity, and so no one is aware that perfect love is in him. 3 In the holy instant you recognize the idea of love in you, and unite this idea of love in you with the Mind that thought it and could not relinquish that idea of love in you. 4 By holding perfect love within itself, there is no loss. 5 The holy instant thus becomes a lesson in how to hold all of your brothers in your mind, experiencing not loss but completion. 6 From this lesson in how to hold all of your brothers in your mind and experiencing not loss but completion, it follows you can only give. 7 And this ability to only give love, for this alone, the giving of love, is natural under the laws of God. 8 In the holy instant the laws of God prevail, and only the laws of God have meaning. 9 In the holy instant the laws of this world cease to hold any meaning at all. 10 When the Son of God accepts the laws of God as what he gladly wills, it is impossible that he be bound, or limited in any way. 11 In that instant when the Son of God accepts the laws of God as what he gladly wills, he, God’s Son, is as free as God would have him be. 12 For the instant he, God’s Son, refuses to be bound, he is not bound.

Note # 58: Because we are an extension of God, we have free will. We have the right to believe anything we would like to believe. If we choose to believe something in our dream world of provisional reality, the belief will appear to be true to us. We would act as if we are bounded by what we imaged to be true. By denying the reality of the truth, our false beliefs become binding upon us within our dream. Due to the creative power of the mind, even our beliefs in limitation appear and act real within the dream. Only someone who is aware of both the truth and the dream can reawaken the dreamer safely to the truth of his real Big “S” Self. The Holy Spirit is this guide. The holy instant is the dropping of our judgments of the past, which form the basis for our belief in sin, guilt and fear. See your brother as guiltless and he is free. Since to give is to receive, his freedom becomes our own road to salvation.

T-15.VI.6. In the holy instant nothing happens that has not always been. 2 Only the veil that has been drawn across reality is lifted. 3 Nothing has changed. p315 4 Yet the awareness of changelessness comes swiftly as the veil of time is pushed aside. 5 No one who has not yet experienced the lifting of the veil of time, and felt himself drawn irresistibly into the light behind the veil of time, can have faith in love without fear. 6 Yet the Holy Spirit gives you this faith in love without fear, because the Holy Spirit offered this faith in love without fear to me and I accepted this faith in love without fear. 7 Fear not the holy instant will be denied you, for I did not deny the holy instant. 8 And through me the Holy Spirit gives the holy instant unto you, as you will give the holy instant onto another. 9 Let no need you perceive obscure your need of this faith in love without fear. 10 For in the holy instant you will recognize the only need the Sons of God share equally, and by this recognition you will join with me in offering what is needed, which is faith in love without fear.

Note # 59: Faith in love without fear is the result of the holy instant. The Holy Spirit shares with you His faith in love and knows not fear. The purpose of the holy instant is to
suspend all judgment entirely. This teaches love. When we suspend judgment, we remove the source of guilt. To the ego, to judge is to make guilty. The holy instant restores perfect communication because we are now able to both give and receive complete communication. Guilt never comes alone. Guilt is always associated with sin and fear. Because the world of form arose out of the belief in sin, guilt and fear, we must see the Son of God as guiltless in order to allow perfect love into this world of fear. Within the world of fear, we believe that even if we were to somehow find love, we would quickly lose it again. Since we believe that love is outside us, we fear that love can always be taken away. Love cannot last in the unstable world of dreams.

T-15.VI.7. It is through <us> that peace will come. 2 Join me in the idea of peace, for in ideas minds can communicate. 3 If you would give yourself as your Father gives His Self, you will learn to understand Selfhood, the Big “S” Self. 4 And therein in total giving of yourself is love's meaning understood. 5 But remember that understanding is of the mind, and only of the mind. 6 Knowledge is therefore of the mind, and knowledge's conditions are in the mind with understanding. 7 If you were not an idea, and nothing but an idea, you could not be in full communication with all that ever was. 8 Yet as long as you prefer to be something else, like a bodily form, rather than an idea, or would attempt to be nothing else and something else together, you will not remember the language of communication, which you know perfectly.

Note # 60: The language of communication is love. Love communicates through ideas, not form. When you realize your oneness with all, you will be at peace. The understanding of what you are will transform you from the world of perception in which you saw yourself as form, back to the world of knowledge, which we never left. We are a thought in the mind of God. Time will fade away as communication with God returns the remembrance of God to our mind. The split-minded will be made whole and we will understand that we are part of the Mind of God and are limitless thought.

T-15.VI.8. In the holy instant God is remembered, and the language of communication with all your brothers is remembered with God. 2 For communication is remembered together, as is truth. 3 There is no exclusion in the holy instant because the past is gone, and with the past goes the whole basis for exclusion. 4 Without exclusion's source, which is the belief in separation that arose in the past, all exclusion vanishes. 5 And this permits your Source and the Source of all your brothers, which is God, your Father, to replace the belief in separation from your awareness. 6 God and the power of God will take Their (the Father and the Christ) rightful place in you, and you will experience the full communication of ideas with ideas. 7 Through your ability to experience the full communication of ideas with ideas, you will learn what you must be, for you will begin to understand what your Creator is, and what His creation, the Christ, is along with His Creator. p316

Note # 61: Perfect communication is the return to knowledge and the Oneness. This requires the removal of any egoic thoughts, which support the belief that the separation was real. It requires complete faith that you remain exactly as you were created, perfect, whole and complete. The Sonship is all God created, as He created it. We, the Christ,
have been given all the power of God. When we create from the idea of perfect love, which is what God is, we are given all the power of God. The creative power of the Christ is the demonstration of the power of God, for the Christ is the power of God. What we must be is a creator like our Father. We will extend the idea of God, which is love, to our own creations, which like ourselves, are an idea, not a form. Perfect communication is creation.

VII. The Needless Sacrifice

T-15.VII.1. Beyond the poor attraction of the special love relationship, and always obscured by the poor attraction of the special egoic love relationship, is the powerful attraction of the Father for His Son. 2 There is no other love that can satisfy you, because there <is> no other love than the Father’s love for His Son. 3 This love of God is the only love that is fully given and fully returned. 4 Being complete, the love of God asks nothing. 5 Being wholly pure, everyone joined in the love of God has everything. 6 The love of God is not the basis for any relationship in which the ego enters. 7 For every relationship on which the ego embarks <is> a special relationship.

Note # 62: The Christ and the Father share Themselves in perfect love. The ego sees itself as not whole and does not share. Being incomplete the ego believes that it must take something from outside itself to become whole. The ego looks to the special relationship for something it feels it lacks and, therefore, believes it must steal from the other party.

T-15.VII.2. The ego establishes relationships only to get something. 2 And the ego would keep the giver bound to itself through guilt. 3 It is impossible for the ego to enter into any relationship without anger, for the ego believes that anger makes friends. 4 This, the ego’s idea that anger makes friends, is not the ego’s statement, but it <is> the ego’s purpose. 5 For the ego really believes that the ego can get and keep <by making guilty>, 6 The ego’s idea that you can get and keep <by making guilty>, is the ego’s one attraction; an attraction so weak that the ego would have no hold on you at all, except that no one recognizes the ego’s purpose is to make everything appear guilty. 7 For the ego always seems to attract through love, and the ego has no attraction at all to anyone who perceives that the ego attracts through guilt.

Note # 63: The ego is the master of guilt projection. Sin, guilt and fear go hand in hand and “prove” that you are not perfect, whole or complete.

T-15.VII.3. The sick attraction of guilt must be recognized for what the sick attraction of guilt is. 2 For since guilt has been made real to you, it is essential to look at guilt clearly, and by withdrawing your investment in guilt, to learn to let guilt go. 3 No one would choose to let go what he believes has value. 4 Yet the attraction of guilt has value to you only because you have not looked at what the attraction of guilt is, and have judged the attraction of guilt completely in the dark. 5 As we bring the sick attraction of guilt to light, your only question will be why it was you ever wanted to be attracted
to guilt and therefore made guilty. 6 You have nothing to lose by looking open-eyed at your attraction to guilt, for ugliness such as this sick attraction of guilt belongs not in your holy mind. 7 This host of God, your holy mind, can have no real investment here in guilt.

Note #64: Guilt’s attraction is that guilt confirms that you are special. The ego claims that you are the arbitrator for truth. When we claim to be separate, we also claim that we have either self-created ourselves or successfully opposed our Creator’s Will. In either case, instead of being the unlimited everything, we have made ourselves into a limited something else. The price for this sin of usurping God’s authority is guilt and fear. The ego demands that the egoic god of revenge administer the required punishment of eternal damnation as the price for our sin. Guilt and fear is the reward for the ego’s specialness since you know that God must punish you. It is this desire to be special that birthed the wish to be guilty of something. Guilt in a sick way “proves” that we are special.

T-15.VII.4. We said before that the ego attempts to maintain and increase guilt, but in such a way that you do not recognize what guilt would do to you. 2 For it is the ego's fundamental doctrine that what you do to others you have escaped from having been done onto you. 3 The ego wishes no one well. 4 Yet the ego’s survival depends on your belief that you are exempt from the ego’s evil intentions. 5 The ego’s counsels, therefore, that if you are host to the ego, the ego will enable you to direct the ego’s anger outward upon something else, thus protecting you from the ego’s anger. 6 And thus, the ego embarks on an endless, unrewarding chain of special relationships, forged out of anger and dedicated to but one insane belief; that the more anger you invest outside yourself, the safer you become from your own ego’s anger. p317

Note #65: The ego must be careful with guilt and anger. The ego must provide some promise to you that if you learn to cope with your guilt, anger and pain in a certain way, the egoic thought system will eventually be able to return you to happiness. If happiness cannot be obtained, a reduction in misery is offered by the ego as a reward for your loyalty to its belief system. For otherwise, you would realize that the ego’s thought system is a dead-end that can never lead to peace and happiness. If you did realize the ego’s insanity, you would wake up and quickly choose again. This time, your decision-maker would side with the thought system of the Holy Spirit. This is why projection is the tool of the ego. In projection, we take an idea that our mind fostered and project that same idea outside our split-mind in a vain attempt to get rid of the thought. We attempt to project our sin and guilt out of our mind, which was the source of the problem, onto a guiltless world that appears to be outside our mind. This is what the ego uses special relationships for. Special relationships become the “guilt catchers” of our sins.

T-15.VII.5. It is this chain of special relationships that binds the Son of God to guilt, and it is this chain of special relationships the Holy Spirit would remove from his holy mind. 2 For the chain of savagery belongs not around you, the chosen host of God, who cannot make himself host to the ego. 3 In the name of the split-minded’s release, and in the Name of the Holy Spirit, Who would release the split-minded, let us look more closely at the relationships the ego contrives, and let the Holy Spirit judge these special
relationships truly. 4 For it is certain that if you will look at these special relationships, you will offer them gladly to the Holy Spirit. 5 What the Holy Spirit can make of these special relationships you do not know, but you will become willing to find out what the Holy Spirit can make of these special relationships, if you are willing first to perceive what you have made of these egoic special relationships.

Note # 66: Because of our belief in the ego’s thought system, we are incapable of judging truly what the ego’s special relationship does to us and how it keeps us always searching for love and salvation where love cannot be found. The motto of the ego is “Seek and do not find.” In egoic special relationships, we continue this pattern of endless searching. The egoic special relationship confirms that we lack wholeness. If we understood that any form of specialness sends us away from the goal of rediscovering our divine birthright of the Oneness of everything, we would choose a different path. Guilt cannot be removed by projection since an idea never leaves its source.

T-15.VII.6. In one way or another, every relationship the ego makes is based on the idea that by sacrificing itself, the ego becomes bigger. 2 The "sacrifice," which the ego regards as purification, is actually the root of the ego’s bitter resentment. 3 For the ego would prefer to attack directly, and avoid delaying what the ego really wants which is to keep your split-mind in victim consciousness. 4 Yet the ego acknowledges "reality" as the ego sees reality, and recognizes that no one could interpret direct attack as love. 5 Yet to make guilty <is> a direct attack, although to make someone guilty does not seem to be a direct attack. 6 For the guilty expect attack, and having asked for attack, the guilty are attracted to attack.

Note # 67: The ego first convinces us that we have sinned and, therefore, are guilty. Being guilty, we learn to expect to be attacked. Any attack is proof that we have succeeded in our quest to be separate and special. ACIM describes the ego as a separate entity for the purpose of ease in understanding. In reality, the ego is the part of your split-mind that believes it has separated itself from God and God’s Love. The ego is the desire to be special or different. It seeks to be something other than an extension of our Father, which is only love. The ego is the part of your mind that claims it does not know what it is. It has abandoned knowledge and now seeks to recreate itself as something other than God’s Effect.

T-15.VII.7. In such insane relationships, the attraction of what you do not want seems to be much stronger than the attraction of what you do want. 2 For each one thinks that he has sacrificed something to the other, and hates the other for the sacrifice he believes he has made. 3 Yet this self-sacrifice that results in hate for the other is what he thinks he wants. 4 He is not in love with the other at all. 5 He merely believes he is in love with sacrifice. 6 And for this sacrifice, which he demands of himself, he demands that the other accept the guilt and sacrifice himself as well. 7 Forgiveness becomes impossible, for the ego believes that to forgive another is to lose him. 8 It is only by attack without forgiveness that the ego can ensure the guilt that holds all its egoic special relationships together.
Note # 68: The ego does not understand what love is. God’s love is unconditional. God being all, gives all, and asks nothing in return. The ego teaches that giving is not receiving and that since you are a limited ego-body, you must take what you lack from another. The ego gives only to get. From the egoic point of view, both “good and bad” relations are special in that they confirm that we are separate from the whole. For the sake of discussion, however, I will focus on the typical person’s understanding of a special friendly or “loving” relationship on planet earth.

In our typical friendly special relationship, we agree to do something in exchange for the other party doing something for us. This agreement is not unconditional love but rather a form of bartering. We negotiate the best deal we can extract from the other side. If we demand too much, the other party will perceive that they are getting less than what we are getting and, therefore, decide not to make the “deal”. In order to keep them around, we must sacrifice something that we possess to keep them wanting to playing the game of “Let’s Make a Deal” with us. By making some self-sacrifice to appease the other party, we leverage this self-sacrifice as the means to get what we want. We tell them that they must scratch our back because we scratch theirs. This sacrificial offering is really designed to be a guilt-throwing device that chains them to us. It is their guilt that keeps them beholden to us. Special “friendly” relationships are, therefore, utilized to throw and catch guilt. Our idea of love is “I will love you if you do this…” We call this “love” but in reality it is just a form of bartering or high stakes poker. It is not given freely because we believe that to give requires sacrifice. We believe that when we give, we do not receive. We view our “sacrifice” as a debt to be repaid. We want love, yet, what we get is the sense of being betrayed by the object of our “love.” Even in the “perfect” relationship that meets all of our supposed desires, we are ultimately denied our reward by the death of one party. Because we perceive or identify ourselves to be a body, we can never find lasting happiness and peace in the world of form. Form cannot be shared. For sharing of form requires some sacrifice on the part of the giver. The giver always has less of the item than when he started. Only ideas or thoughts can be shared. By sharing thoughts, there is no diminishment to the person that originally shared the idea. Instead, the idea may actually be strengthened. In the world of the ego, special relationships, although cloaked in the words of love and friendship, are devices for self-sacrifice and guilt and result in resentment, guilt and fear for both parties. Once again we find that the ego has failed to keep its promise of, "I will be happy when...” and all we end up with is pain and sacrifice.

T-15.VII.8. Yet special relationships only <seem> to be together. 2 For relationships, to the ego, mean only that bodies are together. 3 It is always this bringing together of bodies that the ego demands in its relationships, and the ego does not object where the mind goes or what the mind thinks, for what the mind thinks seems unimportant to the ego. 4 As long as the body is there to receive its sacrifice, the ego is content. 5 To the ego the mind is private, and only the body can be shared. 6 Ideas are basically of no concern to the ego, except as something that brings the body of another closer or farther apart that the ego utilizes to evaluate ideas as good or bad. 8 What makes another guilty and holds him through guilt is "good." 9 What releases another from guilt is "bad," because he would no longer believe that bodies communicate, and so the other would be
Note # 69: The ego is the symbol or idea for the separation. The body is the symbol for the ego. The ego wants us to believe that we are a body. If we are a body, we are form and, therefore, cannot be an unlimited idea or spirit. The ego’s goal is to maintain control over the mind by keeping the decision-making ability of the mind in victim consciousness. Sacrifice comes from the idea that we are form, and as form, we must be diminished when we share our form with another. Sacrifice always is accompanied by guilt. Only the guilty are required to make sacrifice and we make sacrifice because we are guilty. It is guilt and sacrifice that hold the special egoic relationship together. To the ego, we communicate to another by transmitting our guilt and sacrifice to the other party. Guilt and our ability to make the other party feel guilty bind the egoic relationship together. If the other party attempts to leave against your will, we lay a “guilt trip” upon the other party claiming that they still owes us loyalty for all the sacrifices we have made on their behalf. We claim that we are the innocent victims of their treachery. The ego believes that if we release the other party from guilt, they must leave us since only guilt holds egoic relationships and bodies together. This is why guilt is so highly valued by the egoic thought system. The ego does not know what love is and thus, to the ego, love has no power of attraction.

T-15.VII.9. Suffering and sacrifice are the gifts with which the ego would "bless" all unions. 2 And those who are united at the ego’s altar accept suffering and sacrifice as the price of union. 3 In their angry alliances, born of the fear of loneliness and yet dedicated to the continuance of loneliness, each seeks relief from guilt by increasing guilt in the other. 4 For each believes that by increasing guilt in the other, this decreases guilt in himself. 5 The other seems always to be attacking and wounding him, perhaps in little ways, perhaps "unconsciously," yet never without demand of sacrifice. 6 The fury of those joined at the ego's altar far exceeds your awareness of the fury and anger. 7 For what the ego really wants you do not realize, which is the suffering, sacrifice and anger that results from your continuing belief in separation and loneliness.

Note # 70: The sacrifice and guilt that result from a special relationship will lead to anger. The anger will arise from your sense of betrayal because our “needs” were not meet by the party. The source of our anger is our belief that someone or something outside ourselves did not behave the way we required them to and, therefore, they failed to meet our needs.

T-15.VII.10. Whenever you are angry, you can be sure that you have formed a special relationship, which the ego has "blessed," for anger <is> the ego’s blessing. 2 Anger takes many forms, but anger cannot long deceive those who will learn that love brings no guilt at all, and what brings guilt cannot be love and <must> be anger. 3 All anger is nothing more than an attempt to make someone feel guilty, and this attempt to make someone feel guilty is the only basis the ego accepts for special relationships. 4 Guilt is the only need the ego has, and as long as you identify with the ego, guilt will remain attractive to you. 5 Yet remember this; to be with a body is not communication. 6 And if you think to be with a body is communication, you will feel guilty about
communication and will be afraid to hear the Holy Spirit, recognizing in the Holy Spirit’s Voice your own need to communicate.

**Note # 71:** Anger arises when you perceive that your needs are not being met by the other party in the special relationship. Needs are the ego’s confirmation that you are not perfect, whole and complete. Needs confirm that you believe that the separation is real and that you are a limited ego-body and can be made to suffer and die. Mind communicates through ideas. Although the body is recognized by the Holy Spirit to be a neutral communication device, the ego perceives this same body as a means or tool to prove that the separation was real. The ego does not communicate for communications would require both giving and receiving, which the ego has no desire to do. If you identify yourself as a body with a brain, you cannot communicate. Communication requires mind and sharing. The ego will not share and the body cannot share.

T-15.VII.11. The Holy Spirit cannot teach through fear. 2 And how can the Holy Spirit communicate with you, while you believe that to communicate is to make yourself alone? 3 It is clearly insane to believe that by communicating you will be abandoned. 4 And yet many do believe that by communicating you will be abandoned. 5 For they think their minds must be kept private or they will lose their minds, but they think if their bodies are together their minds remain their own. 6 The union of bodies thus becomes the way in which they who believe that by communicating you will lose your mind would keep minds apart and therefore private. 7 For bodies cannot forgive. 8 Bodies can only do as the mind directs.

**Note # 72:** The ego teaches that you are a body and that the brain is just a body part. The Holy Spirit teaches that we are mind and not the body. Mind can communicate because ideas can be shared. The ego would have you believe that you can maintain the privacy of the mind because if your mind is located within the brain, which is a body part, you must be separate. Private thoughts are the thoughts of judgment, which must foster guilt. We do not wish to share our private thoughts because we value these unloving thoughts that prove our specialness. We refuse to give them over to the Holy Spirit’s guidance. The Holy Spirit knows that the mind is shared and interconnected with the Mind of God. All thoughts of judgment must be stopped in order for communication to be restored.

T-15.VII.12. The illusion of the autonomy of the body and its ability to overcome loneliness is but the working of the ego's plan to establish its own egoic autonomy. 2 As long as you believe that to be with a body is companionship, you will be compelled to attempt to keep your brother in his body, held there by guilt. 3 And you will see safety in guilt and danger in communication. 4 For the ego will always teach that loneliness is solved by guilt, and that communication is the cause of loneliness. 5 And despite the evident insanity of this lesson that loneliness is solved by guilt, and that communication is the cause of loneliness, many have learned this lesson.

**Note # 73:** The ego teaches that our brother, like ourselves, is a body. In the world of form, to have is to hold. By keeping our brother close to us, we maintain both mutual guilt and sacrifice. It is our private thoughts, unshared with our brother that we
continually utilize to judge and declare our brother’s guilt. These private thoughts corrupt the special relationship with our brother by making it into an unholy relationship based on lack and fear. Guilt is the powerful tool used by the ego to keep the special relationship together.

**T-15.VII.13.** Forgiveness lies in communication as surely as damnation lies in guilt. 2 It is the Holy Spirit’s teaching function to instruct those who believe communication to be damnation that communication is salvation. 3 And the Holy Spirit will teach that **communication is salvation** for the power of God in the Holy Spirit and in you is joined in a real relationship so holy and so strong, that the **power of God** can overcome even the **egoic belief that communication is damnation** without fear.

**Note # 74:** Through the teaching of forgiveness, the Holy Spirit shows us that the Son of God is guiltless. The teaching of forgiveness restores the unity of what appears to be separate minds. Communication is being restored. The guilty refuse to communicate since they believe it will result in their damnation. The guilty have already condemned themselves and thus, are afraid to listen to their final sentencing to hell by the “Hanging Judge,” which is the egoic god of revenge. Those who see themselves as guilty have forgotten the truth that the final judgment from the God of Love must be that His Son is innocent, sinless and guiltless like Himself.

**T-15.VII.14.** It is through the holy instant that what seems impossible is accomplished making it evident that it is not impossible. **What seemed impossible was the accomplishment of the suspension of all judgment, which fostered guilt.** 2 In the holy instant guilt holds no attraction, since communication has been restored. 3 And guilt, whose only purpose is to disrupt communication, has no function here **in the holy instant.** 4 Here, **in the holy instant,** there is no concealment, and no private thoughts. 5 The willingness to communicate attracts communication to it, and overcomes loneliness completely. 6 There is complete forgiveness here **in the holy instant,** for there is no desire to exclude anyone from your completion, in sudden recognition of the value of his part in **the holy instant and communication.** 7 In the protection of your wholeness, all are invited and made welcome. 8 And you understand that your completion is God's **completion** Whose only need is to have you be complete. 9 For your completion makes you God’s **completion** in your awareness. 10 And here **in the holy instant, which is your completion,** is it that you experience yourself as you were created, and as you are.

**Note # 75:** With the removal of all guilt, the Sonship is once again reawakened to its divine birthright. Realizing our innocence, we freely choose to come home and be what we are, the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. When God created the Sonship, He extended Himself. By co-creation with God, we complete God.

**VIII. The Only Real Relationship**

**T-15.VIII.1.** The holy instant does not replace the need for learning, for the Holy Spirit
must not leave you as your Teacher until the holy instant has extended far beyond time. 2 For a teaching assignment such as His, the Holy Spirit must use everything in this world for your release. 3 The Holy Spirit must side with every sign or token of your willingness to learn from the Holy Spirit what the truth must be. 4 The Holy Spirit is swift to utilize whatever you offer the Holy Spirit on behalf of this learning of what the truth must be. 5 The Holy Spirit’s concern and care for you are limitless. 6 In the face of your fear of forgiveness, which the Holy Spirit perceives as clearly as the Holy Spirit knows forgiveness is release, the Holy Spirit will teach you to remember that forgiveness is not loss, but that forgiveness is your salvation. 7 And that in complete forgiveness, in which you recognize that there is nothing to forgive, you are absolved completely. p320

Note # 76: In the holy instant, all judgment is suspended. There still remains the requirement that the split-minded decision-maker must choose again. This time the decision-maker must freely choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Forgiveness is the bridge that the Holy Spirit utilizes to teach the lessons that bring us to the realization of the truth about ourselves. With forgiveness, we cross over the chasm that separates illusion from truth. The Holy Spirit is the bridge-keeper. He carries or guides us from the world of illusion to the real world, which is the Kingdom or Heaven. The world of illusion is our world of provisional reality that we individually perceive. Our illusionary world of perception is a world based on fear, the laws of chaos, time and space. The Kingdom or Heaven is the eternal world of changeless truth and love. Forgiveness is the tool that brings illusion into the light of the truth. When we bring illusions into the light of truth, forgiveness teaches us that the illusion has no reality. The thought of the illusion fades from our memory. Only the truth about your brother and yourself remain. Forgiveness is the tool that the Holy Spirit utilizes to teach us the truth about our joint divine inheritance that we share with all the Sonship.

T-15.VIII.2. Hear the Holy Spirit gladly, and learn from the Holy Spirit that you have need of no special relationships at all. 2 You but seek in special relationships what you have thrown away, which is the truth of the love of God. 3 And through special relationships you will never learn the value of what you have cast aside, the love of God, but still desire with all your heart. 4 Let us join together in making the holy instant all that there is, by desiring that the holy instant <be> all that there is. 5 God's Son has such great need of your willingness to strive for making the holy instant all that there is that you cannot conceive of need so great as making the holy instant all that there is. 6 Behold the only need that God and His Son share, and will to meet together. 7 You are not alone in this need to meet together with God. 8 The will of your creations calls to you, to share your will with your creations. 9 Turn, then, in peace from guilt to God and to your creations.

Note # 77: The ego utilizes the special relationship as a device to teach sacrifice and guilt, which are the opposite of love. By giving your special relationship over to the Holy Spirit, He can utilize them as lessons of forgiveness and love.
T-15.VIII.3. Relate only with what will never leave you, and what you can never leave, which is the truth of the love of God. 2 The loneliness of God's Son is the loneliness of his Father. 3 Refuse not the awareness of your completion, and seek not to restore your completion from yourself. 4 Fear not to give redemption over to your Redeemer's Love. 5 The Christ will not fail you, for the Christ comes from God, the Father, the One, Who cannot fail. 6 Accept your sense of failure as nothing more than a mistake in who you are. 7 For the holy host of God, the Christ is beyond failure, and nothing that he wills can be denied. 8 You are forever in a relationship so holy that this relationship with the Father calls to everyone to escape from loneliness, and join you in your love. 9 And where you are must everyone seek, and find you there, in this, your loving relationship with of God.

Note 78: Although we perceive ourselves as outside the love of God, this too is but an illusion. The Christ, which is what we truly are, has never lost the remembrance of God or that we are God's Son, perfect, whole and complete. We may dream that we are an individual, a separate little “s” self, but we remain a Oneness. Our illusion of separation must be treated only as a mistake that needs correction, rather than a sin that requires punishment. The Christ is and always will be, One with the Father for the Christ is the extension of the Mind of God and the home of the Father.

T-15.VIII.4. Think but an instant on this: God gave the Sonship to you, to ensure your perfect creation. 2 The Sonship was God's gift, for as God, the Father, withheld Himself not from you, God, the Father, withheld not His creation, the Sonship, from you. 3 Nothing that ever was created but is yours. 4 Your relationships are with the universe. 5 And this universe, being of God, is far beyond the petty sum of all the separate bodies you perceive. 6 For all the Sonship's parts are joined in God through Christ, where all the Sonship's parts become like to God, their Father. 7 Christ knows of no separation from His Father, Who is Christ's one relationship, in which Christ gives as His Father gives to the Christ.

Note # 79: There is only One relationship that is real. This is the shared relationship of God and the Sonship, which is the Christ and the Christ's own creations. This is why ACIM ask us to be vigilant for God. Our relationship with God is the only thing that matters. If we know what we are, we will know the peace of God. We are not an individual, we are a Oneness. This Oneness is our sharing of the Mind of God. There is nothing else.

T-15.VIII.5. The Holy Spirit is God's attempt to free you of what God, the Father, does not understand. 2 And because of the Source of the attempt is from God, the attempt to free you will succeed. 3 The Holy Spirit asks you to respond as God does, for the Holy Spirit would teach you what you do not understand. 4 God would respond to every need, whatever form the need takes. 5 And so the Holy Spirit keeps this channel open to receive God's communication to you, and your communication to God. 6 God does not understand your problem in communication, for God, the Father, does not share your problem of communication with you. 7 It is only you who believe that your problem of
communication is understandable. 8 The Holy Spirit knows that your problem of communication is not understandable, and yet the Holy Spirit understands your problem of communication because you made your problem of communication between yourself to God. p321

Note # 80: God, the Father, only knows the changeless reality of truth. Because of this, the Father does not share in any illusions that the split-minded have made in their egoic attempts to replace reality with the false. God is innocence and, therefore, does not know what does not exist. Truth cannot be altered in any way. The split-minded operate under the false illusions of the egoic thought system. Truth is true and illusion cannot change the truth. God would free you of your belief that what does not exist is real by sharing His Innocence with you. Your imagined illusions of separation do not exist. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of both the truth of what you are and the illusions of what you believe yourself to be. Your beliefs are based on your “private thoughts” of separation. Therefore, the Holy Spirit is the only one Who can bridge the gap between your illusions of provisional reality and the real world of Heaven, which is the home for the truth.

T-15.VIII.6. In the Holy Spirit alone lies the awareness of what God, the Father, cannot know, and what you do not understand. 2 It is the Holy Spirit’s holy function to accept them both, (what God cannot know, and what you do not understand), and by removing every element of disagreement, to join what God cannot know, and what you do not understand into one. 3 The Holy Spirit will do this by removing every element of disagreement between the two, because it is the Holy Spirit’s function to bridge this gap in communication. 4 Leave, then, what seems to you to be impossible, to the Holy Spirit, Who knows this bridging of this communication gap must be possible because it is the Will of God. 5 And let the Holy Spirit, Whose teaching is only of God, teach you the only meaning of relationships, which is love. 6 For God created the only relationship that has meaning, and that is God’s relationship with you.

Note # 81: God, being love, is love. Everything that is real must be love. Our ultimate purpose is to be only love. We are the extension of God and, therefore, we must create like our Father. The Holy Spirit teaches that the world of the ego, which is the world based on the mad idea that we could be separate from the Mind and Will of God, is an illusion. The Holy Spirit also teaches that everything is, and always will be, the changeless, eternal love of God. The Holy Spirit utilizes the tool of forgiveness to teach our split-mind the reality of the Oneness of the loving Mind of God. To be love, we must teach only love. Although ACIM does not teach us how to love, ACIM does teach us how to remove all the obstacles that we have placed to block love’s presence.

We bridge this gap in communication between the Son and the Father when the Sonship accepts and relearns about his shared innocence with his Creator. What God cannot know and what you do not understand is that, “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists.” This is the lesson the Holy Spirit would teach the split-minded who believe that illusions are real and can threaten the truth. God cannot know the false since the false cannot be understood. The false merely does not exist.
IX. The Holy Instant and the Attraction of God

T-15.IX.1. As the ego would limit your perception of your brothers to the body, so would the Holy Spirit release your vision and let you see the Great Rays shining from your brother, so unlimited are the Great Rays shining from your brother that they reach to God. 2 It is this shift to Christ vision from egoic sight that is accomplished in the holy instant. 3 Yet it is needful for you to learn just what this shift entails, so you will become willing to make this shift to the vision of Christ permanent. 4 Given this willingness the vision of Christ will not leave you, for the vision is permanent. 5 Once you have accepted the vision of Christ as the only perception you want, the vision of Christ is translated into knowledge by the part that God Himself plays in the Atonement, for the return to knowledge is the only step in the Atonement, God, the Father, understands. 6 Therefore, in this return to knowledge of theSonship by the Father, there will be no delay when you are ready for the return to knowledge by your willingness to accept and utilize only Christ's vision. 7 God is ready now, but you are not ready for the return to knowledge.

Note # 82: The Father has not stopped communicating with the Christ. The split minded, however, are under the illusion that communication with God has been broken. Since the split-minded believe that they have lost communication with God, their One Source, the split-minded have also lost knowledge. The split-minded live in their own private world of perception. The Holy Spirit uses the tool of forgiveness to reestablish correct perception within the split-minded. For this to happen, we must request the Holy Spirit's guidance. When we have suspended all judgment and reclaim both our brother’s and our own guiltlessness, God, the Father, will take the final step and return us to knowledge, which is truth or Heaven. Both the suspension of judgment and the return to the belief in the guiltlessness of our brother and ourselves is accomplished in the holy instant. In the holy instant, we accept and receive our joint innocence for all.

T-15.IX.2. Our task is but to continue, as fast as possible, the necessary process of looking straight at all the interference and seeing all the interference exactly as it is, which is an obstacle to our return to knowledge. 2 For it is impossible to recognize as wholly without gratification what you think you want. 3 The body is the symbol of the ego, as the ego is the symbol of the separation. 4 And both the body and the ego are nothing more than attempts to limit communication, and thereby to make communication impossible. 5 For communication must be unlimited in order to have meaning, and deprived of meaning, communication will not satisfy you completely. 6 Yet communication remains the only means by which you can establish real relationships, which have no limits, having been established by God.

Note # 83: Communication’s purpose is to experience the oneness of the whole; to share the truth. We cannot communicate when we are attempting to exclude. The belief that we have private thoughts is a block to communication. Private thoughts are based on the idea of separation; that we can communicate with one part yet withhold that communication from the whole. Communication requires both the giving and the reception of
communication. We believe that we are a body-form and do not see ourselves to be unlimited mind or spirit. Believing ourselves as separate, autonomous, individualized parts, we fail to see the oneness of our being. Since we do not know truth, we cannot communicate the truth. By believing an illusion about ourselves, it prevents us from communicating with anyone. For in a dream, only the dreamer believes in the dream. Any information that he attempts to share means nothing since the “potential recipient” would have no knowledge about the dreamer’s dream. The recipient would reject the communication as the ravings of a mad man. Illusion cannot communicate truth. Coming from the false belief in separation and limitation, “egoic communication” is designed to confuse the false for the true. The idea of egoic communication, like all the beliefs of the ego, can only be an illusion.

T-15.IX.3. In the holy instant, where the Great Rays replace the body in awareness, the recognition of relationships without limits is given you. 2 But in order to see the Great Rays that led to recognition of relationships without limits, it is necessary to give up every use the ego has for the body, and to accept the fact that the ego has no purpose you would share with the ego. p322 3 For the ego would limit everyone to a body for the ego’s own purposes, and while you think the ego has a purpose, you will choose to utilize the body, which is the means by which the ego tries to turn the ego’s purpose into accomplishment. 4 The egoic purpose of making the illusion of separation real will never be accomplished. 5 Yet you have surely recognized that the ego, whose goals are altogether unattainable, will strive for the attainment of its own egoic goals with all the ego’s might, and will strive to do so with the strength that you have given the ego.

Note # 84: The ego has no power of its own. The ego is that part of your mind which believes in the separation. The only power the ego has is limited to the power you as the decision-maker have chosen to give to it. It is our mind’s belief in the idea of the separation that gives the ego all its power. Correct the belief in the separation and the ego, like any other illusion, will disappear. All that will be left is truth. Truth sets us free to be the Oneness that we share. Pure and perfect communication will be restored. In the hands of the Holy Spirit, the body becomes a neutral communication device, not an egoic tool for attack.

T-15.IX.4. It is impossible to divide your strength between Heaven and hell, God and the ego, and release your power to creation, which is the only purpose for which your power to create was given you. 2 Love would always give increase. 3 Limits are demanded by the ego, and represent the ego’s demands to make little and ineffectual. 4 Limit your sight of a brother to his body, which you will do as long as you would not release him from his bodily form, and you have denied his gift of love to you. 5 His body cannot give love. 6 And seek love not through your body. 7 Yet your minds are already continuous, and their mind’s union need only be accepted and the loneliness in Heaven is gone.

Note # 85: We are mind, not a body. Spirit is everything and any aspect of spirit contains the oneness of everything. Spirit cannot be separate and always remains whole and communicates perfectly. The body appears to separate us from the shared mind of God.
The body is an illusion and is not real. While time exists, the body is a neutral communication device that can be utilized as a tool to teach union or separation. What we choose to teach will depend on which thought system our decision-maker will choose to follow. The body cannot serve two masters. Our decision maker must choose between the ego and the Holy Spirit.

T-15.IX.5. If you would but let the Holy Spirit tell you of the Love of God for you, and the need your creations have to be with you forever, you would experience the attraction of the eternal. 2 No one can hear the Holy Spirit speak of this Love of God for you and long remain willing to linger here in the illusionary world of perception. 3 For it is your will to be in Heaven, where you are complete and quiet, in such sure and loving relationships that any limit is impossible. 4 Would you not exchange your little relationships for this sure and loving relationship in Heaven? 5 For the body <is> little and limited, and only those whom you would see without the limits the ego would impose on them can offer you the gift of freedom.

Note # 86: By seeing your brother as a limited ego-body, you limit yourself to the same thing. For what you give you receive and perceiving your brother as limited you get to keep that same limitation. Your perception of your brother is your salvation or condemnation, for ideas do not leave their source. Grant your brother his freedom from your perceived chains of limitation and in his escape from limitation, you also receive your own. Any belief that we are a body is the belief in egoic limitation.

T-15.IX.6. You have no conception of the limits you have placed on your perception, and no idea of all the loveliness that you could see. 2 But this you must remember; the attraction of guilt opposes the attraction of God. 3 God’s attraction for you remains unlimited, but because your power, being God’s power, is as great as God’s power, you can turn away from love. 4 What you invest in guilt you withdraw from God. 5 And your sight grows weak and dim and limited, for you have attempted to separate the Father from the Son, and limit the Father and Son’s communication. 6 Seek not Atonement in further separation. 7 And limit not your vision of God’s Son to what interferes with the Son of God’s release, and what the Holy Spirit must undo to set the Son of God free. 8 For the Son of God’s belief in limits <has> imprisoned God’s Son. p323

Note # 87: As long as we believe that we exist within the dream of separation, there can be no escape from the dream. Illusion cannot be removed by placing another illusion over the first one for the dreamer will still be dreaming. Only by awakening the dreamer can the illusion be removed from the mind of the dreamer. The Holy Spirit, if asked, will gently awaken God’s sleeping Sons and guide us back to the truth about what we are.

T-15.IX.7. When the body ceases to attract you, and when you place no value on the body as a means of getting anything, then there will be no interference in communication and your thoughts will be as free as God’s thoughts. 2 As you let the Holy Spirit teach you how to use the body only for purposes of communication, and renounce the body’s use for separation and attack which the ego sees in the body, you will learn you have no need of a body at all. 3 In the holy instant there are no bodies, and in the holy instant
you experience only the attraction of God. 4 Accepting only the experience and communication of the attraction of God as undivided, you join God wholly, in an instant, for you would place no limits on your union with God. 5 The reality of this relationship of your union with God becomes the only truth that you could ever want. 6 All truth is here in your union with God.

Note # 88: When you cease to be attached to the body, all thoughts of the mind’s identification with being the body will also disappear. The mad idea that you could be happy by being limited or special is gone. It was the desire to experience ourselves as special that resulted in the separation. Our belief that we could be happy by being something other than what we are resulted in our quest for specialness. Being an extension of God, we can only be happy within the wholeness that is the Mind of God. With our total rejection of the egoic illusion that we are the body-form, the body can become a communication device for forgiveness and love. The Oneness that is pure and perfect communication is restored. For being all, what else is there to be?

X. The Time of Rebirth

T-15.X.1. It is in your power, in time, to delay the perfect union of the Father and the Son. 2 For in this world of perception, the attraction of guilt does stand between the perfect union of the Father and the Son. 3 Neither time nor season means anything in eternity. 4 But here in this world of time and perception, it is the Holy Spirit's function to use both the perception of time and seasons, though not as the ego uses time and seasons. 5 This is the season when you would celebrate my birth into the world. 6 Yet you know not how to celebrate my birth into the world. 7 Let the Holy Spirit teach you, and let me celebrate your birth through the Holy Spirit. 8 The only gift I can accept of you is the gift I gave to you, which was release from this world of time. 9 Release me as I choose your own release. 10 The time of Christ we celebrate together, for the time of Christ has no meaning if we are apart.

Note # 89: The world of perception is the world of time and space. Prior to the loss of knowledge, there was only the oneness with no illusion of separateness. With the birth of separateness, the concept of change arose. We perceived ourselves guilty of the sin of usurping God’s authority. Within our split-mind, something had changed. We had lost the certainty that we were a Oneness of everything. We discarded knowledge and claimed that we did not know ourselves and so the world of illusion was born. Our state of consciousness moved from the “I AM” to the “WHAT AM I?” state.

The “WHAT AM I?” state is full of illusion and thus, both unstable and unreal. Change was possible in the “WHAT AM I?” state of consciousness. Certainty that arose from knowledge has also been lost. Time, the measure of change, now becomes very relevant. The “I AM” state more closely resembles Heaven. In the real world of Heaven there is only the changeless eternal. It is the <now> and we, the Christ, remain in perfect union with Our Father. In Heaven, time serves no function and is meaningless. Only in the “WHAT AM I?” state can the dream of the separation be mistaken for reality. In the
“WHAT AM I?” state, our own mind’s beliefs and desires control what we perceive as reality. We become the arbitrators of truth within the dream of our insane mind. What we claim to be “the facts” are only the results of our own mind’s previously determined judgments and goals. What we “see” coming at us is what we wanted to experience in our field of awareness. This is projection. We predetermine what we wish to believe and our senses seek out positive confirmation to “prove” we were “right”. As long as we choose to judge a brother as sinful, we will perceive ourselves guilty and separate from God. Our release requires “seeing” with the vision of Christ. In Christ vision, we see the guiltlessness of all our brothers; by giving forgiveness, we receive forgiveness.

T-15.X.2. The holy instant is truly the time of Christ. 2 For in this liberating holy instant no guilt is laid upon the Son of God, and his unlimited power is thus restored to the Son of God. 3 What other gift can you offer me, when only the restoration of God’s guiltless Son to the unlimited power of his Father was the gift I choose to offer you? 4 And to see me as the Christ, God’s guiltless Son is to see me in everyone, and offer everyone the gift of guiltlessness you offer me. 5 I am as incapable of receiving sacrifice as God is incapable of receiving sacrifice, and every sacrifice you ask of yourself you ask of me. 6 Learn now that sacrifice of any kind is nothing but a limitation imposed on giving. 7 And by this limitation on giving you have limited acceptance of the gift I offer you.

Note # 90: The holy instant is the release of all judgments and, therefore, is a release from the past. All judgment comes from past misperception based on the ego’s thought system. Because the Law of God states that to give is to receive, Jesus, who saw only the perfection of God in his brother, received this same perfection of God in himself. Jesus became the Christ incarnate. Offer your brother his guiltlessness and you recover your own. The Christ is always in the now, for Christ is eternal and is not limited by time.

T-15.X.3. We who are one cannot give separately. 2 When you are willing to accept our relationship that we are one and cannot give separately as real, guilt will hold no attraction for you. 3 For in our union you will accept all of our brothers. 4 The gift of union is the only gift that I was born to give. 5 Give the gift of union to me, that you may have the gift of union. 6 The time of Christ is the time appointed for the gift of freedom, offered to everyone. 7 And by your acceptance of the gift of union and freedom, you offer the gift of union and freedom to everyone.

Note # 91: We are all interconnected in the Mind of God. It is through the gift of union from which the Oneness arose that our freedom is obtained and guaranteed. God birthed the gift of union when She chose to extend Herself in the creative process. The total freedom that results from being the shared Oneness of everything is real and extends to the entire Sonship. Private thoughts, which arise from fear and limitation, are not real because they are made to exclude and not share. Although we are one in reality, we believe that the separation was real. Because of this, we also believe our private thoughts are real even though they cannot be shared and are not part of the Mind of God. It is this belief that gives our private thoughts apparent reality in our world of perception. They become the “reality” that governs our illusionary world of egoic consciousness.
T-15.X.4. It is in your power to make this season holy, for it is in your power to make the
time of Christ be now. 2 It is possible to do this making of the time of Christ be now all
at once because there is but one shift in perception that is necessary to make the time of
Christ be now for you made but one mistake. 3 It seems like many mistakes, but it is all
the same mistake. 4 For though the ego takes many forms, the mistake is always the
same idea. 5 The error is that you fail to realize that what is not love is always fear,
and nothing else but fear.

Note # 92: The Holy Spirit teaches us that there are only two ways to correctly perceive
any experience in the field of our awareness. These two are love and the cry for love. The
proper response to a cry for love is always to respond with love. The thought system of
the ego claims that the world was born of sin, guilt and fear. This unholy trinity rules the
egoic world. The ego teaches that the proper response to guilt and fear is to attack.
Defense is just another form of attack. Any defense is the admittance that you are
vulnerable to attack, are limited and can be hurt. In the time of Christ, we will see the
equality of the Sonship in the guiltlessness of God’s Son. By giving up all judgments, we
become guiltless. This can be done in one holy instant. It is for our decision-maker to
decide when we will finally release ourselves from this self-imposed guilt and accept our
innocence. The Christ lives in the eternal <now>. God, the Holy Spirit and the Christ all
know that we are perfect, whole and complete. In truth, we always are a Oneness but
while time lasts, fear blocks this realization from our split-mind.

T-15.X.5. It is not necessary to follow fear through all the circuitous routes by which fear
burrows underground and hides in darkness, to emerge in forms that appear quite
different from what fear is. 2 Yet it is necessary to examine each one of the forms of
fear as long as you would retain the principle that governs all of the forms of fear. 3
When you are willing to regard all of the forms of fear, not as separate, but as different
manifestations of the same idea, and one fearful idea you do not want, all of the forms
of fear go together and become one. 4 The idea is simply this: You believe it is possible
to be host to the ego or hostage to God. 5 This is the choice you think you have, and the
decision you believe that you must make. You believe you must be either host to the
ego or hostage to God. 6 You see no other alternatives than you must be either host to
the ego or hostage to God, for you cannot accept the fact that sacrifice gets nothing. 7
Sacrifice is so essential to your thought system that salvation apart from sacrifice means
nothing to you. 8 Your confusion of sacrifice and love is so profound that you cannot
conceive of love without sacrifice. 9 And it is this confusion of sacrifice with love that
you must look upon; sacrifice is attack, not love. 10 If you would accept but this one idea,
that sacrifice is attack and not love, your fear of love would vanish. 11 Guilt cannot last
when the idea of sacrifice has been removed. 12 For if there is sacrifice, someone must
pay and someone must get. 13 And the only question that remains is how much is the
price of sacrifice, and for getting what.

Note # 93: Under the ego’s thought system, God is something to be feared. Because the
ego teaches that we have usurped or stolen the authority of God, we have sinned against
our Father. The god of the ego now requires that we must be punished for our sin. We
must sacrifice something to appease this revengeful god of egoic thought. This egoic god is always holding us hostage and at any time and without any other "sin" on our part may decide to behead us. The god of the ego is not somebody you would like to meet in a dark alley! This god of revenge is arbitrary and fickle. There is no telling what he might do if he gets his hands on us. Appearing concerned for our safety, the ego tells us that we must seek shelter from the god of revenge by allowing the ego to protect us. We freely choose to invite the ego to rule and control our mind. We side with the ego and turn our decision-making abilities over to its thought system. The ego demands that we, its host, make sacrifices for the gifts the ego offers us. This world was made by the ego to hide supposed sinners from the ego's god of revenge and thus, prove that the separation was real.

Because we are convinced that we are guilty sinner and that God demands our damnation, we freely chose to come under the influence and protection of the egoic thought system. This is a fear-based thought system. Egoic thinking requires that someone must pay the price for our sin but it doesn't care who. The ego also tells us that we can transfer our sin, guilt and even our punishment to someone other than ourselves. Projection is the egoic tool that allows us to escape the punishment this god requires for our sins. Something must be sacrificed, but it does not have to cost us everything. The ego tells us that even the Son of God can be killed on behalf of our sins. This egoic god does not care who or what is sacrificed, but at least temporarily, it must be appeased. The ego, therefore, associates sacrifice with its warped sense of love and links the two together. To the ego, which is incapable of understanding what love is, sacrifice is the price that love demands. To the guilt-throwing ego, sacrifice must be required because we have sinned. The ego’s unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear require that sacrifice be made in the name of love.

T-15.X.6. As host to the ego, you believe that you can give all your guilt away whenever you want, and thereby purchase peace. 2 And the payment for the purchase of peace does not seem to be your payment. 3 While it is obvious that the ego does demand payment the ego never seems to be demanding payment of you. 4 You are unwilling to recognize that the ego, which you invited, is treacherous only to those who think they are the ego's host. 5 The ego will never let you perceive this treachery that the ego bears to its host, since this recognition would make the ego homeless. 6 For when the recognition dawns clearly that the ego actually requires direct payment from its host, you will not be deceived by any form the egos takes to protect itself from your sight. 7 Each form the ego takes will be recognized as but a cover for the one idea that hides behind them all; that love demands sacrifice, and love is therefore inseparable from attack and fear. p325 8 And that guilt is the price of love, which must be paid by fear.

Note # 94: In projection we attempt to get rid of something we don’t want. We project our guilt outside ourselves upon another. It thus, appears that we have removed the guilt from our mind by assigning our guilt to an outside “victim”. Unfortunately, projection gains us nothing since thoughts never leave their source. Our mind, being the source of the thought, gets to keep its self-imposed guilt. Guilt is the price for our belief in sin. Sin is defined as a belief in the lack of love and we are sure that we have lost God’s love. Under the laws of chaos, which govern the egoic world, there is a substitute for God’s
love. This substitute for God’s love takes many forms, but always rests on the underlying belief that we are unholy, guilty, incomplete and full of fear. The ego’s substitute for God’s love is the egoic special relationship.

T-15.X.7. How fearful, then, has God become to you, and how great a sacrifice do you believe God’s Love demands! 2 For total love would demand total sacrifice. 3 And so the ego seems to demand less of you than God, and of the two, the ego is judged as the lesser of two evils. One, the ego, is to be feared a little, perhaps, but the other, God requires that you be destroyed. 4 For you see love as destructive, and your only question is who is to be destroyed, you or another? 5 You seek to answer this question in your special relationships, in which you seem to be both destroyer and destroyed in part, but able to be neither completely. 6 And this, the ego’s special relationships, you think saves you from God, Whose total Love would completely destroy you.

Note # 95: Because we follow the ego’s thought system, we do not understand that God’s Love requires nothing from us. God’s love gives everything and demands nothing. No sacrifice is required and God’s love is freely given. God’s love cannot be earned. Because we lack knowledge of what love is, we allow the ego to redefine what love is. To the ego, love must require sacrifice and thus, love and sacrifice are always linked together. The more we sacrifice, the stronger our love.

The ego’s special relationship demonstrates its warped concept of love. This unholy relationship always comes with strings attached. The string’s ability to bind is derived from the sacrifices that we perceive we have made on behalf of another. We can make the other party feel guilty if they don’t fulfill their part of the bartering agreement that the ego calls “love”. The special relationship does not require that you sacrifice everything since it only gives to get. It does, however, require some pain, suffering and sacrifice on your part. Yet, if you made a “good trade,” you will be able to extract more sacrifice from the other side than you gave. In a special relationship, we always begin by believing that we are making a “good trade”. This is because what we “give up” is not valued as much as what we hope to gain from the other party. When the other party does not fulfill our predetermined needs, we feel justified in our anger. We blame the other party as the cause of our unhappiness. We become a combination of innocent victims, sinners, guilt throwers and guilt catchers. Because sin is unforgivable, the egoic version of love concludes that our total damnation would be the price that God would demand for the forgiveness of our sin of usurping His authority.

T-15.X.8. You think that everyone outside yourself demands your sacrifice, but you do not see that only you demand sacrifice, and only sacrifice of yourself. 2 Yet the demand of sacrifice is so savage and so fearful that you cannot accept the demand of sacrifice where it is, which is in you. 3 The real price of not accepting this fact that only you are demanding sacrifice has been so great that you have given God away rather than look at your own demand for self-imposed sacrifice. 4 For if God would demand total sacrifice of you, it seems safer to project God outward and away from you, and not be host to God. 5 To God you ascribed the ego's treachery, inviting the ego to take God’s place so that the ego can protect you from God. 6 And you do not recognize that it is what you invited in, which is the ego, that would destroy you, and that the ego does demand total
sacrifice of you. 7 No partial sacrifice will appease this savage guest, the ego, for the ego is an invader who but seems to offer kindness, but always to make the sacrifice complete.

**Note # 96:** Egoic thought attempts to make the false true and the truth, false. Because of this, the ego ascribes the attributes of the ego to God. Being trapped in egoic thinking, we cannot escape the ego’s logic within the illusionary dream that bares false witness against the truth. The belief system of the ego follows logically once you accept the erroneous idea that you are a limited ego-body. If you identify yourself as the body, everything the ego teaches appears to be correct. This is why ACIM states that you must question the major premise of the ego’s thought system. The Holy Spirit states you are not a body, but rather, you are unlimited spirit. Being unlimited extensions of the Mind of God, we have nothing to fear. We are actually host to God. Being one with God, God require no sacrifice. What can a Oneness sacrifice and to whom? The only sacrifice would be self-sacrifice but to whom? We can pretend that we are required to make sacrifices, but to do so we must also pretend that we are not a Oneness. By pretending we are not a Oneness, we make the separation appear real. Our fantasies, however, will never change the truth. For truth is the changeless and just is.

T-15.X.9. You will not succeed in being partial hostage to the ego, for the ego keeps no bargains and would leave you nothing. 2 Nor can you be partial host to the ego. 3 You must choose between total freedom and total bondage to the ego, for there are no alternatives but these. 4 You have tried many compromises in the attempt to avoid recognizing the one decision you must make. 5 And yet it is the recognition of the one decision, <just as it is,> that makes the decision so easy. 6 Salvation is simple, being of God, and therefore very easy to understand. 7 Do not try to project salvation from you and see salvation outside yourself. 8 In you are both the question and the answer. In you are both the demand for sacrifice and the peace of God. p326

**Note # 97:** The only limits or sacrifices that we make are self-imposed. God has given us everything and demands nothing. Salvation only requires our complete acceptance of the truth of what we are. There can be no compromise with truth. The only decision we need to realize is that the truth is true and the false cannot change the truth. This is what the Holy Spirit teaches us. We cannot sever two masters. Reject the ego’s thought system and accept the Holy Spirit’s and the return to knowledge will be upon us. We will remember God for we will be remembering the truth.

**XI. Christmas as the End of Sacrifice**

T-15.XI.1. Fear not to recognize the whole idea of sacrifice as solely of your making, for sacrifice is not of God’s making. 2 And seek not safety by attempting to protect yourself from where fear is not. 3 Your brothers and your Father have become very fearful to you. 4 And you would bargain with your brothers and your Father for a few special relationships, in which you think you see some scraps of safety. 5 Do not try longer to keep apart your egoic thoughts of separation and limitation and the Thought from the
Holy Spirit that has been given you. 6 When the thoughts of the two thought systems are brought together and perceived where they are, the choice between the two thought systems is nothing more than a gentle awakening, and as simple as opening your eyes to daylight when you have no more need of sleep.

Note # 98: ACIM states that if we can compare each thought clearly, the choice for the Holy Spirit’s thought system will become obvious. The ego’s thought system, which is based on limitation, always requires sacrifice. The Holy Spirit’s is based on abundance and, therefore, demands nothing. The ego’s thought system attempts to make what is the false, true. The Holy Spirit brings the false before the light of truth and what is false simply disappears leaving only truth to be recognized.

T-15.XI.2. The sign of Christmas is a star, a light in darkness. 2 See the light not outside yourself, but shining in the Heaven within your mind, and accept the light within you as the sign the time of Christ has come. 3 Christ comes demanding nothing. 4 No sacrifice of any kind, of anyone, is asked by Christ. 5 In Christ’s Presence the whole idea of sacrifice loses all meaning. 6 For Christ is Host to God. 7 And you need but invite Christ in Who is there already, by recognizing that God’s Host, Christ, is One, and no thought alien to God’s Oneness can abide with Christ there. 8 Love must be total to give Christ and God welcome, for the Presence of Holiness creates the holiness that surrounds it. 9 No fear can touch the Host, Christ, Who cradles God in the time of Christ, for the Host, Christ, is as holy as the perfect Innocence which God protects, and God, Whose power protects Christ.

Note # 99: The Christ, which is what we truly are, is the host to God. Being of one Mind, God and the Christ are intertwined and inseparable. God is the Cause and the Christ is God’s Effect. The power of God protects the holiness and innocence of the Christ, because both are shared equally with the Christ. For the split-minded to recognize the Christ within themselves, it is necessary that there must be the removal of guilt and the acceptance of love. This requires no sacrifice. The only requirement is the acceptance of truth and the recognition that what is false can never be true.

Christmas is the time for the birth of Jesus, who represents Christ consciousness. Christmas time is the symbol for the reawakening of the Christ within our split-mind.

T-15.XI.3. This Christmas give the Holy Spirit everything that would hurt you. 2 Let yourself be healed completely that you may join with the Holy Spirit in healing, and let us celebrate our release together by releasing everyone with us. 3 Leave nothing behind, for release is total, and when you have accepted release with me you will give release with me. 4 When you have accepted release, all pain and sacrifice and littleness will disappear in our relationship, which is as innocent as our relationship with our Father, and as powerful as our relationship with our Father. 5 Pain will be brought to us and disappear in our presence, and without pain there can be no sacrifice. 6 And without sacrifice there love <must> be.

Note # 100: By accepting the Atonement for ourselves we are released from all illusion. With this release, we accept the truth of our divine birthright and reject the illusion of
pain and sacrifice. The pain and sacrifice, which we had been projecting from our mind, will disappear leaving only the truth. Only the love that we really are will remain.

T-15.XI.4. You who believe that sacrifice is love must learn that sacrifice is separation from love. 2 For sacrifice brings guilt as surely as love brings peace. 3 Guilt is the condition of sacrifice, as peace is the condition for the awareness of your relationship with God. 4 Through guilt you exclude your Father and your brothers from yourself. p327 5 Through peace you invite your Father and your brothers back, realizing that they are where your invitation bids your Father and your brothers to be. 6 What you exclude from yourself seems fearful, for you endow what you would attempt to exclude from yourself with fear and try to cast it out, though what you attempt to exclude from yourself remains part of you. 7 Who can perceive part of himself as loathsome, and live within himself in peace? 8 And who can try to resolve the "conflict" of Heaven and hell in him by casting Heaven out and giving Heaven the attributes of hell, without experiencing himself as incomplete and lonely?

Note # 101: Sacrifice brings guilt because it is attack. Attack cannot be love. Love is all-inclusive. Sin, guilt, fear all demand sacrifice. They are all designed to exclude and to make the false seem real. For the ego, the purpose of time is to make the false, true. The denial of the truth is the making of hell. Hell is the effect of the denial of your divine birthright. Heaven is the effect of the acceptance of truth. To deny the truth is to deny that the Mind of God is all-inclusive. There is nothing outside the Mind of God for God is Truth. To exclude a brother from the union of the Oneness is to cast yourself into the separation that makes hell. Everything is the perfect extension of God. In the Mind of God, there is no difference between any part and the whole. In the Mind of God, the part is the whole, and the whole is the part. There is only the One. This is the truth of Heaven. There can be no conflict in Heaven since only truth exists.

T-15.XI.5. As long as you perceive the body as your reality, so long will you perceive yourself as lonely and deprived. 2 And so long as you perceive yourself as lonely and deprived will you also perceive yourself as a victim of sacrifice, justified in sacrificing others. 3 For who could thrust Heaven and its Creator aside without a sense of sacrifice and loss? 4 And who could suffer sacrifice and loss without attempting to restore himself to his previous state of wholeness prior to the loss? 5 Yet how could you accomplish the return to your previous state of wholeness yourself, when the basis of your attempts for return to wholeness is the belief in the reality of the deprivation, which is your belief that you are the body? 6 Deprivation breeds attack, being the belief that attack is justified. 7 And as long as you would retain the deprivation, attack becomes salvation and sacrifice becomes love.

Note # 102: Once you identify yourself as a body, you have become trapped in the logic of the egoic thought system. We are caught in an endless cycle of victim consciousness. We can never escape this cycle of sin, guilt and fear that leads to sacrifice. Sacrifice, in turn, only leads to more sin, guilt and fear that demand greater sacrifice. Only by asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit can we escape this belief that we are a sinful body.
T-15.XI.6. So is it that, in all your seeking for love, you seek for sacrifice and find sacrifice. 2 Yet you find not love. 3 It is impossible to deny what love is and still recognize love. 4 The meaning of love lies in what you have cast outside yourself, and what you have cast outside yourself has no meaning apart from you. 5 It is what you prefer to keep, the guilt that requires sacrifice that has no meaning, while all the love that you would keep away holds all the meaning of the universe, and holds the universe together in love's meaning. 6 Unless the universe were joined in you the universe would be apart from God, and to be without God <is> to be without meaning.

Note # 103: God is love and God is truth. Truth, therefore, must be love and love, truth. They are all inseparable. There is nothing outside of God. To dream that we can cast ourselves outside of God is the denial of truth. The false has no reality and, therefore, is meaningless. We can pretend and believe that we are outside the Mind of God, but all our denial cannot make what is false, true. We will always remain as God created us, a changeless, perfect whole.

T-15.XI.7. In the holy instant the condition of love is met, for minds are joined without the body's interference, and where there is communication there is peace. 2 The Prince of Peace, Jesus, was born to re-establish the condition of love by teaching that communication remains unbroken even if the body is destroyed, provided that you see not the body as the necessary means of communication. 3 And if you understand this lesson that the body is not necessary for communication, you will realize that to sacrifice the body is to sacrifice nothing, and communication, which must be of the mind, cannot be sacrificed. 4 Where, then, <is> sacrifice if the body is nothing? 5 The lesson I was born to teach, and still would teach to all my brothers, is that sacrifice is nowhere and love is everywhere. 6 For communication embraces everything, and in the peace communication is re-establishes and love comes of itself. p328

Note # 104: Jesus has stated previously that his resurrection was the most important part of his life. The resurrection proved that we are not a body and that the abandoning of the body has no effect on our unlimited spirit. A body is not required for communication, for the body is not life. When we stop identifying ourselves as a limited ego-body, we realize that we are the Big “S” Self of Christ. Communication, the remembrance of God, is restored.

T-15.XI.8. Let no despair darken the joy of Christmas, for the time of Christ is meaningless apart from joy. 2 Let us join in celebrating peace by demanding no sacrifice of anyone, for so you offer me the love I offer you. 3 What can be more joyous than to perceive we are deprived of nothing? 4 Such is the message of the time of Christ, which I give you that you may give the same message that we are deprived of nothing and return the same message to the Father, Who gave the same message that we are deprived of nothing to me. 5 For in the time of Christ communication is restored, and God joins us in the celebration of His Son's creation.

Note # 105: Christ is God’s Effect. Christ is as God created us. Being everything, God gave everything to His Creation. When the Sonship creates, the Christ, which is
everything, also extends everything to the Sonship’s own creations. We are co-creators with the Father. Being a Oneness of everything, perfect communication is restored within all parts of the Mind of God. Cause and Effect communicate as One Self.

T-15.XI.9. God offers thanks to the holy host, Christ, who would receive God, and lets God enter and abide where God would be. 2 And by your welcome does God welcome you into Himself, for what is contained in you who welcome God is returned to Christ. 3 And we but celebrate God’s Wholeness as we welcome Christ into ourselves. 4 Those who receive the Father are one with Christ, being host to God, the Father Who created them. 5 And by allowing Christ to enter, the remembrance of the Father enters with Christ, and with God they remember the only relationship they ever had, and ever want to have.

Note # 106: This shows the interrelationship of God, the Father, the Son, the Sonship, the Christ and the Holy Ghost. The Christ is the Host to God. The Father created the Sonship, Which is God’s Son. The Holy Ghost is the communication or bridge between the Father and the Son. This demonstrates why the Laws of God states that a part is equal to the whole, and the whole is equal to a part. Because of our dualistic thinking, ACIM discusses these concepts as separate ideas or “entities with different and distinct functions” yet they are inseparable in reality. There is only the One, which is the “everything” that comprises the Mind of God.

T-15.XI.10. This is the time in which a new year will soon be born from the time of Christ. 2 I have perfect faith in you to do all that you would accomplish. 3 Nothing will be lacking, and you will make complete and not destroy. 4 Say, then, to your brother:

5 I give you to the Holy Spirit as part of myself.  
6 I know that you will be released, unless I want to use you to imprison myself.  
7 In the name of my freedom I choose your release, because I recognize that we will be released together.

8 So will the year begin in joy and freedom. 9 There is much to do, and we have been long delayed. 10 Accept the holy instant as this year is born, and take your place, so long left unfulfilled, in the Great Awakening. 11 Make this year different by making this year all the same. 12 And let all your relationships be made holy for you. 13 This is our will. 14 Amen. p329

Note # 107: Jesus ends this chapter with a request that we accept the truth about our brother and ourselves. Unless we see our brother as guiltless, we cannot be free. By giving all our private thoughts to the Holy Spirit, all our past judgments are removed. This is the beginning of the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves. The Atonement process will lead to the truth and the denial of the false. The return to Heaven is the return to Truth.
Chapter 16. THE FORGIVENESS OF ILLUSIONS

I. True Empathy

T-16.I.1. To empathize does not mean to join in suffering, for to join in suffering is what you must <refuse> to understand. 2 To join in suffering is the ego's interpretation of empathy, and to join in suffering is always used to form a special relationship in which the suffering is shared. 3 The capacity to empathize is very useful to the Holy Spirit, provided you let the Holy Spirit use empathy in the Holy Spirit's way. 4 The Holy Spirit's way to use empathy is very different. 5 The Holy Spirit does not understand suffering, and would have you teach that suffering is not understandable. 6 When the Holy Spirit relates through you, the Holy Spirit does not relate through your ego to another ego. 7 The Holy Spirit does not join in pain, understanding that healing pain is not accomplished by delusional attempts to enter into pain, and lighten pain by sharing the delusion.

Note # 1: The Holy Spirit does not want us to feel the pain of our brother because to feel his pain would be to give reality to something that the Holy Spirit knows does not exist. The Holy Spirit utilizes empathy to see the truth about our brother and to accept this truth as reality for both our brother and ourselves within the shared Mind of God. We cannot correct an illusion (our brother’s belief that he is a body and thus, could suffer pain) by placing another illusion (our belief that we can share his pain which does not exist) over his original illusion. To do so would only reinforce both illusions and make both illusions appear to be real.

T-16.I.2. The clearest proof that empathy as the ego uses empathy is destructive lies in the fact that empathy is applied only to certain types of problems and in certain people. 2 It is only these certain types of problems and people that egoic empathy selects out, and joins with. 3 And the ego never joins except to strengthen itself. 4 Having identified with what the ego thinks it understands, the ego sees itself and would increase itself by sharing what is like itself. 5 Make no mistake about the ego’s maneuver; the ego always empathizes to weaken, and to weaken is always to attack. 6 You do not know what true empathizing means. 7 Yet of true empathy you may be sure; if you will merely sit quietly by and let the Holy Spirit relate through you, you will empathize with strength, and will gain in strength and not in weakness.

Note # 2: The ego is selective about what it chooses to empathize with. This is because the ego only empathizes with what is understandable to the ego and what will strengthen it. The ego understands limitation. Since your belief in limitation would strengthen the ego,
this is something with which the ego can have empathy. The ego does not understand love and, therefore, the ego chooses not to empathize with love since this would also weaken its control over your mind’s decision-maker. The Holy Spirit knows the truth and can utilize the truth that love is all there is. The Holy Spirit knows that what is fearful cannot exist and should not be uplifted in any way that would give reality to the illusion of fear. The Holy Spirit, therefore, empathizes only with love and only about the truth.

T-16.I.3. Your part in the Holy Spirit’s use of empathy is only to remember this; you do not want anything you egoically value to come of a relationship. 2 You choose neither to hurt a relationship nor to heal a relationship in your own egoic way. 3 You do not know what true healing is. 4 All you have learned of empathy is from the past, which is based on the ego’s misperception. 5 And there is nothing from the past that you would share, for there is nothing from the past that you would keep since your past is based on your ego’s misperception. 6 Do not use empathy to make the past real, and so perpetuate the past. 7 Step gently aside, and let healing be done for you by the Holy Spirit. 8 Keep but one thought in mind and do not lose sight of this one thought that by yourself, you do not understand how to heal, however tempted you may be to judge any situation, and to determine your response <by> judging any situation. 9 Focus your mind only on this: p330

10 I am not alone, and I would not intrude the past upon my Guest.
11 I have invited Him, the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit is here.
12 I need do nothing except not to interfere.

Note # 3: Our task is to understand that we lack knowledge and are in no position to take action based on our limited perception of the situation. Our task is to turn the situation over to the Holy Spirit and get out of His away. The Holy Spirit will guide us as to what correct perception would have us do. The Holy Spirit can only guide our actions if we freely choose Him as our Teacher. The only judgment that we, the split-minded, should make is that we are incapable of judging correctly and, therefore, should always choose to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance.

T-16.I.4. True empathy is of Him, the Holy Spirit, Who knows what true empathy is. 2 You will learn the Holy Spirit’s interpretation of true empathy if you let the Holy Spirit use your capacity for strength, and not for weakness. 3 The Holy Spirit will not desert you, but be sure that you desert not the Holy Spirit. 4 Humility is strength in this sense only; that to recognize and accept the fact that you do not know is to recognize and accept the fact that the Holy Spirit <does> know. 5 You are not sure that the Holy Spirit will do the Holy Spirit’s part, because you have never yet done your part of asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance completely. 6 You cannot know how to respond to what you do not understand. 7 Be tempted not in this, and yield not to the ego’s triumphant use of empathy for the ego’s glory.

Note # 4: Our task is to control our fears and turn everything that matters over to the Holy Spirit for His guidance. True humility is realizing that we have chosen to claim that we do not know what we are. We should allow someone who does know the truth of what
we are to lead us back to sanity, knowledge and truth. This Someone is the Holy Spirit.

T-16.I.5. The triumph of weakness, in which you follow the ego’s thought system, is not what you would offer to a brother. 2 And yet you recognize no triumph but of weakness, when you rely on your own egoic belief system, which is based on littleness. 3 This is not knowledge, and the egoic form of empathy, which would bring this triumph of weakness about, is so distorted that the ego’s form of empathy would imprison what it would release. Thus, both you and your brother would remain trapped in the illusion of suffering. 4 The unredeemed cannot redeem, yet the unredeemed have a Redeemer, the Holy Spirit. 5 Attempt to teach the Holy Spirit not. 6 You are the learner; the Holy Spirit is the Teacher. 7 Do not confuse your role with the Holy Spirit’s role, for this confusion of roles will never bring peace to anyone. 8 Offer your empathy to the Holy Spirit for it is the Holy Spirit’s perception and the Holy Spirit’s strength that you would share. 9 And let the Holy Spirit offer you the Holy Spirit’s strength and the Holy Spirit’s perception, to be shared through you.

Note # 5: The Holy Spirit, if allowed, will work through me. That is why it is important that I understand that by myself, I can do nothing, yet if I ask for the Holy Spirit’s help, God can do everything through me.

T-16.I.6. The meaning of love is lost in any relationship that looks to weakness, and hopes to find love there in weakness. 2 The power of love, which is any relationship’s meaning, lies in the strength of God that hovers over any relationship and blesses any relationship silently by enveloping any relationship in the Holy Spirit’s healing wings. 3 Let this be, and do not try to substitute your “miracle” for the healing of the Holy Spirit. 4 I have said that if a brother asks a foolish thing of you to do the foolish thing. 5 But be certain that this does not mean to do a foolish thing that would hurt either your brother or you, for what would hurt one will hurt the other. 6 Foolish requests are foolish merely because foolish requests conflict, since foolish requests always contain some element of specialness. 7 Only the Holy Spirit recognizes foolish needs as well as real needs. 8 And the Holy Spirit will teach you how to meet both foolish and real needs without losing either.

Note # 6: Not knowing what we truly are, we are inclined to request many foolish things. These foolish things have no relevance to our relearning of what we are and are of no consequence. The Holy Spirit will not do anything that would increase fear in you or your brother. When we increase fear in either party, we hurt both our brother and ourselves because we are linked together. We should do nothing that would increase fear in this world of perception. Foolish requests always conflict because they are based on the idea that we are the arbitrator of truth. This is predicated on our egoic belief that truth can be made false and that the false can be made true. This claim that truth has become pliable and contingent, adjusting itself to our unstable and ever changing egoic desires is the underlying premise of the ego’s thought system. Truth cannot be changed by an egoic whim. The changeless eternal truth just is.
II. The Power of Holiness

T-16.II.1. You may still think that holiness is impossible to understand, because you cannot see how holiness can be extended to include everyone. 2 And you have been told that holiness must include everyone to be holy. 3 Concern yourself not with the extension of holiness, for the nature of miracles you do not understand. 4 Nor do you do the miracles. 5 It is the miracle’s extension, far beyond the limits you perceive, that demonstrates you do not do the miracles. 6 Why should you worry how the miracle extends to all the Sonship when you do not understand the miracle itself? 7 One attribute is no more difficult to understand than is the whole. 8 If miracles are at all, the miracle’s attributes would have to be miraculous, being part of the miracle.

Note # 8: We do not have to understand how something works to realize that it does work. The miracle’s result, which is the sense of a new found inner peace, demonstrates that the miracle does exist.

T-16.II.2. There is a tendency to fragment, and then to be concerned about the truth of just a little part of the whole. 2 And this fragmentation is but a way of avoiding, or
looking away from the whole, to what you think you might be better able to understand. 3 For this looking away from the whole is but another way in which you would still try to keep understanding to yourself. 4 A better and far more helpful way to think of miracles is this: You do not understand the miracle, either in part or in whole. 5 Yet the miracles have been done through you. 6 Therefore your understanding cannot be necessary for the miracle to happen. 7 Yet it is still impossible to accomplish what you do not understand. 8 And so there must be Something, the Christ, in you that <does> understand the miracle.

Note # 9: The Christ-consciousness part of the split-mind is aware and understands the miracle. Our egoic mind does not. Unfortunately, we generally are only listening to the ego’s thought system and, therefore, fail to hear the truth of the Christ. This is why ACIM talks about the reestablishment of the Voice for and the Vision of Christ.

T-16.II.3. To you the miracle cannot seem natural, because what you have done to hurt your mind has made your mind so unnatural that your mind does not remember what is natural to your mind. 2 And when you are told what is natural, you cannot understand what is natural. 3 The recognition of the part as whole, and of the whole in every part is perfectly natural, for the recognition of the part as whole, and of the whole in every part is the way God thinks, and what is natural to God is natural to you. p332 4 Wholly natural perception would show you instantly that order of difficulty in miracles is quite impossible, for order of difficulty in miracles would involve a contradiction of what miracles mean. 5 And if you could understand the miracle’s meaning, the miracle’s attributes could hardly cause you perplexity.

Note # 10: Because God is a Oneness, God’s thinking is not dualistic. The Oneness of God is holographic in nature. God recognizes the part as the whole, and of the whole in every part. Any thought that would support the belief in separation is totally alien to God’s thinking process and cannot be real. This holographic thought process is only natural if you are a Oneness of everything. How could there be any other way? We, the Christ, are host to God. Sharing and being of one Mind, our thinking must be the same as God’s thinking. Both the Christ and the Holy Spirit think holographically. In the ego’s thought system, the parts do not equal the whole and the whole is different from each part. This is why ACIM is engaged in training the mind that appears split. The concept of a split-mind exemplifies egoic thinking since it attempts to make a distinction in a Oneness and somehow to make the indivisible appear as separate and unequal parts.

T-16.II.4. You have done miracles, but it is quite apparent that you have not done miracles alone. 2 You have succeeded in completing a miracle whenever you have reached another mind and joined with the other mind. 3 When two minds join as one and share one idea equally, the first link in the awareness of the Sonship as One has been made. 4 When you have made this joining of two minds as One mind, as the Holy Spirit bids you, and have offered the mind to the Holy Spirit to use as the Holy Spirit sees fit to use the mind. The Holy Spirit’s natural perception of your gift of the mind enables the Holy Spirit to understand your gift of the mind, and you to use the Holy Spirit’s understanding on your behalf. 5 It is impossible to convince you of the reality of what has
clearly been accomplished through your willingness while you believe that you must understand the miracle or else the miracle is not real.

**Note # 11:** The miracle is a change in our mind’s perception. This transformation in perception is achieved when the mind moves from the dualistic thought system of the ego to the holographic thought system of the Holy Spirit. The miracle joins the once split mind into right-mindedness. The miracle occurs within the mind. There is no requirement that the outside world of physical form change.

T-16.II.5. How can faith in reality be your faith in reality while you are bent on making reality unreal? 2 And are you really safer in maintaining the reality of illusions than you would be in joyously accepting truth for what truth is, and giving thanks for the reality of truth? 3 Honor the truth that has been given you, and be glad you do not have to understand the miracle for the miracle to be reality. 4 Miracles are natural to the One, the Holy Spirit, Who speaks for God. 5 For the Holy Spirit’s task is to translate the miracle into the knowledge which the miracle represents, and which knowledge is hidden to you. 6 Let the Holy Spirit’s understanding of the miracle be enough for you, and do not turn away from all the witnesses that the Holy Spirit has given you to the Holy Spirit’s reality.

**Note # 12:** The thought system of the Holy Spirit is based in the reality that there is only a Oneness. The return of an egoic relationship to a holy one is the return to the concept of the joint oneness within the Mind of God. The knowledge of the oneness has remained within the Christ-consciousness and is recalled by the Holy Spirit’s guidance. Although the egoic part of our mind does not understand the miracle, the Christ does. This is why ACIM’s goal is to reawaken our decision-maker to the vision of Christ. With the vision of Christ, we, the decision-maker, will side with truth. Truth is the basis for the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-16.II.6. No evidence will convince you of the truth of what you do not want. 2 Yet your relationship with the Holy Spirit is real. 3 Regard this relationship with the Holy Spirit not with fear, but with rejoicing. 4 The One, the Holy Spirit, you called upon <is> with you. The Christ is the home of the Holy Spirit. 5 Bid the Holy Spirit welcome, and honor the witnesses who bring you the glad tidings that the Holy Spirit has come. 6 It is true, just as you fear, that to acknowledge the Holy Spirit is to deny all that you think you egoically know. 7 But what you think you egoically know was never true. 8 What gain is there for you to clinging to what you think you egoically know, which was never true, and, therefore, denying the evidence for truth? 9 For you have come too near to truth to renounce truth now, and you <will> yield to truth’s compelling attraction. 10 You can delay the return to truth now, but only for a little while. 11 The Host of God, the Christ, which is also the home of the Holy Spirit, has called to you, and you have heard. 12 Never again will you be wholly willing not to listen the Christ and the Holy Spirit.

**Note # 13:** With the first allowance of the miracle and its result of peace within our mind, our willingness to listen to the truth of the Holy Spirit will increase. Thus, the
reawakening of our decision-maker to the Christ will quicken.

T-16.II.7. This is a year of joy, in which your listening will increase and peace will grow with its increase. 2 The power of holiness and the weakness of attack are both being brought into your awareness. p333 3 And this new understanding of the power of holiness and the weakness of attack has been accomplished in a mind firmly convinced by the ego that holiness is weakness and attack is power. 4 Should not this new understanding of the power of holiness and the weakness of attack be a sufficient miracle to teach you that your Teacher, the Holy Spirit, is not of you? 5 But remember also that whenever you listened to the Holy Spirit’s interpretation the results have brought you joy. 6 Would you prefer the results of your egoic interpretation, considering honestly what the results of your egoic interpretation have been? 7 God wills you better than the results of your egoic interpretation. 8 Could you not look with greater charity on yourself, whom God loves with perfect Love?

Note # 14: ACIM states that we need to compare the results of the two thought systems. Which one has brought us peace? The ego’s thought system, which is based of limitation results in our acting the part of a little “s” self. Can someone who is the Oneness of everything be happy with limitation? ACIM states that the peace of God can only be found when we reawaken to what we really are by reclaiming our divine birthright. Only an insane mind would choose limitation over the Oneness of the everything that is our Big “S” Self, the Christ.

T-16.II.8. Do not interpret against God's Love, for you have many witnesses that speak of God’s Love so clearly that only the blind and deaf could fail to see and hear the witnesses for God’s Love. 2 This year determine not to deny what has been given you by God, which is God’s Love. 3 Awake and share God’s Love, for that is the only reason God has called to you. 4 God’s Voice, the Holy Spirit, has spoken clearly, and yet you have so little faith in what you heard, because you have preferred to place still greater faith in the disaster your egoic mind has made. 5 Today, let us resolve together to accept the joyful tidings that disaster is not real and that reality is not disaster. 6 Reality, which is God’s Love, is safe and sure, and wholly kind to everyone and everything. 7 There is no greater love than to accept this true reality of what you are and be glad. 8 For love asks only that you be happy, and love will give you everything that makes for happiness.

Note # 15: True happiness can only be found in being true to ourselves. We need to cease believing that we can be something that we are not, which is a limited ego-body, and accept the fact of what we are, which is unlimited spirit birthed from the Mind of God. Happiness is the acceptance of our divine birthright. We cannot be happy with less. Instead of asking, “What am I?” we need to be the “I AM” that we are. We are an extension of the Mind of God. We need to be the Christ and start “Christing”. By “Christing” we fulfill our function. We, the Host of God, cannot be happy with less. And God wills us to be happy.

T-16.II.9. You have never given any problem to the Holy Spirit that the Holy Spirit has
not solved for you nor will you ever do so. 2 You have never tried to egoically solve anything yourself and been successful. 3 Is it not time you brought these facts together and made sense of these facts? 4 This is the year for the application of the ideas that have been given you. 5 For the ideas that have been given you are mighty forces, to be used and not held idly by. 6 The ideas that have been given you have already proved their power sufficiently for you to place your faith in these ideas that have been given to you, and not in their denial of these ideas that have been given to you. 7 This year invest in truth, and let these ideas that have been given to you, which is truth, work in peace. 8 Have faith in the Holy Spirit, Who has faith in you. 9 Think what you have really seen and heard, and recognize the witnesses for the truth of the Holy Spirit. 10 Can you be alone with witnesses for the truth like these that the Holy Spirit provides?

Note # 16: ACIM urges us to look for the results of the two opposite and opposing thought systems. Only the thought system of the Holy Spirit speaks for the truth of the Oneness of what we are. The Holy Spirit will not fail to properly answer any call for His Guidance. The ego’s thought system will never bring happiness since the ego denies our divine birthright and only brings limitation and egoic witnesses for lack. We are not without God’s guidance since even when we are under the influence of the ego and split-mindedness, the Christ, which is the home of the Holy Spirit, still abides in us. We remain the Oneness, which is God. We eternally remain perfect, whole and complete, for this is the Will of God. Our will and God’s Will are One.

III. The Reward of Teaching

T-16.III.1. We have already learned that everyone teaches, and teaches all the time. 2 You may have taught well, and yet you may not have learned how to accept the comfort of your teaching. 3 If you will consider what you have taught, and how alien what you have taught, which is the Oneness of the Holy Spirit’s thought system, is to what you thought you knew based on egoic thinking, you will be compelled to realize that your Teacher, the Holy Spirit, came from beyond your egoic thought system. p334 4 Therefore the Holy Spirit could look upon the lesson’s of your egoic thought system fairly, and perceive that the lessons of your egoic thought system were untrue. 5 The Holy Spirit must have done so from the basis of a very different thought system, and one with nothing in common with your egoic thought system. 6 For certainly what the Holy Spirit has taught, and what you have taught through the Holy Spirit, have nothing in common with the ego’s lessons that you taught before the Holy Spirit came. 7 And the results of the Holy Spirit’s lessons have been to bring peace where there was pain, and suffering has disappeared to be replaced by joy.

Note # 17: The egoic thought system has resulted in pain and suffering. This is due to the ego’s belief in limitation, which birthed sin, guilt, fear and sacrifice. The thought system of the Holy Spirit rests on the abundance of the Oneness of everything and, therefore, brings happiness, peace and joy. Whichever thought system we choose to follow, we will reap the rewards that its teacher offers. And as we believe, we will teach.
T-16.III.2. You may have taught freedom, but you have not learned how to be free. 2 I said earlier, "By their fruits ye shall know them, and they shall know themselves." 3 For it is certain that you judge yourself according to your teaching. 4 The ego's teaching produces immediate results, because the ego's decisions are immediately accepted as your choice. 5 And this acceptance of the ego's teachings means that you are willing to judge yourself accordingly to the ego's thought system of limitation. 6 Cause and effect are very clear in the ego's thought system, because all your learning has been directed toward establishing the relationship between cause and effect. 7 And would you not have faith in what you have so diligently taught yourself to believe, which is that you are victim to outside causes? 8 Yet remember how much care you have exerted in choosing witnesses for the ego's thought system, and in avoiding those witnesses for the Holy Spirit's thought system, which spoke for the cause of truth and truth's effects.

Note # 18: The ego teaches that because we are limited, we are not the source or cause of our perceived experiences. Rather, the ego asserts that there are outside forces that are beyond our control. These outside forces cause the events that we observe. We are the innocent victims of these outside worldly forces. In contrast, the Holy Spirit's thought system teaches that we are unlimited mind and, therefore, creators like our Father. We are not victims. Instead, we are the source of all that we perceive. We are the cause; not the effect. The ego teaches the opposite, that we are effect and not the cause.

T-16.III.3. Does not the fact that you have not learned what you have taught show you that you do not perceive the Sonship as one? 2 And does not the fact that you do not perceive the Sonship as one, not also show you that you do not regard <yourself> as one? 3 For it is impossible to teach successfully wholly without conviction, and it is equally impossible that conviction be outside of you. 4 You could never have taught freedom unless you did believe in freedom. 5 And it must be that what you taught came from yourself. 6 Yet this Big “S” Self, your Christ consciousness, which taught freedom, you clearly do not know, and do not recognize the Christ in you, even though your Big “S” Self functions. 7 What functions must be there? 8 And it is only if you deny what the Big “S” Self, the Christ in you, has done that you could possibly deny the Presence of the Christ in you.

Note # 19: You cannot teach what you do not know. Miracles teach freedom and have been done through you. Because of this, there must be some part within your mind that understands miracles and the resulting peace and freedom that the miracle brings from egoic thinking. This hidden part of your mind is the Christ consciousness. Although the Christ appears to be hidden, it is the home of the Holy Spirit and remains in communication with God. This communication between our high Self and God is ongoing even though we appear to be caught up in the dream of limitation and separation. The dream of separation is the result of our claim that it is possible not to know what we are.

T-16.III.4. This is a course in how to know yourself. 2 Your egoic small “s” selves have taught what you are, but have not let what you are, your Big “S” Self, teach your ego
that you truly are. 3 You have been very careful to avoid the obvious truth about yourself, and, therefore, do not see the real cause and effect relationship that is perfectly apparent, which is that you are the cause and not the effect of what you perceive. 4 Yet within you, the Christ, is everything you taught. 5 What can it be that has not learned what the Christ and the Holy Spirit has taught? 6 It must be this small “s” egoic part that is really outside yourself, not by your own projection, but in truth. 7 And it is this small “s” egoic part that you have taken in that is not you. 8 What you accept into your mind does not really change your mind. 9 Illusions are but beliefs in what is not there. p335 10 And the seeming conflict between truth and illusion can only be resolved by separating yourself from the illusion and not from truth.

Note # 20: The ego is the belief that we could not know ourselves. The ego claims that knowledge, which is truth and certainty, has been lost and that we have become the arbitrators for truth. This egoic claim of not knowing ourselves, places us outside and apart from the Mind of God. Nothing real can be outside the mind of God. Thus, it is the ego that is not real and must be a part of the illusionary dream of separation. When we dream, it is possible not to know oneself and the truth because the dreamer is caught up within the dream itself. Yet, once awakened, the dream is quickly forgotten and reality is restored to the dreamer’s mind. The illusion has no reality outside the sleeping dreamer’s mind. In the egoic world of time and space, the idea that you could not know yourself seems possible. ACIM states that when we deny what we are, our denial cannot change what we are but it does affect our awareness to the truth. Our ego’s denial of our true Big “S” Self is the source of the dream of separation. ACIM states that to not know yourself is to make yourself insane. Madness is the claim that you have the ability to decide what truth is. The insane claim that they have the ability to make the false true and the true false. The egoic world was made to prove that truth was conditional and changeable. To the ego, the world’s purpose is to be a home for those who claim they do not know themselves. In this world of doubt, we can question what it is that we are. Until we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we will choose to return again and again to this imaginary world of time and space.

The Holy Spirit’s thought system utilizes the egoic world of time to reawake God’s sleeping Child to the truth. The Holy Spirit teaches that we are and always will be as we were created. We are the extension of the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit reinterprets our mission on earth to align with Its purpose of our reawakening. The world of time and space now becomes our play school in which we rediscover that we are the Christ. Prior to the separation, we were in a “I AM” state of awareness. After the separation, we entered into a “WHAT AM I?” state. Time was born out of the belief that we could choose what truth was. Choice arose from the uncertainty that we were an eternal Oneness. Choice is the decision between illusion and truth. This appears to be a true choice but in reality the only real possibility is the choice for truth. Since illusions have no reality in fact, a choice for illusion is only the delaying of the decision for truth. The Atonement is the acceptance of truth. In the Atonement, we reclaim our divine birthright as the Christ. Being of the Mind of God, we are certain, unchangeable and eternal. Only acceptance of the Atonement is required on our part. Change is not required since we already are and will always be eternally changeless, perfect, whole and complete.
T-16.III.5. Your teaching has already done this by separating yourself from the illusion and not from truth for the Holy Spirit is part of you. 2 Created by God, the Holy Spirit left neither God nor God’s creation. 3 The Holy Spirit is both God and you, as you are God and the Holy Spirit together. 4 For God's Answer to the separation added more to you than you tried to take away. 5 God protected both your creations and you together, keeping one with you what you would exclude. 6 And what God protected, your creations and your Big “S” Self, will take the place of what you took in to replace them, which was your ego and its illusions made to limit God’s Son. 7 What God protected, your creations and your Big “S” Self, are quite real, as part of the Self, the Christ, you do not know. 8 Your creations, communicate to you through the Holy Spirit, and their power and gratitude to you for their creation they offer gladly to your teaching of yourself, who is their home. 9 You who are host to God are also host to your creations. 10 For nothing real has ever left the mind of its creator. 11 And what is not real was never there.

Note # 21: This touches of the oneness of everything that is real. God, the Father, God’s creation, the Sonship, the Sonship’s creation and the Holy Spirit are all one. This demonstrates the difference between egocentric thinking and the thinking of God. For God, the parts and the whole are one and neither are less than the whole for they are inseparable. We, being like the Father, continue to create like God even though we believe that we are caught up in the dream of separation. Nothing that is an extension of the Mind of God is ever lost or inseparable. Creation arises from love and is sharing and inclusive. Making is exclusionary and arises from fear and limitation.

T-16.III.6. You are not two selves, the ego and the Christ, in conflict. 2 What is beyond God? 3 If you who hold God and whom God holds are the universe, all else must be outside, where nothing is. 4 You have taught this oneness, and from far off in the universe, yet not beyond yourself, the witnesses to your teaching, your creations, have gathered to help you learn. 5 These witnesses’ gratitude has joined with your gratitude and God’s gratitude to strengthen your faith in what you taught. 6 For what you taught is true. 7 Alone, your egoic selves stand outside your teaching and apart from your teachings of oneness. 8 But with these witnesses you must learn that you but taught yourself, and learned from the conviction you shared with these witnesses.

Note # 22: Again we are joined in the Mind of God. All learning is a shared experience. Giving and receiving are the same. What appeared as split-minded is ultimately of one mind, which is the Mind of God.

T-16.III.7. This year you will begin to learn, and make learning commensurate with teaching. 2 You have chosen to make learning commensurate with teaching by your own willingness to teach. 3 Though you seemed to suffer for making learning commensurate with teaching, the joy of teaching will yet be yours. 4 For the joy of teaching is in the learner, who offers joy to the teacher in gratitude, and shares joy with the teacher. 5 As you learn, your gratitude to your Self, the Christ, Who teaches you what Christ, your Big “S” Self, is, will grow and help you honor Christ. 6 And you will learn Christ’s power and strength and purity, and love the Christ as God, the Father of
Christ, does. 7 God’s Kingdom has no limits and no end, and there is nothing in God that is not perfect and eternal. 8 All this is <you,> and nothing outside of this <is> you.

**Note # 23:** You, being the host of God, must be like God Himself Who is everything. There is nothing outside the shared Oneness of the Mind of God.

**T-16.III.8.** To your most holy Self, the Christ, all praise is due for what you are, and for what God is Who created you as you are. 2 Sooner or later must everyone bridge the gap he imagines exists between his selves, the split-minded little “s” self and the Big “S” Self. 3 Each one builds this bridge, which carries him across the gap as soon as he is willing to expend some little effort on behalf of bridging this gap he imagines exists between his selves. p336 4 His little efforts are powerfully supplemented by the strength of Heaven, and by the united will of all who make Heaven what Heaven is, being joined within the united will of Heaven. 5 And so the one who would cross over is literally transported there.

**Note # 24:** Heaven is the real world. Heaven is not a place, but rather a State of mind. Heaven is the symbol for Truth. It is the acceptance of the truth of the Oneness of the shared Mind of God. There is nothing in eternity that is outside Heaven since there is nothing outside the Mind of God.

**T-16.III.9.** Your bridge is builded stronger than you think, and your foot is planted firmly on your bridge. 2 Have no fear that the attraction of those who stand on the other side and wait for you will not draw you safely across. 3 For you will come where you would be, and where your Self, the Christ, awaits you.

**Note # 25:** Your Big “S” Self has never lost the remembrance of God and, therefore, awaits your return to truth. For the Christ, the Big “S” Self, never lost the truth of what you are. Christ never believed that it was possible to not know yourself.

**IV. The Illusion and the Reality of Love**

T-16.IV.1. Be not afraid to look upon the special hate relationship, for freedom lies in looking at the special hate relationship. 2 It would be impossible not to know the meaning of love, except for the special hate relationship. 3 For the special love relationship, in which the meaning of love is hidden, is undertaken solely to offset the hate, but not to let the hate go. 4 Your salvation will rise clearly before your open eyes as you look on unwillingness to let hate go. 5 You cannot limit hate. 6 The special love relationship will not offset hate, but the special love relationship will merely drive hate underground and out of sight. 7 It is essential to bring hate into sight, and to make no attempt to hide hate. 8 For it is the attempt to balance hate with love that makes love meaningless to you. 9 The extent of the split that lies in this attempt to balance hate with love, you do not realize. 10 And until you do realize the extent of the split that lies in this attempt to balance love with hate, the split will remain unrecognized, and
therefore unhealed.

**Note # 26:** The appropriate answer to the cry for love is love. Any cries for love come from fear and may often appear to be disguised as hate. There are only two emotions that we experience. These are love and fear. Fear comes in many shapes, sizes, and forms. Fear may be disguised as hate or even as a special love relationship. But the appropriate response is only love. The ego believes in a world of opposites. Therefore, to the ego, love and hate are opposites and can exist side by side. To the Holy Spirit, the only emotion that is real is love. Fear does not exist in the world of truth. For what is true, which is only love, is not fearfull. In the world of perception, choice appears to be possible. The ego states that both love and hate are possible and that they can offset each other and thus, makes our worldly existence bearable. But something that does not exist cannot cancel out something that does exist. Only in illusions can opposites exist and even appear to be able to offset each other. But when truth is brought before illusion, illusions fade away. Both the ego’s special love and hate relationships are not real. For how can a special love relationship exist when the ego does not know what love is? And how can there be love, which is the unlimited equal sharing of a Oneness, when the ego demands specialness. They are incompatible ideas. The demand for specialness is a demand to make the illusion of separation real. This can only reinforce the idea of split-mindedness. The only reality in the Mind of God is truth, not illusion.

**T-16.IV.2.** The symbols of hate against the symbols of love play out a conflict that does not exist. 2 For symbols stand for something else, and the symbol of love is without meaning if love is everything. 3 You will go through this last undoing of the illusionary conflict between hate and love’s symbols quite unharmed, and will at last emerge as yourself, the Big “S” Self. 4 This emergence as yourself from this illusionary conflict is the last step in the readiness for God. 5 Be not unwilling now to engage in this illusionary conflict for you are too near, and you will cross the bridge in perfect safety, translated quietly from war to peace. 6 For the illusion of love will never satisfy, but the reality of love, which awaits you on the other side of this illusionary conflict, will give you everything.

**Note # 27:** The world of perception is a world of choice. Yet, the choices are all illusionary since the world of perception is not in the Mind of God. However, within the dream world, choice appears quite real to the dreamer and the battle between love and fear goes on. The choice is between the thought systems of the ego and the Holy Spirit. Both vie for being the only adviser to our decision-maker. But even if we side exclusively with the Holy Spirit, we still remain caught within the dream itself. Through the tool of forgiveness, the Holy Spirit teaches that we are the dreamer and that we can substitute the ego’s dream of conflict, fear and hate, with the happy dream of the Holy Spirit. In the happy dream, we realize that we are the reality of the Oneness, perfect, whole and complete. When we forgive, minds join. The Holy Spirit’s happy dream is very similar to the truth about ourselves. With the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves, God will take the final step and return us to knowledge, which is the truth or Heaven.

**T-16.IV.3.** The special love relationship is an attempt to limit the destructive effects of
hate by finding a haven in the storm of guilt. 2 The special love relationship makes no attempt to rise above the storm, into the sunlight. 3 On the contrary, the special love relationship emphasizes the guilt outside the haven by attempting to build barricades against the guilt, and keep the special love relationship within these barricades. 4 The special love relationship is not perceived as a value in itself, but as a place of safety from which hatred is split off and kept apart from the special love relationship. 5 The special love partner is acceptable only as long as the special love partner serves this purpose of being a barricade against guilt. 6 Hatred can enter, and indeed is welcome in some aspects of the relationship, but the special love relationship is still held together by the illusion of love. 7 If the illusion of love goes, the relationship is broken or becomes unsatisfying on the grounds of disillusionment.

Note # 28: The special love relationship is not unconditional love but, rather conditional love. This relationship is full of strings. I will love you if… is the mantra of the ego’s “love” relationship. It is basically a barter system and bears no resemblance to God’s Love for His Son. If the barter deal no longer is beneficial to our perceived needs, we terminate the relationship and move on to the next one.

T-16.IV.4. Love is not an illusion. 2 Love is a fact. 3 Where disillusionment is possible, there was not love but hate. 4 For hate <is> an illusion, and what can change was never love. 5 It is sure that those who select certain ones as partners in any aspect of living, and use them as partners for any purpose which they would not share with others, are trying to live with guilt rather than die of guilt. 6 This, to live with guilt or die of guilt is the choice they see. 7 And love, to them, is only an escape from death. 8 Those involved in special love relationships seek love desperately, but not in the peace in which love would gladly come quietly to them. 9 And when those involved in special love relationships find the fear of death is still upon them, the love relationship loses the illusion that this relationship is what it is not. We realize the special love relationship was not love. 10 When the barricades against guilt are broken, fear rushes in and hatred triumphs.

Note # 29: Even in the best “special love relationship” that we could imagine death will separate us from the “love of our life.” ACIM states that since all there is, is love, anything that is changeable cannot be love. What changes is the ego’s attempt to find a substitute for love. The egoic fourth law of chaos states there is a substitute for love. This substitute for unconditional love is the ego’s special relationship. The ego encourages us to look for this substitute for love yet knows it will never be found. The ego’s special love relationship allows us to seek for love but never find it.

T-16.IV.5. There are no triumphs of love. 2 Only hate is at all concerned with the "triumph of love.” 3 The illusion of love can triumph over the illusion of hate, but always at the price of making both hate and love into illusions. 4 As long as the illusion of hatred lasts, so long will love be an illusion to you. 5 And then the only choice remaining possible is which illusion, hate or “false love,” you prefer. 6 There <is> no conflict in the choice between truth and illusion. 7 When seen in these terms that there <is> no conflict in the choice between truth and illusion, no one would hesitate for truth is
only real and thus, the only choice. 8 But conflict enters the instant the choice seems to be one between illusions, but this choice between two illusions does not matter since neither is real. 9 Where one choice is as dangerous as the other since both are illusions and, therefore, not truth, the decision must be one of despair.

Note # 30: Conflict does not exist in the world of truth. For with truth, truth is all there is. Conflict does exist in the world of perception and time. All conflict arises out of the question “What am I?” This is the claim that we do not know what we are. From this uncertainty, choice arose. Choice is the erroneous belief that we can somehow choose to make the true, false and the false, true. In conflict, we give reality to an illusion. We believe that by choosing one illusion over another illusion that we have change the truth. We cannot correct an illusion by placing another illusion over the first illusion. For now we have two illusions instead of one, yet each is still untrue. The only way to correct an illusion is to awake to the truth. Only the Holy Spirit is capable of correcting the illusion since only the Holy Spirit is aware of both the truth and the dream. We need to ask the Holy Spirit for guidance.

T-16.IV.6. Your task is not to seek for love, but merely to seek and find all of the barriers within yourself that you have built against love. 2 It is not necessary to seek for what is true, but it necessary to seek for what is false. 3 Every illusion is one of fear, whatever form the illusion may take. 4 And the attempt to escape from one illusion into another illusion must fail. 5 If you seek love outside yourself, you can be certain that you perceive hatred within yourself, and are afraid of your perceive hatred that you believe is within you. 6 Yet peace will never come from the illusion of love, but only from the reality of love.

Note # 31: Being love, which is everything, we can never be happy with the ego’s illusionary substitute for love. A Oneness of everything cannot be happy being limited. Happiness is being and knowing your unlimitedness.

T-16.IV.7. Recognize this truth that peace comes only from the reality of love for it is true, and truth must be recognized if truth is to be distinguished from illusion: The special love relationship is an attempt to bring love into separation. 2 And, as such, the special love relationship is nothing more than an attempt to bring love into fear, and make love real in fear. In fundamental violation of love's one condition that love is not fear, the special love relationship would accomplish the impossible. 4 How but in illusion could the accomplishment of the impossible, which is that love could be fear, is this to be done? 5 It is essential that we look very closely at exactly what it is you think you can do to solve the dilemma which seems very real to you. The dilemma is how to solve an impossible conflict that love could be fear. Yet this perceived dilemma does not exist. 6 You have come close to truth, and only this belief that there is an impossible illusionary conflict that love could be fear that you must first resolve stands between you and the bridge that leads you into the truth, which is real.

Note # 32: Within the dream, itself, there is no way to correct any error. To correct all errors, the dreamer must awaken. To place a new illusion over a previous illusion does
not remove the first illusion. It merely hides the previous illusion. This is why placing a special love relationship, over underlying hate, only masks the hate. The hate still lies at the core. We have merely fallen into a deeper sleep that appears to be more tolerable. Only by awakening to the truth, can we escape the illusion of the dream of separation.

T-16.IV.8. Heaven waits silently, and your creations are holding out their hands to help you cross and thus welcome your creations. 2 For it is your creations you seek. 3 You seek but for your own completion, and it is your creations who render you complete. 4 The special love relationship is but a shabby substitute for what makes you whole in truth, not in illusion. It is your ability to create like your Father that completes you. 5 Your relationship with your creations is without guilt, and this enables you to look on all your brothers with gratitude, because your creations were created in union with all your brothers. 6 Acceptance of your creations is the acceptance of the Oneness of creation, without which you could never be complete. 7 No specialness can offer you what God has given, which is the Oneness of creation, and what you are joined with God in giving.

Note # 33: Our function in Heaven is to create like our Father. We cannot fulfill our function unless we accept our divine birthright. When we accept what we are, we are able to extend the Mind of God, which is only love, to our own creations. Thus, we fulfill our function as co-creator with God. This act of creation completes us, just as we completed the Father when He created or extended Himself to His Son. Love gives all because it is all. It is this sharing of the love that we are which completes the Oneness. In a Oneness, there is complete equality between the inseparable “parts.” If we could separate this Oneness of Everything, which is impossible, each part would contain the whole and the whole would be in each part.

T-16.IV.9. Across the bridge is your completion, for you will be wholly in God, willing for nothing special, but only to be wholly like to God, completing God by your completion. 2 Fear not to cross to the abode of peace and perfect holiness. 3 Only there in the Oneness of creation, which is Heaven, is the completion of God and of His Son established forever. 4 Seek not for this Oneness in the bleak world of illusion, where nothing is certain and where everything fails to satisfy. 5 In the Name of God, be wholly willing to abandon all illusions. 6 In any relationship in which you are wholly willing to accept completion, and only completion, there, in this relationship, is God completed, and His Son completed with God.

Note # 34: Only in the reality of truth can we be happy. To know ourselves, we must remove all doubt that God’s Son could be anything but what he is, perfect, whole and complete. By being love, we extend like our Father to our own creations. Thus, we demonstrate our Oneness with the Father. We freely accept the fact that our will and God’s Will are One. For only the Will of God can, or ever has, existed. In the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves, our illusion fade away and knowledge is restored.

T-16.IV.10. The bridge that leads to union in yourself <must> lead to knowledge, for the bridge that leads to union in yourself was built with God beside you, and will lead you
straight to God where your completion rests, wholly compatible with God’s completion. 2 Every illusion you accept into your mind by judging the illusion to be attainable removes your own sense of completion, and thus denies the Wholeness of your Father. 3 Every fantasy, be the fantasy of love or hate, deprives you of knowledge for fantasies are the veil behind which truth is hidden. 4 To lift the veil that seems so dark and heavy, it is only needful to value truth beyond all fantasy, and to be entirely unwilling to settle for illusion in place of truth.

Note # 35: The choice is a simple one. We are always choosing between the thought system for truth, the Holy Spirit’s, and the thought system for falseness, or illusions, which belongs to the ego. The ego claims that we are imperfect, not whole and incomplete. The ego teaches and makes the case for littleness. The Holy Spirit makes the case for the magnitude and greatness of our Big “S” Self, the Christ. Only one can be right. The acceptance of any part of the egoic thought system of limitation is the complete rejection of the Holy Spirit’s truth about what we are.

T-16.IV.11. Would you not go through fear to love? 2 For such the journey seems to be. p339 3 In the egoic special love relationship, love calls, but hate would have you stay. 4 Hear not the call of hate, and see no fantasies. 5 For your completion lies in truth, and nowhere else. 6 See in the call of hate, and in every fantasy that rises to delay you, but the call for help that rises ceaselessly from you to your Creator. 7 Would God, your Creator, not answer you whose completion is God’s own completion? 8 God loves you, wholly without illusion, as you must love, wholly without illusion. 9 For love <is> wholly without illusion, and love is, therefore, wholly without fear. 10 Whom God remembers must be whole. 11 And God has never forgotten what makes God, Himself, whole. 12 In your completion lie the memory of God’s Wholeness and God’s gratitude to you for God’s completion. 13 In God’s link, which is the Holy Spirit, with you lie both God’s inability to forget and your ability to remember. 14 In God are joined your willingness to love and all the Love of God, Who forgot you not.

Note # 36: Fear cannot be love, for fear is the denial of love and, therefore, is not real. The Holy Spirit continues to bridge any gap that appears to exist between the Father and His Son. God, the Father, only knows the truth and never forgets that He created you perfect, whole and complete. Therefore, there can never be any truth in our dream of separation. Dreams are not sins, but mistakes. Dreams only require the awakening of the dreamer and his acceptance to the truth of what he is. The little willingness asked of us by the Holy Spirit is that we stop claiming that we are a limited ego-body and do not know ourselves. By asking our inner guide, the Holy Spirit will help return us from the state of “What am I?” consciousness to “I AM” awareness.

T-16.IV.12. Your Father can no more forget the truth in you than you can fail to remember the truth in you. 2 The Holy Spirit is the Bridge to your Father, made from your willingness to unite with your Father and created by your Father’s joy in union with you. 3 The journey that seemed endless is almost complete, for what <is> endless is very near. 4 You have almost recognized the journey’s end. 5 Turn with me firmly away from all illusions now, and let nothing stand in the way of truth. 6 We will take the last
useless journey away from truth together, and then together we go straight to God, in joyous answer to your Father’s Call for His completion.

Note # 37: Jesus directly asks us to be vigilant only for God. This is the abandonment of all illusions that we could be something other than as God created us. If we follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit’s thought system, we will cross the bridge from the illusion of separation to Heaven’s truth. We reawaken in Heaven in the loving hands of the Holy Spirit and the Christ that were always with us hidden deep within our own split-mind.

T-16.IV.13. If special relationships of any kind would hinder God's completion, can special relationships have any value to you? 2 What would interfere with God must interfere with you. Abandon all special relationships 3 Only in time does interference in God's completion seem to be possible. 4 The bridge that God would carry you across lifts you from time into eternity. 5 Waken from time, and answer fearlessly the Call of God Who gave eternity to you in your creation. 6 On this side (the side of perception and time) of the bridge to timelessness you understand nothing. 7 But as you step lightly across the bridge, upheld <by> timelessness, you are directed straight to the Heart of God. 8 At the Heart of God’s center, and only there, you are safe forever, because you are complete forever. 9 There is no veil the Love of God in us together cannot lift. 10 The way to truth is open. 11 Follow the way to truth with me. p340

Note # 38: The world of perception and the world of knowledge are like parallel lines. They never cross. What is false is false. What is true always remains true. We bridge the gap only by accepting the truth. By asking the Holy Spirit to bring all illusions into the light of the truth, all illusions simple fade away. This is why ACIM states that the course’s purpose is not to seek to change the world of form, which was birthed out of perception, but rather, ACIM seeks to change how we view our world. By changing our belief system to align with the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we return to truth, which is the return to Heaven. To abandon all egoic special relationships is to abandon the thought system of the ego that supports our belief in sin, guilt, fear and sacrifice. It is from the ego’s belief in separation and limitation that all illusions arose. For the truth is that “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God.”

V. The Choice for Completion

T-16.V.1. In looking at the special relationship, it is necessary first to realize that a special relationship involves a great amount of pain. 2 Anxiety, despair, guilt and attack all enter into special relationships, broken into by periods in which anxiety, despair, guilt and attack seem to be gone. 3 All these special relationships must be understood for what they are. 4 Whatever form the special relationships take, the special relationships are always an attack on the self to make the other party guilty. 5 I have spoken of this before, but there are some aspects of what is really being attempted that have not been touched upon.
**Note # 39:** Special relationships always involve attack since they are always based on the belief of lack and the desire to improve your perceived situation by making a “good trade”. This makes the special relationship a place filled with anxiety, despair, guilt, sacrifice and attack. Guilt is generally used to maintain the relationship. You believe that you have made some sacrifice for the benefit of the other and are now due some form of repayment. If the repayment is not immediately forthcoming, we utilize guilt to insure we extract our “pound of flesh” from the other. Since the Laws of God state that what we give, we receive, this guilt always returns to us, its source, for ideas do not leave their source.

**T-16.V.2.** Very simply, the attempt to make guilty is always directed against God. For the ego would have you see God, and God alone, as guilty, leaving the Sonship open to attack and unprotected from attack and guilt. The special love relationship is the ego’s chief weapon for keeping you from Heaven. The special love relationship does not appear to be a weapon, but if you consider how you value the special love relationship and why you value it, you will realize that the special love relationship must be the ego’s chief weapon for keeping you from Heaven.

**Note # 40:** To the ego, the ultimate cause or source of all guilt is God’s refusal to grant us a special love relationship with God, Himself. Sin is the belief that there is lack in God’s love for us. We wanted to be special and experience a “different” or “special” type of love. Because we are an extension of God and part of the Oneness of everything, special love is impossible for God. God knows us to be as Himself, perfect, whole and complete. A total Oneness cannot provide the experience of specialness for nothing is outside Itself. Specialness can only exist if there is duality. For duality to exist, there must be a “you” and something that is “not you”. God could not grant our wish for specialness because God’s Creation, the Sonship, is an extension of Himself. Being everything, the only way to be “special” would be to become limited. But to limit the Son would be to limit the Father. God cannot be limited. To God, any request for littleness makes no sense and is impossible within the Mind of God. In the Mind of God, the idea that something can be something it is not is impossible. To know yourself is your only reality since it is what you are. In the Mind of God, which is the Oneness of everything, a part is equal to the whole and the whole is equal to a part. This is because they are indivisible and equality reigns supreme. Through projection, the Sonship attempted to get rid of its perceive guilt by claiming that it was God’s fault that we could not experience specialness. Because God refused our demand for special love and, therefore, denied us “littleness”, we are entitled to blame God. Thus, we projected our own guilt upon God. Because our mind is powerful, we are allowed to deny knowledge and truth. Yet, our denial of truth and knowledge cannot turn our illusion of specialness into reality. Truth still remains true.

Within the dream of separation, our mind can experience the belief that we are special and, therefore, separate. Eventually, we will grow “tired” of the perception’s pain, suffering and sacrifice. Within the illusion, pain, suffering and death are the natural outcome of our desire to experience separation from our own Oneness. When we have had enough of the pain, we will realize “There must be a better way!” We will decide to choose again. This time we will accept God’s Will and side with the thought system of
the Holy Spirit, which represents only truth. We will once again reawaken freely to the realization that we can only be what we are, a shared Oneness of everything, perfect, whole and complete.

T-16.V.3. The special love relationship is the ego's most boasted gift, and the special love relationship has the most appeal to those unwilling to relinquish guilt. 2 The "dynamics" of the ego are clearest here, for counting on the attraction of special love's offering, the fantasies that center around the special love relationship are often quite overt. 3 Here the fantasies that center around the special love relationship are usually judged to be acceptable and even natural. 4 No one considers it bizarre to love and hate together, and even those who believe that hate is sin merely feel guilty, but do not correct hate. 5 This bizarre belief that love and hate can co-exist is the "natural" condition of the separation. Those who learn that it is not possible for love and hate to co-exist together and that this belief is not natural at all, seem to be viewed as the unnatural ones in the world of time. 6 For this world of time and perception is the opposite of Heaven. This world of time and perception was made to be Heaven's opposite, and everything here in this world of time and perception takes a direction exactly opposite of what is true. 7 In Heaven, where the meaning of love is known, love is the same as union. 8 Here, in the world of time and perception where the illusion of love is accepted in love's place, love is perceived as separation and exclusion.

Note #41: The Holy Spirit’s thought system says that love is extension and sharing. No sacrifice is required for with inclusion all remain whole. The ego believes in lack and that to have something you must take it from another and then struggle to keep it exclusively for yourself. In the special love relationship, you attempt to enter into an exclusive barter arrangement in which you collectively agree to keep the prizes of bartering within the group. We exclude these same prizes from anyone outside the group’s special circle. Love is perceived as something exclusive and special that must be protected from the attacks of the “outsiders”. Egoic love is “conditional love” at best. In egoic love, there is always the expectation of a payback for the perceived sacrifices you have made.

T-16.V.4. It is in the special relationship, born of the hidden wish for special love from God, that the ego's hatred triumphs. 2 For the special relationship is the renunciation of the Love of God, and the attempt to secure for the self the specialness that God denied. 3 It is essential to the preservation of the ego that you believe this specialness is not hell, but Heaven. 4 For the ego would never have you see that separation could only be loss. The state of separation is the one condition in which Heaven could not be.

Note #42: God’s love is not special because God cannot limit His Love from the extension, which He created and which He knows as Himself. How can God love one part of a Oneness more than another part of the Oneness? A oneness is one, and therefore, by definition cannot be separated or made unequal. Our ego wished that God could love us more because we wanted to be “special”. God could not do this, for to limit the Son, who is a Oneness with the Father, would also limit the Father. God is unlimited and could not allow specialness to be part of the Mind of God. Because we are an extension of our Father, we have free will. We cannot change the truth but we can deny the truth.
The egoic mind denied the truth so that it could pretend that it was special. Time was birthed to allow the experience of separation to be brought forth into our awareness. God’s Son is allowed to play anything he wants in the fantasy world of time and perception. This play school is a place whose purpose is to be a home where those who claim they do not know themselves can come to question what it is they are. God has made sure that His Children cannot be hurt while they play and that all players will rediscover what they are. The Atonement is the healing balm for any perceived injury that we might suffer in our imagination. In Heaven, only the truth of Oneness abounds. But in a play school, we can have good guys and bad guys. God, the Father, is unconcerned about which parts we decide to play on any given day. God knows that a fantasy world of make believe can never change the reality of what we are. We can pretend to be special, we can even pretend to die, but in any case, upon our awakening, the truth remains. We remain the Host of God, a Oneness, perfect, whole and complete.

T-16.V.5.To everyone Heaven is completion. 2 There can be no disagreement on this, because both the ego and the Holy Spirit accept that Heaven is completion. p341 3 The ego and the Holy Spirit are, however, in complete disagreement on what completion is, and how completion is accomplished. 4 The Holy Spirit knows that completion lies first in union, and then in the extension of union. 5 To the ego completion lies in triumph, and in the extension of the "victory" even to the final triumph over God. 6 In this final triumph over God, the ego sees the ultimate freedom of the self, the little “s” self, for nothing would remain to interfere with the ego. 7 This is the ego’s idea of Heaven. 8 And therefore union, which is a condition in which the ego cannot interfere, must be hell.

Note # 43: The ego fears union because this return to complete oneness would mean the death of the ego. The ego is only the part of our mind that believes in separation and specialness. It claims not to know what we are. The ego demands that the mind be split apart from God’s Mind. This is “accomplished” by the egoic denial of the truth. The ego would prefer the death of the Christ consciousness part of our mind. Yet, the Christ consciousness is part of the Mind of God and cannot be threatened by a powerless illusion from the egoic little “s” self. To the ego, the return to union or right-mindedness must not be allowed if the ego is to remain in control of our decision-maker. The ego’s triumph would be to make the false, true and the illusion, real. Our split mind can temporarily side with the ego and enter into a deep sleep of forgetfulness. But the illusion can never overcome the truth, which is the real world of Heaven. Any limitation on the power of God is impossible since God’s Will cannot be mocked. God’s Will remains eternal and changeless, just as His Creation’s Will, the Christ consciousness, cannot change. They both are the same and only One Will.

T-16.V.6.The special relationship is a strange and unnatural ego device for joining hell and Heaven, and making hell and Heaven indistinguishable. 2 And the attempt to find the imagined "best" of both worlds has merely led to fantasies of both worlds, and to the inability to perceive either hell or Heaven as it is. 3 The special relationship is the triumph of this confusion of the inability to perceive truth from fantasy. 4 The special relationship is a kind of union from which union is excluded, and the basis for the attempt at union rests on exclusion. 5 What better example could there be of the ego's
maxim, "Seek but do not find?"

Note # 44: The special relationship is based on exclusion of the whole from its parts. Remember that in God’s thinking, which ACIM states is also the natural thinking method for the Christ, there is no distinguishing a part from the whole. They are one and indivisible. A part is the whole. Love, creation, extension are all-inclusive sharing. The egoic special relationship is a substitute for unconditional love, which is God’s Love. In the special relationship, the ego utilizes guilt, fear and sacrifice to pretend to have a false union of two at the exclusion of others. Since the ego does not understand that we are a Oneness, it does not understand that to give is to receive. To the ego, only barter and attack can give you what you lack. In the special relationship, we say that we are incomplete and that we need something outside ourselves to make us complete. Since we perceive ourselves as limited, we remain in fear of losing what little we have. The special relationship fosters competition and struggle. It perpetuates victim consciousness. We constantly seek outside ourselves. We never bother to look inside our own mind where the source of the problem of lack resides. By healing our mind from all thoughts that we could be separate from our Creator, we return to right-mindedness. The egoic idea of both heaven and hell disappear as both illusions are brought before the light of truth. During the dream of separation, truth is represented by the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-16.V.7. Most curious of all is the concept of the self which the ego fosters in the special relationship. 2 This egoic "self" of the special relationship seeks the relationship to make itself complete. 3 Yet when this egoic "self" finds the special relationship in which this egoic "self" thinks it can accomplish this completion, this egoic "self" gives itself away, and tries to "trade" itself for the self of another. 4 This trading is not union, for there is no increase and no extension. 5 Each partner tries to sacrifice the self he does not want for one he thinks he would prefer. 6 And each partner feels guilty for the "sin" of taking, and of giving nothing of value in return. 7 How much value can he place upon a self that he would give away to get a "better" one?

Note # 45: Conditional love is bartering. We see ourselves as incomplete and desire to be made whole. Seeking the wholeness that is our natural divine birthright that we have denied, the ego seeks outside ourselves where wholeness cannot be found. Bartering requires that we give up something to get something in exchange. What we give up or “sacrifice” we no longer have and, therefore, once the trade is made we are still incomplete. Form cannot be shared. Even if we believe that together we could combine to make a whole, we would still fear losing what we gained. There is always someone who will try to take what you have. Ultimately death will rob you of everything. Attack and fear are inevitable. You cannot feel whole as long as you perceive something outside yourself. When we barter, we always attempt to make a “good trade.” In a “good trade,” we give up something of little or no value for something of great value. Sacrificing our “self” in the trade reconfirms our belief in littleness and separation.

T-16.V.8. The "better" self the ego seeks is always one that is more special. 2 And whoever seems to possess a special self is "loved" for what can be taken from whoever is perceived to be special. 3 Where both partners see this special self in each other, the ego
sees "a union made in Heaven." 4 For neither partner will recognize that he has asked for hell, and so he will not interfere with the ego's illusion of Heaven, which the ego offered him to interfere with Heaven. 5 Yet if all illusions are of fear, and all illusions can be of nothing else, the illusion of Heaven is nothing more than an "attractive" form of fear, in which the guilt is buried deep and rises in the form of "love."

Note # 46: A happy illusion or an unhappy illusion is still an illusion. The Son of God, whose divine birthright is everything, cannot be happy with an illusion. Illusions are nothingness and have no reality in truth. Only by reclaiming the truth of what we are, can real happiness be rediscovered.

T-16.V.9. The appeal of hell lies only in the terrible attraction of guilt, which the ego holds out to those who place their faith in littleness. 2 The conviction of littleness lies in every special relationship, for only the deprived could value specialness, which requires limitation. 3 The demand for specialness, and the perception of the giving of specialness as an act of love, would make love hateful. 4 The real purpose of the special relationship, in strict accordance with the ego's goals, is to destroy reality and substitute illusion. 5 For the ego is itself an illusion, and only illusions can be the witnesses to the ego's "reality."

Note # 47: The ego's substitute for God's love is the special "love" relationship. But this special "love" requires sacrifice, guilt and fear. It is born out of the false belief in separation. Both the ego and the dream world of specialness are unknown within the Mind of God. Reality, which is truth, remains unchanged. Sin, guilt, and fear form the basis for the special relationship and are unreal. They, like the ego's wish of separation, are all part of the dream that something outside God's Will could exist.

T-16.V.10. If you perceived the special relationship as a triumph over God, would you want a relationship that triumphs over God? 2 Let us not think of the fearful nature of such a triumph, nor of the guilt a triumph over God must entail, nor of the sadness and the loneliness a triumph over God would bring. 3 For these fears, guilt and loneliness are only attributes of the whole religion of separation, and of the total context in which a triumph over God is thought to occur. 4 The central theme in the religion of separation's litany to sacrifice is that God must die so you can live. 5 And the death of another so you can live is this theme that is acted out in the special relationship. 6 Through the death of your little "s" self, you think you can attack another self, and snatch the self from the other to replace the little "s" self that you despise. 7 And you despise the little "s" self you think you made because you do not think the little "s" self you made offers the specialness that you demand. 8 And hating the little "s" self you think you made you have made this false image of yourself little and unworthy, because you are afraid of the false image you think you are.

Note # 48: We are afraid of the little "s" self that we made. We believe that we have separated from God and, therefore, have sinned against God by usurping His authority. We are afraid because we are claiming to be self-created and limited. Thus, we are denying our divine birthright. Since we deny God's love for ourselves, we are lonely. The
ego tells us that it is better to be right than happy. We cling to the illusion of having a will separate from God’s Will and so we lose the happiness we seek. Our happiness is sacrificed so that our ego can claim that it is right. This sacrifice requires our acceptance of lack and limitation. Being an extension of “All that Is,” we cannot be happy with littleness. Thus, the egoic little “s” self is constantly seeking to recover from another ego-body the wholeness that it now perceives that it lacks. The ego insisted that we “seek and never find.”

T-16.V.11. How can you grant unlimited power to what you think you have attacked, which is ultimately the Will of God and, therefore, God, Himself? 2 So fearful has the truth become to you that unless the truth is weak and little, and unworthy of value, you would not dare to look upon the truth. 3 You think it safer to endow the little “s” self you made with power you wrested from truth, triumphing over the truth and leaving the truth helpless. 4 See how exactly is this ritual enacted in the special relationship. 5 An altar is erected in between two separate people, on which each seeks to kill his self, and on his body raise another self to take the sacrificed self’s power from his death. 6 Over and over and over this ritual is enacted. 7 And this ritual is never completed, nor ever will be completed. 8 The ritual of completion cannot complete, for life arises not from death, nor Heaven arise from hell.

Note # 49: Although it is not apparent to the parties involved in the special relationship that they are attacking God, this is the case. Any belief that you lack something reinforces the belief in separation. God’s Son is unlimited spirit. God’s Son is not form and is not the body. The belief in separation is an attack on the authority of God. It is a belief that God’s Will can be opposed and that we can be something other than what God created us to be. We are not self-created. We are an extension of the Mind of God, not our egoic mind or some bodily form. Life arises only from God, for life is creation and God is life.

T-16.V.12. Whenever any form of special relationship tempts you to seek for love in ritual, remember love is content, and not form of any kind. 2 The special relationship is a ritual of form, aimed at raising the form to take the place of God at the expense of content. 3 There is no meaning in the form, and there will never be meaning in the form. 4 The special relationship must be recognized for what the special relationship is; a senseless ritual in which strength is extracted from the death of God, and invested in God’s killer as the sign that form has triumphed over content, and love has lost its meaning. 5 Would you want this death of God to be possible, even apart from the death of God’s evident impossibility? 6 If the death of God were possible, you would have made yourself helpless. p343 7 God is not angry. 8 God merely could not let this happen. 9 You cannot change God’s Mind. 10 No rituals that you have set up in which the dance of death delights you can bring death to the eternal. 11 Nor can your chosen substitute for the Wholeness of God, the special relationship, have any influence at all upon God’s Mind.

Note # 50: Illusion cannot affect the truth. We, like our Creator, are unlimited. We are mind which is the opposite of form. Form cannot be shared. Mind, which is thought, can be shared and extended. The ego’s thought system is predicated on the belief that we are
limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego-bodies. The special relationship ties you into the identification of being a body, not spirit. Being form you must be limited. To the ego, every special trait that we possess has been stolen from God. God seeks revenge for our thievery. Fortunately for us, illusions do not change reality. God’s Love for His Creations is changeless and eternal. God does not see anything but His Son’s wholeness. It is God’s unshakeable belief in the sinlessness and guiltlessness of the Sonship that guarantees our return to knowledge. Life is creation. Life has been granted eternal existence. In our world of perception, we may have many bodies over time, but we will have only one eternal life.

T-16.V.13.See in the special relationship nothing more than a meaningless attempt to raise other gods before God, our Father, and by worshipping the other false gods to obscure the other false gods’ tininess and God, our Father’s greatness. 2 In the name of your completion you do not want this meaningless attempt to raise other gods before God which is what the special relationship attempts to do. 3 For every idol that you raise to place before God stands before <you>, in place of what you truly are.

Note # 51: An illusion blocks the truth from being known. The Holy Spirit must bring all illusion before truth’s light. Once in the light of truth, all illusions will disappear. Anything untruthful bears false witness against the truth. These untruths are the idols of the ego. These idols for the false are utilized by the ego to veil our remembrance of the truth, which is the remembrance of God.

T-16.V.14.Salvation lies in the simple fact that illusions are not fearful because illusions are not true. 2 Illusions but seem to be fearful to the extent to which you fail to recognize the illusions for what they are to the extent to which you <want> the illusions to be true. 3 And to the same extent you are denying truth, and so are failing to make the simple choice between truth and illusion; God and fantasy. 4 Remember this, and you will have no difficulty in perceiving the decision as just what the decision is, and nothing more. The decision is always between truth and illusion.

Note # 52: The decision is always between truth and illusion. If we value the illusion more than the truth, we will ignore the truth so that we can continue to reside in our fantasy world of time. Salvation lies in the decision for truth. Until we exclusively seek truth, we will be trapped in the prison of our mind’s belief in separation. No illusion can remain a part of the real world of the Mind of God.

T-16.V.15.The core of the separation illusion lies simply in the fantasy of destruction of love's meaning. 2 And unless love's meaning is restored to you, you cannot know yourself who share love's meaning. 3 Separation is only the decision <not> to know yourself. 4 The ego’s whole thought system is a carefully contrived learning experience, designed to lead you away from truth and into fantasy. 5 Yet for every learning that would hurt you, God offers you correction and complete escape from all the hurtful lesson’s consequences.
Note # 53: Since God is love, we must also be love. To know ourselves, we must recover the meaning of love. This world of perception was designed by the ego, to keep God out. Love is not to be found in the world of the ego. To the Holy Spirit, this world of time and space is to be utilizes for the rediscovery of the knowledge that we claimed to have lost. It is a play school for learning. Any errors made by the student are not punished, but rather simply corrected. The student is asked to choose again. The Holy Spirit is the teacher and the Atonement is the correction. In reality, it is impossible to not know yourself. We are always as God created us, the Christ, perfect, whole and complete.

T-16.V.16. The decision whether or not to listen to this course and follow this course is but the choice between truth and illusion. 2 For here is truth, separated from illusion and not confused with illusion at all. 3 How simple does this choice between truth and illusion become when this choice between truth and illusion is perceived as only what it is. 4 For only fantasies make confusion in choosing possible, and fantasies are totally unreal.

Note # 54: Because we believe that there are degrees of truth, we also believe that there are degrees of the false. ACIM states simply that there is only truth. Anything other than truth is not real in the Mind of God and is an illusion. This is why there is no order of difficulty in miracles. All miracles simply recognize that what is false can have no affect on the truth. What is false is simply recognized for the nothingness that it is. The false belief or illusion disappears and only the truth remains. It is our false belief that there are other alternate realities that appear to make choice possible. If we refused to acknowledge our fantasies as realities, there would be nothing to choose from. There would only be the one reality, the truth of the Mind of God.

T-16.V.17. This year is thus the time to make the easiest decision that ever confronted you, and also the only decision. 2 You will cross the bridge into reality simply because you will recognize that God is on the other side, and nothing at all is here in your imagined world of illusion that you could value. 3 It is impossible not to make the natural decision as this is realized. This decision is the choosing of truth over the nothingness of illusion. P344

Note # 55: The ultimate choice for truth is inevitable; for illusions are nothing. We, being a Oneness of everything, will never find happiness in nothing. The denial of truth is insane. Our Father’s Will is that His Son be happy and God’s Will cannot be denied.

VI. The Bridge to the Real World

T-16.VI.1. The search for the special relationship is the sign that you equate yourself with the ego and that you do not equate yourself with God. 2 For the special relationship has value only to the ego. 3 To the ego, unless a relationship has special value the relationship has no meaning, for the ego perceives all love as special. 4 Yet to perceive all love as special cannot be natural, for the egoic special relationship is unlike the
relationship of God and His Son, and all relationships that are unlike the relationship of God and His Son <must> be unnatural. 5 For God created love as God would have love be, and gave love as love is. 6 Love has no meaning except as its Creator defined love by the Creator’s Will. 7 It is impossible to define love otherwise and understand love.

Note # 56: God is the expression of love and as such has defined the meaning of love. In the ego’s thought system, the ego redefines love. Yet, to arbitrarily and unilaterally change the definition of something does not change what that something really is. A duck is a duck no matter what you choose to call it.

T-16.VI.2. Love is freedom. 2 To look for love or freedom by placing yourself in bondage is to separate yourself from love or freedom. 3 For the Love of God, no longer seek for union in separation, nor for freedom in bondage! 4 As you release, so will you be released. 5 Forget not this relationship of “As you release, so will you be released”, or Love will be unable to find you and comfort you.

Note # 57: God’s love does not bind or ask anything from the recipient of God’s love. The ego’s special relationship is a bartered contract that requires specific performance. If one party fails to meet the required performance tests established by the other party, that party will reject the other as unsatisfactorily fulfilling their part of the contract. In the special relationship, you become and create a mutual indentured servant relationship, but not a relationship between equals. You will give only to get.

T-16.VI.3. There is a way in which the Holy Spirit asks your help, if you would have the Holy Spirit’s help. 2 The holy instant is the Holy Spirit’s most helpful aid in protecting you from the attraction of guilt, which is the real lure in the special relationship. 3 You do not recognize that guilt is the special relationship’s real appeal, for the ego has taught you that freedom lies in the special relationship. 4 Yet the closer you look at the special relationship, the more apparent it becomes that the special relationship must foster guilt and therefore must imprison you.

Note # 58: Because each special relationship is a form of bartering, guilt arises when either party is asked why they haven’t delivered on their part of the contract. Each party is constantly judging and being judged. Each party is judging the relationship to determine if the contract is still a “good trade”. Judgment is a guilt throwing process. In the holy instant, the Holy Spirit requires the suspension of all judgment by the person seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The suspension of guilt requires the end of the ego’s focus on the past. The ego knows that you cannot be free in the now of today, if you carry the judgments of the past with you always. You remain trapped in the egocic past. Our past hurts, guiltis and judgments are carried with us like a bag of manure. We constantly carry this manure bag with us and whenever we find an opportunity, we reach into our manure bag to throw some of our manure on something outside ourselves. Then we wonder why they smell like manure. We re-enact or project the past-perceived event into the present. During this whole process, our egocic consciousness is denying that it is our mind and our manure bag that is the source of the stench. Our past judgments and guilts block love’s presence from entering the <now>. We remain imprisoned within our
past misperception. The special relationship constantly reinforces our belief that we are not perfect, whole and complete.

**T-16.VI.4.** The special relationship is totally meaningless without a body. 2 If you value the special relationship, you must also value the body. 3 And what you value you will keep. 4 The special relationship is a device for limiting your self to a body, and for limiting your perception of others to their body. 5 The Great Rays would establish the total lack of value of the special relationship, if the Great Rays were seen. 6 For in seeing the Great Rays the body would disappear, because the body’s value would be lost. 7 And so your whole investment in seeing the body would be withdrawn from the body.

**Note # 59:** The mind or thoughts can be shared. The body represents form, which cannot be shared. For sharing form requires diminishment of the original owner and thus, sacrifice. To the ego, the body is a fence built around a part of the shared Mind of God to provide false witness that this tiny part is separate and autonomous from the whole. The body is a veil to hide the truth from ourselves that we are unlimited spirit. The body blocks the Great Rays generated by the mind from our Christ vision. If the Great Rays were seen, the illusion of body-form would rapidly fade away.

**T-16.VI.5.** You see the world you value. 2 On the egoic side of the bridge, you see the world of separate bodies, seeking to join each other in separate unions and to become one by losing and sacrificing. 3 When two individuals seek to become one, they are trying to decrease their magnitude. 4 Each would deny his power as a Oneness with God. For the separate union excludes the universe, and, therefore, attempts to exclude God and the rest of creation. 5 Far more is left outside than would be taken in by this attempted union of the special relationship, for God is left without and <nothing> taken in. 6 If one such union were made in perfect faith, the universe would enter into the union. 7 Yet the special relationship the ego seeks does not include even one whole individual. p345 8 The ego wants but part of him, and sees only this part that the ego wants and nothing else.

**Note # 60:** We see what we want to see. This is what perception and the thoughts we project from our mind were meant to bear witness to. To the ego, the goal is to always keep its host, which is our mind, apart from the knowledge of the Oneness. This keeps us in victim consciousness. If the mind were to become whole, right-mindedness would opt for the Holy Spirit’s thought system that represents truth. Thus, the ego would be ostracized from its host, which is the split mind. The Christ conscious part of our mind knows only our magnitude. If a special relationship were to bring the union of two that where perceived as separate, this too would result in the death of the ego. Thus, the ego encourages its host to seek but never find. The special relationship fulfills the ego’s function of keeping its host in victim consciousness.

**T-16.VI.6.** Across the bridge, in Heaven, it is so different from the side of egoic perception! 2 For a time the body is still seen, but not exclusively, as the body is seen here in this world of time and perception. 3 The little spark that holds the Great Rays
Note # 61: To the Holy Spirit the body is a neutral learning device. All things in the world of perception are neutral. The body, however, can be used as a communication device in this world of time. If we allow our minds to be guided by the Holy Spirit, we can utilize the body to communicate the thoughts of love and forgiveness. As we cross over into the Kingdom or Heaven, the body is no longer of value as a means of communication and fades into the nothingness from which it came. Being a Oneness communication is instantaneous, for there are no barriers within the Mind of God.

T-16.VI.7. The bridge itself is nothing more than a transition in the perspective of reality. 2 On this side, in the world of egoic time, everything you see is grossly distorted and completely out of perspective. 3 What is little and insignificant is magnified, and what is strong and powerful cut down to littleness. 4 In the transition to heaven and return to timelessness there is a period of confusion, in which a sense of actual disorientation may occur. 5 But fear this sense of actual disorientation not, for this sense of actual disorientation means only that you have been willing to let go your hold on the distorted frame of reference that seemed to hold your world of provisional reality together. 6 This frame of reference in your present world of misperception is built around the special relationship. 7 Without this illusional frame of reference there could be no meaning you would still seek here in the world of perception and time.

Note # 62: As we cross the bridge from time to the timelessness of truth, our misperceptions are transformed by the Holy Spirit into correct perception. Correct perception arises from learning forgiveness and the reality that as a united mind, to give is to receive. When we fail to see the Christ in our brother, we keep both of us from reclaiming our divine birthright. With the restoration of Christ vision, our perceived world of sin, guilt and fear is corrected and becomes a learning tool to teach us what we are. Our remembrance of God answers the question of “What am I?”

T-16.VI.8. Fear not that you will be abruptly lifted up and hurled into reality. 2 Time is kind, and if you use time on behalf of reality, time will keep gentle pace with you in your transition. 3 The urgency is only in dislodging your mind from your mind’s fixed position here in the world of illusion. 4 This dislodging your mind from your mind’s fixed position here in the world of illusion will not leave you homeless and without a frame of reference. 5 The period of disorientation, which precedes the actual transition, is far shorter than the time it took to fix your mind so firmly on illusions. 6 Delay will hurt you now more than before, only because you realize delay is delay, and that escape from pain is really possible. 7 Find hope and comfort, rather than despair, in this: You could not long find even the illusion of love in any special relationship here. 8 For you are no longer wholly insane, and you would soon recognize the guilt of self-betrayal for what the guilt of self-betrayal is, which is insanity.
**Note # 63:** The ego’s thought system has been brought before the truth and we have found it was based on fallacies. The illusion that once bore witness to our belief in separation has confessed and recanted its testimony under the cross examination of the Holy Spirit, the defender of truth. We escape from the insanity of denying what we are. Insanity has given way to the remembrance of God and the Christ that we are. Our sin and guilt are dismissed as unreal. We forgive ourselves for our illusion of lack, realizing that we remain sinless and guiltless. Error has been corrected rather than punished. Our decision-maker is ready to choose only for the truth and dismisses all illusion.

T-16.VI.9. Nothing you seek to strengthen in the special relationship is really part of you. 2 And you cannot keep part of the egoic thought system that taught you that the illusion of the special relationship was really part of you and that it was real, and understand the Thought, which is the Christ, the Big “S” Self, that knows what you are. 3 You have allowed the Thought of your reality, the Big “S” Self, to enter your mind, and because you invited the Thought of your reality, the Thought of your reality will abide with you. 4 Your love for, the Thought of your reality, the Big “S” Self, will not allow you to betray yourself, and you could not enter into a relationship where the Thought of your Big “S” Self, could not go with you, for you would not want to be apart from your Big “S” Self, the Christ.

**Note # 64:** ACIM states that once you realize the magnitude of your Big “S” Self, you will never be satisfied with littleness. As the voice for God, the Holy Spirit is the bearer of this “Thought”. The ego’s thought system, which claims that there could be something other than God’s Will, fades from our memory.

T-16.VI.10. Be glad you have escaped the mockery of salvation the ego offered you, and look not back with longing on the travesty the ego made of your relationships. 2 Now no one need suffer, for you have come too far to yield to the illusion of the beauty and holiness of guilt. 3 Only the wholly insane could look on death and suffering, sickness and despair, and see death and suffering, sickness and despair as beautiful and holy. 4 What guilt has wrought is ugly, fearful and very dangerous. 5 See no illusion of truth and beauty there in what guilt has wrought. 6 And be you thankful that there is a place, Heaven, where truth and beauty wait for you. 7 Go on to meet truth and beauty gladly, and learn how much awaits you for the simple willingness to give up nothing because what guilt has wrought is nothing.

**Note # 65:** Illusions, when brought in front of the light of truth, disappear into the nothingness from which it came. Illusions are not real since they lack permanence. The Mind of God is not unstable and is changeless. However, within the split-mind, we perceive that we have another mind that is not part of the Mind of God. Because we believe this split-mind exists, we, the dreamer, believe in the reality of our dream. To the dreamer, who has forgotten that he is asleep, the dream takes on a reality of its own. Our belief that the dream is real results in the birth of sin, guilt and fear. It is our identification with the dream, not the dream itself that is the problem. If we were aware that we are making up the dream, the dream would be like going to a movie. In the movie theater, we
can enjoy and learn by watching a movie without making ourselves feel guilty for what
the actors did in the movie. This world of perception was made by the ego to exclude
God’s Love. Through sin, guilt, and fear the ego attempts to reinvent God and to redefine
love. The ego attempts to overturn truth and replace truth with illusions. The ego’s world
of misperception was made in hate and to be the opposite of God’s Love. We, God’s
Sons, have the role of becoming the heroes in the horror film called “The Separation.” By
discarding the egoic thought system, we reclaim our birthright and demonstrate that
God’s Will and our will are the same. In Heaven, the movie ends as we receive a standing
ovation and accept our Academy Award.

T-16.VI.11. The new perspective you will gain from crossing over will be the
understanding of where Heaven <is>. 2 From this side, the egoic world of perception,
Heaven seems to be outside and across the bridge. 3 Yet as you cross to join Heaven,
Heaven will join with you and become one with you. 4 And you will think, in glad
astonishment, that for all this, which is the truth of Heaven, you gave up <nothing!>
since illusions are nothing. 5 The joy of Heaven, which has no limit, is increased with
each light that returns to take its rightful place within Heaven. 6 Wait no longer, for the
Love of God and <you>, the Christ, your Big “S” Self. 7 And may the holy instant
speed you on the way, as the holy instant will surely do if you but let the holy instant
come to you.

Note # 66: The holy instant is the suspension of judgment and allows for the teaching of
the meaning of love. Judgment is the basis for making ourselves and others guilty. It
keeps us in a state of contraction or exclusion. Love is sharing and inclusive. It cannot be
found in guilt. Because we see guilt in yourselves and others, we believe that we have a
reason why love should not be granted. The ego insists that we cling to being right at the
cost of our happiness. To be right is to keep guilt. The ego’s insistence on being right
keeps the illusion of sin, guilt and fear alive within our split-mind. This prevents our
return to sanity. Right-mindedness will place us before Heaven’s gate where God,
Himself, will take the last step to our return to knowledge.

T-16.VI.12. The Holy Spirit asks only this little help of you: Whenever your thoughts
wander to a special relationship which still attracts you, enter with the Holy Spirit into a
holy instant, and there let the Holy Spirit release you from misperception. 2 The Holy
Spirit needs only your willingness to share the Holy Spirit’s perspective to give the
Holy Spirit’s perspective to you completely. 3 And your willingness need not be
complete because the Holy Spirit’s willingness is perfect. 4 It is the Holy Spirit’s task
to atone for your unwillingness by the Holy Spirit’s perfect faith. And it is the Holy
Spirit’s faith you share with the Holy Spirit there in the holy instant. 5 Out of your
recognition of your unwillingness for your release, the Holy Spirit’s perfect willingness
is given you. 6 Call upon the Holy Spirit, for Heaven is at the Holy Spirit’s Call. 7 And
let the Holy Spirit call on Heaven for you.

Note # 67: By asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we enter into a state of the holy
instant. All our egoic judgments are suspended. This allows the Holy Spirit to reinterpret
our perceived experience by correctly aligning our awareness with the truth of what we
are. This call to truth is the call to Heaven and the remembrance of God.

**VII. The End of Illusions**

**T-16.VII.1.** It is impossible to let the past go without relinquishing the special relationship. 2 For the special relationship is an attempt to re-enact the past and change the past. 3 Imagined slights, remembered pain, past disappointments, perceived injustices and deprivations all enter into the special relationship, which becomes a way in which you seek to restore your wounded self-esteem. p347 4 What basis would you have for choosing a special partner without the past? 5 Every such choice for a special partner and the special relationship and what they both bring is made because of something "evil" in the past to which you cling, and for which must someone else atone.

**Note # 68:** Special relationships are not just with people. Anything will do. A special relationship is anytime you see yourself as incomplete and lacking something. In the special relationship, we attempt to barter so that we get the thing that we believe we lack. If I “need” a car to make me happy, the car is a special relationship. Any time we look outside ourselves for what we perceive we lack, we are seeking a special relationship. We claim that we need something from an outside “source” to make us whole. We refuse to acknowledge that being the everything of the Big “S” Self, we can lack nothing. Both our current perception and our judgments are based upon our past. We attempt to relive our past by seeking a different outcome in the misguided belief that this can somehow change our past. The Holy Spirit knows the past is over and that the past resides only in the mind of the perceiver. Only by releasing the past can we focus on the now. Suspend all past judgment and let the Holy Spirit show you correct perception. In the special relationship, we seek to remove our guilt by transferring it to our partner. In the example of the car, it is the car’s fault that you are unhappy. We blame “my stupid car” for not getting its oil changed. We continue to maintain victim consciousness by pretending that something else is the cause of all the pain or happiness that we perceive. The car becomes our personal whipping boy and depository for our guilt.

**T-16.VII.2.** The special relationship takes vengeance on the past. 2 By seeking to remove suffering in the past, the special relationship overlooks the present in your preoccupation with the past and your preoccupation’s total commitment to the past. 3 No special relationship is experienced in the present. 4 Shades of the past envelop the special relationship and make the shades from the past into what the special relationship is. 5 The special relationship has no meaning in the present, and if the special relationship means nothing now, the special relationship cannot have any real meaning at all. 6 How can you change the past except in fantasy? 7 And who can give you what you think the past deprived you of? 8 The past is nothing. 9 Do not seek to lay the blame for deprivation on the past, for the past is gone. 10 You cannot really <not> let go what has already gone, which was the past. 11 It must be, therefore, that you are maintaining the illusion that the past has not gone because you think the past serves some purpose that you want fulfilled. 12 And it must also be that this purpose could not
be fulfilled in the present, but only in the past.

**Note # 69:** ACIM states the obvious, yet, this advice remains for the large part ignored. “The past is gone, let it go. We only have the now.” Most people are so tied to the past that they fail to live in the now. They wallow in victim consciousness for some perceived injustice that happened long ago. Everything they see and do is based on this past perceived injustice. ACIM asks that we drop all judgments so that we can start experiencing the present. Only in the present can you choose again. And no choice made today will change past events. If we cannot release and forgive our past misperceptions, we will choose to relive them. Similar events reoccur in our life because they contain a lesson that we refuse to learn.

**T-16.VII.3.** Do not underestimate the intensity of the ego's drive for vengeance on the past. 2 The ego's drive for vengeance on the past is completely savage and completely insane. 3 For the ego remembers everything you have done that has offended the ego, and the ego seeks retribution of you. 4 The fantasies the ego brings to chosen relationships in which to act out the ego’s hate are fantasies of your destruction. 5 For the ego holds the past against you, and in your escape from the past the ego sees itself deprived of the vengeance the ego believes you so justly merit. 6 Yet without your alliance in your own destruction, the ego could not hold you to the past. 7 In the special relationship you are allowing your destruction to be because you refuse to drop your fixation on the past and thus, allow yourself to move into and experience the reality of the now. 8 That this fixation on an imagined past is insane is obvious. 9 But what is less obvious is that the present is useless to you while you pursue the ego's goal as its ally, which is the past that you maintain in your special relationship.

**Note # 70:** The ego is not our friend. The ego masquerades in sheep’s clothing so that it can appear to be our protector. The ego is the part of our mind that believes and wants the separation to be real. It is all our beliefs about being a separate self. Being split-minded, we are our worst enemy. The ego remembers all our past shortcomings and demands that retribution be made for each one. We are constantly punishing ourselves for being bad, evil, not good enough and, therefore, unworthy of God’s love. The ego constantly reminds us of our perceived inadequacies. The ego never wants us to know that all our inadequacies were only illusions held within our insane split-mind. This insures the ego’s existence as we continue to wallow in our past illusions that we have made real. If the ego can keep us in victim consciousness, we will remain in a stupor and never reawaken to the spiritual magnitude that we are. We will continue to believe the ego’s illusion that we are the body and have forever abdicated our divine birthright. To the ego, the special relationship is the substitute for God’s love. Yet, the egoic special relationship only recycles and rebirth’s past guilt. We continue to utilize the special relationship to throw guilt upon our brothers and guilt upon ourselves. As long as we remain within the egoic thought system, there is no escape from sin, guilt and fear. We need a new paradigm. We need to ask for a new teacher, the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit’s teachings can reawaken us. We are trapped within our mind’s dream world of illusion. Only the Holy Spirit, Who is outside the dream, can reawaken us to the truth.
T-16.VII.4. The past is gone; seek not to preserve the past in the special relationship that binds you to the past, and would teach you salvation is past and so you must return to the past to find salvation. 2 There is no fantasy that does not contain the dream of retribution for the past. 3 Would you act out the dream, or let the dream go?

Note # 71: Only in fantasy can we change the past. But only in our remembering the past does the past continue to exist in our mind. By releasing the past misperception from our mind, we have wiped the slate clean. We can choose to write and live a new script by being in the presence of the <now>.

T-16.VII.5. In the special relationship you and your ego do not seem to be a part of an acting out of vengeance that you seek. 2 And even when the hatred and the savagery break briefly through, the illusion of love is not profoundly shaken. 3 Yet the one thing the ego never allows to reach awareness is that the special relationship is the acting out of vengeance on yourself. p348 4 Yet what else could the special relationship’s purpose be? 5 In seeking the special relationship, you look not for glory in yourself. 6 You have denied that glory is there within you, and the relationship becomes your substitute for the glory you have denied within you. 7 And vengeance becomes your substitute for Atonement, and the escape from vengeance becomes your loss.

Note # 72: The special relationship maintains our littleness. It claims that we need something outside ourselves to make us whole. Thus, we confirm and maintain the ego’s past belief that the separation is real. The ego cleverly seeks to restore our lack of self-esteem by transferring our guilt upon something else. Yet, ideas never leave their source and so the guilt remains hidden deep within our mind. To the ego, the focus of the special relationship is to keep us re-enacting our past. Thus, we remain in victim consciousness. The present becomes a constant re-enacting of past limitations and perceived failures. Since the tool for egoic salvation is the special relationship, we remain trapped in our past belief that we are not whole, not perfect and not complete. There can be no hope for salvation within the ego’s thought system. God’s Plan for salvation is the Atonement. The Atonement principle states that the past is an illusionary dream and has no effect on the now. God’s Son is and always will be guiltless and sinless because that is how God created him. Only by accepting the Atonement for ourselves can release from our imagined sin and guilt be found. With the Atonement, we now see our brother and ourselves as guiltless. We can now remember our true relationship with God, our Father, and reclaim our divine birthright.

T-16.VII.6. Against the ego's insane notion of salvation the Holy Spirit gently lays the holy instant. 2 We said before that the Holy Spirit must teach through comparisons, and uses opposites to point to truth. 3 The holy instant is the opposite of the ego's fixed belief in salvation through vengeance for the past. 4 In the holy instant it is understood that the past is gone, and with the passing of our past the drive for vengeance has been uprooted and has disappeared. 5 The stillness and the peace of <now> enfold you in perfect gentleness. 6 Everything is gone except the truth.

Note # 73: In the holy instant, there is a suspension of all past judgments. Without these
past judgments, we have lost our frame of reference that we utilize to judge the present. Without past reference, the only thing to perceive is the <now>. The past has dropped off our mind’s radar screen. If we ask the Holy Spirit’s guidance, our misperception can be corrected. We can look upon the unveiled truth of the present moment and be in the <now>.

T-16.VII.7. For a time you may attempt to bring illusions into the holy instant, to hinder your full awareness of the complete difference, in all respects, between your experience of truth and illusion. 2 Yet you will not attempt to bring illusions into the holy instant for long. 3 In the holy instant the power of the Holy Spirit will prevail, because you joined the Holy Spirit. 4 The illusions you bring with you will weaken the experience of the holy instant for a while, and will prevent you from keeping the experience in your mind. 5 Yet the holy instant is eternal, and your illusions of time will not prevent the timeless from being what the holy instant is, nor you from experiencing the holy instant as the holy instant is, which is eternal and, therefore timeless.

Note # 74: Until we are able to drop all our illusions that someone must be guilty and punished, we will tend to drift back into egoic thinking. Eventually, by the Holy Spirit’s retraining of our mind, we will reclaim right-mindedness. By removing all the barriers we have placed between love and ourselves, our decision-maker will learn to side more and more with the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Our remembrance of God and what we are will grow stronger and the “time” or interval between each holy instant will appear to grow shorter. Eventually, the past will totally disappear and there will only be the now.

T-16.VII.8. What God has given you is truly given, and will be truly received. 2 For God's gifts have no reality apart from your receiving God's gifts. 3 Your receiving completes God’s giving. 4 You will receive because it is God’s Will to give. 5 God gave the holy instant to be given you, and it is impossible that you not receive the holy instant because God gave the holy instant to be given you. 6 When God willed that God’s Son be free, God’s Son was free. 7 In the holy instant is God’s reminder that God’s Son will always be exactly as he was created. 8 And everything the Holy Spirit teaches is to remind you that you have received what God has given you.

Note # 75: Because God’s Will is all-powerful and changeless, we can do nothing that could change God’s Will. We can deny God’s Will in a dream of make believe yet, our dream has no effect that can change the truth. Being eternal and changeless means God will always see the Sonship as perfect, whole and complete, for that is how God knows Himself. We, the Christ, are the perfect extension and the Host of our Father.

T-16.VII.9. There is nothing you can hold against reality. 2 All that must be forgiven are the illusions you have held against your brothers. 3 Your brothers’ reality has no past, and only illusions can be forgiven. 4 God holds nothing against anyone, for God is incapable of illusions of any kind. 5 Release your brothers from the slavery of your brothers’ illusions by forgiving your brothers for the illusions you perceive in your brothers. 6 Thus will you learn that you have been forgiven, for it is you who offered
your brothers' illusions. p349 7 In the holy instant, the forgiving of your brothers for the illusions you perceive in your brothers is done for you in time, to bring you the true condition of Heaven.

**Note # 76:** It is interesting to note that what we are forgiving is not what our brother did to hurt us, but rather what we perceived our brother to have done to us. Being unlimited spirit, an extension of God, we cannot be hurt by anything. Only when we perceive ourselves to be “the body” can we perceive ourselves as vulnerable and subject to pain, and hurt. By realizing that we share the Mind of God with our brother, we realize that to forgive our brother is to forgive ourselves and to forgive ourselves is to forgive our brother. We are a joined Oneness and, therefore, to give is to receive. The reality of the Mind of God is Heaven. Heaven is the truth that we are a Oneness of everything, perfect, whole and complete. This is God’s Will for His Son. This is the holy instant that is our eternal destiny.

T-16.VII.10. Remember that you always choose between truth and illusion; between the real Atonement that would heal and the ego's "atonement” that would destroy. The ego's "atonement" is the continued belief in limitation, which the special relationship fosters by focusing on, and thus, re-enacting the past. In egoic “atonement,” sacrifice and revenge are demanded from someone since sin has been accepted as real. 2 In real Atonement, the power of God and all God’s Love, without limit, will support you as you seek only your place in the plan of Atonement arising from God’s Love. 3 Be an ally of God and not the ego in seeking how Atonement can come to you. 4 God’s help suffices, for His Messenger, the Holy Spirit, understands how to restore the Kingdom to you, and to place all your investment in salvation in your relationship with God.

**Note # 77:** The choice that we must make is simple. It is the choice between supporting the truth or upholding an illusion. The two thought systems stand side by side and ask you, the decision-maker, to choose. The Atonement tells us that God will not damn us for a choice made in a dream. Our egoic mind is the only one capable of such a thought. Choose again and reawaken to the birthright that the Holy Spirit and our Christ has always preserved for us. The choice for illusion is not real. An illusion is nothing. Choose again, this time claiming your inheritance, which is the Oneness of everything. For this and only this is God’s Will for Himself and, therefore, for His Son.

T-16.VII.11. Seek and find God’s message in the holy instant, where all illusions are forgiven. 2 From there the miracle extends to bless everyone and to resolve all problems, be the problems perceived as great or small, possible or impossible. 3 There is nothing that will not give place to God and to God’s Majesty. 4 To join in close relationship with God is to accept relationships as real, and through this relationship’s reality to give over all illusions for the reality of your relationship with God. 5 Praise be to your relationship with God and to no other relationship. 6 The truth lies there in your relationship with God and nowhere else. 7 You choose your relationship with God or nothing, which is the dream of separation.
Note # 78: ACIM states that we should be vigilant only for God. It is only our relationship with God that means anything for only God is real. Accepting God’s Will is our acceptance of God’s Will for everything, since God is everything. There is nothing outside the Mind of God. By accepting what we are, we accept the Love of God. If we are vigilant only for God, we accept the fact that God’s Will is our will. Everything else is taken care of. Everything we know is part of the shared Oneness of the Mind of God, perfect, whole and complete.

T-16.VII.12.<Forgive us our illusions, Father, and help us to accept our true relationship with You, our Father, in which there are no illusions, and where no illusions can ever enter. 2 Our holiness is Your Holiness. 3 What can there be in us that needs forgiveness when Your Forgiveness is perfect? 4 The sleep of forgetfulness is only the unwillingness to remember Your forgiveness and Your Love. 5 Let us not wander into temptation, for the temptation of the Son of God is not Your Will. 6 And let us receive only what You, our Father, have given, and accept but this into the minds which You created and which You love. 7 Amen.> p350

Note # 79: Jesus updates the traditional version of the Lord’s Prayer incorporating the concepts of illusion and the shared Oneness of the Son and His Father.
Chapter 17. FORGIVENESS AND THE HOLY RELATIONSHIP

I. Bringing Fantasy to Truth

T-17.I.1. The betrayal of the Son of God lies only in illusions, and all his "sins" are but the Son of God’s own imagining. 2 The Son of God’s reality is forever sinless. 3 God’s Son need not be forgiven but awakened. 4 In the Son of God’s dreams the Son of God has betrayed himself, his brothers and his God. 5 Yet what is done in dreams has not been really done. 6 It is impossible to convince the dreamer that what is done in dreams has not been really done in reality, for dreams are what dreams are <because> of the dream’s illusion of reality. 7 Only in the dreamer’s waking is the full release from dreams, for only then does it become perfectly apparent to the dreamer that dreams had no effect upon reality at all, and the dreamer’s dreams did not change reality. 8 Fantasies change reality temporarily within the sleeping mind of the dreamer. 9 That is the purpose of fantasy. 10 Fantasy cannot do so in reality, but fantasy <can> do so in the sleeping mind that would have reality be different.

Note #1: Dreams have no effect on the reality of truth. Yet, to the dreamer during the sleeping state, the dream appears to be true. As long as the dreamer believes that the dream is his current experience, it will appear real to him. Within the dream itself, illusions are as strong in their affect on the dreamer’s mind as what would normally be viewed as the truth. Once fully awakened, the dreamer realizes that the dream was a fantasy and, therefore, had no affect on the truth. Yet, while he was dreaming, the dream did appear to be his reality. During this dreaming state, the dream becomes the dreamer’s provisional reality. All that appears within the dreamer’s mind is not real to anyone else. We all agree when wide awake that any imagined “action” which took place during a dream should not be punished or rewarded since it has no impact or affect on the truth of reality.

T-17.I.2. It is, then, only your wish to change reality that is fearful, because by your wish, you think you have accomplished what you wish, which was to change your reality. 2 This strange position, which is to change the appearance of reality within your own mind, in a sense, acknowledges your power to be the cause and source of your own experience. 3 Yet by distorting your power to be the cause and source of your own experience and devoting this power to be the cause and source of your experience to "evil," it also makes your perceived experience unreal. 4 You cannot be faithful to two masters who ask conflicting things of you. These two “master” are the thought system of the ego and the Holy Spirit’s. 5 What you use in fantasy you deny to truth. 6 Yet what you give to truth to use for you is safe from fantasy. The ego is
protector of fantasy and the Holy Spirit’s thought system is the defender of truth

**Note # 2:** God’s Will is only that His Son should be happy. What causes us to be fearful is our belief that we have changed God’s Will. Therefore, by our past actions, we believe that we have or will lose our happiness because we have tampered with God’s reality. We have gotten caught up in the belief that we could oppose God’s Will. We believe that our action actually changes the Mind of God. This is impossible since God’s Will is changeless. The “problem” with the dream of separation was not our wanting to watch or play in the dream game of separation. Rather the problem occurred when we forgot that we were making up the dream. When we forgot we were the dreamer, we started to believe that our dream was true. We forgot to laugh and took the dream seriously. Fear was birthed within the dreamer’s mind.

ACIM states that our mind has the power to create or project its own internal movies. These movies appear to be real within the dreamer’s mind. The world of perception, time and space act as the movie screen for our mind’s thoughts and desires. Yet, when we realize that our thoughts are projected into an illusionary world, we realize that the dream can have no impact on the reality of our real world called Heaven. These dreams or movies do affect the dreamer or moviegoer. By watching the movie, the observer is either entertained, taught some lesson, or both. When this paragraph references “evil,” evil is the false belief that the Sonship, which is an Effect of God, could somehow change God’s Will. An effect was no power to change its cause. The ego is the protector and “movie projector” of false images and the belief in fantasy. The Holy Spirit’s thought system is the defender of truth

**T-17.1.3.** When you maintain that there must be an order of difficulty in miracles, all you mean is that there are some things you would withhold from truth. 2 You believe truth cannot deal with some things that you wish to withhold from truth only because you would keep some things from truth. 3 Very simply, your lack of faith in the power that heals all pain (the power of truth) arises from your wish to retain some aspects of reality for fantasy. 4 If you but realized what this desire to withhold some parts from truth must do to your appreciation of the whole! 5 What you reserve for yourself are your fantasies that are under the guidance of the ego’s thought system. What you reserve for yourself, you take away from the Holy Spirit, Who would release you from these fantasies. 6 Unless you give all your fantasies back to the Holy Spirit, it is inevitable that your perspective on reality will be warped and uncorrected

**Note # 3:** Since only the Holy Spirit is aware of both the truth and your perceived dream, only the Holy Spirit has the knowledge to show you that the dream is not true. The Holy Spirit can only do this if you ask for His guidance. The Holy Spirit does not force you to listen to the truth against your free will. However, if you choose to give up only selective parts of your dream to the Holy Spirit for His reinterpretation, you will still remain trapped within the dream itself. You cannot pick and choose which part in the illusion you will keep and expect to awaken from your insanity. If you wish to awaken from the dream, all illusion must be given to the Holy Spirit. Until you give up all illusion, you will maintain the false idea that you could be something other than what you truly are. It is the things that we value that we refuse to give over to the Holy Spirit. People are
willing to give up the illusion of pain and suffering but wish to maintain the illusion of pleasure and specialness. You cannot be “totally committed” some of the time. Truth is not a “sometimes thing”.

T-17.I.4. As long as you would have some parts of fantasy withheld from truth, so long will the illusion of an order of difficulty in miracles remain with you. 2 For you have established this order of difficulty into your reality by giving some of your fantasies to one teacher, the ego, and some of your fantasies to another teacher, the Holy Spirit. 3 And so you learn to deal with part of the truth in one way, and in another way the other part. 4 To fragment truth is to destroy truth by rendering truth meaningless. 5 Orders of reality is a perspective without understanding. Orders of reality are a frame of reference to which reality cannot really be compared at all

Note # 4: By trying to seek guidance from two different teachers, the ego and the Holy Spirit, we receive two different sets of answers to each question that we ask. Both responses are based on the teacher’s own viewpoint of reality. The ego’s response represents the false, while the Holy Spirit’s represents the truth. By attempting to listen to two totally different teachers with opposite belief systems, our world becomes very unstable. Now, instead of just true and false, we have introduced the concept of conditional truth or the “sometimes”. Sometimes something is true; sometimes it is false. Now, we have varying degrees of truth, which claim to represent reality. Rather than absolute truth, each person has his or her own version of the truth. This varies from person to person and, therefore, each individual develops their own viewpoint and perception, which in turn becomes their own provisional reality. Because we have changed truth from an absolute to a maybe, we have introduced the concept that reality is a “sometimes”. Sometimes creates degrees of difficulty. Prior to the existence of “sometimes” there was only the true and the false. Now, change has an endless array of possibilities. Our dream world has now become very complex with the introduction of partial or half-truths. With orders of reality, the absoluteness of true or false also loses its reality in the shifting sands of “sometimes” and “maybes”.

T-17.I.5. Think you that you can bring truth to fantasy, and learn what truth means from the perspective of illusions? 2 Truth <has> no meaning in illusion. 3 The frame of reference for truth’s meaning must be truth, itself. 4 When you try to bring truth to illusions, you are trying to make illusions real, and keep illusions by justifying your belief in the illusions. p351 5 But to give illusions to truth is to enable truth to teach that the illusions are unreal, and thus enable you to escape from the illusions. 6 Reserve not one idea aside from truth, or you establish orders of reality that must imprison you. 7 There is no order in reality, because everything there is true

Note # 5: Reality is always true. There is only one choice we are asked to make. This choice is always between the true and the false. Reality is always true and fantasy is always false. “Something” does not vacillate between true and false. It is always only one or the other. We either know the truth, which is the real world of Heaven, or we appear to live in an illusionary fantasy of perception, which becomes our provisional reality. There is no in between.
T-17.I.6. Be willing, then, to give all you have held outside the truth to Him, the Holy Spirit, Who knows the truth, and in Whom all fantasy is brought to truth. 2 Salvation from separation would be complete, or salvation from separation will not be at all. 3 Be not concerned with anything except your willingness to have salvation from separation be accomplished. 4 The Holy Spirit will accomplish salvation from separation; not you. 5 But forget not this: When you become disturbed and lose your peace of mind because another is attempting to solve his problems through fantasy, you are refusing to forgive yourself for just this same attempt to solve your problems through fantasy. 6 And you are holding both you and your brother away from truth and from salvation. 7 As you forgive your brother, you restore to truth what was denied by both you and your brother. 8 And you will see forgiveness where you have given forgiveness.

Note # 6: When you become disturbed and lose your peace of mind because your brother is attempting to solve his problems through fantasy, you are judging another and are falling into the same egoic belief system in which he is suffering. Both of you are now seeing yourselves as separate and with some power and will outside the Will of God. Rather than judge your brother, you need to turn the moment over to the Holy Spirit. Only by giving this moment over to the Holy Spirit can you avoid the pitfalls of the ego’s thought system. When we judge, we are saying that something is unacceptable to us and that we are separate from our brother. If we wish to change our brother, we are also saying that our egoic self has the power to change our brother. By myself (the ego, or little “s” self), I can do nothing. Yet, through me, God can do everything. We need to turn our egoic judgments over to the Holy Spirit and get out of God’s way.

Again, under the laws of God, “To give is to receive.” When we grant forgiveness to a brother, we grant forgiveness to ourselves.

II. The Forgiven World

T-17.II.1. Can you imagine how beautiful those you forgive will look to you? 2 In no fantasy have you ever seen anything so lovely as the beauty within those whom you have forgiven. 3 Nothing you see here in your world of perception, sleeping or waking, comes near to such loveliness as the beauty within those whom you have forgiven. 4 And nothing will you value like the beauty within those whom you have forgiven, nor hold so dear. 5 Nothing that you remember that made your heart sing with joy has ever brought you even a little part of the happiness this sight of your forgiven brother will bring you. 6 For you will see the Son of God. 7 You will behold the beauty the Holy Spirit loves to look upon, and which the Holy Spirit thanks the Father for. 8 The Holy Spirit was created to see this for you, until you learned to see the beauty within those whom you have forgiven for yourself. 9 And all the Holy Spirit’s teaching leads to seeing the beauty within your forgiven and guiltless brother and giving thanks with the Holy Spirit.

Note # 7: By following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we recover the vision of Christ. With this vision of Christ, we learn to look past form and see the reality of unlimited spirit, which is our brother. We see our brother as sinless and guiltless. We recognize the
Christ within our forgiven brother.

T-17.II.2. This loveliness of the beauty within your forgiven and guiltless brother is not a fantasy. 2 This loveliness is the real world, bright and clean and new, with everything sparkling under the open sun. p352 3 Nothing is hidden here in the real world, for everything has been forgiven and there are no fantasies to hide the truth. 4 The bridge between that world of fantasy and this world of truth is so little and so easy to cross, that you could not believe it is the meeting place, or bridge, between worlds so different. 5 Yet this little bridge is the strongest thing that touches on this fantasy world at all. 6 This little step, so small that this little step has escaped your notice, is a stride through time into eternity, beyond all ugliness into beauty that will enchant you, and will never cease to cause you wonderment at eternity’s perfection.

Note # 8: This step from our false illusionary world into the real world is a small step because it requires but one decision. This is the choice for truth over all that is false. This choice brings our world of fantasy into the light of truth. This one decision brings the false into the light of the Holy Spirit’s guidance system. The false fades away into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-17.II.3. This step, the decision for truth, the return to knowledge, over the falseness of illusion, is the smallest ever taken. This step is still the greatest accomplishment of all in God's plan of Atonement. 2 All else is learned, but this step is given, complete and wholly perfect. 3 No one but God Who planned salvation could complete this step, the return to knowledge, thus so completely. 4 The real world, in its loveliness, you learn to reach. 5 Fantasies are all undone, and no one and nothing remain still bound by fantasies, and by your own forgiveness you are free to see the real world. 6 Yet what you see is only what you made, with the blessing of your forgiveness on what you made. 7 And with this final blessing of forgiveness of God’s Son upon himself, the real perception, born of the new perspective he has learned, has served real perception’s purpose.

Note # 9: Real perception or correct perception is learned through following the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Under the thought system of the Holy Spirit, all judgments, which are based on the past, are no more and we are able to perceive the <now>. We see the present as it really is. Everything in the present is seen through the eyes of Christ as either love or a cry for love. The Christ within us responds the only way it can, since It is love, with love. Forgiveness has awakened this new perception within us. This new perception is the truth of our shared Oneness within the Mind of God.

T-17.II.4. The stars will disappear in light, and the sun that opened up the world to beauty will vanish. 2 Perception will be meaningless when perception has been perfected, for everything that has been used for learning will have no function, since everything was a lesson to return the split-minded to the truth and this has now been accomplished. 3 Nothing will ever change; no shifts nor shadings, no differences, no variations that made perception possible will still occur. 4 The perception of the real world will be so short that you will barely have time to thank God for your return to correct perception of the real world. 5 For God will take the last step, your return to knowledge, swiftly, when
you have reached the real world and have been made ready for God.

**Note # 10:** When we have learned how to perceive correctly by following the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we will always chose to be the expression of love. This is the truth about us. Before obtaining this correct perception, we had been under the mistaken belief that we were a limited ego-body in competition with other limited ego-bodies. Correct or real perception mirrors the perception of the Holy Spirit. This brings us back, or reawakens the sleeping Son of God to truth about His divine birthright. With the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves, we are so close to reality that our Father can now take the final step of awakening His Son to truth. This is accomplished with the return of the Sonship to knowledge.

T-17.II.5. The real world is attained simply by the complete forgiveness of the old, which is the world you see without forgiveness. 2 The great Transformer of perception, the Holy Spirit, will undertake with you the careful searching of the mind that made this world, and uncover to you the seeming reasons for your making this unforgiven world of your own misperception. 3 In the light of the real reason that the Holy Spirit brings, as you follow the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit will show you that there is no reason here at all in this unforgiven world you made. 4 Each spot the Holy Spirit’s reason touches grows alive with beauty, and what seemed ugly in the darkness of your lack of reason is suddenly released to loveliness. 5 Not even what the Son of God made in insanity could be without a hidden spark of beauty that gentleness could release. p353

**Note # 11:** The world’s purpose is to be a place or state of mind where those who claim they do not know themselves can come to question, explore, experience, and rediscover what they are. We will continue to come again into this world of perception until we no longer choose to play the game of separation. This will be accomplished when we accept the Atonement and learn that it is impossible to doubt ourselves or be unaware of what we are. Since what we are is certain, only our acceptance of what we are is required. For what we are is fixed eternally in the Mind of God. Change is not required of us, the Christ. We are only asked to accept our true big “S” Self, which is what we were created to be. We have always been and will always continue to be this Big “S” Self within the Mind of God. Only in the madness of our dream of split-mindedness, which is the dream of separation, could there be any conflict within God’s One Mind. This world is illusionary. Yet, even in dreams, anything that we created which is real, the Holy Spirit has preserved for us. In this dream, our thoughts of forgiveness and love are real. These loving and forgiving thoughts contain the spark of beauty that always remains within the Christ, the Son of God. Forgiveness of our brothers and ourselves releases the love that we are.

T-17.II.6. All this beauty that you created will rise to bless your sight as you look upon the world with forgiving eyes. 2 For forgiveness literally transforms vision, and lets you see the real world reaching quietly and gently across chaos, removing all illusions that had twisted your perception and fixed your perceptions on the past. 3 The smallest leaf becomes a thing of wonder, and a blade of grass a sign of God's perfection.
Note # 12: Without past judgments to cloud the truth of the <now>, the present is seen through the vision of Christ as a place for the communication, extension and sharing of love. The veil of our past judgments has been removed and we now can see the sinless and guiltless Son of God, the Christ, standing before us. We realize the Oneness of the Mind of God, and see the remembrance of God everywhere, for God is all that is. When we perceive correctly, the awe of the remembrance of God descends upon us. Forgiveness removes the veil of the illusion that the Son of God could be anything but guiltless. Thus, we remain perfect, whole and complete.

T-17.II.7. From the forgiven world the Son of God is lifted easily into his home, the truth of Heaven, which is the real world. 2 And there he knows that he has always rested there in Heaven in peace. 3 Even salvation will become a dream, and vanish from his mind. 4 For salvation is the end of dreams, and with the closing of the dream, salvation will have no meaning. 5 Who, awake in Heaven, could dream that there could ever be need of salvation?

Note # 13: With the return to Heaven, the dream of separation will fade into the nothingness from which it arose. The fantasy of separation will no longer be recalled or remembered. Once the Holy Spirit has fulfilled His function of reinterpreting our dream of separation back into the reality of truth, the once sleeping Son of God will reawaken. The dream has served its function and disappears. Both the dream and the idea of time fade away and what is left is only the truth of the Oneness of the eternal Mind of God.

T-17.II.8. How much do you want salvation? 2 Salvation will give you the real world, trembling with readiness to be given you. 3 The eagerness of the Holy Spirit to give you the real world is so intense the Holy Spirit would not wait, although the Holy Spirit waits in patience. 4 Meet the Holy Spirit’s patience with your impatience at delay in meeting the Holy Spirit. 5 Go out in gladness to meet with your Redeemer, and walk with the Holy Spirit in trust out of this world, and into the real world of beauty and forgiveness.

Note # 14: Salvation will be granted when we seek only the remembrance of God. There is nothing in an illusionary dream that can be of value. Be vigilant only for God, and the Holy Spirit’s thought system will once again return you to the vision of Christ so that the face of God will be in all that you behold. Your salvation lies in your reclaiming of your Oneness with the Will of God. This Oneness is the Mind of God, which we share completely.
Ill. Shadows of the Past

T-17.III.1. To forgive is merely to remember only the loving thoughts you gave in the past, and those loving thoughts that were given you. 2 All the rest, the unloving thoughts, must be forgotten. 3 Forgiveness is a selective remembering, based not on your selection, but the Holy Spirit’s thought system. 4 For the shadow figures you would make immortal are "enemies" of reality. 5 Be willing to forgive the Son of God for what the Son of God did not do. 6 The shadow figures are the witnesses you bring with you to demonstrate that the Son of God did what the Son of God did not do. 7 Because you bring these witnesses for illusion from your past with you, you will hear these witnesses for illusion claim that the Son of God did what the Son of God did not do. 8 And you who keep these false witnesses from your past by your own selection do not understand how these witnesses from your past came into your mind, and what these witnesses’ purpose is. 9 These witnesses from your past that claim that the Son of God did what the Son of God did not do represent the evil that you think was done to you in the past. 10 You bring these witnesses from your past with you only that you may return evil for evil, hoping that their witness will enable you to think guiltily of another and not harm yourself when you think guiltily of another and thus maintain the pretense of your innocence. 11 These witnesses from your past that claim that your brother did what your brother did not do speak so clearly for the separation that no one not obsessed with keeping the separation could hear these witnesses. 12 These witnesses from your past that claim that your brother did what your brother did not do offer you the "reasons" why you should enter into unholy alliances to support the ego's goals, and make your relationships the witness to the ego’s power. P.354

Note #15: The ego utilizes your past experience to judge and re-enact your past in the present. Special relationships are utilized by the ego to reconfirm your past misperceptions. The ego’s purpose in all special relationships is to demonstrate that you are not perfect, whole and complete. The Holy Spirit would have you forgive your brother and, ultimately, yourself by focusing on what is similar to the truth within your illusionary dream. Only thoughts that are shared and include the truth about your brother hold any resemblance to reality within your dream. Inclusive thoughts are forgiving and loving thoughts. The Holy Spirit would have you realize that thoughts of fear and attack are not from the Mind of God and, therefore, are illusions, which should be dismissed within the dream world of perception. Loving and forgiving thoughts are those that can be utilized by the Holy Spirit for the expressed purpose of relearning that you are love. The ego would have you enter into new relationships based on the past so that you would continue to play the role of innocent victim or sinner. The ego believes that you have either sinned or been wronged by your brother. The ego seeks retribution for these past wrongs. Either sinning or being sinned upon proves that you are not as God created you to be. The ego’s concept and belief in sin bear false witness to the separation and ‘prove” that you are not perfect, whole and complete.

T-17.III.2. It is these shadow figures from your past that claim that the Son of God did what the Son of God did not do, that would make the ego holy in your sight, and teach you what you do to keep the ego safe is really love. 2 The shadow figures always
speak for vengeance, and all relationships into which these shadow figures from the past enter are totally insane. 3 Without exception, these relationships which these shadow figures enter have as their purpose the exclusion of the truth about the other, and the exclusion of the truth about you. 4 This is why you see in both yourself and the other what is not there, and make of both yourself and the other the slaves of vengeance. 5 And why whatever reminds you of your past grievances attracts you, and why whatever reminds you of your past grievances seems to go by the name of love, no matter how distorted the associations by which you arrive at the connection may be. 6 And finally, why all such relationships that reminds you of your past grievances, become attempts at union through the body, for only bodies can be seen as means for vengeance. 7 That bodies are central to all unholy relationships is evident. 8 Your own experience has taught you that bodies are central to all unholy relationships since only bodies can be seen as a means for vengeance. 9 But what you may not realize are all the reasons that go to make the relationship that reminds you of your past grievances unholy. 10 For unholliness seeks to reinforce the unholiness that it sees in itself, just as holiness seeks to reinforce the holiness that it see in itself, by gathering to itself what it perceives as like itself.

Note # 16: The ego’s special relationship is an unholy one since its purpose is to bear false witness about the truth of the guiltlessness of both your brother and yourself. The ego seeks revenge for what it perceives as your own limitations. The ego sees you as imperfect and guilty. The ego seeks to extract its revenge and retribution from you, its imperfect host, by telling you that the retribution it seeks can be obtained by you attacking another. By identifying your mind with the body, you become witnesses to your own vulnerability and belief in limitation. By seeing both your brother and yourself as an ego-body, you now can suffer pain and inflict the same upon another. Although this suffering and inflicting of pain is not your expressed purpose, it is the hidden agenda of the ego’s special relationship. Your suffering and loss of inner peace is the verification of your inadequacies as a Child of God. Your suffering and loss of inner peace is always the final result of an egoic special relationship. Because the ego’s special relationship reinforces the belief that you are a limited ego-body, the relationship is an unholy one. The relationship’s purpose is to keep you from rediscovering your Oneness with the Mind of God. In the egoic special relationship, you seek completion outside yourself and fail to look within yourself for the remembrance of God and what you truly are.

T-17.III.3.In the unholy relationship, it is not the body of the other with which union is attempted, but rather union is attempted with the bodies of those who are not there. We seek union with these shadow figures from our past that falsely claim that the Son of God has sinned. 2 For even the body of the other party of the special relationship, which we have already placed a severely limited perception upon, is not the central focus as it is, or in entirety. We focus not on the entire whole other party, but rather only those parts of the other party that can be made to serve our past purpose. 3 What can be used for fantasies of vengeance, and what can be most readily associated with those on whom vengeance is really sought, is centered on and separated off as being the only parts of value. 4 Every step taken in the making, the maintaining and the breaking off of the unholy relationship is a move toward further fragmentation and
unreality. The shadow figures from your past that falsely claim that the Son of God did what the Son of God did not do, enter more and more, and the one in whom they seem to be, the other party of the special relationship, decreases in importance.

**Note # 17:** In the unholy special relationship, we do not value the whole person. We only value certain desirable parts of the other. By fragmenting the wholeness or oneness of the other party into parts, we continue down the path of separation. In the dream of separation, we attempted to give separate purposes or goals to each part of the whole. By assigning a different purpose for each part, it is now possible to have conflicting goals. Conflict, born of competition, now arises as each part struggles against the other parts to obtain the now perceived limited resources needed to fulfill its own separate function. We see ourselves with many separate and competing goals rather than as having only one true goal, which is the return of the entire Sonship to knowledge.

The Sonship currently sees itself as fragmented into many small “s” selves. It perceives itself as a separate, limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. Its oneness of unity has given way to the specialness of separation and individual perception. We believe that a part cannot contain the whole and that each part must be less than the whole. Each separately perceived part has its own special interest. That part’s special interests are in conflict with other parts of the whole. In the special relationship, we do not accept the other person as a whole. Rather we accept some parts and attack other parts of the other person’s wholeness. Because we do not accept the whole, we judge and fragment the wholeness of the other. As we focus on the unacceptable parts that need to be changed, we bring more and more shadowy figures into the relationship. The other party decreases in importance as we tear their wholeness apart. We find ourselves saying more and more, “I can love or perhaps only tolerate you, if you…<BLANK>…” We can all relate to how we choose to fill in the blank. Our special relationship becomes a source for attack. This egoic relationship is not based on acceptance and unconditional love. Rather it is conditioned on a set of rules and regulation that bind, limit and enslave each party. The egoic special relationship is a relationship of a lot of “strings”.

**T-17.III.4.** Time is indeed unkind to the unholy relationship. For time is cruel in the ego's hands, as time is kind when used for gentleness. The attraction of the unholy relationship begins to fade and to be questioned almost at once. Once the special or unholy relationship is formed, doubt must enter in, because the special or unholy relationship’s purpose is impossible. The "ideal" of the unholy relationship thus becomes one in which the reality of the other, the wholeness, oneness and guiltlessness of their unlimited spirit, does not enter at all to "spoil" the dream that we are separate ego-bodies. And the less the other really brings to the relationship, the "better" the unholy relationship becomes. Thus, the attempt at union becomes a way of excluding even the one with whom the union was sought. For the unholy relationship was formed to get him out of the oneness and guiltlessness of the truth, and join with fantasies in uninterrupted "bliss."

**Note # 18:** The ego uses the special relationship as a substitute for God’s love. The ego claims that our happiness and salvation can be found only in the special relationship. It claims that the special relationship’s purpose is to reunite and make you whole. But by
claiming that you are incomplete, the special relationship argues for your vulnerability. You cannot be made whole when you believe that you have sinned and, therefore, by definition are imperfect, unholy and incomplete. The ego will not allow the removal of this guilt; instead the special relationship demonstrates that you are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. This substitute for God’s love is based on the idea of limitation and attack. In the egoic special relationship, we must steal from others what we believe we lack. This is not the road to peace but rather a road to war. We need a body for only with a body can we attack. Thus, our mind identifies and becomes trapped within the body and we remain stuck within our dream of separation from the Oneness.

T-17.III.5. How can the Holy Spirit bring the Holy Spirit’s interpretation of the body as a means of communication into relationships whose only purpose is separation from reality? p355 2 What forgiveness <is> enables the Holy Spirit to do so. 3 If all but loving thoughts have been forgotten, what remains is eternal. 4 And the transformed past is made like the present, which in reality (Level#1) is eternal love. 5 No longer does the past conflict with <now>. 6 This continuity of loving and forgiving thoughts extends the present by increasing the present’s reality and the present’s value in your perception of the <now>. 7 In these loving thoughts is the spark of beauty hidden in the ugliness of the unholy relationship where hatred is remembered; yet there where loving and forgiving thoughts are, the egoic unholy relationship will come alive as the relationship is given to the Holy Spirit Who gives the relationship life and beauty. 8 That is why Atonement centers on the past, which is the source of separation, and where the past belief in separation must be undone. 9 For separation must be corrected where the separation was made, which is in the past.

Note # 19: Since we are invulnerable spirit, the only “hurt” that we could perceive must had occurred in our past misperceptions of what we are. By the use of forgiveness, the Holy Spirit takes the ego’s unholy special relationship, which is based on the past, and makes it into a holy relationship. A holy relationship is the extension of the thoughts of forgiveness and love. Only thoughts of forgiveness and love are designed to include and unify, rather than exclude and separate. Forgiveness allows us to dismiss the shadowy figures of the past that would claim that our brothers and we are guilty. The Atonement is the realization that what is not of the Mind of God is not real. Therefore, God’s Son must remain perfect, whole and complete. We are innocent and guiltless as God created His Son, the Christ, to be. The past is not real and our self-imposed guilt has no basis in reality. Love is all there is and we remain the perfect expression of God’s Love. By selectively remembering only loving thoughts, the Holy Spirit transforms our past perceptions into happy dreams that mirror the reality of Heaven.

T-17.III.6. The ego seeks to "resolve" the ego’s problems, not at their source, which is the mind, but where the problems were not made, which is at the level of the body. 2 And thus the ego seeks to guarantee there will be no solution. 3 The Holy Spirit wants only to make the Holy Spirit’s resolutions complete and perfect, and so the Holy Spirit seeks and finds the source of problems at the level of the mind, where the problem is, and there undoes the problem. 4 And with each step in the Holy Spirit’s undoing is the separation more and more undone, and union brought closer. 5 The Holy Spirit is not at
all confused by any "reasons" for separation. 6 All the Holy Spirit perceives in separation is that the separation must be undone. 7 Let the Holy Spirit uncover the hidden spark of beauty in your relationships, and show the hidden spark of beauty in your relationships to you. 8 The hidden beauty of this Spark’s loveliness will so attract you that you will be unwilling ever to lose the sight of this Spark again. This Spark is the Christ consciousness in your brother and yourself. This Spark is only love and truth. 9 And you will let this spark transform the relationship so you can see this Spark for truth more and more. 10 For you will want this spark for truth more and more, and become increasingly unwilling to let the beauty of this spark be hidden from you. 11 And you will learn to seek for and establish the conditions in which this beauty can be seen.

Note # 20: The ego’s problems appear to be many, but in reality there is just one. Our belief in the realness of the separation is the only problem. The Holy Spirit is not concerned with how the ego may disguise this problem. The ego may cloak the problem as lack of love or lack of a new car. It does not matter what “form” the problem is disguised as. To the Holy Spirit, the solution of all the ego’s problems is a same. All problems dissolve before the truth that the separation was not real. To the Holy Spirit, the only place to properly and permanently solve the problem is at the source of the problem, which is in the mind of the dreamer. The Holy Spirit’s message calls for the reestablishment of truth. The truth is that “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God.”

T-17.III.7. All this seeking for and the establishment of the conditions in which this beauty can be seen you will do gladly, if you but let the Holy Spirit hold the spark before you, to light your way and make the way clear to you. 2 God's Son is One. 3 Whom God has joined as one, the ego cannot put asunder and separate. 4 The spark of holiness must be safe, however hidden the spark of holiness may be, in every relationship. 5 For the Creator of the one relationship has left no part of the one relationship without Himself. This one relationship is the relationship we share with God, Himself. 6 This, the Son’s relationship with God, is the only part of the relationship the Holy Spirit sees, because the Holy Spirit knows that only this is true. 7 You have made the relationship unreal, and therefore unholy, by seeing the relationship where the relationship is not and as the relationship is not. We have chosen to view relationship through the egoic thought system, which supports the illusion of separation. 8 Give the past to the Holy Spirit Who can change your mind about the relationship for you. 9 But first, be sure you fully realize what you have made the past to represent, and why. p.356

Note # 21: To reestablish the right conditions for the vision of Christ to appear, one must simply ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. By turning over all our egoic problems to the Holy Spirit, His correct perception will light the way with truth and the false will simply fade away. The ego uses your past misperception as a basis to judge the present. Thus, the <now> of the present is not seen and the future becomes merely a re-enactment of past guilt and attack. The cycle of victim consciousness is never broken and your decision-maker never realizes that you can chose differently.
T-17.III.8. The past becomes the justification for entering into a continuing, unholy alliance with the ego against the present. 2 For the present <is> forgiveness. 3 Therefore, since the present <is> forgiveness, the relationships the unholy alliance dictates are not perceived nor felt as <now>, since forgiveness weakens the power of the ego. 4 Yet the frame of reference to which the present is referred for meaning is an <illusion> of the past, in which those elements of the present moment that fit the purpose of the unholy alliance are retained, and all the rest of those elements of the present moment that do not support the illusion from the past are let go. 5 And what is thus let go is all the truth the past could ever offer to the present as witnesses for the present’s reality. 6 What is kept but witnesses to the reality of dreams.

Note # 22: The ego practices selective recall. Having already prejudged the present event based on past errors in judgment, the egoic mind now projects these past mistaken ideas outside itself upon another. The ego, thus “confirms” that its past judgments are correct. The only perceptions that are allowed to return through the senses are items that confirm the original judgment. Only witnesses that support past judgments are allowed to testify on behalf of the ego’s version of the present. This egoic version of the present is thus based on a selective remembering from past misperceptions. The witnesses for the truth of the <now> are never allowed to testify in the trials of the ego’s lower court. In the High Court of the Christ, your big “S” Self, the Holy Spirit presents only truthful witnesses. The present is represented by the <now>. Only past acts of love and forgiveness are allowed to testify in the High Court of the Christ consciousness since only these acts bear any resemblance to the truth of the real world. In the dream of separation, only love and forgiveness are witnesses for the truth of the real world.

T-17.III.9. It is still up to you to choose to join with truth or to choose to join with illusion. 2 But remember that to choose one is to let the other go. 3 Which one you choose you will endow with beauty and reality, because the choice depends on which one, truth or illusion, that you value more. 4 The spark of beauty or the veil of ugliness, the real world or the world of guilt and fear, truth or illusion, freedom or slavery—it is all the same. 5 For you can never choose except between God and the ego. 6 Thought systems are but true or false, and all the thought system’s attributes come simply from what they are, which is either truth from God, or illusion from the ego. 7 Only the Thoughts of God are true. 8 And all that follows from the Thoughts of God comes from what the Thoughts of God are, and the Thoughts of God are as true as is the holy Source from which the Thoughts of God came, which is God.

Note # 23: ACIM states that there is only one decision to be made. That is the choice between truth and illusion. The thought system of the Holy Spirit speaks for truth and, therefore, speaks for God or Truth. The ego’s thought system speaks for separation and represents the falseness of illusion. We cannot serve two different thought systems at the same time for they are mutually exclusive. It is a simple choice between truth and illusion. There can be no compromise. ACIM implores us to be vigilant only for God.

T-17.III.10. My holy brother, I would enter into all your relationships, and step between
you and your fantasies. 2 Let my relationship to you be real to you, and let me bring reality to your perception of your brothers. 3 Your brothers were not created to enable you to hurt yourself through your brothers. 4 Your brothers were created to create with you. 5 This is the truth that I would interpose between you and your goal of madness, which is the thought that the separation is real. 6 Be not separate from me, and let not the holy purpose of Atonement be lost to you in dreams of vengeance. 7 Relationships in which such dreams of separation and vengeance are cherished have excluded me. 8 Let me enter in the Name of God and bring you peace, that you may offer peace to me.

Note #24: We are interconnected. The Sonship was not created to harm itself. Jesus, like the Holy Spirit, is aware of the truth of what we are. We are the united Sonship, the Christ. Jesus, who symbolizes the voice of the Holy Spirit, will guide us to the truth, if freely we ask.

IV. The Two Pictures

T-17.IV.1. God established God’s relationship with you to make you happy, and nothing you do that does not share God’s purpose, which is to make you happy, can be real. 2 The purpose God ascribed to anything is its only function. 3 Because of God’s reason for creating His relationship with you, the function of relationships became forever "to make happy." 4 <And nothing else.> p357 5 To fulfill this function of "to make happy," you relate to your creations as God relates to His creations. 6 For nothing God created is apart from happiness, and nothing God created but would extend happiness as its Creator did when God created His Son. 7 Whatever does not fulfill this function of "to make happy" cannot be real.

Note #25: Because we are an extension of the Mind of God, we are a replica of God in all aspects. Since God’s function is only “to make happy,” this becomes our function because there is only the one-shared Mind of God. Since God created us to be happy, we must create this same away. For like creates like and a strawberry births only strawberries, not apples. Being an extension of God, we are the same “God-stuff” and we must extend ourselves like Our Father. All of creation becomes the oneness of the whole, which is the shared Mind of God. All of creation goes about fulfilling its function, which is “God-ing” or the extension of Itself.

T-17.IV.2. In this world it is impossible to create because this world is not real being only a fantasy within a dream. 2 Yet it <is> possible to make happy. 3 I have said repeatedly that the Holy Spirit would not deprive you of your special relationships, but would transform your special relationships and make them holy. 4 And all that is meant by that transformation to holiness is that the Holy Spirit will restore to your special relationships the function given all relationships by God, which is “to make happy.” 5 The function you have given to your special relationships clearly does not make happy. 6 But the holy relationship shares God's purpose, which is “to make happy”. A holy relationship does not aim to make an egoic substitute for the
relationship's purpose, which God has already determined to be only “to make happy.” 7 Every special relationship you have made is a substitute for God's Will “to make happy”, and therefore glorifies your will instead of God’s Will because of the illusion that your will and God’s Will are different.

Note # 26: Because there is only the Will of God, anything that does not support the concept of this Oneness is an illusion that attempts to make the separation appear real. The ego’s purpose for the special relationship is not to make happy but rather to make one guilty for their perceived incompleteness or lack. Happiness and guilt are opposites and mutually exclusive. To make you or anything else guilty, even in an illusion, cannot be part of the Mind of God. God only knows His creations as perfect, whole and complete like himself. To make you guilty is an attempt to make the Oneness of God guilty. This is impossible since God’s Will does not change. If this illusionary attempt at separation were real, rather than a fantastical dream, this would be an attack upon God. But God being everything cannot be attacked and there can be no will but the invulnerable Will of God.

T-17.IV.3. You have made very real relationships even in this world. These real relationships of love and forgiveness that you have made in this world are real because their only function was God’s function, which is “to make happy.” 2 Yet you do not recognize these real relationships, because you have raised their substitutes to such predominance that, when truth calls to you, as truth does constantly, you answer with a substitute for truth, which is a relationship whose purpose is “not to make happy”. 3 Every special relationship you have made has, as its fundamental purpose, the aim of occupying your mind so completely that you will not hear the call of truth.

Note # 27: The ego’s chief tool for proving that separation is real is the special relationship. The basis for the special relationship is that you are incomplete, not perfect nor whole. Because of this, the ego tells us to seek outside ourselves for our happiness. The special relationship is the ego’s proof that we are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. Identifying ourselves as the body, we fail to remember that we are the dreamer. We fail to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit that asks us to awaken to the fact that we are the unlimited spirit of the Mind of God.

T-17.IV.4. In a sense, the special relationship was the ego's answer to the creation of the Holy Spirit, Who was God's Answer to the separation. 2 For although the ego did not understand what had been created, the ego was aware of the threat to the ego’s existence that the Holy Spirit imposed. 3 The whole defense system the ego evolved to protect the separation from the Holy Spirit was in response to the gift with which God blessed the separation, and by God’s blessing enabled the separation to be healed. 4 This blessing, which is the Holy Spirit, holds within itself the truth about everything. 5 And the truth is that the Holy Spirit is in close relationship with you, because in the Holy Spirit is your relationship with God restored to you. 6 The relationship with God has never been broken, because the Holy Spirit has not been separate from anyone since the separation. 7 And through the Holy Spirit have all your holy relationships been carefully preserved, to serve God's purpose for you.
Note # 28: The moment that the Sonship’s “mad idea” of separation was conceived, the Father placed within the Sonship the means to heal this “mad idea”. This “mad idea” was the belief that the Sonship could not know itself or that it could be something other than God, Its Source. The means for the correction of this mistake is the Voice of the Holy Spirit, which teaches the Sonship the Atonement principle. The Holy Spirit reawakens us to our divine birthright. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we begin to awaken from the dream that we could be something other than the Oneness of the Mind of God. God is the cause and we are His effect. As such, we complete God and are the Oneness of “All That Is”.

T-17.IV.5. The ego is always alert to threat, and the part of your mind into which the ego was accepted is very anxious to preserve its reason, as it sees it. This part of the split-mind, which is the egoic mind of the little “s” self, has adopted the thought system of separation and limitation and, therefore, identifies itself as the ego-body and thus wants to preserve egoic thinking. 2 The part of split-mind, which is the egoic mind of the little “s” self, does not realize that the thought system of the ego is totally insane. 3 And you must realize just what your self-denial that the egoic thought system is totally insane means if you would be restored to sanity. 4 The insane protect their insane thought systems, but the insane, do so insanely. p358 5 And all the insane’s defenses are as insane as what the insane’s defenses are supposed to protect. 6 The separation has nothing in it, no part, no "reason," and no attribute that is not insane. 7 And the separation’s "protection", which is the ego’s insane thought system, is part of the separation and is as insane as the whole. 8 The special relationship, which is the ego’s chief defense, must therefore be insane.

Note # 29: If we remain within an insane thought system, we will never be able to recover our sanity. Yet, an insane thought system appears sane to its insane follower. That part of split-mind, which is the egoic mind of the little “s” self, has adopted the thought system of the ego and, therefore, identifies itself as an ego-body and wants to preserve egoic thinking. The part of the split-mind which we call the egoic mind of the little “s” self does not realize that the thought system of the ego is totally insane Only with the help of someone who is both above the insane thought system and, yet, is also aware that you are a follower of the insanity of egoic thought, only that counselor can lead you out of the abyss. The Holy Spirit is this guide. Because of this, the ego sees the Holy Spirit as a threat to its survival. But in order for your decision-maker to seek such an external guide, the patient must trust its new counselor. Without faith in the Holy Spirit, we will not seek His guidance.

Since the separation is not real, it is nothing. Both the ego and the egoic thought system support the nothingness of the separation. Thus, the ego, itself, must be nothing.

T-17.IV.6. You have but little difficulty now in realizing that the ego’s thought system that the special relationship protects is but a system of delusions. 2 You recognize, at least in general terms, that the ego is insane. 3 Yet the special relationship still seems to you somehow to be "different" from the ego. 4 Yet we have looked at the special relationship far closer than we have at many other aspects of the ego's thought system.
that you have been more willing to let go. While this one, the special relationship, remains, you will not let the others aspects of the ego's thought system go. For the special relationship is not different from any other aspects of the ego's thought system. Retain the special relationship and you have retained the whole of the ego's thought system.

Note # 30: If you maintain any part of the ego’s thought system, you remain trapped in the belief of limitation. Liberation from the ego’s thought system only arrives with the complete rejection of all parts of the insanity. You can’t get to Heaven if you are only a “little” insane. There is only truth or illusion. If you continue to choose to keep any part of the illusion, you deny the reality of the truth.

T-17.IV.7. It is essential to realize that all defenses <do what they would defend. 2 The underlying basis for the defenses’ effectiveness is that the defenses offer what they defend. 3 What the defenses defend is placed in the defense for safekeeping, and as the defenses operate they bring what they defend to you. 4 Every defense operates by giving gifts, and the gift is always a miniature of the thought system the defense protects, set in a golden frame. 5 The frame is very elaborate, all set with jewels, and deeply carved and polished. 6 The defenses’ purpose is to be of value <in itself, > and to divert your attention from what the defense encloses. 7 But the frame without the picture you cannot have. 8 Defenses operate to make you think you can have the frame without the picture.

Note # 31: ACIM states that if we accept the defense, we are automatically accepting what the defense is defending. If the special relationship is the chief defense, or weapon, for the ego, than when we accept the special relationship, we are automatically accepting the ego. The ego and its thought system is the picture, which the special relationship was established to defend. We can’t have the special relationship, the frame, without getting the ego, which is the picture. The frame may look pretty, but, in this case, it is designed to hide the ugliness that the picture holds.

T-17.IV.8. The special relationship has the most imposing and deceptive frame of all the defenses the ego uses. 2 The ego’s thought system is offered here, surrounded by a frame so heavy and so elaborate that the picture is almost obliterated by the frame’s imposing structure. 3 Into the frame, which is the special relationship, are woven all sorts of fanciful and fragmented illusions of love, set with dreams of sacrifice and self-aggrandizement, and interlaced with gilded threads of self-destruction. 4 The glitter of blood shines like rubies, and the tears are faceted like diamonds and gleam in the dim light in which the offering is made.

Note # 32: The special relationship is the ego’s substitute for God’s love. It is what the ego says will make you happy. Unfortunately, even if the special relationship were capable of giving you complete happiness, which it is not; this happiness would only be temporary, ending ultimately in the death of one of the parties. The special relationship attempts to offer happiness. Yet, egoic “happiness” only comes at the cost of pain, which once again proves that you are a limited ego-body. ACIM warns against buying the
package for the beauty of the outside wrapper when all it holds inside is the pain of guilt, limitation and your littleness.

T-17.IV.9. Look at the <picture>, the insanity of the ego’s thought system. 2 Do not let the frame of the special relationship distract you. 3 This gift of the special relationship is given you for your damnation, and if you take this gift you will believe that you <are> damned. 4 You cannot have the frame without the picture. 5 What you value is the frame, for there you see no conflict in accepting the gift. 6 Yet the frame is only the wrapping for the gift of conflict. 7 The frame is not the gift. 8 Be not deceived by the most superficial aspects of the egoic thought system, for these aspects enclose the whole egoic thought system, complete in every aspect. p359 9 Death lies in this glittering gift. 10 Let not your gaze dwell on the hypnotic gleaming of the frame. 11 Look at the picture, and realize that death is offered you within the picture.

Note # 33: ACIM once again warns against buying the package for the beauty of the outside wrapper when all it holds inside is the pain of guilt, limitation and your littleness. You cannot have the so-called benefits of the special relationship without receiving what it holds inside itself. Hidden inside is the belief in sin, guilt, fear and sacrifice.

T-17.IV.10. That is why the holy instant is so important in the defense of truth. 2 The truth itself needs no defense, but you do need defense against your acceptance of the gift of death. 3 When you who are truth accept an idea so dangerous to truth, you threaten truth with destruction. 4 And your defense must now be undertaken, to keep truth whole. 5 The power of Heaven, the Love of God, the tears of Christ, and the joy of God’s eternal Spirit are marshaled to defend you from your own egoic attack. 6 For you attack Them, being part of Them, and They must save you, for They love Themselves. (“Them” references the previous mentioned power of Heaven, the Love of God, the tears of Christ, and the joy of God’s eternal Spirit, or Holy Spirit.)

Note # 34: Being part of the whole, our self-attack is an attack on the wholeness of the Oneness. Because of this attack on the Oneness, the entire powers of the Oneness are available to correct the mistakes that arise from the illusion of separation. The holy instant is the removal of all judgments, which make up our egoic past.

T-17.IV.11. The holy instant is a miniature of Heaven, sent you <from> Heaven. 2 The holy instant is a picture, too, set in a frame. 3 Yet if you accept this gift of the holy instant, you will not see the frame at all, because the gift can only be accepted through your willingness to focus all your attention on the picture, which is the holy instant. 4 The holy instant is a miniature of eternity. 5 The holy instant is a picture of timelessness, set in a frame of time. 6 If you focus on the picture, you will realize that it was only the frame that made you think it <was> a picture. 7 Without the frame, the picture is seen as what the picture represents, which is the truth of Heaven. 8 For as the whole thought system of the ego lies in the ego’s gifts, so the whole of Heaven lies in this instant, borrowed from eternity and set in time for you.

Note # 35: The holy instant mirrors the real world, the truth of Heaven. In the holy
instant, there is the suspension of the past judgments that prevented you from utilizing the vision of Christ in the <now>. In the holy instant we see the <now> of the truth of what we are, which is love and the extension of love. This vision of Christ is the gift that the thought system of the Holy Spirit brings.

T-17.IV.12. Two gifts are offered you, **truth or illusion, eternal life or death.** 2 Each is complete, and cannot be partially accepted. 3 Each is a picture of all that you can have, seen very differently. 4 You cannot compare their value by comparing a picture to a frame. 5 It must be the pictures only that you compare, or the comparison is wholly without meaning. 6 Remember that it is the picture that is the gift. 7 And only on this basis are you really free to choose. 8 Look at the pictures. 9 Both of them. 10 **The ego’s** is a tiny picture, hard to see at all beneath the heavy shadows of the picture’s enormous and disproportionate enclosure, **its frame, which is the egoic special relationship.** 11 The other, **the Holy Spirit’s picture,** is lightly framed by time and hung in light, lovely to look upon for what it is, **which is Truth.**

**Note # 36:** The fruits of the two thought systems bear different results. The gifts of the ego are sin, guilt, fear, pain, suffering, sacrifice and death. They are the gifts of nothing and the denial of your divine birthright. The gifts of the Holy Spirit offer you everything because they offer you the truth about yourself. The Holy Spirit freely gives happiness, love and the peace of God to us. When will we stop being too proud to accept the gift of the truth about what we are? We are the unlimited extension of the Mind of God.

T-17.IV.13. You who have tried so hard, and are still trying, to fit the better picture into the wrong frame and so combine what cannot be combined, accept this **fact that these opposing thought systems cannot be combined or coexist** and be glad: These pictures are each framed perfectly for what **these pictures’** represent. 2 **The ego’s picture** is framed to be out of focus and not seen. 3 The **Holy Spirit’s picture** is framed for perfect clarity. 4 The picture of darkness and of death grows less convincing as you search out the **picture of death** amid its wrappings, **which is the special relationship.** p360 5 As each senseless stone that seems to shine from the frame in darkness is exposed to light, **the frame** becomes dull and lifeless, and ceases to distract you from the picture. 6 And finally you look upon the picture itself, seeing at last that, unprotected by the frame, **the picture** has no meaning.

**Note # 37:** When we understand that the ego’s gift is a picture of guilt, pain and suffering, the original desire for the possessing of the gift for the beauty of the wrapping paper, which is the special relationship, wears off. Our decision-maker can now rethink whether we should accept the ego’s gift, which is only the promise of death.

T-17.IV.14. The other picture, **the Holy Spirit’s,** is lightly framed, for time cannot contain eternity. 2 There is no distraction here. 3 The picture of Heaven and eternity grows more convincing as you look at the **picture.** 4 And now, by real comparison, a transformation of both pictures can at last occur. 5 And each is given its rightful place when both are seen in relation to each other. 6 The dark picture, brought to light, is not perceived as fearful, but the fact that **the dark picture** is just a picture, or an **illusionary**
dream is brought home at last. 7 And what you see there in the ego’s dark picture of death and limitation, you will recognize as what it is; a picture of what you thought was real, and nothing more. 8 For beyond this picture of death and limitation you will see nothing, for the picture holds nothing but an imaged illusional fantasy.

Note # 38: Once we accept the Atonement for ourselves, God Himself will return us to Heaven and knowledge. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we come upon the holy instant where we gladly suspend all past judgments and clearly experience the <now>. The dark picture that the ego painted has been based on our past judgments of the guilt of our brother and ourselves. The Atonement reestablishes the guiltlessness of the Sonship. The reality of the Sonship remains perfect, whole and complete. This perfection is the picture that the holy instant offers to us.

T-17.IV.15. The picture of light, in clear-cut and unmistakable contrast, is transformed into what lies beyond the picture, which is the truth of Heaven. 2 As you look on what lies beyond the picture, you realize that it is not a picture, but a reality. 3 This is no figured representation of a thought system, but the Thought itself. 4 What the thought system represents, which is Truth, is there. 5 The frame of time fades gently and God rises to your remembrance, offering you the whole of creation in exchange for your little egoic picture, wholly without value and entirely deprived of meaning.

Note # 39: The holy instant mirrors the reality of heaven. Once we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we have no doubt about what we are. We have accepted our divine birthright. Now God, our Father, will take the final step in the process of our return to truth. Knowledge will be restored as we return to the whole-mindedness of Heaven. We will take our rightful place as part of the Oneness that is the Mind of God.

T-17.IV.16. As God ascends into God’s rightful place and you to your rightful place, you will experience again the meaning of relationship and know the meaning of relationship, which is “to make happy”, to be true. 2 Let us ascend in peace together to the Father, by giving the Father ascendance in our minds. 3 We will gain everything by giving the Father the power and the glory, and keeping no illusions of where the power and the glory are. 4 The power and the glory are in us, through God’s ascendance in our minds. 5 What the Father has given is the Father’s. 6 What the Father has given shines in every part of the Father, as in the whole. 7 The whole reality of your relationship with the Father lies in our relationship to one another. 8 The holy instant shines alike on all relationships, for in all relationships, God, your brother and you <are> one. 9 For here is only healing, already complete and perfect. 10 For here is God, and where God is only the perfect and complete can be. P.361

Note # 40: We are perfect, whole and complete because that is what the extension of the Mind of God must be. We are a Oneness. Being a Oneness, we are host to God, Himself. There is no separation. There is just the Oneness of God. In the holographic Mind of God, each indivisible part contains the whole and the whole contains each part. They are inseparable. There is no difference amongst a Oneness of “All That Is”.

V. The Healed Relationship

T-17.V.1. The holy relationship is the expression of the holy instant in living in this world. 2 Like everything about salvation, the holy instant is a practical device, witnessed to by the holy relationship’s results. 3 The holy instant never fails. 4 The experience of the holy relationship is always felt. 5 Yet without expression the holy instant is not remembered. 6 The holy relationship is a constant reminder of the experience in which the relationship became what it is. 7 And as the unholy relationship is a continuing hymn of hate in praise of its maker, the ego, so is the holy relationship a happy song of praise to the Redeemer of relationships, the Holy Spirit.

Note # 41: The holy relationship is the expression of the holy instant. When an egoic special relationship is given to the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit can convert this relationship into a holy one. The ego’s goal for an unholy relationship is to get something from another that we perceive we lack. The Holy Spirit transforms the relationship’s egoic goal into alignment with God’s purpose for all relations, which is “to make happy.” “To make happy” is to accept truth, which is the denial of illusion. To make happy is to share and give unconditional forgiveness and love. Forgiveness is only possible when we suspend all judgments and live in the <now> rather than in egoic misperceptions and past judgments.

T-17.V.2. The holy relationship, a major step toward the perception of the real world, is learned. 2 The holy relationship is the old, unholy relationship, transformed and seen anew. 3 The holy relationship is a phenomenal teaching accomplishment. 4 In all the holy relationship’s aspects, as the holy relationship begins, develops and becomes accomplished, the holy relationship represents the reversal of the unholy relationship. 5 Be comforted in this reversal of the unholy relationship into a holy relationship; the only difficult phase in this reversal of the unholy relationship into a holy relationship is in the beginning. 6 For here in the beginning, the goal of the relationship is abruptly shifted from the goal of verifying the reality of illusion to the exact opposite of what it was which is verification for the truth. 7 This change in purpose for verification of truth, which is to make happy, is the first result of offering the relationship to the Holy Spirit, to use for the Holy Spirit’s purposes.

Note # 42: When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the purpose of the experience is shifted to relearning the truth about our brother and ourselves. Previously, under the thought system of the ego, the goal was to maintain or increase guilt and, therefore, prove that we are a limited ego-body and separate from the Will of God. The Holy Spirit transforms the relationship into God’s purpose for all relationships, which is to make happy. Now the goal is to know the truth for the truth about our divine birthright is what makes us happy. We express this truth by recognizing the truth about our brother’s reality, his spiritual nature. Often, this may mean forgiving our brother for the wrongs of which we have falsely accused him of committing. Since we are interconnected with our brother, to give is to receive. Because the Holy Spirit has
changed the purpose of the ego’s special relationship from illusion to truth, this first change may often appear to be a radical shift for the parties involved. By keeping your faith in the Holy Spirit, God’s purpose will be served.

T-17.V.3. This invitation for the guidance of the Holy Spirit is accepted immediately, and the Holy Spirit wastes no time in introducing the practical results of asking the Holy Spirit to enter as your guide. 2 At once, the Holy Spirit’s goal replaces your egoic goal of attempting to make illusions real. 3 This replacing of goals from the ego’s to the Holy Spirit’s is accomplished very rapidly, but this change in goals makes the relationship seem disturbed, disjunctive and even quite distressing. 4 The reason is quite clear. 5 For the old egoic relationship as it <is> is out of line with the relationship’s own new goal, which supports the Holy Spirit’s thought system, and the old egoic handling of the relationship is clearly unsuited to the new purpose that has been accepted for the old relationship. The new purpose is to witness for the truth of union and the denial of the separation. 6 In its unholy condition, <your> egoic goal was all that seemed to give the unholy relationship meaning. 7 Now the previous egoic handling method for this relationship seems to make no sense. 8 Many relationships have been broken off at this point, and the pursuit of the old egoic goal re-established in another relationship. 9 For once the unholy relationship has accepted the goal of holiness, the unholy relationship can never again be what it was.

Note # 43: When we change the purpose of an old unholy, egoic relationship from one based on limitation to a holy relationship based on the extension of love and forgiveness, the old relationship’s new purpose will seem unsatisfying to the eyes of the ego. If we respond fearfully to this change in purpose, we will revert back into egoic thinking. This could result in our abandoning this newly modified relationship, which is based on love. The comfort of egoic thinking is based on fear and lack. Since the old relationship has been changed, we may seek to replace the newly modified holy relationship with a brand new unholy egoic special relationship. Thus, the ego replaces the old recently modified but now holy relationship with a new unholy special relationship. Because of our fear and lack of faith in the Holy Spirit, we have reverted back to the guidance system of the ego. Because old egoic thought patterns change slowly, it is not unusual to see some vacillation between the two thought systems with each vying for the decision-maker’s ear. Eventually, the decision-maker must and will make the choice only for truth.

T-17.V.4. The temptation of the ego becomes extremely intense with this shift in goals. 2 For the old relationship has not as yet been changed sufficiently to make the ego’s former goal completely without attraction, and the old relationship’s structure is "threatened" by the recognition of the old relationship’s structure inappropriateness for meeting its new purpose which the Holy Spirit has given it. 3 The conflict between the goal and the structure of the relationship is so apparent that the two-thought system’s differing purposes cannot coexist. 4 Yet now the goal will not be changed. p362 5 For the goal of the Holy Spirit’s purpose is set firmly in the unholy relationship, there is no course except to change the relationship to fit the goal. 6 Until this happy solution is seen and accepted as the only way out of the conflict, the relationship may seem to be severely strained.
**Note # 44:** Having adopted the goal of the Holy Spirit’s thought system to the old ego’s special relationship, prior acceptable thinking and activities will no longer meet the new goals for the relationship, which is “to make happy.” In the past, sacrifice and “giving to get” would have been considered acceptable activities for a relationship based on lack. Now these same activities are seen as unacceptable options. We need to modify, or change, our perception and our behavior within the relationship so that the old relationship will now fulfill its new purpose. Without this change in viewpoint, there will be an ongoing conflict between our egoic misperception and behaviors and the new goal for the relationship that has been set by the Holy Spirit. The happy solution is to accept the correct perception from the Holy Spirit so that both perception and purpose will be in alignment with the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Only activities that support the purpose of love and forgiveness will be viewed as acceptable outcomes.

**T-17.V.5.** It would not be kinder to shift the goal more slowly, for the contrast would be obscured, and the ego would then be given time to reinterpret each slow step according to the ego’s liking. 2 Only a radical shift in purpose could induce a complete change of mind about what the whole relationship is for. 3 As this change develops and is finally accomplished, the relationship grows increasingly beneficent and joyous. 4 But at the beginning, the situation is experienced as very precarious. 5 A relationship, undertaken by two individuals for their unholy purposes, suddenly has holiness for its goal. 6 As these two contemplate their relationship from the point of view of this new purpose of holiness, the two individuals are inevitably appalled. 7 The two individuals’ perception of the relationship may even become quite disorganized. 8 And yet, the former organization of the two individuals’ perception no longer serves the purpose of holiness that they have agreed to meet.

**Note # 45:** By radically shifting the goal of the relationship, the Holy Spirit limits the ego’s ability to muddy the waters. Because of the large contrast between each thought system’s goals, the natural outcomes are obvious. This prevents the ego from making minor changes in its thinking. If allowed, the ego will use its power of misperception to reconvert the relationship back into a relationship that bears false witness and claims that both our partner and ourselves are limited ego-bodies. Since the ego believes in varying degrees of difficulty, slow modification of goals are easily accommodated in egoic thinking. To the Holy Spirit, there is no degree in difficulty since there is only the true and the false, and the false is the belief in nothingness. Since there is no order of difficulty in miracles, converting one form of illusion to truth is no harder to convert than any other form of illusion. Any illusion need only be brought before the light of truth and the illusion will disappear. The Holy Spirit knows that the removal of illusion, which is the belief in nothingness, takes no time at all. To the Holy Spirit, time’s only purpose is to allow you to choose again. Once the choice for the thought system of the Holy Spirit is made, the Holy Spirit’s reaction to our misperception of the relationship’s purpose is immediate. Correction of the relationship’s purpose is also immediate. Instead of the ego’s goal of guilt, we now have God’s goal for relationships which is “to make happy.” Joining and Oneness are now the goal.
T-17.V.6. This early period of conflict that may appear quite disorganized and unsettling to the participants is the time for faith. You let this goal of holiness be set for you by the Holy Spirit. That was an act of faith. Do not abandon faith, now that the rewards of faith are being introduced. If you believed the Holy Spirit was there to accept the relationship, why would you now not still believe that the Holy Spirit is there to purify what the Holy Spirit has taken under the Holy Spirit’s guidance? Have faith in your brother in what but seems to be a trying time. The goal set. And your relationship has sanity as the relationship’s new purpose. For now you find yourself in an insane egoic relationship, recognized as such in the light of the ego’s goal.

Note # 46: The ego’s goal of littleness for any special relationship no longer makes any sense when compared to the happiness of being the Big “S” Self. We now understand that the special unholy relationship as practiced under the thought system of the ego is an insane substitute for God’s Love. We can no longer return to the old relationship, which was controlled by our ego. We now realize that egoic thinking demanded that we sacrifice our happiness in order to claim that we were limited and incomplete. Although ACIM states that we will not wish to vacillate or return this relationship to the control of the ego, our life’s experience demonstrates that we often do. Many times we “temporarily forgive” another only to reassert the person’s guilt at a later date. Obviously, this initial “forgiving” was not taken to heart. This is because we were in the early period of changing the purpose of the relationship and our faith in the Holy Spirit’s guidance was minimal. Because we still valued some of the old aspects of the special relationship, we allowed ourselves to slip back into egoic thinking. Rather than beat ourselves up for our inconsistencies, we need to realize that we can choose again. The Holy Spirit’s patience is unlimited.

T-17.V.7. Now the ego counsels thus; substitute for this old relationship and its new goal is truth for another relationship to which your former goal of guilt and illusion is still quite appropriate. Next the ego advises you can escape from your distress only by getting rid of your brother. Then the ego advises you need not part entirely if you choose not to do so. But you must exclude major areas of fantasy from your brother, to save your ego’s definition for sanity. <Hear not this now!> Have faith in the Holy Spirit who answered you. The Holy Spirit heard. Has the Holy Spirit not been very explicit in the Holy Spirit’s answer? Because you chose to listen to the Holy Spirit you are not now wholly insane. Can you deny that the Holy Spirit has given you a most explicit statement? Now the Holy Spirit asks for faith a little longer, even in bewilderment. For this confusion over the relationship’s new purpose will go away and you will see the justification for your faith emerge, to bring you shining conviction. Abandon the Holy Spirit not now, nor your brother. This relationship has been reborn as holy.

Note #47: ACIM asks that we keep our faith in our original choice for the Holy Spirit that was the correct choice. Do not waiver in your faith in the Holy Spirit. His function is to return you to the truth. The Holy Spirit is supported by the Power of God and cannot fail in His mission to return the split-minded Son to right-mindedness. The Holy Spirit has reinterpreted or converted the ego’s special relationship into a learning device for the
restoration of the Sonship’s holiness. Do not abandon your newly found faith in the Holy Spirit and your brother, for the benefits will soon become apparent to you. The same relationship that the ego made unholy in its desire to exclude and separate, the Holy Spirit has now made holy through joining and inclusion.

T-17.V.8. Accept with gladness what you do not understand, and let **what you do not understand** be explained to you as you perceive the **relationship’s new purpose** work in **this relationship** to make it holy. 2 You will find many opportunities to blame your brother for the "failure" of your relationship, for **your relationship** will seem at times to have no purpose. 3 A sense of aimlessness will come to haunt you, and to remind you of all the ways you once sought for satisfaction and thought you found **satisfaction under the guidance of the ego’s thought system**. 4 Forget not now the misery you really found **under the guidance of the ego’s thought system**, and do not breathe life into your failing ego. 5 For your **special relationship** has not been disrupted. 6 **Your special relationship** has been saved by the Holy Spirit and transformed into a holy relationship again.

**Note # 48:** ACIM states that we may not always understand the ways that the Holy Spirit goes about achieving Its function. However, this is no reason to lose faith in the Holy Spirit’s ability to get the desired results. The Holy Spirit knows the complete interrelationship among the entire Sonship. He knows God’s Plan for the Sonship’s salvation and the Holy Spirit will complete it perfectly.

T-17.V.9. You are very new in the ways of salvation, and think you have lost your way. p363 2 **<Your> egoic way <is> lost**, but think not this is loss for the ego’s way was **nothing**. 3 In your newness, remember that you and your brother have started again, **<together>**. 4 And take **your brother’s hand**, to walk together along a road far more familiar than you now believe. 5 Is it not certain that you will remember a goal unchanged throughout eternity? 6 For you have chosen but the goal of God, from which your true intent was never absent.

**Note # 49:** God’s goal for relationships is “to make happy”. This is the truth of our purpose and we will extend this same purpose of “to make happy” to our own creations. We cannot complete our function as co-creator with our Father unless we create like Him. When we extend love, this true act of creation makes happy “All that Is” and you are “That One.”

T-17.V.10. Throughout the Sonship is the song of freedom heard, in joyous echo of your choice to **choose for the thought system of the Holy Spirit**. 2 You have joined with many in the holy instant, and **many** have joined with you. 3 Think not your choice will leave you comfortless, for God Himself has blessed your holy relationship. 4 Join in God’s blessing, and withhold not **your blessing** upon the holy instant. 5 For all your **holy relationship** needs now is your blessing, that you may see that in the **holy relationship** rests salvation. 6 Condemn salvation not, for the **holy relationship and the holy instant** has come to you. 7 And welcome the **holy relationship and the holy instant** together, for the **holy instant** has come to join you and your brother together in a
relationship in which all the Sonship is together blessed.

**Note # 50:** Because we are joined within the Oneness of the Mind of God, our reality is a shared reality. We are asked to freely accept the choice for the Holy Spirit and thus, accept the Atonement for ourselves. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we accept the Atonement for the entire Sonship.

**T-17.V.11.** You undertook, together with your brother, to invite the Holy Spirit into your relationship. 2 The Holy Spirit could not have entered otherwise. 3 Although you may have made many mistakes since the initial invitation to the Holy Spirit, you have also made enormous efforts to help the Holy Spirit do the Holy Spirit’s work. 4 And the Holy Spirit has not been lacking in appreciation for all you have done for the Holy Spirit. 5 Nor does the Holy Spirit see the mistakes you perceive that you have made at all. 6 Have you, like your Teacher, the Holy Spirit, been similarly grateful to your brother? 7 Have you consistently appreciated your brother’s good efforts, and overlooked your brother’s mistakes? 8 Or has your appreciation for your brother flickered and grown dim in what seemed to be the light of your brother’s mistakes? 9 Perhaps you are now entering upon a campaign to blame your brother for the discomfort of the situation in which you find yourself. 10 And by this lack of thanks and gratitude you make yourself unable to express the holy instant, and thus lose sight of the holy instant.

**Note # 51:** The Holy Spirit has faith in us. The Holy Spirit’s focus is on what we can do that aids in the correction process. If we error, the Holy Spirit does not condemn, It merely asks that we choose again. We need to have similar respect for our brother. For, once again, to give is to receive and thus, when you are healed, you are not healed alone.

**T-17.V.12.** The experience of an instant, however compelling the experience of an instant may be, is easily forgotten if you allow time to close over the experience of an instant. p364 2 The experience of an instant must be kept shining and gracious in your awareness of time, but not concealed within your awareness of time. 3 The instant remains. 4 But where are you? 5 To give thanks to your brother is to appreciate the holy instant, and thus enable the holy instant’s results to be accepted and shared. 6 To attack your brother is not to lose the instant, but to make the instant powerless in the instant’s effects.

**Note # 52:** If we forget the holy instant and avoid the continued sharing of it with our brother, the result will fade from our split-mind. Time is needed only when we believe that we have choices to make. As long as we believe that we have a choice between truth and illusion, we will need time. For time is required for the decision-maker to choose again. When we accept the truth of our oneness with our brother and with God, there will be no need for time. Time will no longer serve any function since with the return to knowledge there is no change for time to measure. Time is irrelevant since we are in the experience of the <now>.

**T-17.V.13.** You have received the holy instant, but you may have established a
condition in which you cannot use the holy instant. 2 As a result, you do not realize that the holy instant is with you still. 3 And by cutting yourself off from the holy instant's expression, you have denied yourself the benefit of the holy instant. 4 You reinforce this denial to yourself of the benefits of the holy instant every time you attack your brother, for the attack must blind you to yourself, your Big “S” Self. 5 And it is impossible to deny your Big “S” Self, and to recognize what has been given and received by you which is the holy instant.

Note # 53: The benefits of the holy instant are never lost, but you may choose not to recognize them. The Holy Spirit will save these benefits for you until you choose to reclaim your divine birthright. To fail to see your brother’s perfection and guiltlessness is to deny the benefits of the holy instant to yourself. This maintains the illusion that God’s Son is guilty and thus, not perfect, whole and complete. You have refused to accept salvation for your brother and, therefore, have refused to accept it for yourself.

T-17.V.14. You and your brother stand together in the holy presence of truth itself. 2 Here is the goal together with you and your brother. 3 Think you not the goal itself will gladly arrange the means for the goal’s accomplishment? 4 It is just this same discrepancy between the purpose that has been accepted and the means as they stand now which seems to make you suffer, but which makes Heaven glad. 5 If Heaven were outside you, you could not share in Heaven’s gladness. 6 Yet because Heaven is within, the gladness of Heaven, too, is your gladness. 7 You, your brother and Heaven are joined in purpose, but remain still separate and divided on the means to accomplish the return to truth. 8 Yet the goal of the return to truth is fixed, firm and unalterable, and the means will surely fall in place because the goal is sure. 9 And you will share the gladness of the Sonship that the goal is fixed and the means will fall in place and that this is so.

Note # 54: The return to truth and the return to Heaven are the same. For the acceptance of the truth is the acceptance of your divine birthright.

T-17.V.15. As you begin to recognize and accept the gifts you have so freely given to your brother, you will also accept the effects of the holy instant and use the effects of the holy instant to correct all your mistakes and free you from your mistakes’ results. 2 And learning how to correct and free yourself from your mistakes, you will have also learned how to release all the Sonship, and offer this learning in gladness and thanksgiving to Him, the Holy Spirit, Who gave you your release, and Who (the Holy Spirit) would extend this learning through you.

Note # 55: The acceptance of the holy instant is the removal of all judgment. With the removal of judgment, the Holy Spirit can reawaken the Christ vision that has been lying dormant within your mind. The Christ was never asleep but prior to the holy instant we had refused to listen to the voice of our Higher Self. We had chosen to follow the ego’s thought system. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we reawakened to the truth about our guiltless nature, which is our Big “S” Self, the Christ. By accepting the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we become teachers of the innocence of God’s Son. When we
forgiving our brother for the wrongs that we perceive he has committed, we teach and
grant forgiveness to both our brother and ourselves. Mistakes only require correction, not
punishment. We understand our joint singular purpose and understand that there is only
one means for the return to truth and that is to accept the Atonement for ourselves. Only
God’s Plan for salvation works and it is the only plan we want.

Note: We speak of the holy instant as the suspension of judgment, which allows the
granting of forgiveness. This is the same thing as the achievement of the miracle.
For a miracle is merely a change in perception within one’s own mind. Thus
forgiveness, the miracle and the holy instant are closely related. Forgiveness is the
change in perception that is the miracle and the holy instant is the moment when
this occurs.

VI. Setting the Goal

T-17.VI.1. The practical application of the Holy Spirit’s purpose is extremely simple, but
the Holy Spirit’s purpose, which is how to correct and free you from your mistakes,
is unequivocal. 2 In fact, in order for the Holy Spirit’s purpose to be simple the Holy
Spirit’s purpose <must> be unequivocal. 3 The simple is merely what is easily
understood, and for the Holy Spirit’s purpose to be clearly understood, it is apparent
that the Holy Spirit’s purpose must be clear. 4 The setting of the Holy Spirit’s goal is
general. p365 5 Now the Holy Spirit will work with you to make the Holy Spirit’s goal
specific, for application <is> specific. 6 There are certain very specific guidelines the
Holy Spirit provides for any situation, but remember that you do not yet realize the Holy
Spirit’s specific guidelines for any situation are a universal application. 7 Therefore,
because you fail to realize the Holy Spirit’s guidelines are universally applicable in
every situation, it is essential at this point to use the Holy Spirit’s guidelines in each
situation separately, until you can more safely look beyond each situation, in an
understanding far broader than you now possess.

Note # 56: The Holy Spirit’s goal is to bring illusions before the truth so that the illusions
will disappear. This is how the Holy Spirit corrects and frees you from your mistakes.
Truth is truth, and illusions are false. The false can have no real effect on the truth for the
truth will always be true. The false, however, must give way to the truth. The Holy Spirit
simply applies this idea to all illusions that we hold about our world of perception and
time. Because we believe that there is an order of difficulty, we think that one illusion can
be more difficult to correct than another illusion. Truth dissolves all illusions. The Holy
Spirit knows that there is no order of difficulty in correcting the false. But since we
believe that there are different forms and degrees of fantasy, we insist on correcting each
illusion as if it were different from all other illusions. Because of this, the Holy Spirit is
willing to correct each illusion one at a time, until we learn the universal applicability of
the correcting process.

T-17.VI.2. In any situation in which you are uncertain, the first thing to consider, very
simply, is ”What do I want to come of this situation? 2 What is this situation <for>?” 3
The clarification of the goal belongs at the beginning, for it is this clarification of the goal, which will determine the outcome. In the ego's procedure this is reversed. In the ego's procedure, the situation becomes the determiner of the outcome, and therefore, the outcome can be anything. The reason for the ego's disorganized approach is evident. The ego does not know what the ego wants to come of the situation. The ego is aware of what the ego does not want, but only that. The ego has no positive goal at all.

**Note # 57:** The Holy Spirit’s thought system says that we first need to establish a goal for any particular situation. Once the goal is established, the mind can go about the task of accomplishing the goal. For the mind is goal oriented and can create its own provisional reality. Yet, the ego, not knowing what you are, has no positive goals for you. The ego only knows it does not want you to rediscover the truth about yourself since this would result in the destruction of the ego. Because the ego has no positive goal for you, the ego allows the situation to control the outcome. Any result that keeps you in victim consciousness will suit the ego just fine. If the ego had you consciously predetermine the goal that you wish to achieve before entering into any situation, this would increase your belief that your own mind has some control over your fate. You would begin to move into responsibility thinking. You would become the cause of all you “see”. Rather than just reacting to a situation, you can actually realize that you are the source of the situation that you wish to observe. Your ego does not want to reawaken your decision-maker to the fact that your mind creates your own “reality”.

**T-17.VI.3.** Without a clear-cut, positive goal, set at the outset, the situation just seems to happen, and makes no sense until the situation has already happened. Then you look back at the situation, and try to piece together what the situation must have meant. And you will be wrong about what the situation meant. Not only is your judgment in the past, but you have no idea what should happen, therefore, it is impossible for you to correctly determine what the situation meant. No goal was set with which to bring the means, the situation, in line. And now the only judgment left to make is whether or not the ego likes the situation’s outcome; is the situation’s outcome acceptable, or does the situation’s outcome call for vengeance? The absence of a criterion for outcome, set in advance, makes understanding doubtful and evaluation impossible.

**Note # 58:** If we are sailing a ship and have no predetermined destination, any direction will do. Since we lack a precise destination, only upon our arrival at a port will we be able to decide whether we like the outcome of the trip. The Holy Spirit’s thought system tells you to predetermine where you want to go and then let the mind sail you to your predetermined port of call. Your destination is now of your own making.

**T-17.VI.4.** The value of deciding in advance what you want to happen is simply that you will perceive the situation as a means to your goal of what you want to happen. You will therefore make every effort to overlook what interferes with the accomplishment of your objective, and concentrate on everything that helps you meet your objective. It is quite noticeable that this approach of deciding in advance what you want the outcome to be has brought you closer to the Holy Spirit's sorting out of
truth and falsity. 4 The true becomes what can be used to meet the goal. 5 The false becomes the useless from this point of view. 6 The situation now has meaning, but only because the goal has made the situation meaningful.

**Note # 59:** Because you have predetermined what the desired outcome should be, you now have measurable criteria against which you can measure the results. By setting goals and working toward their achievement, we have started back up the ladder from victim consciousness and begun to reclaim our role as decision-maker. We become at least proactive, rather than only reactive, to the situation. We have begun to realize that the mind’s thoughts have creative power. Our thoughts become the things of time and space. We have begun the road to the rediscovery of the creative power of our mind and that we are destined to be a co-creator with our Father.

**T-17.VI.5.** The goal of truth has further practical advantages. 2 If the situation is used for truth and sanity, the situation’s outcome must be peace. 3 And this peace is quite apart from what the outcome is. 4 If peace is the condition of truth and sanity, and if peace cannot be without truth and sanity, where peace is, truth and sanity must be. p366 5 Truth comes of itself. 6 If you experience peace, it is because the truth has come to you and you will see the outcome truly, for deception cannot prevail against you. 7 You will recognize the outcome because you are at peace. 8 Here again you see the opposite of the ego’s way of looking, for the ego believes the situation brings the experience. 9 The Holy Spirit knows that the situation is as the goal determines the situation, and the situation is experienced according to the goal.

**Note # 60:** The Holy Spirit knows that your mind either creates or makes what you experience and perceive and this then becomes your provisional reality. The mind, even when split, has tremendous powers to project or to create what it wants. When the mind makes, you project thoughts of fear and exclusion into your world of provisional reality. When you create, you extend and share thoughts of inclusion. Thoughts that include are forgiving and loving. Thoughts of exclusion are attacking and fear-based thoughts. In either projection or extension, the thought comes first. It is this thought that generates the situation that is then observed as the predetermined outcome. But your mind’s thought was the originator of this process. You are the source of what you choose to experience. The ego claims that you are the powerless victim and that everything you perceive is originated from outside yourselves.

**T-17.VI.6.** The goal of truth requires faith. 2 Faith is implicit in the acceptance of the Holy Spirit's purpose, and this faith is all-inclusive. 3 Where the goal of truth is set, there faith must be. 4 The Holy Spirit sees the situation as a whole. 5 The goal establishes the fact that everyone involved in the situation will play his part in the goal of the situation’s accomplishment. 6 This is inevitable that each will play his part and that the goal will be achieved. 7 No one will fail in anything. 8 This seems to ask for faith beyond you, and beyond what faith you can give. 9 Yet this limited belief in your faith in truth is so only from the viewpoint of the ego, for the ego believes in "solving" conflict through fragmentation, and does not perceive the situation as a whole. 10 Therefore, the ego seeks to split off segments of the situation and deal with each
segment separately, for the ego has faith in separation and not in wholeness.

Note # 61: We need to have faith that no task that is required for our reclaiming of our divine birthright is beyond the power of the Holy Spirit. God gave the Holy Spirit its mission. Its mission is the return of the split-minded to the truth and the Holy Spirit cannot fail to fulfill this function. We need to maintain our faith in our Teacher, the Holy Spirit, by continuing to turn over all our problems to Him. The Holy Spirit is aware of God’s Plan for salvation and understanding that all interactions with our brothers are opportunities for miracles. He will return us to the truth of our oneness with our brother and, therefore, with the truth about what we are.

The ego wants to maintain your belief in the reality of the separation. The ego attempts to maintain the separation by fragmenting the Sonship into individualized parts, all of which are in competition for limited resources. The ego deals with each party’s situation as unrelated to the whole. To the ego, the parts are different from the whole. Each party is to get what is best for their own perceived special interest. Each individual situation is a battle to be fought within a zero sum game. Based on what the ego perceives, we attack or barter. Either attack or barter proves that we are separate from our brother. Thus, the outcome of each situation does not matter to the ego, for in either case we get to remain guilty and, therefore, remain separate from God.

T-17.VI.7. Confronted with any aspect of the situation that seems to be difficult, the ego will attempt to take these difficult aspects elsewhere, and resolve these difficult aspects elsewhere where they appear to be separated from the whole. And this resolving of difficult aspects without considering their impact on the whole will seem to be successful, except that this attempt of fragmentation of the situation into seemingly unrelated parts conflicts with the unity of the whole, and must obscure the goal of truth. And peace within the ego’s thought system will not be experienced except in fantasy. Truth has not come because faith has been denied to truth, being withheld from where faith rightfully belonged. Thus do you lose the understanding of the situation the goal of truth would bring. For fantasy solutions bring but the illusion of experience, and the illusion of peace is not the condition in which truth can enter.

Note # 62: The ego’s solution to any “problem” is to paste something over the top of the problem and thus, cover-up the problem. The problem always stems from our denial of our One Self. Everything after this denial of our Oneness is just another illusion over the first illusion that we could be separate from God. Rather than deal with the problem at the problem’s source, which is the denial of what we are, the ego directs our attention to some later effect, or result, from the first problem. The ego makes and places a new illusion over the effect from the first illusion in an attempt to cover up, or hide, the previous illusion. Each new cover-up moves us further and further away from the truth. Now we are three illusions removed from the truth instead of only two illusions. The ego can even make up an illusion that we are at peace within our pursuit of egoic littleness. But this false peace is only an illusion. How can we, who have been given everything, be happy with the nothingness of a fantasy? To correct the problem, we must correct the problem at the source of the error. The error’s source is in the split-minded’s belief that it could be something other than as God created it. This is the thought that created the
problem and birthed the world of perception. We cannot solve the problem within the
dream itself, for the solution would still only be a fantasy. We need to allow the Holy
Spirit to reawaken the sleeping Child to the truth and then watch the dream of separation
disappear.

VII. The Call for Faith

T-17.VII.1. The substitutes for aspects of the situation are the witnesses to your lack of
faith. 2 The substitutes for aspects of the situation demonstrate that you did not believe
the situation and the problem were in the same place. 3 The problem <was> the lack of
faith, and it is this lack of faith that you demonstrate when you remove aspects of the
situation from the situation’s source and place some aspects of the situation elsewhere.
4 As a result, you do not see the problem. 5 Had you not lacked faith the problem
could be solved, the problem would be gone. 6 And the situation would have been
meaningful to you, because the interference in the way of understanding, which is your
fragmenting and displacing parts of the situation from the whole, would have been
removed. p367 7 To remove the problem elsewhere is to keep the problem, for you
remove yourself from where the solution is and, thus, make the problem unsolvable.

Note # 63: When we talk of removing some aspect of the problem and thus, fragmenting
the problem, we are often talking about level confusion. An example of level confusion
occurs when we identify ourselves as a body instead of the mind. If the body appears to
be sick, it is because our mind is <dis-eased>. We are not in a state of ease or as it would
more commonly be called, a state of peace. The mind that denies its own existence
cannot be at peace with itself. Rather than correct the problem at the source, which is
mind, we attribute the problem to the body and, therefore, treat the symptom, the pain in
our foot, rather than the mind’s belief that it is a body. All conflict is a result of our own
self-doubt of what we are. It is our small “s” selves’ desires that are out of alignment with
our Big “S” Self. Conflict is the result of our denying that we are an “I AM” and,
therefore, just “BEING”. Instead, we have chosen to experience what it would be like to
be the impossible, which is to not know ourselves. Now we are pretending to be the
illusion of a “What AM I?” We have moved from being, into a thinking and judgment
mode.

We take a pain pill to mask the pain in the foot, rather than deal with the cause of
the problem. The problem is in the mind that believes it is not unlimited spirit. We have
raised the body to the level of mind. They are not on the same level. The mind, not the
body, is where the solution to the perceived situation lies. We can search all over in the
world of illusionary form and we will never resolve the problem within our mind. They
are on different levels. The ego’s motto is “Seek, but do not find.” By fragmenting,
hiding and layering the error, the ego insures that the problem is never resolved. If we are
to be healed, we must give all our misperception over to the Holy Spirit.

T-17.VII.2. There is no problem in any situation that faith will not solve. 2 There is no
shift in any aspect of the problem but will make solution impossible, for the problem
must be solved in its entirety at the source and not fragmented. 3 For if you shift part of the problem elsewhere the meaning of the problem must be lost, and the solution to the problem is inherent in the problem’s meaning. 4 Is it not possible that all your problems have been solved, but you have removed yourself from the solution? 5 Yet faith must be where something has been done, and where you see that something has been done.

Note # 64: All of our problems have already been solved, for there are no problems truth does not resolve. Truth is God’s Will. Being everything, what could we lack? The problem is the fact that we have chosen to deny the truth and replace it with illusion. We have removed ourselves from the knowledge of Heaven and placed ourselves inside a dream of uncertainty. Egoic questioning has brought doubt into our mind and now we find ourselves in a “What Am I State?” Perception has replaced knowledge. We have made an illusionary world of provisional reality to be our game-board where we can play out the game of separation within our split-mind. The problem is not the dream, which is merely like going to a movie. The problem is that we have identified ourselves with the movie and, therefore, believe the movie is real. The world of perception is a world in which we pretend that we have a choice in what the truth can be. In the world of perception, we “make up” our own “truth” as we go along. Pretending that the truth can change results in an unstable world in which time has a function. The problem is our lack of faith in what is true. Truth is truth, and no fantasy can change truth. Truth just is.

We cannot find the solution to a fantasy within the dream itself. To replace one illusion with another illusion, only changes the form of the illusion. We have placed one false idea on top of another false idea. We have not found the truth, yet, we insist on hiding the truth under more and more layers of the false. By responding to each layer of the dream as if it has the power to affect our true reality, we have made the dream appear real. The solution to all illusionary problems is the reawakening to the truth. Only the truth will remove the false. We are the perfect Children of God. The thought system of the Holy Spirit is the voice for truth. We cannot listen exclusively to the Holy Spirit while we still value the egoic thought system. Truth and illusion do not mix. To maintain some parts of the ego’s thought system is to reject the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The mind cannot serve two masters. To attempt to do so will lead to our continued lack of faith in the power of truth over illusions. We will continue to be conflicted and confused.

T-17.VII.3. A situation is a relationship, being the joining of thoughts. 2 If problems are perceived, it is because the thoughts are judged to be in conflict. 3 But if the goal is truth, to judge thoughts to be in conflict is impossible. 4 Some idea of bodies must have entered, for minds cannot attack. 5 The thought of bodies is the sign of faithlessness, for bodies cannot solve anything. 6 It is the bodies’ intrusion on the relationship, an error in your thoughts about the situation, which then becomes the justification for your lack of faith in the truth of what you really are, the guiltless Son of God. 7 You will make this error of confusing the body with the mind, but be not at all concerned with this error of confusing the body with the mind. 8 The error does not matter. 9 Faithlessness brought to faith will never interfere with truth. 10 But faithlessness used against truth will always destroy faith. 11 If you lack faith, ask that faith be restored where faith was lost, and seek not to have faith made up to you elsewhere, as if you had been unjustly deprived of faith.
Note # 65: Lifting the body up to the level of mind is accepting that you believe that you are a body. You have empowered and raised body thoughts to the level of the mind. By identifying yourself with a body, you are rejecting the guidance of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. You must maintain complete faith that the Holy Spirit will succeed in returning the split-minded back to the wholeness of truth. If we associate ourselves with a body, we are still under the illusion that we are the arbitrators of truth. Truth is truth! The belief that we can pick and choose between truth and illusion is an attack on truth. Such an attack can only destroy your faith in the truth. Truth is absolute. Truth is not negotiable. Perception was created by our belief that somehow we could negotiate and decide for ourselves what would be the truth. Only the insane believe they can make up what is true as they go. Perception’s projections have become our own private fantasy world in which we make up anything we wanted to and then believe that it is the “truth.” Perception is the belief that we could choose when, where and what will be the “truth.” This idea that what is true is a personal choice is the ravings of a mad man. Our ego tells us that there are varying degrees of truth; that truth is conditional and that you get to set the conditions for truth. Freewill allows us to deny the truth, but our denial cannot change the truth. This denial of the truth that you are the One Self is the denial of the Will of God.

T-17.VII.4. Only what <you> have not given can be lacking in any situation. 2 But remember this; the goal of holiness was set for your relationship by God, and not by you. 3 You did not set the goal of holiness for your relationship because holiness cannot be seen except through faith, and your relationship was not holy because your faith in your brother was so limited and little. 4 Your faith must grow to meet the goal of holiness for your relationship that has been set by God. 5 The goal's reality will call this holiness forth, for you will see that peace and faith will not come separately. 6 What situation can you be in without faith, and remain faithful to your brother?

Note # 66: God has established that the purpose of all relationships is “to make happy.” A holy relationship will fulfill this purpose of happiness. We cannot “make happy” by refusing to acknowledge the truth about our brother or ourselves. If we lack faith that our brother is perfect, whole and complete, how can we make happy, when we deny the truth about our brother? We are joined at the “hip” since to give is to receive. Deny the Big “S” Self in our brother, and we deny the Christ in ourselves. Our lack of faith in our brother has destroyed our faith in the truth that we too are perfect, whole and complete. Together we are a jointed Oneness with our brother and our Creator. We are the One Self.

T-17.VII.5. Every situation in which you find yourself is but a means to meet the purpose set for your relationship. 2 See the situation as something else than a means to meet the purpose set for your relationship and you are faithless to the truth. 3 Use not your faithlessness. 4 Let faithlessness enter and look upon faithlessness calmly, but do not use faithlessness. 5 Faithlessness is the servant of illusion, and wholly faithful to its egoic master. 6 Use faithlessness and faithlessness will carry you straight to illusions. 7 Be tempted not by what faithlessness and its illusions offers you. p368 8 Faithlessness and its illusions interferes, not with the goal, but with the value of the goal to you. 9
Accept not the illusion of peace that our faithlessness in the truth offers, but look upon faithlessness’s offering and recognize that faithlessness’s egoic offering of peace illusion.

**Note # 67:** The faithlessness in truth is faith in the ego’s thought system. The ego believes that there is a substitute for God’s Love. It is this egoic idol that is to be the substitute for the peace of God. This substitute can be found in the special relationship. The special relationship is merely a veil to confirm the ego’s claim that we are a limited ego-body, not unlimited spirit. This egoic special relationship that claims to offer peace and love instead always ends in guilt and attack. This egoic special relationship makes the body appear real yet incomplete and very vulnerable. Our Big “S” Self, being the everything of the One Self, could never find happiness or peace in the body. Our Big “S” Self calls for the denial of all illusion and the acceptance of God’s Will. Choose to accept the Atonement for yourself and reclaim your divine birthright.

**T-17.VII.6.** The goal of illusion is as closely tied to faithlessness as faith to truth. 2 If you lack faith in anyone to fulfill, and perfectly, his part in any situation dedicated in advance to truth, your dedication is divided. 3 And so you have been faithless to your brother, and used your faithlessness against your brother. 4 No relationship is holy unless the relationship’s holiness goes with the relationship everywhere. 5 As holiness and faith go hand in hand, so must the relationship’s faith go everywhere with the relationship. 6 The goal's reality will call forth and accomplish every miracle needed for the relationship goal's fulfillment. 7 Nothing too small or too enormous, too weak or too compelling, but will be gently turned to the relationship's use and purpose. 8 The universe will serve the relationship's goal gladly, as the relationship's goal serves the universe. 9 But do not interfere.

**Note # 68:** Follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Who cannot fail. “Failure” can only occur when we let the ego convince us that it has a better plan and, therefore, we reaffirm our allegiance to the ego. We “dump” the Holy Spirit’s plan and go it alone by following the ego’s plan. When we lack faith in our brother, we lack faith that the Holy Spirit knows the truth and how best to get us to home.

**T-17.VII.7.** The power set in you in whom the Holy Spirit's goal has been established is so far beyond your little conception of the infinite that you have no idea how great the strength that goes with you. 2 And you can use <this power set in you by God, our Creator>, in perfect safety. 3 Yet for all this power’s might, so great the power set in you by God that it reaches past the stars and to the universe that lies beyond them, your little faithlessness can make this power set in you by God useless, if you would use the faithlessness instead.

**Note # 69:** We have the creative power of God within us. This is our birthright. However, we can deny that we possess this creative power. We can place our faith in the illusion of separation and lack and thus, render ourselves powerless to create like God. For what we choose to believe becomes our provisional reality. If we argue for our limitations, we get to keep them.
Yet think on your ability to deny the power of God within you and learn the cause of faithlessness: You think you hold against your brother what your brother has done to you. But what you really blame your brother for is what you did to your brother. It is not your brother’s past but your past that you hold against your brother. And you lack faith in your brother because of what you were. Yet you are as innocent of what you were as your brother is innocent of what you were. What never was is causeless, and what never was is not there to interfere with truth. There is no cause for faithlessness, but there is Cause for faith. That Cause, God, has entered any situation that shares That Cause’s purpose. The light of truth shines from the center of the situation, and touches everyone to whom the situation’s purpose calls. The light of truth that is the situation’s purpose calls to everyone. There is no situation that does not involve your whole relationship, in every aspect and complete in every part. You can leave nothing of yourself outside the situation, which is a relationship, and keep the situation holy. For the situation, which is a relationship, shares the purpose of your whole relationship, and derives the situation’s meaning from the purpose of the whole relationship.

Note # 70: A situation is a relationship, being the joining of two thoughts. When problems are perceived, it is because two thought are believed to be in conflict with each other. Truth and illusion are always in conflict with each other. Anytime we judge, we are utilizing past misperceptions. The underlying belief about these judgments is that the Sonship is guilty. Our belief in the guilt of both our brother and ourselves is in conflict with the truth that we are, the Christ. Our brother could not harm unlimited spirit, the Christ, and unlimited spirit, the Christ, could not be guilty of anything. All beliefs in guilt are equally unreal in the Mind of God. Yet, we attempt to raise this illusion up to the level of truth. This cannot be done. Illusions always fade before the light of truth. When God willed that the purpose of relationships is “to make happy,” the whole was made happy. Happiness is being the truth of what you are. We cannot deny our brother’s happiness without denying ourselves the happiness that is our divine birthright. We are a joined Oneness. We are the Mind of God, not some puny body. To make whole is to make holy.

Enter each situation with the faith you give your brother, or you are faithless to your own relationship. Your faith will call the others to share your purpose, as the same purpose called forth the faith in you. Your purpose in all relationships is “to make happy”. This is the purpose God gave relationships and to make happy is to know the truth. And you will see the means you once employed to lead you to illusions transformed to means for truth by the Holy Spirit. Truth calls for faith, and faith makes room for truth. When the Holy Spirit changed the purpose of your egoic special relationship, which was to substitute illusion for truth, by exchanging your purpose for the Holy Spirit’s purpose of relationships, the goal the Holy Spirit placed there was extended to every situation in which you enter, or will ever enter. The purpose or goal of every relationship, according to the Holy Spirit is to return the split-minded to the truth of the One Self. And every situation was thus made free of the past, which would have made the situation purposeless.
Note #71: The present situation would be made purposeless if viewed from the past. If we view the present from past misperceptions, we have judged from a perspective of separation and lack and this can only make an illusion. Bringing the past into the present prevents us from being in the <now>, and, therefore, insures the present will be a re-enactment of the past. All past judgments must be suspended in order to allow, listen and have faith in the truth that the Holy Spirit speaks. The Holy Spirit knows God’s Plan for salvation and will utilizes whatever you offer the Holy Spirit to fulfill His function. If we control our fear and ask for guidance, the Holy Spirit will transform our relationships into holy ones. This will aid in reawakening God’s sleeping Son to the truth.

T-17.VII.10. You call for faith because of the Holy Spirit, Who walks with you in every situation. 2 You are no longer wholly insane, nor no longer alone because the Holy Spirit walks with you. 3 For loneliness in God must be a dream. 4 You whose relationship shares the Holy Spirit's goal are set apart from loneliness because the truth has come. 5 Truth’s call for faith is strong. 6 Use not your faithlessness against truth, for truth calls you to salvation and to peace.

Note #72: The Holy Spirit, just like the Christ, has always been with us. We have chosen not to listen to Their call. The Holy Spirit’s thought system returns us to truth. The ego’s thought system would lead us into deeper and deeper levels of victim consciousness and keep us trapped in illusion. The choice is between truth, and the ego’s attempt to make illusions real. In egoic thought, “to make happy” means “to make guilt.” Even the ego’s “gift” of the special relationship is the gift that must ultimately lead to pain, suffering and death. The special relationship guarantees that we will always need something outside ourselves to be made whole. The truth of the Holy Spirit guarantees that we are that One Self, eternally perfect, whole and complete.

VIII. The Conditions of Peace

T-17.VIII.1. The holy instant is nothing more than a special case, or an extreme example, of what every situation is meant to be. 2 The meaning that the Holy Spirit's purpose has given the holy instant is also given to every situation. 3 Every situation, like the holy instant, calls forth just the same suspension of faithlessness, withheld and left unused, that faith might answer to the call of truth. 4 The holy instant is the shining example, the clear and unequivocal demonstration of the meaning of every relationship and every situation, seen as a whole. 5 Faith has accepted every aspect of the situation, and faithlessness has not forced any exclusion on part of the whole. 6 The holy instant is a situation of perfect peace, simply because you have let the holy instant be what the holy instant is.

Note #73: The holy instant is the suspension of all judgments, which means it is also the suspension of the past. Without the past, there are no judgments to cloud the truth of the <now>. Under the Holy Spirit guidance, we can experience the <now> as guiltless. Only
forgiveness and love is found in the present of the <now> for we realize that any previously perceived attack is only a cry for love. In the <now>, we respond appropriately with only love and forgiveness. Giving love and forgiveness is receiving love and forgiveness and thus, we are at peace. The holy instant can be found in every relationship that has been made holy by the recognition of the truth. The holy instant is the recognition that “I am not an individual, I am a Oneness.” It is the resurrection of the truth about everything, and, therefore your salvation as the One Self. We are joined as one in the holographic Mind of God.

T-17.VIII.2. This simple courtesy is all the Holy Spirit asks of you. 2 Let truth be what it is. 3 Do not intrude upon truth, do not attack truth, do not interrupt truth’s coming. 4 Let truth encompass every situation and bring you peace. 5 Not even faith is asked of you, for truth asks nothing. 6 Let truth enter, and truth will call forth and secure for you the faith you need for peace. 7 But rise you not against truth, for against your opposition truth cannot come.

Note # 74: Truth just is. For truth to be true, we literally need do nothing. No action is required on our part to “make” the truth become true. We are merely asked to stop denying the truth. We must freely choose the Holy Spirit’s thought system over the ego’s. The Holy Spirit will never impose Himself upon you until you freely ask. The Holy Spirit patiently waits for your request to restore to you your vision of Christ, which has always remained within you. Because you have free will, you can choose to deny the truth and pretend that you live within a dream of time and space. In your made-up world of provisional reality, you can actually choose what you will allow to be the “truth” for you. You can even have the choice of making the false, true. Thus, you can cling to any illusion that you wish and the Holy Spirit will wait patiently until you are ready to choose again.

All “things” of the ego’s world are “echoes” of the Voice for God. They appear to be coming directly from God but they are merely illusions. These “echoes” claim that God needs to be feared. They claim that God’s Son has sinned and that we are guilty. Do not place your faith in the false witnesses for the ego. Their goal is to make illusions appear real. Hear the true Voice for God, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit knows the truth. God’s Son is guiltless and sinless. The Voice of God speaks only the truth and calls out, “This is my beloved Son, perfect, whole and complete. In My Son, I am well pleased. My Son and I are One.” This is the one and only truth we need to know. This is the Unconditional Love of Our Creator for His Creation. This is God extending Himself to all Creation.

T-17.VIII.3. Would you not want to make a holy instant of every situation? 2 For such is the gift of faith, freely given wherever faithlessness is laid aside, unused. 3 And then wherever faithlessness is laid aside, unused, the power of the Holy Spirit's purpose is free to be use instead. The Holy Spirit's purpose is that the Son know the truth about Himself, that He, the Son of God, is the Christ. 4 This power instantly transforms all situations into one sure and continuous means for establishing the Holy Spirit's purpose, and demonstrating truth’s reality. 5 What has been demonstrated has called for faith, and has been given faith. p370 6 Now what has been demonstrated (the truth), becomes a
fact, from which faith can no longer be withheld. 7 The strain of refusing faith to truth is enormous, and far greater than you realize. 8 But to answer truth with faith entails no strain at all.

**Note # 75:** We need only to have faith and ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and the Holy Spirit will reinterpret all situations into correct perception. Correct perception mirrors the truth about yourself and your brother. The truth is that you and your brother are the Christ. That the Sonship is not a bunch of separate parts but only a Oneness. The Sonship and the Creator are the One Self. Herein lays the Peace of God.

T-17.VIII.4. To you who have acknowledged the Call of your Redeemer, the Holy Spirit, the strain of not responding to the Holy Spirit’s Call seems to be greater than before. 2 This **apparent increased strain for not responding to the Holy Spirit’s Call** is not so. 3 Before, the strain **for not responding to the Holy Spirit’s Call** was there, but you attributed the **call** to something else, believing that the "something else", the **ego**, produced the call of your Redeemer. 4 This was never true that the **ego produced any call of your Redeemer**. 5 For what the "something else" that the ego produced was sorrow and depression, sickness and pain, darkness and dim imaginings of terror, cold fantasies of fear and fiery dreams of hell. 6 And the "**something else**" that the ego produced was nothing but the intolerable strain of refusing to give faith to truth, and see truth’s evident reality.

**Note # 76:** The strain is the result of non-alignment between the small “s” self and the Big “S” Self’s purpose, goals, thoughts and actions. Both thought systems have their own plan for salvation. The plan for salvation calls for the restoration of God’s Son from his self-impose exile from God’s love. We currently feel lonely because we believe ourselves to no longer be whole. The ego’s plan for salvation is based in the idea of “seek and never find.” The ego claims that there could be a substitute for the Creator’s unconditional love. The ego is constantly promising that you will be happy when… Yet, when the goal is finally achieved; we discover the item did not bring us happiness. There is no salvation in the ego’s special yet unholy relationship. These unholy special relationships testify that you are a weak, limited, sinful and guilty body. Such a limited ego-body can never become the oneness of love that we seek. Ultimately, the special relationship, like all the wages of sin, ends in our death. This is the ego’s plan for our salvation.

The Holy Spirits thought system utilizes God’s Plan. God’s Plan is guaranteed to work since it rests on the power of God. God’s Plan for relationships is “to make happy.” It rests on the knowledge that we all share God’s Will. The Holy Spirit succeeds in fulfilling His function by bringing the split-minded back to this truth. Once we experience the results of the peace that flows from each situation that we give to the Holy Spirit, we are more desirous of following exclusively the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit’s call becomes harder to resist because we know It results in our peace and happiness. Would we rather have the peace of God or the ego’s plan that results in only pain and suffering? It becomes harder and harder for our decision-maker to cast our lot with the thought system that only brings the illusion of pain and separateness. The Holy Spirit’s Plan speaks for the truth of the One Self. It proclaims, “I am not an
individual, I am a oneness.” Herein lies the peace of God

T-17.VIII.5. Such was the crucifixion of the Son of God. In this self-imposed crucifixion, we crucified the Truth, our Oneness, in exchange for the loneliness of the illusion of separation from God’s Love. 2 God’s Son’s faithlessness did this to him. 3 Think carefully before you let yourself use faithlessness against him, the Christ. 4 For he, the Christ is risen, and you have accepted the Cause of his awakening as your Cause. 5 You have assumed your part in his redemption, and you are now fully responsible to him (your brother, who represents the split-minded Sonship). 6 Fail your brother not now, for it has been given you to realize what your lack of faith in your brother must mean to you. 7 Your brother’s salvation is your only purpose. 8 See only your purpose to be the salvation of your brother in every situation, and every situation will be a means for bringing only your brother’s salvation.

Note # 77: Every situation can become a holy instant that brings us back into the unity and truth of what we are. By granting forgiveness to our brother, we grant it to ourselves. Being freed from guilt, we can accept the truth about ourselves. By our asking, we are allowing the Holy Spirit to demonstrate the truth about the Christ that is the One Self.

T-17.VIII.6. When you accepted truth as the goal for your relationship, you became a giver of peace as surely as your Father gave peace to you. 2 For the goal of peace cannot be accepted apart from its conditions, which is the acceptance of the truth, the Christ, that you are, and you had faith in the truth for no one accepts what he does not believe is real. 3 Your purpose has not changed, and will not change, for you accepted what can never change, which is the truth of what you are. 4 And nothing that it needs to be forever changeless can you now withhold from the truth of what you are. 5 Your release is certain. 6 Give as you have received. 7 And demonstrate that you have risen far beyond any situation that could hold you back, and keep you separate from God, the Father, Whose Call, the Holy Spirit’s, you answered. p371

Note # 78: To know yourself is to know God. We are only love. We do not currently know our Big “S” Self and, therefore, see ourselves as having needs based on limitation. The ego has made up a god for our deluded little “s” self. This “god” of the ego, is made in our ego’s image. The ego’s idols are limited, petty, revengeful and full of hate. This egoic “god” is not the true God of Love. It is a god of fear and hate. If we seek truth from the Holy Spirit, we will rediscover the true Big “S” Self. We are the Christ. Being Christ, we are unconditional love. Unconditional love is all we can be for we are an extension of our Creator. Being an extension of our Creator, we are like our Creator. We are the thoughts of God. The Father is Cause and we are His Effect. Together we are intertwined and complete the One Self. “I and the Father are One.” The acceptance of the truth about our brother’s guiltlessness has freed us to the truth of our own identity. We are that One Self. We are not an individual; we are the Oneness of God.
Chapter 18. THE PASSING OF THE DREAM

I. The Substitute Reality

T-18.I.1. To substitute is to accept instead. 2 If you would but consider exactly what to substitute, which means to accept instead, you would perceive at once how much at variance substitution is with the goal the Holy Spirit has given you, and the goal the Holy Spirit would accomplish for you. The goal of the Holy Spirit is to return the Sonship to the truth of its Oneness. It is to join as one. 3 To substitute is to choose between, renouncing one aspect of the Sonship in favor of the other aspect of the Sonship. 4 For this special purpose of choosing aspects of the Sonship over another aspect, one aspect of the Sonship is judged more valuable and the other aspect is replaced by this new choice. 5 The relationship in which the substitution occurred is thus fragmented, and the relationship’s purpose split accordingly into separate parts. 6 To fragment is to exclude, and substitution is the strongest defense the ego has for separation.

Note # 1: The Holy Spirit’s goal is to bring the split-mind back to truth. It joins minds that appear to be separate. The Holy Spirit’s goal is to correct any misperception. We believe that we are really a separate, limited ego-body rather than an unlimited spirit, which shares the one and only Mind of God. The ego’s goal is to substitute the false illusion of separation over the truth of the Oneness. By fragmenting the Oneness, the ego insures that each part, or aspect, of the whole will be perceived as special and unique. To the ego, we only give to get. Having is associated with getting, not being. Each person’s goals are separate and distinct. This fragmentation by the ego helps insure that the illusion of separation will be maintained.

T-18.I.2. The Holy Spirit never uses substitutes. 2 Where the ego perceives one person as a replacement for another, the Holy Spirit sees them, all brothers joined and indivisible. 3 The Holy Spirit does not judge between aspects of the Sonship, knowing they are one. 4 Being united, aspects of the Sonship are one because they are the same. 5 Substitution is clearly a process in which aspects of the Sonship are perceived as different. 6 The Holy Spirit would unite; the other, the ego, would separate. 7 Nothing can come between what God has joined and what the Holy Spirit sees as one. 8 But everything <seems> to come between the fragmented relationships the ego sponsors to destroy.

Note # 2: Different aspects of the Sonship appear to be separate but this appearance is only within the world of form. Beyond form, the content is the same. The content, or function, of all relationships is to be love and teach only love. To the ego, form, not
content, is important. To the Holy Spirit, if the purpose or function is the same, the apparent unique form in which the experience may appear is irrelevant. Since the reality of the Sonship is a Oneness, different aspects of the whole cannot be split apart from the whole. The Holy Spirit is constantly reinterpreting the egoic illusion of fragmentation or separation into the truth of wholeness.

T-18.I.3. The one emotion in which substitution is impossible is love. Fear involves substitution by definition, for fear is love's replacement. Fear is both a fragmented and fragmenting emotion. Fear seems to take many forms, and each form of fear seems to require a different form of acting out for its satisfaction. While the many forms of fear appear to introduce quite variable behavior, a far more serious effect lies in the fragmented perception from which the behavior stems. Due to this fragmented perception, no one is seen complete. The body is emphasized, with special emphasis on certain parts of the whole, and certain parts of the whole are used as the standard for comparison of acceptance or rejection for acting out a special form of fear.

Note # 3: The emotion of love has no substitute. The ego attempts to substitute fear for love but only love is real. With the fragmenting of the Sonship by the egoic belief in the separation, sin, guilt and fear have arisen in the mind of the split-minded Son. Form, our belief that we are a body, has risen to help hide the truth that the Sonship remains pure unlimited spirit. Only the ego compares and judges aspects of a Oneness. This comparison of form over content, gives the appearance of differing levels of reality. At the level of perception, there appears to be a choice between truth or illusion, love or fear. The ego fragments and claims that each illusionary form of the experience of separation is different from another form of the illusion. The Holy Spirit knows that one dream is no harder to correct than any other dream since both are illusions. Because of this, the Holy Spirit's solution to any form of fear that may appear in your awareness is to always bring fear into the light of truth. Once in the light of truth, any form of fear will disappear. Because the correction is the same, there is no order of difficulty in miracles.

T-18.I.4. You who believe that God is fear made but one substitution. This one substitution, or error, has taken many forms, because this error was the substitution of illusion for truth; of fragmentation for wholeness. This error of the substitution of illusion for truth; of fragmentation for wholeness has become so splintered and subdivided and divided again, over and over, that it is now almost impossible to perceive that the Sonship once was one, and still is what it was which is a united shared Oneness with the Mind of God. That one error, which brought truth to illusion, infinity to time, and life to death, was all you ever made. Your whole world rests upon that one error. Everything you see reflects that one error, and every special relationship that you have ever made is part of that one error.

Note # 4: This one error is the belief in the separation. We choose to substitute the truth of the One Self with the illusion of specialness and separation. This is the essence of the “authority problem”. The idea that the Sonship could be something other than what God created, as God created it, is the belief that there was some will other than God’s Will. The error replaces the true with the false.
T-18.I.5. You may be surprised to hear how very different is reality from what you see. 2 You do not realize the magnitude of that one error of the substitution of illusion for truth; of fragmentation for wholeness. 3 This one error was so vast and so completely incredible that from this one error a world of total unreality <had> to emerge. p372 4 What else could come of the substitution of illusion for truth? 5 This one error’s fragmented aspects are fearful enough, as you begin to look at them. 6 But nothing you have seen begins to show you the enormity of the original error, which seemed to cast you out of Heaven, to shatter knowledge into meaningless bits of disunited perceptions, and to force you to make further substitutions.

Note # 5: By substituting illusion for the truth of the Oneness, the egoic belief of the separation was birthed. Truth was replaced by illusion. As fear arose from our identification with the illusion, we created more fragmentation of the truth of the united Sonship. As the truth became more obscure with each passing dream, we exchanged knowledge for perception. This marked the beginning of our descent from knowledge into the depths of victim consciousness. Once in victim consciousness, it appears that we are totally powerless to affect any change in the dream of separation. We forget we are both the dreamer and the decision-maker.

T-18.I.6. That was the first projection of error outward. 2 The world arose to hide this error of the substitution of illusion for truth, and the world became the screen on which the error was projected and drawn between you and the truth. 3 For truth extends inward, where the idea of loss is meaningless and only increase is conceivable. 4 Do you really think it strange that a world in which everything is backwards and upside down arose from this projection of error of the substitution of illusion for truth? 5 This illusionary upside down world was inevitable. 6 For truth brought to this upside down world could only remain within in quiet, and take no part in all the mad projection by which this world was made. 7 Call this error, which made this illusionary world not a sin but madness, for such it was and so madness it still remains. 8 Invest the error not with guilt, for guilt implies the substitution of illusion for truth was accomplished in reality. 9 And above all, <be not afraid of the error>.

Note # 6: ACIM states that error only requires correction, not punishment. This is because an illusion has no reality outside the mind of the dreamer. God knows that His Child is only dreaming and the only correction needed is to awaken the sleeping Child. The Holy Spirit is given the task of gently awakening the dreamer to the truth of his One Self. The acceptance of the Atonement for oneself is the means given to accomplish this process.

T-18.I.7. When you seem to see some twisted form of the original error of the substitution of illusion for truth rising to frighten you, say only, "God is not fear, but Love," and fear from this error will disappear. 2 The truth will save you. 3 The truth has not left you, to go out into the mad world and so depart from you. 4 Inward is sanity; insanity is outside you. 5 You but believe it is the other way; that truth is outside, and error and guilt within. 6 Your little, senseless substitutions, touched with insanity and
swirling lightly off on a mad course like feathers dancing insanely in the wind, have no substance. 7 Your little, senseless substitutions fuse and merge and separate, in shifting and totally meaningless patterns that need not be judged at all. 8 To judge your little senseless substitutions individually is pointless. 9 Your little, senseless substitutions of tiny differences in form are no real differences at all. 10 None of their tiny differences in form matters. 11 <That> they have in common and nothing else. 12 Yet what else is necessary to make your little senseless substitutions all the same then the fact that differences in form do not matter?

Note # 7: The form that an illusion takes does not matter. Content, not form is the concern of the Holy Spirit. The ego wants us to place our attention on form only. Form gives the appearance of separation from the whole. The content or function that the Holy Spirit sees is always to bring the perceived experience into the light of truth where illusion disappeared. The type of form that fear may take is irrelevant to the Holy Spirit for the correction is always the same. All fear arises from the same original error of substituting illusion for truth. Although the form of fear may appear to vary, the Holy Spirit’s solution for all forms of fear are the same, merely bring illusion to the truth. Truth is found inside your mind. The ego tells you to seek truth outside yourself where it can never be found.

T-18.I.8. Let all of the substitutions of illusion for truth go, dancing in the wind, dipping and turning till the illusions disappear from sight, far, far outside of you. 2 And turn you to the stately calm within, where in holy stillness dwells the living God you never left, and Who never left you. p373 3 The Holy Spirit takes you gently by the hand, and retraces with you your mad journey outside yourself, leading you gently back to the truth and safety within. 4 The Holy Spirit brings all your insane projections and the wild substitutions that you have placed outside you to the truth. 5 Thus the Holy Spirit reverses the course of insanity and restores you to reason. 6

Note # 8: Even in the dream state of separation, our Christ consciousness remains in communion with God. Only by going within the mind to this place, which is the home of the Holy Spirit, will reality be found. We never lost truth; we only forgot where we placed it.

T-18.I.9. In your relationship with your brother, where the Holy Spirit has taken charge of everything at your request, the Holy Spirit has set the course inward to the truth you share. 2 In the mad world outside you nothing can be shared but only substituted, and sharing and substituting have nothing in common in reality. 3 Within yourself, your Big "S" Self, you love your brother with a perfect love. 4 Here is holy ground, in which no substitution can enter, and where only the truth in your brother can abide. 5 Here you are joined in God, as much together as you are with Him, the Sonship. 6 The original error has not entered here, nor ever will. 7 Here is the radiant truth, to which the Holy Spirit has committed your relationship. 8 Let the Holy Spirit bring your relationship with your brother here, where <you> would have the relationship be. 9 Give the Holy Spirit but a little faith in your brother, to help the Holy Spirit show you that no substitute you made for Heaven can keep you from Heaven.
Note # 9: In the mad world outside of you, nothing can be shared because form itself cannot be shared. This illusionary world of substitution is a world of form. Form cannot be shared because any sharing of form would require the diminishment of the holdings of the giver. Someone would start with one candy bar and after the supposedly sharing, would have only half of the candy bar left. To share form always requires sacrifice on someone’s part. Only thoughts or ideas can be shared without diminishing the giver. The Holy Spirit understands that we are unlimited spirit and a shared Oneness of everything. Ideas and thoughts can be shared and by sharing these ideas are strengthened. Creation is extension of unlimited spirit, not form.

T-18.I.10. In you there is no separation, and no substitute can keep you from your brother. 2 Your reality was God's creation, and has no substitute. 3 You are so firmly joined in truth that only God is there. 4 And God would never accept something else instead of you. 5 God loves you and your brother, both, equally and as one. 6 And as God loves you, so you are love. 7 You are not joined together in illusions, but in the Thought so holy and so perfect that illusions cannot remain to darken the holy place in which you stand together. 8 God is with you, my brother. 9 Let us join in God in peace and gratitude, and accept God’s gift as our most holy and perfect reality, which we share in God.

Note # 10: We all share totally and equally the holographic Mind of God. Being an extension of the Mind of God, no separation between the Father, Sonship and Holy Spirit exists. In reality, there is only God. We are the thought of God. We are that One Self.

T-18.I.11. Heaven is restored to all the Sonship through your relationship, for in Heaven lies the Sonship, whole and beautiful, safe in your love. 2 Heaven has entered quietly, for all illusions have been gently brought unto the truth in you, and love has shined upon you, blessing your relationship with truth. 3 God and His whole creation, the Sonship, have entered Heaven together. 4 How lovely and how holy is your relationship, with the truth shining upon it! 5 Heaven beholds your relationship, and rejoices that you have let Heaven come to you. 6 And God Himself is glad that your relationship is as your relationship was created. p374 7 The universe within you stands with you, together with your brother. 8 And Heaven looks with love on what is joined in Heaven, along with its Creator.

Note # 11: The Holy Spirit transforms special relationships into holy relationships. Forgiveness is the tool that the Holy Spirit utilizes to restore love to the relationship. This leads to the understanding that God’s Son is guiltless and that spirit cannot be hurt. The Holy Spirit preserves all our loving thoughts in heaven awaiting our return to truth.

T-18.I.12. Whom God has called should hear no substitutes. 2 The egoic call for substitution of illusion over truth, which is the thought system of the ego, is but an echo of the original error that shattered Heaven. 3 And what became of peace in those who heard the ego’s call? 4 Return with me to Heaven, walking together with your brother out of this world of form and substitution and through another, to the loveliness
and joy the other holds within it. 5 Would you still further weaken and break apart what is already broken and hopeless? 6 Is this upside down world of illusion where you would look for happiness? 7 Or would you not prefer to heal this upside down world of illusion that has been broken, and join in making whole what has been ravaged by separation and disease?

Note # 12: Jesus implores us to choose for truth over illusion. By siding with the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we will return to truth (Heaven) and the world of illusion and form will fade into the nothingness from which it arose. The separation will be healed and the Oneness of God with the Sonship and the Sonship’s creations will be joined within that One Self that is the Mind of God.

T-18.I.13. You have been called, together with your brother, to the most holy function this world contains. 2 This holy function, the acceptance of the truth of the Atonement for oneself, is the only one that has no limits, and reaches out to every broken fragment of the Sonship with healing and uniting comfort. 3 This is offered you, in your holy relationship. 4 Accept the Atonement here, and you will give as you have accepted. 5 The peace of God is given you with the glowing purpose in which you join with your brother. 6 The holy light of truth that brought you and him together must extend, as you accepted the truth that is the Atonement.

Note # 13: The acceptance of the Atonement for oneself is our holy function. The Atonement is the acceptance that the Sonship is sinless and guiltless. We reawaken to the truth that we are perfect, whole and complete. Since to give is to receive, all share this forgiveness. We are all joined in the Mind of God and the Sonship is returned to the sanity of this truth. We, the Christ remember God and know ourselves to be the expression of the Oneness of God. We extend and are only love.

II. The Basis of the Dream

T-18.II.1. Does not a world that seems quite real arise in dreams? 2 Yet think what this world of perception or provisional reality is. 3 The world of your provisional reality is clearly not the world you saw before you slept. 4 Rather your provisional reality is a distortion of the world, planned solely around what you would have preferred. 5 Here in your provisional reality, you are "free" to make over whatever seemed to attack you, and change what attacks you into a tribute to your ego, which was outraged by the "attack." 6 This would not be your wish unless you saw yourself as one with the ego, which always looks upon itself, and therefore on you, as under attack and highly vulnerable to attack.

Note # 14: ACIM states that what our mind truly desires and values will be what we perceive. Thoughts are things and we make our world based on what we desire. We claim that we are powerless victims of some outside force. Yet, these outside force are only the projections from our own split mind. Any power the ego seems to have, we have freely
abdicated to it. We have substituted the awareness of our Big "S" Self for the littleness of the ego.

T-18.II.2. Dreams are chaotic because dreams are governed by your conflicting wishes, and therefore since dreams arise from your conflicting wishes, they have no concern with what is true. 2 Dreams are the best example you could have of how perception can be utilized to substitute illusions for truth. 3 You do not take dreams seriously on awaking because the fact that reality is so outrageously violated in the dream becomes apparent. 4 Yet dreams are a way of looking at the world, and changing the world to suit the ego better. p375 5 Dreams provide striking examples, both of the ego's inability to tolerate reality, and of your willingness to change reality on the ego's behalf.

Note # 15: ACIM points out that in our sleep, dreams are sourced by our mind’s mental powers. The power of the mind is used to create visions that are based on your current wishes and these wishes do not have to follow the normal earthly laws. For example: In a dream, we may allow ourselves to fly. While in the dream, the dreamer believes the dream to be real. However, when we awake from the dream, we realize that the dream had no effect on modifying the laws that appear to govern our non-sleeping world. Our non-sleeping state is similar to our sleeping dreams when compared to the real world of Heaven’s truth.

T-18.II.3. You do not find the differences between what you see in sleep and on awaking disturbing. 2 You recognize that what you see on waking is blotted out in dreams. 3 Yet on awakening, you do not expect your non-sleeping world to be gone. 4 In dreams you arrange everything. 5 People become what you would have them be, and what people do in your dream you order. 6 No limits on substitution are laid upon you in your dreams. 7 For a time it seems as if the world were given you, to make a dream world what you wish. 8 You do not realize you are attacking your non-sleeping world, trying to triumph over your non-sleeping world and make your non-sleeping world serve you.

Note # 16: Our dreams are an attack or escape from our non-sleeping world. We modify or substitute the normal rules that govern our non-sleeping world to fit our personal wishes. All of this comes from our mind and not from some outside force. It is our mind, not some outside force that is in control of our own personal dreams.

T-18.II.4. Dreams are perceptual temper tantrums, in which you literally scream, "I want it thus!" 2 And thus it seems to be. 3 And yet the dream cannot escape its origin, which is your mind. 4 Anger and fear pervade the dreamer’s mind, and in an instant the illusion of satisfaction is invaded by the illusion of terror. 5 For the dream of your ability to control reality by substituting a world that you prefer is terrifying. 6 Your attempts to blot out reality are very fearful, but you are not willing to accept the fact that your attempts to blot out reality are the cause of your fear. 7 And so you substitute the fantasy that reality is fearful, not the fact that it is what your split-mind would do to reality that is fearful. 8 And thus is guilt made real.
**Note # 17:** Just like a dream, our non-sleeping world of provisional reality is an egoic attempt to modify or substitute a fantasy for the truth of the real world of Heaven. Our world of perception parallels the world of knowledge. Like our dream which blots out the “fact” that we are asleep in our earthly world, the dream of separation blots out the world of Oneness. By identifying our mind with the dream of separation, we make the dream appear real. This making the dream real is the source of our guilt. It is not the dream that is the source of guilt but rather the mind’s identifying itself with the dream that is the problem. Guilt arises from the fact that we have chosen to believe the dream is true. Rather than live with this self-inflected guilt, we attempt to get rid of the guilt and perceived sin by projecting this guilt outside ourselves and blaming someone else. Unfortunately, since ideas never leave their source, projection only insures that we get to keep the guilt hidden deep within our mind.

Heaven, like our world of perception, is not a physical place but a state of mind.

**T-18.II.5.** Dreams show you that you have the power to make a world as you would have it be, and that because you want it you see the world as you would have it be. 2 And while you see a world as you would have it be you do not doubt that it is real. 3 Yet here is a world, clearly within your mind, that seems to be outside your mind. 4 You do not respond to this made-up world within your mind as though you made it, nor do you realize that the emotions the dream produces must come from you, the dreamer. 5 It is the figures in the dream and what the figures in the dream do that seem to make the dream. 6 You do not realize that you are making the figures in the dream act out for you, for if you did the guilt would not be theirs but yours, and the illusion of satisfaction would be gone. 7 In dreams these features are not obscure. 8 You seem to waken, and the dream is gone. 9 Yet what you fail to recognize is that what caused the dream, which is your mind, has not gone with the dream and the dream figures. 10 Your wish to make another world that is not real remains with you, the maker of the dream. 11 And what you seem to waken to is but another form of this same world you see in dreams. 12 All your time is spent in dreaming. 13 Your sleeping and your waking dreams have different forms, and that is all. 14 Their content of both your sleeping and your waking dreams is the same. 15 Both your sleeping and your waking dreams are your protest against reality, and your fixed and insane idea that you can change the reality of the Oneness. 16 In your waking dreams, the special relationship has a special place. 17 The special relationship is the means by which you try to make your sleeping dreams come true. 18 From this, you do not waken. 19 The special relationship is your determination to keep your hold on unreality, and to prevent yourself from waking. 20 And while you see more value in sleeping than in waking, you will not let go of your illusory world of provisional reality and the special relationships it projects, embodies, and protects.

**Note # 18:** ACIM notes that there are a great many parallels between a physical dream and our non-sleeping life when compared to the world of perception versus the world of knowledge. Both the physical dream and the world of time and space are attempts to change the world, as we perceive and believe the world to be. ACIM states that there is no difference between a sleeping moment and a non-sleeping moment that we spend on earth. They are both equally false. Both attempt to block the reality that we are the extension of the Mind of God and, therefore, unlimited spirit. In our non-sleeping
moments, we seek to find happiness in the special relationship. In the special relationship, we seek to find something outside ourselves to make us whole. Our world of provisional reality is based on the erroneous belief that our dream can change reality by making us something that is not perfect, whole and complete. The physical world of time and space is a place within our split-mind that we made to hide from our true nature as the One Self. We are not ego-bodies but rather unlimited spirit. We can choose to be in the world but not of the world. To do this would require that we no longer value anything in this illusionary world of egoic form.

T-18.II.6. The Holy Spirit, ever practical in His wisdom, accepts your dreams and uses your dreams as means for waking. 2 You would have used your dreams to remain asleep. 3 I said before that the first change, before dreams disappear, is that your dreams of fear are changed to happy dreams. 4 To change your dreams of fear to happy dreams is what the Holy Spirit does in the special relationship. 5 The Holy Spirit does not destroy the special relationship, nor snatch the special relationship away from you. 6 But the Holy Spirit does use the special relationship differently, as a help to make the Holy Spirit’s purpose real to you. 7 The special relationship will remain, not as a source of pain and guilt, but as a source of joy and freedom. 8 The special relationship will not be for you alone, for by not sharing therein lay the special relationship’s misery. 9 As its unholliness kept the special relationship a thing apart, its holiness will become an offering to everyone.

Note # 19: The unholliness of the special relation arises out of the egoic split mind’s desire to benefit only the giver. In the special relationship, the ego is looking for something outside itself to make you complete or better off. Yet, the ego is only willing to trade “things” that it does not value. The special relationship is a form of bartering and is based on sacrifice and the belief in limitation. It confirms and makes the separation appear real. Even in its purest egoic form, the special relationship is still a case of “us” against the world. The Holy Spirit will reinterpret the special relationship and transform it into a place of joining and sharing. In the now holy relationship, we share the thoughts of love and forgiveness and look past bodily form to the wholeness of our brother’s Big “S” Self. In the holy relationship, the Holy Spirit teaches us that being a Oneness, to give is to receive.

T-18.II.7. Your special relationship will be a means for undoing guilt in everyone blessed through your holy relationship. 2 Your holy relationship’s undoing of guilt will be a happy dream, and one which you will share with all who come within your sight. 3 Through the holy relationship’s undoing of guilt, the blessing the Holy Spirit has laid upon it will be extended. 4 Think not that the Holy Spirit has forgotten anyone in the purpose the Holy Spirit has given you. 5 And think not that the Holy Spirit has forgotten you to whom the Holy Spirit gave the gift. 6 The Holy Spirit uses everyone who calls on the Holy Spirit as means for the salvation of everyone. 7 And the Holy Spirit will waken everyone through you who offered your relationship to the Holy Spirit. 8 If you but recognized the Holy Spirit’s gratitude! 9 Or mine gratitude through the Holy Spirit’s gratitude! 10 For we are joined as in one purpose, being of one mind with God.
**Note # 20:** The Holy Spirit utilizes the miracle to transform the special relationship into a holy one. The miracle is a change within the mind of the perceiver. It is the rejection of the egoic thought system for the thought system of the Holy Spirit. In the holy relationship, we utilize correct perception to join and share the thoughts of love and forgiveness with our brother. Inclusion and joining is the new purpose that has transformed the special relationship into a holy one. Where lack and limitation were once egoically perceived, now joining with the One Self is the objective. Although we speak as if the Holy Trinity were separate, all parts contain the Whole. We are all joined together for there is only the one Mind of God.

**T-18.II.8.** Let not the dream take hold to close your eyes. 2 It is not strange that dreams can make a world that is unreal. 3 What is strange is the *wish* to make a world that is unreal that is incredible. 4 Your relationship with your brother has now become one in which the wish to make a world that is unreal has been removed, because the wish’s purpose has been changed from one of dreams to one of truth. 5 You are not sure of this change in your wish’s purpose to one of truth, because you think it may be this change in purpose that is the dream. 6 You are so used to choosing among dreams you do not see that you have made, at last, the choice between the truth and *all* illusions.

**Note # 21:** This change in our wish’s purpose occurs when we choose to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. This is the choice for truth over illusions. Without the request for new guidance, the egoic thought system will continue to control the dream. The dream will act as a witness for the belief that the separation is real. When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our new guide can begin the transformation of the egoic dream of separation into the happy dream that supports the healing of the split-minded Sonship. This happy dream will closely resemble the truth of Heaven, yet still be based on perception, not knowledge. Thus, the happy dream is not part of the real world of heaven.

**T-18.II.9.** Yet Heaven is sure. 2 Heaven is no dream. 3 Heaven’s coming means that you have chosen truth, and Heaven has come because you have been willing to let your special relationship meet truth’s conditions. p377 4 In your relationship the Holy Spirit has gently laid the real world; the world of happy dreams, from which awaking is so easy and so natural. 5 For as your sleeping and your waking dreams represent the same wishes in your mind, so do the real world and the truth of Heaven join in the Will of God. 6 The dream of waking is easily transferred to the reality of awakening to the truth. 7 For this dream reflects your will joined with the Will of God. 8 And what this Will of God would have accomplished has never *not* been done.

**Note # 22:** The goal of the Holy Spirit is to reawaken God’s sleeping Son to the Truth and return the Sonship to Heaven. When our world of provisional reality becomes similar to the real world, the Father will take the final step in the Son’s return to knowledge. In the happy dream, the Christ consciousness has been awakened so that we look beyond the illusion of form and realize that both our brother and ourselves are unlimited Spirit, joined in the Mind of God. It is not that the physical planet, Earth, becomes a Heaven on Earth, but rather that our mind only looks upon all events as an opportunity to only be
and teach love. Only when we see everything as either an expression of love or a cry for love and we respond only with love will the happy dream become similar to Heaven. In Heaven, love is all there is. God is Love and we are an extension of Our Creator. When we are only love, we have returned to Truth. Now, our Father can take the final step and return His Son to knowledge.

**III. Light in the Dream**

T-18.III.1. You who have spent your life in bringing truth to illusion, reality to fantasy, have walked the way of dreams. 2 For you have gone from waking to sleeping, and on and on to a yet deeper sleep. 3 Each dream has led to other dreams, and every fantasy that seemed to bring a light into the darkness but made the darkness deeper. 4 Your goal was darkness, in which no ray of light could enter. 5 And you sought a blackness so complete that you could hide from truth forever, in complete insanity. 6 What you forgot was simply that God cannot destroy Himself. 7 The light is in you. 8 Darkness can cover the light in you, but cannot put out the light in you.

**Note # 23:** The “YOU” in this paragraph is the split-minded Sonship. Our Big “S” Self holds the truth about our Oneness, yet the little “s” self still feels the lure of egoic specialness, which is witnessed by the ego’s special relationships. It is the egoic thought system that we have chosen to follow that leads us into the deep abyss of insanity. The ego’s thought system claims that its goal is to bring you happiness. Yet, with each attempt to obtain egoic happiness, we discover its emptiness. The ego’s plan is to “seek and never find.” The ego is constantly advising us that we will be happy when we obtain something outside ourselves that will make us whole. When we obtain this goal, we discover that happiness still eludes us and so the ego changes the plan and provides us with a new goal. Instead of the happiness the ego promised, we experience suffering, pain and death.

   **Example:** I will be happy when I get married. Once married, the ego tells us we will be happy when we get a divorce.

T-18.III.2. As the light comes nearer you will rush to darkness, shrinking from the truth, sometimes retreating to the lesser forms of fear, and sometimes to stark terror. 2 But you will advance, because your goal is the advance from fear to truth. 3 The goal you accepted is the goal of knowledge, for which you signified your willingness. 4 Fear seems to live in darkness, and when you are afraid you have stepped back into the darkness. 5 Let us then join quickly in an instant of light, and it will be enough to remind you that your goal is light.

**Note # 24:** The light is the bringer of the truth. To the ego, the truth that you share the Will of the Creator is fearful because if this truth is fully accepted by you, the egoic thought system will disappear. This would mean the death of the ego. Because we share God’s Will, our egoic consciousness can only delay the return to knowledge, for the return to the Oneness is certain. The fear birthed out of the illusion of separation cannot
co-exist where the light of truth is. This journey back to the light is not made alone. The Holy Spirit, Jesus and our brothers all will aid us in this return journey to our home.

T-18.III.3. Truth has rushed to meet you since you called upon truth. 2 If you knew Who walks beside you on the way that you have chosen, fear would be impossible. The Holy Spirit walks beside you on this journey. 3 You do not know because the journey into darkness has been long and cruel, and you have gone deep into the journey of separation. 4 A little flicker of your eyelids, closed so long, has not yet been sufficient to give you confidence in yourself, so long despised. 5 You go toward love still hating love, and terribly afraid of love’s judgment upon you. 6 And you do not realize that you are not afraid of love, but only of what you have made of love. 7 You are advancing to love's meaning, and away from all illusions in which you have surrounded love. p378 8 When you retreat to the illusion your fear increases, for there is little doubt that what you think love means <is> fearful. 9 Yet what is that to us who travel surely and very swiftly away from fear?

Note # 25: Because we have been following the egoic thought system, we have an upside down belief about what love is. To the ego, love is what we would refer to as conditional love. “I will love you, if …” This is not love but is a form of bartering. Egoic love requires sacrifice because it is not freely given. Egoic love is based on the premise that we lack something, which can only be obtained from something outside ourselves. Behind each trade is the fear that what we want, which is wholeness, can and will be withdrawn from us if we fail to sacrifice properly. We “give”, only to “get”. Conditional love is fear based and is not real love. Because we have accepted this warped notion of what love is, we are naturally afraid of the ego’s interpretation of love. It is not true unconditional love that we fear, but rather the egoic misrepresentation of true love. God’s Love gives everything because God is everything. The Sonship, being an extension of God, is this same love. True love cannot be lost or earned for it flows freely without any strings attached. True love dissipates all fear.

T-18.III.4. You who hold your brother's hand also hold mine, for when you joined each other you were not alone. 2 Do you believe that I would leave you in the darkness that you agreed to leave with me? 3 In your relationship is this world's light. 4 And fear must disappear before you now. 5 Be tempted not to snatch away the gift of faith you offered to your brother. 6 You will succeed only in frightening yourself if you attempt to take away the gift of faith from your brother. 7 The gift of faith is given forever, for God Himself received it. 8 You cannot take the gift back. 9 You have accepted God. 10 The holiness of your relationship is established in Heaven. 11 You do not understand what you accepted, but remember that your understanding is not necessary for the gift of faith to work. 12 All that was necessary was merely the <wish> to understand. 13 That wish was the desire to be holy. 14 The Will of God is granted you. 15 For you desire the only thing you ever had, or ever were.

Note # 26: The gift of faith is the belief in the truth of what you are. Faith is the belief that you and your brother are not bodies, but rather unlimited spirit. It is not required that we understand why we are not what the physical senses tell us we are. As long as we see
either our brother or ourselves only as a body, we will not be able to remove the veil that hides the truth. Faithlessness is the belief that we are a body and, therefore, limited. Faithlessness is the denial of the truth. The Holy Spirit walks within us during the journey of separation, thus insuring that God’s gift of faith cannot be lost. The Christ consciousness, which is the home of the Holy Spirit, has accepted the gift of faith. The function of the Holy Spirit is to reawaken the sleeping Son to the truth of the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. Our relationships that we share with our brother are part of the collective consciousness. We are all joined in the holographic Mind of God. Because “to give is to receive”, our salvation is directly tied to our brother’s healing.

T-18.III.5. Each instant that we spend together will teach you that this goal of the return to truth is possible, and will strengthen your desire to reach the goal of truth. 2 And in your desire lies the goal of truth’s accomplishment. 3 Your desire is now in complete accord with all the power of the Holy Spirit's Will. 4 No little, faltering footsteps that you may take can separate your desire from the Holy Spirit's Will and from the Holy Spirit's strength. 5 I hold your hand as surely as you agreed to take your brother's hand. 6 You will not separate from your brother, for I stand with you and walk with you in your advance to truth. 7 And where we go we carry God with us.

Note #27: God’s plan for the reawakening of the Sonship is found in the Atonement. Although our function is to accept the Atonement only for ourselves, we are forever joined in the One Mind of God. We are joined in the collective consciousness of the Sonship. Although each facet of the Sonship may appear to have a unique experience in the journey of separation, the journey is a shared one. The form of the journey may appear to vary but the content or function, which is the return from illusion to truth, is the same shared goal.

T-18.III.6. In your relationship you have joined with me in bringing Heaven to the Son of God, who hid in darkness. 2 You have been willing to bring the darkness to light, and this willingness has given strength to everyone who would remain in darkness. 3 Those who would see will see. 4 And they who would see will join with me in carrying their light into the darkness, when the darkness in them is offered to the light, and is removed forever. 5 My need for you, joined with me in the holy light of your relationship, is your need for salvation. 6 Would I not give you what you gave to me, which is salvation? 7 For when you joined your brother, you answered me.

Note #28: Jesus is referring to the shared benefits that the Sonship receives whenever progress toward the awakening is made. Progress is made whenever any relationship is transformed from the thought system of the ego to the Holy Spirit’s. Anytime forgiveness and love replaces fear, there is a joining of the two into a union of one. “Those who would see will see” demonstrates that the intention of thought is all-powerful. Thoughts become the “things” we choose to perceive. Our own mind’s thoughts are the cause of what we experience.

T-18.III.7. You who are now the bringer of salvation have the function of bringing light
to darkness. 2 The darkness in you has been brought to light. 3 Carry the light of truth back to darkness, from the holy instant to which you brought the light. p379 4 We are made whole in our desire to make whole. 5 Let not time worry you, for all the fear that you and your brother experience is really past. 6 Time has been readjusted to help us do, together, what your separate pasts would hinder. 7 You have gone past fear, for no two minds can join in the desire for love without love's joining those two joined minds.

Note # 29: Time only exists during the illusionary journey in which we appear to reawaken from our dream of separation. In reality, which is the Mind of God, the separation never took place and, therefore, the “healing” of the separation was corrected before it began. Time only exists in the world of perception. Time, which is the measure of change, has no meaning in eternity. Eternity is changeless so there is no change to measure. The truth or light has never changed. In eternity, everything always was, is and will be the shared Oneness of the Mind of God.

T-18.III.8. Not one light in Heaven but goes with you. 2 Not one Ray that shines forever in the Mind of God but shines on you. 3 Heaven is joined with you in your advance to Heaven. 4 When such great lights have joined with you to give the little spark of your desire the power of God Himself, can you remain in darkness? 5 You and your brother are coming home together, after a long and meaningless journey that you undertook apart, and that led nowhere. 6 You have found your brother, and you will light each other's way. 7 And from this light will the Great Rays extend back into darkness and forward unto God, to shine away the past and so make room for God’s eternal Presence, in which everything is radiant in the light.

Note # 30: The journey of separation was meaningless because an illusion cannot change truth. The journey was only the denial of the truth. During this journey, the Sonship’s dreams were that there could be something other than the Mind of God. The Sonship dreamed that It could fragment Itself into parts that were less than the whole. With the acceptance of the Atonement, the illusion of the separation between Father and Son, Cause and Effect, is undone. The need for time is over along with the illusion that truth could be made false. The dream of separation fades away since reality cannot coexist with fantasy. Only truth remains.

IV. The Little Willingness

T-18.IV.1. The holy instant is the result of your determination to be holy. 2 The holy instant is the <answer> 3 The desire and the willingness to let the holy instant come precedes its coming. 4 You prepare your mind for the holy instant only to the extent of recognizing that you want it above all else. 5 It is not necessary that you do more to prepare your mind for the holy instant; indeed, it is necessary that you realize that you cannot do more to prepare your mind than to want the holy instant above all else. 6 Do not attempt to give the Holy Spirit what He does not ask, or you will add the ego to the Holy Spirit and confuse the two. 7 The Holy Spirit asks but little. 8 It is the Holy
**Spirit** Who adds the greatness and the might. 9 **The Holy Spirit** joins with you to make the holy instant far greater than you can understand. 10 It is your realization that you need do so little that enables **the Holy Spirit** to give so much.

**Note # 31:** Holy means to be made whole. Our part in the holy instant is merely to desire to be made whole. The Holy Spirit does the rest. When we think that we must do something more to “help” the Holy Spirit, we are engaged in egoic thinking. Egoic thinking prevents our request being answered since now we have refused to give the entire experience over to the Holy Spirit’s guidance. We have decided that we have a better plan that He should adopt. Sometimes we feel that we are not yet worthy of forgiveness and love and, therefore, need to do something more. This means that our request is not for the present <now> moment but for some future time when the conditions are “more right.” This is arrogance on our part. God’s love is freely given; It cannot be earned nor lost.

**Example:** “I will be able to receive the holy instant or accept the Atonement when I become worthy and pure.” Such a request implies that you still must do something before you will allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. This is not a current request for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. The only answer the Holy Spirit can give such a “request” is to patiently wait until you determine that you have finally suffered enough to be worthy and pure enough to ask again. Once this is the case, you may decide you are able to unconditionally ask for His help. You should merely ask for guidance and simple get out of the Holy Spirit’s way. When you argue for your limitations, you get to keep them.

**T-18.IV.2.** Trust not your good intentions. 2 **Your good intentions** are not enough. 3 But trust implicitly your willingness to be made whole or holy, whatever else may enter. 4 Concentrate only on this, and be not disturbed that shadows surround your willingness. 5 That is why you came. 6 If you could come without the shadows you would not need the holy instant. 7 Come to the holy instant not in arrogance, assuming that you must achieve some prior state of holiness that the holy instant’s coming brings with itself. 8 The miracle of the holy instant lies in your willingness to let the holy instant be what the holy instant is. 9 And in your willingness for this lies also your acceptance of yourself as you were meant to be. p380

**Note # 32:** We only need to desire to be made whole. This is why ACIM advises that we “be vigilant only for God.” God’s Power, not our egoic mind, will reawaken us to the truth. If we believe that we must change our true nature so that we can be worthy to be as God created us, we are claiming that the illusion was real and that God’s Will can change. Our desire to be made whole is the desire to know ourselves as God created the Sonship. For this, we need do nothing since this was, is and will be what we eternally are in the Mind of God.

**T-18.IV.3.** Humility will never ask that you remain content with littleness. 2 But humility does require that you be not content with less than greatness that comes not of you but from Your Creator. 3 Your difficulty with the holy instant arises from your fixed conviction that you are not worthy of the holy instant. 4 And what is this conviction of unworthiness but the determination to be as you would make yourself? 5 God did not
create His dwelling place unworthy of Him. 6 And if you believe God cannot enter where He wills to be, you must be interfering with God’s Will. 7 You do not need the strength of willingness to come from you, but only from God’s Will.

**Note # 33:** We are worthy to be God’s dwelling place because God said so. This is God’s Will. We need do nothing to earn this right to be God’s Home and we can do nothing to lose this right. We can claim that we do not remember that we are God’s Home yet, God’s dwelling place remains within His Creation. There is no separation between God and the Sonship. There is only the Oneness of the One Self.

T-18.IV.4. The holy instant does not come from your little willingness alone. 2 It is always the result of your small willingness combined with the unlimited power of God's Will. 3 You have been wrong in thinking that it is needful to prepare yourself for God. 4 It is impossible to make arrogant preparations for holiness, and not believe that it is up to you to establish the conditions for peace. 5 God has established the conditions of holiness and peace. 6 The conditions of holiness and peace do not wait upon your willingness for what they are. 7 Your willingness is needed only to make it possible to teach you what the conditions of holiness and peace are. 8 If you maintain you are unworthy of learning these conditions for holiness and peace, you are interfering with the lesson by believing that you must make the learner, which is yourself, different. 9 You did not make the learner, nor can you make the learner different. 10 Would you first make a miracle yourself, and then expect a miracle to be made for you?

**Note # 34:** It is the egoic mind that insists that we must do something in order to be worthy of salvation. This insistence that we must do something makes the dream of separation real. Our Big “S” Self cannot be changed by an illusionary dream. We merely need a little willingness to wake up from the dream. Upon awakening, we merely accept the reality of the changeless truth of our divine birthright. We need do nothing but be the true reality of spirit that we are.

T-18.IV.5. You merely ask the question. 2 The answer is given. 3 Seek not to answer, but merely to receive the answer as the answer is given. 4 In preparing for the holy instant, do not attempt to make yourself holy to be ready to receive holiness. 5 That is but to confuse your role with God’s. 6 Atonement cannot come to those who think that they must first atone, but only to those who offer the Atonement nothing more than simple willingness to make way for the Atonement. 7 Purification is of God alone, and therefore for you. 8 Rather than seek to prepare yourself for God, try to think thus:

9 *I who am host to God am worthy of Him.*
10 God Who established His dwelling place in me created His dwelling place as God would have His dwelling place be.
11 It is not needful that I make His dwelling place ready for God, but only that I do not interfere with God’s plan to restore to me my own awareness of my readiness, which is eternal.
12 I need add nothing to God’s plan. p381
13 But to receive God’s plan, I must be willing not to substitute my own egoic plan in
place of God’s plan.

Note # 35: ACIM makes the point that we merely need to freely choose for the truth. This is why salvation is always just one choice away. Unfortunately, the ego tells us that we must jump through all kinds of hoops before we can be restored to happiness. Thus, we follow the ego’s plan for salvation. Truth is true always. It only requires that we stop denying our true nature. Our little willingness is to freely accept that we are worthy because God said so. This is our acceptance of our divine birthright. God created us, His Son, perfect, whole and complete.

T-18.IV.6. Remember that to receive God’s plan, I must be willing not to substitute my own egoic plan in place of God’s plan. And that is all. You need do nothing to egoically “help, modify or correct” God’s Plan for salvation. 2 Add more, and you will merely take away the little that is asked. 3 Remember you made guilt, and that your plan for the escape from guilt has been to bring Atonement to guilt, and make salvation fearful. 4 And it is only fear that you will add, if you prepare yourself for love. 5 The preparation for the holy instant belongs to God Who gives the holy instant. 6 Release yourself to the Holy Spirit Whose function is release. 7 Do not assume the Holy Spirit’s function for the Holy Spirit. 8 Give the Holy Spirit but what He asks, which is your little willingness that you may learn how little is your part in God’s Plan for salvation, and how great is the Holy Spirit’s part.

Note # 36: When we add more than just the little willingness to the request to be made whole, we negate the entire request. We add egoic conditions that claim that we have a better plan for the correction of the mistake of separation. ACIM often points out that the only judgment that we are capable of making is that we are incapable of judging anything correctly. Merely ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and get out of Her away. The Holy Spirit knows how to complete Her function of reawakening God’s sleeping Child from the child’s nightmare.

T-18.IV.7. It is this unequal division of responsibility that makes the holy instant so easy and so natural. 2 You make it difficult, because you insist there must be more that you need do. 3 You find it difficult to accept the idea that you need give so little, to receive so much. 4 And it is very hard for you to realize that this unequal division of responsibility in God’s Plan for salvation is not personally insulting that your contribution and the Holy Spirit's are so extremely disproportionate. 5 You are still convinced that your egoic understanding is a powerful contribution to the truth, and makes the truth what the truth is. 6 Yet we have emphasized that your egoic little “s” self need understand nothing. 7 Salvation is easy just <because> salvation asks nothing you cannot give right now.

Note # 37: The ego arrogantly argues that we need to be more involved in the process of salvation. ACIM states that we merely need to let go of the ego and let God handle all the details. It is not necessary for us to understand the truth. Truth just is. When we stop denying the truth, we get to behold the truth.
T-18.IV.8. Forget not that it has been your decision to make everything that is natural and easy for you impossible. 2 If you believe the holy instant is difficult for you, it is because you have become the arbiter of what is possible, and remain unwilling to give up and relinquish your egoic plan’s place as the arbiter of what is possible to the Holy Spirit. Who knows what is possible. 3 The whole belief in orders of difficulty in miracles is centered on this egoic desire to become the arbiter of what is possible. 4 Everything God wills is not only possible, but has already happened. 5 And that is why the past has gone. 6 The past never happened in reality. 7 Only in your mind, which thought the past has happened, is the egoic past undoing needful.

Note # 38: The separation traces its origin back to the egoic desire to be the arbiter of truth. We wanted to be special. We wanted to decide when truth would be true. This idea that truth was conditional led to the idea that there were levels of truth. Instead of just truth, we believed that there could be something other than God and that the false was possible. Not only did the egoic thought system invent the false, it also invented conditional truths. We created gray areas. Now the ego wishes to judge what is black, white or gray. The ego has become the arbitrator of truth. To the ego, some problems are more difficult to correct. Thus, we get the idea that there must be some order of difficulty among miracles. The acceptance of the Atonement corrects this error and reestablishes the fact that only truth is real. There is no opposite of truth. The holy instant is the suspension of all judgments. Our part in the holy instant is the little willingness to silence the ego’s judgments about our worthiness so that the Voice of the Holy Spirit can be heard.

V. The Happy Dream

T-18.V.1. Prepare you <now> for the undoing of what never was. 2 If you already understood the difference between truth and illusion, the Atonement would have no meaning. 3 The holy instant, the holy relationship, the Holy Spirit's teaching, and all the means by which salvation is accomplished, would have no purpose if you already understood the difference between truth and illusion. 4 For the holy instant, the holy relationship, the Holy Spirit's teachings are all but aspects of the plan to change your dreams of fear to happy dreams, from which you waken easily to knowledge. p382 5 Put yourself not in charge of this plan to awaken to knowledge, for you cannot distinguish between advance and retreat. 6 Some of your greatest advances you have judged as failures, and some of your deepest retreats you have evaluated as success.

Note # 39: Accept your small but important role in the awakening process. Only the Holy Spirit has the knowledge to insure the awakening of God’s Child from the child’s illusion of separation. It is our egoic mind that attempts to thwart God’s Plan for salvation by substituting the ego’s plan for God’s. Any belief that we must do something other than “a little willingness” is the ego’s attempt to “correct” or change God’s thinking. God knows the truth that His Son is worthy because that is God’s changeless Will.
T-18.V.2. Never approach the holy instant after you have tried to remove all fear and hatred from your mind. 2 That is <the holy instant's> function to remove all fear and hatred from your mind. 3 Never attempt to overlook your guilt before you ask the Holy Spirit's help. 4 That is <the Holy Spirit's> function to overlook your guilt. 5 Your part in the holy instant is only to offer the Holy Spirit a little willingness to let the Holy Spirit remove all fear and hatred, and to be forgiven. 6 On your little faith, joined with the Holy Spirit's understanding, the Holy Spirit will build your part in the Atonement and make sure that you fulfill your part easily. 7 And with the Holy Spirit, you will build a ladder planted in the solid rock of faith, and rising even to Heaven. 8 Nor will you use this ladder of faith to ascend to Heaven alone.

Note # 40: We need only to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. It is not necessary that we do anything before we are “worthy” of the Holy Spirit’s help. Alone, it is impossible to remove all our fear, guilt and hatred from our mind and thus, “earn” our worthiness to receive the holy instant. It is the holy instant’s function or job to remove all of our fear, guilt and hatred. It is only our job to ask for the Holy Spirit’s help.

T-18.V.3. Through your holy relationship, reborn and blessed in every holy instant you do not attempt to egoically arrange, thousands will rise to Heaven with you. 2 Can your little “s” self plan for this multiple beneficial effect upon your brothers? 3 Or could you egoically prepare yourself for such a function? 4 Yet this multiple beneficial effect upon your brothers is possible, because God wills it. 5 Nor will God change His Mind about the multiple effects of the holy instant. 6 The means and purpose for the multiple beneficial effects of the holy instant upon your brothers both belong to the Holy Spirit. 7 You have accepted one, the Holy Spirit’s purpose; the other, the means, will be provided. 8 A purpose such as this, which is the Sonship’s ultimate ascent to Heaven without the means, is inconceivable. 9 The Holy Spirit will provide the means to ascend to Heaven to anyone who shares His purpose.

Note # 41: When we ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we have demonstrated our little willingness for the return to truth. Thus, we have accepted the Holy Spirit’s purpose, which is the Son’s return to truth. We share this purpose with our brother when we ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance to see our brother with the eyes of love and forgiveness. The means for this correction of illusion is God’s plan for salvation. The holy instant is part of the means that allows for our eventual acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves.

T-18.V.4. Happy dreams come true, not because they are dreams, but only because they are happy. 2 And so happy dreams must be loving. 3 The happy dream’s message is, "Thy Will (God’s) be done," and not, "I, my little “s” self, want it otherwise." 4 The alignment of means and purpose is an undertaking impossible for you to egoically understand. 5 You do not even realize you have accepted the Holy Spirit's purpose, which is the return to truth, as your own purpose, and you would merely bring unholy means to its accomplishment. 6 The little faith that the holy instant needed to change the purpose is all that is required to receive the means and use the means.
**Note # 42:** When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are turning our back upon the egocic thought system. This shift in guidance brings about a change in the purpose of any relationship. Prior to this demonstration of “a little willingness” on our part, we were following the thought system of the ego. Under the ego’s thought system, any relationship was a special relationship, whose purpose was to witness that we were a limited ego-body. Its purpose was to make an illusion of limitation and lack appear real. Thus, we egocically claimed we needed to take something outside ourselves to make us complete or holy. When we ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we ask that illusion be reinterpreted to bear witness to the truth. This changes our purpose and aligns it with the Holy Spirit’s purpose. The Holy Spirit can then transform the special relationship into a holy relationship. The holy relationship becomes part of the happy dream, which is based on the sharing of love and forgiveness.

**T-18.V.5.** It is no dream to love your brother as yourself. 2 Nor is your holy relationship a dream. 3 All that remains of dreams within a **holy relationship** is that it is still a special relationship. 4 Yet a holy relationship is very useful to the Holy Spirit, Who <has> a special function here. 5 A **holy relationship** will become the happy dream through which the Holy Spirit can spread joy to thousands on thousands who believe that love is fear, not happiness. 6 Let the Holy Spirit fulfill the function that the Holy Spirit gave to your **special relationship** by accepting and transforming it into a **holy relationship** for you, and nothing will be wanting that would make of it what the Holy Spirit would have your **special relationship** be which is the happy dream. p383

**Note # 43:** Anything done with love is something that is real. The Holy Spirit will preserve all loving thoughts until the Sonship’s return to knowledge. The Holy Spirit transforms special relationships into holy ones through the miracle. In the holy instant, all our egoic judgments are suspended and this allows forgiveness and love to replace fear. Instead of the relationship being fear-based, designed to get what you perceive you lack, it is now based on sharing and joining through love and forgiveness. Wholeness and holiness is shared, instead of fear and lack. This miracle is shared and extended throughout the entire Sonship by the Holy Spirit.

**T-18.V.6.** When you feel the holiness of your relationship is threatened by anything, stop instantly and offer the Holy Spirit your willingness, in spite of fear, to let the Holy Spirit exchange this instant of fear for the holy one that you would rather have. 2 The **Holy Spirit** will never fail in this exchange of your fear for holiness in your relationships. 3 But forget not that your relationship is one with your brother, and so it must be that whatever threatens the peace of one is an equal threat to the other. 4 The power of joining your relationship’s blessing lies in the fact that it is now impossible for you or your brother to experience fear alone, or to attempt to deal with fear alone. 5 Never believe that dealing with fear alone is necessary, or even possible. 6 Yet just as dealing with fear alone is impossible, so is it equally impossible that the holy instant come to either of you without the other. 7 And the **holy instant** will come to both at the request of either you or your brother.

**Note # 44:** To give is to receive. When either party in a relationship asks for the guidance
of the Holy Spirit, all parties will enjoy the benefits. We have joined the Holy Spirit in a common purpose. With the help of the Holy Spirit, fear will be replaced by forgiveness and love.

T-18.V.7. Whichever party is saner at the time the threat is perceived should remember how deep is his indebtedness to the other party and how much gratitude is due the other party, and be glad that he can pay his debt to his brother by bringing happiness to both. 2 Let whichever party is saner remember this, and say:

3 I desire this holy instant for myself, that I may share this holy instant with my brother, whom I love. 4 It is not possible that I can have this holy instant without my brother, or he without me. 5 Yet it is wholly possible for us to share this holy instant now. 6 And so I choose this instant as the one to offer to the Holy Spirit, that the Holy Spirit’s blessing may descend on us, and keep us both in peace.

Note # 45: It is not necessary for all parties to want a special relationship transformed into a holy relationship. Only one party need ask. The Holy Spirit will not deny the request, for such a request is never wasted. It may appear, however, that the other party does not accept the healing. It is not our place to judge the effect our request has had on the other party. But we can be assured that our request has been answered. Only the Holy Spirit has the “big picture” and understands how each part fits into the God’s Plan for the reawakening of the entire Sonship to Truth.

VI. Beyond the Body

T-18.VI.1. There is nothing outside you. 2 That there is nothing outside you is what you must ultimately learn, for learning of the Oneness and that there is nothing outside you is the realization that the Kingdom of Heaven is restored to you. 3 For God created only this, and God did not depart from Oneness nor leave the Oneness separate from Himself. 4 The Kingdom of Heaven is the dwelling place of the Son of God, who left not his Father and dwells not apart from His Father. 5 Heaven is not a place nor a condition. 6 Heaven is merely an awareness of perfect Oneness, and the knowledge that there is nothing else; nothing outside this Oneness, and nothing else within.

Note # 46: ACIM states that creation is extension. In creation, everything that is the creator is given or extended to the creation. In the case of extension, the one remains the one. ACIM distinguishes creation from making. Making involves the concept that the maker could take a part of himself and separate that part from the whole. This limited part would then exist autonomously from the maker and would be different from its maker. Each would have an autonomous and unique existence. In the case of making, the one becomes two separate and different entities. Specialness has been birthed. Extension is based on the concept that there is only one universal substance, mind or spirit, that
cannot be subdivided into different parts. The Law of God is that the part is equal to the whole. This is similar to a hologram. The concept behind making is that the part is lesser than the whole and, therefore, is something different than the whole. In the case of making, we believe that the one universal sustenance (mind) can be subdivided into something smaller than itself.

T-18.VI.2. What could God give but knowledge of Himself? 2 What else is there to give? p384 3 The belief that you could give and get something else, something outside yourself, has cost you the awareness of Heaven and of your Identity. 4 And you have done a stranger thing than you yet realize. 5 You have displaced your guilt to your body from your mind. 6 Yet a body cannot be guilty, for a body can do nothing of itself. 7 You who think you hate your body deceive yourself. 8 You hate your mind, for guilt has entered into your mind, and your mind would remain separate from your brother's mind, which it cannot do since there remains only a Oneness.

Note # 47: When God extended Himself, knowledge, which is the Mind of God, was given to His Creation, the Sonship. The ego teaches that both we and God could create and yet, withhold something from its creation. This allows for the ego’s belief that a Oneness could somehow become limited. This is error #1. The ego then teaches that ideas can leave their source. This allows for the belief that we can get rid of something like our guilt, by projecting that guilt outside of ourselves. The ego tells us that we can get rid of the mind’s guilt and transfer it to an imagined body. This belief that projected ideas can leave their source is error # 2. ACIM points out that error # 2 is more ludicrous than error # 1, which claims that God’s Creation could be limited and separate.

T-18.VI.3. Minds are joined; bodies are not joined. 2 Only by assigning to the mind the properties of the body does separation seem to be possible. 3 And it is mind that seems to be fragmented and private and alone. 4 The mind’s guilt, which keeps it separate, is projected to the body, which suffers and dies because the body is attacked to hold the separation in the mind, and let the mind not know its Identity. 5 Mind cannot attack, but mind can make fantasies and direct the body to act out these fantasies. 6 Yet it is never what the body does that seems to satisfy. 7 Unless the mind believes the body is actually acting out the mind’s fantasies, the mind will attack the body by increasing the projection of its guilt upon the body.

Note # 48: Minds are joined and cannot be separate. In order to make the illusion of separation seem possible, mind fantasizes that it has a body. Bodies, being form, cannot be joined. By identifying the mind as the body, the separation appears possible. Since form cannot be shared, there appears to be something outside the oneness. Bodies now can attack since there is something that is perceived as outside of it. Yet, this attack and counter-attack of bodies only remains part of the mind’s fantasy of separation. Mind, being a Oneness, cannot attack since there is nothing for it to attack. Yet, mind can dream or pretend that it is something other than what it truly is. This is what ACIM refers to as the mad idea of attempting to make the fantasy of separation real. We took the fantasy seriously and allowed fear to enter the game when we forgot to laugh. By forgetting to laugh, we place value on the idea of separation and our fear made it appear “real.”
T-18.VI.4. In this, the mind is clearly delusional. 2 The mind cannot attack, but the mind maintains it can attack, and uses what it does to hurt the body to prove that the mind can. 3 The mind cannot attack, but it can deceive itself. 4 And this is all the mind does when the mind believes it has attacked the body. 5 The mind can project its guilt, but the mind will not lose its guilt through projection. 6 And though the mind clearly can misperceive the function of the body, the mind cannot change the body’s function from what the Holy Spirit establishes the body’s function to be. 7 The body was not made by love. 8 Yet love does not condemn the body and can use the body lovingly, respecting what the Son of God has made and using the body to save the Son from illusions.

Note # 49: The Holy Spirit gives the body the function of being a communication device. Therefore, the body can be utilized to communicate by being an instrument to teach only forgiveness and love. To the ego, the body’s function is to bear false witness to the idea that the separation is real.

T-18.VI.5. Would you not have the instruments of separation, like the body, reinterpreted as means for salvation, and used for purposes of love? 2 Would you not welcome and support the shift from fantasies of vengeance to release from these fantasies? 3 Your perception of the body can clearly be sick, but project not this upon the body. 4 For your wish to make destructive what cannot destroy can have no real effect at all. Mind cannot be destructive or destroy. 5 What God created is only what He would have it be, being God’s Will. 6 You cannot make God’s Will destructive. 7 You can make fantasies in which your will conflicts with God’s Will, but that is all.

Note # 50: Mind cannot be made separate from the Mind of God because mind is joined. This means that our will and God’s Will must be the same. There is only the Everything, which is the Mind of God. There is nothing outside or apart from this unified Mind. This is the One Self.

T-18.VI.6. It is insane to use the body as the scapegoat for guilt, directing the body’s attack and blaming the body for what your mind wished the body to do. 2 It is impossible to act out fantasies of vengeance and the perceived source of your guilt. 4 The body does not dream of them, and the fantasies but make the body a liability where the body could be an asset. 5 For fantasies have made your body your "enemy"; weak, vulnerable and treacherous, worthy of the hate that you invest in the body. 6 How has this fantasy served you? You have identified with this thing you hate, the body, which has become the instrument of vengeance and the perceived source of your guilt. 8 You have done this to a thing that has no meaning, proclaiming the body to be the dwelling place of God's Son, and turning the body against God’s Son.

Note # 51: Mind cannot be made separate from the Mind of God because mind is joined. This means that our will and God’s Will must be the same. There is only the Oneness of Everything, which is the Mind of God. There is nothing outside or apart from this unified holographic Mind. The body, which is our mind’s fantasy, cannot become the home of
either God or your mind.

T-18.VI.7. This fantasy of a body is the host of God that you egoically claim you have made. 2 And neither God nor His most holy Son can enter an abode like the body that harbors hate, and where you have sown the seeds of vengeance, violence and death. 3 This thing you call the body, you egoically made to serve your guilt stands between you and other minds. 4 The minds joined, but you do not identify with the other minds. 5 You egoically see yourself locked in a separate body-prison, removed and unreachable, incapable of reaching out as being reached. 6 You hate this body-prison you have made, and would destroy this prison. 7 But your egoic little “s” self would not escape from this prison, leaving the body unharmed, without your egoic guilt upon this body-prison.

Note # 52: The prison that we have made was birthed from the idea of separation. The body and this world of form were made to keep the Sonship fragmented and to keep God out. God cannot be at home in a fantasy that we call our body. Bodies cannot be shared. Since to give is to receive, we cannot release ourselves from the illusion of separation without freeing our brother. The body serves as the form that keeps us separate from our brother. We are trapped in the illusionary bodily prison of our mind’s desire for specialness and separation.

Line # 7 “But you would not escape from it, leaving it unharmed, without your guilt upon it” means that the ego is unwilling to leave the fantasy which has become the prison for your mind. In order to escape, we would have to stop projecting our guilt upon our brothers and our own body-form. We are unwilling to do this since this would mean losing the scapegoats that we egoically use to get rid of our guilt by projecting it upon someone else. We would have to take responsibility for the dream as the maker of the dream itself. The ego wants the mind to remain in victim consciousness so that the mind remains unwilling to reclaim its power as decision-maker. If we regain control of the decision-maker, we could choose against the ego by siding with the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-18.VI.8. Yet only thus you escape. 2 The home of vengeance, the body, is not yours; the place you set aside to house your hate, the body, is not a prison, but an illusion of yourself. 3 The body is a limit imposed on the universal communication that is an eternal property of mind. 4 But the communication is internal. 5 Mind reaches to itself. 6 Mind is made up of different parts, which reach each other. 7 Mind does not go out. 8 Within itself mind has no limits, and there is nothing outside mind. 9 Mind encompasses everything. 10 Mind encompasses you entirely; you within mind and mind within you. 11 There is nothing else but mind, anywhere or ever.

Note # 53: An escape from prison is achieved by reawakening from the fantasy that you could be something other than an extension of the Creator. Illusion is dissolved by truth. There has only been the One shared unchanging Mind of God. Form is illusion and mind is everything. “I am not a body. I am free, for I am exactly as God created me.”

T-18.VI.9. The body is an illusion outside you, and but seems to surround you, shutting
you off from others and keeping you apart from the others, and the others apart from you. 2 The body is not there. 3 There is no barrier between God and His Son, nor can His Son be separated from Himself except in illusions. 4 This illusion of a barrier between God and His Son is not the Son’s reality, though he believes the illusion is his reality. 5 Yet this could only be if God were wrong. 6 God would have had to create differently, and to have separated Himself from His Son to make this possible. 7 God would have had to create different things, and to establish different orders of reality, only some of which were love. 8 Yet love must be forever like itself, changeless forever, and forever without alternative. 9 And so it is. 10 You cannot put a barrier around yourself, because God placed none between Himself and you. p386

Note # 54: ACIM states that God’s creation is an extension of God, Himself. Because creation is an extension and not making, the belief of separation can only be an illusion of egoic consciousness. The illusion is not part of the Mind of God. The body is merely the primary costume that we wear during the “dream play of separation”. The costume is not the essence of the actor who is starring in the play. Rather, the actor wears the costume during the “play” to help give the appearance of reality to the play. Unfortunately, we have forgotten that we were merely pretending to be something other than God and now we have mistakenly identified our mind with the costume, which is the body. Our essence is and always remains unlimited spirit. The costume of the body has no reality outside the dream play itself. See Note # 46 on difference between creating and making.

T-18.VI.10. You can stretch out your hand and reach to Heaven, which is not a place or condition but merely an awareness of perfect Oneness. 2 You whose hand is joined with your brother's have begun to reach beyond the body, but not outside yourself, to reach your shared Identity together. 3 Could this shared Identity be outside you, your Big “S” Self? 4 Where God is not? 5 Is <God> a body, and did God create you as He is not, and where God cannot be? 6 You are surrounded only by God. 7 What limits can there be on you whom God encompasses?

Note # 55: We share the universal mind of God with everything. Ultimately, the return to Heaven is the release of our belief that we are a body, which is a limitation on the unlimited. Heaven is not a place or condition but merely an awareness of perfect Oneness coupled with the knowledge that there is nothing else. There is nothing outside this Oneness and nothing else within this Oneness. There is only the undivided holographic Mind of God. Nothing separates us from our brother for we are the whole. We are that One Self.

T-18.VI.11. Everyone has experienced what he would call a sense of being transported beyond himself. 2 This feeling of liberation far exceeds the dream of freedom sometimes hoped for in special relationships. 3 This experience of liberation of being transported beyond yourself is a sense of actual escape from limitations. 4 If you will consider what this "transportation" really entails, you will realize that it is a sudden unawareness of the body, and a joining of yourself and something else in which your mind enlarges to encompass it. 5 The item involved becomes part of you, as you unite with it. 6 And both
the item involved and you become whole, as neither is perceived as separate. 7 What really happens is that you have given up the illusion of a limited awareness, and lost your fear of union. 8 The love that instantly replaces the illusion of a limited awareness extends to what has freed you, and that love unites with the item that is involved in this joining. 9 And while this lasts you are not uncertain of your Identity as the Christ and Big “S” Self, and would not limit your Identity. 10 You have escaped from fear to peace, asking no questions of reality, but merely accepting reality. 11 You have accepted this awareness of unlimited union instead of the body, and have let yourself be one with something beyond the body, simply by not letting your mind be limited by the body.

Note # 56: These past experiences of liberation and of being transported beyond ourselves demonstrates that we are more than just a body. As we experience this more and more, our faith that we are unlimited mind will strengthen. ACIM does not ask us to accept the thought system of the Holy Spirit based on blind belief. But rather it asks that we suspend judgment so that the guidance of the Holy Spirit can be heard. Once heard, if followed without egoic judgment, the experience will confirm the truth of the Oneness and we will feel a sense of inner peace.

The key elements in the process of joining through the universal mind are two-fold. The first is the suspension of the belief that we are limited ego-body. The second is that the item must be perceived with unconditional love and forgiveness. The first suspends our illusion of limited awareness. The second removes our fear of union.

T-18.VI.12. This experience of liberation of being transported beyond yourself and joining with something else can occur regardless of the physical distance that seems to be between you and what you join; of your respective positions in space; and of your differences in size and seeming quality. 2 Time is not relevant. This experience of union can occur with something past, present or anticipated. 3 The "something" can be anything and anywhere; a sound, a sight, a thought, a memory, and even a general idea without specific reference. 4 Yet in every case, you join that something without reservation because you love it, and would be with it. 5 And so you rush to meet that something, letting your limits melt away, suspending all the "laws" your body obeys and gently setting the laws of the egoic world of time and space aside.

Note # 57: When we experience the transcendence of our body-form, the laws that rule the world of separation, perception and form have been suspended. The joining of mind is under the control of the Laws of God. The Laws of God supersede the egoic laws of time and space that normally govern our world of perception. When we transcend the body, we temporarily reject all egoic illusions that would attempt to deny and limit the power of God and replace the illusions with the truth.

T-18.VI.13. There is no violence at all in this escape from bodily limitations. 2 The body is not attacked, but simply properly perceived. 3 The body does not limit you, merely because you would not have it so. 4 You are not really "lifted out" of the body; it cannot contain you. 5 You go where you would be, gaining, not losing, a sense of your Big “S” Self. p387 6 In these instants of release from physical restrictions, you experience much of what happens in the holy instant; the lifting of the barriers of time and space, the
sudden experience of peace and joy, and, above all, the lack of awareness of the body, and of the questioning whether or not all this escape from bodily limitations is possible.

**Note # 58:** These experiences of being more than a body will strength your desire to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. It replicates the holy instant in that all past judgments have dropped. You no longer perceive yourself as a body. Now the truth of the Oneness can be witnessed. You experience your Big “S” Self. Your faith in the Holy Spirit’s guidance, which is the belief that you are not a body, has been rewarded.

T-18.VI.14. **This experience of union and of the liberation of being transported beyond yourself and joining with something else** is possible because you want it. 2 The sudden expansion of awareness that takes place with your desire for this experience of union is the irresistible appeal the holy instant holds. 3 **This sudden expansion of awareness** calls to you to be yourself, within the holy instant’s safe embrace. 4 There in the holy instant are the egoic laws of limit lifted for you, to welcome you to openness of mind and freedom. 5 Come to this place of refuge, where you can be **your big “S” Self** in peace. 6 Not through destruction, not through a breaking out, but merely by a quiet melting in. 7 For peace will join you there in the holy instant, simply because you have been willing to let go the limits you have placed upon love, and joined love where love is and where it led you, in answer to love’s gentle call to be at peace.

**Note # 59:** The desire for the end of illusion is necessary for the return to truth. Truth brings with it the peace of the Oneness. During these experiences of sudden expansion of awareness, we are being the Big “S” Self. We are restored to Christ consciousness at least momentarily while these experiences last. When we once again identify ourselves as the body, this experience ends. It is the mind, not the body that terminates the expanded experience due to the resurfacing of old beliefs in limitation. The holy instant cannot co-exist when we once again decide to follow the egoic thought system. The mind cannot serve two masters at once. We will choose based upon what we value. It will be a choice between truth versus illusion, love versus fear, and the oneness versus separation.

**VII. I Need Do Nothing**

T-18.VII.1. You still have too much faith in the body as a source of strength. 2 What plans do you make that do not involve the body’s comfort or protection or enjoyment in some way? 3 This makes the body an end and not a means in your interpretation, and this always means you still find sin attractive. 4 No one accepts Atonement for himself who still accepts sin as his goal. 5 You have thus not met your one responsibility. 6 Atonement, which is our acceptance of our sinlessness, is not welcomed by those who prefer pain and destruction.

**Note # 60:** Our one responsibility is to have faith that we are unlimited spirit and not a body. We need to accept our innocence. As long as we identify our essence as the body, we are trapped by the limitations that the ego has placed on the body. To the ego, the
body is proof that we are guilty of sin and must be punished. The body is the ego’s proof that the separation was real. The ego wants us to identify ourselves as the body and to adopt the body’s protection as our end goal. The Holy Spirit knows the body is a communication device that can be used to teach only love. The body is used as a means to relearn the truth that only love is real.

T-18.VII.2. There is one thing that you have never done; you have not utterly forgotten the body. 2 The body has perhaps faded at times from your sight, but the body has not yet completely disappeared. 3 You are not asked to let this complete disappearance of the body happen for more than an instant, yet it is in this instant of bodily disappearance that the miracle of Atonement happens. 4 Afterwards you will see the body again, but never quite the same. 5 And every instant that you spend without awareness of the body gives you a different view of the body when you return.

Note # 61: As long as we identify ourselves as the body, we have chosen for the thought system of the ego. The acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves is not possible as long as we believe that we are a limited ego-body. After the acceptance of the Atonement, we look with the vision of Christ past our body toward the light of our spiritual essence.

T-18.VII.3. At no single instant does the body exist at all. 2 The body is always remembered or anticipated, but never experienced just <now.> 3 Only the body’s past and future make the body seem real. 4 Time controls the body entirely, for sin is never wholly in the present. 5 In any single instant, the attraction of guilt would be experienced as pain and nothing else, and would be avoided. 6 The body has no attraction in the <now.> 388 7 The body’s whole attraction is imaginary, and therefore must be thought of in the past or in the future.

Note # 62: The body was made to be the ego’s proof that the separation was real. The body, like the ego’s use of time, is fixed upon the past. Our fixation with the past confirms our mistaken belief that we are guilty sinners who must fear punishment. By associating the body with the past, the ego insures that the mind is unconscious to the <now>. In the past, our mind was in victim consciousness. Only in the “now” can the mind reclaim the power of the decision-maker to choose again. Without our belief in a “sinful past,” there would be no fear associated with the thought of choosing again. We fear to make the choice for the Holy Spirit because the ego has convinced us that such a choice will rain down the “Vengeance of the Lord” upon our “sinful bodies.” Only in the <now> can we choose for the holy instant and Christ Vision.

T-18.VII.4. It is impossible to accept the holy instant without reservation unless, just for an instant, you are willing to see no past or future. 2 You cannot prepare for the holy instant without placing the holy instant in the future. 3 Release is given you the instant you desire release. 4 Many have spent a lifetime in preparation, and have indeed achieved their instants of success. 5 This course does not attempt to teach more than they learned in time, but this course does aim at saving time. 6 You may be attempting to follow a very long road to the goal you have accepted. 7 It is extremely difficult to reach Atonement by fighting against sin. 8 Enormous effort is expended in the attempt to make
holy what is hated and despised. 9 Nor is a lifetime of contemplation and long periods of
meditation aimed at detachment from the body necessary. 10 All such attempts will
ultimately succeed because of their purpose, **which is the ending of illusion**. 11 Yet the
means are tedious and very time consuming, for all of them look to the future for release
from a state of present unworthiness and inadequacy.

**Note # 63:** ACIM is only one path to the achievement of “enlightenment”. ACIM states
that an easy way to the return to truth is to simply accept the truth of what you are.
Instead of fighting or resisting obstacles to the truth, merely realize that they are not part
of the truth. By resisting and opposing an imaginary enemy, we make the enemy appear
real. Thus, struggle becomes necessary in order to give ourselves permission to overcome
the imagined enemy. Eventually, we will overcome our fear and overwhelm the false,
non-existent opposition but this takes much effort and time. Yet, the false never existed in
the first place. Darkness simply dissipates when brought into the light. ACIM simply
states that nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. The false is false and the
truth is always truth. Accept that you are sinless and guiltless and you will be because
that is God’s Will. We did not change ourselves because God made and keeps us, perfect,
whole and complete. We are God’s extension of Himself.

**T-18.VII.5.** Your way will be different, not in purpose but in means. 2 A holy relationship
is a means of saving time. 3 One instant spent together with your brother restores the
universe to both of you. 4 You <em>are</em> prepared. 5 Now you need but to remember you
need do nothing. 6 It would be far more profitable now merely to concentrate on the fact
that you are already prepared. Since you need do nothing, do not consider what you
egoically believe you should do for our ego does not know. 7 When peace comes at last
to those who wrestle with temptation and fight against the giving in to sin; when the light
comes at last into the mind given to contemplation; or when the goal is finally achieved
by anyone, it always comes with just one happy realization; "<em>I need do nothing.&gt;"

**Note # 64:** We need do nothing because we remain as we were created, perfect, whole
and complete. To believe in the Truth, you do not have to do anything. To follow the
ego’s plan for salvation takes effort and fails to achieve any lasting results. God’s plan
requires nothing but to stop denying the truth. God’s Plan is the acceptance of our natural
state. We are one with the Mind of God. Unfortunately, rather than accept the truth that
we are the One Self, we believe that we are imperfect, not whole and very incomplete. It
is the egoic plan that is designed “to make ourselves ready to be saved” that we must
guard against. To return to the truth of who we are, we literally must do nothing that the
ego advises us to do. You don’t have to change something that is already perfect. By not
following the ego’s plan, we surrender to God’s Plan. By following God’s Plan, our
return to knowledge is close at hand.

**T-18.VII.6.** Here is the ultimate release which everyone will one day find in his own way,
at his own time. 2 You do not need this time. 3 Time has been saved for you because you
and your brother are together. 4 This is the special means this course is using to save you
time. 5 You are not making use of the course if you insist on using means which have
served others well, neglecting what was made for <em>you</em>. 6 Save time for me by only this
one preparation, and practice doing nothing else. 7 "I, my little “s” self, need do nothing" is a statement of allegiance, a truly undivided loyalty. "I need do nothing" is the denial of the egoic plan for salvation. 8 Believe "I, my little “s” self, need do nothing" for just one instant, and you will accomplish more than is given to a century of contemplation, or of struggle against temptation. p389

Note # 65: Jesus implores us to be full-time students of only ACIM. ACIM will save us time over other methods of spiritual practice because it requires that you do not have to "purify what is already pure." To maximize the benefits of ACIM, we need to be serious students. Many people prefer to dabble in various spiritual paths. They become familiar with many practices but master none. If followed, ACIM is a complete and swift course to the returning of the Sonship to the knowledge of the One Self.

T-18.VII.7. To do anything involves the body. 2 And if you recognize you need do nothing that involves the body, you have withdrawn the body's value from your mind. 3 Here is the quick and open door through which you slip past centuries of effort, and escape from time. 4 This withdrawal of the body's value from your mind is the way in which sin loses all attraction.<right now.> 5 For here is time denied, and past and future gone. 6 Who needs do nothing has no need for time. 7 To do nothing is to rest, and make a place within you where the activity of the body ceases to demand attention. 8 Into this place where the activity of the body ceases to demand attention the Holy Spirit comes, and there abides. 9 The Holy Spirit will remain in this place of your spiritual awareness when you forget, and the body's activities return to occupy your conscious mind.

Note # 66: Instead of making the body, sin, guilt and fear seem real, ACIM states that we need but recognize the illusionary nature of these imaginary friends of the ego. Place no attention on them for what you resist, persists. Resistance merely makes illusions appear real. Other methods of spiritual practice accept man’s sinful nature and then engage their students in years of struggle to overcome these imagined demons. The acceptance of the Atonement bypasses this struggle. We simply accept the truth that God’s Children are eternally sinless. We ask for and accept the guidance of the Holy Spirit and dismiss the thought system of the ego. The home of the Holy Spirit is the Christ conscious part of our mind.

T-18.VII.8. Yet there will always be this place of rest, which is the Christ consciousness, to which you can return. 2 And you will be more aware of this quiet center of the storm than all the body’s raging activity. 3 This quiet center, in which you do nothing, will remain with you, giving you rest in the midst of every busy doing on which you are sent. 4 For from this quiet center will you be directed how to use the body sinlessly. 5 It is this center of Christ consciousness, from which the body is absent, that will keep the body sinless in your awareness of the body.

Note # 67: Rather than deny the existence of the body, the Holy Spirit will transform the body from an egoic tool for the separation into a witness for love. The Holy Spirit utilizes
the body as a communication device. Thus, through the body, the Big “S” Self can be itself and teach only love. From the Christ center, the Holy Spirit resides as an observer for the truth. The Holy Spirit is aware of the activities involving the body but is also aware of the truth that you are not the body. Utilizing Its unique position of understanding, the Holy Spirit is able to correct egoic misperceptions into lessons for the Sonship’s guiltlessness which we can rediscover. This center of Christ consciousness has always remained in contact with the truth. We have just refused to listen to it in the past.

**VIII. The Little Garden**

**T-18.VIII.1.** It is only the awareness of the body that makes love seem limited. 2 For the body is a limit on love. 3 The belief in limited love was the body’s origin, and the awareness of the body was made to limit the unlimited. 4 Think not that this is merely allegorical, for the body was made to limit you. 5 Can you who see yourself within a body know yourself as an idea? 6 Everything you recognize you identify with externals, something outside itself. 7 You cannot even think of God without a body, or in some form you think you recognize.

**Note # 68:** We are mind, an idea or thought of God. We are not a physical body. Both the body and the physical world of time and space were made by the ego’s thought system to keep God out. Thus, they bear false witness to the ego’s belief in the separation. The world of perception is a world of form. Form cannot be shared and, therefore, can only limit. We have become so accustomed to utilizing the physical senses that we now identify everything as a projected image from our mind’s imagination. To the ego, form is all-important and content unimportant. Any attempt to define God is an attempt to limit God. Similarly, any attempt to define our essence as being a body is an attempt to limit what we are.

**T-18.VIII.2.** The body cannot know. 2 And while you limit your awareness to the body’s tiny senses, you will not see the grandeur that surrounds you. 3 God cannot come into a body, nor can you join God in a body. 4 Limits on love will always seem to shut God out, and keep you apart from God. 5 The body is a tiny fence around a little part of a glorious and complete idea. 6 The body draws a circle, infinitely small, around a very little segment of Heaven, splintered that small segment of Heaven from the whole, proclaiming that within that small segment is your kingdom, where God can enter not.

**Note # 69:** The world is the image of false past misperception that was birthed by the thought of separation. The body is a fence that the Son of God imagines he has built to separate parts of his One Self from other parts of his Big “S” Self. The body is the split-mind’s attempt to fragment the Sonship and split it into limited, separate parts. Identifying ourselves as the body, we believe we must live and die within this imagined fence we call our body. The ego, in its desire to be special, claims that only within the fence of the body can you exist. To the split-minded, we are a limited ego-body in
competition with other limited ego-bodies. We are not a shared Oneness within the holographic Mind of God. The mind cannot go beyond the confines of the imaged body-form. The ego has attempted to limit the unlimited Mind of God by defining It as a limited form. This cannot be.

T-18.VIII.3. Within this small splintered segment of Heaven which the ego claims God cannot enter is perceived a kingdom that the ego rules, and rules cruelly. 2 And to defend this little speck of dust the ego bids you fight against the universe. 3 This fragment of your mind is such a tiny part of the universe that, could you but appreciate the whole, you would see instantly that your small kingdom is like the smallest sunbeam to the sun, or like the faintest ripple on the surface of the ocean. 4 In the ego’s amazing arrogance, this tiny sunbeam has decided it is the sun; this almost imperceptible ripple hails itself as the ocean. 5 Think how alone and frightened is this little thought, this infinitesimal illusion, holding itself apart against the universe. 6 The sun becomes the sunbeam's "enemy" that would devour the sunbeam, and the ocean terrifies the little ripple and wants to swallow the ripple.

Note # 70: The ego declares that it has usurped the Will of God and has created something other than God. The ego’s thought system argues that it is either self-created or that it has a will other than God’s Will. These thoughts birthed the belief in separation. Perception arose when the Oneness thought there was something outside of Itself. Perception is the attempt to take truth and make it false. It also attempts to claim that there are “conditional or partial truths.” Egoic specialness fragments the Oneness and claims that a Oneness can be subdivided and made into something that it is not. The ego carves out a small part of the indivisible whole and claims this imagined part is limited and not like the whole. The ego declares that it would prefer to be special rather than be the shared Oneness of Everything. Thus, unlimited spirit is exchanged for a limited egoic body-form. The ego next tells us that we are imperfect and incomplete which, in turn, makes us very special. When we follow the ego, we exchange happiness for limitation born from specialness. Love is exchanged for fear. The universe now becomes a fearful, combative world. We have made an illusionary hell to replace a loving supportive Heaven, which is representative of God’s Love.

T-18.VIII.4. Yet neither sun nor ocean is even aware of all this strange and meaningless activity. 2 The sun or ocean merely continue, unaware that they are feared and hated by a tiny segment of themselves. 3 Even that segment is not lost to the sun or ocean, for the tiny segment could not survive apart from its source. 4 And what the tiny segment thinks it is in no way changes its total dependence on the sun or ocean for its being. 5 The tiny segment’s whole existence still remains in its source. 6 Without the sun the sunbeam would be gone; the ripple without the ocean is inconceivable.

Note # 71: This tiny segment of the Oneness that the ego claims you have become has no power of life independent from the Whole. In the Mind of God, the concept that there could be something other than a whole is inconceivable. Nothing can be outside the One Self, which is the holographic Mind of God. This mad idea that there could be something other than the Oneness led to the separation. Perhaps the Creator’s greatest gift to His
Creation, the Sonship, is the knowledge that creation is extension of the One Self. This insures that the Sonship will always be as God created His Child since God refuses to place value on any illusion that would make separation appear real. We remain innocent, perfect, whole and complete within the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. Ideas never leave their source and an idea cannot exist separate from the mind that thought it. We are an idea or thought of God.

T-18.VIII.5. Such is the strange position in which those in a world inhabited by bodies seem to be. These tiny bodies claim that they are separate and independent from their source. 2 Each body seems to house a separate mind, a disconnected thought, living alone and in no way joined to the Thought by which it was created. 3 Each tiny fragment seems to be self-contained, needing another for some things, but by no means totally dependent on its one Creator for everything; needing the whole to give each tiny fragment any meaning, for by itself each tiny fragment does mean nothing. 4 Nor has each tiny fragment any life apart and by itself.

Note # 72: The Law of Creation states that creation is the extension of the Oneness. This would be similar to a holograph. Each tiny segment contains the whole. In the world of form or perception, each part is less than the whole. The ego utilizes this imagined fragmentation of the whole to support the idea that an imaged part could be something less than whole. Unlike creation, making is based on the idea of lack and that a part must be less than the whole. This “littleness” gives the part its imagined “specialness.”

T-18.VIII.6. Like to the sun and ocean your Big “S” Self continues, unmindful that this tiny little “s” part regards itself as you. 2 This tiny little “s” part is not missing for it could not exist if it were separate, nor would the Whole be whole without this tiny little “s” part. 3 This tiny part is not a separate kingdom, ruled by an idea of separation from the rest. 4 Nor does a fence surround this tiny part, preventing it from joining with the rest, and keeping this tiny part apart from its Creator. 5 This little aspect is no different from the whole, being continuous with the whole and at one with the whole. 6 This tiny part leads no separate life, because its life <is> the oneness in which this tiny part’s being was created.

Note # 73: Although we can deny the truth, this does not change the truth. We remain one with the whole. The belief of separation is the denial of truth yet our denial has no effect on the truth of Oneness.

T-18.VIII.7. Do not accept this little, fenced-off aspect as yourself. 2 The sun and ocean are as nothing beside what you are, which is the Child of God. 3 The sunbeam sparkles only in the sunlight, and the ripple dances as it rests upon the ocean. 4 Yet in neither sun nor ocean is the power of God that rests in you. p391 5 Would you remain within your tiny kingdom, a sorry king, a bitter ruler of all that he surveys, who looks on nothing yet who would still die to defend the nothingness of an illusion? 6 This little “s” self is not your kingdom. 7 Arched high above this little “s” self and surrounding it with love is the glorious whole, which offers all the whole’s happiness and deep content to every part. 8 The little aspect that you think you set apart is no exception.
**Note # 74:** Cause needs its effect and an effect needs its cause. They are together joined and are powerless without the other, for each completes the other as inseparable halves of the whole. When we argue for the thought system of the ego, we deny our divine birthright in exchange for littleness. We exchange the power of God, for the power of victim consciousness. Fortunately for the split-minded, this denial of the truth does not change the truth, which is eternally changeless.

**T-18.VIII.8.** Love knows no bodies, and love reaches to everything created like itself. 2 Love’s total lack of limit <is> love’s meaning. 3 Love is completely impartial in its giving, encompassing only to preserve and keep complete what love would give. 4 In your tiny egoic kingdom you have so little! 5 Should your tiny egoic kingdom not, then, be there that you would call on love to enter? 6 Look at the desert—dry and unproductive, scorched and joyless—that makes up your little egoic kingdom. 7 And realize the life and joy that love would bring to your tiny egoic kingdom from where it comes, and where your tiny kingdom would return with you to its source, which is God’s Love.

**Note # 75:** ACIM asks us to choose again. By rejecting the egoic thought system, our provisional reality of littleness will be brought into the light of truth. The choice for the thought system of the Holy Spirit is the choice for your Big “S” Self and truth. Fear is transformed into forgiveness and love and our dreams of terror become happy dreams. We cannot be happy with egoic littleness when we are the shared Oneness of “All That Is.”

**T-18.VIII.9.** The Thought of God surrounds your little kingdom, waiting at the barrier you built to come inside and shine upon the barren ground. 2 See how life springs up everywhere when the thought of God is freely allowed to enter our ego’s little kingdom! 3 The desert becomes a garden, green and deep and quiet, offering rest to those who lost their way and wander in the dust. 4 Give those who lost their way a place of refuge, prepared by love for them where once a desert was. 5 And everyone you welcome will bring love with him from Heaven for you. 6 They whom you welcome enter one by one into this holy place, but they whom you welcome will not depart as they had come, alone. 7 The love they whom you welcomed brought with them will stay with them, as their love will stay with you. 8 And under love’s beneficence your little garden will expand, and reach out to everyone who thirsts for living water, but has grown too weary to go on alone.

**Note # 76:** By asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, love transforms our egoic special relationships into holy relationships. Fear has been replaced by forgiveness and love. We see everything as either a cry for love or an expression of love. Since to give is to receive, any exchange between our brother and ourselves is shared and strengthened. Love, being real, is never lost or diminished. We cannot limit loves’ extension and be love. Anyone who has or is love is never alone.

**T-18.VIII.10.** Go out and find them, your brothers, for they bring your Big “S” Self with them. 2 And lead your brothers gently to your quiet garden, and receive your
brothers’ blessing there in your place of refuge. 3 So will your quiet garden grow and stretch across the desert, leaving no lonely little kingdoms locked away from love, and leaving you inside. 4 And you will recognize yourself, and see your little garden gently transformed into the Kingdom of Heaven, with all the Love of its Creator shining upon it.

Note # 77: Love and forgiveness transform your world of provisional reality from a world of fear to a world of love. By granting love’s freedom to our brother, we receive that same freedom from our own egoic little “s” self.

T-18.VIII.11. The holy instant is your invitation to love to enter into your bleak and joyless kingdom, and to transform your bleak and joyless egoic kingdom into a garden of peace and welcome. 2 Love’s answer is inevitable. 3 Love will come because you came without the body, and interposed no barriers to interfere with love’s glad coming. 4 In the holy instant, you ask of love only what love offers everyone, neither less nor more.

p392 5 Asking for everything, you will receive everything. 6 And your shining Big “S” Self will lift the tiny aspect that you tried to hide from Heaven straight to Heaven. 7 No part of love calls on the whole in vain. 8 No Son of God remains outside His Fatherhood.

Note # 78: We cannot return to the truth about ourselves as long as we cling to the belief that we are a limited ego-body. The thought system of the ego is predicated on the belief that we are a body in competition with other ego-bodies. The Holy Spirit’s is based on the knowledge that you are the unlimited extension of the Mind of God. You are the thoughts of God. You are spirit and spirit is that One Self. Love returns us to the knowledge of the Oneness of the Mind of God.

T-18.VIII.12. Be sure of this; love has entered your special relationship, and entered fully at your weak request. 2 You do not recognize that love has come to your brother, because you have not yet let go of all the barriers you hold against your brother. 3 And you and your brother will not be able to give love welcome separately. 4 You could no more know God alone than God knows you without your brother. 5 But together you could no more be unaware of love than love could know you not, or fail to recognize itself in you.

Note # 79: Love cannot exist alone. Love must be expressed. God, our brother and we are one. Thus being a Oneness, when love is expressed, we all receive it. To know love, be love.

T-18.VIII.13. You have reached the end of an ancient journey, not realizing yet that this ancient journey is over. 2 You are still worn and tired, and the desert's dust still seems to cloud your eyes and keep you sightless. 3 Yet God Whom you welcomed has come to you, and would welcome you. 4 God has waited long to give you this. 5 Receive love’s return to knowledge now from God, for God would have you know Him. 6 Only a little wall of dust still stands between you and your brother. 7 Blow on this dust lightly and with happy laughter, and the illusion of the separation will fall away. 8 And walk into the garden love has prepared for both your brother and you.
Note # 80: The dream of illusion is almost over. When we look with the Vision of Christ on all our brothers and ourselves, we will forgive ourselves for the vain attempts to make something other than love. We will abandon the thought system of the ego and reawaken to the Holy Spirit’s truth that the truth is always true and the false cannot be. God, the Creator, will welcome His once sleeping prodigal Son home from the dream of separation. This journey never actually occurred in the Mind of God for only the dreamer perceived the illusion to be real.

IX. The Two Worlds

T-18.IX.1. You have been told to bring the darkness to the light, and guilt to holiness. 2 And you have also been told that error must be corrected at the source of the error. 3 Therefore, the error’s source is the tiny part of yourself, the little thought that seems split off and separate that the Holy Spirit needs. 4 The rest of yourself, our Big “S” Self, is fully in God's keeping, and needs no guide. 5 Yet this wild and delusional thought of separation, which is the ego’s little “s” self, needs help because, in the ego’s delusions, this delusional thought thinks the ego’s little “s” self is the Son of God, whole and omnipotent, sole ruler of the kingdom that this delusional thought system set apart to tyrannize by madness into obedience and slavery. 6 This is the little part you think you stole from Heaven. 7 Give the little part you think you stole from Heaven back to Heaven. 8 Heaven has not lost it, but <you> have lost sight of Heaven. 9 Let the Holy Spirit remove this delusional egoic thought system from the withered kingdom in which you set it off, surrounded by darkness, guarded by attack and reinforced by hate. 10 Within this delusional egoic thought system’s barricades is still a tiny segment of the Son of God, complete and holy, serene and unaware of what you think surrounds this part, the Christ consciousness. p393

Note # 81: The mad idea of separation has not “infected“ our entire mind. The mad idea only represents a tiny fraction our mind, the egoic little “s” self. The vast majority of the mind, the “uninfected” Big “S” Self, has remained in remembrance of God and is unaware of any disturbance to its peace. It is only within the tiny delusional thought system of the ego, which is represented by our little “s” self, that our mind appears split. But ever within the ego, there still is a part that remains in remembrance of God since this split is not real, but only imagined. This remembrance for God is the Christ conscious part of the seemingly split-minded Sonship. This Christ center is the home of the Holy Spirit and is not under the influence of the ego. The egoic thought system is based on the delusional idea that the separation was real. It is the ego’s thought system that places barriers to hide the truth that only love is real. The Christ conscious center of the split-mind is only love. ACIM does not attempt to teach love, but rather to remove all the obstacles the ego has placed to block love’s presence. Remove the veil of illusion and the Christ Self, which is only love, is all that remains.

T-18.IX.2. Be you not separate, for the One, the Holy Spirit, Who does surround the delusional idea of the ego, has brought union to you, returning your little offering of
darkness to the eternal light. 2 How is this **healing** done? 3 **This healing** is extremely simple for the **healing of the Holy Spirit** is being based on what this little **egoic** kingdom really is, **which is only an illusion.** The Holy Spirit merely **brings all illusion to the light of truth.** 4 The barren sands, the darkness and the lifelessness, are seen only through the body's eyes. 5 **The body’s** bleak sight is distorted, and the messages that the **body’s physical senses** transmit to you who made the **egoic physical senses** to limit your awareness are little and limited, and so fragmented **that the messages the physical senses transmit back to the mind** are meaningless.

**Note # 82:** The physical senses, like the world and the body were made to give the appearance of reality to the dream of separation. They cannot be trust. The physical senses are thought confirming devises rather than objective observational devises. Everything we perceive is the result of projection. In projection, the mind first determines what it would like to observe based on the mind’s desires and beliefs. The mind then tells the physical senses to go out and confirm these predetermine beliefs. The physical sense next seeks out only what it was assigned to find. The senses ignore all other items. Thus, the physical senses are thought confirmation devices for the mind’s prejudged ideas. The senses give false confirmation and, therefore, reality to the illusion that the mind desired. Projection demonstrates that thoughts are things. Our mind’s thoughts are the cause of all that we perceive. This becomes our provisional reality. They are our own private beliefs and desire made manifest in an illusion that appears real only within the mind of the dreamer. Since no one else shares this same viewpoint of the dream of separation, everyone perceives his or her private world differently. Everyone is living within there own unique dream world, which thus, becomes his or her own provisional reality.

**T-18.IX.3.** From the world of bodies, made by insanity, insane messages seem to be returned to the **egoic** mind that made **these same insane messages.** 2 And these messages bear witness to this **egoic world of perception and form** pronouncing that the world of bodies as true. 3 For you sent forth by **egoic projection** these messengers to bring this pronouncement that the world of perception is true back to you. 4 Everything these messages relay to you is quite external in appearance to you. 5 There are no **egoic** messages that speak of what lies underneath the body-form, for it is not the body that could speak of what lies underneath, which is the Christ, which has been veiled by the ego’s projection of separation. 6 The body’s eyes perceive not the truth. The body’s senses remain quite unaware of the truth. The body’s tongue cannot relay the truth’s messages, which arise from Christ consciousness. 7 Yet God can bring you there to Christ consciousness, if you are willing to follow the Holy Spirit through seeming terror, trusting the Holy Spirit not to abandon you and leave you there in the egoic illusion of separation. 8 For it is not the Holy Spirit’s purpose to frighten you, but only your ego’s purpose to frighten you. 9 You are severely tempted to abandon the Holy Spirit at the outside ring of fear, but the Holy Spirit would lead you safely through the ring of fear and far beyond to knowledge of truth.

**Note # 83:** Projection makes the perceiver blind to the fact that what the physical senses appear to be sensing outside our mind, really has its origins within the mind of the perceiver, himself. Only the Holy Spirit is in the unique position of knowing both the
truth and also the illusion of the dream. Because of this, the Holy Spirit can transform our egoic misperception into correct perception that teaches us that we remain a Oneness within the Mind of God. This Oneness has never left the Christ conscious center of our split-mind. If we ask, the Holy Spirit will bring our fear into the light of love and forgiveness. The illusion of fear will fade away, returning us to truth.

T-18.IX.4. The circle of fear lies just below the level the body sees, and seems to be the whole foundation on which the egoic world of perception is based. 2 Here are all the illusions, all the twisted thoughts, all the insane attacks, the fury, the vengeance and betrayal that were made to keep the guilt in place, so that the world of illusion, perception and form could rise from the truth and keep the real world of Heaven hidden. 3 The egoic thought system’s shadow of guilt rises to the surface, enough to hold its most external manifestations in darkness, and to bring despair and loneliness to it and keep the ego’s external manifestations joyless. 4 Yet the light of truth’s intensity is veiled by guilt’s heavy coverings, and kept apart from what was made to keep the truth hidden. 5 The body cannot see this, for the body arose from this guilt for the ego’s protection, which depends on keeping the real world of Heaven not seen. 6 The body's eyes will never look on the ego’s thought system. 7 Yet the body’s eyes will see what the egoic mind dictates.

Note # 84: The thought system of the ego is based of the kissing cousins of sin, guilt and fear. It is these cousins that keep the veil of illusion over the truth that God Son is sinless and guiltless. Without the belief in sin, there is nothing for the Sonship to fear from His Creator. The physical world of form is an egoic attempt to hide the truth of the insanity of the ego’s thought system. ACIM spends a great deal of time comparing the thought system of the ego and Holy Spirit. This is necessary because we have identified ourselves so deeply as a body that most people would automatically dismiss as insanity the concept that we are unlimited spirit. The idea that we are not the body appear on the surface to be the truly “mad idea”. One of the goals of ACIM is to reawaken the decision-maker so that we can move out of victim consciousness and decide to choose again. As long as we fail to realize that we are the dreamer, we will not question the logic of the egoic thought system.

The person, who is insane, does not know they are insane. They are incapable of healing themselves because they do not know that they don’t know. Only the Holy Spirit, Who is outside the dream, can bring the split-minded back to whole mindedness. The Holy Spirit knows that you do not know that you are the dreamer of this insane dream. It also knows how to gently reawaken God’s sleeping Son to his spiritual magnificence. All we need do is have a little willingness to ask for the Holy Spirit’s help.

T-18.IX.5. The body will remain guilt's messenger, and will act as the egoic mind directs as long as you believe that guilt is real. 2 For the reality of guilt is the illusion that seems to make guilt heavy and opaque, impenetrable, and a real foundation for the ego's thought system. 3 Guilt’s thinness and transparency are not apparent until you see the light behind guilt. 4 And then you see guilt as a fragile veil before the light. p394

Note # 85: God’s Son is guiltless. Once this truth of guiltlessness is uncovered, the
kissing cousins of sin, guilt and fear will disappear. For darkness disappears when brought into the truth. This truth is learned through the Holy Spirit’s thought system.

**T-18.IX.6.** This heavy-seeming barrier of egoic guilt, this artificial floor that looks like rock, is like a bank of low dark clouds that seem to be a solid wall before the sun. 2 Its impenetrable appearance is wholly an illusion. 3 The barrier gives way softly to the mountain tops that rise above it, and has no power at all to hold back anyone willing to climb above the barrier and see the sun. 4 The ego’s barrier to love is not strong enough to stop a button's fall, nor hold a feather. 5 Nothing can rest upon the ego’s barriers to truth, for guilt is but an illusion of a foundation. 6 Try but to touch the ego’s barrier and it disappears; attempt to grasp the ego’s barriers to love and your hands hold nothing.

**Note # 86:** Dreams always appear to be real. Once awake, the dream quickly fades before the reality of truth.

**T-18.IX.7.** Yet in this cloud bank it is easy to see a whole egoic world rising. 2 A solid mountain range, a lake, a city, all rise in your egoic imagination, and from the clouds the messengers of your perception return to you, assuring you that the illusion is really there. 3 Figures stand out and move about, actions seem real, and forms appear and shift from loveliness to the grotesque. 4 And back and forth they go, as long as you would play the egoic game of children's make-believe. 5 Yet however long you play the game of children's make-believe and regardless of how much imagination you bring to the game, you do not confuse it with the world below, nor seek to make the game of children's make-believe real.

**Note # 87:** When we play a game, we need only stop playing the game to remember that it is only a game. In the dream of separation we got so involved with the game itself that we forgot to laugh. We got out of the bleacher and became the active participants in the game of “What Am I?” We identified ourselves pretending that we could be something other than as God created us. We forgot to laugh. This identification of our essence as being the body is what made the dream appear to be a real and thus, fearful. The dreamer forgot that he was the author of the dream.

**T-18.IX.8.** So should it be with the dark clouds of guilt, no more impenetrable and no more substantial. 2 You will not bruise yourself against the illusionary clouds of guilt in traveling through them. 3 Let your Guide, the Holy Spirit, teach you guilt’s unsubstantial nature as He leads you past the clouds of guilt, for beneath them is a world of light whereon they cast no shadows. 4 The clouds of guilt’s shadows lie upon the egoic world beyond them, still further from the light. 5 Yet from the clouds of guilt to the light their shadows cannot fall.

**Note # 88:** Guilt only appears real within the thought system of the ego. Guilt has no power to hide the truth when brought in front of the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit’s verdict as always that God’s Son is sinless and guiltless. That nothing real can be threatened and that nothing unreal exists. This truth is the cornerstone of the
Holy Spirit’s thought system. This idea forms the basis for forgiveness and dissolves away all illusions of guilt.

**T-18.IX.9.** This world of light, this circle of brightness is the real world, where guilt meets with forgiveness. 2 Here in this world of light that is the real world, the world outside is seen anew through the Holy Spirit’s eyes of correct perception without the shadow of guilt upon your outside world of egoic misperception. 3 Here in this world of light that is the real world are you forgiven, for here you have forgiven everyone. 4 Here is the new perception of the Holy Spirit where everything is bright and shining with innocence, washed in the waters of forgiveness, and cleansed of every evil thought you laid upon the outside world of egoic misperception. 5 Here in this world of correct perception that is the real world, there is no attack upon the Son of God, and you are welcome. 6 Here in this world of correct perception that is the real world is your innocence, waiting to clothe you and protect you, and make you ready for the final step in the journey inward. 7 Here in this world of light that is the real world are the dark and heavy garments of guilt laid by, and gently replaced by purity and love.

**Note # 89:** The Holy Spirit transforms your misperceptions to correct perception through the tool of forgiveness. The miracle is a change in our perception. We move from egoic misperception to the correct or true perception of the Holy Spirit. Forgiveness dispels guilt. This change will transform the egoic special relationship into a holy one. It exchanges the dream of fear into the happy dream. The happy dream is based on the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The happy dream resembles reality, except that it is still based on correct perception rather than knowledge. Guilt is powerless before the forgiving light of the real world.

**T-18.IX.10.** Yet even forgiveness is not the end. 2 Forgiveness does make lovely, but forgiveness does not create. p395 3 Forgiveness is the source of healing, but forgiveness is the messenger of love and not love’s Source. 4 Here you are led, that God Himself can take the final step to the Son’s return to knowledge unhindered, for here does nothing interfere with love, letting love be itself. 5 A step beyond this holy place of forgiveness, a step still further inward but the one you cannot take, transports you to something completely different. 6 Here is the Source of light; nothing perceived, forgiven nor transformed. 7 But merely known.

**Note # 90:** Until the return to knowledge, the real world of the truth of Heaven will remain a step away from the happy dream. In the happy dream we lack knowledge, but the Holy Spirit has corrected our perception. As long as we perceive ourselves as a body in time and space our function in the world of perception will be forgiveness. Our function in Heaven will be to co-create with God. Creation requires that we know we are unlimited spirit sharing the One Self. Creation is extension. Being everything, we give everything.

**T-18.IX.11.** This course will lead to knowledge, but knowledge itself is still beyond the scope of our curriculum. 2 Nor is there any need for us to try to speak of what must forever lie beyond words, which is knowledge. 3 We need remember only that whoever
attains the real world, beyond which learning cannot go, will go beyond learning, but in a different way. 4 Where learning ends there God begins, for learning ends before God Who is complete where He begins, and where there is no end. 5 It is not for us to dwell on what cannot be attained. 6 There is too much to learn. 7 The readiness for knowledge still must be attained.

**Note # 91:** Knowledge cannot be learned because knowledge just is. God will take the final step in the Sonship’s return to knowledge.

**T-18.IX.12.** Love is not learned. 2 Love’s meaning lies within itself. 3 And learning ends when you have recognized all love is not. 4 That is the interference to love that is what needs to be undone. 5 Love is not learned, because there never was a time in which you knew love not. 6 Learning is useless in the Presence of your Creator, Whose acknowledgment of you and yours of Him so far transcend all learning that everything you learned is meaningless, replaced forever by the knowledge of love and love’s one meaning.

**Note # 92:** ACIM does not teach love because love is what we truly are. ACIM does teach how to remove all the obstacles that the ego’s thought system has placed in front of love. Once the barriers to love have been removed, only love remains. Love is the extension of the Oneness. Love, like knowledge is not learned, for it is your essence. We can and will learn how to remove all the barriers we have place between ourselves and love. The Holy Spirit teaches us how to remove these egoic blocks to love.

**T-18.IX.13.** Your relationship with your brother has been uprooted from the world of shadows, and the relationship’s unholy egoic purpose has been safely brought through the barriers of guilt, washed with forgiveness, and set shining and firmly rooted in the world of light. 2 From there the now holy relationship with your brother calls to you to follow the course it took, lifted high above the darkness of the world of shadows and gently placed you both before the gates of Heaven. 3 The holy instant in which you and your brother were united is but the messenger of love, sent from beyond forgiveness to remind you of all that lies beyond forgiveness is love. 4 Yet it is through forgiveness that love will be remembered.

**Note # 93:** In the holy instant, all past egoic judgments are suspended. This allows the Holy Spirit’s thought system and our Christ consciousness to forgive our brother and ourselves. We join with our brother in the oneness that we all share. We forgive ourselves for all the perceived wrongs that we imaged our brother had done to us. Forgiveness is the bridge in which all forms of illusion are brought to truth. Whatever we give, we receive. Release your brother from the imprisonment of your illusions and you release yourself.

Technically, love is not found in the world of perception since the illusion is not real. However, the Holy Spirit preserves all our loving thoughts. These thoughts have been saved for us and will be returned to us upon our return to Heaven. Heaven is not a place, but rather a state of awareness of the mind.
T-18.IX.14. And when the memory of God has come to you in the holy place of forgiveness, your once split mind will remember nothing else, and memory will be as useless as learning, for your only purpose will be creating. 2 Yet this knowledge to create you cannot know until every perception has been cleansed and purified, and finally removed forever. 3 Forgiveness removes only the untrue, lifting the shadows of misperception from the world and carrying perception, safe and sure within forgiveness’s gentleness, to the bright world of new and clean perception. p396 4 There is your purpose <now> 5 And it is there in the bright world of new and clean perception that peace awaits you. p397

Note # 94: The Holy Spirit uses forgiveness to heal our egoic misperception. With correct perception, we move into the happy dream. Yet the happy dream is not the return to knowledge. It has merely brought us to Heaven’s gate. The acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves places us at Heaven’s gate awaiting the Sonship's return to knowledge with our brother. The Father will take this last step on our behalf.

Although we speak dualistically as if there are separate parts of the Oneness, we need to remember that the true state of creation is that we are a shared Oneness, with one Will and one Mind. There is only the Mind of God. The ego is not a separate part of our mind and our mind is not separate from God’s Mind. We are God’s thoughts. Like a hologram, any aspect of mind contains the indivisible whole. Thus, the Christ is the home of the Holy Spirit and also the home of the Father Yet, the Father is also the home of the Sonship. This means that the Holy Trinity is a Oneness of Everything and that there is no separation. Cause and Effect are different sides on the same coin. One side is not complete without the other for they are inseparably joined as one coin. We are that One Self. There is only God which has also been defined as Love, Knowledge and Truth by ACIM.
Chapter 19. THE ATTAINMENT OF PEACE

I. Healing and Faith

T-19.I.1. We said before that when a situation has been dedicated wholly to truth, peace is inevitable. 2 Peace’s attainment is the criterion by which the wholeness of the dedication can be safely assumed. 3 Yet we also said that peace without faith will never be attained, for what is dedicated to truth as its only goal is brought to truth <by> faith. 4 This faith encompasses everyone involved, for only thus the situation is perceived as meaningful and as a whole. 5 And everyone must be involved in your faith, or else your faith is limited and your dedication incomplete.

Note # 1: Our inner peace is the criterion to determine if our actions and beliefs are in alignment with the thought system of the Holy Spirit. If our actions, beliefs and experiences are not currently bringing inner peace to our mind, we may wish to reexamine them and choose again.

Faith is our belief that we are unlimited spirit. We cannot see ourselves as an unlimited Oneness of Everything and still maintain that our brother is a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. When we limit our brother to being the body, we accept the fact that we too must be identifying ourselves as the body. By giving, we receive and thoughts never leave their source.

T-19.I.2. Every situation, properly perceived, becomes an opportunity to heal the Son of God. 2 And your brother is healed <because> you offered faith to him, giving your brother to the Holy Spirit and releasing your brother from every demand your ego would make of him. 3 Thus do you see your brother free, and in this vision does the Holy Spirit share. 4 And since the Holy Spirit shares this vision of freedom for your brother, the Holy Spirit has given this vision to your brother, and so the Holy Spirit heals through you. 5 It is this joining with the Holy Spirit and your brother in a united purpose that makes this purpose of healing the Son of God real, because you make it whole by sharing the situation with the Holy Spirit and your brother. 6 And this <is> healing. 7 The body is healed because you came without the limitations of the body, and joined the Mind in which all healing rests.

Note # 2: The body is a neutral learning device that lacks the power to be sick or to heal itself. It is our mind’s thoughts that control how our body will respond. Healing always takes place at the level of mind. What is manifested at the bodily level is the effect of the mind’s thinking, not the cause. All true healing takes place at the source or cause of the problem, which is the mind, not at the symptom level of the body. Masking the effect will
not cure the source of the problem. Healing of the mind’s identification as a separated limited ego-body is the cause of the problem. This is where the healing is needed. A healing of the mind may or may not result in a tangible cure of the physical symptoms. ACIM states that to base our judgment on the success or failure of a healing on the physical results at the bodily level is an egoic attempt to make the illusion of the body appear real. The healer has now identified someone as a body instead of unlimited spirit. Seeing an illusion as real, the healer is now the sick one in need of a healing.

T-19.I.3. The body cannot heal, because the body cannot make itself sick. 2 The body needs no healing. 3 The body’s health or sickness depends entirely on how the mind perceives the body, and the purpose that the mind would use the body for. 4 It is obvious that a segment of the mind can see itself as separated from the Universal Purpose. 5 When a segment of the mind sees itself as separated from the Universal Purpose, the body becomes that segment of the mind’s weapon, to be used against this Universal Purpose, to demonstrate the "fact" that separation has occurred. 6 The body thus becomes the instrument of illusion, acting accordingly. The body witnesses falsely on behalf of illusion by seeing what is not there, hearing what truth has never said and behaving insanely. The body has been imprisoned by the insanity of that segment of the mind that sees itself as separated from the Universal Purpose. This segment of the mind is our little “s” self we call the ego.

Note # 3: The body is a neutral communication device. The ego utilizes the body as a symbol of sin and guilt and attempts to prove that the separation is real. The Holy Spirit utilizes the body to be a tool for communication to teach that only love is real. Communication involves joining and union. The body is used by the Holy Spirit to demonstrate the unity of the whole through the use of forgiveness of your brother and yourselves. The Universal purpose is to only be and teach love. While incarnate with a body in this time-space dimension, our function is forgiveness, our purpose is love, and our destiny is the perfect Peace of God. This is what the Holy Spirit utilizes “the body” to communicate. This returning of God’s Son to correct perception is the Universal purpose.

T-19.I.4. Do not overlook our earlier statement that faithlessness leads straight to illusions. 2 For faithlessness is the perception of a brother as a body, and the body cannot be used for purposes of union. 3 If, then, you see your brother as a body, you have established a condition in which uniting with your brother becomes impossible. 4 Your faithlessness to your brother has separated you from him, and kept you both apart from being healed. p398 5 Your faithlessness has thus opposed the Holy Spirit's purpose, and brought illusions, centered on the body, to stand between you and the truth. 6 And the body will seem to be sick, for you have made of the body an "enemy" of healing and the opposite of truth.

Note # 4: Bodies cannot be joined. Faithlessness is the belief in illusions which makes the separation seem real. Faithlessness perceives the God’s Son as being a body. By seeing our brother or ourselves as the body, we have attempted to make the false true. Form attempts to limit the unlimited. Our belief in the separation has caused our lack of faith in the truth that we are unlimited spirit. True healing, which is joining, cannot take
place at the illusionary level of the body. Faith that our brother and we are unlimited spirit is required for the split-minded to be healed by the Holy Spirit.

T-19.I.5. It cannot be difficult to realize that faith must be the opposite of faithlessness. Yet the difference in how faith and faithlessness operate is less apparent, though this operational difference follows directly from the fundamental difference in what faith and faithlessness are. Faithlessness would always limit and attack; faith would remove all limitations and make whole. Faithlessness would destroy and separate; faith would unite and heal. Faithlessness would interpose illusions between the Son of God and his Creator; faith would remove all obstacles that seem to rise between the Son of God and his Creator. Faithlessness is wholly dedicated to illusions; faith wholly to truth. Partial dedication is impossible. Truth is the absence of illusion; illusion the absence of truth. Both truth and illusion cannot be together, nor perceived in the same place. To dedicate yourself to both truth and illusion is to set up a goal forever impossible to attain, for part of the goal, the illusion, is sought through the body. The body is thought of as a means for seeking out reality through attack. The other part of the goal, the return to truth, would heal, and therefore calls upon the mind and not the body.

Note # 5: Faithlessness is dedicated to making illusions true. Faith calls only for the truth. Faith is the belief that only truth is real. The belief in illusion is faithlessness. Like illusions and truth, faith and faithlessness cannot coexist. If we insist on keeping some illusions, we are faithless. Wherever there is faithlessness, faith cannot be. They are mutually exclusive. There is no order of difficulty in miracles since the correction is always the same. Restore faith where faithlessness once was. All miracles do is simply to bring a false illusion to the light of truth. The illusion, which has no reality in the Mind of God, will disappear. Nothing is the stuff of which all illusions are comprised. Illusions only appear to have reality in the split mind of the dreamer. The faithlessness on the dreamer’s part is what makes the illusion appear to be real.

T-19.I.6. The inevitable compromise between the partial dedication to both truth and illusions is the belief that the body must be healed, and not the mind. For this divided goal that the body must be healed, and not the mind has given both truth and illusion an equal reality, which could be possible only if the mind is limited to the body and divided into little parts of seeming wholeness, but without connection. This compromise that the body, not the mind needs healing, will not harm the body, but it keep the ego’s delusional thought system in the mind. Here in the mind, then, is healing needed. And it is here in the mind that healing is. For God gave healing not apart from sickness, nor established remedy in the body where sickness cannot be. The place for both sickness and healing are together in the mind, and when sickness and healing are seen together, all attempts to keep both truth and illusion in the mind, where both must be, are recognized as dedication to illusion; and given up when brought to truth, and seen as totally unreconcilable with truth, in any respect or in any way.

Note # 6: We cannot maintain both the belief that we are a being of unlimited spirit and that we also need to heal an illusionary body and then claim to only desire truth. These notions are contradictory. The body has no power to feel, heal or be sick. The power
comes only from the mind. The body responds only to the orders that it receives from its controller, which is the mind. It is faithlessness, the mind’s belief that the separation is real, that is the source of all sin, guilt and pain. Only by making the mind whole again will the split-mind be healed. Only when the mind is healed will the mind choose to change the commands that the mind sends to its communication device, called the body. The new orders will be based on truth, which is the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The healed mind will reject the ego’s thought system that is based on the illusion that we are the body. How can someone heal a body that only exists as a projection of the mind? All healing occurs at the level of the mind since only mind is real.

T-19.I.7. Truth and illusion have no connection. 2 This will remain forever true, however much you seek to connect truth and illusion. 3 But illusions are always connected to illusions, as is truth always connected to truth. 4 Each is united, a complete thought system, but totally disconnected to each other’s thought system. 5 And to perceive this is to recognize where separation is, and where separation must be healed. p399 6 The result of an idea is never separate from its source. 7 The idea of separation produced the body and remains connected to the body, making the body sick because of the mind’s identification with the body. 8 You think you are protecting the body by hiding this connection that your mind’s allegiance to the egoic thought system is the source of the body’s sickness, for this concealment seems to keep your mind’s identification as the body safe from the "attack" of truth.

Note # 7: The Holy Spirit’s thought system is the thought system for truth. The ego’s is the thought system for illusion. To the ego, the body is the egoic symbol for the reality of the separation, sin, guilt, fear, sickness and death. With the mind’s identification as “the body,” we abdicated our mind’s power to act as the decision-maker and to be able to choose again. Believing the mind is the body; the mind slips into victim consciousness and believes it is powerless to affect a cure. The mind fails to recognize that its own belief in the reality of the separation is the cause of the body’s sickness. To the ego, sickness verifies that we are a limited ego-body. Believing itself to be a body, any cure must be aimed at the body for the mind is just another body part. Being powerless, healing is based on some outside source, which ACIM refers to as magic.

Magic states that since you are not whole, something outside yourself is needed to make you well or whole again. Magic works inside the belief system of the ego and thus, maintains the illusion that you are the body. Magic states that the “sick” person is indeed limited and is the body. The “healer” then claims that he is or has something of a greater power and, therefore, can cure the “sick” person’s body. The use of magic confirms that God’s Son is not perfect, whole and complete. ACIM states that in true healing, the healing takes place only within the mind of the “sick” person. The healer simply helps the sick person acknowledge and rediscover the truth that they are as God created them, unlimited spirit. Thus, illusion is brought to truth. In magic, another illusion is placed over the first illusion that unlimited spirit could be sick. Magic maintains the belief in specialness and separation.

T-19.I.8. If you but understood how much this strange concealment has hurt your mind, and how confused your own identification as your Big “S” Self has become because of
your identification that you are the body! 2 You do not see how great the devastation wrought by your faithlessness, for faithlessness is an attack that seems to be justified by the attack’s results. 3 For by withholding faith you see what is unworthy of faith, which is the body, and you cannot look beyond the barrier of bodily illusions to what is joined with you, which is the truth that your reality is your Big “S” Self.

Note # 8: All of our problems trace their origins back to our identification with illusion. The separation is our attempt to make something other than the truth real. The body is the ego’s symbol for our belief that we could be something other than as God created us. The body is the witness to the ego’s claims that we are not perfect, whole and complete. The body is the egoic attempt to limit our unlimited Big “S” Self.

T-19.I.9. To have faith is to heal. 2 Faith is the sign that you have accepted the Atonement for yourself, and would therefore share the Atonement. 3 By faith, you offer the gift of freedom from the past, which you received. 4 You do not use anything your brother has done before from the past to condemn him now. 5 You freely choose to overlook your brother’s errors from the past, looking past all barriers between yourself and your brother, and seeing yourself and your brother as one. 6 And in that one you see your faith is fully justified. 7 There is no justification for faithlessness, but faith is always justified.

Note # 9: Faith is always justified since it is based on truth. Faithlessness can never be justified since it rests on the false or the nothingness of illusions. In healing, the past beliefs of limitation and separation are removed and replaced by the truth that God’s Child is innocent, sinless and guiltless. There is a joining of mind with the union of the truth of the One Self.

T-19.I.10. Faith is the opposite of fear. Faith is as much a part of love as fear is of attack. 2 Faith is the acknowledgment of union. 3 Faith is the gracious acknowledgment of everyone as a Son of your most loving Father, loved by God like you, and therefore loved by you as yourself. 4 It is God’s Love that joins you and your brother, and for God’s Love you would keep no one separate from your love. 5 Each one appears just as he is perceived in the holy instant, united in your purpose to be released from guilt. 6 You see the Christ in your brother, and your brother is healed because you look on what makes faith forever justified in everyone.

Note # 10: Faith is always justified in your brother and yourself because God’s Will is changeless. God’s judgment is that His creation is an extension of God, Herself. Therefore, God’s Child was, is, and always will be sinless and guiltless. In the Mind of God, we remain eternally perfect, whole and complete.

T-19.I.11. Faith is the gift of God, through the Holy Spirit, Whom God has given you. 2 Faithlessness looks upon the Son of God, and judges him unworthy of forgiveness. 3 But through the eyes of faith, the Son of God is seen already forgiven, free of all the guilt he laid upon himself. 4 Faith sees him only now because faith looks not to the past to judge him, but would see in him only what faith would see in you. 5 Faith sees not
through the body's eyes, nor looks to bodies for its justification. 6 **Faith** is the messenger of the new perception, sent forth to gather witnesses unto its coming, and to return their messages of **faith** to you. p400

**Note # 11:** Through the Holy Spirit’s reinterpretation, our misperceptions are corrected. We need to ask for His guidance and our faith will be rewarded with the truth about what we are. The Holy Spirit utilizes the tool of forgiveness to return us to the truth about our brother and ourselves. Past judgments are suspended which put us in the time frame of the <now> where correction can occur. Only by releasing our past misperceptions and beliefs can we move into the <now> and reclaim our decision-making power to choose again. Being in the <now> we can choose the correct perception of the Holy Spirit.

**T-19.I.12.** Faith is as easily exchanged for knowledge as is the real world. 2 For faith arises from the Holy Spirit's perception, and is the sign you share **that same perception as the Holy Spirit's** with Him. 3 Faith is a gift you offer to the Son of God through the **Holy Spirit** and wholly acceptable to his Father as to **His Son.** 4 And faith therefore, is offered you. 5 Your holy relationship, with its new purpose, offers you faith to give unto your brother. 6 Your faithlessness has driven you and your brother apart, and so you do not recognize salvation in **your brother.** 7 Yet faith unites you in the holiness you see, not through the body's eyes, but in the sight of the **Holy Spirit,** Who joined you, and in Whom you are united.

**Note # 12:** The holy relationship’s purpose is the return to the truth of the One Self. Christ Vision is required if we are to raise the egoic special relationship to a holy one. The Holy Spirit guides us to this change in the relationship's purpose from exclusion to inclusion, forgiveness and love.

   God the Father, the Holy Spirit and the Sonship all comprise the One Self. Thus, faith held in any part of the Oneness must be known and shared in all parts of the Oneness. We are all joined in the One Mind that we call God. When we stop denying our divine birthright, we return to the knowledge of the holographic Mind of the One Self.

**T-19.I.13.** Grace is not given to a body, but to a mind. 2 And the mind that receives **grace** looks instantly beyond the body, and sees the holy place where the **mind** was healed. 3 There is the altar where the grace was given, in which **grace** stands. 4 Do you, then, offer grace and blessing to your brother, for you stand at the same altar where grace was laid for both of you. 5 And be you healed by grace together, that you may heal through faith.

**Note # 13:** Only by giving do we receive. Proof of our ownership of grace or faith is our ability to share it with someone. You cannot give or share what you do not have. By giving our grace or faith to our brother, we prove that we have received it.

**T-19.I.14.** In the holy instant, you and your brother stand before the altar God has raised unto Himself and both of you. 2 Lay faithlessness aside, and come to **God’s altar together with your brother.** 3 There will you see the miracle of your relationship as it was made again through faith. 4 And there it is that you will realize that there is nothing faith cannot forgive. 5 No error interferes with **faith’s** calm sight, which brings the
miracle of healing with equal ease to all of them. 6 For what the messengers of love are sent to do the messengers of love do, returning the glad tidings that the miracle of healing was done to you and your brother who stand together before the altar from which the messengers of love were sent forth.

Note # 14: The altar is what you place value in. The altar of the ego is illusion. God’s altar is the altar to truth. God’s truth is that there is nothing to forgive. The Sonship remains innocent as God created it, perfect, whole and complete. God extends His Oneness and of this One Self, we all share completely. It is this truth that God’s grace shares with us. It is this truth of our Oneness with “All That Is” upon which our faith is based.

T-19.I.15. As faithlessness will keep your little kingdoms of illusion barren and separate, so will faith help the Holy Spirit prepare the ground for the most holy garden that the Holy Spirit would make of it. 2 For faith brings peace, and so faith calls on truth to enter and make lovely what has already been prepared for loveliness. 3 Truth follows faith and peace, completing the process of making lovely that they begin. 4 For faith is still a learning goal. Faith is no longer needed when the lesson has been learned. 5 Yet truth will stay forever.

Note # 15: Faith is learned in the world of perception. With the return of the Sonship to knowledge, faith will give way to truth. Truth is not learned for truth just is. Truth is known. Faith is based on belief. Because of our faith in truth, the Holy Spirit can transform our misperception into correct perception. This allows the Holy Spirit to “make holy” our special relationships. This transforms the terrifying dream of littleness into the happy dream. From the happy dream, correct perception can be replaced by truth. The return to knowledge is the return of the Sonship to His Father’s Will. The Father will take the last step in the Sonship’s journey back home to knowledge.

T-19.I.16. Let, then, your dedication be to the eternal, and learn how not to interfere with the eternal and make the eternal a slave to time. 2 For what you egoically think you do to the eternal you do to <your egoic self>. 3 Whom God created as His Son is slave to nothing, being lord of all, along with his Creator. 4 You can enslave a body, but an idea is free, incapable of being kept in prison or limited in any way except by the mind that thought it. p401 5 For the idea remains joined to its source, which is the mind. The mind’s idea is the body’s jailer or its liberator, according to which idea, the mind, chooses as its purpose for itself. It is the mind’s thoughts that rule the body.

Note # 16: God created the Sonship as changeless. This is the Will of God. Because God’s Will is eternal, we will always remain sinless. We are the perfect extension of God, Herself. For God knows Herself to be perfect. Since ideas never leave their source, God’s extension must be perfect. We, as Children of God, can choose to deny the truth of what we are. We can also deny our divine birthright. This denial of our birthright does not change our birthright, for our divine birthright is as changeless and eternal as the truth. Yet, within the mind of someone who chooses to deny the truth, this denial becomes his or her provisional reality. Our ideas of limitation cannot change the truth,
but they can bind and limit what we believe we are capable of. Thus, our beliefs become the governing factor in determining what we are willing to allow into our field of awareness. If we claim to be mortal beings that can suffer and die, that is what we will accept as our provisional reality. This does not change our immortal nature, but it does change how we perceive ourselves to be. Due to our limiting belief, we now act as if we are limited bodies whose lot is to be born, suffer and then die. If we place our faith in the ego’s thought system, these beliefs of limitation become our jailer. When we place our faith in the Holy Spirit’s thought system these beliefs of freedom, forgiveness and love become our liberator. When we side with the ego, our purpose is to deny our divine birthright and replace it with the illusions of separation and specialness. When we have faith in the truth, we side with the Holy Spirit and reclaim our divine birthright. Whether we think we can, or we think we can’t, we’re right!

II. Sin versus Error

T-19.II.1. It is essential that error be not confused with sin, and it is this distinction between sin and error that makes salvation possible. 2 For error can be corrected, and the wrong made right. 3 But sin, were sin possible, would be irreversible. 4 The belief in sin is necessarily based on the firm conviction that minds, not bodies, can attack. 5 And thus the mind is guilty, and will forever so remain unless a mind not part of it can give the first sinful, separate and guilty mind absolution. 6 Sin calls for punishment as error for correction, and the belief that punishment is correction is clearly insane.

Note # 17: Only bodies can attack. Mind being a Oneness has nothing outside itself to attack. Mind is spirit and is invulnerable and, therefore, cannot attack or be attacked. Bodies, being separate forms, can attack something different than themselves. The ego’s belief that the mind is the body makes it appear possible that the mind could attack. Within the ego’s thought system, any alleged attack upon another would be a real sin and would require punishment. Thus, the mind has “sinned” when the body is used by the mind to attack something within the dream of separation. Yet, if attack occurred only within the mind of the dreamer, the attack would not be real. Since the alleged attack was not real, it was not part of the Mind of God. It only requires that the dreamer awaken from his illusion and the dream of attack will disappear. Thus, we merely need to correct the erroneous belief that the dream was real. Correction, not punishment is called for. Punishment is not warranted since nothing took place in the “real world”. Since there was no harm, there can be no foul.

T-19.II.2. Sin is not an error, for sin entails an arrogance which the idea of error lacks. 2 To sin would be to violate reality, and to succeed. 3 Sin is the proclamation that attack is real and guilt is justified. 4 Sin assumes the Son of God is guilty, and has thus succeeded in losing his innocence and making God’s Child into something that God had not created. 5 Thus is creation seen as not eternal, and the Will of God open to opposition and defeat. 6 Sin is the grand illusion underlying all the ego's grandiosity. 7 For by the son’s sin God Himself is changed, and rendered incomplete.
**Note # 18:** Innocence is the lack of any evil intention. We were created innocent by God and remain eternally changeless. If a child is unaware of what is deemed to be appropriate behavior in the eyes’ of his parent, he is innocent for his actions. If the child does do something inappropriate, the parent would merely explain the proper action that the child should take. The parent would not punish the child for the mistake, but rather teach the child what action is appropriate and tell the child to choose again. This is the role the Holy Spirit assumes in the Sonship’s reawakening.

God, the Father is also innocent. The Father’s innocence is His inability to know of anything that does not exist. God’s innocence insures that what we perceive to be a sin is merely an error that requires correction, rather than punishment. God is unaware of our illusion of separation, sin guilt and fear. God, the Father only knows the truth and the reality of creation as perfect, whole and complete. Because we are an extension of our Creator, we share God’s innocence.

T-19.II.3. The Son of God can be mistaken; he can deceive himself; he can even turn the power of his mind against himself. 2 But he <cannot> sin. 3 There is nothing the Son of God can do that would really change his reality in any way, nor make him really guilty. 4 To make guilty is what sin would do, for such is sin’s purpose. 5 Yet for all the wild insanity inherent in the whole idea of sin, sin is impossible. 6 For the wages of sin <is> death, and how can the immortal die?

**Note # 19:** The belief in God’s Son being sinful is the key tenant in the egoic belief system. If we could sin, it would mean that the ego had been successful in making God’s creation something other than what God created His Child to be. Change would be possible and the idea of the changeless eternal would cease to exist. Sin would also mean that we have a will different from God’s Will. Through the use of sin, the child would be able to change the parent’s internal composition. An effect cannot change its cause. For if this were so, truth would become a variable and change over time. The idea that sin is possible would create a totally different world from a sinless Oneness. The rules would be turned upside down. Truth would become false and the false, true. This would make a new world in which the ego would rule for the Laws of God would have been made obsolete and void. Sin’s “reality” would create a “Brave New World”.

ACIM states that sin is not possible since the truth is changeless. God’s Will cannot be changed. Creation is an extension of the Mind of God. We remain innocent, sinless and guiltless as we were created. Yet, God’s Child is free to choose to deny the truth and pretend that he is something that he is not. Our playing the game of “What AM I?” is not the authority problem. The authority problem is the error that occurred when God’s Son identified himself as the dream. We forgot to laugh and this error made the separation appear real within the dreamer’s mind. The idea that we are a body is a mistake, not a sin. A mistake requires only correction, not punishment. We are asked by the Holy Spirit to simply choose again.

T-19.II.4. A major tenet in the ego's insane religion is that sin is not error but truth, and it is innocence that would deceive. 2 Purity is seen as arrogance, and the acceptance of the self as sinful is perceived as holiness. 3 And it is this doctrine that the innocent could
**sin** that replaces the reality of the Son of God as his Father created him, and willed that he be forever. 4 Is this humility? 5 Or is it, rather, an attempt to wrest creation away from truth, and keep the Son of God separate?

**Note # 20:** The ego wants to make sin possible since a sinful world would overturn the Oneness and make the separation a reality. The innocent cannot sin. If the ego can succeed in the illusion of the triumph of sin over the innocent, it can overturn the thought system for truth and the Laws of God. This is not possible. This belief in sin is also the invitation for sin’s cousins called guilt and fear to make their ugly appearances into the ego’s dream world of separation.

**T-19.II.5.** Any attempt to reinterpret sin as error is always indefensible to the ego. p402 2 The idea of sin is wholly sacrosanct (holy and sacred), to the ego’s thought system, and quite unapproachable except with reverence and awe. 3 Sin is the most "holy" concept in the ego’s system; lovely and powerful, wholly true, and necessarily protected with every defense at the ego’s disposal. 4 For here in the concept of sin lies the ego’s “best” defense, which all the others serve. 5 The concept of sin is the ego’s armor, its protection, and the fundamental purpose of the special relationship in the ego’s interpretation.

**Note # 21:** Without our belief that we have sinned, the ego’s thought system would be powerless. Sin brings with it guilt. Guilt implies that we should be punished. Punishment means that we have something to fear. Thus, God, Himself, is transformed from a God of Love, to the ego’s god of fear. Everything is turned upside-down. The ego tells us that God is judgmental, revengeful and petty. The God of Love has been killed by sin and is replaced by the ego’s god of fear. By substituting the God of Love with the egoic god of fear, the ego can now claim to be our protector from god’s punishment for our alleged sins. Our decision-maker has abdicated its power to the ego. The ego’s thought system can now rule over this world of perception, time and space. Sin, specialness and separation are the cornerstone of this egoic fear-based world.

**T-19.II.6.** It can indeed be said the ego made its world on sin. 2 Only in such a world could everything be upside down. 3 This egoic world based on sin is the strange illusion that makes the clouds of guilt seem heavy and impenetrable. 4 The solidness that this egoic world’s foundation seems to have is found in this belief in sin. 5 For sin has changed creation from an idea of God to an idea the ego wants; a world the ego rules, made up of bodies, mindless and capable of complete corruption and decay. 6 If this is a mistake, a mistake can be undone easily by truth. 7 Any mistake can be corrected, if truth be left to judge the mistake. 8 But if the mistake is given the status of truth, to what can the mistake be brought to for correction? 9 The "holiness" of sin is kept in place by just this strange device of giving sin the status of truth, and, therefore, making it real. 10 As truth sin is inviolate, and everything is brought to <sin> for judgment. 11 As a mistake, <sin> must be brought to truth. 12 It is impossible to have faith in sin, for sin is faithlessness. 13 Yet it is possible to have faith that a mistake can be corrected.

**Note # 22:** ACIM would agree with the ego that if someone did actually commit a sin,
that sin should be punishable. ACIM, however, states that sin is impossible for a Oneness cannot sin against itself. There is nothing outside itself to attack and a Oneness of Everything is invulnerable to attack. The dream of separation and identifying ourselves with a body was not a sin, but rather a mistake. God’s innocence protects His Son and makes sin impossible. We must simply choose again and correct the mistake. An illusion is not real. We only need to wake up to the truth of who we are and the error will correct itself.

T-19.II.7. There is no stone in all the ego's embattled citadel that is more heavily defended than the idea that sin is real; the natural expression of what the Son of God has made himself to be, and what he is. 2 To the ego, this belief in the sinful son is no mistake. 3 For this belief in the sinful son is the ego’s reality. This belief that we have sinned is the egoic "truth" from which escape will always be impossible. 4 This is the sinful son’s past, his present and his future. 5 For the sinful son has somehow managed to corrupt his Father, and change his Father’s Mind completely. 6 Mourn, then, the death of God, Whom sin has killed! 7 And this death of God would be the ego's wish, which in its madness the ego believes it has accomplished.

Note # 23: If the ego can convince us that we have sinned against God, God would have to punish us. Guilt and fear would be justified. If we remained innocent, sinless and guiltless, we would have no reason to hide from our Creator. The belief in sin changes our concept of God from a God of Love to a god of fear. Once we have substituted the God of Love for the egoic god of fear, the ego tells us we need a place to hide. Sin now appears very real and we perceive ourselves as sinners. The world of perception was made by our egoic self to be our “Brave New World” to keep God’s love out. In this imagined world, sin, guilt and fear have been made “real”.

T-19.II.8. Would you not rather that all this belief in a sinful son be nothing more than a mistake, entirely correctable, and so easily escaped from that its whole correction is like walking through a mist into the sun? 2 For that is all the correction is. 3 Perhaps you would be tempted to agree with the ego that it is far better to be sinful than mistaken. 4 Yet think you carefully before you allow yourself to make this choice. 5 Approach the choice between sin and mistake not lightly, for the choice between a sinful son and a mistaken son is the choice of hell or Heaven.

Note # 24: When we accept the fact that we are eternally innocent and sinless as God created us, our world of provisional reality becomes only a dream within the mind of the insane dreamer. The only correction required is to reawaken from the dream. The dream cannot change the reality of truth. This innocence of God’s Child is the foundation for the thought system of the Holy Spirit. If we choose to believe sin is real and that we are sinners, we must accept the fact that with sin comes sin’s kissing cousins of guilt and fear. We, the sinner, must be punished. This is the basis for the egoic thought system.

III. The Unreality of Sin
The attraction of guilt is found in sin, not error. 2 Sin will be repeated because of this attraction of guilt, which is found in sin, not error. 3 Fear can become so acute that the sin is denied the acting out. 4 But while the guilt remains attractive the mind will suffer, and not let go of the idea of sin. 5 For guilt still calls to sin, and the mind hears guilt’s call for sin and yearns for sin, making the mind itself a willing captive to sin’s sick appeal. 6 Sin is an idea of evil that cannot be corrected, and yet will be forever desirable. 7 Sin is an idea of evil that cannot be corrected, and yet will be forever desirable. 8 And only an avenger, the ego, with a mind unlike your own Christ consciousness, could stamp sin out through fear.

Note # 25: Sin is defined as an idea of evil that cannot be corrected and yet, will be forever desirable. ACIM states that sin is any belief that we could be less than as God created us. Sin is the belief in lack. This comprises the belief that we could be separate and limited. When everything is not known as being equal, perception’s specialness was born. Specialness is the main attraction that draws us to the egoic thought system. Specialness is also referred to in ACIM as “littleness”. When everything is an indivisible part of the One Self, to be special requires that you are less than the Oneness of Everything. Since creation is extension of the Oneness, God could not grant us our specialness for to do so would be to limit the unlimited. This is impossible. Littleness demands that you be less than perfect, whole and complete. Littleness is involved when we define something. For when we define, we judge and limit. Although the ego claims that the desire for specialness is a sin that must be punished with death, the Holy Spirit realizes the non-reality of fantasy. This mistake is only an error in thinking that requires correction. The Holy Spirit asks that we merely choose again and recognize that God’s Creation must be sinless and guiltless like His Creator. Creation is extension of the One Self. Thus, equality, not specialness, is the Law of God.

General Note: The theory behind how sin arose and its aftermath:

Sin is defined as an idea of evil that cannot be corrected and yet, will be forever desirable. Sin is some thought that has arisen in the universal mind that you have judged as unallowable. In this case, it is the thought that your ego wanted to perceive something to be unlike God. Rather than just allow the thought and place no value on its reality, our egoic little “s” self judged the thought and made it real. Value is placed on something when we perceive it as something other than the Oneness. Value defines and by defining, we create specialness. What we value is given a special quality that makes it different from the Oneness. We perceive something as other than what we are. We have envisioned a “forbidden fruit” that was different from us. Perceiving something to be outside ourselves, we thought that the Oneness was vulnerable and could be attacked. We forgot that we were the Oneness of Everything. Believing that this thought of something unlike God was evil, the ego believed that this “evil idea” must be opposed.

Love has no opposite and does not oppose. Yet, now there was something for the ego to fear. The egoic mind had taken a random innocent thought and judged it to be something other than God. Rather than allow all thoughts, the ego chooses to define and judge the thought. It was our resistance to the thought that made the thought appear real to the perceiver. For we can only resist what we believe is real. If we had viewed the mad idea strictly as a fantasy, we would have realized that this thought had no power over us.
We would have understood that our mind was the thought’s source and, as such, we were its cause. We could have denied the thought’s reality and it would have disappeared. This would have been the proper use of denial. Instead we judged the thought as evil. We forgot to laugh. The perceiver took this thought seriously and gave this mad idea power over the reality that there is only a One Self. Because we forgot to laugh, we had slipped into fear and made the separation appear real. We made an innocent thought into a sin. Knowledge was lost and perception born.

Anytime the egoic mind places a positive or negative charge on a random thought, the mind has given the thought reality within the split-mind of the perceiver. The mind has chosen to define, value and judge rather than just be with the experience. The mind of the perceiver now appears to be split-off from the Big “S” Self’s mind which is joined with the One Self. We have identified a thought as unlike God and, therefore, something we need to resist. We resist this “sinful” thought by rejecting it and projecting it out of our mind in an attempt to get rid of it. This attempt to get rid of the thought and transfer it to something outside ourselves is projection. Yet, since thoughts never leave their source, our resisted thought never leaves our mind. The source remains in the mind of the perceiver. This desire to get rid of this “sinful” thought and the guilt associated with the thought, results in the further fragmentation of the perceiver by the addition of something else outside the perceiver’s mind that he can blame as the cause or originator of the thought. In his attempt to get rid of his own perceived guilt, the perceiver has invented a “brave new world”. The world of perception is born which is based on projection. Sin now appears real and the Sonship believes it has sinned. The split-minded believe that they are the product of this “original” sin and that sin is their essence.

To summarize, the ego is the split-minded part of our mind that believes something within a Oneness could separate and become something other than that Oneness. It claims that there could be something other than God and then forgot to laugh when the mad idea awareness was chosen to be experienced. This gave the mad idea a reality of its own. The ego thought that it needed a special plan to defend its purity against what it now judged as evil. Sin is the evil claim that we are not perfect and, therefore, vulnerable. The egoic thought system is that defense against this imagined sin. The belief that sin was possible (forgetting to laugh) led to guilt. The ego attempted to instill fear to prevent us from sinning, but by fearing sin we create the belief that we are sinners. For you only fear what you think is real and can harm you. We accepted the idea that we were vulnerable. We had quickly fallen down the slippery slope from knowledge to separation and the abyss of victim consciousness that followed.

**T-19.III.2.** The ego does not think it possible that love, not fear, is really called upon by sin, *<and always answers.>* 2 For the ego brings sin to fear, demanding punishment. 3 Yet punishment is but another form of guilt's protection, for what is deserving punishment must have been really done. 4 Punishment is always the great preserver of sin, treating *sin* with respect and honoring *sin’s* enormity. 5 What must be punished, must be true. 6 And what is true must be eternal, and will be repeated endlessly. 7 For what you think is real you want, and will not let *what you want* go.

**Note # 26:** The Holy Spirit does not see “sin” as something that is evil and fearful but as a cry for love that is to be met with love. The Holy Spirit knows “sin” is merely a mistake
that only requires correction. Sin has no reality outside the mind of the perceiver. The Holy Spirit merely asks the perceiver to choose again. Mistakes only require correction. The ego sees sin as an evil that must be punished. Sin is the forbidden fruit that although desired, must be resisted. Forbidden, sinful thoughts must be resisted or you will be punished. Anything that requires punishment is something that must be fearful to the beholder. It is this belief that sin is something that must be punished that gives sin the appearance of being true and real.

T-19.III.3 An error, on the other hand, is not attractive. 2 What you see clearly as a mistake you want corrected. 3 Sometimes a sin can be repeated over and over, with obviously distressing results, but without the loss of the sin’s appeal. 4 And suddenly, you change error’s status from a sin to a mistake. 5 Now you will not repeat the error; you will merely stop and let the mistake go, unless the guilt remains. 6 For if the guilt remains then you will but change the form of sin, granting that sin was an error, but keeping sin uncorrectable. 7 This is not really a change in your perception, for it is sin that calls for punishment, not error.

Note # 27: When we see something as a mistake we want to correct the error. A mistake has no internal attraction. We want to choose again. If we look upon something as sin, it has the attraction of the “forbidden fruit”. We want the fruit but we don’t want to be caught. We feel guilty when we are not caught and when caught, we demand that we be punished so that we can be purged from our guilt. Once punished, we repeat the sin since we still desire the “forbidden fruit.” Sin is a vicious cycle.

T-19.III.4. The Holy Spirit cannot punish sin. 2 Mistakes the Holy Spirit recognizes, and the Holy Spirit would correct all mistakes as God entrusted the Holy Spirit to do. 3 But sin the Holy Spirit knows not, nor can the Holy Spirit recognize mistakes that cannot be corrected. 4 For a mistake that cannot be corrected is meaningless to the Holy Spirit. 5 Mistakes are <for> correction, and mistakes call for nothing else. 6 What calls for punishment must call for nothing. 7 Every mistake <must> be a call for love. 8 What, then, is sin? 9 What could sin be but a mistake you would keep hidden; a call for help that you would keep unheard and thus unanswered?

Note # 28: The Holy Spirit knows that sin is impossible for God’s Son is a sinless extension of God. Seeing any error as only a mistake, the Holy Spirit merely asks us to correct the error by choosing again. When we refuse to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, He cannot correct the error. Because we perceive the error as sin, we get to keep it. Because the ego has told us sin requires punishment, our mind will cause our body to suffer and die.

T-19.III.5. In time, the Holy Spirit clearly sees the Son of God can make mistakes. 2 On this you share the Holy Spirit’s vision. 3 Yet you do not share the Holy Spirit’s recognition of the difference between time and eternity. p404 4 And when correction is completed, time <is> eternity. 5 The Holy Spirit can teach you how to look on time differently and see beyond time, but not while you believe in sin. 6 In error, yes, for this can be corrected by the mind. 7 But sin is the belief that your perception is unchangeable,
and that the mind must accept as true what the mind is told through its belief in sin. 8 If the higher mind does not obey sin’s belief that your perception is unchangeable, the higher mind is judged insane by the egoic mind. 9 The only power that could change perception, which is the higher mind’s decision-maker, is thus kept impotent. The mind is held to the body by the fear of changed perception which the mind’s Teacher, Who is one with the higher mind, would bring. The mind’s Teacher, the Holy Spirit, would change the mind’s misperception if asked to correct perception.

Note # 29: Time is the measure of change. Time is needed only during the period that the perceiver believes the dream of separation to be real. Without time, which allows for change in perceptions, the dreamer would be stuck forever in the dream of separation, believing that sin is real and eternal. Sin is the belief that your perception is unchangeable. Until we give up this belief that sin is forever, we remain in victim consciousness. We need to realize that the error is not sin but rather a mistake. The job of the Holy Spirit is to move our mind out of victim consciousness so that we can reclaim our decision-making ability. Once we recover the decision-maker within us, we can choose again. This time we will choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit, which is the Voice for Christ consciousness. Time allows for the split-minded to relearn the truth of what they are. We all have been given all the time we need to successfully complete this relearning process. Once completed, time’s function will be no more and time will fade away into the eternal now.

T-19.III.6. When you are tempted to believe that sin is real, remember this: If sin is real, both God and you are not. 2 If creation is extension, the Creator must have extended Himself, and it is impossible that what is part of God is totally unlike the rest. 3 If sin is real, God must be at war with Himself. 4 God must be split, and torn between good and evil; partly sane and partially insane. 5 For God must have created what wills to destroy Him, and has the power to do so. 6 Is it not easier to believe that you have been mistaken than to believe in this?

Note # 30: Because creation is extension, the Mind of God is holographic. What is in any indivisible part is the whole and the whole must be in each part. There is just the One Self. If we were sinners, this would make God a sinner also. This could not be God’s Will. Yet, this idea that we are sinners is what the ego’s thought system is predicated upon.

T-19.III.7. While you believe that your reality or your brother's is bounded by a body, you will believe in sin. 2 While you believe that bodies can unite, you will find guilt attractive and believe that sin is precious. 3 For the belief that bodies limit mind leads to a perception of the world in which the proof of separation seems to be everywhere. 4 And the belief that bodies limit mind leads to the egoic misperception that God and His creation seem to be split apart and overthrown. 5 For sin would prove what God created holy could not prevail against sin, nor remain changelessly holy as itself before the power of sin. 6 Sin is perceived as mightier than God, before which God Himself must bow, and offer His creation to its conqueror, which is sin. 7 Is this humility or madness?
Note # 31: The body is the symbol for egoic limitation. To define is to limit. When we define ourselves as a body, we accept the body’s limitation. To attempt to limit the unlimited is impossible. This attempt is a mistake but has no affect on reality. This error is not a sin but it does need to be corrected in the mind of the perceiver. Healing, which is the acceptance of the truth, corrects the split-minded and returns the insane to the whole-mindedness of the One Self. The belief that a body that God did not make can limit mind that is the extension of God is the height of egoic arrogance. This is the idea that is at the core of the “authority problem.” Our egoic little “s” self is attempting to usurp God’s authority and challenge the Will of God.

T-19.III.8. If sin is real, sin must forever be beyond the hope of healing. 2 For there would be a power beyond God’s, capable of making another will that could attack God’s Will and overcome God’s Will; and give God’s Son a will apart from God’s Will, and stronger. 3 And each part of God's fragmented creation would have a different will, opposed to God’s Will, and in eternal opposition to God and to each other. 4 Your holy relationship has, as its purpose now, the goal of proving this splitting of the One Will into many opposing wills is impossible. 5 Heaven has smiled upon your holy relationship, and the belief in sin has been uprooted in your holy relationship’s smile of love. 6 You see sin still, because you do not realize that sin’s foundation has gone. 7 Sin’s source has been removed, and so sin can be cherished but a little while before sin vanishes. p405 8 Only the habit of looking for sin still remains.

Note # 32: In our holy relationships, the Holy Spirit transforms the ego’s special relationship from a tool of separation, into a tool for joining. By giving the special relationship over to the Holy Spirit, what was originally perceived as sin is given the revised status of a mistake. Mistakes only require correction. Forgiveness is the tool for this correction. By granting our brother forgiveness for his alleged sins, we give ourselves forgiveness. We have chosen to perceive differently and look beyond bodily form. The Holy Spirit utilizes time’s miracles to heal the mind. This returns the split-mind to right-mindedness. This is the free acceptance that our will and our Father’s Will are one.

T-19.III.9. And yet you look with Heaven's smile upon your lips, and Heaven's blessing on your sight. 2 You will not see sin long. 3 For in the new perception the mind corrects sin when sin seems to be seen, and sin becomes invisible. 4 Errors are quickly recognized and quickly given to correction, to be healed, not hidden. 5 You will be healed of sin and all sin’s ravages the instant that you give sin no power over your brother. 6 And you will help your brother overcome mistakes by joyously releasing your brother from the belief in sin.

Note # 33: When we utilize the Holy Spirit’s thought system, we empower our Christ consciousness. This transforms the ego’s visions of sin into mistakes that only need to be corrected. We use the tool of forgiveness to grant our brother and ourselves freedom from sin, for we realize that we are joined as one with the Mind of God. By rejecting the ego’s notion that sin is forever and perception changeless, we have allowed the Holy Spirit to change egoic misperception into correct perception. This overturns the ego’s verdict and
God’s Son is pronounced eternally sinless and guiltless.

**T-19.III.10.** In the holy instant, you will see the smile of Heaven shining on both you and your brother. 2 And you will shine upon your brother, in glad acknowledgment of the grace that has been given you. 3 For sin will not prevail against a union Heaven has smiled upon. 4 Your perception was healed in the holy instant Heaven gave you. 5 Forget what you have seen, and raise your eyes in faith to what you now can see. 6 The barriers to Heaven will disappear before your holy sight, for you who were sightless have been given vision, and you can see. 7 Look not for what has been removed, but for the glory that has been restored for you to see.

**Note #34:** In the holy instant, we suspend all past judgment. This allows us to be in the now, where correct perception is possible. With the Vision of Christ, we will look past the body to see the unlimited spirit that is our brother, and thus, see ourselves.

**T-19.III.11.** Look upon your Redeemer, the Christ in your brother, and behold what your Redeemer would show you in your brother, and let not sin arise again to blind your eyes. 2 For sin would keep you separate from your brother, but your Redeemer, the Christ, would have you look upon your brother as yourself. 3 Your holy relationship is now a temple of healing; a place where all the weary ones can come and rest. 4 Here is the rest that waits for all, after the journey. 5 And the journey’s end is brought nearer to all by your holy relationship.

**Note #35:** When we utilize the Vision of Christ, our special relationships are made into holy ones. We see both our brother and ourselves as innocent, sinless and guiltless. All past judgments have been removed so that we can be in the <now>. The <now> is different than what we generally perceive as present time. When in the <now>, we allow our true Christ nature to shine. Prior to the suspension of all judgments, our true nature was clouded by past misperceptions, which prevented us from living in the <now>. Our true nature is Christ consciousness. As long as we still have the body, our Christ consciousness will utilize the body as a communication device to teach only love. Being joined to all through the Universal Mind of God, the entire Sonship benefits from your return to Christ consciousness and being in the <now>.

**IV. The Obstacles to Peace**

**T-19.IV.1.** As peace extends from deep inside yourself to embrace all the Sonship and give the Sonship rest, peace will encounter many obstacles. 2 Some of the obstacles to peace you will try to impose. 3 Other obstacles to peace will seem to arise from elsewhere; from your brothers, and from various aspects of the world outside. 4 Yet peace will gently cover the obstacles to peace, extending past the obstacles completely unencumbered. 5 The extension of the Holy Spirit's purpose from your relationship to others, to bring others gently into peace, is the way in which the Holy Spirit will bring means and goal in line. 6 The peace of the Holy Spirit that lay, deep within you and
your brother, will quietly extend to every aspect of your life, surrounding you and your brother with glowing happiness and the calm awareness of complete protection. And you will carry peace’s message of love and safety and freedom to everyone who draws nigh unto your temple, where healing waits for him. 8 You will not wait to give him peace’s message of love and safety and freedom, for you will call to him and he will answer you, recognizing in your call to peace the Call for God. 9 And you will draw your brother in and give him rest, as peace’s rest was given you.

**Note # 36:** Since we are all connected, whenever we receive peace’s message of love, safety and freedom, this benefits the entire Sonship. By giving this same peace, we actually confirm that we possess this peace. You can only give what you have. Since to give is to receive, by giving peace to others, peace is strengthened in us. Thoughts never leave their source. To teach peace, be peace.

**T-19.IV.2.** All this will you do. 2 Yet the peace that already lies deeply within must first expand, and flow across the obstacles you placed before peace. 3 This expansion of peace past all obstacles will you do, for nothing undertaken with the Holy Spirit remains unfinished. 4 You can indeed be sure of nothing you see outside you, but of this you *can* be sure: The Holy Spirit asks that you offer the Holy Spirit a resting place where you will rest in the Holy Spirit. 5 The Holy Spirit answered you, and entered your relationship. 6 Would you not now return the Holy Spirit’s graciousness, and enter into a relationship with the Holy Spirit? 7 For it is the Holy Spirit Who offered your relationship the gift of holiness, without which it would have been forever impossible to appreciate your brother.

**Note # 37:** We need the assistance of the Holy Spirit to transform an egoic, special relationship into a holy relationship. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of the “Big Picture”. He knows the truth about your egoic misperception and how every part of the fragmented Sonship is to be returned to the Oneness by following God’s Plan for salvation. Being caught up in the dream of separation, the dreamer is unaware that he is incapable of judging anything correctly. Only the Holy Spirit knows God’s Plan for the return of the Sonship to His Father. At the time of the mad idea of separation, the Father placed the answer for salvation within us. The Holy Spirit is the custodian of this Plan and He resides in our Christ consciousness. The Atonement is God’s answer for the healing of the split-minded.

**T-19.IV.3.** The gratitude you owe to Him, the Holy Spirit, asks but that you receive for Him. 2 And when you look with gentle graciousness upon your brother, you are beholding the Holy Spirit. 3 For you are looking where the Holy Spirit *is,* and your brother *is* not apart from the Holy Spirit. 4 You cannot see the Holy Spirit, but you can see your brothers truly. 5 And the light in your brother, his Big “S” Self, will show you all that you need to see. 6 When the peace in you has been extended to encompass everyone, the Holy Spirit's function here in the world of time and space will be accomplished. 7 What need is there for seeing, then? 8 When God has taken the last step Himself, the Holy Spirit will gather all the thanks and gratitude that you have offered the Holy Spirit, and lay these offering gently before His Creator in the Name of God’s most
holy Son. 9 And the Father will accept them in His Son's Name. 10 What need is there of seeing, in the presence of the Holy Spirit's gratitude?

**Note # 38:** Without the Holy Spirit’s assistance, we would not be able to escape from the victim consciousness from which we currently suffer. Helping us recover our decision-maker abilities is part of the job of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit’s function is to reawaken the sleeping Sonship to their true magnificence as a Oneness with the Creator. We are grateful for the Holy Spirit’s assistance and the Holy Spirit is grateful for our willingness to choose again. We demonstrate our gratitude to the Holy Spirit when we offer our brother the same forgiveness the Holy Spirit offers us.

**A. The First Obstacle: The Desire to Get Rid of It**

T-19.IV.A.1. The first obstacle that peace must flow across is your desire to get rid of peace. 2 For peace cannot extend unless you keep peace. 3 You are the center from which peace radiates outward, to call the others in to peace. 4 You are peace’s home; its tranquil dwelling place from which peace gently reaches out, but never leaving you. 5 If you would make peace homeless, how can peace abide within the Son of God? 6 If peace would spread across the whole creation, peace must begin with you, and from you reach to everyone who calls, and bring everyone who calls rest by joining you.

**Note # 39:** Peace must have a foothold within the dreamer’s own mind if peace is to be extended to others within the dream. We can only give or extend what we actually possess. To have peace, we must give peace. Without the desire for inner peace, the dream of the separation cannot be exchanged for the happy dream that the Holy Spirit would offer us. Without our desire for inner peace, our special relationships cannot be transformed into holy ones. Our Christ-consciousness is the home of the Holy Spirit. Without our quieting the ego, we are incapable of hearing our Big “S” Self, which is the voice for love. If we ask for Her Help, the Holy Spirit will give it.

T-19.IV.A.2. Why would you want peace homeless? 2 What do you think that peace must dispossess to dwell with you? 3 What seems to be the cost you are so unwilling to pay? 4 The little barrier of sand still stands between you and your brother. 5 Would you reinforce that barrier between you and your brother now? 6 You are not asked to let this barrier between brothers go for yourself alone. 7 Christ asks that you let this barrier between brothers go for Himself, your Christ consciousness or Big “S” Self. 8 Your Christ consciousness or Big “S” Self would bring peace to everyone, and how can your Christ consciousness do this except through you? 9 Would you let a little bank of sand, a wall of dust, a tiny seeming barrier, stand between your brothers and salvation? 10 And yet, this little remnant of attack you cherish still against your brother <is> the first obstacle the peace in you encounters in peace’s going forth. 11 This little wall of hatred would still oppose the Will of God, and keep our mind limited.

**Note # 40:** We cannot receive the Peace of God, if we refuse to grant that same peace to all our brothers. To withhold peace from one brother is to withhold peace from all. We all
share the One Mind of God. You cannot be “totally” committed to the peace of God “sometimes”. Peace is an all or nothing proposition. Truth cannot be true “sometimes”. To believe that we can find inner peace while withholding it from one brother is to remain under the control of the egoic thought system. Only by granting forgiveness to all our brothers do we grant forgiveness to ourselves. We cannot be free from prison as long as we must guard any brother in the prison of our mind. We can only escape from this self-imposed guard duty, by releasing all the prisoners. Keep one door locked and the jailer must remain trapped within that same prison. Our desire to be special maintains our separation from any brother that keeps us from being whole. We cannot return to peace if we wish to withhold peace from any part of the Sonship. To withhold peace is to attack peace. We must grant peace to all alike with no exceptions if we are to have peace. We cannot hate one brother and love the rest. To attack one brother is your desire to reject the peace of God. We must surrender our ego’s claim that we are not the arbitrators of truth.

T-19.IV.A.3. The Holy Spirit’s purpose rests in peace within you. 2 Yet you are still unwilling to let peace join you wholly. 3 You still oppose the Will of God, just by a little. 4 And that little is a limit you would place upon the whole. 5 God's Will is One, not many. 6 God’s Will has no opposition, for there is no will beside God’s Will. 7 What you would still contain behind your little barrier and keep separate from your brother seems mightier than the universe, for the barrier of separation would hold back the universe and its Creator. 8 This little wall would hide the purpose of Heaven, and keep it separate <from> Heaven.

Note # 41: There can be no barriers that separate a Oneness. To exclude anyone is to reject the idea that we are a shared Oneness. To argue for separation or specialness among the Sonship is to reject the peace of the One Self.

T-19.IV.A.4. Would you thrust salvation away from the giver of salvation? 2 For such have you become. 3 Peace could no more depart from you, the giver of salvation, than from God. 4 Fear not this little obstacle to peace, which is your desire to attack another. 5 This desire to attack another cannot contain the Will of God. 6 Peace will flow across this desire to attack another and join you without hindrance. 7 Salvation cannot be withheld from you. 8 The granting of salvation to all is your purpose. 9 You cannot choose apart from this granting of salvation to all. 10 You have no purpose apart from your brother, nor apart from the one you asked the Holy Spirit to share with you. 11 The little wall of separation between you and your brother will fall away so quietly beneath the wings of peace. 12 For peace will send its messengers from you to all the world, and barriers will fall away before their coming as easily as those that you interpose will be surmounted.

Note # 42: While on earth, our function is forgiveness. By granting forgiveness to all we see, the Sonship is seen as sinless. The removal of the belief in sin is the cornerstone to salvation, which is the Sonship return to peace, truth and knowledge. This removal of the belief that we are sinful also dispels guilt and fear from our minds. We reclaim the Sonship’s innocence.
T-19.IV.A.5. To overcome the world is no more difficult than to surmount your little wall of separation between your brothers. 2 For in the miracle of your holy relationship, without this barrier of separation between your brothers, is every miracle contained. 3 There is no order of difficulty in miracles, for miracles are all the same. 4 Each miracle is a gentle winning over from the appeal of guilt to the appeal of love. 5 How can this winning over from the appeal of guilt to the appeal of love fail to be accomplished, wherever it is undertaken? p408 6 Guilt can raise no real barriers against the appeal of love. 7 And all that seems to stand between you and your brother must fall away because of the appeal for love you answered. 8 From you who answered, the Holy Spirit Who answered you would call. 9 The Holy Spirit’s home is in your holy relationship. 10 Do not attempt to stand between the Holy Spirit and His holy purpose, for His holy purpose is your purpose. 11 But let the Holy Spirit quietly extend the miracle of the Holy Spirit to everyone contained in your holy relationship as the miracle was given.

Note # 43: In the miracle, we change our perception from one of separation and fear to one of union and love. Forgiveness is the tool used by the Holy Spirit in the granting of the miracle. Since all miracles are based on this same concept of transforming separation into the union of joining, there is no order of difficulties in miracles. The illusion of guilt is exchanged for the appeal of love. All illusions are simply brought before the truth. Because of the connectiveness of mind, the miracle impacts the entire Sonship, not just the person that appears to have been directly impacted by this shift in their perception.

T-19.IV.A.6. There is a hush in Heaven, a happy expectancy, a little pause of gladness in acknowledgment of the journey’s end. 2 For Heaven knows you well, as you know Heaven. 3 No illusions stand between you and your brother now. 4 Look not upon the little wall of shadows. 5 The sun has risen over the wall of separation. 6 How can a shadow keep you from the sun? 7 No more can you be kept by shadows from the light in which illusions end. 8 Every miracle is but the end of an illusion. 9 Such was the journey; such the journey’s ending. 10 And in the goal of truth which you accepted must all illusions end.

Note # 44: By removing all the barriers to love that we have placed between our brother and ourselves, we return to the truth. The barriers of separation and specialness have been removed by the miracle. By seeing all as part of the same shared whole, the ended of the illusion of separation is at hand. We accept the Atonement for ourselves and return to the knowledge of the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. We give up the egoic claim that our little “s” self is the arbitrator of truth.

T-19.IV.A.7. The little insane wish to get rid of the Holy Spirit Whom you invited in and push the Holy Spirit out <must> produce conflict. 2 As you look upon the world, this little insane wish of separation, uprooted and floating aimlessly, can land and settle briefly upon anything, for the wish of separation has no purpose now. 3 Before the Holy Spirit entered to abide with you the wish of separation seemed to have a mighty purpose; the fixed and unchangeable dedication to sin and sin’s results. 4 Now the wish of separation with its appeal to guilt is aimless, wandering pointlessly, causing no more than tiny interruptions in love's appeal.
Note # 45: Once we have invited the Holy Spirit to guide our thought process, our purpose moves into alignment with the Holy Spirit’s. Both share the same goal of the awakening of the Sonship to truth and the end of all illusion. Each time we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the thought system of the ego is exposed as counter-productive to our desire for the attainment of inner peace. Each miracle increases our desire for the peace that forgiveness offers. We become more and more a disciple of the Holy Spirit. The desire for “sin” is dropped, as we understand that “sin” is only a mistake that needs to be corrected. Sin is the erroneous belief in our “littleness” and our attempt to limit the One Self. Our “sins” require no punishment since they are not real and do not exist in the Mind of God. The egoic thought system that was built on the illusions of separation, limitation, sin, guilt, fear and the special relationship is abandoned. The appeals to the return of the truth that we are only love out weigh the appeal of guilt. The ego’s thought system has lost its stranglehold on our minds.

T-19.IV.A.8. This feather of a wish, this tiny illusion, this microscopic remnant of the belief in sin, is all that remains of what once seemed to be the world. 2 The insane wish for sin’s separation is no longer an unrelenting barrier to peace. 3 Its pointless wandering makes the wish for separation’s results appear to be more erratic and unpredictable than before. 4 Yet what could be more unstable than a tightly organized delusional system? 5 The delusional egoic thought system’s seeming stability is its pervasive weakness, which extends to everything. 6 The variability the little remnant of the belief in sin induces merely indicates the delusional egoic thought system’s limited results.

Note # 46: The results we achieve by following the ego’s thought system always disappoints. The ego’s motto is “Seek, but do not find.” The ego promises happiness yet, never grants it. The ego tells us, “We will be happy when…” When the when arrives and we are not happy, the ego substitutes a new goal for our happiness. We are always seeking happiness yet, never finding it. Being right, even if you are wrong, is the goal of the ego. Being a Oneness of everything, how can we be happy with being a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies? The ego’s thought system, which is based on illusion, is unstable. It rests on the shifting goals of the nothingness of fantasy.

T-19.IV.A.9. How mighty can a little feather, your insane belief in sin, be before the great wings of truth? 2 Can a little feather oppose an eagle's flight, or hinder the advance of summer? 3 Can it, your insane belief in sin, interfere with the effects of summer's sun upon a garden covered by the snow? 4 See but how easily this little wisp of a feather is lifted up and carried away, never to return, and part with this feather in gladness, not regret. 5 For this feather, your insane belief in sin, is nothing in itself, and stood for nothing when you had greater faith in this feather’s protection. 6 Would you not rather greet the summer sun than fix your gaze upon a disappearing snowflake, and shiver in remembrance of the winter's cold? p409

Note # 47: The ego’s thought system is based on illusion. Sin is but an illusion and the egoic attempt to make the false appear real. It has no power to change the truth of what
we are. We remain God’s Child, perfect, whole and complete. The Oneness of God is what we are!

**i. The Attraction of Guilt**

*T-19.IV.A.10.* The attraction of guilt produces fear of love, for love would never look on guilt at all. 2 It is the nature of love to look upon only the truth, for there love sees itself **in the truth**, with which love would unite in holy union and completion. 3 As love must look past fear, so must fear see love not. 4 For love contains the end of guilt, as surely as fear depends on guilt. 5 Love is attracted only to love. 6 Overlooking guilt completely, love sees no fear. 7 Being wholly without attack, love could not be afraid. 8 Fear is attracted to what love sees not, and each believes that what the other looks upon does not exist. 9 Fear looks on guilt with just the same devotion that love looks on itself. 10 And **fear or love** each has messengers which it sends forth, and which return to **fear or love** with messages written in the language in which their going forth was asked.

**Note # 48:** We will perceive whatever we place our thoughts upon. When we believe a situation will be frightening, our senses seek out witnesses in the environment for its preconceived beliefs. Perceptions follow our beliefs. The thought system of the ego is fear based. The Holy Spirit's is based on love.

*T-19.IV.A.11.* Love's messengers are gently sent, and return with messages of love and gentleness. 2 The messengers of fear are harshly ordered to seek out guilt, and cherish every scrap of evil and of sin that the messengers of fear can find, losing none of them on pain of death, and laying this “evidence” respectfully before their lord and master, fear. 3 Perception cannot obey two masters, each asking for messages of different things in different languages. 4 What fear would feed upon, love overlooks. 5 What fear demands, love cannot even see. 6 The fierce attraction that guilt holds for fear is wholly absent from love's gentle perception. 7 What love would look upon is meaningless to fear, and quite invisible.

**Note # 49:** What we value will determine which master we will follow. Although we speak of fear or love as the master, these are merely the surrogates for either the egoic or the Holy Spirit’s thought system. We will either value illusion’s specialness, which was born out of the belief in the separation being real, or we will value truth, which is the Love of God. There is no common ground. A decision for one is a decision to exclude the other. You can only follow one thought system at any given time. As decision-maker, we are constantly making a choice between which belief system we will follow.

*T-19.IV.A.12.* Relationships in this world are the result of how the world is seen. 2 And **how the world is seen** depends on which emotion, love or fear, was called on to send its messengers to look upon the world, and return with word of what the messenger of either love or fear saw. 3 Fear's messengers are trained through terror, and fear's messenger’s tremble when their master calls on them to serve fear. 4 For fear is merciless even to its friends. 5 Fear’s messengers steal guiltily away in hungry search of
guilt, for **fear’s messengers** are kept cold and starving and made very vicious by their master, who allows them to feast only upon what they return to **their master, fear**. 6 No little shred of guilt escapes **fear’s messengers’** hungry eyes. 7 And in **fear’s messengers’** savage search for sin they pounce on any living thing they see, and carry any living thing they see screaming to their master, to be devoured.

**Note # 50:** The messengers of fear, which are sin and guilt, are indiscriminate in their desire to find anything that they can project their predetermined beliefs upon. Truth is irrelevant. Anyone will do. If no one appears to be available, the messenger will blame you. Belief in sin and guilt leads to blame which is projected out into the universe. The messenger’s of fear are well-schooled guilt throwers, throwing blame on everything in sight including you.

**T-19.IV.A.13.** Send not these savage messengers into the world, to feast upon the world and to prey upon reality. 2 For **fear’s messengers** will bring you word of bones and skin and flesh. 3 **Fear’s messengers** have been taught to seek for the corruptible, and to return with gorges filled with things decayed and rotted. p410 4 To **fear’s messengers** such corruptible things are beautiful, because they seem to allay their savage pangs of hunger. 5 For **fear’s messengers** are frantic with the pain of fear, and would avert the punishment of **their master, fear**, who sends them forth by offering **their master who is fear** what **fear’s messengers** hold dear.

**Note # 51:** The world of form is the home of the temporary. The world of perception is changeable. It arose from the belief in sin, guilt and fear. The body is the ego’s symbol for sin. The body bears witness for the ego that you are not eternal and that God’s Son is impure and born to sin. Our minds have been trained to be excellent guilt throwers and better guilt catchers. We are always trying to blame others to explain why we are not guilty. If we believe that we are guilty, we try to explain why it was not our fault. The body serves as an excellent role model for victim consciousness. By identifying our mind as the body, the body appears to prove that the separation was real. The corruptible is anything in the world of perception that believes in the reality of sin, guilt and fear. When we are not exclusively following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are vulnerable to fear based thinking. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we are embraced in the invulnerability of love.

**T-19.IV.A.14.** The Holy Spirit has given you love's messengers to send instead of those you trained through fear. 2 **Love's messengers** are as eager to return to you what they hold dear as are the others. 3 If you send **love's messengers of forgiveness and truth** forth, they will see only the blameless and the beautiful, the gentle and the kind. 4 **Love's messengers of forgiveness and truth** will be as careful to let no little act of charity, no tiny expression of forgiveness, no little breath of love escape their notice. 5 And **forgiveness and truth** will return with all the happy things they found, to share them lovingly with you. 6 Be not afraid of **love's messengers**. 7 **Love's messengers** offer you salvation. 8 Theirs are the messages of safety, for **love's messengers of forgiveness and truth** see the world as kind.
Note # 52: When we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we view all of our experiences as either an expression of love or a cry for love. Perceiving our universe as a friendly and supportive place, our mind tells our physical senses to seek out and find the witnesses of love. All events are neutral. When we decide how we will choose to perceive an event, a positive or negative image is given to that event. Do we look through the sunglasses of love or fear? Whichever we choose, these glasses will dictate how we view our world.

T-19.IV.A.15. If you send forth only the messengers the Holy Spirit gives you, wanting no messages but the Holy Spirit’s messengers, you will see fear no more. 2 The world will be transformed before your sight, cleansed of all guilt and softly brushed with beauty. 3 The world contains no fear that you laid not upon the world. 4 And no fear that you cannot ask love's messengers to remove from the world, and see the world still. 5 The Holy Spirit has given you His messengers to send to your brother and return to you with what love sees. 6 The Holy Spirit’s messengers have been given to replace the hungry dogs of fear you sent instead. 7 And the Holy Spirit’s messengers go forth to signify the end of fear.

Note # 53: The Holy Spirit’s messengers of love, which are forgiveness and truth, will reinterpret your misperception of our world from a fearful to a supportive place. These messengers of love will bear witness to the truth that the separation was only a bad dream. God’s Child remains sinless and guiltless and has no reason to fear. We are not the body. We still remain eternally as God created us, perfect, whole and complete.

T-19.IV.A.16. Love, too, would set a feast before you, on a table covered with a spotless cloth, set in a quiet garden where no sound but singing and a softly joyous whispering is ever heard. 2 This is a feast that honors your holy relationship, and at which everyone is welcomed as an honored guest. 3 And in a holy instant grace is said by everyone together, as they join in gentleness before the table of communion. 4 And I will join you there at this feast that honors your holy relationship as long ago I promised and promise still. 5 For in your new holy relationship am I made welcome. 6 And where I am made welcome, there I am.

Note # 54: Jesus, like the Holy Spirit, patiently waits for our invitation. Jesus, like God Himself, is always found where truth and love abide. When we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we abide in love. Our special relationships are transformed into holy ones that join the Sonship together. Jesus, Christ consciousness and the Holy Spirit, like us, are part of the shared Oneness that is the Mind of God. In the world of perception, we view our world dualistically. Because of this perceived duality, ACIM describes it as if the separation is real. In time, the separation appears to be real, yet in eternity time, like all illusions must also pass away. In reality, there is only the joined Oneness. This Oneness abides in and is the Truth of that One Self.

T-19.IV.A.17. I am made welcome in the state of grace, which means you have at last forgiven me. 2 For I became the symbol of your sin, and so I had to die instead of you. 3 To the ego sin means death, and so egoic atonement is achieved through murder. 4 Egoic
salvation is looked upon as a way by which the Son of God was killed instead of you. 5 Yet would I offer you my body, you whom I love, <knowing> the body’s littleness? 6 Or would I teach that bodies cannot keep us apart? p411 7 My body was of no greater value than your body; no better means for communication of salvation, but not its Source. 8 No one can die for anyone, and death does not atone for sin. 9 But you can live to show the body is not real. 10 The body does appear to be the symbol of sin while you believe that the body can get you what you want. 11 While you believe that the body can give you pleasure, you will also believe that the body can bring you pain. 12 To think you could be satisfied and happy with so little as the body is to hurt yourself, and to limit the happiness that you would have calls upon pain to fill your meager store and make your life complete. 13 This is completion as the ego sees life. 14 For guilt creeps in where happiness has been removed, and substitutes guilt for happiness. 15 Communion is another kind of completion, which goes beyond guilt, because communion goes beyond the body.

Note # 55: Because of the ego’s belief in the separation, sin, guilt and fear arose. The ego has distorted the true God of Love into an idol for fear. The ego sees the body as the symbol for sin. This requires that punishment and sacrifice must be administered before sin can be “forgiven”. The ego’s plan for salvation is to project all sin and guilt upon something else so that you, the sinner, will not have to be punished for your sins. In fundamentalist Christianity, Jesus becomes the scapegoat for everyone else’s sin so that the sinners get a “free ride”. This is typical egoic thinking. In Jesus, the ego finds its ultimate victim for the projection of victim consciousness. We get to project our guilt on someone, who must now pay for our “crimes”. Since the body is viewed as our essence, Jesus’ body must be sacrificed through his death. This egoic version of salvation insures that we remain limited and incapable of any decision-making abilities that could allow us to self-correct our error thinking. Something outside ourselves must do this for us. We always remain sinners under the ego’s thought system because we always remain less than whole, perfect and complete.

Jesus was an embodiment of Christ consciousness. To both the Holy Spirit and Jesus, the body is a neutral communication device. The body is neither our spiritual essence nor a symbol of sin. The resurrection, not the crucifixion, was the message of Jesus’ earthy death. The resurrection proved that we are not a body. Jesus states there are no victims and that no one can be hurt. Jesus was no different from us. Jesus says that we could look upon him as an older brother who is worthy of our respect. The only workable plan for our return to wholeness and knowledge is God’s Plan. God’s Plan is the Atonement. It removes sin, guilt and fear in exchange for the truth. In the Atonement, God proclaims that the Sonship is and always remains eternally sinless and guiltless as She created us. The only requirement is that we must accept the Atonement for ourselves. No one can do this for you. You must do it yourself. This completes your return to the One Self.

B. The Second Obstacle: The Belief the Body is Valuable for What It Offers

T-19.IV.B.1. We said that peace must first surmount the obstacle of your desire to get rid
of peace. 2 Where the attraction of guilt holds sway, peace is not wanted. 3 The second obstacle that peace must flow across, and closely related to the first, **which is the desire to get rid of peace**, is the belief that the body is valuable for what the body offers. 4 For here in the belief that the body is valuable for what the body offers is the attraction of guilt made manifest in the body, and seen in the body.

**Note # 56:** Both the desire to get rid of peace and the belief that the body is valuable for what the body offers are closely related. The desire to get rid of peace comes from the wish for specialness born out of the desire for separation. Peace comes from the union of a Oneness of Everything and is the opposite of separation. While the ego offers us the illusionary belief that the body someday can give us pleasure and comfort, the Holy Spirit offers us the eternal truth that is the peace of union with the Oneness. Our decision-maker must decide which one it values at the exclusion of the other.

**T-19.IV.B.2.** This **belief that the body is valuable for what the body offers** is the value that you think peace would rob you of. 2 The body is what you believe that peace would dispossess, and leave you homeless. 3 And it is the **valuing of the body** for which you would deny a home to peace. 4 This **valuing of the body** is a "sacrifice" you feel to be too great to make, too much to ask of you. 5 Is the **abandonment of your valuing the body** a sacrifice, or a release? 6 What has the body really given you that justifies your strange belief that in the body lies salvation? 7 Do you not see that this **valuing the body** is the belief in death? 8 Here in this **valuing the body** is the focus of the perception of Atonement as murder. 9 Here in this **valuing the body** is the source of the idea that love is fear.

**Note # 57:** Again, it is our identification with our spiritual essence as being the body that is the source of the problem. The body, in and of itself, is a neutral communication device. The body has no value or power alone. The body is merely the instrument for the mind. It does what the mind tells it to do. When we believe that we are the body, we accept all the limitations that are associated with the body. We become “stuck” in space and time. Valuing the body form is the proof that we are special. Since we have come to identify with and believe that we are only the body, we believe that without our body our essence would be destroyed.

**T-19.IV.B.3.** The Holy Spirit's messengers of forgiveness and truth are sent far beyond the body, calling the mind to join in holy communion and be at peace. 2 Such is the message that I gave the Holy Spirit's messengers for you. 3 It is only the messengers of fear that see the body, for the messengers of fear look for what can suffer. 4 Is it a sacrifice to be removed from what can suffer? 5 The Holy Spirit does not demand you sacrifice the hope of the body's pleasure; the body <has> no hope of pleasure. 6 But neither can the body bring you fear of pain. 7 Pain is the only "sacrifice" the Holy Spirit asks, and this “sacrifice” of pain, the Holy Spirit <would> remove. p412

**Note # 58:** The messengers of love do not stop at the body-form but rather go beyond the veil of the body-form to find the witnesses for love. The underlying content of all experiences are understood to be either an expression of love or a cry for love. The
Vision of Christ sees beyond the thin veil of form that blocks true vision and thus, sees our spiritual essence beyond the mask of the body-form. Its focus is on content, not form. The body cannot feel pain or pleasure, but the mind can believe that the body can. It is the belief that the body can give pleasure that is the attraction we want to maintain. Since the belief that the body is the source of pleasure is erroneous, to “sacrifice” its imagined power is to sacrifice nothing.

T-19.IV.B.4. Peace is extended from you only to the eternal, and peace reaches out from the eternal in you. 2 Peace flows across all else. 3 The second obstacle to peace, which is belief that the body is valuable for what the body offers, is no more solid than the first obstacle. The first obstacle to peace was the desire to get rid of peace 4 For in truth, you want neither to get rid of peace nor limit peace. 5 What are these obstacles that you would interpose between peace and peace’s going forth but barriers you place between your will and peace’s accomplishment? 6 You want communion, not the feast of fear. 7 You want salvation, not the pain of guilt. 8 And you want your Father, not a little mound of clay that you perceive as your body, to be your home. 9 In your holy relationship is your Father's Son. 10 The Father's Son has not lost communion with the Father, nor with himself. 11 When you agreed to join your brother, you acknowledged this communion of Father and Son is so. 12 This acknowledgement of communion between Father and Son has no cost, but its acknowledgment is release from cost.

Note # 59: Jesus states that our true nature yearns for us to return to the remembrance of God and the union of Creation’s Oneness. Being a Oneness of everything, how could God’s Child be happy with less? An illusion cannot satisfy our Big “S” Self.

T-19.IV.B.5. You have paid very dearly for your illusions, and nothing you have paid for brought you peace. 2 Are you not glad that Heaven cannot be sacrificed, and sacrifice cannot be asked of you? 3 There is no obstacle that you can place before our union, for in your holy relationship I am there already. 4 We will surmount all obstacles together, for we stand within the gates and not outside the gates. 5 How easily the gates are opened from within, to let peace through to bless the tired world! 6 Can it be difficult for us to walk past barriers together, when you have joined the limitless? 7 The end of guilt is in your hands to give. 8 Would you stop the end of your guilt now to look for guilt in your brother?

Note # 60: Love asks no sacrifice of you since love demands nothing. Love gives unconditionally. Although Love demands nothing from you, you are free to accept or deny love’s offerings. By rejecting the holiness of your brother, you reject your own holiness. For any limitation that you place on another, you also place upon yourself: To give is to receive for thoughts never leave their source. Free your brother and you release yourself. Our destiny, the peace of God, is a joint one. While in time and space our function is forgiveness, our purpose is love and our destiny, the peace of God.

T-19.IV.B.6. Let me be to you the symbol of the end of guilt, and look upon your brother as you would look on me, your new symbol for the end of guilt. 2 Forgive me all the sins you think the Son of God committed. 3 And in the light of your forgiveness the
split-minded will remember who he is, and forget what never was, **which was the belief that God’s Son was a “sinner”**. 4 I ask for your forgiveness, for if you are guilty, so must I be. 5 But if I surmounted guilt and overcame the world, you were with me. 6 Would you see in me the symbol of guilt or of the end of guilt, remembering that what I signify to you you see within yourself?

**Note # 61:** To the ego, Jesus is a symbol for guilt and sin. To the ego, Jesus, God’s only Son, had to suffer and die for our sins. This is egoic proof that we are limited and separate ego-bodies that cannot be a part of the shared Mind of God. To the Holy Spirit, Jesus is a symbol for the end of guilt and the return of truth. Since our beliefs control how we perceive our provisional reality, our thoughts on how we choose to perceive Jesus will abide in our own minds. To give is to receive. Our thoughts are the stuff that makes up our world. If we accept that someone, like Jesus, broke the stranglehold of the ego’s thought system and was, is and forever will be joined as the One Self, we all did and are that One Self.

**T-19.IV.B.7.** From your holy relationship truth proclaims the truth, and love looks on itself. 2 Salvation flows from deep within the home you offered to my Father and to me, **which is the Christ consciousness**. 3 And we are there together in Christ consciousness, in the quiet communion in which the Father and the Son are joined. 4 O come ye faithful to the holy union of the Father and the Son in you! 5 And keep you not apart from what is offered you in gratitude for giving peace its home in Heaven. 6 Send forth to all the world the joyous message of the end of guilt, and all the world will answer. 7 Think of your happiness as everyone offers you witness of the end of sin, and shows you that sin’s power is gone forever. p413 8 Where can guilt be, when the belief in sin is gone? 9 And where is death, when death’s great advocate, sin, is heard no more?

**Note # 62:** With the reinterpretation of the mad idea of separation as an error or mistake instead of a sin, guilt and fear are not longer possible. A mistake only requires correction. No punishment is demanded. The reawakening of the mind to the eternal truth of our shared Oneness is returned. There is only One Mind and One Will. We freely accept and know that creation is the extension of the Mind of God.

**T-19.IV.B.8.** Forgive me your illusions, and release me from punishment for what I have not done. 2 So will you learn the freedom that I taught by teaching freedom to your brother, and so releasing me. 3 I am within your holy relationship, yet you would imprison me behind the obstacles you raise to freedom, and bar my way to you. 4 Yet it is not possible to keep away One Who is there already with you. 5 And in the **One Who is already there**, it is possible that our communion, where we are joined already, will be the focus of the new perception that will bring light to all the world, contained in you.

**Note # 63:** The Christ conscious mind is our home, our brother’s home, the Holy Spirit’s home, Jesus’ home, and the home of the Father. It is the unified universal Mind of God. Our egoic mind can deny this truth, but the ego’s illusions are powerless to change this reality. Truth is true always. The illusion of separation never had any reality other than in a fanciful dream of the egoic mind.
In this paragraph, Jesus asks that we forgive and release him from our illusions of what we thought he did to us. Of course, what we perceived Jesus did to us never happened. This demonstrates ACIM definition of forgiveness. Only within the mind of the dreamer can forgiveness be offered and obtained since only within our mind did the dream take place. All misperception and judgment is in the mind of the perceiver. We have mistaken a brother’s cry for love as an attack. How can a brother make amends for a crime he did not commit? This would require sacrifice on a brother’s part yet love never demands sacrifice of any kind.

i. The Attraction of Pain

T-19.IV.B.9. Your little part is but to give the Holy Spirit the whole idea of your need for egoic sacrifice. 2 And to accept the peace the Holy Spirit gives instead as a replacement for your egoic need to sacrifice, without the limits that would hold peace’s extension back, and so would limit your awareness of peace. 3 For what the Holy Spirit gives must be extended if you would have peace’s limitless power, and use peace’s limitless power and your awareness of peace for the Son of God’s release. 4 It is not this awareness of peace you would be rid of, and having this awareness of peace you cannot limit the power of peace. 5 If peace is homeless, so are you and so am I. 6 And the Christ Who is our home is homeless with us. 7 Is this your wish? 8 Would you forever be a wanderer in search of peace? 9 Would you invest your hope of peace and happiness in what must fail, which is the egoic plan that sacrifice is required to obtain peace?

Note # 64: The Holy Spirit’s home and our home is the Christ consciousness. This is also the home of God, the Father. To believe that our home is the body is to place limits on our power. The ego’s plan for salvation requires that we sacrifice our happiness for the goal of specialness and limitation. The ego says we must do something to earn God’s love. It claims that God demands that we must sacrifice something so that we can earn God’s forgiveness for our imagined sins. The Holy Spirit states that our happiness is being our Big “S” Self. Love requires no sacrifice, but egoic special relationships always do. The Holy Spirit asks that we give all of our relationship over to the Holy Spirit so that He can miraculously transform them into holy relationships that teach only forgiveness and love.

T-19.IV.B.10. Faith in the eternal is always justified, for the eternal is forever kind, infinite in its patience and wholly loving. 2 The eternal will accept you wholly, and give you peace. 3 Yet the eternal can unite only with what already is at peace in you, immortal as itself. 4 The body, which is not eternal, can bring you neither peace nor turmoil; neither joy nor pain. 5 The body is a means, and not an end. 6 The body has no purpose of itself, but only what purpose is given to the body by the mind. 7 The body will seem to be whatever is the means for reaching the goal that you assign to the body. 8 Only the mind can set a purpose you assign to the body, and only the mind can see the means for the purpose’s accomplishment, and justify the body’s use. 9 Peace and guilt are both conditions of the mind, to be attained. 10 And these conditions of peace or guilt
are the home of the emotion of love or fear that calls them forth, and therefore is compatible with them.

**Note # 65:** The ego and its thought system are based on the emotion of fear, which arises out of our self-imposed guilt. The Holy Spirit and its thought system are the voice for the emotion of love, whose condition is peace. The decision-maker must decide which voice it will follow. Each emotion has its own condition. Love’s condition is peace. Fear’s condition is guilt. They are mutually exclusive and cannot co-exist. While time exists, our decision-maker must choose what emotion it will value.

**T-19.IV.B.11.** But think you which emotion and condition is compatible with you. 2 Here is your choice, and the decision as to which emotion you will follow is free. 3 But all that lies in the emotion of either love or fear will come with the decision, and what you think you are can never be apart from the decision as to which emotion you will follow. 4 The body is the great seeming betrayer of faith. p414 5 In the body lies disillusionment and the seeds of faithlessness, but only if you ask of the body what the body cannot give which is love. 6 Can your mistake be reasonable grounds for depression and disillusionment, and for retaliative attack on what you think has failed you, which is the body? 7 Use not your error of identifying yourself as the body as the justification for your faithlessness. 8 You have not sinned, but you have been mistaken in what is faithful. 9 And the correction of your mistake of identifying yourself as the fearful body will give you grounds for faith.

**Note # 66:** It is our decision to identify ourselves as the body, instead of unlimited mind, that is the source of our problem. This decision for separation was a mistake, not a sin. Mistakes only require correction. Since we believe that we are the body, we look upon the body for the obtainment of all our perceived needs. Since all our physical senses tell us that the body is limited and vulnerable, this engenders great fear within our mind. Our mind tells the body that our needs will not be met. If our bodily needs are not met, the body, which is perceived to be our home, will die and so will we. The belief that we are a body engenders fear while the belief that we are unlimited spirit leads to peace. The body cannot love because it is incapable of emotion. The body is only the order-taker for the mind. Because we have free will, it is our mind that will act as decision-maker and choose which emotion we will value. If the mind perceives itself as a body, it must choose fear. We need to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit if we are to choose for love and its condition, which is peace.

**T-19.IV.B.12.** It is impossible to seek for pleasure through the body and not find pain. 2 It is essential that this relationship of seeking pleasure through the body yet finding pain be understood, for this relationship of seeking pleasure through the body yet finding pain is one the ego sees as proof of sin. 3 This relationship of seeking pleasure through the body yet finding pain is not really punitive at all. 4 Pain is but the inevitable result of equating yourself with the body, which is the invitation to pain. 5 For the body invites fear to enter and fear become your purpose. 6 The attraction of guilt enter with fear, and whatever fear directs the body to do is therefore painful. 7 The body will share the pain of all illusions, and the illusion of pleasure will be the same
as pain.

**Note # 67:** Believing that we are a limited ego-body, we identify our essence as the body. The body arose from our belief in the separation due to our sin against God. Through our egoic special relationships, we seek pleasure but these relationships always require sacrifice, which always results in pain. Pain is the natural result of the perceived limitation that is the body. The separation led to fear, and fear maintains the separation. Pain and the inevitable death of the body support the ego’s belief that the separation is real.

T-19.IV.B.13.Is not this inevitable that the body will share the pain of all illusions, and the illusion of pleasure will be the same as pain? 2 Under fear’s orders the body will pursue guilt, serving its egoic master, whose attraction to guilt maintains the whole illusion of the body’s existence. 3 This relationship of seeking pleasure through the body, which inevitably results in pain, then, is the attraction of pain. 4 Ruled by this perception, which seeks pleasure through the body, the body becomes the servant of pain, seeking pain dutifully and obeying the idea that pain is pleasure. 5 It is this idea that pain is pleasure that underlies all of the ego’s heavy investment in the body. 6 And it is this insane relationship that pain is pleasure that the ego keeps hidden, and yet feeds upon. 7 To you the ego teaches that the body’s pleasure is happiness. 8 Yet to itself the ego whispers, "That the body's pleasure is death."

**Note # 68:** The ego’s thought system is tied directly to the belief that you are a body. To be a body, we gave up the union of the Oneness that was everything. To reward you for this decision to deny our One Self, the ego tells us that we can find pleasure or happiness within the confines of the body. In the special relationship, the ego tells us that we can make ourselves whole or less incomplete by obtaining something from outside ourselves. The special relationship usually requires some sort of bartering in which we must sacrifice something to obtain something in return. Conditional relationships engender all kinds of fears but always confirm that we lack something and, therefore, are not whole. Unless the Holy Spirit can transform the ego’s special relationships into holy ones, these relationships will ultimately result in pain. Even finding your “soul mate” will result in pain when one partner dies. Believing that we are the body, we seek pleasure in the body, but these relationships ultimately end in pain. Our pursuit of pleasure becomes our pursuit of pain. The motto of the ego remains “Seek and do not find.” Illusions are the ego’s pursuit of happiness through specialness. This pursuit of these illusions comes at the cost of our Oneness and the denial of God’s Love.

T-19.IV.B.14.Why should the body be anything to you? 2 Certainly what the body is made of is not precious. 3 And just as certainly the body has no feeling. 4 The body transmits to you the feelings that you want. 5 Like any communication medium the body receives and sends the messages that the body is given from the mind. 6 The body has no feeling for the messages it transmits. 7 All of the feeling with which these messages are invested is given by the minds of the sender and the receiver. 8 The ego and the Holy Spirit both recognize that all feeling in the message comes from only the minds of the sender or receiver. And both the ego and the Holy Spirit also recognize that here the
sender and receiver of the messages are the same. The Holy Spirit tells you this, **that the sender and receiver of the messages are the same**, with joy. The ego hides the fact that the sender and receiver of the messages are the same for the ego would keep you unaware of **this fact that the sender and receiver of the messages are the same**. 11 Who would send messages of hatred and attack if he but understood he sends them to himself? 12 Who would accuse, make guilty and condemn himself?

**Note # 69:** The body is merely a communication device. Through this device, our mind is constantly sending out thoughts of either love or fear. Our mind has no other frequency since love and fear are opposites with no compromise in between. Any emotion other than love and fear are just “fine tuning” into these “wave bands”. The thought system that we follow will dictate which frequency of thought pattern we transmit from the body. The body, which is merely a neutral communication device, does not care on which frequency it transmits. The body will transmit on whatever emotional frequency that the mind tells it to. The body has no power to edit or change what the mind orders it to transmit. The Holy Spirit knows that you remain a Oneness. Since there is nothing outside the Oneness, whatever we send, we will receive. The ego, claiming that we are not part of the Oneness, tells us that the sender is different from the receiver. If we knew that all our thought patterns are projections that reflect back on us, we would be very careful about what we choose to send out. Our thoughts become the projected “things” that we perceive.

**T-19.IV.B.15.** The ego's messages are always sent or projected away from you, in the belief that for your message of attack and guilt will someone other than yourself suffer. But as the "enemy" of peace, the ego recognizes that this is not so and that thoughts do not leave their source. The great deceiver, the ego, urges you to send out all your messages of hate and free yourself from your hate by projecting it upon another. 4 And to convince you this is possible, the ego bids the body search for pain in attack upon another, calling the pain in attack upon another pleasure and offering the pain in attack upon another to you as freedom from attack.

**Note # 70:** The ego’s main tool for our supposed happiness is projection. Projection is the mind’s attempt to get rid of something we do not want. We project the undesired thought out of our mind in an attempt to transfer it onto another. We than believe that this undesired thought is outside our mind and not part of our own egocic thinking. We make the other party the scapegoat of our guilty. To blame another feels better than having to blame ourselves. Unfortunately, since thoughts never leave their source, projection merely conceals the true cause and effect relationship. Rather than understanding that our own mind’s thoughts are the cause, it appears that the source of the undesirable event is outside our mind. We now get to claim that we are innocent victims of the outside world. We can blame someone else for our problems and attack them for the “wrong” that we have suffered at their hands. This is why ACIM’s definition of forgiveness is always to forgive your brother for what you imagined your brother did to you. Both guilt and forgiveness are always an inside job. Ideas never leave their source. All healing takes place in our mind, not the communication device we call the body.
T-19.IV.B.16. Hear not the ego’s madness that you can escape your own thoughts by projecting them outside your mind, and believe not the impossible is true. 2 Forget not that the ego has dedicated the body to the goal of sin, and places in the body all the ego’s faith that this goal of sin can be accomplished. 3 The ego’s sad disciples, who are those under the egoic thought system, chant the body's praise continually, in solemn celebration of the ego's rule. 4 Not one but must believe that yielding to the attraction of guilt is the escape from pain. 5 Not one of the ego’s disciples but must regard the body as himself, without which he would die, and yet within which is his death equally inevitable.

Note # 71: To follow the logic of the egoic thought system only leads to belief in pain and, ultimately, death. Belief in the separation is the belief and desire for sin, guilt and fear. The wages of the ego’s belief in sin is death. Believe that you are the body and you deny your divine birthright. The ego tells you that you are the body, yet its thought system is powerless to protect your new home from the ego’s attacks. In secrecy, the ego plots for your destruction.

T-19.IV.B.17. It is not given to the ego's disciples to realize that they have dedicated themselves to death. 2 Freedom is offered the ego's disciples but those who follow the egoic thought system have not accepted the Holy Spirit’s offer of freedom, and what is offered must also be received, to be truly given. 3 For the Holy Spirit, too, is a communication medium, receiving from the Father and offering the Father’s messages unto the Son. 4 Like the ego, the Holy Spirit is both the sender and the receiver. 5 For what is sent through the Holy Spirit returns to the Holy Spirit, seeking itself along the way, and finding what it seeks. 6 So does the ego find the death <it> seeks, returning death to you.

Note # 72: The Holy Spirit sends out the Father’s message of the Atonement. But to receive the message, we must also be willing to send this same message. When we refuse to send the message of the guiltlessness of our brother, we refuse to accept the Atonement for ourselves. By projecting the messages of sin, guilt, fear and hate to our brother, we get to keep these same limitations within our split-mind. The Holy Spirit cannot force us to accept the Atonement. It must be freely accepted by each one of us.

C. The Third Obstacle: The Attraction of Death

T-19.IV.C.1. To you and your brother, in whose special relationship the Holy Spirit entered, the egoic special relationship has now been made holy and is given to release and be released from the egoic dedication to death. 2 For death was offered you in the egoic special relationship, and you accepted death. 3 Yet you must learn still more about this strange devotion to death, for your devotion and attraction to death contains the third obstacle that peace must flow across. 4 No one can die unless he chooses death. 5 What seems to be the fear of death is really death’s attraction. 6 Guilt, too, is feared and fearful. 7 Yet guilt could have no hold at all except on those who are
attracted to guilt and seek guilt out. 8 And so it is with death. 9 Made by the ego, death’s dark shadow falls across all living things, because the ego is the "enemy" of life.

**Note # 73:** All events are merely neutral learning devices. There is no perceived experience that cannot be transformed from a thought of fear to one of love. Every perception comes out of these two emotions. What you believe yourself to be will determine which thought system you will follow. Are you unlimited spirit, united in the Mind of God? Or, do you perceive yourself to be a limited ego-body, identified as the body? We are currently followers of the egoic thought system. ACIM’s goal is to convert us into followers of the Holy Spirit, which is the Christ hidden deep within our sleeping minds. Following the ego is a decision to be “right” rather than to be happy. Death is the final defense that “proves” the ego is right when it claims that we are separate from God. The body’s death is the ego’s ultimate proof that we are not the eternal One Self. Death “proves” that your will and God’s Will cannot be the same.

**T-19.IV.C.2.** And yet a shadow cannot kill. 2 What is a shadow to the living? 3 The living but walk past and the shadow is gone. 4 But what of those whose dedication is not to live. These are those who follow the thought system of the ego and, therefore, identify themselves as the body separate from the One Self; the black-draped "sinners," the ego's mournful chorus, plodding so heavily away from life, dragging their chains and marching in the slow procession that honors their grim master, the ego, who is lord of death? p416 5 Touch any one of them who believe they are the body with the gentle hands of forgiveness, and watch the chains fall away, along with your chains. 6 See him, who believed he was the body, throw aside the black robe he was wearing to his funeral, and hear him laugh at death. 7 The sentence sin would lay upon him, who believed he was the body, can be escape through your forgiveness. 8 This, your ability to forgive the illusion of sin and thus, offering salvation to your brother, is no arrogance. 9 Your ability to forgive the illusion of sin and thus, offering salvation to your brother is the Will of God. 10 What is impossible to you who chose God’s Will as your will? 11 What is death to you who have united in God’s Will? 12 Your dedication is not to death, nor to its master, the egoic thought system of separation. 13 When you accepted the Holy Spirit’s purpose in place of the ego’s purpose, you renounced death, exchanging death for life. 14 We know that an idea leaves not its source. 15 And death is the result of the thought we call the ego, as surely as life is the result of the Thought of God.

**Note # 74:** Death is the logical outcome of the choice for separation. Separation is the belief that there is something other than the Will of God. It is the idea that we could be something other than as God created us. Separation is the doubting that creation is extension and that somehow we could be something other than perfect, whole and complete. It is the request to be special: To be something other than the Oneness. Before the moment that the Sonship thought this desire and identified himself as separate from his Source, the Creator placed within us the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the communication medium, receiving from the Father and offering the Father’s messages unto the Son. The Holy Spirit’s purpose is to reawaken our sleeping mind’s Christ consciousness that is hidden within our split-mind. The
remembrance of God is merely a choice away. The decision-maker must freely choose to be a conduit for the Voice of God. God created the Sonship as a thought of God to be a conduit for love. While in the world of perception and time, love is the creative process in which time is utilized to awaken sleeping minds to their spiritual magnificence of the One Self. This is the function of the Holy Spirit. When we accept the guidance of the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we become the conduit for the Holy Spirit’s achievement of the Sonship’s return to the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. By our acceptance, our brother is also granted his salvation.

**i. The Incorruptible Body**

T-19.IV.C.3. From the ego came sin and guilt and death, in opposition to life and innocence, and to the Will of God Himself. 2 Where can such opposition to the Will of God lie but in the sick minds of the insane, dedicated to egoic madness and set against the peace of Heaven? 3 One thing is sure; God, Who created neither sin nor death, wills not that you be bound by neither sin nor death. 4 God knows of neither sin nor sin’s results, which is death. 5 The shrouded figures in the funeral procession march not in honor of their Creator, Whose Will it is they live. 6 They, who have identified themselves as the body and follow the thought system of the ego, are not following God’s Will; they are opposing God’s Will.

**Note # 75:** God’s Will is unchangeable. Nothing can change God’s Will, which declares that creation is the extension of God, Herself. The ego can deny the truth, but this does not change the truth. Truth, which is God’s Will, just is. Although the ego can desire the specialness of separation, this wish, if possible, could only bring with it the illusion of death. For God is life. To be separate from God or Life would be to be dead. As long as we choose to value specialness, we will also believe and value death. The illusion of separation, its specialness from the One Self and death are inseparable.

T-19.IV.C.4. And what is the black-draped body they who identified themselves with the thought system of the ego would bury? 2 A body which they who identified themselves with the ego have dedicated to death is a symbol of corruption, a sacrifice to sin, offered to sin to feed upon and keep itself alive; a thing condemned, damned by its egoic maker and lamented by every mourner who looks upon the body as himself. 3 You who believe you have condemned the Son of God to this belief that you are the body are arrogant. 4 But you who would release him from the mistake that he is the body are but honoring the Will of his Creator. 5 The arrogance of sin, the pride of guilt, the sepulchre of separation, all are part of your unrecognized dedication to death. 6 The glitter of guilt you laid upon the body would kill the body. 7 For what the ego loves, which is the body, the ego kills for the body’s obedience to the ego. 8 But what obeys the ego not, the ego cannot kill.

**Note # 76:** Although we might speak of the body as a follower of the ego, the body is really just an order taker for the mind. Ultimately, it is the mind’s decision-maker that must decide which thought system he will follow. If we choose for specialness and
separation, we have sided with the ego and will believe that we are the body. But since we are the decision-maker, we can choose again. We also tend to speak as if the ego had an independent existence outside ourselves. The ego is that part of the mind that wanted to be special. The ego is that part of the mind that wanted to experience what it would be like to be something that it was not; to be something other than God, the One Self. The Sonship, like the Creator, being only love, could not be anything but love. The egoic mind could and does pretend that fear, love’s opposite, can exist. In Heaven, only love is real. In the ego’s world of perception, conflict is possible and both love and fear appear to be viable choices.

T-19.IV.C.5. You have another dedication that would keep the body incorruptible and perfect as long as the body is useful for your holy purpose, which is the following of the Holy Spirit’s thought system to return the Sonship to the truth of the One Self. p417

2 The body no more dies than the body can feel. 3 The body does nothing. 4 Of itself the body is neither corruptible nor incorruptible. 5 The body is nothing. 6 The body is the result of a tiny, mad egoic idea of corruption that can be corrected. 7 For God has answered this insane idea with His Own, which is the Holy Spirit and the Atonement; an Answer which left Him, the Christ not, and therefore brings the Creator to the awareness of every mind which heard God’s Answer and accepted God’s Answer.

Note # 77: God’s answer for the mad idea of the separation is the Atonement principle. The Atonement principle states that God’s creation remains as God created him. That the separation had no reality within the Mind of God and, therefore, God’s Son remains innocent, sinless and guiltless. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for God that carries this message. The home of the Holy Spirit is our Christ consciousness. It is this Christ conscious part of the mind that never forgets what we are. The body is a neutral communication device that can serve either the voice for love or fear. The decision-maker must decide where he will place his allegiance. The choice is between truth and illusion, oneness or separation.

T-19.IV.C.6. You who are dedicated to the incorruptible, which is the truth of the One Self, have been given through your acceptance of the Holy Spirit’s thought system, the power to release from corruption. 2 What better way to teach the first and fundamental principle in a course on miracles than by showing you the one principle in ACIM that seems to be the hardest can be accomplished first? 3 The body can but serve your purpose. 4 As you look on the body, so will the body seem to be. 5 Death, were death true, would be the final and complete disruption of communication, which is the ego's goal.

Note # 78: In Chapter One of ACIM, the first principle was stated, as “There is no order of difficulty in miracles One is not “harder” or “bigger” than another. They are all the same. All expressions of love are maximal.” The Holy Spirit utilizes the body to be a communication device through which It can teach only forgiveness and love to the sleeping Child of God. The fundamental principle of ACIM is: “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists.” Miracles have no order of difficulty since the correction is always the same. Bring truth to illusion and the false will disappear.
T-19.IV.C.7. Those who fear death, those who see themselves as the ego-body, see not how often and how loudly they call to death, and bid death come to save them from communication. 2 For death is seen as safety, the great dark savior from the light of truth, the answer to the Answer of the Atonement, the silencer of the Voice that speaks for God, the Holy Spirit. 3 Yet the retreat to death is not the end of conflict. 4 Only God's Answer of the Atonement is its end of the conflict of separation. 5 The obstacle of your seeming love for death that peace must flow across seems to be very great. 6 For in your seeming love for death lie hidden all the ego's secrets, all the ego's strange devices for deception, all the ego's sick ideas and weird imaginings. 7 Here in the death of the body is the final end of union, the triumph of the ego's making over creation, the victory of lifelessness on Life Itself.

Note # 79: If our ego fears that the Voice for God is about to be heard, our decision-maker may choose to “pull the plug” and die rather than accept the fact that the ego was wrong and did not know what we were. We fear losing our egoic specialness by joining and accepting the Oneness. To side for separation is to vote to follow the guidance of the ego. To the ego, the ultimate proof that the separation is real is its belief in death. If you are the body, you must die. This proves that the ego has triumphed over the Will of God. Through the death of the body, which the ego claims is you; the ego has changed the changeless Son of God. We are no longer an eternal, shared Oneness of the Mind of God. Instead, we have an existence and a will that is different from God’s.

T-19.IV.C.8. Under the dusty edge of its distorted world, the ego would lay the Son of God, slain by the ego’s orders, proof in his decay that God Himself is powerless before the ego's might, unable to protect the life that God created against the ego's savage wish to kill. 2 My brother, child of our Father, this is an egoic dream of death. 3 There is no funeral, no dark altars, no grim commandments nor twisted rituals of condemnation to which the body leads you. 4 Ask not release of this egoic dream of death. 5 But free this egoic dream of death from the merciless and unrelenting orders you laid upon the body, and forgive the body what you ordered the body to do. 6 In the ego’s exaltation you commanded the body to die, for only death could conquer life. 7 And what but insanity could look upon the defeat of God, and think the defeat of God real?

Note # 80: Being unlimited spirit, we are eternal. It is only through our belief that we are the body, can we appear to die. We need to free ourselves from the entire thought system of the ego if this egoic dream of death is to disappear. The Holy Spirit’s thought system will lead us from this illusionary dream of separation back to the truth. ACIM tell us not to pray for death’s release since that would make the illusion of death appear real. Instead, it suggests freeing ourselves from the dream of death by bring the false before the light of truth. This will return our mind to sanity.

T-19.IV.C.9. The fear of death will go as death’s appeal is yielded to love's real attraction. 2 The end of sin, which nestles quietly in the safety of your holy relationship, protected by your union with your brother, and ready to grow into a mighty force for God is very near. p418 3 The infancy of salvation is carefully guarded by love, preserved from
every thought that would attack the infancy of salvation, and quietly made ready to fulfill the mighty task for which it was given you. 4 Your newborn purpose is nursed by angels, cherished by the Holy Spirit and protected by God Himself. 5 The infancy of salvation needs not your egocic protection; salvation is yours. 6 For salvation is deathless, and within salvation’s end of sin lies the end of death.

Note # 81: When we ask the Holy Spirit to reinterpret our misperception, our Christ conscious center begins to awaken. Each time we choose for the Holy Spirit, we weaken fear’s grip on our mind and start to reopen our sleeping mind to the power of love and forgiveness. By adopting the thought system of truth and love, we become an instrument for salvation. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we grant forgiveness from sin and guilt to our brother and ourselves. We hear the Voice for God. We allow the body to be used by the Holy Spirit to communicate and teach only love. Our special relationships are transformed into holy ones. With the transformation of sin into a mistake that only requires correction, God’s Son accepts the truth that he remains sinless and guiltless. His divine birthright is reclaimed.

T-19.IV.C.10. What danger can assail the wholly innocent? 2 What can attack the guiltless? 3 What fear can enter and disturb the peace of sinlessness? 4 What has been given you, your Christ consciousness, even in its infancy, is in full communication with God and you. 5 In its tiny hands the Christ holds, in perfect safety, every miracle you will perform, held out to you. 6 The miracle of life is ageless, born in time but nourished in eternity. 7 Behold this infant, the Christ, to whom you gave a resting place by your forgiveness of your brother, and see in it the Will of God. 8 Here is the babe of Bethlehem reborn. 9 And everyone who gives the Christ shelter will follow the Christ, not to the cross, but to the resurrection and the life.

Note # 82: The Christ consciousness was created as the extension of God and always remains in union with the Mind of God. God is life. When we reawaken from the egoic thought system to the truth, we reclaim our divine birthright and exchange the dream of nothingness for the reality of Heaven. Nothing the ego does can disturb the Christ within us.

T-19.IV.C.11. When anything seems to you to be a source of fear, when any situation strikes you with terror and makes your body tremble and the cold sweat of fear comes over your body, remember it is always for one reason; the ego has perceived your body as a symbol of fear, a sign of sin and death. 2 Remember, then, that neither sign nor symbol should be confused with source, for both sign and symbol must stand for something other than themselves. 3 The meaning of a sign or a symbol cannot lie in them, but must be sought in what the sign or symbol represent. 4 And the sign or symbol may thus mean everything or nothing, according to the truth or falsity of the idea which they reflect. 5 Confronted with such seeming uncertainty of meaning, judge the sign or symbol not. 6 Remember the holy Presence of the One given to you to be the Source of judgment, which is the Holy Spirit. 7 Give the sign or symbol to the Holy Spirit to judge for you, and say:
8 Holy Spirit take this sign or symbol from me and look upon it, judging the sign or symbol for me.
9 Let me not see it as a sign of sin and death, nor use the sign or symbol for destruction.
10 Teach me how not to make of the sign or symbol an obstacle to peace, but let You, the Holy Spirit use the sign or symbol for me, to facilitate peace’s coming. p419

Note # 83: The world of perception is a world of form. Although thought forms can take various shapes all of which appear to be unique and different from one another, the content is limited to two “frequencies”. The content will either be truth or illusion, love or fear. It cannot be both. The ego tells us that the form is what matters. The ego, which is a judging machine, decides how to respond based on its interpretation to the form, not the content. Content is of little concern to the ego. The form is only a sign or symbol for the underlying thought, which is the content. The content or thought will be coming from the emotion of either love or fear. The Holy Spirit is concerned with content, not form. When the ego focuses on the form, it will see attack. The Holy Spirit’s focus, however, will be on the content and It will see only a cry for love. Because we have forgotten knowledge and have chosen to perceive based on egoic past misperceptions, we are unable to judge correctly. ACIM tells us to reject the egoic thought system, to judge nothing. ACIM, instead, suggests that we request the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will look past the form to the content, and teach only forgiveness and love. This will lead to truth, which is the Peace of God.

D. The Fourth Obstacle: The Fear of God

T-19.IV.D.1. What would you see without the fear of death? 2 What would you feel and think if death held no attraction for you? 3 Very simply, you would remember your Father. 4 The Creator of life, the Source of everything that lives, the Father of the universe and of the universe of universes, and of everything that lies even beyond the universes would you remember. 5 And as this memory of the Father rises in your mind, peace must still surmount a final obstacle to peace, which is the fear of God, after which is salvation completed, and the Son of God entirely restored to sanity. 6 For here with the Sonship’s return to sanity your world <does> end.

Note # 84: With the removal of all the obstacles to peace, we will return to the remembrance of God. This remembrance of God is simply the return to whole mindedness. This is the end of egoic desires to be something other than the extension of God.

T-19.IV.D.2. The fourth obstacle to peace, the fear of God, to be surmounted hangs like a heavy veil before the face of Christ. 2 Yet as Christ’s face rises beyond the final obstacle to peace, shining with joy because Christ is in His Father's Love, peace will lightly brush the veil aside and run to meet Christ, and to join with Christ at last. 3 For this dark veil of the fear of God, which seems to make the face of Christ Himself like to a leper’s, and the bright Rays of His Father's Love that light Christ’s face with glory appear as streams of blood, fades in the blazing light beyond it when the fear of death is
T-19.IV.D.3. This **fear of God** is the darkest veil, upheld by the belief in death and protected by **death's** attraction. 2 The dedication to death and to **death's** sovereignty is but the solemn vow, the promise made in secret to the ego never to lift this veil of **our dedication to death**, not to approach it, nor even to suspect that **our dedication to death** is there. 3 This is the secret bargain made with the ego to keep what lies beyond the **dedication to death's** veil forever blotted out and unremembered. 4 Here is your promise never to allow union to call you out of separation; **our fear of God** is the great amnesia in which the memory of God seems quite forgotten; the cleavage of your Self, the **Christ**, from you; – <**the fear of God,**> the final step in your dissociation.

T-19.IV.D.4. See how the belief in death would seem to "save" you. 2 For if this **belief in death** were gone, what could you fear but life? 3 It is the attraction of death that makes life seem to be ugly, cruel and tyrannical. 4 You are no more afraid of death than of the ego. 5 **Death and the ego** are your chosen friends. 6 For in your secret alliance with **death and the ego** you have agreed never to let the fear of God be lifted, so you could look upon the face of Christ and join **Christ** in His Father.

T-19.IV.D.5. Every obstacle that peace must flow across is surmounted in just the same way; the fear that raised the **obstacle to peace** yields to the love beyond, and so the fear is gone. 2 And so it is with this **final obstacle to peace.** 3 The desire to get rid of peace and drive the Holy Spirit from you fades in the presence of the quiet recognition that you love **Christ and the Holy Spirit that abides in the Christ.** p420 4 The exaltation of the body is given up in favor of the spirit, which you love as you could never love the body. 5 And the appeal of death is lost forever as love's attraction stirs and calls to you. 6 From beyond each of the obstacles to love, **Love Itself, which is God,** has called. 7 And each **obstacle** has been surmounted by the power of the attraction of **God's Love that lies**
beyond. 8 Your wanting fear seemed to be holding the obstacle to peace in place. 9 Yet when you heard the Voice of Love beyond the obstacle to peace, you answered and the obstacle to peace disappeared.

Note # 88: Ultimately, it is the remembrance of God that allows us to overcome our belief in the egoic thought system. When the “mad idea” of the separation first occurred, the Christ conscious part of our mind never forgot what we were. The Christ Consciousness is the home of the Holy Spirit and the Father. It is the Holy Spirit’s function to return the small egoic element of the now split-mind to right-mindedness. Throughout this journey back to the Oneness, the Love of God calls for the removal of all barriers that the ego has placed to block the remembrance of God. These barriers to love are the ego’s thought system. The Holy Spirit reactivates the Vision of Christ through the guidance of Its thought system. With the return of Christ Vision, we look past the form of the body and once again see our unlimited spirit, which is the Oneness.

T-19.IV.D.6. And now you stand in terror before what you swore never to look upon, the face of Christ. 2 Your eyes look down, remembering your promise to your "friends", who are death, sin, guilt, fear and the ego 3 The "loveliness" of sin, the delicate appeal of guilt, the "holy" waxen image of death, and the fear of vengeance of the ego you swore in blood not to desert, all rise and bid you not to raise your eyes. 4 For you realize that if you look on the face of Christ and let the veil of the fear of God be lifted, <death, sin, guilt, fear and the ego> will be gone forever. 5 All of your egoic "friends," your egoic "protectors" and your egoic "home" will vanish. 6 Nothing that you remember now will you remember.

Note # 89: There is no middle ground for compromise. Either you vote for the thought system of the ego or the Holy Spirit’s. ACIM aims to remove all obstacles to love that the ego has placed to hide the truth. If we remove these veils of illusion, we will recover our decision-making abilities. With the return to Christ Vision, the decision-maker will choose again. This time, we will cast your vote for the thought system of the Holy Spirit. This is the vote for the remembrance of God. The world of the ego will fade away into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-19.IV.D.7. It seems to you the world will utterly abandon you if you but raise your eyes to see the face of Christ. 2 Yet all that will occur is you will leave the egoic world of misperception forever. 3 This is the re-establishment of <your> will. 4 Look upon the re-establishment of <your> will, open-eyed, and you will nevermore believe that you are at the mercy of things beyond you, forces you cannot control, and thoughts that come to you against your will. 5 It <is> your will to look upon the re-establishment of <your> will. 6 No mad desire, no trivial impulse to forget again, no stab of fear nor the cold sweat of seeming death can stand against your will. 7 For what attracts you from beyond the veil is also deep within you, unseparated from <your> will and completely one with your will. The re-establishment of <your> will is the return to the One Will, which is the Will of God.

Note # 90: A major goal of ACIM is to reestablish the decision-making part of our mind.
By following the egoic thought system, we have fallen into victim consciousness. Until we can recover our decision-maker, we will not choose again. The removal of the obstacles to the truth, which is the egoic thought system, is needed for the return to knowledge. By controlling our fears, we can ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This guidance, when followed, will reawaken the sleeping Christ. Once reawakened, we will realize that our will and God’s Will are One. We will freely choose to join the Mind of God. We will accept the truth and forget all illusion. We will be “Christed”.

**i. The Lifting of the Veil**

T-19.IV.D.8. Forget not that you came this far together, you and your brother. 2 And it was surely not the ego that led you here this far. 3 No obstacle to peace can be surmounted through the ego’s help. 4 The ego does not open up the ego’s secrets, and bid you look on the ego’s secrets and go beyond the ego’s secrets. 5 The ego would not have you see the ego’s weakness, and learn the ego has no power to keep you from the truth. 6 The Guide, the Holy Spirit, Who brought you here remains with you, and when you raise your eyes you will be ready to look on terror with no fear at all. 7 But first, lift up your eyes and look on your brother in innocence born of complete forgiveness of your brother’s illusions, and through the eyes of faith, which is the Vision of Christ, that sees not your brother’s illusions. p421

**Note # 91:** The ego’s goal is to keep us in victim consciousness. The ego has no desire for us to question the logic, effectiveness or results that are obtained when we follow the egoic thought system. By its fruits, you shall know it and the thought system of the ego only produces pain and suffering. The ego that knows nothing, can teach us nothing. Only by following a new plan that is based on the truth of our unlimited spiritual nature can we escape the pain that the ego offers. The egoic thought system is based on the belief in limitation and competition. To win, someone must lose. To the ego, life is a zero-sum game. Yet, the Law of God states that what we give, we receive. We must first see our brother as something other than a sinful body if we are to rediscover the innocence of God’s Children. God’s Child is sinless and guiltless. We need to look with the vision of Christ, past our brother’s body-form, and see only the spiritual essence of his Big “S” Self. As long as we perceive the body as our brother, we will continue to value egoic specialness and death.

T-19.IV.D.9. No one can look upon the fear of God unterrified, unless he has accepted the Atonement and learned illusions are not real. 2 No one can stand before this obstacle of the fear of God alone, for he could not have reached this far on the journey back to the return to knowledge unless his brother walked beside him. 3 And no one would dare to look upon his own fear of God without complete forgiveness of his brother in his heart. 4 Stand you here a while and tremble not. 5 You will be ready. 6 Let us join together in a holy instant, here in this place where the purpose, given in a holy instant, which is the return to truth, has led you. 7 And let us join in faith that the Holy Spirit, Who brought us here together will offer you the innocence you need, and that you will accept the truth of your innocence and guiltlessness for my love and the Holy Spirit’s love.
Note # 92: Until we can offer our brother forgiveness for all the wrongs that we thought he did to us, we do not understand how we use projection to hide the truth about who is the true source of our personal world of perception. Forgiveness exchanges our victim consciousness thinking to responsibility thinking. We accept the truth about the power of our mind. We reclaim our decision-maker. It is the decision-maker, which allowed the ego to make up a world of falseness that appears so real that we have chosen to abandon the truth about ourselves. We wanted to be the arbitrators of truth. We misperceived what we knew to be the truth in order to make a false world that conforms to our egoic dreams of specialness. The egoic thought system has converted a God of Love, into an egoic god of fear. As long as we look upon our brother through the egoic eyes of sin, guilt and fear, we will be afraid to look upon God. This fear of God arose not out of reality of truth but rather out of how we choose to misperceive our brother. In our dream of separation, we perceive everyone, including ourselves to be a sinner. When we seek revenge upon our brother, we expect that the god of fear will also demand revenge upon us since we see ourselves as also “sinful”. When we forgive, we join in union with our brother. In this joining, we are never alone. When we see our brother as sinless and guiltless, we also realize that there is no reason to fear the true God of Love.

T-19.IV.D.10. Nor is it possible to look on this too soon. 2 This holy instant is the place to which everyone must come when he is ready. 3 Once he has found his brother he <is> ready. 4 Yet merely to reach the place is not enough. 5 A journey without a purpose is still meaningless, and even when the journey is over a journey without a purpose seems to make no sense. 6 How can you know that the journey is over unless you realize the journey’s purpose is accomplished? 7 Here, with the journey’s end before you, you <see> the journey’s purpose. 8 And it is here you choose whether to look upon the journey’s purpose or wander on, only to return and make the choice again.

Note # 93: Unless we know the destinations, we cannot know when we have arrived. The journey’s purpose is the end of the illusion of separation and thus, the return to the truth of what we are, a Oneness. Unless we adopt the Holy Spirit’s purpose for this journey, which was to rediscover the truth, we may fail to realize that we have arrived. As long as we insist on the specialness of separation, we will be drawn back into egoic thinking and asked at a later date to choose again. The journey will not end until we freely accept that our will and our Creator’s Will are One. Than we realize that there is but One Self and we are “That One”. We will realize that the prodigal son has returned and our great adventure of pretending that we could not know ourselves is over. Our mission to rediscover what we are has been accomplished.

T-19.IV.D.11. To look upon the fear of God does need some preparation. 2 Only the sane can look on stark insanity and raving madness with pity and compassion, but not with fear. 3 For only if the sane share in the insane illusion does the illusion seem fearful, and you do share in the insane illusion until you look upon your brother with perfect faith and love and tenderness. 4 Before complete forgiveness you still stand unforgiving. 5 You are afraid of God <because> you fear your brother. 6 Those you do not forgive you fear. 7 And no one reaches love with fear beside him.
Note # 94: When we see our brother as sinful, we have made the illusion appear real in our own minds. This is our acknowledgment that we believe that we can make the false, true and the truth, false. This is the definition of insanity. If we choose to keep one brother trapped in this insanity, we also imprison ourselves. We still believe there is something that we must fear. Fear and love cannot co-exist. They are mutually exclusive. We cannot serve two masters. We must choose between the ego and the Holy Spirit’s thought system. There is no other choice.

T-19.IV.D.12. This brother who stands beside you still seems to be a stranger. 2 You do not know your brother, and your interpretation of your brother as a stranger is very fearful. 3 And you attack your brother still, to keep what seems to be yourself unharmed. 4 Yet in your brother’s hands is your salvation. 5 You see your brother’s madness, which you hate because you share your brother’s madness. 6 And all the pity and forgiveness that would heal you and your brother’s madness gives way to fear. 7 Brother, you need forgiveness of your brother, for you will share in madness or in Heaven together. 8 And you and your brother will raise your eyes in faith together, or not at all.

Note # 95: As long as we see our brother as a limited ego-body, we will perceive ourselves that same way. We must have faith that our brother is unlimited spirit. By looking past the form, we can see the Christ in all. The Holy Spirit, if allowed, will never fail to verify that your faith in the Christ was not misplaced.

T-19.IV.D.13. Beside you is one who offers you the chalice of Atonement, for the Holy Spirit is in your brother. 2 Would you hold your brother’s sins against him, or accept your brother’s gift of the chalice of Atonement to you? 3 Is this giver of salvation your friend or enemy? p422 4 Choose which your brother is, remembering that you will receive of your brother as friend or enemy according to your choice. 5 Your brother has in him the power to forgive your sin, as you have the power for the forgiveness of your brother’s sins. 6 Neither can give the forgiveness of sin to himself alone. 7 And yet your savior stands beside each one. 8 Let your brother be what he is, your savior, and seek not to make of love an enemy.

Note # 96: How we perceive our brother is how we perceive ourselves. Thoughts do not leave their source. If we project sin, guilt and fear upon our brother, we get to keep sin, guilt and fear. Grant or project forgiveness upon your brother and you get to keep forgiveness. Project the happy dream upon your brother and you get the happy dream. What we perceive becomes our reality. Thoughts are and become our experiences for perception follows our purpose.

T-19.IV.D.14. Behold your Friend, the Christ Who stands beside you. 2 How holy and how beautiful your brother, the Christ is! 3 You thought your brother, the Christ sinned because you cast the veil of sin upon Him to hide your brother, the Christ’s loveliness. 4 Yet still your brother, the Christ holds forgiveness out to you, to share your brother, the Christ’s Holiness. 5 This "enemy," this "stranger" still offers you
salvation as His Friend. 6 The "enemies" of Christ, the worshippers of sin, know not Whom they attack.

Note # 97: The enemies of Christ are whose who are under the temporary influence of the egoic thought system. It is the voice of the ego that blocks our ability to hear the Voice for Christ, which is the Holy Spirit.

T-19.IV.D.15. This is your brother, the Christ, crucified by sin and waiting for release from pain. 2 Would you not offer your brother forgiveness, when only your brother can offer forgiveness to you? 3 For your brother’s redemption your brother will give you your redemption, as surely as God created every living thing and loves it. 4 And your brother will give redemption truly, for redemption will be both offered and received. 5 There is no grace of Heaven that you cannot offer to your brother, and receive from your most holy Friend. 6 Let your brother withhold redemption not, for by receiving redemption you offer redemption to him. 7 And your brother will receive of you what you received of your brother. 8 Redemption has been given you to give your brother, and thus receive redemption. 9 Whom you forgive is free, and what you give you share. 10 Forgive the sins your brother thinks he has committed, and all the guilt you think you see in your brother.

Note # 98: ACIM tell us to forgive both the sins that we believe our brother committed plus the sin your brother believes he committed. It is for both our own misperception and our brother’s misperceptions about himself that we offer and grant forgiveness. If we only forgave our own misperceptions, we would be acquiescing to our brother’s belief that sin is possible, thus making sin real. The Atonement states that sin is impossible. God’s Son is sinless and guiltless. There are no exceptions. To allow a brother to wallow in his personal self-guilt is to deny him his innocence, which is his redemption. This denial of our brother’s redemption, in turn, denies our own. Sin cannot be impossible for us yet possible for our brother. We all share the same Mind of God. The Vision of Christ looks pass all notions of sin since all notions are equally false. Just as there are no degrees to truth, there are no degrees of the false. The truth is true and the false is false. There is no partial truth or partial lies.

T-19.IV.D.16. Here is the holy place of resurrection, to which we come again; to which we will return until redemption is accomplished and received. 2 Think who your brother is, before you would condemn your brother. 3 And offer thanks to God that your brother is holy, and has been given the gift of holiness for you. 4 Join your brother in gladness, and remove all trace of guilt from your brother’s disturbed and tortured mind. 5 Help your brother to lift the heavy burden of sin you laid upon your brother and he accepted as his own sin and guilt, and toss sin and guilt lightly and with happy laughter away from your brother. 6 Press sin and guilt not like thorns against your brother’s brow, nor nail him to sin and guilt, unredeemed and hopeless.

Note # 99: The holy place of redemption is the altar for truth. By only valuing truth, not the false, are we redeemed. Truth is changeless and universal. If we are sinless, so must our brother be. For if any part of a Oneness is impure, so must the Oneness be impure.
This is not the Will of the True God of Love. We are perfect, whole and complete. This is our divine inheritance, which cannot be lost, although we can forget where we place it. The world of perceptions’ sinfulness was born when we forgot to laugh. That same world will disappear when we learn to laugh at the very notion that sin was ever thought possible.

T-19.IV.D.17. Give faith to your brother, for faith and hope and mercy are yours to give. 2 Into the hands that give, the gifts of faith and hope and mercy are given. 3 Look on your brother, and see in your brother the gift of God you would receive. 4 It is almost Easter, the time of resurrection. 5 Let us give redemption to each other and share in the redemption that we may rise as one in resurrection, not separate in death. 6 Behold the gift of freedom that I gave the Holy Spirit for you. 7 And be you and your brother free together, as you offer to the Holy Spirit this same gift of redemption. p423 8 And giving the gift of redemption, receive it of the Holy Spirit in return for what you gave. 9 The Holy Spirit leadeth you and me together, that we might meet here in this holy place, and make the same decision.

Note # 100: When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, the entire Sonship benefits. We are a shared Oneness of the Mind of God. As such, we are an integral facet of the indivisible holographic One Self that is the Mind of God.

T-19.IV.D.18. Free your brother here in your world of perception, as I freed you. 2 Give your brother the selfsame gift, nor look upon your brother with condemnation of any kind. 3 See your brother as guiltless as I look on you, and overlook the sins your brother thinks he sees within himself. 4 Offer your brother freedom and complete release from sin, here in the garden of seeming agony and death. 5 So will we prepare together the way unto the resurrection of God's Son, and let your brother rise again to glad remembrance of his Father, Who knows no sin, no death, but only life eternal.

Note # 101: Again we are interconnected. The Law of God states, “That to give, is to receive.” In the holographic Oneness of “All That Is”, each part contains the whole and the whole is in each part. We need to release our brother from our past egoic misperceptions and judgments and reclaim the vision of Christ for the entire Sonship. By doing so, we, the jailer of the Sonship, unlock our prison doors of limitation and all are free to remember God. We, the Christ, can all go home.

T-19.IV.D.19. Together we will disappear into the Presence beyond the veil of the fear of God, not to be lost but found; not to be seen but known. 2 And knowing, nothing in the plan God has established for salvation will be left undone. 3 This knowing that nothing in the plan God has established for salvation will be left undone is the journey's purpose, without which is the journey meaningless. There is only the Will of God. 4 Here is the peace of God, given to you eternally by God. 5 Here is the rest and quiet that you seek, the reason for the journey from its beginning. 6 Heaven is the gift you owe your brother, the debt of gratitude you offer to the Son of God in thanks for what your brother is, and what his Father created your brother to be.
Note # 102: The end of the journey is when the Sonship freely accepts the truth and rejects the false. There is only the Will of God. The prodigal Son has reclaimed his inheritance, which is the peace of God. God’s Will is that all creation share equally in the extension of God. Creation is extension. Creation is “to make happy”, “To make happy” is God’s shared Will for His Son.

T-19.IV.D.20. Think carefully how you would look upon your brother, the giver of this gift, as you look on your brother so will the gift itself appear to be. 2 As your brother is seen as either the giver of guilt or of salvation, so will your brother’s offering be seen and so received as either guilt or salvation. 3 The crucified give pain because the crucified are in pain. 4 But the redeemed give joy because the redeemed have been healed of pain. 5 Everyone gives as he receives, but he must choose what it will be that he receives, either guilt or salvation. 6 And he will recognize his choice for either guilt or salvation by what he gives, and what is given him. 7 Nor is it given anything in hell or Heaven to interfere with his decision.

Note # 103: Our own perception determines what we believe that we will receive and thus, give to a brother. If we follow the thought system of the ego, we will see sin, guilt and fear and will attack or believe that we have been attacked. If we have rejected the ego’s demand for specialness, littleness and separation, we will follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. With our brother, we will perceive all experiences as only love or a brother’s cry for love. We have been given the power as the decision-maker to decide what our perception will be. Due to free will, there is no power that can force us to accept one belief system over another. Although we cannot be forced into the acceptance of the truth, our denial of the truth does not change the truth. The truth remains eternally changeless. The Holy Spirit will wait patiently for our correct response. He only asks us to constantly choose again and again until we finally get it right. How long will it take before we decide to be happy rather than egoically “right”?

T-19.IV.D.21. You came this far because the journey was your choice. 2 And no one undertakes to do what he believes is meaningless. 3 What you had faith in still is faithful, and watches over you in faith so gentle yet so strong that what you have faith in would lift you far beyond the veil of the fear of God and place the Son of God safely within the sure protection of his Father. 4 Here in the remembrance of God is the only purpose that gives this world of perception and the long journey through this world of perception, whatever meaning lies in both the journey and this world of perception. 5 Beyond this purpose, the journey and the world of perception are meaningless. 6 You and your brother stand together, still without conviction that the journey and the world of perception have a purpose. 7 Yet it is given you to see this purpose in your holy Friend, the Holy Spirit, and recognize the purpose that the Holy Spirit utilizes the journey and this world of perception for as your own purpose, which is the remembrance of God. p424

Note # 104: The Holy Spirit has reinterpreted what the ego utilizes the world and this journey for. The ego purpose of this world of perception is to keep you apart from the Creator and thus, keep you apart from Truth. The world of perception was made to be a
place where God’s Love could not go. It is a place where God’s Son can play and pretend that he is something other than God’s Creation; that he is separate and special. The journey’s egoic purpose is to prevent our rediscovery of our decision-making ability. If our Big “S” Self recovered control of our decision-maker, we would have the opportunity to make a different choice. We could choose again. Thus, to the ego, the journey’s purpose is to keep our mind in victim consciousness.

The Holy Spirit utilizes this world of perception to reawaken the sleeping mind to its true magnificence. The goal of the journey is to reawaken our sleeping minds to the truth; to realize that, “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God.” Ultimately, the leap of faith that allows us to take this journey is the knowledge that God is only Love. The Christ keeps this knowledge within us and the Holy Spirit communicates this knowledge to us. We only need to quiet our egoic mind and ask for guidance Love is extension and God is our Source. God’s Effect must co-create with Its Cause. Thus, we are God’s completion and are completed by God, for we are a Oneness.
Chapter 20. THE VISION OF HOLINESS

I. Holy Week

T-20.I.1. This is Palm Sunday, the celebration of victory and the acceptance of the truth. 2 Let us not spend this holy week brooding on the crucifixion of God's Son, but happily in the celebration of God's Son's release. 3 For Easter is the sign of peace, not pain. 4 A slain Christ has no meaning. 5 But a risen Christ becomes the symbol of the Son of God's forgiveness on himself; the sign the Son of God looks upon himself as healed and whole.

Note # 1: Forgiveness opens the door to truth about our innocence, sinlessness and guiltlessness. Easter is a symbol for our reclamation of our divine inheritance. It is the Son of God's triumphant return from the illusionary world of perception to the real world of truth. Easter proves the sinlessness of God's Son.

T-20.I.2. This week begins with palms and ends with lilies, the white and holy sign the Son of God is innocent. 2 Let no dark sign of crucifixion intervene between the journey and the journey's purpose; between the acceptance of the truth and truth's expression. 3 This week we celebrate life, not death. 4 And we honor the perfect purity of the Son of God, and not his sins. 5 Offer your brother the gift of lilies, which represent innocence and forgiveness of your brother, not the crown of thorns, which represent belief in sin, and guilt of your brother; the gift of love and not the "gift" of fear. 6 You stand beside your brother, thorns in one hand and lilies in the other, uncertain which to give. 7 Join now with me and throw away the thorns of sin and guilt, offering the lilies of innocence and forgiveness to replace the thorns. 8 This Easter I would have the gift of your forgiveness offered by you to me, and returned by me to you. 9 We cannot be united in crucifixion and in death. 10 Nor can the resurrection, the return to truth, be complete till your forgiveness rests on Christ, along with mine.

Note # 2: To the ego, the crucifixion is the symbol that sin demands punishment and sacrifice. In ACIM Jesus states that the resurrection, not the crucifixion, was what was significant. The resurrection proves that death is not real and that we are not a limited ego-body. We are eternal Children of God, perfect, whole and complete. The resurrection marks the return to truth. It is the triumph of truth over illusion. When we choose to see your brother as a sinner, unworthy of forgiveness, we crucify our brother. When we choose to look upon a brother with the Vision of Christ, we forgive our brother and assist him in remembering what he truly is, a Child of God.

T-20.I.3. A week is short, and yet this holy week is the symbol of the whole journey the
Son of God has undertaken. 2 The Son of God started with the sign of victory, the promise of the resurrection, already given him. 3 Let your brother not wander into the temptation of crucifixion, and delay him there in egoic victim consciousness of sin and guilt. 4 Help him to go in peace beyond the egoic thought system, with the light of his own innocence lighting his way to his redemption and release. 5 Hold your brother not back with thorns and nails when your brother’s redemption is so near. 6 But let the whiteness of your shining gift of lilies, which represent innocence and forgiveness of your brother, speed your brother on his way to resurrection.

Note # 3: By utilizing the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we offer our brother forgiveness and love. By seeing through the eyes of Christ, we see our brother’s innocence and sinlessness. We witness for the light of truth, instead of the darkness of fear’s illusions. We no longer choose to witness for the thought system of the ego and separation.

T-20.I.4.Easter is not the celebration of the <cost> of sin, but of sins <end.> 2 If you see glimpses of the face of Christ behind the veil of illusion, looking between the snow-white petals of the lilies you have received and given as your gift, you will behold your brother's face and recognize the Christ in your brother. p425 3 I was a stranger and you took me in, not knowing who I was. 4 Yet for your gift of lilies you will know the Christ. 5 In your forgiveness of this stranger, alien to you and yet your ancient Friend, lies your brother’s release and your redemption with your brother, the Christ. 6 The time of Easter is a time of joy, and not of mourning. 7 Look on your risen Friend, the Christ in your brother, and celebrate your brother’s holiness along with me. 8 For Easter is the time of your salvation, along with mine.

Note # 4: By following the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we look past the bodily form of our brother. Instead of the perceived worldly actions of a brother, we see only love or a cry for love from that same brother. Our focus is on content, not form. In the holy instant, all past egoic judgments are suspended. This allows us to be in the <now> and see the Christ in our brother. Forgiveness now seems justified and is given. By seeing our brother as innocent and sinless, we acknowledge that we are also innocent and sinless. To give is to receive and we cannot give what we do not possess. We do not enter Heaven alone. We can only enter with our brother at our side, as one.

II. The Gift of Lilies

T-20.II.1.Look upon all the trinkets made to hang upon the body, or to cover the body or for the body’s use. 2 See all the useless things made for the body’s eyes to see. 3 Think on the many offerings made for the body’s pleasure, and remember all these were made to make seem lovely what you hate, which is the body. 4 Would you employ this hated thing to draw your brother to you, and to attract his body's eyes? 5 Learn you but offer him a crown of thorns, not recognizing the body for what the body is, and trying to justify your own interpretation of the body’s value by your brother’s acceptance of the
body as our essence’s home. 6 Yet still the gift of the body as being one’s essence proclaims your brother’s worthlessness to you, as your brother’s acceptance and delight of your egoic gift of the body being one’s essence acknowledges the lack of value your brother places on himself.

Note # 5: The body is the ego’s symbol of the separation. The body “proves” that you are limited, sinful and guilty. Thus, you deserve punishment. When we identify ourselves as the body, we are living under the control of the egoic thought system. What we value is what we believe we are. When we value and identify with the body, we deny our spirituality, which is our divine birthright. While we walk on this earth, we should tend to the needs of the body so that it can serve as our neutral communication device though which we teach and be only love. ACIM acknowledges the need to keep the body in “good working order” so that we can communicate with our brother. Once the body’s purpose has been completed, we will release the body. We are not the body, but rather unlimited spirit having a temporary earthly experience. We may appear to be in the body, but we are not of the body. The goal of egoic thinking is to get our mind to believe that it is the body. If the mind perceives itself as the body, it must also accept all the limitations that came with that vehicle. When we see our brother as a body or accept our brother’s belief that he is the body, we limit and negate his true spiritual essence. When we do this, we also limit and condemn ourselves to the body-form.

T-20.II.2. Gifts are not made through bodies, if gifts be truly given and received. 2 For bodies can neither offer nor accept gifts; hold out nor take gifts. 3 Only the mind can value, and only the mind decides on what the mind would receive and give. 4 And every gift the mind offers depends on what the mind wants. 5 The mind will adorn its chosen home most carefully, making the mind’s chosen home ready to receive the gifts the mind wants by offering gifts the mind wants to those who come unto the mind’s chosen home, or those it would attract to the mind’s chosen home. 6 And there these minds will exchange their gifts, offering and receiving what their minds judge to be worthy of them.

Note # 6: What we value, we will perceive. Perceptions always follow the purpose of our thoughts. Our mind’s chosen home can be either the body or the Christ consciousness. If we value specialness, the need to be right and separation, we will see our chosen home as the ego-body. If we value truth, love and union with the Oneness, we will choose the same home as the Holy Spirit, which is our Christ center. Based on how we view ourselves, we will give and receive the gifts of either the earthly body or the gifts of the unlimited “soul.” We will see ourselves either as limited ego-bodies, in competition with other ego-bodies or as unlimited spirit, which being everything, gives everything. Our gifts will represent either truth or illusions.

T-20.II.3. Each gift is an evaluation of the receiver and the <giver.> 2 No one but sees his chosen home as an altar to himself. 3 No one but seeks to draw to his home’s altar the worshippers of what he placed upon his home’s altar, making his home’s altar worthy of their devotion. 4 And each has set a light upon his altar, that they, other visitors, may see what he has placed upon his altar and take his home’s altar for the visitor’s own
altar of what the visitor values. 5 Here on your altar is the value that you lay upon your brother and on yourself. 6 Here is your gift to both you and your brother; your judgment on the Son of God for what he is. 7 Forget not that your brother is your savior to whom the gift is offered. 8 Offer your brother thorns, which represent sin and guilt, and <you> are crucified. 9 Offer your brother lilies, which represent innocence and forgiveness of your brother, and it is yourself you free.

Note # 7: The altar is the symbol of what we value. Ultimately the altar at which we worship will be either the altar of truth or illusion. Each altar represents an opposing thought system. We may give the altar of illusion many different names. Some may choose to worship money, sex, power, drugs, the need to be right etc. All these choices proclaim their belief that they are a limited, sinful and a guilt-ridden body. All these altars deny our divinity. It does not matter which altar of illusion we worship, for all these altars are based on the belief of limitation and separation. We cannot worship both truth and illusion at the same time. They are mutually exclusive. To whatever altar that we worship, we will attract other visitors who will see value in that same altar that we worship. When these visitors accept and give gifts to that same thought system’s altar, they bear witness to the fact that we worship the correct “god”. The body, which is a neutral communication device, can be made by the mind’s decision to witness for either truth or illusion. When we see our brother as the body or if he identifies himself as the body, he will accept the ego’s gifts of sin, guilt and fear. He will also offer these same “gifts” to us. If we choose to see with the Vision of Christ, our brother will bear witness for union, forgiveness and truth.

T-20.II.4. I have great need for the lilies of innocence and forgiveness, for the Son of God has not forgiven me. p426 2 And can I offer him forgiveness when he offers thorns, which represent his belief in sin and guilt, to me? 3 For he who offers thorns, which represent his belief in sin and guilt, to anyone is against me still, and who is whole without him? 4 Be you his friend for me, that I may be forgiven and you may look upon the Son of God as whole. 5 But look you first upon the altar in your chosen home, and see what you have laid upon your chosen home’s altar to offer me. 6 If it be the thorns of sin and guilt whose points gleam sharply in a blood-red light, the body is your chosen home and its gift is separation that you offer me. 7 And yet the thorns of sin and guilt are gone. 8 Look you still closer at the gift you offer me now, and you will see your altar is no longer what it was.

Note # 8: Jesus is asking that we reconsider what thought system we choose to worship. Jesus has proven through the resurrection that death, which is the symbol of sin’s punishment, is not real. Thus, Jesus has demonstrated that the altar to the ego is a false one. We are all connected to the One Universal Mind. By Jesus’ “enlightenment” to the truth, we have all gained this experience. Unfortunately, we fail to look upon our altar and still continue to worship under the belief system of limitation. Jesus’ resurrection has demonstrated that sin, guilt and fear have been shown to be powerless against the truth. Jesus asks us to look at the thought system of the Holy Spirit, which is within us, and choose again. The separation ended long ago. Jesus knows this and, therefore, it has been made known to the entire Sonship. Yet, we still choose to deny this truth. With the
guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will reawaken before the altar of truth. By offering forgiveness to our brother, we offer forgiveness to all. Jesus has already offered the lilies of forgiveness to us. Unfortunately we have refused to accept them. We still hold our brothers and ourselves to be guilty sinners. What we do to the least of our brethren, we do to Jesus. Thus, we still deny forgiveness to Jesus.

T-20.II.5. You look still with the body's eyes, and the body's eyes can see but thorns of sin and guilt. Yet you have asked for and received another sight, the Vision of Christ. Those who accept the Holy Spirit's purpose as their own share also the Holy Spirit's vision. And what enables the Christ to see the Holy Spirit's purpose shine forth from every altar now is yours as well as the Holy Spirit's vision. The Holy Spirit sees no strangers; only dearly loved and loving friends. The Holy Spirit sees no thorns of sin and guilt but only lilies of innocence and forgiveness, gleaming in the gentle glow of peace that shines on everything the Holy Spirit's looks upon and loves.

Note #9: When we ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance, we are asking to see with the Vision of Christ that we share with the Holy Spirit. This Vision of Christ is always within us but the decision-making part of our mind may decline to utilize it. The decision-maker always has a choice as to how he will perceive his world. The Vision of Christ sees only love or a cry for love. Our egoic vision sees only attack and fear.

T-20.II.6. This Easter, look with different eyes upon your brother. You have forgiven me. And yet I cannot use your gift of the forgiveness of lilies while you see the lilies not. Nor can you use what I have given unless you share the gift of the forgiveness that I have given. The Holy Spirit's vision of Christ is no idle gift, no plaything to be tossed about a while and laid aside. Listen and hear this carefully, nor think the Holy Spirit's vision of Christ but a dream, a careless thought to play with, or a toy you would pick up from time to time and then put by. For if you do think of the Holy Spirit's vision of Christ as a toy or dream, so will it be to you.

Note #10: Our mind has power. Whether we believe we can or we believe we cannot, we are right. If we choose to deny the Holy Spirit's gift of our Vision of Christ that resides eternally within our mind, this power will be forgotten and remain unused. This power still resides within our mind; we have just forgotten where we put it. What God has given His Creation cannot be lost or changed but we can choose to deny our inheritance in our insane dream world of provisional reality. Our Christ consciousness and the Holy Spirit always remember the truth of who we are.

T-20.II.7. You have the vision now to look past all illusions. This Christ vision has been given you to see no thorns of sin and guilt, no strangers and no obstacles to peace. The fear of God is nothing to you now. Who is afraid to look upon illusions, knowing his savior stands beside him? With your brother, your Christ vision has become the greatest power for the undoing of illness that God Himself could give. For what God gave the Holy Spirit, you have received. The Son of God looks unto you for his release. For you have asked for and been given the strength to look upon this final obstacle, which is the fear of God, and see no thorns of sin nor nails of guilt to crucify the Son of
God, and crown him king of death.

**Note # 11:** By choosing to utilize the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we have chosen for the Vision of Christ. Only by offering forgiveness to our brother can we prove that we too are innocent, sinless and guiltless. We can only give what we possess. Refuse one brother has guiltlessness and we deny our own guiltlessness.

**T-20.II.8.** Your chosen home is on the other side, beyond the veil of fear that appeared to hide the knowledge of the peace of God. 2 Your chosen home, Heaven, has been carefully prepared for you, and Heaven is ready to receive you now. 3 You will not see your chosen home, Heaven, with the body's eyes. 4 Yet all you need you have. 5 Your home has called to you since time began, nor have you ever failed entirely to hear. 6 You heard Heaven’s call, but knew not how to look, nor where. p427 7 And now you know how and where to look. 8 In you the knowledge lies, ready to be unveiled and freed from all the terror that kept the knowledge of truth hidden. 9 There is no fear in love.

10 The song of Easter is the glad refrain the Son of God was never crucified. 11 Let us lift up our eyes together, not in fear but faith. 12 And there will be no fear in us, for in our vision will be no illusions; only a pathway to the open door of Heaven, the home we share in quietness and where we live in gentleness and peace, as one together.

**Note # 12:** Just like a sleeping child in her bed, the child who dreams never leaves her bedroom. We always remain in heaven, but the dream of separation appears real as long as our dream lasts. The Holy Spirit calls to the sleeping mind to gently reawaken to the truth. The Child of God cannot sleep forever. We must awaken to the truth for this is the Will of God.

**T-20.II.9.** Would you not have your holy brother lead you there to your real home, Heaven? 2 Your brother’s innocence will light your way, offering you innocence’s guiding light and sure protection, and shining from the holy altar within your brother where you laid the lilies of forgiveness. 3 Let your brother be to you the savior from illusions, and look on your brother with the new vision of Christ that looks upon the lilies of forgiveness and brings you joy. 4 We go beyond the veil of fear, lighting each other's way. 5 The holiness that leads us is within us, as is our home. 6 So will we find what we were meant to find by the Holy Spirit Who leads us.

**Note # 13:** By utilizing the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we align our purpose with the Holy Spirit. Our purpose now becomes the reawakening from the dream of separation. To give is to receive. Granting guiltlessness to our brother, we receive guiltlessness back in return. By giving sinlessness to our brother, we confirm that sinlessness is within us. You cannot give what you do not possess. We will rediscover the truth only when we go within and reclaim our own Christ conscious mind. Since we are the extension of the perfect, whole and complete, there was never anything outside ourselves to get. Being a Oneness with the perfect peace of God, we cannot find ourselves in the nothingness of the dream of separation and be happy. Lacking nothing, there was never anything outside of us that could be added to the Oneness of Everything.
T-20.II.10. This **holy instant** is the way to Heaven and to the peace of Easter, in which we join in glad awareness that the Son of God is risen from the past, and has awakened to the present. 2 Now is he, **the Son of God**, free, unlimited in his communion with all that is within him, **which is everything**. 3 Now are the lilies of his innocence untouched by guilt, and perfectly protected from the cold chill of fear and withering blight of sin alike. 4 Your gift of the Sonship's innocence has saved him, **your brother**, from the thorns of **sin** and nails of **guilt**, and your brother's strong arm is free to guide you safely through all illusion of fear and beyond to the truth of Heaven. 5 Walk with your brother now rejoicing, for the savior from illusions, **the truth**, has come to greet you, and lead you home with your brother.

**Note # 14:** In the holy instant, we suspend all judgments. We drop the past and focus only on the truth of the now. With our previous past misperceptions removed, the Holy Spirit can guide us. The veil of the egoic thought system has been lifted so that we can utilize the Vision of Christ. The Vision of Christ allows for the acceptance of the truth. The Atonement is the truth that God’s Son is eternally innocent, sinless and guiltless. Our role is the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves. Only by accepting the Atonement for ourselves can we give it to all.

T-20.II.11. Here is your savior, **who is your brother** and your friend, released from crucifixion through your vision, and free to lead you now where he, **your brother**, would be. 2 **The Holy Spirit** will not leave you, nor forsake the savior, **your brother**, in his pain. 3 And gladly will you and your brother walk the way of innocence together, singing as you behold the open door of Heaven and recognize the home that called to you. 4 Give joyously to your brother the freedom and the strength to lead you there to your Heavenly home. 5 And come before your brother's holy altar where the strength and freedom wait, to offer and receive the bright awareness of innocence that leads you home. 6 The lamp of innocence and truth is lit in you for your brother. 7 And by the hands that gave the lamp of innocence and truth to him shall you be led past fear to love. p428

**Note # 15:** The Christ consciousness, which is the home of truth, is within each of us. The truth is the ultimate source that heals the insane mind that believes the separation to be real. This Christ Center is the home of you and me. It is the home of the Sonship. It is the home of the Holy Spirit. It is the home of the Father-Mother-Creator. It is the home of truth. When we realize that the Christ Center is the Home of everything, we can safely conclude that this is the Oneness. It is the shared Mind of God. We are that One Self. We have never left our home, Heaven. We just need to awaken from the dream of separation.

**III. Sin as an Adjustment**

T-20.III.1. The belief in sin is an adjustment. 2 And an adjustment is a change; a shift in perception, or a belief that what was so before has been made different. 3 Every adjustment is therefore a distortion of a past belief or perception, and calls upon defenses to uphold an adjustment against the truth of reality. 4 Knowledge requires no
adjustments and, in fact, knowledge is lost if any shift or change is undertaken. 5 For this reduces knowledge at once to mere perception; a way of looking in which certainty is lost and doubt has entered. 6 To this impaired condition in which certainty is lost <are> adjustments necessary, because perception is not true. 7 Who need adjust to truth, which calls on only what he is, to understand?

**Note # 16:** With the loss of knowledge, we entered into an unstable world of shifting perceptions. Before knowledge was lost, there was only truth. Falseness did not exist since truth just “was”. There was no “alternate reality”. The idea of the false did not exist. The dream of separation had not yet been thought. In the world of perception, egoic thinking has created an alternate reality to truth. In this dream world of the ego’s “alternate reality” both the true and the false exist. More importantly, the egoic thought system has also introduced the concept of “sometimes” or “conditional truth”. In a world of black and white, true and false decisions appear fairly easy. There are only two choices. But when we add the possibility of sometimes, our choices now become unlimited. Our world becomes less certain. Doubt becomes the norm, rather than an exception. When we are allowed to choose “SOMETIMES”, we are constantly adjusting our perception based on “new facts”. The ego is constantly comparing. The ego is comparing or judging everything against each other. The ego is a lean, mean judging machine. By its constant comparisons, the ego helps reconfirm that the separation is real. This judging machine is always looking for a “good deal” and attempting to determine when a previous “good deal” has gone bad. There are varying degrees of everything. It is the ego that takes a neutral experience and interprets it as either good or bad. If there was only a Oneness, what would the ego have to compare that was different or outside of the Oneness of everything? To the ego, sin became necessary to explain the shift from knowledge to perception. Since the beginning of the “mad idea,” the ego has been constantly adjusting its plan to deny the truth. The goal of these adjustments is always to refit the dream of separation to changing perceptions. This insures that our decision-maker remains asleep and does not decide to change his mind about being a sinner.

**T-20.III.2.** Adjustments of any kind are of the ego. 2 For it is the ego's fixed belief that all relationships depend upon adjustments, to make of the relationship what the ego would have the relationship be. 3 Direct relationships, in which there are no egoic interferences, are always seen as dangerous to the ego. 4 The ego is the self-appointed mediator of all relationships, making whatever adjustments the ego deems necessary and interposing the adjustments between those who would meet, to keep those who would meet separate and prevent their union. 5 It is this studied interference by the ego that makes it difficult for you to recognize your holy relationship for what a holy relationship is.

**Note # 17:** The ego utilizes past beliefs to compare and judge the <now>. By doing this, the ego keeps the mind focused on the past rather than being in the <now>. Due to the judging mentality of the ego, a holy relationship becomes impossible since the ego believes in lack and is always trying to get something. Separation, not joining, is the ego’s goal. The ego takes the natural holy relationship, which is based on sharing, love and joining, and transforms or adjusts it into the “special relationship.” The special
relationship is based on the egoic concept that you should give only in order to get. The ego constantly adjusts or updates the special relationship as the ego’s goals change. The ego’s plan is that you seek for happiness but never find it. The special relationship is constantly being adjusted by the ego so that we never find the truth and happiness that we seek. The ego judges and then determines what needs to be fixed to make the relationship “more perfect.” Rather than accept and allow, the ego judges and “fixes” what it has previously determined to be imperfect, not whole and very incomplete.

T-20.III.3. The holy do not interfere with truth. The holy are not afraid of the truth, for it is within the truth that the holy recognize their holiness, and rejoice at what they see. The holy look on the truth directly, without attempting to adjust themselves to the truth, or the truth to them. And so the holy see that the truth was in them, not deciding first where they would have the truth be. Their looking merely asks a question, and the truth is what they see that answers them. Our egoic mind makes the world and then adjusts to the egoic world, and the egoic world to you. Nor is there any difference between yourself and your world in your perception, which made them both.

Note #18: A holy relationship is natural in the Holy Spirit’s thought system. Christ consciousness is our normal condition. We were created as the holy and whole-minded state of being, which is the holographic Mind of God. Being the truth, there is no need to adjust or modify the truth. The truth just is and we allow the truth. With the loss of knowledge however, doubt entered the picture. To support its belief that the separation was real, our egoic split-mind made-up the world of perception. This world of perception was birthed out of the belief in sin, guilt and fear. It also requires an adjustment to the Sonship from a state of perfect innocence to a corrupted state of sinfulness. Heaven and the Sonship were both modified or adjusted to fit into an imagined world of form. The world of form supports the belief in separation. Heaven, which is the representative for truth, was adjusted to become the physical world of form, which is the representative for illusion. Instead of the Sonship being the truth of unlimited spirit, we were “adjusted” and became a limited ego-body. We identified ourselves as being a body and the ego. Wherever we adjusted the truth to fit our new egoic perception, we accepted the belief that God’s Son had become a sinner. When knowledge was replaced with doubt, stability and the eternal gave way or were adjusted to accommodate change and time.

T-20.III.4. A simple question yet remains, and needs an answer. Do you like what you have made? A world of murder and attack, through which you thread your timid way through constant dangers, alone and frightened, hoping at most that death will wait a little longer before death overtakes you and you disappear. This world of your perception is a picture of what you think you are; of how you see yourself. A murderer is frightened, and those who kill fear death. All these are but the fearful thoughts of those who would adjust themselves to a world made fearful by their adjustments. And the frightened look out in sorrow from what is sad within, and see the sadness there in the outside world.

Note #19: Once we doubt that we were created perfect, whole and complete, the ego takes over to adjust the truth into a world of illusion. The world of egoic perception
supports the belief that we are imperfect, not whole and incomplete. The world becomes the home of sin, guilt and fear. The dreamer then becomes identified as part of the dream. We become sinful, guilty and full of fear. We are no longer capable of distinguishing the true from the false. We abdicate the creative power of the mind to create through extension. Under to ego’s thought system, this creative power is adjusted to make, rather than create. Making comes from the belief in limitation. Creation, being everything, gives everything. Making involves projection. When we use projection, we attempt to get rid of something undesirable that is within our mind. We project the undesired idea outside our mind upon something we perceive to be outside ourselves. We than can blame the outside world as the cause of the problem. Since thoughts never leave their source, projection always leaves the mind unaware that it was the source of problem. Projection helps keep our split mind in victim consciousness.

T-20.III.5. Have you not wondered what the world is really like; how the real world would look through happy eyes? The world you see is but a judgment on yourself. The world you see is not there at all. Yet judgment lays a sentence on the world you see, justifies the sentence and makes the sentence real. Such is the world you see; a judgment on yourself, and made by you. This sickly picture of yourself is carefully preserved by the ego, whose image that sickly picture of yourself is and which the ego loves, and the ego placed that sickly picture of yourself outside you in the world. And to this world must you adjust as long as you believe this sickly picture of yourself is outside your mind, and has you at its mercy. This world is merciless, and were this world outside you, you should indeed be fearful. Yet it was you who made this merciless world, and now if mercilessness seems to look back at you, mercilessness can be corrected.

Note # 20: When we recover our true nature, we rediscover that our mind, not some outside source, is the cause of all we perceive. When we realize that our thoughts are the cause, we can choose to correct them. When we reclaim our decision-making abilities, we move the mind from victim consciousness to responsibility consciousness. We, being the source, can respond and change our thinking to achieve different results. We realize that our thoughts become the things we choose to perceive. We reclaim our divine birthright. We become co-creators with God.

T-20.III.6. Who in a holy relationship can long remain unholy? The world the holy see is one with them, just as the world the ego looks upon is like itself. The world the holy see is beautiful because the holy see their innocence in the world they see. The holy do not tell the world what it was; the holy do not make adjustments to fit their orders. The holy gently questioned the world they see and whispered, "What are you?" And the Holy Spirit, Who watches over all perception answered. Take not the judgment of the world as answer to the question, "What am I?" The world believes in sin, but the belief that made the world in sin as you see the world is not outside you.

Note # 21: We are the source of all that we perceive. This is why ACIM states that our goal should not be to change the world, but rather to change how we perceive the world. Our perception makes our private world of provisional reality. Be changing our
viewpoint, the world aligns with our new perception

T-20.III.7. Seek not to make the Son of God adjust to his egoic insanity. 2 There is a stranger in him, the ego, who wandered carelessly into the home of truth and who will wander off. 3 The ego came without a purpose, but the ego will not remain before the shining light the Holy Spirit offered, and you, the Christ, accepted. 4 For there in the Christ, the egoic stranger is made homeless and <you, the Christ> are welcome. 5 Ask not this transient stranger, the ego, "What am I?" 6 The ego is the only thing in all the universe that does not know. 7 Yet it is the ego you ask, and it is to the ego’s answer that you would adjust. 8 This one wild thought, the ego, fierce in its arrogance, and yet so tiny and so meaningless the ego slips unnoticed through the universe of truth, becomes your guide. 9 To the ego you turn to ask the meaning of the universe. 10 And of the one blind thing in all the seeing universe of truth you ask, "How shall I look upon the Son of God?"

Note # 22: We have asked the insane ego to tell us the truth about ourselves. This is similar to asking a blind man to drive a sighted and skilled driver up Pike’s Peak. We have asked the ignorant, yet arrogant ego, which does not know the truth, to tell us the truth about ourselves. We need to ask the Holy Spirit for His correct perception of all things that we perceive in our mind. Only the Holy Spirit, Who knows the truth, can judge correctly.

T-20.III.8. Does one ask judgment of what is totally bereft of judgment, the insane ego? 2 And if you have, would you believe the answer of the insane, and adjust to the answer from the insane as if it were the truth? 3 The world you look on is the answer that the insane ego gave you, and you have given the insane ego power to adjust the world to make the insane ego’s answer true. 4 You asked this puff of madness of the insane ego for the meaning of your unholy relationship, and adjusted your meaning of your unholy relationships according to the ego’s insane answer. p430 5 How happy did the adjustment to the ego’s answer for the relationship make you? 6 Did you meet your brother with joy to bless the Son of God, and give your brother thanks for all the happiness that your brother held out to you? 7 Did you recognize your brother as the eternal gift of God to you? 8 Did you see the holiness that shone in both you and your brother, to bless the other? 9 That blessing to each other is the purpose of your holy relationship. 10 Ask not the means of its attainment of the one thing that still would have the relationship be unholy, the ego. 11 Give the insane ego no power to adjust the means and end.

Note # 23: Jesus asks us not to seek the ego’s thought system for guidance. It is insane. The ego is powerless to affect anything. The only power the ego has is the power we choose to give it. Give it no power and the ego is powerless. Do not ask the ego what the purpose of a relationship is. The ego’s answer will always be to take a natural holy relationship, which is based on love and joined, and make it into an unholy special relationship based on limitation and lack. Ask only the Holy Spirit to be your guide.

T-20.III.9. Prisoners bound with heavy chains for years, starved and emaciated, weak and
exhausted, and with eyes so long cast down in darkness they remember not the light, do not leap up in joy the instant they are made free. It takes a while for long abused prisoners to understand what freedom is. You groped but feebly in the dust and found your brother's hand, uncertain whether to let your brother’s hand go or to take hold on life so long forgotten. Strengthen your hold and raise your eyes unto your strong companion, in whom the meaning of your freedom lies. Your brother seemed to be crucified beside you. And yet your brother’s holiness remained untouched and perfect, and with your brother beside you, you shall this day enter with your brother to Paradise, and know the peace of God.

Note # 24: We cannot return to the truth alone. We need our brother and our brother needs us. In this world of perception it is impossible for us to have a holy relationship by ourselves. The Holy Spirit can reinterpret every unholy special relationship and convert them into holy ones. By this conversion to correct perception by the Holy Spirit, we recover our union with our brother. By entering into this now holy relationship with our brother, we join in the Holy Spirit’s purpose for all relationships, which is the reawakening God’s sleeping Son to His spiritual magnificence.

T-20.III.10. Such is my will for you and your brother to know the peace of God, and for each of you for one another and for himself. Here in Paradise of the peace of God, there is only holiness and joining without limit. For what is Heaven but union, direct and perfect, and without the veil of fear upon it? Here in Heaven, are we one, looking with perfect gentleness upon each other and on ourselves. Here in the peace of God, all thoughts of any separation between us become impossible. You who were a prisoner in separation are now made free in Paradise. And here, in Heaven, would I unite with you, my friend, my brother and my Self.

Note # 25: When we freely choose to drop all belief in the egoic thought system and accept the Atonement for ourselves, our brother and we will be returned of the peace of God, which is Heaven. We reclaim our inheritance of the One Self together.

T-20.III.11. Your gift unto your brother has given me the certainty our union will be soon. Share, then, this faith in your union with your brother with me, and know that this faith is justified. There is no fear in perfect love <because> perfect love knows no sin, and perfect love must look on others as on itself. Looking with charity within, what can perfect love fear without? The innocent see safety, and the pure in heart see God within His Son, and look unto the Son to lead the pure in heart to the Father. And where else would they, the pure in heart, go but where they will to be? You and your brother now will lead the other to the Father as surely as God created His Son holy, and kept him so. In your brother is the light of God's eternal promise of your immortality. See your brother as sinless, and there can <be> no fear in you. p431

Note # 26: We have the power of God within us. By seeing our brother as sinless, we confirm that we are sinless. To give is to receive and you cannot give what you do not possess. We are joined in the One Self that is the shared Mind of God.
IV. Entering the Ark

T-20.IV.1. Nothing can hurt you unless you give something the power to do so. Yet you give power as the laws of this egoic world interpret giving; as you give you lose. It is not up to you to give power at all. Power is of God, given by God and reawakened by the Holy Spirit, Who knows that as you give you gain. The Holy Spirit gives no power to sin, and therefore sin has no power; nor does the Holy Spirit give any power to the results of sin as this world sees them,—Sin’s results are sickness and death and misery and pain. These things have not occurred because the Holy Spirit sees the results of sin not, and gives no power to their seeming source which is the ego. Thus would the Holy Spirit keep you free of the results of sin, which are sickness, death, misery and pain. Being without illusion of what you are, the Holy Spirit merely gives everything to God, Who has already given and received all that is true. The untruth of sin and sin’s results, our Father and the Holy Spirit has neither received nor given and thus, it is not real.

Note # 27: The ego has no power unless the decision-maker within our mind chooses to give power to the ego. If that is the case, the decision-maker now believes it has lost whatever power it has given to the ego since under the thought system of the ego, to give is to lose. We claim that we have lost our decision-maker and now being powerless, allow ourselves to fall into victim consciousness. The Holy Spirit knows that the Law of God says “to give is to receive.” Therefore, you can never lose your power to something outside of you. You can choose to not use your power, but you cannot lose it. Our power comes from God. It was given to the Sonship at creation and is eternally ours. Within the Mind of God, what is true cannot be changed or threatened. Since God does not will His Son to be powerless, this egoic belief of the loss of the Son’s creative power to be source cannot be real. This apparent transfer of the Sonship’s power of creation to the ego never has happened in the shared Mind of God. This adjustment to make the Son of God powerless is just another egoic trick, which like all egoic “sins” is only an illusion of an insane mind.

T-20.IV.2. Sin has no place in Heaven, where sin’s results are alien and can no more enter than can their illusionary source. And therein lies your need to see your brother sinless. In your brother is Heaven. See sin in your brother instead, and Heaven is lost to you. But see your brother as he is, and what is yours shines from your brother to you. Your savior, your brother, gives you only love, but what you would receive of your brother is up to you. It lies in your brother to overlook all your mistakes, and therein lies your brother’s own salvation. And so it is with your salvation. Salvation is a lesson in giving, as the Holy Spirit interprets giving, which is to give is to receive. Salvation is the reawakening of the laws of God in minds that have established other laws, the egoic laws of chaos, and given these egoic laws power to enforce what God created not.

Note # 28: Our denial of truth does not change the truth. When the Sonship denies its power to be the co-creative source for the extension of creation, this does not change the truth that we still possess this power. Every part of the fragmented Sonship maintains this
power. Since to give is to receive, any part of the Sonship has the power to reawaken a brother to the truth. Salvation is defined as the reawakening of the Laws of God in minds that have established other laws, the egoic laws of chaos. We have freely chosen to give these egoic laws power to enforce what God did not create, which is only the fantasy of separation. God’s Law is that “to give is to receive”. The fourth law of chaos on which the egoic thought system rests states that “to give is to lose.” The ego believes in a zero-sum game. If someone is to win, the other must lose. Win-win solutions are not possible according to the ego.

T-20.IV.3. Your insane laws were made to guarantee that you would make mistakes, and give your insane laws power over you by accepting your insane laws’ results as your just due. 2 What could this granting your power to insane laws be but madness? 3 And is it this madness of granting power to insane laws that you would see within your brother who is your savior from your own insanity? 4 Your brother is as free from this insanity as you are, and in the freedom that you see in your brother you see your own freedom. 5 For this freedom you share with your brother. 6 What God has given follows God’s laws, and God’s alone. 7 Nor is it possible for those who follow God’s Laws to suffer the results of any other source, like the ego’s laws of chaos.

Note # 29: Within each of us, in the Christ consciousness part of our mind, we know the truth and follow only the Laws of God. The Holy Spirit will reawaken our split-mind to the Voice of Christ. See Chapter # 2. Section I. Lines #9 to #12 for the four beliefs that led to the origins of the separation. These beliefs form the basis for the egoic thought system and led to the egoic making of the world of time and perception through the use of projection.

T-20.IV.4. Those who choose freedom will experience only freedom’s results. 2 For those who choose freedom, their power is of God, and they will give power only to what God has given, to share with them. 3 Nothing but this can touch those who choose freedom, for they see only this, sharing their power according to the Will of God. 4 And thus their freedom is established and maintained. 5 Their freedom is upheld through all temptation to imprison and to be imprisoned. 6 It is of them who learned of freedom that you should ask what freedom is. p432 7 Ask not the sparrow how the eagle soars, for those with little wings have not accepted for themselves the power to share with you.

Note # 30: Ask only the brother that sees himself as a Big “S” Self, about freedom and truth. The brother who believes that he is a limited ego-body sees only littleness. God will not let His Son, the Christ know littleness, only truth.

T-20.IV.5. The sinless give as the sinless received. 2 See, then, the power of sinlessness within your brother, and share with your brother the power of the release from sin you offered your brother. 3 To each brother who walks this earth in seeming solitude is a savior given, whose special function here is to release him, and so to free himself by being the savior for another. 4 In the world of separation each is appointed separately, though they are all the same. 5 Yet those who know that they are all the same need not salvation. 6 And each one finds his savior when he is ready to look upon the face of
Christ, and see God’s Son, the Christ, sinless.

Note # 31: We cannot possess salvation unless we give salvation away to another. By giving we prove we have. We cannot enter the Kingdom alone.

T-20.IV.6. The plan is not of your ego, nor need you be concerned with anything except the part that has been given you to learn. The plan is God’s plan for salvation, which is the return of the Sonship to knowledge. 2 For the Holy Spirit, Who knows the rest will see to God’s plan for salvation without your egoic help. 3 But think not that the Holy Spirit does not need your Big “S” Self’s part to help the Holy Spirit with the rest of God’s plan. 4 For in your Big “S” Self’s part lies all of God’s plan for salvation, without which is no part of God’s plan for salvation complete, nor is the whole completed without your Big “S” Self’s part. 5 The ark of peace is entered two by two, yet the beginning of another world goes with them. 6 Each holy relationship must enter here into the ark of peace, to learn the relationship’s special function in the Holy Spirit’s plan, now that each holy relationship shares the Holy Spirit’s purpose. 7 And as this purpose is fulfilled, a new world rises in which sin can enter not, and where the Son of God can enter without fear and where your brother rests a while, to forget imprisonment and to remember freedom. 8 How can your brother enter, to rest and to remember, without you? 9 Except you be there, your brother is not complete. 10 And it is his completion that your brother remembers there.

Note # 32: All of the Sonship must do their part in God’s plan for salvation. Each relationship made holy becomes a rejoining of the apparent fragmented Sonship. We need only do our part since only the Holy Spirit understands the intricacies of the entire plan for the Sonship’s return to knowledge. We do not have to tell the Holy Spirit how to accomplish the balance of the plan. When we think we have a better idea to bring about salvation, which is our insane ego talking. We need only to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

T-20.IV.7. This part in the salvation of a brother is the purpose given you. 2 Think not that your forgiveness of your brother serves but you two alone. 3 For the whole new world rests in the hands of every two who enter here into the ark of peace to rest. 4 And as you and your saved brother rest, the face of Christ shines on them and they both remember the laws of God, forgetting all the rest and yearning only to have God’s laws perfectly fulfilled in them and all their brothers. 5 Think you when this has been achieved that you will rest without all the Sonship? 6 You could no more leave one of your brothers outside than I could leave you, and forget part of myself.

Note # 33: Although a holy relationship is among two, the entire Sonship benefits due to the interconnectedness of the universal mind. When we experience a holy relationship, all the Oneness shares this experience since it is real. As there is no separation, there are no private thoughts.

T-20.IV.8. You may wonder how you can be at peace when, while you are in time, there is so much that must be done before the way to peace is open. 2 Perhaps this seems
impossible to you to be at peace while in time. 3 But ask yourself if it is possible that
God would have a plan for your salvation that does not work. 4 Once you accept God's
plan as the one function that you would fulfill, there will be nothing else the Holy Spirit
will not arrange for you without your effort. p433 5 The Holy Spirit will go before you
making straight your path, and leaving in your way no stones to trip on, and no obstacles
to bar your way. 6 Nothing you need will be denied you. 7 Not one seeming difficulty but
will melt away before you reach that seeming difficulty. 8 You need take thought for
nothing, careless of everything except the only purpose that you would fulfill, which is
your role in God's plan. 9 As your role in God's plan was given you, so will your role
in God's plan's fulfillment be. 10 God's guarantee will hold against all obstacles, for
God's guarantee rests on certainty and not contingency. 11 God's guarantee rests on
you.> 12 And what can be more certain than a Son of God?

Note # 34: We need only be vigilant for God. We only need to align our purpose with the
Holy Spirit’s purpose. The Holy Spirit will show us the way that we are to fulfill our role
in God’s plan for the salvation of the Sonship. We need do only our small part. The Holy
Spirit will insure that the rest of the plan is completed. The completion of God’s plan is
guaranteed because it is God’s unchangeable Will.

V. Heralds of Eternity

T-20.V.1. In this world, God's Son comes closest to himself, the Christ, in a holy
relationship. 2 There in a holy relationship he begins to find the certainty his Father has
in His Son. 3 And there in a holy relationship God's Son finds his function of restoring
his Father's laws to what was held outside his Father's laws, which is the egoic world
of perception’s special relationships, and finding what was lost. 4 Only in time can
anything be lost, and never lost forever. 5 So do the parts of God's Son gradually join in
time, and with each joining is the end of time brought nearer. 6 Each miracle of joining is
a mighty herald of eternity. 7 No one who has a single purpose, unified and sure, can be
afraid. 8 No one who shares his purpose with a brother can not be one with his
brother.

Note # 35: When we share the same purpose, we come into alignment with each other.
Having one purpose we become joined in one mind. Until we are willing to share the
Holy Spirit’s purpose with all, time will still be required. Time measures our changing
perception. As our purpose changes, our perception must realign with our new goal.

T-20.V.2. Each herald of eternity, the joining of two brothers in a single purpose, sings
of the end of sin and fear. 2 Each joining of two brothers in a single purpose of the
holy relationship speaks in time of what is far beyond time. 3 Two voices raised
together call to the hearts of everyone, to let them beat as one. 4 And in that single
heartbeat is the unity of love proclaimed and given welcome. 5 Peace to your holy
relationship, which has the power to hold the unity of the Son of God together. 6 You
give to your brother for everyone, and in your gift is everyone made glad. 7 Forget not
the Holy Spirit, Who has given you the gifts you give, and through your not forgetting this, will you remember the Father, Who gave the gifts to the Holy Spirit to give to you.

Note # 36: With each joining in a holy relationship, a part of the Sonship is healed. This healing is shared with the entire Sonship. Each joining brings the return to knowledge closer. This return to truth will mark the end of the need for time, which is the measure of change.

T-20.V.3. It is impossible to overestimate your brother's value. 2 Only the ego does this, but all it means is that the ego wants the other for itself, and therefore values a brother too little. 3 What is inestimable, your brother, clearly cannot be evaluated. 4 Do you recognize the fear that rises from the meaningless attempt to judge what lies so far beyond your judgment you cannot even see it? 5 Judge not what is invisible to you or you will never see your brother's true value, which is invisible to the eyes, but wait in patience for its coming. p434 6 It will be given you to see your brother's worth when all you want for your brother is peace. 7 And what you want for your brother you will receive.

Note # 37: The ego values the body and the small “s” self. The ego places no value on your brother’s Big “S” Self for that part’s existence is denied by the ego. We cannot physically see the value of a brother in God’s plan for salvation because the body has no value. The only value of the body is what our mind gives it. Only through the Vision of Christ can we look past the world of form to know the true content that is our essence. Since the Law of God states that each part is equal to the whole, each part contains the whole. Each part is indivisible from the whole. The ego attempts to take the indivisible and fragment the whole into parts. This is impossible.

T-20.V.4. How can you estimate the worth of a brother who offers peace to you? 2 What would you want except a brother's offering of peace? 3 Your brother's worth has been established by his Father, and you will recognize a brother's worth as you receive his Father's gift of peace through a brother. 4 What is in a brother will shine so brightly in your grateful vision that you will merely love your brother and be glad. 5 You will not think to judge your brother, for who would see the face of Christ and yet insist that judgment still has meaning? 6 For this insistence that judgment has meaning is of those who do not see with the Vision of Christ. 7 Vision or judgment is your choice, but never both of these at one time.

Note # 38: Seeing and vision are two different experiences. They are mutually exclusive in any moment in time. They represent the two thought systems and what each values. The ego sees form as of primary importance. To the ego form is what matters. The content is of no value, as the ego cannot see past the form. Vision is a function of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. Vision looks for content. The form that the experience manifests through is of no consequence. To the ego, form is seen as attack or something to attack. To the Holy Spirit, vision understands the underlying content and interprets this same event as either love or a cry for love. Love does not judge. It only asks what would love have me do now. The ego is the embodiment of judgment, not love.
Your brother's body is as little use to you as the body is of little use to your brother. 2 When the body is used only as the Holy Spirit teaches, the body has no function. 3 For minds need not the body to communicate. 4 The sight that sees the body has no use which serves the purpose of a holy relationship. 5 And while you look upon your brother thus, as the body, the means and end have not been brought in line. 6 Why should it take so many holy instants to let this be accomplished, when one holy instant would do to bring the means and end into alignment? 7 There <is> but one holy instant. 8 The little breath of eternity that runs through time like golden light is all the same; nothing before eternity, nothing afterwards.

Note # 39: In eternity time has no purpose since there is no change to measure. As long as we perceive ourselves as a body, time has a function. While under the influence of the egoic thought system and perception’s illusionary dream, the Holy Spirit utilizes love as the creative process in which time is used to awaken the sleeping mind to its Christ consciousness. The Christ, which is the extension of the Creator, is the only reality in the Mind of God.

You look upon each holy instant as a different point in time. 2 Each holy instant never changes. 3 All that each holy instant ever held or will ever hold is here right now. 4 The past takes nothing from a holy instant, and the future will add no more. 5 Here, then, is everything. 6 Here in each holy instant is the loveliness of your relationship, with means and end in perfect harmony already. 7 Here is the perfect faith that you will one day offer to your brother who already offered you perfect faith; and here the limitless forgiveness you will give your brother, who already has given forgiveness, the face of Christ you yet will look upon already seen.

Note # 40: In the holy instant all judgments are dropped. Without the past, only the <now> is present. Vision can replace seeing. Vision focuses on the content of the <now> experience. The content is the joining of two into the knowing of the Oneness. Seeing always involves judgment since the physical eyes are utilized only to confirm egoic prejudices that have been projected into our world of provisional reality. With the Vision of Christ, the Holy Spirit guides us to look past the body and see only the Christ in our brother.

Can you evaluate your brother, the giver of a gift of limitless forgiveness like this? 2 Would you exchange this gift of limitless forgiveness for any other? 3 This gift of your brother’s limitless forgiveness returns the laws of God to your remembrance. 4 And merely by remembering the laws of God, the egoic laws that held you prisoner to pain and death must be forgotten. 5 This remembering the laws of God is no gift your brother's body offers you. 6 The veil of the body that hides the gift hides your brother’s Big “S” Self as well. 7 Your brother’s Big “S” Self <is> the gift, and yet your brother knows it not. 8 No more do you know that your brother’s Big “S” Self <is> the gift. 9 And yet, have faith that He, the Holy Spirit that resides in the Christ consciousness, Who sees the gift in you and your brother will offer and receive the gift of faith and limitless forgiveness for you both. 10 And through the Holy Spirit’s vision will you see
the gift of the Big “S” Self, and through the Holy Spirit’s understanding recognize the gift of faith and limitless forgiveness and love the gift of faith and forgiveness as your own. p435

**Note # 41:** The Holy Spirit utilizes the tools of forgiveness and love to unblock the vision of Christ within us. Forgiveness and joining are the result of a holy relationship. In order to relearn the oneness of the Sonship, we need a relationship with another. Since to give is to receive, we need another to share in the joining experience of the holy relationship.

T-20.V.8. Be comforted, and feel the Holy Spirit watching over you in love and perfect confidence in what the Holy Spirit sees. 2 The Holy Spirit knows the Son of God, and the Holy Spirit shares his Father's certainty the universe rests in his split-minded son’s gentle hands in safety and in peace. 3 Let us consider now what the split-minded son must learn, to share his Father's confidence in him, who momentarily perceives himself as split-minded. 4 What is the truth about the split-minded son that the Creator of the universe should offer the universe to him, split-minded son, and know the universe rests in safety? 5 He, who is split-minded, looks upon himself not as his Father knows him. The Father knows only the Christ as His Son. 6 And yet it is impossible the confidence of God should be misplaced.

**Note # 42:** Because we have placed our consciousness within the egoic dream of separation, we have forgotten what we are. We have denied our spiritual essence and mistakenly believe ourselves to be a limited ego-body. This is not what we are. The Father only knows His Child as perfect, whole and complete. The Creator has placed this knowing within our Christ consciousness. The Holy Spirit has been given the task of awakening God’s sleeping Son to his Christ consciousness. Since this is the Will of God, the results are guaranteed. If we realized that our will is God’s Will, we would fear nothing. The journey of the separation was over as soon as it began. We need to freely choose the Atonement for ourselves and the return of the Sonship to knowledge is certain.

**VI. The Temple of the Holy Spirit**

T-20.VI.1. The meaning of the Son of God lies solely in his relationship with his Creator. 2 If the meaning of the Son of God lies outside his relationship with his Creator, if it were elsewhere, the Son’s meaning would rest on contingency, but there is nothing else outside his relationship with the Creator. 3 And this relationship with His Creator is wholly loving and forever. 4 Yet has the Son of God invented an unholy relationship between his ego self and his Father. 5 His real relationship with his Creator is one of perfect union and unbroken continuity. 6 The egoic relationship with God, he made is partial, self-centered, broken into fragments and full of fear. 7 The one created by his Father is wholly Self-encompassing and Self-extending. 8 The one he made with the egoic thought system is wholly self-destructive and self-limiting.
Note # 43: We have forgotten our true relationship with our Creator and substituted or adjusted the “truth” to fit our egoic belief that the separation is real. Any egocentric relationship rests on our belief in lack, sin, guilt and fear. Our relationship with our Father rests on eternal, changeless, unconditional love and union of the One Self.

Our egoic self is our own creation. As such, it could be compared to our child. In this case, we have chosen not to share the Oneness that we truly are with our child. We have refused to see our egoic self like our Father, perfect, whole and complete. We have judged our child as lacking. Until we extend our own divine birthright to our creations, we are denying our own fatherhood and not co-creating with our Father. By seeing our egoic self and our own provisional reality as perfect, whole and complete, we co-create with God and are the embodiment of love. Love allows all because love is all and thus, transcends all.

T-20.VI.2. Nothing can show the contrast better than the experience of both a holy and an unholy relationship. 2 The holy relationship is based on love, and rests on it serene and undisturbed. 3 The body does not intrude upon the holy relationship. 4 Any relationship in which the body enters is based not on love, but on idolatry. 5 Love wishes to be known, completely understood and shared. 6 Love has no secrets; nothing that loves would keep apart and hide. 7 Love walks in sunlight, open-eyed and calm, in smiling welcome and in sincerity so simple and so obvious love cannot be misunderstood.

Note # 44: The holy relationship is based on the thought system of the Holy Spirit, which is the voice for love.

T-20.VI.3. But idols do not share. 2 Idols accept, but never make return. 3 Idols can be loved, but cannot love. 4 Idols do not understand what they are offered, and any relationship in which idols enter has lost the relationship’s meaning. 5 The love of idols has made love meaningless. 6 Idols live in secrecy, hating the sunlight and happy in the body's darkness, where idols can hide and keep their secrets hidden along with themselves. 7 And idols have no relationships, for no one else is welcome there. 8 Idols smile on no one, and those who smile on idols do not see.

Note # 45: The thought system is full of false beliefs that we attempt to make true. Egoic idols are anything we worship that would replace the truth. Normally an idol of the ego is something that we seek in a vain attempt to make us “happy” within the egoic thought system. This often would be wealth, power, health, sex or the need to be right. Ultimately all idyllic thoughts rest on the idea that we are a separate body. We worship the body and seek earthly egoic “happiness in bodily limitations”. The body is nothing but it can be used as a communication device with the mind. A body does not have a real relationship with anyone.

T-20.VI.4. Love has no darkened temples where mysteries are kept obscure and hidden from the sun. p436 2 Love does not seek for power, but love does seek for relationships. 3 The body is the ego's chosen weapon for seeking power through relationships. 4 And the ego’s relationships must be unholy, for what the ego’s relationships are the ego does not even see. 5 The ego wants the unholy relationship solely for the offerings on which the ego’s idols thrive. 6 The rest of the relationship the ego merely throws away, for all
that the rest of the relationship could offer is seen as valueless. 7 Homeless, the ego seeks as many bodies as the ego can collect to place the ego’s idols in, and so establish the bodies as temples to the ego, itself.

Note # 46: The ego believes in lack and, therefore, seeks from another to obtain what it perceives it is lacking in itself. Since the ego only desires to obtain what it believes it lacks, its relationships are not based on love but rather on seeking and then taking. These relationships are not seen as among equals. Bartering and sacrifice are often involved as the ego always comes from the emotion of fear based on limitation. The ego gives only to get. Egoic relationships are a one-way street. The ego quickly moves to attack whenever the relationship is not giving the ego what it wants and claims it needs.

T-20.VI.5. The Holy Spirit's temple is not a body, but a relationship. 2 The body is an isolated speck of darkness; a hidden secret room, a tiny spot of senseless mystery, a meaningless enclosure carefully protected, yet hiding nothing. 3 Here in the body, the unholy relationship escapes reality, and seeks for crumbs to keep itself alive. 4 Here the ego's unholy relationships would drag its brothers, holding its brothers here in the ego's bodily idolatry. 5 Here in the body, the ego is "safe," for here love cannot enter. 6 The Holy Spirit does not build His temples where love can never be. 7 Would the Holy Spirit, Who sees the face of Christ choose as His home the only place in all the universe where the face of Christ can not be seen, which is the body?

Note # 47: The ego wants us to accept the body as our home. An unholy relationship is the ego’s special relationship. Its purpose is to get something the ego perceives that it lacks. It is based on the egoic belief that the body needs something to make it whole. Its goal is the continuous brainwashing of the split-minded into the belief that we are the body and the body is the home of our limited mind. The ego wants us to believe that the mind is not unlimited spirit but rather the gray matter we call the brain. If the brain is the mind, we are a body. If we are the body, we are a guilty sinner, who must die and be punished. Being a body, we have much to fear.

Line # 1 states, “The Holy Spirit's temple is not a body, but a relationship.” This means that the relationship’s loving thoughts and ideas are the home of Spirit. Spirit is boundless, timeless and is shared. The holy relationship is the meeting of minds to extend love. The home of the Holy Spirit cannot be found in the illusion of time and space.

T-20.VI.6. You cannot make the body the Holy Spirit's temple, and the body will never be the seat of love. 2 The body is the home of the idolater, and of love's condemnation. 3 For here in the body is love made fearful and hope abandoned. 4 Even the idols that are worshipped here are shrouded in mystery, and kept apart from those who worship them. 5 The body is the temple dedicated to no relationships and no return. 6 Here in the body is the "mystery" of separation perceived in awe and held in reverence. 7 What God would have been something other than what God created, is here in the body and kept "safe" from God. 8 But what you do not realize is what you fear within your brother, and would not see in your brother, is what makes God seem fearful to you, and kept unknown.
Note # 48: God is unconditional Love. The ego fears God’s unconditional love because if we accept this Love of God, the ego claims we will lose ourselves by joining into the Oneness that is the Mind of God. We will no longer be separate and no longer special. God knows you to be as He created you. The Sonship is perfect, whole and complete. The ego would have you believe that you are imperfect, not whole and very incomplete. The body was “made” by the ego to prove that the separation was real; that there is another will other than God’s Will. The body is the symbol for the separation and the sin, guilt and fear that the fragmented Sonship holds within their insane mind. It is with the body that our mind identifies itself. It is the body that is the temple for the ego. Relationships are made unholy by accepting the purpose of the ego’s thought system, which has as its goal to keep us in victim consciousness. If we are a body, we lack the decision-making power to choose a different thought system. We remain trapped within the dream world of form, which was birthed by the belief in separation. By seeing our brother as the body, we fail to lift the veil that hides his Big “S” Self.

T-20.VI.7. Idolaters will always be afraid of love, for nothing so severely threatens the idolaters of the egoic thought system as love's approach. 2 Let love draw near the idolaters and overlook the body, as love will surely do, and the idolaters of the egoic thought system will retreat in fear, feeling the seeming firm foundation of their temple begin to shake and loosen. 3 Brother, you tremble with the idolaters of the egoic thought system. 4 Yet what you fear, which is love, is but the herald of escape. 5 This place of darkness, the body, is not your home. 6 Your temple, your relationship with God, is not threatened. 7 You are an idolater no longer. 8 The Holy Spirit's purpose lies safe in your relationship, and not your body. 9 You have escaped the body. 10 Where you are the body cannot enter, for the Holy Spirit has set His temple there where you are, which is your Christ consciousness.

Note # 49: The Holy Spirit knows both the truth about what you are and how you have misperceived that truth. By replacing fear with love and forgiveness, the Holy Spirit can convert a special relationship from an unholy relationship to a holy one. This conversion is a miracle. It shifts your perception from the egoic thought system to the Holy Spirit’s. The temple home is not a place but a state of mind. Out true home is our holy relationship with God.

T-20.VI.8. There is no order in relationships. 2 Relationships either are or are not. 3 An unholy relationship is no relationship. p437 4 An unholy relationship is a state of isolation, which seems to be what it is not. 5 An unholy relationship is no more than that. 6 The instant that the mad idea of making your relationship with God unholy seemed to be possible, all your relationships were made meaningless. 7 In that unholy instant of attempting to make your relationship with God seem unholy, time was born, and bodies made to house the mad idea of your attempting to make your relationship with God seem unholy and give this mad idea the illusion of reality. 8 And so the illusion of an unholy relationship with God seemed to have a home in the body that held together for a little while in time, and vanished. 9 For what could house this mad idea against reality but for an instant?
Note # 50: This world of perception was made by the egoic belief that we could be something other than as God created us. We claimed we had a will that was different from our Father. In that claim, we denied our true holy relationship with God and adjusted it into an unholy illusion of separation and fear. The body is the illusionary hiding placer of that part of the fragmented mind of the Sonship. It is the home of the desire to be special or have a different relationship with God. It is the desire not to be part of the Oneness that is the shared Mind of God. God, our Source, does not Will to have a different relationship with His Cause. The Sonship, God’s Effect cannot change its Cause, which is God’s Love.

T-20.VI.9. Idols must disappear, and leave no trace behind their going. 2 The unholy instant of their seeming power is frail as is a snowflake, but without the snowflake’s loveliness. 3 Is the unholy instant of the mad idea that your relationship with God could be unholy the substitute you want for the eternal blessing of the holy instant and its unlimited beneficence? 4 Is the malevolence of the unholy relationship, so seeming powerful and so bitterly misunderstood and so invested in a false attraction your preference to the holy instant, which offers you peace and understanding? 5 Then lay aside the body and quietly transcend the body and unholy relationship, rising to welcome what you really want, which is our holy relationship with God. 6 And from the Holy Spirit’s holy temple, look you not back on what you have awakened from. 7 For no illusions can attract the mind that has transcended the illusion, and left the illusion of the unholy relationship with God far behind.

Note # 51: Transcend the thought system of the ego by choosing to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Your desire for littleness, will give way to the truth of your Big “S” Self, the Christ. The Holy Spirit’s temple to truth resides in you, the Christ. Illusions disappear when seen in the light of the Christ. Our holy relationship with God is to be a co-creator with our Father. This is the extension of the perfect, whole and complete Mind of God.

T-20.VI.10. The holy relationship reflects the true relationship the Son of God has with his Father in reality. 2 The Holy Spirit rests within the holy relationship in the certainty that the true relationship the Son of God has with his Father in reality will endure forever. 3 The holy relationship’s firm foundation is eternally upheld by truth, and love shines on the holy relationship with the gentle smile and tender blessing love and truth offers to its own. 4 Here the unholy instant is exchanged in gladness for the holy one of safe return. 5 Here is the way to true relationships held gently open, through which you and your brother walk together, leaving the body thankfully behind and resting in the Everlasting Arms. 6 Love's Arms are open to receive you, and give you peace forever.

Note # 52: The return of the Sonship to its sanity is certain. God has never acknowledged the Sonship’s illusion of an unholy relationship as the Father’s reality and, therefore, the separation has no reality in Heaven. God’s one and only judgment is that His Creation, the Sonship, is the extension of Himself, eternally perfect, whole and complete. This is the Will of God.
T-20.VI.11. The body is the ego's idol; the belief in sin made flesh and then projected outward. 2 This egoic belief in sin produces what seems to be a wall of flesh around the mind, keeping the mind prisoner in a tiny spot of space and time, beholden unto death, and given but an instant in which to sigh and grieve and die in honor of its master, the ego's belief in sin. 3 And this unholy instant in which the belief in sin was projected outward in the form of the body seems to be life; an instant of despair, a tiny island of dry sand, bereft of water and set uncertainly upon oblivion. 4 Here in this projected body-form does the Son of God stop briefly by, to offer his devotion to death's idols and then pass on. 5 And here in the world made flesh, he is more dead than living. 6 Yet it is also here in the world of flash born of perception, he makes his choice again between idolatry and love. 7 Here in the world of flesh born of perception, it is given him to choose to spend this instant paying tribute to the body, or let himself be given freedom from the body. 8 Here in the world of flesh born of perception, he can accept the holy instant, offered him to replace the unholy one he chose before. 9 And here in the world of flesh born of perception can he learn relationships are his salvation, and not his doom.

Note # 53: The ego “made” this world to be a place God’s love could not enter. The Holy Spirit takes this egoic world, which was born to prove the reality of the separation, and undoes the entire thought system of the ego. By utilizing the tools of forgiveness and love, the Holy Spirit transforms all unholy relationship into holy ones. This is done in an instant by the miracle. The miracle is a change in perception. We choose for the Holy Spirit and the voice for love. The illusory world of flesh born of perception has become the “battleground” between the two thought systems of fear and love.

T-20.VI.12. You who are learning to make the choice between egoic idolatry and love may still be fearful, but you are not immobilized. 2 The holy instant is of greater value now to you than its unholy seeming counterpart, and you have learned you really want but one, which is the holy relationship. 3 This is no time for sadness. 4 Perhaps confusion, but hardly discouragement. 5 You have a <real> relationship, and this real relationship has meaning. 6 A <real> relationship is as like your real relationship with God as equal things are like unto each other. 7 Idolatry is past and meaningless. 8 Perhaps you fear your brother a little yet; perhaps a shadow of the fear of God remains with you. 9 Yet what is that shadow of fear to those who have been given one true relationship beyond the body? 10 Can they who have been given one true relationship beyond the body be long held back from looking on the face of Christ? 11 And can they who have been given one true relationship beyond the body long withhold the memory of their holy relationship with their Father from themselves, and keep remembrance of His Love apart from their awareness?

Note # 54: Once we start to reclaim our decision-making ability, we can choose again. Each time we choose for the Holy Spirit, Its voice for love reawakens the sleeping Christ within. The pull of love becomes stronger than of fear of illusion. The miracle transforms fear to love and results in a growing sense of inner peace. The desire for this inner peace will lead us back to truth and the Peace of God.
VII. The Consistency of Means and End

T-20.VII.1. We have said much about discrepancies of means and end, and how means and ends must be brought in line before your holy relationship can bring you only joy. 2 But we have also said the means to meet the Holy Spirit's goal will come from the same Source, God's love for His Son, as does the Holy Spirit's purpose come from the Father. 3 Being so simple and direct, this course has nothing in it that is not consistent. 4 The seeming inconsistencies, or parts you find more difficult than other parts, are merely indications of areas where means and end are still discrepant. 5 And this discrepancy between means and ends produces great discomfort. 6 This discomfort produced by the discrepancy between means and ends need not be. 7 This course requires almost nothing of you. 8 It is impossible to imagine one course that asks so little, or one course that could offer more.

Note # 55: The course is simple because all it asks is that we accept the truth and give up illusions. It does not require us at change our true essence, but rather to remove the veils we have placed to hide our true reality, which is only love. If there is discomfort, it is due to the fact that we still value some parts of the egoic thought system. It may be that we claim to want only love, but we demand that “love” be a certain “special” way. We believe that we have a better plan for salvation than God’s plan. This is the ego talking, not the Holy Spirit. It is our need to be right rather than be happy. The need to save or to change someone is part of the ego’s plan to make the separation appear real.

T-20.VII.2. The period of discomfort that follows the sudden change in a relationship from sin to holiness may now be almost over. 2 To the extent you still experience this period of discomfort that follows the sudden change in a relationship from sin to holiness, you are refusing to leave the means to the Holy Spirit, Who changed the purpose of the relationship. 3 You recognize you want the Holy Spirit's goal. 4 Are you not also willing to accept the means to the Holy Spirit's goal? 5 If you are not willing to accept the means to the Holy Spirit's goal, let us admit that <you> are inconsistent. 6 A purpose is attained by means, and if you want a purpose you must be willing to want the means as well. p439 7 How can one be sincere and say, "I want this above all else, and yet I do not want to learn the means to get it?"

Note # 56: We must not impose our own judgments on what are appropriate means to achieve the goals of the Holy Spirit. If we accept that our goal is the reawakening of the Sonship, we need to accept the experience, the means that appear in our life. We cannot pick and choose when we will be a conduit for love and forgiveness and when we will withhold it. It is not our decision as to what form the means must appear under. It is not our decision to offer forgiveness to one person but not to another. The illusion that we are a body is always the same. The form may differ, but the content is always the same. The content is always asking, “Will I teach fear or love?” We are not the arbitrators of God’s Plan for Salvation. Every moment is the perfect moment for us to choose for love and to teach only love. All moments should be given to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. If the
goal is the healing of our split-mind, no moments should be given over to the plan of the egoic thought system.

T-20.VII.3. To obtain the goal the Holy Spirit indeed asks little. 2 The Holy Spirit asks no more to give the means as well as the goal. 3 The means are second to the goal. 4 And when you hesitate, it is because the purpose, which is the goal, frightens you, and not the means. 5 Remember this, you are never frightened by the means but rather only frightened by the goal and if you forget this you will make the error of believing the means are difficult. 6 Yet how can means be difficult if means are merely given you? 7 Means guarantee the goal, and means are perfectly in line with the goal. 8 Before we look at means a little closer, remember that if you think means are impossible, your wanting of the purpose has been shaken. 9 For if a goal is possible to reach, the means to do so must be possible as well.

Note # 57: We are always at the perfect place and moment in time. We are each on the journey of God’s plan for His Child reawakening to knowledge and truth. To the traveler, it may appear that we may be going backwards, yet every step is needed to arrive at the goal. If the goal is to climb a mountain, we may traverse a series of switchback trails. It may appear that we are actually losing altitude along the trip. Yet, each step was ultimately in line with the goal of climbing the mountain. Without the last step, we would not be able to make the next step. ACIM warns the student not to judge his journey or his path with another. Each person is on his or her own perfect path. The Holy Spirit knows all paths will eventually lead to the top of the mountain. Only the ego needs to tell someone else that his or her path is wrong and that only the ego’s path is the correct one.

T-20.VII.4. It is impossible to see your brother as sinless and yet to look upon your brother as a body. 2 Is seeing your brother as sinless not perfectly consistent with the goal of holiness? 3 For holiness is merely the result of letting the effects of sin be lifted, so what was always true is recognized. 4 To see a sinless body is impossible, for holiness is positive and the body is merely neutral. 5 The body is not sinful, but neither is the body sinless. 6 As nothing, which the body is, the body cannot meaningfully be invested with attributes of Christ or of the ego. 7 Either the attributing to the body attributes that could only belong to the Christ or the ego must be an error, for both would place the attributes where they cannot be, which is the body. 8 And both errors must be undone for purposes of truth.

Note # 58: We are mind. We are not the body. The body is only a neutral communication device. It only follows what the mind would have it do. To place any other value on the body is to give the body powers that it does not possess. The mind, not the body, is the place where correction of “stinking thinking” must occur.

T-20.VII.5. The body is the means by which the ego tries to make the unholy relationship seem real. 2 The unholy instant is the time of bodies. 3 But the ego’s purpose here in the world of flesh born of perception is sin. 4 Sin cannot be attained but in illusion, and so the illusion of a brother as a body is quite in keeping with the purpose of unholliness, which is sin. 5 Because of this consistency of egoic thinking, the
means, **which claim we are a body**, remain unquestioned while the end, **which is that we are sinners**, is cherished. 6 Seeing adapts to wish, for sight is always secondary to desire. 7 And if you see the body, you have chosen judgment and not vision. 8 For vision, like relationships, has no order of difficulties. 9 You either see or not.

**Note # 59:** The sin that the ego would have us make is arrogance. Being a body proves that we have usurp the power of God. We claim that we are little and not made in God’s image. The limitations we place upon the Big “S” Self are egoic arrogance. It claims you could be other than as God created you. This “sin” can only be illusionary.

Seeing utilizes projection. Projection allows us to see only what we want to see. What we want to see is the confirmation of our prejudged thoughts that we have projected into the universe. The physical senses are thought confirming devices. The eyes only verify our prejudged images. Vision, on the other hand, looks pass all judgments and observe only content. Is the content an expression of love or a cry for love? Vision bypasses form and observes truth. Seeing and vision are mutually exclusive.

**T-20.VII.6.** Who sees a brother’s body has laid a judgment on him, and sees him not. 2 He, who sees a brother’s body, does not really see a brother as sinful; he, who sees a brother’s body, does not see a brother at all. 3 In the darkness of sin a brother’s Big “S” Self is invisible. 4 A brother can but be imagined in the darkness, and it is here in the darkness that the illusions you hold about your “sinful” brother are not held up to your brother’s reality, **which is the Christ.** 5 Here are illusions and reality kept separated. 6 Here are illusions never brought to truth, and always hidden from truth. 7 And here, in darkness, is your brother’s reality of unlimited Christ consciousness imagined as a body, in unholy relationships with other bodies, serving the cause of sin an instant before he dies. p440

**Note # 60:** When we see a brother or ourselves as a body, we accept all the limitation that comes with that body form. We become a limited, separate ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. To this illusionary body, the ego now has attached the illusion of sin. This illusionary veil of form now blocks the reality of unlimited spirit. True vision is blocked by what we call physical sight. The egoic physical senses were only made to allow us to function in the world of illusion as if the dream was real. The physical sense’s purpose is to deceive. They place value only on the worthless and see nothing of true value.

**T-20.VII.7.** There is indeed a difference between this vain imagining and vision. 2 The difference lies not in them, but in their purpose of imagining and vision. 3 Both imagining and vision are but means, each one appropriate to the end for which imagining or vision is employed. 4 Neither imagining nor vision can serve the purpose of the other, for each one is a <choice> of purpose, employed on its behalf. 5 Either imagining or vision is meaningless without the end for which imagining or vision was intended, nor is imagining or vision valued as a separate thing apart from the intention. 6 The means seem real because the goal is valued. 7 And judgment has no value unless the goal is sin.
Note # 61: The means always serves the purpose of the goal. The ego’s goal is the confirmation that the separation was real. The image of you being a body is the means that “verify” that we are sinners and thus, separate from God. The goal of the Holy Spirit’s thought system is to bring the Son of God back to the truth of whole-mindedness. Vision is utilized to look past the illusion that the physical body is the home of our essence. Instead, vision focuses on the reality of our Christ consciousness. The shared goal of both the Holy Spirit and the Christ is to reawaken the sleeping mind to the truth of the shared Oneness. Vision is the means utilized to achieve this goal of rejoining in the knowledge that we are that One Self.

T-20.VII.8. The body cannot be looked upon except through egoic judgment. 2 To see the body is the sign that you lack vision, and have denied the means the Holy Spirit offers you to serve the Holy Spirit’s purpose. 3 How can a holy relationship achieve its holy purpose, which is the return to truth, through the means of sin? 4 Judgment you taught yourself; vision is learned from the Holy Spirit, Who would undo your egoic teaching of judgment and sin. 5 The Holy Spirit’s vision cannot see the body because the Holy Spirit cannot look on sin. 6 And thus the Holy Spirit’s vision leads you to reality. 7 Your holy brother, sight of whom is your release, is no illusion. Your holy brother is the Christ. 8 Attempt to see your holy brother not in darkness, for your imaginings about your holy brother as being a body will seem real there in the darkness. 9 You closed your Christ’s eyes, to shut your holy brother out from the truth of what he really is, the Christ. 10 The denial of truth was your purpose, and while the denial of truth’s purpose seems to have a meaning, the means for its attainment, which is the belief that we are the body, will be evaluated as worth the seeing, and so you will not see with the Vision of Christ.

Note # 62: As long as we value being special, we will value the belief that we are a separate ego-body. This desire for the separation will result in our mind choosing to continue to make an imaginary world of flesh that bears false witness to the reality of the illusion. Being a body is the means to make this illusion appear real. Seeing with the physical eyes is the means to confirm our desire for specialness. Sin, which is born from arrogance, can attach itself only to the body. In the insane mind of the dreamer, God’s perfect Son now takes on the illusionary appearance of a fearful guilty sinful body.

T-20.VII.9. Your question should not be, "How can I see my brother without the body?" 2 Ask only, "Do I really wish to see him sinless?" 3 And as you ask yourself "Do I really wish to see him sinless?" forget not that his sinlessness is escape from fear. 4 Salvation is the Holy Spirit's goal. 5 The means is vision. 6 For what the egoic seeing looks upon really sinless. 7 No one who loves can judge, and what he who loves and does not judge sees, is free of condemnation. 8 And what he who loves and does not judge sees is the truth. He, who loves and does not judge, did not make the truth. For the truth was given him to see with the eyes of Christ, as was the vision that made his seeing possible.

Note # 63: In physical sight, we see the images that are the representations of the ego’s prejudged thought projections. Thus, seeing is not unbiased observation. We are seeing
only the images that the ego made. When the ego makes, it comes from the belief in limitation. Vision observes the truth of reality. Reality was created out of the extension of everything. Creation gives everything because it is everything. Creation is the truth of the Mind of God. In the world of perception, the Holy Spirit transforms the illusionary imagined forms that the ego has made and reinterprets these forms in light of the truth of what we truly are. Thus, the same event can and will be interpreted differently based on the goal or purpose that we assign it. If we wish to confirm our separateness, we will utilize egoic sight and see a body. If our goal is the return to truth and the reclaiming of our divine birthright, we will utilize the vision of the Holy Spirit’s thought system and look upon the Christ in our brother. The call or desire for truth requires vision. The desire for illusion requires egoic seeing.

**VIII. The Vision of Sinlessness**

T-20.VIII.1. Vision will come to you at first in glimpses, but the glimpses of vision will be enough to show you what is given you who see your brother sinless. 2 Truth is restored to you through your desire for vision, as truth was lost to you through your desire for something else, the seeing of the false. 3 Open the holy place that you closed off by valuing the "something else instead of truth" and what was never lost, the truth, will quietly return. 4 Truth has been saved for you. p441 5 Vision would not be necessary had judgment not been made. 6 Desire now judgment’s whole undoing, and judgment’s undoing is done for you.

**Note # 64:** What we desire, we create or make. Thoughts become what we perceive and draw into our awareness. God has given us the power of creation. Our mind was designed to be a co-creating machine. Creation extends or shares everything with its creation out of love. Coming from love its creations are real. Making comes from fear and limitation that is based on our belief in our unholy relationship with our Creator. Coming from lack and fear, we choose not to co-create with God. We make only illusionary dreams that are not shared with the Mind of God. Creation requires sharing. When anyone creates, they share everything because they are everything. There is only the extension of the One Self.

T-20.VIII.2. Do you not want to know your own Identity? 2 Would you not happily exchange your doubts for certainty about what you are? 3 Would you not willingly be free of misery, and learn again of joy? 4 Your holy relationship offers all this to you. The holy relationship provides you your identity, certainty and joy. 5 As the holy relationship was given you, so will be the holy relationship’s effects. 6 And as the relationship’s holy purpose was not made by you but rather by the Holy Spirit, the means by which the holy relationship’s happy end is yours is also not made by you. 7 Rejoice in what is yours but for the asking, and think not that you need make either means or end to experience this holy relationship 8 All the means and the ends of the holy relationship is given you who would but see your brother sinless. 9 All this is given, waiting on your desire but to receive the holy relationship. 10 Vision is freely
Note # 65: What we desire, we receive. Ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and it will be given. But when we ask, we must be willing to accept the ends or goal, through the means that the Holy Spirit provides. We cannot ask to be free from guilt, and yet, also require that our brother remain guilty. This request lacks internal consistency with the truth. Such a request can only be incorrectly “answered” by the insane logic of the ego within the equally insane illusion. Only the ego claims that the truth is false and the false is true. Only the ego dares to claim that truth can be true on some days and false on others. Only the insane believe that they are the arbitrators of truth.

T-20.VIII.3. Your brother's sinlessness is given you in shining light, to look on with the Holy Spirit's vision and to rejoice in your brother's sinlessness along with the Holy Spirit. 2 For peace will come to all who ask for vision with real desire and sincerity of purpose, shared with the Holy Spirit and at one with the Holy Spirit on what salvation is. 3 Be willing, then, to see your brother sinless, that Christ may rise before your vision and give you joy. 4 And place no value on your brother's body, which holds your brother to illusions of what he is. 5 It is your brother's desire to see his sinlessness, as it is your desire to see sinlessness. 6 And bless the Son of God in your relationship, nor see in your brother what your ego has made of your brother, which is sinfulness.

Note # 66: Vision aligns with truth. Vision looks past egoic judgments and limitation and observes how the experience can be brought to bear witness for the truth. Thus, vision serves the thought system of the Holy Spirit by lifting us gently out from egoic consciousness. Christ Vision is the same as the Vision of the Holy Spirit.

T-20.VIII.4. The Holy Spirit guarantees that what God willed and gave you shall be yours. Thus, God guarantees your perfect holiness and wholeness. 2 This return to your true Identity is your purpose now, and the vision that makes the return to truth yours is ready to be given. 3 You have the vision that enables you to see the body not. This is your Christ vision. 4 And as you look upon your brother through the vision of Christ, you will see an altar to your Father, holy as Heaven, glowing with radiant purity and sparkling with the shining lilies of innocence and forgiveness that you laid upon God’s altar. 5 What can you value more than this, the truth of the Christ? 6 Why do you think the body is a better home, a safer shelter for God's Son? 7 Why would you rather look on the body than on the truth? 8 How can the engine of destruction, the egoic body, be preferred, and chosen to replace the holy home the Holy Spirit offers, where the Holy Spirit and the Father will dwell with you, which is the Christ?

Note # 67: The true home of the Father, the Holy Spirit and us, the Sonship, is the Christ. This is the One Self. We remain the extension of the Oneness of the Mind of God. God is Cause, we are God’s Effect and together we are that indivisible One Self. The ego would delude us into the belief that this Oneness has been split apart and that the now sinful son makes his home in the illusionary world of bodies.

T-20.VIII.5. The body is the sign of weakness, vulnerability and loss of power. 2 Can
such a savior as the body help you? 3 Would you turn in your distress and need for help unto the helpless body? 4 Is the pitifully little body the perfect choice to call upon for strength? 5 Judgment will seem to make your savior, your brother, weak. 6 Yet it is <you> who need your brother’s strength. 7 There is no problem, no event or situation, no perplexity that vision will not solve. 8 All is redeemed when looked upon with vision.

For this vision is not <your> sight, and brings with it the laws beloved of the Holy Spirit, Whose sight this vision is.

Note # 68: The body’s eyes and physical senses deceive. They only confirm prejudged egoic images. Only Christ Vision looks past form to content. Without egoic judgment, the vision of Christ that the Holy Spirit shares with our Big “S” Self corrects our egoic misperceptions and returns us to correct perception. We can “see” the sinless Christ in our brother and thus, reawaken the Christ in us.

T-20.VIII.6. Everything looked upon with vision falls gently into place, according to the laws of God brought to it by the Holy Spirit’s calm and certain sight. 2 The end for everything the Holy Spirit looks upon is always sure. 3 For the end will meet the Holy Spirit’s purpose, seen in unadjusted form and suited perfectly to meet the Holy Spirit’s purpose. 4 Destructiveness becomes benign, and sin is turned to blessing under the Holy Spirit’s gentle gaze. 5 What can the body’s eyes perceive, with power to correct? 6 The body’s eyes adjust to sin, unable to overlook sin in any form and seeing sin everywhere, in everything. 7 Look through the body’s eyes, and everything will stand condemned before you. 8 Look through the body’s eyes and all that could save you, you will never see. 9 Look through the body’s eyes and your holy relationship, the source of your salvation, will be deprived of meaning, and your holy relationship’s most holy purpose bereft of means for your holy relationship’s accomplishment.

Note # 69: The eyes of the body are the tools of the egoic thought system. They are used to “prove” that you are a limited ego-body in competition with other limited ego-bodies. They can only deceive. It is foolish to believe that the eyes for illusion will tell the truth. For eyes, like the body, are powerless. They can only do the bidding of their master, the egoic mind. When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we go outside the illusion and utilize the vision of Christ to look upon the truth that there is only a Oneness. The illusion is brought into alignment with the Holy Spirit’s goal to return the Sonship to the truth. The illusion of separation is nothing but a bad dream that fades before the vision of the truth.

T-20.VIII.7. Judgment is but a toy, a whim, the senseless means to play the idle game of death in your imagination. 2 But vision sets all things right, bringing all things gently within the kindly sway of Heaven's laws. 3 What if you recognized this world of flesh born from egoic perception is an hallucination? 4 What if you really understood you made this world of flesh born from egoic perception up? 5 What if you realized that those who seem to walk about in this world of egoic perception, to sin and die, attack and murder and destroy themselves, are wholly unreal? 6 Could you have faith in what you see, if you accepted this was a hallucination? 7 And would you see the hallucination of this world of flesh born from egoic perception?
**Note # 70:** ACIM asks the question, if you knew you were dreaming, would you mistake the dream for reality? Would you deny the truth so that you could pretend you actually lived in the dream? Would you attempt to choose to never reawaken to the truth that you are the Christ?

**T-20.VIII.8.** Hallucinations disappear when hallucinations are recognized for what they are. 2 This recognition that hallucinations are not real is the healing and the remedy. 3 Believe them not and hallucinations are gone. 4 And all you need to do is recognize that <your egoic little “s” self> did this. You are the dreamer. 5 Once you accept this simple fact that you are the dreamer and take unto yourself, your Big “S” Self, the power you gave the dream, you are released from the hallucinations. 6 One thing is sure; hallucinations serve a purpose, and when that purpose is no longer held hallucinations disappear. 7 Therefore, the question never is whether you want hallucinations, but always, do you want the purpose that hallucinations serve? 8 This world seems to hold out many purposes, each different and with different values. 9 Yet the worlds of hallucinations’ purposes are all the same. The purpose of all hallucinations is the denial of the truth. 10 Again there is no order; only a seeming hierarchy of values.

**Note # 71:** This entire world of perception was made to bear false witness to the reality of the separation. Although the correction of one illusion may appear to be more difficult than another, the solution is always the same. Look with Christ vision and the false illusion that was hiding reality fades away before the light of truth.

**T-20.VIII.9.** Only two purposes are possible. 2 And one purpose is sin and the other purpose is holiness. 3 Nothing is in between sin and holiness, and which purpose you choose determines what you see. 4 For what you see is merely how you elect to meet your goal’s purpose. 5 Hallucinations serve to meet the goal of madness. 6 Hallucinations are the means by which the outside world, projected from within, adjusts to sin and seems to witness to the hallucinations’ reality. 7 It still is true that nothing is without. p443 8 Yet upon nothing are all projections made. 9 For it is the projection that gives the "nothing" all the meaning that the projected hallucination holds.

**Note # 72:** Although hallucinations have no reality, it is our mind that gives them life. By believing in a hallucination, we make it seem real to us. It is our mind that makes our dream world of provisional reality so real to us that it becomes our prison. It is the dreamer who alone can unlock the prison doors he created. Our mind becomes our own jailer in our imagined prison of limitation and separation.

**T-20.VIII.10.** What has no meaning cannot be perceived. 2 And meaning always looks within your mind to find itself, and <then> looks out. 3 All meaning that you give the world outside must thus reflect the sight you saw within your mind; or better, if you saw at all or merely judged against. This “sight” will be based on your mind’s purpose. 4 Vision is the means by which the Holy Spirit translates your nightmares into happy dreams; your wild hallucinations that show you all the fearful outcomes of imagined sin
into the calm and reassuring sights with which the Holy Spirit would replace the nightmares with happy dreams. 5 These gentle sights and sounds are looked on happily, and heard with joy. 6 The happy dreams are the Holy Spirit’s substitutes for all the terrifying sights and screaming sounds the ego’s purpose brought to your horrified awareness. 7 The happy dreams step away from sin, reminding you that it is not reality which frightens you, and that the errors, which you egoically made, can be corrected.

Note # 73: The Holy Spirit corrects our egoic misperception into correct perception. This realigns the experience to the Holy Spirit’s purpose, which is the Sonship’s return to right-mindedness. The Holy Spirit tells us that God’s Son cannot sin. Sin is impossible within the Mind of God. What we perceive as sin is only a mistake that needs correction. No punishment is required for we are sinless and guiltless. We need only choose again.

T-20.VIII.11. When you have looked on what seemed terrifying, and seen it change to sights of loveliness and peace; when you have looked on scenes of violence and death, and watched them change to quiet views of gardens under open skies, with clear, life-giving water running happily beside them in dancing brooks that never waste away; who need persuade you to accept the gift of vision? 2 And after vision, who is there who could refuse what must come after vision? 3 Think but an instant just on this; you can behold the holiness God gave His Son. 4 And never need you think that there is something else for you to see but the holiness God gave His Son. p444

Note # 74: The happy dream will draw us ever closer to the truth. When we have exchanged the egoic thought system for the Holy Spirit’s, we will no longer desire the specialness of separation. We will only want to see God’s Creation as God created It, perfect, whole and complete. God, the Father, will take the final step in the return of the Sonship from the world of perception back to the knowledge of Heaven.
Chapter 21. REASON AND PERCEPTION

Introduction

T-21.in.1. Projection makes perception. 2 The world you see is what you gave the world through your projection, nothing more than that. 3 But though the world you perceive is no more than that projection, the world you see is not less than that projection. 4 Therefore, to you what you see or perceive is important. 5 What you see or perceive is the witness to your state of mind, the outside picture that was projected of an inward condition. 6 As a man thinketh, so does a man perceive. 7 Therefore, seek not to change the world, but choose to change your mind about the world. 8 Perception is a result and not a cause. 9 And because perception is a result and not a cause, this is why order of difficulty in miracles is meaningless. 10 Everything looked upon with vision is healed and holy. 11 Nothing perceived without vision means anything. 12 And where there is no meaning, there is chaos.

Note # 1: Because the world of provisional reality is based on our own internal projection, we literally make up the world we choose to perceive. This means that what ACIM calls “seeing” is actually based on our preconceived judgments of what we expect to see. This is why seeing, the physical eyes and the senses, are referred to as confirmation devices for prejudged, preconceived internal images of our mind. The images we imagine may or may not have any basis in reality but they all follow from our current beliefs of what we are. ACIM does not ask us to change the world. Rather, ACIM asks us to choose to change our mind about how we view the world. ACIM knows that our projection “makes up” the world we choose to perceive. Change how we choose to think about the world and the world we perceive must adjust to reflect these new thoughts that we projected out from our mind and that we now perceive coming back to our mind from the “outside world.” Thoughts never leave the mind of the perceiver. It is our thought projections that we perceive as our “outside” world of provisional reality. This supposed outside world, however, only has apparent reality inside the mind of the projector. Change the film or the story that you choose to run in your mind and you change the movie you “see” or more correctly perceive. Projected thoughts become the “things” or images that make up our dream world of provisional reality.

The Vision of Christ reflects the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit does not judge based on past preconceived beliefs of limitation and fear. Because vision is not based on past misperception, it is able to clearly align itself with the truth of the reality of the Oneness of the Mind of God. Vision utilizes the correct perception of the Holy Spirit’s thought system.

T-21.in.2. Damnation is your judgment on yourself, and this judgment you will project
upon the world. 2 See the world as damned, and all you see is what you did to hurt the Son of God. 3 If you behold disaster and catastrophe, you tried to crucify the Son of God. 4 If you see holiness and hope, you joined the Will of God to set the Son of God free. 5 There is no choice that lies between these two decisions for either sinfulness or holiness of God’s Son. 6 And you will see the witness to the choice you made, and learn from this witness to recognize which one, either sinfulness or holiness, you chose. 7 The world you see but shows you how much joy you have allowed yourself to see in you, and to accept as yours. 8 And, if this monitoring of the amount of joy you have allowed yourself <is> the meaning of the world you allow yourself to see, then the power to give the world you see joy must also lie within you.

Note # 2: ACIM continues with the idea that how we choose to perceive our world is based on how we choose to perceive ourselves. If we believe that we are sinners, our world will appear to be a sinful, fearful place. Since to give is to receive, our thoughts always boomerang or return to the mind of the sender. Thoughts never leave their source. The joy and peace we see in our world is in direct proportion to how much joy and peace we allow ourselves to experience. What we desire, we reflect in our world of provisional reality. How we perceive our world is the barometer of our own internal thinking. Stinking thinking produces a world that stinks.

I. The Forgotten Song

T-21.I.1. Never forget the world the sightless "see" or actually perceive must be imagined, for what the real world really looks like is unknown to the sightless that “see” with egoic eyes. 2 The sightless that “see” with egoic eyes must infer what could be seen from evidence forever indirect; and reconstruct their inferences as they stumble and fall because of what the sightless did not recognize, or walk unharmed through open doorways that they thought were closed. 3 And so it is with you. 4 You, who see with egoic eyes, do not see, instead, you perceive what you projected from your mind’s own internal thoughts. 5 Your cues for inference are wrong, and so you, who see with egoic eyes, stumble and fall down upon the stones you did not recognize, but fail to be aware you can go through the doors you thought were closed, but which stand open before unseeing eyes, waiting to welcome you. p445

Note # 3: When we choose to perceive based on the thought system of the ego, we think based on our egoic belief in limitation and separation. Because we believe we are limited ego-bodies in competition with other limited ego-bodies, we perceive a world of limitation for ourselves. This egoic world of perception becomes a fearful place that reflects the projections from our own mind’s belief in sin and guilt. Living in victim consciousness, we fear to open the door that will lead us back to the sanity of the truth that we are unlimited Children of God. Because we think fearful thoughts, we project these same fears outside ourselves in a futile attempt to remove these fears from our own mind. These projected fearful thoughts are then reflected back to us as our perception of
the outside world. Thus, thought never leaves the mind of the thinker and our projections
make the world that we perceive.

T-21.I.2. How foolish is it to attempt to judge what could be seen with the vision of
Christ instead. 2 It is not necessary to imagine what the world must look like. 3 The
world must be seen with Christ vision before you recognize the world for what it is. 4
With the vision of Christ, you can be shown which doors are open, and you can see
where safety lies; and which way leads to darkness, which way to light. 5 Egoic
judgment will always give you false directions, but vision shows you where to go. 6 Why
should you guess?

Note # 4: ACIM tells us that the only correct judgment that we can make is to realize that
we cannot judge anything correctly. Since our mind is clouded by the ego’s thought
system, we should ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit knows the
truth and has the big picture of God’s plan for salvation. We need only follow the
Christ conscious part of our mind. Discard egoic seeing and look only with the vision of
the eyes of Christ. Vision is true “seeing”.

T-21.I.3. There is no need to learn through pain. 2 And gentle lessons are acquired
joyously, and are remembered gladly. 3 What gives you happiness you want to learn and
not forget. 4 It is not what gives you happiness you would deny. 5 Your question is
whether the means by which this course is learned will bring to you the joy this course
promises. 6 If you believed this course’s means would give you the joy ACIM
promises, the learning of ACIM would be no problem. 7 You are not a happy learner yet
because you still remain uncertain that the Christ vision of the Holy Spirit’s thought
system gives you more than the judgment of the egoic thought system does, and you
have learned that both vision and judgment, you cannot have.

Note # 5: As long as we have hope that the egoic thought system can achieve the
happiness we seek, we will not desire to change our belief system to that of the Holy
Spirit. This is why ACIM states that before we change our mind, we need to be so
miserable within our private world that we finally say: “There must be another way.” The
egoic thought system has always surrendered our happiness for its claim to rightness.
When we do decide that we need to find a new plan for happiness, we have begun the
recovery of our decision-making ability. We have decided we need to finally choose
again. Hopefully, rather than choose a different egoic plan for our happiness, we will
choose for the reawakening of the Vision of Christ.

T-21.I.4. The blind become accustomed to their world by their adjustments to their blind
world. 2 The blind think they know their way about in their blind world. 3 They
learned about their world, not through joyous lessons, but through the stern necessity of
limits that the blind believed they could not overcome. 4 And still believing these
lessons of limitation, the blind hold those lessons dear, and cling to these lessons of
limitation because the blind cannot see. 5 The blind do not understand that these
lessons on limitation <keep> them blind. 6 That these lessons of limitation keep them
blind, the blind do not believe. 7 And so the blind keep the world they learned to "see" in their imagination, believing that their choice is a world based on limitations or nothing. 8 The blind hate the world of limitation they learned through pain. 9 And everything the blind think is in their world of limitation serves to remind them that they are incomplete and bitterly deprived.

Note # 6: Our belief in limitation becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. Whether you think you can, or you think you can’t, you are right. What we perceive is based on our own internal belief system that we have projected into our provisional reality that we call our physical world. The egoic thought system only provides a world based on sin, guilt, fear, suffering and pain. There is only so much pain you can take before you freely choose to reclaim the decision-making part of your mind. You will than decide to choose again.

T-21.I.5. Thus the blind define their life and where they live, adjusting to their life as the blind think they must, afraid to lose the little that the blind have. 2 And so it is with all who see the body as all they have and all their brothers have. 3 They who see the body as being our essence try to reach each other, and they fail, and fail again. 4 And they who see the body as being our essence adjust to loneliness, believing that to keep the body is to save the little that they have. 5 Listen, and try to think if you remember what we will speak of now.

Note # 7: If you perceive yourself as a body, you are stuck with all the limitations of the body. ACIM asks that you try to remember that there is another way of perceiving yourself. This other way is still within us, but we have chosen to forget the truth. ACIM states the Holy Spirit will help us remember the truth if we ask.

T-21.I.6. Listen,—perhaps you catch a hint of an ancient state not quite forgotten; dim, perhaps, and yet not altogether unfamiliar, like a song whose name is long forgotten, and the circumstances in which you heard completely unremembered. 2 Not the whole song has stayed with you, but just a little wisp of melody, attached not to a person or a place or anything particular. p446 3 But you remember this ancient state of Oneness, which is your true home, from just this little part, how lovely was the song, how wonderful the setting where you heard it, and how you loved those who were there and listened with you.

Note # 8: The Christ conscious mind remembers its true source and identity. Its call has not been heard due to the loudness of the ego’s voice and our decision to experience the ego desire to be special and thus, little.

T-21.I.7. The notes are nothing. 2 Yet you have kept the remembrance of the voice for truth, these notes with you, not for themselves, but as a soft reminder of what would make you weep if you remembered how dear the song was to you. 3 You could remember, yet you are afraid, believing you would lose the egoic world you learned since then. 4 And yet you know that nothing in the egoic world you learned is half so dear as this, the song for the remembrance of God. 5 Listen, and see if you remember an ancient song you knew so long ago and held more dear than any egoic melody you taught
yourself to cherish since.

**Note # 9:** When we go within and silence the voice for the ego, we will hear the call of God for His Child’s return. If this Call to God is heard, we will not desire the egoic world of perception and limitation.

**T-21.I.8.** Beyond the body, beyond the sun and stars, past everything you see and yet somehow familiar, is an arc of golden light that stretches as you look into a great and shining circle. And all the circle fills with light before your eyes. The edges of the circle disappear, and what is in it is no longer contained at all. The light expands and covers everything, extending to infinity forever shining and with no break or limit anywhere. Within **this golden circle of light** everything is joined in perfect continuity. Nor is it possible to imagine that anything could be outside, for there is nowhere that this light is not.

**Note # 10:** Jesus attempts to describe the Oneness. Nothing is outside and nothing is apart.

**T-21.I.9.** This is the vision of the Son of God, whom you know well. Here is the sight of him, the Christ, who knows his Father. Here is the memory of what you are; a part of this, with all of it within, and joined to all as surely as all is joined in you: a **Oneness of everything**. Accept the vision that can show you this **identity of the Christ**, and not the body. You know the ancient song, and know the ancient song well. Nothing will ever be as dear to you as is this ancient hymn of love the Son of God sings to his Father still.

**Note # 11:** Even during the apparent separation, our Christ consciousness is in communication and communion with Its Creative Source, God, Our Father-Mother.

**T-21.I.10.** And now the blind can see, for that same song they sing in honor of their Creator gives praise to the once blind as well. The blindness that they made will not withstand the memory of this song. And the blind that now see will look upon the vision of the Son of God, remembering who he is they sing of. What is a miracle but this remembering of the vision of the Son of God? And who is there in whom this memory of the vision of the Son of God lies not? The light in one awakens the light in all. And when you see the light in your brother, you remembering for everyone that they are the light.

**Note # 12:** When we choose for the Vision of the Holy Spirit’s thought system, we see beyond the bodily form of a brother and gaze upon the light of the Christ. The misperception that we are the body dissipates. This is replaced by the Vision of Christ, which is jointly shared with the entire Sonship. Christ’s Vision brings the remembrance of God and the realization that we are One in the holographic Mind of God. There is one shared will and this is the Will of God.
II. The Responsibility for Sight

T-21.II.1. We have repeated how little is asked of you to learn this course. What is asked to learn this course, is the same small willingness you need to have your whole relationship transformed to joy; the little gift you offer to the Holy Spirit for which the Holy Spirit gives you everything; the very little on which salvation rests; the tiny change of mind by which the crucifixion is changed to resurrection. And being true, this tiny change of mind by which the belief in the crucifixion is changed to resurrection is so simple that this change in mind in favor of the Holy Spirit’s thought system cannot fail to be completely understood. This tiny change of mind for the guidance of the Holy Spirit can be rejected yes, but the voice for truth of the Holy Spirit’s call is not ambiguous. And if you choose against the vision the Holy Spirit offers now it will not be because the call for true vision is obscure, but rather that this little cost of giving up egoic thought system that sees of the body as your home seemed, in your judgment, to be too much to pay for peace.

Note # 13: We need to be willing to choose for the thought system of the Holy Spirit over the ego’s. This requires the silencing of the ego long enough so that we can ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We need to overcome our fear of the truth. Only we can control our fear. We need to decide to accept truth over illusion. If we can control our fear long enough to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, the Holy Spirit will be able to accomplish the rest. This asking for help is the beginning of the reclamation of our divine inheritance as Children of God. By requesting vision over the egoic seeing of bodily form, we take our place as instruments in God’s plan for salvation. The decision-maker within is reawakening to the remembrance of God. We realize that we are not the body but rather, the unlimited Mind of God. We are part of the Oneness of God.

The belief in the crucifixion is the acceptance of the egoic thought system. The crucifixion “confirms” the ego’s belief in sin and the requirement of sacrifice. Jesus’ crucifixion, when seen with Christ vision, was an extreme example that proved that nothing that takes place at the non-real body level can affect the level of mind. The body has no power or control over the mind because spirit cannot be harmed. The resurrection is the reawakening of the Christ consciousness and the acceptance that we are not a body.

T-21.II.2. This is the only thing that you need do for vision, happiness, release from pain and the complete escape from sin, all to be given you. Say only this, but mean this statement of affirmation with no reservations, for here the power of salvation lies:

3 I am responsible for what I see.
4 I choose the feelings I experience, and I decide upon the goal I would achieve.
5 And everything that seems to happen to me I ask for, and receive as I have asked.
6 Deceive yourself no longer that you are helpless in the face of what is done to you. Acknowledge but that you have been mistaken about the sources of cause and effect, and all effects of your mistakes will disappear.

Note # 14: This statement affirms that we are responsible for all we perceive. We are
source or cause. This is the call for reclaiming our decision-making ability and the abandonment of the victim consciousness of the egoic thought system. Our thoughts make our perception. Change our thinking and our world of provisional reality realigns to our new thinking patterns. Thoughts become our personal reality. We can deny this truth but our denial cannot change this truth. We are source of all our experiences whether we choose to accept this truth or deny this truth. We are co-creators with God. We can create by extension with God or we can deny our creative power and make by projection based on egoic belief in limitation. We cannot lose our power to project what we believe we are. In the world of perception, our thoughts become what we perceive. Our projections make our perceptions. Thoughts are things.

T-21.II.3. It is impossible the Son of God be merely driven by events outside of him. 2 It is impossible that happenings that come to him were not his choice. 3 The Son of God’s power of decision is the determiner of every situation in which he seems to find himself by chance or accident. 4 No accident nor chance is possible within the universe as God created the universe, which is the Sonship, outside of which is nothing. 5 Suffer, and you decided sin was your goal. 6 Be happy, and you gave the power of decision to the Holy Spirit, Who must decide for God for you. 7 This asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance is the little gift you offer to the Holy Spirit, and even this the Holy Spirit gives to you to give yourself. 8 For by this gift is given you the power to release your savior, that your savior may give salvation unto you.

Note # 15: ACIM states that there are no accidents. Everything ultimately unfolds according the God’s Plan for salvation. We are part of this plan and we have freely chosen to play our role within this quest for the rediscovery of knowledge and the return of the Sonship to Oneness. We are also continuously choosing for ourselves which parts we will call into our experience. It is our decision-maker that makes this choice based on our free will. As ACIM states in the Introduction, “Free will does not mean that you can establish the curriculum. It means only that you can elect what to take at a given time.” In the illusion of time, it is our decision-maker who is the dreamer and, therefore, the controller of all we perceive. Our mind made this world and it is our projector that controls the films we perceive. We decide what we will experience and what movie we will play. God’s curriculum only states that we must reawaken to the truth since nothing real can be threatened and nothing unreal exists. The Sonship must be restored to whole-mindedness. It is up to you to determine how long you choose to play in the illusion of time and space.

Within the dream world of separation, it is our decision-maker, who must decide how we will perceive our world. This is always a choice between two distinct thought systems of fear and love. To a person who was raised in the Western fundamental religious traditions, the belief that there are no accidents is a difficult concept to accept. Although everything can be easily summed up as “The Will of God,” the question of why God would allow so much apparent evil in this world often arises. The question invariably comes up as to why someone is born deformed, handicapped etc.? Part of the difficulty in accepting the fact that there are no victims or accidents comes from their current denial of the idea of reincarnation. Reincarnation is a major tenant of eastern religious thought. Historically, the concept of reincarnation was also part of early
Christian traditions. This belief in rebirth or reincarnation was removed from Church canons around 400 AD. Both the political rulers and the church’s hierarchy wished to improve its control over their “sheep.” It was determined that you could control your flock easier if the authorities were able to condemn any heretic to the fires of everlasting hell. The church rulers decided that “one shot deal” was preferred over the idea of allowing someone unlimited lifetimes to “get it right”. Although the belief in reincarnation is not a requirement for someone to follow ACIM, it may aid the seeker in their overall understanding of the “big picture.” This may also aid and comfort someone in their need to better understand tragic world events like war, terrorism and natural disasters. In the ACIM Teacher’s Manual there is a section that addresses the question of reincarnation. We would encourage everyone to read the ACIM Teacher’s Manual, as this is the most clearly understandable of the ACIM’s material. The Manual’s question and answer format makes it an easy reference guide for ACIM students.

T-21.II.4. Begrudge not then this little offering, which is your request for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. 2 Withhold this request and you keep the world as now you see it under the egoic thought system. 3 Give the egoic thought system away, and everything you see goes away with the egoic thought system. 4 Never was so much given for so little. 5 In the holy instant is this exchange from the egoic thinking to the Holy Spirit’s thought system effected and maintained. 6 Here is the egoic world you do not want brought to the one world you do truly want, the world of correct perception or the happy dream that closely resembles Heaven. 7 And here the one world of correct perception you do want is given you because you want it. 8 Yet for this regaining of the real world of correct perception that you truly want, the power of your wanting must first be recognized. 9 You must accept your own decision-making ability’s strength, and not its weakness. 10 You must perceive that your mind, which is strong enough to make a world of egoic perception, can let this same egoic world go. And you must perceive that your mind can accept correction of itself if it is willing to see that your mind’s thinking was wrong.

Note # 16: Our mind is the master of all that we perceive. Based on what our decision-maker’s wants and desires, we continuously make-up the world that we perceive. Our current desires “make” the world and the experience that we call upon ourselves. Our choice is dependent on how we perceive ourselves to be. Do we wish to be special and limited or do we desire to be a One-ness of everything. Based on this decision, we will cast our lot with either the ego and the body or the Holy Spirit and the Will of God.

T-21.II.5. The world you see is but the idle witness that you were right. 2 This witness for the egoic rightness is insane. 3 You trained the world you see in its testimony, and as the world you saw gave this same distorted testimony back to you, you listened and convinced yourself that what the world saw was true. The world provided false witness that the separation was real. 4 You did this to yourself. 5 See only this self-serving distorted process for witnessing as insanity and you will also see how circular the reasoning on which your egoic "seeing" rests. 6 This insane witnessing was not given you. God did not make your world of egoic perception. You did. 7 This world, the insane witness for your egoic claim to be right, was your gift to you and to your
brother. 8 Be willing, then, to have insanity taken from your brother and be replaced with truth. 9 And as you look upon the change in your brother back to the sanity of truth, it will be given you to see the truth in yourself.

Note # 17: ACIM cautions us to question the egoic thought system. If someone is insane, you should not allow the insane to determine what a witness is allowed to say. To do this would allow the insane to force each witness to testify insanely. Yet, this is what we do when we follow the egoic thought system. The insane’s mad idea made the separation appear real by making up an illusionary world where the false was allowed to masquerade as the substitute for the reality of truth. Such a witness can only distort truth. We need to realize this error in egoic logic and simply correct it. To claim that the false is truth is insanity. Remove all insane witnesses and only the truth will remain. The Holy Spirit’s vision will bear witness for the truth.

It is our egoic desire to be right that required the sacrificing of our happiness and peace. We wanted to be something that was unlike God. Specialness could not be part of a Oneness of Everything. We made up this illusionary world in order to hide from God and thus, claim that something other than God’s Will was possible. We valued our egoic claim to be the arbitrators of truth over truth’s reality. We exchanged our happiness for the need to claim that we were right even when we where “dead” wrong. We freely made the egoic choice for insanity over sanity: illusion over truth.

T-21.II.6. Perhaps you do not see the need for you to give this little offering of asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. 2 Look closer, then, at what this asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit truly is. 3 And, very simply, see in the asking the whole exchange of separation for salvation. 4 All that the ego is, is an idea that it is possible that things could happen to the Son of God without the son’s will; and thus without the Will of the Son’s Creator, Whose Will cannot be separate from the son’s own will. 5 This is the Son of God’s replacement for his will which is shared with God. This attempted substitution by the ego of a will other than God’s Will for the Sonship is a mad revolt against what must forever be, which is the oneness of the Will of God. 6 This is the statement that the split-minded son has the power to make God powerless and so to take God’s power for himself, and leave himself without what God has willed for the split-minded Sonship. 7 This belief that there is a will different from God’s Will is the mad idea you have enshrined upon your altars, and which you worship. 8 And anything that threatens this idea of the egoic usurping of the power and Will of God seems to attack your faith, for here in the belief in separation is your faith invested. 9 Think not that you are faithless, for your belief and trust in the separation is strong indeed.

Note # 18: When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are choosing for the rejection of the egoic thought system. This change in which thought system we will support is the ultimate doom of the ego and all that would bear false witness on the ego’s behalf. This asking is the request for the remembrance of God. Vision will be restored and the voice within for Christ will be heard.

T-21.II.7. The Holy Spirit can give you faith in holiness and vision to see the holiness and vision of truth easily enough. 2 But you have not left open and unoccupied the altar
of truth where the gifts belong. 3 Where the gifts of holiness and vision should be placed on the altar of truth, you have set up your idols to something else, which is the altar to the false. 4 In the egoic desire for illusions, this other "will," which seems to tell you what must happen, you give reality to the false. 5 And what would show you otherwise, the truth, must therefore seem unreal. 6 All that is asked of you is to make room for truth. 7 You are not asked to make or do what lies beyond your understanding. 8 All you are asked to do is <let the truth in.> All you are asked is only to stop your interference with what will happen of itself. All you are asked is simply to recognize again the presence of what you thought you gave away, which is the "truth".

Note #19: We are not asked to come up with our own plan for the correction of the error of separation. We are merely asked to silence the egoic thought system long enough so that the voice for truth can be heard. To believe that the insane will develop the plan for the return to knowledge is just another cleverly disguised attempt by the ego to maintain control of the decision-making part of our mind. We must freely give our decision-maker over to the guidance of only the Holy Spirit.

T-21.II.8. Be willing, for an instant, to leave your altars free of the egoic idols for the false you placed upon them, and what is really there upon your altars, which is the innocence and holiness of the Sonship you cannot fail to see. p449 2 The holy instant is not an instant of creation, but of recognition. 3 For recognition comes of vision and suspended judgment. 4 Then only after the recognition of vision and suspended judgment is it possible to look within the altar for truth and see what must be there, plainly in sight, and wholly independent of egoic inference and judgment. 5 Undoing is not your task, but it <is> up to you to welcome the undoing or not to welcome the undoing. 6 Faith and desire go hand in hand, for everyone believes in what he wants.

Note #20: The holy instant, like the miracle, does not change the reality of truth. They both merely allow us to recognize the truth that was already there. The false disappears. The holy instant and the miracle allow for the removal of all the barriers that hide the truth from our vision. We merely need to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will do the rest. In order to regain vision, all past judgments must be suspended. We cannot have vision and still try to “see” by utilizing the eyes of egoic judgment. Vision and seeing are mutually exclusive.

T-21.II.9. We have already said that wishful thinking is how the ego deals with what it wants, to make what the ego wants so. 2 There is no better demonstration of the power of wanting, and therefore of faith to make the ego’s goals seem real and possible. 3 Faith in the unreal leads to adjustments of reality to make reality appear to fit the goal of madness that the ego desires. We project our desired result into the world of our perception. We make adjustments to the truth of reality so that the false now appears true. 4 The goal of sin induces the perception of a fearful world to justify sin’s purpose, which is the confirmation that the separation was real and that your will is different from God’s Will. 5 What you desire, you will see. 6 And if what you desire’s reality is false, you will uphold what you desire by not realizing all the adjustments you have introduced into true reality to make what you desire now appear to be so.
**Note # 21:** The true cannot be made false and, therefore, we cannot change the reality of the eternal truth. Yet, we can choose to deny the truth. Due to the power of our mind within the dream of separation, our wish is our mind’s command. Being the dreamer, we can adjust the dream to fit what we wish to experience. The cause of the authority problem is not the dream, itself, but rather the dreamers identifying themselves as a powerless player within the dream. If we had merely observed the thought of the separation without judging it as either good or bad, we would not have made the separation appear real. Fear would not have entered our mind. It was our judgment of the dream as something other than a neutral thought in the Mind of God that resulted in our identification with the dream that made separation appear real. Love allows all and does not judge. Now, however, due to our judgment of the false illusion, there was something that appeared to be outside the Oneness that we could and must fear. Judgment changed knowledge into perception and appeared to shatter the certainty of the Oneness as the whole.

**T-21.II.10.** When vision is denied, confusion of cause and effect becomes inevitable. The purpose of the denial of vision now becomes to keep obscure the cause of the effect, and make effect appear to be a cause. This seeming independence of effect enables the effect to be regarded as standing by itself, and capable of serving as a cause of the events and feelings its maker thinks the effect has caused. Earlier, we spoke of your desire to create your own creator, and be father and not son to your own creator. This is the same desire. The Son is the Effect, whose Cause, the Father, the split-minded son would deny. And so the split-minded son seems to be the cause, producing real effects. Nothing can have effects without a cause, and to confuse the two is merely to fail to understand both cause and effect.

**Note # 22:** One of the fallacies of the egoic thought system is that we are self-created because we claim to be unlike God. We deny God’s power of creation, which is extension. Rather than realizing that everything flows from the power of God, we claim that we can make without the unlimited power of God as our co-creator. This is why ACIM state that by myself I can do nothing, yet through me God can do everything. All power flows from the Mind of God.

God is the Father. His Son can have Children of his own and this would make God a grandfather. But the son cannot give birth to the Father. The Mind of God is the creative source. The egoic mind that claims to create without acknowledging God as the true source of creative power can only make illusions based on its belief in limitations. Illusions have no reality outside the insane mind of the dreamer.

**T-21.II.11.** It is as needful that you recognize you made the world you see, as that you recognize that you did not create yourself. The denial that you made the world you see and your claim that you created yourself are the same mistake. Nothing created not by your Creator has any influence over you. And if you think what you have made can tell you what you see and feel, and place your faith in the effect having the ability to tell you what you see and feel, you are denying your Creator and believing that you made yourself. For if you think the world you made has power to make you what the
world you made wills, you are confusing Son and Father; effect and Source.

Note # 23: An effect cannot impact its cause. Whatever we make cannot have dominion over its maker. An effect always traces its origin back to its cause, which is its source or creator. We made this world of provisional reality so it is our effect. This world we made cannot cause us to do anything. An effect cannot have control over its maker for the effect’s own existence depends solely upon the constant flow of creative energy from its maker and source. Without this flow of thought energy from the effect’s source, the effect would cease to be. Without the creative thoughts of the dreamer, the illusion ceases to exist. Although this world can cause us to do nothing, we can deny that we are the source of this world. In this case, our denial of our sourceness would make it appear that we are innocent victims of our own effect, which is the dream world we perceive to be outside our own mind. By denying that we made this world, we can claim we are powerless to change our world. The world seems to now have an independent autonomy, over which we have no control. The world appears to have self-created itself. We have confused effect with cause and in the confusion appear to have abdicated our creative power and handed it over to our effect. The effect, the dream, now appears to be the cause of what we, its dreamer, are.

T-21.II.12. The Son's creations are like his Father's creations. 2 Yet in creating them the Son does not delude himself that he, the Christ, is independent of his Source. 3 The Christ’s union with It is the source of his creating. 4 Apart from this union with the Father, the Christ has no power to create, and what the egoic mind that denies this union with the Father makes is meaningless. p450 5 What the egoic mind makes changes nothing in creation, depends entirely upon the madness of its egoic maker, and cannot serve to justify the madness. 6 Your brother, the split-minded, thinks he made the world of egoic perception with you and believes it has replaced God’s reality. 7 Thus your split-minded brother denies God’s creation, which is the Sonship. 8 With you, your split-minded brother thinks the world of perception that he made, made him. 9 Thus your split-minded brother denies he made the world of perception that you see.

Note # 24: When we, the Christ, create, we acknowledge that the source of all power is our union with the Mind of God. Knowing the Christ as everything, we extend or give everything. There is no separation. When the ego makes, it denies the reality that all creative power comes from the mind’s union with God. Believing it lacks, the ego cannot extend unconditional love and always withholds something from our true Big “S” Self’s nature to its “creations.” This withholding makes the separation continue to appear real to the egoic mind. The ego makes only to get since it denies its true nature as the shared Oneness of Everything. The ego’s belief in lack prevents it from co-creating within the Mind of God. The ego refuses to extend its true nature since it denies it is the One Self.

T-21.II.13. Yet the truth is you and your brother were both created by a loving Father, Who created you together and as one. 2 See what "proves" otherwise, which is the witnesses of the false belief in the separation and self-creation, and you deny your whole reality of a joint Oneness with God and the Sonship. 3 But grant that everything that seems to stand between you and your brother, keeping you from each other and
separate from your Father, you egoically made in secret, and the instant of release has come to you. 4 All its effects that you could be separate from the Oneness of the Mind of God are gone, because the source of this mad idea, the egoic mind, has been uncovered. 5 It is the mad idea’s seeming independence of its source, your own egoic mind that keeps you prisoner. 6 This belief that the world you made is independent from you who sourced it, is the same mistake as thinking you are independent of the Source by which you were created, and have never left.

**Note # 25:** Once we realize that we, at the egoic level, made up the belief in separation, we realize that this egoic belief could have no effect of the Mind of God. Our ego cannot change the Will of God. God’s creation, the Sonship remains as God created It, perfect, whole and complete. When the ego chooses to deny the source of the Sonship’s true creative power, which is the power of God, the ego becomes powerless to create in the real and changeless world of eternity. Being powerless, the ego’s illusion cannot change the truth that there is only a joint Oneness of Everything. Nothing is independent from Its Source, which is the One Mind of God.

Life is creation. Creation and making come from thought. A thought never leaves its source, which is the mind of the thinker. The effect of a thought can never be separate from the mind that thinks it. The effect is only sustained by the life force from the thinker. To sever the direct link or “life force” between the cause and the effect would result in the termination of the existence of the effect. An effect cannot be autonomous from its source. Thoughts always come first and are the cause of our experiences. Our thought projections make our perception, which become our provisional reality.

### III. Faith, Belief and Vision

T-21.III.1. All special relationships have sin as their goal. 2 For special relationships are bargains with reality, toward which the seeming union is adjusted. 3 Forget not this; to bargain is to set a limit, and any brother with whom you have a limited relationship, you hate. 4 You may attempt to keep the bargain in the name of "fairness," sometimes demanding payment of yourself, perhaps more often of the other. 5 Thus in the "fairness" you attempt to ease the guilt that comes from the accepted purpose of the relationship, which is to place limits on your brother and yourself, which is to make us sinful. 6 And that is why the Holy Spirit must change the egoic special relationship’s purpose of sin and limitation and transform it to make the special relationship holy and thus, useful to the Holy Spirit and harmless to you.

**Note # 26:** To place limits on your brother is to place limits on yourself. The egoic special relationship is an attempt to place limits on what God created as unlimited. This is egoic arrogance. If the ego could actually limit the unlimited Son of God, the ego would have the power to change the Will of God. The ego, which is an effect of the thought of the split-minded son, would have achieved dominion over the Source that created the Son. Effect follows cause. The effect has no power over its source. The effect is powerless without its source, for all power flows from the original Source.
In the egoic special relationship we agree to give up something in exchange for some “gift” we believe we lack. We fail to see our brother and ourselves as perfect, whole and complete. The giving involves some form of sacrifice. We place limits on both parties in the relationship. For example: We say, “I will love you, if you cook and clean my house.” This is not love but a form of bartering. Love does not limit and restrict the recipient of one’s love. This bartering supports the idea of lack and separation. If we could limit the unlimited, this would be a “sin” against our brother, ourselves and God. Yet, since we are the effect of the love of God, we cannot change our Source’s creation. The Holy Spirit takes the ego’s special relationship and transforms its purpose from an egoic witness for the separation to an advocate for the union of the Sonship with the Oneness of the Mind of God.

T-21.III.2. If you accept this change in the special relationship’s purpose to align with the Holy Spirit’s of the return of the Sonship to truth, you have accepted the idea of making room for truth. 2 The <source> of sin, the egoic mind’s belief in limitation and lack is gone. 3 You may imagine that you still experience the egoic special relationship’s effects, but the “sin” of limitation is not your purpose and you no longer want separation. 4 No one allows a purpose to be replaced while he still desires that purpose, for nothing is so cherished and protected as is a goal the mind accepts. 5 This goal that the mind still desires and accepts will follow, grimly or happily, but always with faith and with the persistence that faith inevitably brings. 6 The power of faith is never recognized if faith is placed in sin. 7 But the power of faith is always recognized if faith is placed in love.

Note # 27: By changing our purpose of the special relation from limitation to love, we abandon the ego’s thought system. Love and forgiveness are the paths to the recovery of the truth. This is the path of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. When we place our faith in sin, we limit our creative power to the field of insane dreams. These dreams of limitation never become part of God’s reality and cannot be shared. Due to our belief in limitation, we make illusions rather than co-create with the Mind of God. If our faith is placed in love we co-create with God. Our belief in sin cannot limit the Mind of God. When we deny our creative power, we also fail to recognize that we are the source of our dream world of perception. We never recognize that we are the cause, not the effect, of the belief of separation. Faith placed on limitation can only appear to have power within the insane mind of the dreamer. Yet, due to this faith in sin, we will experience limitation and separation as our provisional reality. Due to this the power of faith in our minds belief’s, when we argue for our limitation, we get to keep them. Yet, illusions can never affect the Mind of God and thus, can never be real. Eventually, the dreamer must reawaken to the truth that he is created by the Unlimited and, therefore, must be as he was created, perfect whole and complete.

T-21.III.3. Why is it strange to you that faith can move mountains? 2 This is indeed a little feat for such a power as faith. p451 3 For faith can keep the Son of God in chains as long as he believes he is in chains. 4 And when the split-mind is released from its self-imposed chains, it will be simply because he no longer believes in the chains of limitation, withdrawing faith that the chains can hold him, and placing faith in his
freedom instead. 5 It is impossible to place equal faith in opposite directions. 6 What faith you give to sin you take away from holiness. 7 And what faith you offer holiness has been removed from sin.

Note # 28: Believe in the ego and you place your faith in the ego’s belief of limitation, separation, sin, guilt and fear. Whatever our mind desires, we will create a perception that will make what we desired appear real to us. Thoughts will shape our provisional reality to make our dream appear real and thus, the dream will become the governor of our conscious awareness. Our mind cannot obey two masters. Our decision-maker is constantly choosing between love and fear. What we judge, we fear. When we no longer value fear and judgment, we will drop the egoic thought system.

T-21.III.4. Faith and belief and vision are the means by which the goal of holiness is reached. 2 Through faith and belief and vision the Holy Spirit leads you to the real world, and away from all egoic illusions where your faith was laid. 3 This return to the truth of the real world is the Holy Spirit’s direction; the only one the Holy Spirit ever sees. 4 And when you wander, the Holy Spirit reminds you there is but one proper direction. 5 The Holy Spirit’s faith and His belief and vision are all for you. 6 And when you have accepted the Holy Spirit’s faith, belief and vision completely instead of your own egoic faith, belief and seeing, you will have need of the Holy Spirit’s faith, belief and vision no longer. 7 For faith and vision and belief are meaningful only before the state of certainty is reached. 8 In Heaven faith, belief and vision are unknown. 9 Yet Heaven is reached through the Holy Spirit’s faith, belief and vision.

Note #29: Certainty is the return to knowledge. Knowledge requires no faith, belief and vision because you just know. The world of perception arose out of the lack of certainty. Because perception implies more than one, the Holy Spirit’s faith, belief and vision is needed to overcome the doubt that arose from the mad idea that the separation was real and that the Oneness had been shattered. With the return to knowledge, there is nothing to perceive. There is only the absolute unchanging truth, which just is.

T-21.III.5. It is impossible that the Son of God lack faith, but the split-minded can choose where he would have his faith be placed. 2 Faithlessness is not a lack of faith, but faith in nothing, which is the illusion of the egoic thought system. 3 Faith given to illusions does not lack power, for by his faith in illusions does the Son of God believe that he is powerless. 4 Thus is he faithless to himself, but strong in faith in his illusions about himself that he is limited. 5 For faith, perception and belief your egoic mind made, as means for losing certainty and finding sin. 6 This mad direction was your choice, and by your faith in what you chose, you made what you desired.

Note # 30: Our egoic belief that we could be separate from the Will of God made the world of perception and illusion. We have given our power of creation or making to the belief that we are limited ego-bodies in competition with other limited ego-bodies. We made this world of limitation to support this belief and until we change our belief about ourselves, we will be unable to choose for the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Being in victim consciousness, the Holy Spirit’s first job is to reawaken the decision–maker to
reclaim his power of choice from and over the ego. We must relearn that we are the cause of all we perceive within our dream.

T-21.III.6. The Holy Spirit has a use for all the means for sin by which you sought to find sin. 2 But as the Holy Spirit uses all the egoic means for sin, they lead away from sin, because the Holy Spirit’s purpose lies in the opposite direction of the ego’s purpose. 3 The Holy Spirit sees the means you use, but not the purpose for which you made them. 4 The Holy Spirit would not take the means for sin, like the egoic special relationship away from you, for the Holy Spirit sees their value as a means for what the Holy Spirit wills for you. 5 You made perception that you might choose among your brothers, and seek for sin with your brothers. 6 The Holy Spirit sees perception as a means to teach you that the vision of a holy relationship is all you want to see. 7 Then when you learn that Christ vision can change the perception of the special relationship to a holy relationship, then you will give your faith to holiness, desiring and believing in holiness because of your desire only for holiness.

Note # 31: The Holy Spirit does not take the egoic special relationship away from you. Rather, the Holy Spirit transforms the relationship to a holy one. Instead of giving to get, we realize that to give is to receive. Rather than the ego’s goal of the relationship being one to prove that the separation was real, the relationship’s purpose now becomes a witness for union and joining. Sharing of love and forgiveness now becomes the purpose of our now holy, special relationship.

T-21.III.7. Faith and belief become attached to vision, as all the means that once served sin are redirected now toward holiness. 2 For what you think is sin is limitation, and whom you try to limit to the body you hate because you fear. p452 3 In your refusal to forgive your feared brother, you would condemn your brother to the body because the means for sin are dear to you. 4 And so the body has your faith and your belief. 5 But holiness would set your brother free, removing hatred by removing fear, not as a symptom, but at fear’s source, which is our mind’s faith and belief in sin.

Note # 32: By seeing our brother as a body, we make him appear different and separate from us. This body supports the ego’s belief that “life” is a zero-sum game. If we are to win, our brother must lose. The ego’s belief in the limitation that we call sin is maintained. It takes faith, belief and the vision of the Holy Spirit for us to look past our brother’s body and see the Christ that lies beyond.

T-21.III.8. Those who would free their brothers from the body can have no fear. 2 Those who would free their brothers from the body have renounced the means for sin by choosing to let all limitations be removed. 3 As they who have renounced the means for sin’s limitation desire to look upon their brothers in holiness, the power of their belief and faith sees far beyond the body, supporting vision, not obstructing the Vision of Christ. 4 But first they who would free their brothers chose to recognize how much their faith had limited their understanding of the world, desiring to place their faith’s power elsewhere should another point of view be given them. 5 The miracles that follow this decision to place their faith in another point of view, which is the guidance of the
Holy Spirit, are also born of faith. 6 For all who choose to look away from sin are given vision, and are led to holiness.

Note #33: When we truly ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our faith will be answered through the gift of the miracle. The miracle is a change in our mind’s perception. We move from egoic seeing to the Christ Vision. This allows us to look past the body and observe the Christ in all.

T-21.III.9. Those who believe in sin must think the Holy Spirit asks for sacrifice, for this is how those who believe in sin think <their egoic> purpose is accomplished. 2 Brother, the Holy Spirit knows that sacrifice brings nothing. 3 The Holy Spirit makes no bargains. 4 And if you seek to limit the Holy Spirit, you will hate the Holy Spirit because you are afraid. 5 The gift that the Holy Spirit has given you, the recovery of the vision of Christ, is more than anything that stands this side of Heaven in your egoic world of perception. 6 The instant for vision’s recognition is at hand. 7 Join your awareness to what has been already joined. 8 The faith you give your brother can accomplish this awareness of constant union. 9 For the Holy Spirit, Who loves the world of correct perception is seeing the world of your egoic misperception for you, without one spot of sin upon the world, and in the innocence that makes the sight of the world of correct perception as beautiful as Heaven.

Note #34: When we choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we recover our Christ Vision. With this vision, we look through the veils of egoic illusion to the truth. We see the One Self of the Christ in all.

T-21.III.10. Your faith in sacrifice has given sacrifice great power in your sight; except you do not realize you cannot see because of your faith in sacrifice. 2 For sacrifice must be exacted of a body, and by another body. 3 The mind could neither ask for sacrifice nor receive sacrifice of itself. 4 And no more could the body either ask for sacrifice or receive sacrifice of itself. 5 The intention is in the mind, which tries to use the body to carry out the means for sin in which the mind believes. 6 Thus is the joining of mind and body an inescapable belief of those who value sin. 7 And so is sacrifice invariably a means for limitation, and thus for hate.

Note #35: Since mind cannot sacrifice, the mind needs a vehicle which can act as the form or means for any sacrificial rites to be performed. Sacrifice is based on the belief in limitation and that a person must give in order to get. The ego demands a sacrifice as punishment for our sin. The body lacks the power of intention. Since the body is powerless by itself, it needs a mind to provide the actual instruction of what it should do. In order to make sacrifice possible, the mind and the body must appear to join as one. This allows the sacrificial rites to be performed, while at the same time proving that we are the body. Mind now accepts the “sinful” belief that we are a limited ego-body. We have identified ourselves as the body. We have dropped our belief in the truth that the Holy Spirit would teach us. We no longer realize that we are part of the unlimited Oneness of the Mind of God. We cannot see the forest that is the Christ through the trees that are our beliefs that we are a body.
T-21.III.11. Think you the Holy Spirit is concerned with this egoic sacrifice of those who value sin and thus, join the mind to the body? 2 The Holy Spirit gives not what it is the Holy Spirit’s purpose to lead you, which is away from all illusion of separation. 3 You think the Holy Spirit would deprive you for your good. 4 But "good" and "deprivation" are opposites, and cannot meaningfully join in any way. 5 It is like saying that the moon and sun are one because the moon and the sun come with night and day, and so they must be joined. 6 Yet sight of one is but the sign the other has disappeared from sight. 7 Nor is it possible that the sun, which gives light, be one with moon that depends on darkness to be seen. 8 Neither the sun nor the moon demands the sacrifice of the other. 9 Yet on the absence of the other does each depend if it is to be seen.

Note # 36: The ego’s thought system is based of the unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear. The ego requires that we must do penance for our sins. This requires sacrifice and thus, the need for the “sinful” mind to become one with the body. To the ego, “The wages of sin is death.”

The Holy Spirit’s thought system requires no sacrifice for there is only the Oneness. The Holy Spirit sees no sin and, therefore, no punishment is required. The Holy Spirit utilizes the body as a communication device for forgiveness and love. The body does not become the mind; rather it remains only a tool of the mind. The body is given no attributes of real life. Thus; the body can be merely discarded when the body’s usefulness as a communication device has been fulfilled.

We cannot see the Christ if we choose to see ourselves as a limited ego-body. Vision requires looking beyond the illusion of a bodily image, to observe the light, which is the face of Christ. Egoic seeing is needed to believe that we are the body. Christ vision and egoic seeing are mutually exclusive.

T-21.III.12. The body was made to be a sacrifice to sin, and in the darkness of illusion so is the body still seen. 2 Yet in the light of vision the body is looked upon quite differently. 3 You can have faith in the body to serve the Holy Spirit's goal, and give the body power to serve as means to help the blind to see. 4 But in their seeing the blind must look past the body, as do you. 5 The faith and the belief you gave the body belongs beyond the body to the Christ conscious mind. 6 You gave perception and belief and faith from mind to body. 7 Let perception and belief and faith now be given back to what produced them, the mind, and the mind can use corrected perception, belief and faith still to save itself from what the egoic mind made.

Note # 37: When we ask for guidance from the Holy Spirit, our egoic perception, belief and faith are transformed. Our asking gives the Holy Spirit our permission to correct our misperception that we are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. The Holy Spirit corrects our belief in separation and our misplaced faith in egoic thinking. Without our freely given permission, the Holy Spirit must wait patiently until we request His guidance. These corrections are the result of the gift of vision from the Holy Spirit, which we receive when we finally ask for His guidance. Because we have not obtained the certainty of knowledge, we still need the Holy Spirit’s version of faith, belief and
perception. This version allows us to view our world through the eyes of Christ. Once knowledge has return to the Sonship, faith, belief and perception will no longer be needed. You will just know. Faith, belief and perception all function and exist only in time. Faith, belief and perception are not needed in eternity since eternity is governed by changeless truth and knowledge. The Oneness has returned and healed the once split-minded Sonship. Knowledge has been remembered.

**IV. The Fear to Look Within**

T-21.IV.1. The Holy Spirit will never teach you that you are sinful. 2 Errors the Holy Spirit will correct, but correction of errors makes no one fearful. 3 You are indeed afraid to look within and see the sin you think is there inside you. 4 This fear of searching within ourselves to see sin you would not be fearful to admit. 5 Fear in association with sin the ego deems quite appropriate, and smiles approvingly. 6 The ego has no fear to let you feel ashamed. 7 The ego doubts not your belief and faith in sin. 8 The ego's temples do not shake because of your belief and faith in sin. 9 Your faith that sin is there but witnesses to your desire that sin <be> there to see. 10 Your belief and faith in sin merely seems to be the source of fear.

**Note # 38:** The ego wants us to believe that we are sinful. Sin requires punishment and since the ego tells us our existence is based on sin, we should be fearful of the wrath of God. If we had not sinned, we would have nothing to fear from God. The Holy Spirit tells us that we are sinless and guiltless. We have made mistakes but these errors only require correction, not punishment. If we were to look within ourselves and find no sin, a major premise of the egoic thought system would be shown to be false. Without sin, our belief and need for egoic “protection” would cease.

T-21.IV.2. Remember that the ego is not alone. 2 The ego’s rule is tempered, and the ego’s unknown "enemy," the Christ, which is the home of the Holy Spirit, Whom the ego cannot even see, the ego fears. 3 Loudly the ego tells you not to look inward, for if you do your eyes will light on sin, and God will strike you blind. 4 You believe sin is within you, and so you do not look within you. 5 Yet this belief that if you look within, you will find sin is not the ego's hidden fear, nor yours who serve the ego. 6 Loudly indeed the ego claims sin is within you; too loudly and too often. 7 For underneath this constant shout and frantic proclamation that sin is within us, the ego is not certain it is so. 8 Beneath your fear to look within because of sin is yet another egoic fear, and one which makes the ego tremble.

**Note # 39:** We are told by the ego that we are sinners. We accept and believe this. Our world is a sinful place. The ego tells us, however, that although we have sinned we are actually victims and that we should blame the outside sinful world for our own sins. The outside world caused us to sin and thus, sin is not our fault. Yet, the greatest fear for the ego is the thought that if we looked within, we might not find sin. If there is no sin within us, we would have no reason to fear God. The logic for our fear of God would be gone.
The revengeful God of the ego would disappear and with it, the ego’s purpose for existence would be gone. We would not longer need the ego to defend us from a God of Love.

T-21.IV.3. What if you looked within and saw no sin? This "fearful" question is one the ego never asks. And you who ask the ego this question about the existence of sin within us now are threatening the ego's whole defensive system too seriously for the ego to bother to pretend the ego is your friend. Those who have joined their brothers have detached themselves from their belief that their identity lies in the ego. A holy relationship is one in which you join with what is part of you in truth, the Christ. And your belief in sin has been already shaken, nor are you now entirely unwilling to look within you and see sin not.

Note # 40: When we have experienced the miracle of the Holy relationship, we have looked at our brother and have seen a reason to forgive. We did not find any “sin” in our brother that was beyond forgiveness or required punishment. If our brother has not “sinned,” is it possible that there is no sin within us? The ego’s special relationship which is based on sin and lack has been found wanting. The egoic special relationship has been transformed by the Holy Spirit into a holy relationship. This transformation demonstrates that forgiveness and joining is possible and that love is more powerful than fear. We have begun to realize that there might be a better way and that perhaps we should question the advice of the ego.

T-21.IV.4. Your liberation still is only partial; still limited and incomplete, yet born within you. Not wholly mad, you have been willing to look on much of your insanity and recognize the egoic thought system’s madness. Your faith is moving inward, past insanity and on to reason. And what your reason tells you now the ego would not hear. The Holy Spirit's purpose was accepted by the part of your mind, the Christ consciousness, the ego knows not of. No more did you know that the Christ was within you. And yet this part, the Christ, with which you now identify, is not afraid to look upon itself. The Christ knows no sin. How, otherwise, could the Christ consciousness part of your mind have been willing to see the Holy Spirit's purpose as the Christ consciousness’s own purpose?

Note # 41: The egoic special relationship, now made holy, has become the means for the rediscovery of the Christ consciousness part of our mind. This Christ consciousness has always been within our mind but has been kept silent by the ego’s thought system. By asking for guidance from the Holy Spirit, we will begin to hear the voice or call for the remembrance of God that is always within us.

T-21.IV.5. This Christ consciousness part of our mind has seen your brother, and recognized your brother perfectly since time began. And this Christ consciousness part of our mind desired nothing but to join with your brother and to be free again, as once this Christ consciousness part of our mind was free. This Christ consciousness part of our mind has been waiting for the birth of freedom; the acceptance of release to come to you. And now you recognize that it was not the ego
that joined the Holy Spirit's purpose, and so there must be something else. 5 Think not that this idea that there must be something else other than the egoic part of our mind is madness. 6 For this idea that there must be something else other than the ego your reason tells you, and it follows perfectly from what you have already learned.

Note # 42: We have begun to move out of victim consciousness and rediscover the decision-maker within. Prior to the miracle that transforms the special relationship into a holy one, we do not realize that there could be another way. We believe there was no choice but the thought system of the ego. We were unconsciously incompetent. We did not know that we did not know. Now we know that we can choose another way. We now have viable options.

T-21.IV.6. There is no inconsistency in what the Holy Spirit teaches. 2 This consistency within the thought system of the Holy Spirit is the reasoning of the sane. 3 You have perceived the ego's madness, and not been made afraid because you did not choose to share in the ego's madness. 4 At times the ego's though system still deceives you. 5 Yet in your saner moments, the ego's ranting strikes no terror in your heart. 6 For you have realized that all the gifts the ego would withdraw from you, in rage at your "presumptuous" wish to look within you, you do not want. 7 A few remaining trinkets still seem to shine and catch your eye. 8 Yet you would not "sell" Heaven to have a few egoic trinkets that you do not really want.

Note # 43: Because the thought system of the Holy Spirit is based on truth, it is stable and unchangeable. We are starting to realize that the instability of the egoic thought system is madness and results in only pain. Within the holy relationship offered by the Holy Spirit, we have found peace within. This inner peace is an internal gage for determining where our mind is. If we are not at peace, it is a warning that we need to choose again. When we are not at peace, we have slipped back into egoic, fear-based thinking.

T-21.IV.7. And now the ego <is> afraid. 2 Yet what the ego hears in terror, the other part, the Christ consciousness, hears as the sweetest music; the song the Christ consciousness longed to hear since first the ego came into your mind. 3 The ego's weakness is the Christ consciousness’s strength. 4 The song of freedom, which sings the praises of another world, brings to the Christ consciousness hope of peace. 5 For the Christ consciousness remembers Heaven, and now the Christ consciousness sees that Heaven has come to earth at last, from which the ego's rule has kept Heaven out so long. 6 Heaven has come because Heaven found a home in your relationship on earth. 7 And earth can hold no longer what has been given Heaven as Heaven’s own, which is God’s Son. p455

Note # 44: We speak as if there are two minds within us, the ego and the Christ conscious mind. These are all part of the same mind. The ego is one thought that wanted to experience the possibility that the mind could not know what it was. The ego is doubt or loss of certainty and knowledge. It should be noted that elsewhere in ACIM it is stated that heaven’s home is also the Christ consciousness. Heaven has found a home here
because the Christ consciousness has found its voice in the holy relationship in which two brothers join as one. Heaven is not a place. Heaven is a state of mind. The Christ is not only Heaven’s home, but also the home of the Father, the Sonship and the Holy Spirit. This again demonstrates the inseparable nature of the Oneness of Mind.

T-21.IV.8. Look gently on your brother, and remember the ego's weakness is revealed in both you and your brother’s sight. 2 What the ego would keep apart has met and joined, and looks upon the ego unafraid. 3 Little child, innocent of sin, follow in gladness the way to certainty, which is the thought system of the Holy Spirit. 4 Be not held back by fear's insane insistence that sureness lies in doubt. 5 This insane idea that sureness lies in doubt has no meaning. 6 What matters it to you how loudly the insane idea that certainty can be found in doubt is proclaimed by the ego? 7 The senseless is not made meaningful by repetition and by clamor. 8 The quiet way is open. 9 Follow the quiet way of the Holy Spirit’s thought system happily, and question not what must be so.

Note # 45: The holy relationship is the joining of two minds under the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Since these minds are joined, both parties share the benefits of the holy relationship. There are no private thoughts. This coming together allows all parties to experience the benefits of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. Doubt has begun to be replaced by the certainty of truth. The existence of sin has been questioned. We have discovered the fallacy underlying the ego’s logic. We are sinless and guiltless. The ego’s instability is the result of its mad belief in the fallacy of its belief in sin, guilt and fear.

V. The Function of Reason

T-21.V.1. Perception selects, and makes the world you see. 2 Perception literally picks the egoic world you see out as the mind directs. 3 The laws of size and shape and brightness would hold, perhaps in the world you see, if other things were equal. 4 Other things are not equal. 5 For what you look for you are far more likely to discover than what you would prefer to overlook. 6 The still, small Voice for God, the Holy Spirit’s, is not drowned out by all the ego's raucous screams and senseless ravings to those who want to hear the Holy Spirit. 7 Perception is a choice and not a fact. 8 But on this choice of how you choose to perceive your egoic world depends far more than you may realize as yet. 9 For on the voice you choose to hear, and on the sights you choose to see, depends entirely your whole belief in what you are. 10 Perception is a witness but to what you believe you are, and never to reality. 11 Yet perception can show you the conditions in which awareness of reality is possible, or those conditions in which awareness of reality could never be.

Note # 46: Perception is based on the choice of which thought system we will follow. If we choose the ego’s thought system, the world we perceive will be a fearful, sinful and guilty place. If we choose the Holy Spirit’s, the world will be based on love and will support our every need. Whether or not we have inner peace at any given moment will reveal to us which system is controlling our mind’s thinking.
Reality needs no cooperation from you to be itself. But your awareness of reality needs your help, because what you choose to call into your awareness of reality is your choice. This choice becomes your “provisional reality.” Whose thought system will you choose to value? Listen to what the egoic thought system says, and see what the ego directs you to see, which is the body-form, and it is sure that you will see yourself as tiny, vulnerable and afraid. Based on what the ego directs you to see, you will experience depression, a sense of worthlessness, and feelings of impermanence and unreality. Based on what the ego directs you to see, you will believe that you are helpless prey to forces far beyond your own control, and far more powerful than you. And based on what the ego directs you to see, you will think the world you made directs your destiny. For this choice for the awareness of your belief in egoic limitation will be your faith. But never believe this egoic limitation because it is your faith in your belief in egoic limitation that your awareness makes into your provisional reality. It is this choice of what thought system you will place your faith in that is determining what you choose to perceive as your provisional reality.

Note # 47: As we believe, so we perceive. Believe ourselves to be limited and we will envision our world of provisional reality as limited. The world we perceive will be based on our belief of what we are. We will choose to believe that we have varying degrees of power over our experiences. This idea of levels of difficulty allows for wide variance of experiences. Most people choose to be only partially responsible for their perceived world. Thus, we may believe that our mind can cure a headache but not cancer. Our image of ourselves may claim that we are only powerless in certain circumstances, yet totally empowered in another. ACIM tell us that there is no order of difficulty in miracles. All illusions give way to truth. It is our faith in what we believe we are that makes our provisional reality. Our belief in limitation, limits our “sourceness” within our world of perception. When we deny that we are the source for all that we perceive, our creative power allows us to pretend that we are indeed powerless. This pretense of our powerlessness does not change the fact that we are the source of our powerless experience. Our beliefs become our self-fulfilling prophecy.

There is another vision and another Voice in which your freedom lies, awaiting but your choice. And if you place your faith in Them, the choice for the thought system of the Holy Spirit, you will perceive another self in you. This other self, the Christ, sees miracles as natural. Miracles are as simple and as natural to the Christ, as breathing to the body. Miracles are the obvious response to calls for help, the only response the Holy Spirit’s thought system makes. Miracles seem unnatural to the ego because the ego does not understand how separate minds can influence each other. Nor could separate minds influence each other. But minds cannot be separate. This other self, the Christ consciousness, is perfectly aware that minds cannot be separate. And thus the Christ consciousness recognizes that miracles do not affect another’s mind, only its own mind. Miracles always change your own mind. There is no other mind.

Note # 48: Miracles only change your own mind. However, since all minds are joined as
one mind, the whole mind is affected. There is only the one-shared holographic Mind of God. Thus, each miracle we claim for ourselves, we also claim for our brothers and sisters.

T-21.V.4. You do not realize the whole extent to which the idea of separation has interfered with reason. 2 Reason lies in the other self, the Christ consciousness, you have cut off from your awareness. 3 And nothing you have allowed to stay in your awareness, the egoic mind, is capable of reason. 4 How can the segment of the mind devoid of reason, the ego, understand what reason is, or grasp the information reason would give? 5 All sorts of questions may arise in the egoic mind, but if the basic question stems from reason, the egoic mind will not ask the basic question. 6 Like all that stems from reason, the basic question is obvious, simple and remains unasked. 7 But think not reason could not answer the basic question.

Note # 49: The basic question in its simplest form is, “What am I?” Am I an unlimited Child of God, which is part of the innocence of the Oneness of Everything? Or, “Am I a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies?” Based on the answer, this awareness of what you believe yourself to be will make your world of provisional reality seem real to you. You will experience what you choose to dream.

T-21.V.5. God's plan for your salvation could not have been established without your will and your consent. 2 God's plan for your salvation must have been accepted by the Son of God, for what God wills for His Son, His Son must receive. 3 For God wills not apart from His Son, nor does the Will of God wait upon time to be accomplished. 4 Therefore, what joined the Will of God, the Christ consciousness, must be in you now, being eternal. 5 You must have set aside a place in which the Holy Spirit can abide, and where the Holy Spirit is. This place is the Christ consciousness part of your mind. 6 The Holy Spirit must have been there since the need for the Holy Spirit arose, and was fulfilled in the same instant. 7 Such would your reason tell you, if you listened to reason. 8 Yet such is clearly not the ego's reasoning. 9 Your reason's alien nature to the ego is proof you will not find the answer there within the egoic thought system. 10 Yet if God's plan for your salvation must be so, the places in your mind for the acceptance of God's plan must exist. 11 And if God's plan for your salvation exists for you, and has your freedom as the purpose given God's plan for your salvation, you must be free to find God's plan for your salvation.

Note # 50: When the mad idea of the separation was thought, the solution was instantaneously created. The voice for this solution was the Holy Spirit that took up “residence” within the Christ conscious part of our mind. The Christ conscious part of our mind never forgot the remembrance of God. The Holy Spirit’s thought system leads to the reawakening of our mind to the Christ within. The ego is the part of our split-mind that doubted what it was. To claim that you do not know what you are is the beginning of insanity. Reason is not welcome within the mind of the insane.

T-21.V.6. God's plan is simple; never circular and never self-defeating. 2 God has no Thoughts except the Self-extending of Himself, and in this your will must be included. 3
Thus, there must be a part of you that knows God’s Will and shares God’s Will. It is not meaningful to ask if what must be is so. But it is meaningful to ask why you are unaware of what is so, for this lack of your knowing what is so must have an answer if the plan of God for your salvation is complete. And God’s plan for your salvation must be complete, because its Source, the Will of God, knows not of incompleteness.

Note # 51: The ego, being insane, lacks reason. We cannot find the answer for our salvation within the insane thought system of the ego. God would not have placed the answer within the insane ego. Instead God’s plan for your salvation was given to the Holy Spirit, Who was placed within the Christ conscious part of the mind. The Christ consciousness is not and could never be insane. By following the Holy Spirit’s thought system, we will be able to reconnect with that voice for Truth, the Christ, our Big “S” Self.

T-21.V.7. Where would the answer be but in the Source, God, the Creator? And where are you but there in and with your Source, where this same answer is? Your Identity, as much a true Effect of this same Source as is the answer, must therefore be together and the same. You know this, and more than this alone. Yet any part of knowledge threatens dissociation as much as all of knowledge. And all of knowledge will come with any part. Here is the part you can accept. What reason points to you can see, because the witnesses on knowledge’s behalf are clear. Only the totally insane can disregard the witnesses for knowledge, and you have gone past this. You are no longer totally insane.

Note # 52: Reason leads to the recovery of knowledge. Reason does not belong to the insane and thus, is not part of the ego. Reason, being outside the egoic thought system, cannot be corrupted by the ego. Reason cannot bear false witness to the truth. The Holy Spirit will utilize reason to demonstrate that the ego’s belief system is illogical. The first part of the paragraph again references the Oneness of the whole. God is our Source and We God’s Effect. These are two sides of the same coin and thus, they are forever joined and inseparable. Together we complete the One Self. Knowledge, like the Oneness, is also whole. You cannot have partial knowledge for knowledge is indivisible. If reason can led the way to our acceptances of any part of the Holy Spirit’s thought system, it will led us to the whole truth, since knowledge is indivisible.

T-21.V.8. Faith and perception and belief can be misplaced, and serve the ego, the great deceiver’s needs, as well as truth. But reason has no place at all in madness, nor can reason be adjusted to fit madness end. Faith and belief are strong in madness, guiding perception toward what the mind has valued, which is limitation born from the madness of the egoic mind. But reason enters not at all in faith and belief. For the egoic perception would fall away at once, if reason were applied to faith and belief. There is no reason in insanity, for insanity depends entirely on reason's absence. The ego never uses reason, because the ego does not realize that reason exists. The partially insane have access to reason, and only the partially insane have need of
Knowledge does not depend on reason, and madness keeps reason out.

**Note # 53:** Reason is the bridge that can take us back to the truth. After countless failures with the egoic thought system, reason will conclude that there must be a better way. This is the crack that opens the door for our little willingness that allows us to invite into our thinking a new guide, the Holy Spirit. With this invitation the Holy Spirit can utilize reason to start getting Its message for truth heard. The idea that there must be another way awakens the decision-maker to decide to choose again. Our threshold for pain is high but it is not unlimited. Eventually, reason will tell us to choose again. Insanity has been defined as making the same choices over and over again yet, expecting a different result. Knowledge, being truth, depends on nothing. Knowledge, like truth, just is.

**T-21.V.9.** The part of mind where reason lies, the Christ consciousness, was dedicated, by your will in union with your Father's, to the undoing of insanity. Here in the Christ consciousness was the Holy Spirit's purpose accepted and accomplished, both at once. Reason is alien to insanity, and those who use reason have gained a means which cannot be applied to sin. Knowledge is far beyond attainment of any kind. But reason can serve to open doors you closed against the attainment of knowledge.

**Note # 54:** The Christ consciousness is the home of both the Holy Spirit and reason. Reason will be used by the Holy Spirit to reawaken our decision-maker to our power to choose again. In the world of split-mindedness, reason is a tool used in time to reawaken our mind to its Christ consciousness. The use of reason is not required in eternity since knowledge has replaced perception. Knowledge just is.

**T-21.V.10.** You have come very close to this reopening of the doors you closed against the attainment of knowledge. Faith and belief have shifted, and you have asked the question the ego will never ask. You have questioned whether the egoic thought system is correct. Does not your reason tell you now the question must have come from something that you do not know, but must belong to you? Faith and belief, upheld by reason, cannot fail to lead to changed perception. And in this change is room made way for vision. Vision extends beyond itself, as does the purpose that vision serves, and vision extends beyond all the means for vision’s accomplishment.

**Note # 55:** The ego would never question its own logic. The ego is not concerned with your happiness. It is only concerned with its insane claim that the ego is right and that the separation is real. The ego willingly sacrifices our happiness for its desire to be right. Ultimately, the question that reason asks is, “Would I rather be right or happy?” Eventually, we will decide for our happiness. Happiness is the Will of the Creator for all He created, which is the entire Sonship. Eventually, we must decide that our happiness and peace are not only God’s Will but also our will. This clears the way for God to take the final step in His Child’s journey to the return to knowledge.
VI. Reason versus Madness

T-21.VI.1. Reason cannot see sin but can see errors, and reason leads to the correction of these errors. 2 Reason does not value <these errors that the ego calls sin,> but reason does value the correction of these errors that the ego calls sin 3 Reason will also tell you that when you think you sin, you call for help. 4 Yet if you will not accept the help you call for, you will not believe that this help is yours to give. 5 And so you will not give this help, thus maintaining the belief you have sinned. 6 For uncorrected error of any kind deceives you about the power that is in you to make the correction of the error. 7 If the power within you can correct, and you allow the power within you not to do so, you deny the power to correct that is within you to yourself and to your brother. 8 And if your brother shares this same belief that error is sin, you both will think that you are damned. 9 This damnation you could spare your brother and yourself. 10 For reason would not make way for correction in you alone.

Note # 56: Because we are interconnected, to give is to receive. When we give forgiveness to a brother, we claim that same forgiveness for ourselves, for we cannot give what we do not own. By reclaiming our divine birthright, we grant our brother his freedom also. Because of our interconnection, if either party recognizes and utilizes the power to correct error, both parties receive forgiveness. This joint result shows how our brother is our savior. We cannot free ourselves without freeing our brother. Correction of error comes in pairs. No one acts alone. When we realize error is merely a mistake, correction, rather than punishment, is required. We simple accept the miracle and correct our thinking. The guidance of the Holy Spirit is needed to tap into this power within to self-correct. This power flows from God out of our Christ Center.

T-21.VI.2. Correction cannot be accepted or refused by you without your brother. 2 Sin would maintain that correction can be accepted or refused by you without your brother. 3 Yet reason tells you that you cannot see your brother or yourself as sinful and still perceive the other innocent. 4 Who looks upon himself as guilty and sees a sinless world? 5 And who can see a sinful world and look upon himself apart from the sinful world? 6 Sin would maintain you and your brother must be separate. 7 But reason tells you that this must be wrong and you and your brother must be joined. 8 If you and your brother are joined, how could it be that you have private thoughts? 9 And how could thoughts that enter into what seems like your separate mind alone have no effect at all on what <is> your joint mind? 10 If minds are joined, this is impossible to have a private thought that is not shared by the whole.

Note #57: Minds are joined since we are all One within the Mind of God. Thus, whatever I choose to think is known to the whole. There are no private thoughts. The ego, believing that the separation is real, claims that you are a body. Since bodies are separate, the ego claims that you can have private thoughts and that your brother is not needed within the ego’s plan for your salvation. The ego’s plan for happiness would call for the sacrifice of your brother in order to achieve your salvation and happiness. The ego’s plan for happiness calls for you to steal what you lack from your brother. To the ego you only “give to get.”
No one can think but for himself, as God thinks not without His Son. Only were God and His Son both in bodies could this separate thinking be possible. Nor could one mind think only for itself unless the body <were> the mind. For only bodies can be separate, and therefore unreal. The home of madness, the belief that we are the body, cannot be the home of reason. Yet it is easy to leave the home of madness if you see reason. You do not leave insanity by going somewhere else. You leave insanity simply by accepting reason where madness was. Madness and reason see the same things, but it is certain that they look upon the same thing differently.

Note # 58: To the insane ego, your home is the body. You are the body and the body is you. To the Holy Spirit, the body is merely a temporary communication device to be utilized during the existence of time. The body is used to gently communicate the truth during the reawakening process to the sleeping parts of our mind. The Christ consciousness is our true home, not the body.

Madness is an attack on reason that drives reason out of mind, and madness then takes reason’s place. Reason does not attack, but takes the place of madness quietly, replacing madness if it be the choice of the insane to listen to reason. But the insane know not their will, for the insane believe they see the body, and let their madness tell the mind that the body is real. Reason would be incapable of the belief that the body is real. And if you would defend the body against your reason, you will not understand the body or yourself.

Note # 59: Underlying the egoic belief system is the belief that we are separate limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego-bodies. Without the belief that we are a body, the logic of the egoic thought system falls apart. Bodies, if they were real, would be separate. Mind, not being a physical body, is joined. There are no private thoughts. There is only the One Mind of God that is shared by the “everything” that we are. Mind is holographic in nature and cannot be subdivided into separate and different parts. There is only the indivisible Oneness of the One Self.

The body does not separate you from your brother, and if you think the body does you are insane. But madness has a purpose, and believes madness also has the means to make madness’ purpose real. To see the body as a barrier between what reason tells you must be joined must be insane. Nor could you see the body as a barrier, if you heard the voice of reason. What can there be that stands between what is continuous? And if there is nothing in between, how can what enters part be kept away from other parts? Reason would tell you that there could be no barrier that stands between what is continuous. But think what you must recognize, if it be so. If you are continuous you must be mind, yet, the ego claims that you must be a separate ego-body.

Note #60: If you wish to believe that there is a barrier that stands between what is continuous, you would have to believe that you are form and not spirit. Thus, you would perceive yourself to be a separate body. The continuous would no longer be a Oneness.
Instead, it would be subdivided into parts. This is what the ego tells us we are. It is true that we cannot share physical form. We can however, share ideas or thoughts. Mind is shared since all thoughts are joined as one continuous stream of consciousness in the Mind of God.

T-21.VI.6. If you choose sin instead of healing, you would condemn the Son of God to what can never be corrected. 2 You tell the Son of God, by your choice for sin over healing, that he is damned; separate from you and from his Father forever, without a hope of safe return. 3 You teach this damnation of the Son of God to your brother, and you will learn of your brother exactly what you taught, which was sin’s damnation of the Sonship. 4 For you can teach your brother only that he is as you would have him be, and what you choose he be is but your choice for yourself. 5 Yet think not this is fearful. 6 That you are joined to your brother is but a fact, not an interpretation. 7 How can a fact be fearful unless the fact disagrees with what you hold more dear than truth? 8 Reason will tell you that this fact that you are joined to your brother is your release.

Note # 61: Since we are joined with our brother, by changing our beliefs about the dream of separation, we change the whole perceived Sonship within our provisional reality. This ability to share thoughts within the one mind is our salvation for our brother and ourselves. Our thoughts make our perceptions. By accepting truth over illusion, we accept truth for the entire Sonship. When we choose for sin, we are claiming the thought of separation for the entire Sonship. Healing is the return to the truth of the wholeness. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we accept the recognition of our joining with our brother as the One Self. We acknowledge that the Sonship is sinless and guiltless.

By accepting the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are not actually doing anything that impacts the eternal timeless truth that is the Mind of God. Instead, the Holy Spirit is transforming egoic thinking into correct perception that properly aligns with the truth of what we are. Within the world of perception, time and space, this is the correction of our misperceptions that we have projected upon our brother. By granting our brother freedom from our projected guilt, we receive our own guiltlessness in return. It is by giving guiltlessness to our brother that we prove that we too are sinless.

T-21.VI.7. Neither your brother nor yourself can be attacked alone. 2 But neither your brother nor yourself can accept a miracle instead without the other being blessed by the miracle, and healed of pain. 3 Reason, like love, would reassure you, and seeks not to frighten you. 4 The power to heal the Son of God is given you because your brother must be one with you. 5 You are responsible for how your brother sees himself. 6 And reason tells you it is given you to change your brother’s whole mind, which is one with you, in just an instant. 7 And any instant serves to bring complete correction of your brother’s errors and make your brother whole. 8 The instant that you choose to let yourself be healed, in that same instant is your brother’s whole salvation seen as complete with yours. 9 Reason is given you to understand that this joint result of healing is so. 10 For reason, kind as is the purpose for which reason is the means, leads steadily away from madness toward the goal of truth. 11 And here you will lay down the burden of denying truth. 12 <This denial of the truth > is the burden that is terrible, and not the
Note # 62: By accepting the truth that we are a joint oneness with our brother, we are empowered to take responsibility for the salvation of the entire Sonship. We heal our own split-mind by granting our brother the healing that we desire. Being joined, our brother’s sinlessness becomes our own. Yet, if we choose to withhold forgiveness from one brother, we deny forgiveness to ourselves. The belief that we are a Oneness moves us out of victim consciousness into responsibility consciousness. We are empowered to be the source of all that we experience. We realize that we have no private thoughts and what we are currently experiencing as our perception is the result of our thoughts.

T-21.VI.8. That you and your brother are joined is your salvation; the gift of Heaven, not the gift of fear. 2 Does the joining in Heaven seem to be a burden to you? 3 In madness, yes since by joining we no longer are special and separate. 4 And yet what madness sees, which is the fear for joining, must be dispelled by reason. 5 Reason assures you Heaven’s joining is what you want, and all you want. p460 6 Listen to the Holy Spirit, Who speaks with reason, and brings your reason into line with the Holy Spirit’s. 7 Be willing to let reason be the means by which the Holy Spirit would direct you how to leave insanity behind. 8 Hide not behind insanity in order to escape from reason. 9 What madness would conceal, which is reason, the Holy Spirit still holds out for everyone to look upon with gladness.

Note # 63: The Holy Spirit is the voice of reason. Reason leads us to the acceptance of the truth. Heaven is the full awareness of the truth that we remain as God created us, perfect, whole and complete. We are a continuous Oneness. The ego tells us that we will only be happy if we are special. The body is the means to insure the separation that the ego claims makes us special. Specialness has not brought us happiness. Rather specialness has only brought us pain and littleness. It is madness to want to choose pain over happiness. Reason brings us back to the reality that we are the decision-maker and can choose again.

T-21.VI.9. You <are> your brother’s savior. 2 He is your savior. 3 Reason speaks happily indeed of this reciprocal relationship. 4 This gracious plan was given love by Love, which is God. 5 And what Love plans is like Itself in this: Being united, Love would have you learn what you must be, which is love. 6 And being one with God’s Love, love must be given you to give what God’s Love has given, and gives still. 7 Spend but an instant in the glad acceptance of what is given you to give your brother, and learn with your brother what has been given both of you, which is only love. 8 To give is no more blessed than to receive. 9 But neither is to give less blessed than to receive.

Note # 64: Being a joint Oneness, everything is a reciprocal relationship. When we give, we receive. Fortunately for us, all power flows from our One Source, God, Our Creator. Because creation is extension, we cannot be anything but what our Source is. If our Source is Love, we must be love. Since we are an effect of our Creator, we cannot change our Creator. Our unloving thoughts cannot make our Creator unloving. This unchangeable Will of God prevents us from changing our Creator by our “sinful”
thoughts. Such thoughts have no effect on the Mind of God since they are not real. God’s Will is that creation is changeless and eternal Love.

These “private thoughts” of fear and separation are imagined thoughts that are not shared with the mind of God. They belong only in the world of perception. These imagined unshared thoughts become the split-mind’s own private provisional reality or hell. These insane thoughts remain unreal since they are not shared or align with the Mind of God. Our “sinful” thoughts, although not reciprocated with the Creator, do reciprocate with the split-minded who share the illusion of separation. Within this illusion of separation, we project our insane thoughts of sin upon our insane brother. Reason cannot change the truth about our brother, but it does allow us to remove the false veil of separation. This allows us to once again reclaim the truth of our divine birthright and share with our brother the eternal Oneness of the Love of God.

**General Note:** Thoughts have creative power. If our thought aligns with truth, the thought co-creates with the Mind of God. This is extension and since this thought is shared with God, it is real. If the thought is insane (fear-based), it is not shared with the Mind of God and results in projection. Unshared thoughts become part of our imagination. They appear real to us but have no reality outside the mind of the dreamer. Projection makes our perception. Due to the creative power of thought, these unshared thoughts are projected outside our split-mind and thus, form the basis for our world of perception, which becomes our provisional reality. In the world of perception, the split-minded Sonship has fragmented into many small “s” self parts. Each part appears to have its own individuated provisional reality. Yet, there is a great deal of overlapping beliefs that are shared among these parts. At a higher level of mind than we are individually aware of, there is a collective consciousness that provides the general rules that all “individual players” of the fragmented Sonship must follow if they are to partake in the game of separation at this planetary level. It is this common overlapping belief system of the collective consciousness that gives the world of form the limited stability that we perceive. Although each person seems to have a unique viewpoint, we have a great deal of common misperceptions. It is because we share these common beliefs that we believe our world of form and individual perception to be real. At a higher collective level, we have all jointly agreed to pretend to be insane. Each participant becomes a witness for the false.

**T-21.VI.10.** The Son of God is always blessed as one. 2 And as your brother's gratitude goes out to you who blessed him, reason will tell you that it cannot be you stand apart from blessing. 3 The gratitude your brother offers you reminds you of the thanks your Father gives you for completing your brother, the Christ, which is the Home of the Father. 4 And here alone does reason tell you that you can understand what you must be, which is the Christ. 5 Your Father is as close to you as is your brother. 6 Yet what is there that could be nearer you than is your One Self?

**Note # 65:** This speaks of the joint reality of the Oneness. There is no separation. The Creator, your brother, the Sonship, the Holy Spirit and yourself are all at home in the Oneness of the One Self. We, the Christ are “That One”.

The power you have over the Son of God is not a threat to the Son’s reality. This power is your power of choice. Where could his freedom lie but in himself, if he be free already? And who could bind him but himself, if he deny his freedom? God is not mocked; no more His Son can be imprisoned save by his own desire. And it is by the son’s own desire that he is freed. Such is the son’s strength, and not his weakness. The Son of God is at his own mercy. And where the son chooses to be merciful, there is he free. But where the son chooses to condemn instead, there is the son held a prisoner, waiting in chains his pardon on himself to set himself free.

Note # 66: We have the power to choose what we call into the awareness of our experience. God allows us total freedom to pretend we are anything that we may want to be. Often when we pretend, we can better understand aspects of what we are. We can pretend that we have lost our divine birthright. Yet, this pretending does not change the truth of what our reality is. The pretense that we could be separate from our Source was not the authority problem. It is difficult to fully appreciate light without the concept of darkness. It is by pretending that the Oneness could be fragmented into separate aspects of the whole that allows the split-minded to relearn all the magnificent aspects of the Oneness. Yet, when we choose to forget that these aspects are just the same continuous Mind of the One Self, we begin the denial of knowledge that we are the Mind of God. The “sin” of separation arose when we forgot to laugh at the idea that the illusionary veil of a body could separate a continuous Oneness that is Mind. By taking this dream seriously, we accepted the dream as our own reality. When we refused to allow the dream of separation to remain just a dream, we gave the dream a reality of its own. We judged the dream to be real and declared that we must defend ourselves against these illusionary threats to the Oneness. We thought we had something to fear. To judge is to separate and this is not love. From this judgment arose the belief that there could be something other than God’s Will; that something could be outside the Oneness. This led us to the insane belief that we could somehow not know who we are. Doubt became our mindset. Doubt and uncertainty became our provisional reality.

Since this is our dream, the dream will end whenever the dreamer chooses to wake up. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for God that insures that we will gently awaken to the truth that we are that One Self. The timing for the return of the Sonship to the knowledge of Heaven is our own free will’s choice. Only we can choose to imprison ourselves by denying the truth and, therefore, only we are the holder of the keys that unlock our cells doors. We are both the prisoner and the jailer. In our world of provisional reality, we alone control the keys that bar or unlock the doors to the Kingdom of Heaven. When will we freely choose to unlock the gate so that the Sonship can assume Its rightful place as co-creator with the Father? Cause and Its Effect are forever joined and are That One Self.

VII. The Last Unanswered Question

Do you not see that all your misery comes from the strange belief that you are powerless? Being helpless is the cost of sin. Helplessness is sin's condition; the one
requirement that sin demands to be believed. 4 Only the helpless could believe in sin. 

5 Enormity, which is great wickedness or a wicked crime, has no appeal save to the little. 6 And only those who first believe that they are little could see attraction there in great wickedness. 7 Treachery to the Son of God is the defense of those who do not identify with the Son of God. 8 And you are for your brother or against him; either you love your brother or attack him, protect your brother’s unity or see him shattered and slain by your attack.

**Note # 67:** The ego tells us that we are powerless against the outside world. Powerlessness is limitation and an obvious attempt to limit the Son of God. If this were possible, it would be a sin. The unlimited cannot be limited. When we believe that we are limited, we are arguing for our littleness. We claim to be a victim of powers that are beyond our control. This is the illusionary thinking of the insane ego. An illusion is any belief that something outside of our mind can affect or cause our personal experience. We deny ownership of our own provisional reality. We deny our power of creation. To deny, is to attack the Son of God’s true reality. In our world of make-believe, we are the cause of all we perceive. We, the dreamer, are the source of our dream. Only the dreamer will decide when he or she wishes to awaken. The Holy Spirit waits patiently for our call for the remembrance of God.

T-21.VII.2.No one believes the Son of God is powerless. 2 And those who see themselves as helpless must believe that they are not the Son of God. 3 What can they who believe that they are not God’s Son be except the Son of God’s enemy? 4 And what can they who believe that they are not God’s Son do but envy the Son of God’s power, and by their envy make themselves afraid of God’s Son’s true power? 5 The powerless who believe that they are not God’s Son are the dark ones, silent and afraid, alone and not communicating. The powerless who believe that they are not God’s Son are fearful that the power of the Son of God will strike them dead and, therefore, raise up their helplessness against the Son of God. 6 Those who believe they are not God’s Son join the army of the powerless, to wage their war of vengeance, bitterness and spite on God’s Son, to make him one with them who are powerless. 7 Because the powerless who believe they are not God’s Son do not know that they one with God’s Son, the powerless know not whom they hate, which is God’s Son which is themselves. 8 The powerless who believe they are not God’s Son are indeed a sorry army, each one as likely to attack his brother or turn upon himself as to remember that they thought they had a common cause, which was to attack to Son of God.

**Note # 68:** If we believe that we are God’s Children, perfect, whole and complete, it would be impossible to believe that we are powerless victims. To believe that we are powerless is to believe that we are either children of a “lesser god” made in the ego’s image or that we are somehow self-created. Either way, we argue for our littleness and separation. This argument is our attack on truth, God and His Son.

T-21.VII.3.Frantic and loud and strong the dark ones, who believe they are powerless and not God’s Son seem to be. 2 Yet they who believe that they are not God’s Son know not their "enemy," except that they know they hate their “enemy”. 3 In hatred
they who believe that they are not God’s Son have come together, but have not joined with each other. 4 For had they joined with each other hatred would be impossible. 5 The army of the powerless must be disbanded in the presence of strength. 6 Those who are strong are never treacherous, because they who are strong have no need to dream of power and to act out their dream. 7 How would an army act in dreams? 8 Any way at all. 9 A dream army could be seen attacking anyone with anything. 10 Dreams have no reason in them. 11 A flower turns into a poisoned spear, a child becomes a giant and a mouse roars like a lion. 12 And love is turned to hate as easily. 13 This is no army, but a madhouse. 14 What seems to be a planned attack is bedlam.

**Note # 69:** Since we perceive ourselves to be separate from our brothers, we have no true allegiance to any party. We will attack friend and foe alike because we have no idea what anything is for and, therefore, are unable to distinguish “friend from foe”. As the ego’s plan for our happiness shifts from one goal to another, its battle plan changes. Someone we once perceived as a friend is now determined to be our enemy. The weak see danger everywhere and thus, believe attack is always warranted. The strong are those who understand that an illusion cannot impact their own sourceness. Remember, an illusion is any belief that something outside of our mind can affect or cause our personal experience. The Son of God knows this is not true. Therefore, the Son of God’s knows there could be no one to attack but himself or herself. The strong know their power comes from their Creator and thus, they are invulnerable.

**T-21.VII.4.** The army of the powerless is weak indeed. 2 The army of the powerless has no weapons and it has no enemy. 3 Yes, the army of the powerless can overrun the imagined egoic world of flesh born of perception and seek an enemy. 4 But the army of the powerless can never find what is not there. 5 Yes, the army of the powerless can dream it found an enemy, but this illusionary enemy will shift even as the army attacks, so that the army of the powerless runs at once to find another enemy, and never comes to rest in victory. 6 And as the army of the powerless runs it turns against itself, thinking it caught a glimpse of the great enemy who always eludes its murderous attack by turning into something else. 7 How treacherous does this imagined enemy appear, who changes so it is impossible even to recognize this imagined enemy.

**Note # 70:** Since the egoic thought system is based on the instability of illusion, nothing within the dream is stable. Not knowing what we are, the insane ego cannot know where our true interest lies. The ego knows that by itself, it is powerless. The only power that the ego has is derived from our own mind. In victim consciousness, we abdicate our mind’s creative power to our egoic consciousness. To the ego, everything is a potential enemy since everything is a threat to the ego’s powerless self. Attack is seen by the ego as its best defense.

**T-21.VII.5.** Yet hate must have a target. 2 There can be no faith in sin without an enemy. 3 Who that believes in sin would dare believe he has no enemy? 4 Could he who believes in sin admit that no one made him powerless but himself? 5 Reason would surely bid him who believes in sin to seek no longer an enemy that is not there to find. 6 Yet first he who believes in sin must be willing to perceive a world where sin is not. 7
It is not necessary that he who believes in sin understand how he can see a sinless world. 8 Nor should he try to understand how he can see a sinless world. 9 For if he who believes in sin focuses on what he cannot understand, he will but emphasize his helplessness, and let sin tell him that his enemy must be himself. 10 But let him who believes in sin only ask himself these questions, which he must decide, to have the vision to see a sinless world done for him:

/ / Do I desire a world I rule instead of one that rules me?
12 Do I desire a world where I am powerful instead of helpless?
13 Do I desire a world in which I have no enemies and cannot sin?
14 And do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?

Note # 71: These questions, when answered affirmatively, will acknowledge our desire to take responsibility over our experiences. We will be reclaiming our decision-making power and rejecting egoic victim consciousness. We will be asking that the Holy Spirit help us to perceive differently. We will freely make the decision to reclaim our decision-maker and choose again.

T-21.VII.6. You may already have answered the first three questions, but not yet the last question, which is, “Do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?” 2 For this last question, which is, “Do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?” still seems fearful, and unlike the other three questions. 3 Yet reason would assure you all four questions are all the same. 4 We said this year would emphasize the sameness of things that are the same. 5 This final question, which is, “Do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?” is indeed the last question you need decide. Yet this last question still seems to hold a threat the rest of the first three questions have lost for you. 6 And this imagined difference between these four questions attests to your belief that truth may be the enemy you yet may find. 7 Here, then, your belief that truth could be your enemy, would seem to be the last remaining hope of finding sin, and not accepting your creative power as God’s unlimited Son.

Note # 72: The last question, which was, “Do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?” is a fearful one. We are afraid to ask “TRUTH” the following question, “Am I a sinner who must be punished in everlasting hell?” We fear “TRUTH’S” answer could be YES? There are many answers to that question that “TRUTH” could give us that the ego tells us we do not want to hear. The ego tells us that it is better to believe that we are right, even if we are wrong. “TRUTH”, according to the ego, is a very dangerous character. The ego defends this position with all its insane logic. Happiness is the price we pay to be “right.” We wish to be the arbitrators of truth. Our insistence that we are a limited ego-body cost us our unlimited spirit. We argue for our egoic right to pretend we are little rather than accept our divine birthright as a Child of God. We abandon our happiness for the right to deny the truth about our spiritual essence.

T-21.VII.7. Forget not that the choice of sin or truth, helplessness or power, is the choice of whether to attack or heal. 2 For healing comes of power, and attack of helplessness. 3 Whom you attack you cannot want to heal. 4 And whom you would have healed must
be the one you chose to be protected from attack. 5 And what is this decision between whether to attack or heal but the choice whether to see him through the body's eyes, or let him be revealed to you through Christ's vision? 6 How this decision between whether to attack or heal leads to its effects is not your problem. 7 But what you want to see must be your choice. 8 ACIM is a course in cause and not effect.

Note # 73: We need not know how we might heal our brother. We only need to choose to desire to heal our brother. Our decision is the cause. The Holy Spirit will handle the means to accomplish the task. The means will be the miracle. We desire to heal our brother when we simply ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will do the rest. This asking is our “little willingness.” This “little willingness” is the only thing we need do for the miracle of healing to take place.

T-21.VII.8. Consider carefully your answer to the last question, which is, “Do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?” that you have left unanswered still. 2 And let your reason tell you that if the last question for acceptance of the truth must be answered affirmatively, it also must be answered affirmatively in the other three questions. 3 And then it will be clear to you that, as you look on the effects of sin in any form, all you need do is simply ask yourself: p463

4 Is this what I would see? 5 Do I want this?

Note # 74: This last question, which is, “Do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?” is simply the desire to see truth replace all illusion. If we only desire truth, we automatically have answered yes to the first three questions. Once again the four questions were:

- Do I desire a world I rule instead of one that rules me?
- Do I desire a world where I am powerful instead of helpless?
- Do I desire a world in which I have no enemies and cannot sin?

And, Do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?

If we accept the truth, we automatically reawaken to our divine inheritance. Sin no longer looms as a possibility.

T-21.VII.9. As you look on the effects of sin in any form, this last group of questions that are “Is this, what I would see? Do I want this?” is your one decision that you must make. This one decision is the condition for what occurs. 2 The decision on what you want to see is irrelevant to how it happens, but not to why it happens. 3 You have control of this decision of what you want to see. 4 And if you choose to see a world without an enemy, in which you are not helpless, the means to see a victimless and enemy-free world will be given you.

Note # 75: ACIM states that we are not victims. It is our thoughts and desires that determine the world we see. Our beliefs, thoughts and desires determine our perception, which then becomes our provisional reality that we “see”. By our mind’s thoughts, we are constantly sourcing our world. This sourcing of our perceived world is done through mental projection. Projection makes our perception. This is why ACIM tells us not to...
seek to change the world but rather change how we choose to view our world. By changing our thinking, we automatically change our world. By asking for the Holy Spirit’s help, we exchange physical seeing for spiritual vision. Where illusion showed us a bodily form, we now look beyond the form to the content. We understand the truth of our common spiritual essence that is now perceived to be our true reality. We have received and accepted the gift of vision from the Holy Spirit.

T-21.VII.10. Why is the final question so important? The final question was, “Do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?” 2 Reason will tell you why the final question so important. 3 The final question is the same as are the other three, except in time. 4 The other three are decisions that can be made, and then unmade and made again. 5 But truth is constant, and implies a state where vacillations are impossible. 6 You can desire a world you rule that rules you not, and change your mind. 7 You can desire to exchange your helplessness for power, and lose this same desire as a little glint of sin attracts you. 8 And you can want to see a sinless world, and let an "enemy" tempt you to use the body's eyes and change what you desire.

Note # 76: Only the last question is beyond time. Truth is eternal. Once we decide for only truth, everything else is automatically locked in. No other decisions need be made for in the one decision for truth, all other answers have become non-negotiable. The other three questions were all asked within the context of the illusionary dream itself. They all talk about the world of egoic consciousness. Such an illusionary world of the false does not exist in the reality of eternal truth. The first three questions were simply asking you if you would like to exchange your dream of victim consciousness for a happier and more empowering dream. You are exchanging victim consciousness for a happier dream in which you control your own world and, yet, you still get to decide when and what “truth” will be. In this new dream, you would be both the decision-maker and also the arbitrator of truth. In this substitute dream, you would be allowed to continue to claim that you had a will that could overrule God’s Will. This cannot be. Truth just is. When you answer the last question affirmatively, you are choosing only for truth and are giving up your “egoic right” to be the arbitrator of truth. You are freely choosing the Will of God to be your will. You become or more accurately, accept that you are that shared One Self that is the Mind of God.

T-21.VII.11. In content all the questions are the same. 2 For each question asks if you are willing to exchange the world of sin for what the Holy Spirit sees, since it is the truth of the Holy Spirit’s vision that the world of sin denies. 3 And therefore those who look on sin are seeing the denial of the real world. 4 Yet the last question adds the wish for constancy in your desire to see the real world, so the desire for the truth becomes the only desire you have. 5 By answering the final question "yes," you add sincerity to the decisions you have already made to all the rest of the questions. 6 For only by answering yes to the desire for only truth have you renounced the option to change your mind again. 7 When it is only truth you want and you do not want the option to change your mind and become the illusionary arbitrator of truth again, the rest of the questions are wholly and affirmatively answered.
Note # 77: The choice for truth is the choice for God’s Will. God’s Will is that His Child be happy. How could this frighten us?

T-21.VII.12. Why do you think you are unsure the other questions have been answered? 2 Could it be necessary they be asked so often, if they had already been answered affirmatively? 3 Until the last decision has been made, the answer is both "yes" and "no." 4 For you have answered "yes" without perceiving that "yes" must mean "not no." 5 No one decides against his happiness, but he may do so if he does not see he is deciding against his happiness. 6 And if he sees his happiness as ever changing, now this, now that, and now an elusive shadow attached to nothing, he does decide against his happiness.

Note # 78: Happiness, like the truth, is a constant state. Happiness is God’s Will for us. Since this is true, happiness is changeless and is eternal. Happiness, to the ego, is in a constant state of flux. The ego does not know what happiness is since it is clueless as to what we are. The ego’s motto is, “Seek and never find.” The ego tells us that we will be happy when we get married. Once married, it tells us we will be happy when we get a divorce. Since the ego does not know what we are, it is foolish to believe it could know where to find happiness. Our happiness lies only in the truth, which is the peace of God. As long as we desire to have the option to make the false appear real, we will not have decided to answer the last question affirmatively. (This last question was, “Do I want to see what I denied because it is the truth?”) We will continue to cling to our belief that we are the arbiters of truth. We will claim that the choice for the false is a viable option and we will continue to “live” in our dream world of perception. The choice for the false is not an available option in eternity. The false only appears to exist in the world of perception. In Heaven there is no choice. There is only the knowledge of the truth.

T-21.VII.13. Elusive happiness, or happiness in changing form that shifts with time and place, is an illusion that has no meaning. 2 Happiness must be constant, because happiness is attained by giving up the wish for the <inconstant.> 3 Joy cannot be perceived except through constant vision. 4 And constant vision can be given only those who wish for constancy. 5 The power of the Son of God’s desire remains the proof that he is wrong who sees himself as helpless. p464 6 Desire what you want, and you will look on what you want and think what you want is real. 7 No thought but has the power to release or kill. 8 And no thought can leave the thinker’s mind, or leave the thinker unaffected by the thoughts within his own mind.

Note # 79: Our mind is a creation machine. The mind is constantly obeying our every desire. Of course, if our thinking is inconsistent we get confusing results. Creation in the real world is extension. If our thoughts are not based on sharing the extension of the totality of the Big “S” Self, the wish cannot manifest in the real world for it is not shared within the Mind of God. Instead, the desire for littleness and exclusion will manifest in the world of perception. The world of perception is the world of our imagination. Our world of provisional reality is projected from our fear-based thoughts that are not shared with God and thus, are not real. The world of perception is a world of change. Time, which measures change, is relevant only in this egoic world of perception.
In the changelessness of eternity, there is no change for time to measure. Only in the illusionary world of perception does the false appear to be possible. Because we have chosen to dream that we are something other than God’s Will, we believe that truth is arbitrary. The world of perception not only has the truth and the false, but it also has the possibility of “sometimes.” When we believe in “conditional truths,” our reality becomes very unstable. The existence of “sometimes” denies the fact that truth just is. Truth never changes. Within the illusion of separation, we can deny the reality of the truth but this does not change the truth. This denial of truth appears to make the dream seem real within the mind of the dreamer but the illusion does not change the reality of truth, which is eternally fixed within the Kingdom. Our thoughts, which are based on our beliefs, become the controlling force behind all that we perceive. How we choose to perceive ourselves will determine our “reality”. Any egoic thoughts will limit our mind’s creative powers. Our beliefs and thoughts govern our mind.

VIII. The Inner Shift

T-21.VIII.1. Are thoughts, then, dangerous? 2 To bodies, yes! 3 The thoughts that seem to kill are those that teach the thinker that he <can> be killed. 4 And so he "dies" because of what he learned. 5 He, who believes he is a body, goes from life to death, the final proof he valued the inconstant more than constancy. 6 Surely he thought he wanted happiness. 7 Yet he did not desire happiness <because> happiness was the truth, and therefore must be constant.

Note # 80: The body is powerless to control its existence in the world of form. It is our mind that decides how the body is to behave. Because our mind has chosen to believe that it is the body, the mind accepts the limitation that comes with “being” the body. In the case of the body, the ego tells us that due to sin we must expect pain, suffering and death. Since this is what our mind believes, this is what we manifest in our bodies. The body thus, becomes the verification of our thoughts. Our death “proves” the ego was right and that we are limited. To believe that pain, suffering and death are the routes to happiness demonstrates the lunacy of the egoic thought system.

T-21.VIII.2. The constancy of joy is a condition quite alien to your understanding. 2 Yet if you could even imagine what the constancy of joy must be, you would desire the constancy of joy although you understand it not. 3 The constancy of happiness has no exceptions; no change of any kind. 4 The constancy of happiness is unshakable as is the Love of God for His creation. 5 Sure in happiness’s constant vision as its Creator is in what its Creator knows, happiness looks on everything and sees everything is the same. 6 The constancy of happiness sees not the ephemeral, for happiness desires everything be like itself, and sees everything so. 7 Nothing has power to confound happiness’s constancy, because happiness’s own desire cannot be shaken. 8 Happiness’s constancy comes as surely unto those who see that the final question for the decision for truth is necessary to the rest of the other questions, as peace must come to those who choose to heal and not to judge.
**Note #81:** The decision for truth only, trumps all other questions and answers. When we decide only for truth, the outcome is no longer in our hands. We have given it over to the Holy Spirit. The Mind of God has already preordained the outcome. God’s Will is eternal and changeless. Since God only wills that His Creation be happy, our happiness in the Mind of God is a fixed constant. We can choose to deny the reality of happiness but we can do nothing to change its truth. True happiness is as constant as our divine birthright. We can forget we have it, but it cannot be lost or stolen. The joy and happiness that is the peace of God is our destiny.

**T-21.VIII.3.** Reason will tell you that you cannot ask for happiness inconstantly. 2 For if what you desire you receive, and happiness is constant, then you need ask for happiness but once to have happiness always. 3 And if you do not have happiness always, being what happiness is, you did not ask for happiness. 4 For no one fails to ask for his desire of something he believes holds out some promise of the power of giving his desire. 5 He may be wrong in what he asks, where, and of what. 6 Yet he will ask because desire is a request, an asking for, and made by one whom God Himself will never fail to answer. 7 God has already given all that he, who asks really wants. 8 Yet what he is uncertain of, God cannot give. 9 For he, who is uncertain of what he wants, does not desire happiness while he remains uncertain, and God's giving must be incomplete unless what God gives is received.

**Note #82:** If we are unsure of what we want, the Universal Mind of God can only grant us that same uncertainty. It is impossible to be totally committed, sometimes. You either know what you want or you don’t know. Conflicting goals and thought can only result in disappointing results. Truth is the acceptance of God’s Will unconditionally. The ego would have us believe the God’s plan for the return to knowledge is incomplete and that the ego has a new improved version. We cannot pick and choose what we wish to call the truth. Truth needs no egoic editing. The Creator has already granted the happiness of the peace of God to His Child. When will we unconditionally accept God’s Gift of the One Self to the Sonship? The Holy Spirit does not force the joy and happiness of the peace of God upon a sleeping mind. The Holy Spirit waits patiently until we have decided for ourselves to ask for our reawakening to the truth. The Holy Spirit will not force us to take God’s Love since to force something upon another will only increase someone’s fear. The Holy Spirit will never do anything that would increase fear in His sleeping “patient”.

**T-21.VIII.4.** You who complete God's Will and are God’s happiness, whose will is powerful as God’s Will, a power that is not lost in your illusions, think carefully why you have not yet decided how you would answer the final question for wanting only truth. 2 Your answer to the others has made it possible to help you be already partly sane. 3 And yet it is the final question only to want truth that really asks if you are willing to be wholly sane.

**Note #83:** Because we are the extension of the Mind of God, we have been given all the powers of our creator and Cause. The only difference between the Sonship and the Father is that the Father is First Cause. We are God’s Child and as such, we can have our own
children, but we cannot birth our parent. God is Cause and we are God’s Effect. We complete God when we co-create with God by extending the holographic Mind of the One Self.

T-21.VIII.5. What is the holy instant but God's appeal to you to recognize what God has given you, which is everything? 2 Here in the holy instant is the great appeal to reason; the awareness of what is always there to see, the happiness that could be always yours. p465 3 Here in the holy instant is the constant peace you could experience forever. 4 Here in the holy instant is what denial has denied revealed to you. 5 For here in the holy instant the final question for the decision for only truth is already answered, and what you ask for given. 6 Here in the holy instant is the future <now,> for time is powerless because of your desire for what will never change which is the eternal truth. 7 For you have asked that nothing stand between the holiness of your relationship and your <awareness> of its holiness. p466

Note # 84: In the holy instant all judgment is suspended. The egoic thought system no longer controls our mind. Insanity gives way to reason. Reason acknowledges the truth that our will and God’s Will are the same. Both Wills only desire our happiness. Unfortunately, while we are under the influence of the belief in separation, we misunderstand what the source of our true happiness is. We believe the ego’s claim to be right was more important than being happy. In the holy instant, the Holy Relationship between the Creator and the Sonship is restored. The Sonship freely desires and accepts the Love of Its Creator. Without its free acceptance by the Sonship, God’s Love is incomplete. The Law of God is that, “To give is to receive.” God knows this and, therefore, never asks anything from the Sonship. The insane ego, however, does not know that to give is to receive. Instead, believing that you only give to get, the ego advises the split-minded to reject God’s love. The ego demands that we are entitled to a “special love”. Yet, how can God grant the ego’s wish to be special when there is only the Oneness of the One Self? Through the use of reason, the holy instant, forgiveness and the Atonement process, the Holy Spirit guides the split-minded Sonship back to the holiness of the Christ consciousness. Our reawakening to the joy, happiness and peace of God is only a decision away. We need be vigilant only for God, Who is the Truth. This decision for truth is the call for the remembrance of God. The awareness of our communion with the Oneness of God has returned truth and happiness to all of Creation.
Chapter 22. SALVATION AND THE HOLY RELATIONSHIP

Introduction

T-22.in.1. Take pity on your split-minded self, so long enslaved. 2 Rejoice whom God hath joined have come together and need no longer look on sin apart. 3 No two can look on sin together, for they, who believe they are separate, could never see sin in the same place and time. 4 Sin is a strictly individual perception, seen in the other yet believed by each to be within himself. 5 And each one seems to make a different error, and one the other cannot understand. 6 Brother, the error is the same, made by the same, and forgiven for its maker in the same way. 7 The holiness of your relationship forgives you and your brother, undoing the effects of what you both believed and saw to be sin. 8 And with sin’s effects gone is the need for sin gone with the undoing of sin’s effects.

Note # 1: Because we see ourselves as separate, each party in an egoic relationship has their own individual perception. Since each sees the relationship based on their individual belief in lack, each party has a different belief in what constitutes the “sin of lack”. Since both parties are coming from belief in lack, the error is the same. Only the form of the error appears to be different. In the holy relationship, each party comes from the belief that each lacks nothing. Since neither lacks anything, sharing of the oneness is possible. This creates a joining and extension. The ego’s special relationship has been transformed into a holy relationship. This transformation removes the belief in the “sin of lack”. Each party is seen with the vision of Christ as unlimited spirit. The belief that God’s Son is sinless has returned.

T-22.in.2. Who has need for sin? 2 Only the lonely and alone, who see their brothers different from themselves have need of sin. 3 It is this difference that each brother is believed to be different or special that the ego sees. This egoic difference is seen but not real. This egoic difference makes the need for sin, not real but seen, thus, sin seem justified. 4 And all this egoic difference would be real if sin were so. 5 For an unholy relationship is based on differences, where each one thinks the other has what he has not. 6 In an unholy relationship, both parties come together, each to complete himself and rob the other. 7 Both parties stay until they think that there is nothing left to steal, and then both parties move on. 8 And so both parties in an unholy relationship wander through a world of strangers, unlike themselves. Since they believe they are different and not the Big “S” Self, both parties in an unholy relationship live with their bodies perhaps under a common roof that shelters neither; in the same room and yet a world apart.
Note # 2: In the unholy relationship each party comes from their belief in separation and lack. Neither party can see past the body-form since they believe they are the body. Each party only gives to get. Since neither sees themselves as unlimited spirit, sacrifice is required to get anything. The relationship is conditional and is only maintained as long as each party believes that they have “outwitted and bested” the other party in the negotiation. When the relationship no longer is seen as a “good deal,” the parties quickly move on to what they now perceive as a better deal. Each deal is an attempt to steal from the other what they perceive they lack. Each attempts to make themselves more complete. Seeing themselves as form, neither party utilizes the vision of Christ. The egoic thought system rules this unholy special relationship.

T-22.in.3. A holy relationship starts from a different premise. 2 Each one has looked within and seen no lack within themselves. 3 Accepting his completion, he would extend his completion by joining with another, whole as himself. 4 He sees no difference between these selves, for differences are only of the body. 5 Therefore, being already fully complete, he looks on nothing he would take from the other party who is also already complete. 6 He denies not his own reality as unlimited spirit because it is the truth. 7 Just under Heaven does he stand, but close enough not to return to earth. 8 For this holy relationship with his brother has Heaven's Holiness. 9 How far from home can a relationship so like to Heaven be?

Note # 3: Creation, which is the extension of everything, is only possible with someone who knows they already are everything. Lacking nothing, there is nothing to get. In the holy relationship, the party understands that there is just the Oneness of everything. Instead of the egoic belief that you should “only give to get,” the holy relationship is based on the Law of God, which understands that “to give is to receive”. The thought system of the Holy Spirit rules the relationship.

T-22.in.4. Think what a holy relationship can teach! 2 Here in the holy relationship is belief in differences undone. 3 Here in the holy relationship is the faith in differences shifted to sameness. 4 And here in the holy relationship is sight of differences transformed to vision. p467 5 Reason now can lead you and your brother to the logical conclusion of your union. 6 The holy relationship must extend, as you extended when you and your brother joined. 7 The holy relationship must reach out beyond itself, as you reached out beyond the body, to let you and your brother be joined. 8 And now the sameness that you saw in your brother extends and finally removes all sense of differences between brothers, so that the sameness that lies beneath all relationship becomes apparent. 9 Here is the golden circle where you recognize the Son of God. 10 For what is born into a holy relationship can never end.

Note # 4: With vision, we look beyond the body-form to the Christ consciousness that we all share. This allows reason to replace the insanity of the ego. Realizing our unlimited spiritual nature as a shared Oneness, we only ask the question, “What would love have me do?” The holy relationship is based on the desire to extend love. It is unconditional. It understands that be seeing my brother as sinless, I claim sinlessness for myself. The circle of love, which is “to give is to receive,” is completed.
I. The Message of the Holy Relationship

T-22.I.1. Let reason take another step. 2 If you attack whom God would heal and hate the one God loves, then you and your Creator have a different will. 3 Yet if you <are> God’s Will, what you must then believe is that you are not yourself as God created you. 4 You can indeed believe that you are not yourself as God created you and have a different will, and you do. 5 And you have faith in this erroneous belief in a different will and see much evidence on this different will’s behalf that “prove” you are not as God created you. 6 And where, you wonder in this illusion of separation does your strange uneasiness, your sense of being disconnected, and your haunting fear of lack of meaning in yourself arise? 7 It is as though you wandered into egoic thinking without a plan of any kind except to wander off, for only that seems certain.

Note # 5: Because we are under the mistaken egoic belief that the separation was real, we think somehow that we are different from the Sonship that God created. We believe that we have lost our divine birthright and that our inheritance has been taken away by a vengeful god. The ego teaches that we are disconnected from our Source and have another will. The world of egoic perception was made to “prove” the reality of our separation and our specialness. The ego’s path for the recovery of our happiness has led us on a meaningless journey that appears to have no end in sight. Due to our mistaken belief that we could be something other than as God created us, we have good reason to believe that we are lost. There is nothing wrong with us, but we do need a different plan. We need to choose again. This time we need to follow the Voice for God, the Holy Spirit.

T-22.I.2. Yet we have heard a very similar description earlier, but the description was not of you, the Christ. 2 But still this strange idea of the belief in separation, which the description of a different will does accurately describe, you <think> is you. The strange idea is that you do not know what you truly are and that you believe yourself to be a limited ego-body with a will different from God’s. 3 Reason would tell you that the world you see through egoic physical eyes that are not your Christ vision must make no sense to you. 4 To whom would bodily egoic seeing such as this send back its messages? 5 Surely not you, the Christ, whose sight is wholly independent of the bodily eyes that look upon the world. 6 If this bodily seeing is not your vision, what can the body show to you? 7 The brain cannot interpret what your Christ vision sees. 8 This, your Christ vision <you, the Christ consciousness part of your mind> would understand. 9 The brain interprets to the body, of which the brain is a part. 10 But what the brain says you, the Christ consciousness part of your mind, cannot understand. 11 Yet you have listened to the egoic brain. 12 And long and hard you tried to understand the egoic brain’s messages.

Note # 6: Mind is not the same as the brain. In the physical body, the brain is the physical organ that appears to control our body. The brain, being form, cannot be home to mind, which is unlimited spirit. The ego tries to tell us that we are the body and that the brain is the same as the mind. This only makes the separation appear to be real. Being spirit any
“information” collected by the body is not relevant to our spiritual nature. The physical senses only deceive. They are the attempt to cloak our true spiritual existence within a physical body. Brain and mind are not on the same level. They cannot communicate with each other. They speak totally different languages that are mutually exclusive. The bodily references and interpretations of the brain only bear witness for the illusion of separation.

T-22.I.3. You have not realized it is impossible to understand what fails entirely to reach you. 2 You have received no egoic body-brain messages at all you understand. 3 For you have listened to what can never communicate at all, which is the body-brain. 4 Think, then, what happens. 5 Denying that you are unlimited spirit, and firm in faith that you are something else, which you call the egoic body, this "something else" that you have made to be yourself becomes your sight. 6 Yet the egoic body-brain must be the "something else" that sees, and as <not> you. And this something else explains this egoic body-brain’s sight <to> you. p468 7 Your Christ vision would, of course, render this quite unnecessary. Christ vision being real can be understood by our unlimited mind. The vision of Christ is beyond the egoic senses. 8 Yet if your spiritual eyes are closed and you have called upon this egoic thing to lead you, asking the egoic body to explain to you the world the egoic body-brain sees, you have no reason not to listen to the egoic body-brain, nor to suspect that what the egoic body-brain tells you is not true. 9 Reason would tell you what the egoic body-brain tells you cannot be true <because> you do not understand the egoic body-brain. 10 God has no secrets. 11 God does not lead you through a world of misery, waiting to tell you, at the journey’s end, why God did this to you.

Note # 7: Our true reality is spirit. Spirit is Level #1, which is Heaven. The world of perception is Level #2, which is not real. Level #2 is our illusionary world of provisional reality. These two levels do not mix. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of both our true nature, Level #1, and our illusionary dream of separation, Level #2. Therefore, only the Holy Spirit is in the unique position to make sense out of ego-body’s perception. The Holy Spirit will reinterpret egoic perception into correct perception. Our Christ conscious self and the egoic mind do not communicate with each out. The ego does not communicate with anyone. Communication’s purpose is to be understood. The ego’s purpose is to confuse and separate. It is only because we have identified ourselves as a body that we have forgotten our true nature as spirit. Believing we are the body, we now believe the messages of the egoic thought system. The egoic thought system becomes our provisional reality. These messages of the egoic body-brain are only intended to deceive the mind into the mistake that mind or spiritual essence is the actual body’s brain. We need to give all our perceived experiences over to the guidance of the Holy Spirit for His correction.

T-22.I.4. What could be secret from God's Will? 2 Yet you believe that you have secrets from God. 3 What could your secrets be except another "will" that is your own will, apart from God’s Will? 4 Reason would tell you that this belief you have a separate will from God’s will is no secret that need be hidden as a sin. 5 This belief you have a separate will from God’s will is but a mistake indeed! 6 Let not your fear of sin protect this belief that you have a separate will from God’s will keep the mistake from
correction, for the attraction of guilt is only fear. 7 Here, in fear is the one emotion that you made, whatever it may seem to be. 8 Fear is the emotion of secrecy, of private thoughts and of the body. 9 Fear is the one emotion that opposes love, and fear always leads to sight of differences and loss of sameness. 10 Fear is the one emotion that keeps you blind, dependent on the egoic little “s” self you think you made to lead you through the world the emotion of fear made for you.

Note # 8: Before the belief in separation, there was only love. From the belief in separation arose the idea of fear, which was quickly followed by its cousins, sin and guilt. Sin, guilt and fear is the unholy trinity which forms the bedrock for the egoic thought system. One of our earliest fears was the original doubt that God’s Son could not know what He is; that there might be something that was not God. This doubt birthed our world of perception. With the loss of certainty of what we were, knowledge was also misplaced.

T-22.I.5. Your sight, the vision of Christ, was given you by the Creator, along with everything that you can understand, which is truth. 2 You, the Christ, will perceive no difficulty in understanding what Christ vision tells you, for everyone sees only what he thinks he is. 3 And what your sight would show you, you, the Christ, will understand because Christ vision is the truth. 4 Only your Christ vision can convey to you what you, the Christ, can see. 5 Truth reaches you directly, without a need to be interpreted to you. 6 What needs interpretation, which is perception, must be alien. 7 Nor will perception ever be made understandable by an interpreter, which is the ego, which you cannot understand.

Note # 9: Our ego and our Christ conscious mind cannot communicate with each other. Illusion and truth are not on the same radar screen. A dream exists only in the private world of the dreamer. It has no reality in the real world, which is the shared Mind of God. The Christ conscious mind knows only the truth of the real world. While we are under the influence of the egoic thought system, we appear to be only aware of the dream of separation. During this dream state, our Christ conscious part of the split-mind appears to be “asleep”. Thus, our Christ consciousness is unaware of the dream itself and is unable to wake the dreaming, egoic mind. The Christ remains in communion with the Father, although its communication seems to be drowned out by the voice of the ego. The Holy Spirit’s job is to help us silence the ego long enough for the Voice for God to be heard. Enlightenment does not rest on turning up the volume for the Voice for God but rather calls for the silencing of the egoic mind so that the Holy Spirit can be heard in the now.

T-22.I.6. Of all the messages you have received and failed to understand, this course alone is open to your understanding and can be understood. 2 This, the truth, is your language. 3 You do not understand the truth of ACIM yet only because your whole communication is like a baby’s. 4 The sounds a baby makes and what he hears are highly unreliable, meaning different things to him at different times. 5 Neither the sounds the baby hears nor sights the baby sees are stable yet. 6 But what the baby hears and does not understand will be his native tongue, through which the baby will communicate with those around him, and they with him. 7 And the strange, shifting ones the baby sees
about him will become to the baby his comforters, and the baby will recognize his home and see his comforters there with him. p469

**Note # 10:** While we remain split-minded, the baby, the awakened Christ consciousness, drifts in and out of the dream of separation. When we request guidance from the Holy Spirit, we get glimpses of the truth. In our special relationships, which are made holy by the Holy Spirit, we relearn to speak the language of the Christ. With each experience of love and forgiveness, the Voice for the Christ within grows clearer. Eventually the voice for truth will be the only voice we hear.

T-22.I.7. So in each holy relationship is the ability to communicate instead of separate reborn. 2 Yet a holy relationship, so recently reborn itself from an unholy relationship, and yet more ancient than the old illusion of the unholy relationship it has replaced, is like a baby now in its rebirth. 3 Still in this infant is your vision returned to you, and this baby will speak the language you can understand, which is truth. 4 This baby is not nurtured by the "egoic something else" you thought was you. 5 This baby was not given there to the ego, nor was this baby received by anything except yourself, the Christ. 6 For no two brothers can unite except through Christ, Whose vision sees the brothers as one.

**Note # 11:** In the unholy relationship, the ego claims that we are imperfect and, therefore, must steal from another what we believe we lack. This maintains the illusion of separation for both parties in the unholy relationship. No joining is possible between the two since they perceive themselves to be bodies. In the holy relationship, we rediscover the truth about the Oneness that we share with our brother. By utilizing the tool of forgiveness, the Holy Spirit is able to reawaken the sleeping Christ conscious part of our mind to the truth. This reawakening process is not done alone since a relationship consists of at least two. Each party becomes an instrument for the reawakening of the Christ in his brother. The one mind, the Christ, which had been mistakenly perceived as separate, is now recognized as one. Both sleeping babies, you and your brother, benefit directly from the truth found in the special relationship that has been blessed by the truth.

T-22.I.8. Think what is given you, my holy brother. 2 This child will teach you what you do not understand, and make what you do not understand, the truth of the Oneness, plain. 3 For this child’s will be no alien tongue. 4 This child’s will need no interpreter to you, for it was you who taught this child what he knows <because> you knew the truth. 5 This child, the Christ, could not come to anyone but you, never to "the egoic something else." 6 Where Christ has entered no one is alone, for never could the Christ find a home in separate ones. 7 Yet must this child be reborn into His ancient home, the Oneness of the Mind of God, so seeming new and yet as old as He, a tiny newcomer, dependent on the holiness of your relationship to let Him, the Christ live.

**Note # 12:** Through our holy relationships, we recover our decision-making ability to choose the thought system for truth. With each blessed experience, the Holy Spirit gently reawakens the Christ within. Eventually, we will decide to abandon the egoic thought system and return to our heavenly home, which is the truth of the Oneness of the Mind of
God. The Christ is the true and only home of the Father, the Sonship and Holy Spirit. It is the Oneness that is the One Self. In the world of perception, time and space, the Christ is dependent upon our decision-maker’s relationship with the truth. What thought system will our decision-maker value and, therefore, follow?

T-22.I.9. Be certain God did not entrust His Son to the unworthy. 2 Nothing but what is part of God is worthy of being joined. 3 Nor is it possible that anything not part of God can join. 4 Communication must have been restored to those who join, for this joining they could not do through bodies. 5 What, then, has joined them? 6 Reason will tell you that they must have seen each other through a vision not of the body, but rather through the Christ vision and communicated in a language the body does not speak, which is the truth of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. 7 Nor could true vision or true communication be a fearful sight or sound that drew them gently into one. 8 Rather, in each the other saw a perfect shelter where his Self, the Christ, could be reborn in safety and in peace. 9 Such did his reason tell him; such he believed because it was the truth.

Note # 13: In the holy relationship, each party becomes the other party’s savior. By forgiving our brother, we receive forgiveness. When we look beyond egoic perception, we observe the Christ hidden within our brother. By granting freedom to our brother’s Christ consciousness, we release our own Christ from the imprisonment of egoic victim consciousness. God has given each fragment of the Sonship the ability to reconnect to the whole. This reconnection to the Oneness does not require any change of what we are, but it does require that we stop denying the truth of what we are. I and my sisters and brothers are one and we are one with Our Mother-Father Creator. The ego, which is an illusion of nothingness, cannot return us to the truth about the Sonship. Only the Holy Spirit can.

T-22.I.10. Here is the first direct perception that you can make. Minds that appeared separate are really joined as one and, therefore, the belief that we are separate ego-bodies is a mistaken illusion. 2 You make it through awareness older than perception, which is truth, and yet reborn in just an instant. 3 For what is time to what was always so, which is truth? 4 Think what that instant brought; the recognition that the "egoic something else" you thought was you is an illusion. 5 And truth came instantly, to show you where your Big “S” Self, the Christ, must be. 6 It is denial of illusions that calls on truth, for to deny illusions is to recognize that fear is meaningless. 7 Into the holy home where fear is powerless love enters thankfully, grateful that love is one with you who joined to let love enter. p470

Note # 14: The healing of the split-mind is the restoration of the mind to truth. Following the thought system of the Holy Spirit brings about this restoration. It is reason that eventually leads us to the understanding that the egoic thought system has constantly failed to bring us happiness. Following the ego has only brought us pain. Eventually, reason tells us that there must be a better way. This is the call for the Holy Spirit’s help. Illusion gives way to the truth that the Holy Spirit teaches. We are not a limited ego-body. We are unlimited spirit; a Oneness with God.
**T-22.I.11.** Christ comes to what is like Himself; the same, not different. 2 For Christ is always drawn unto Himself. 3 What is as like Christ as a holy relationship? 4 And the holy relationship that draws you and your brother together draws Christ to you. 5 Here in the holy relationship are Christ's sweetness and Christ's gentle innocence protected from attack. 6 And here in the holy relationship can Christ return in confidence, for faith in another is always faith in Christ. 7 You are indeed correct in looking on your brother as Christ's chosen home, for here you will with Christ's Will and with His Father's Will. 8 This holy relationship of the Christ is your Father's Will for you, and your Big “S” Self will with your Father's Will. 9 And who is drawn to Christ is drawn to God as surely as Both, God and Christ, are drawn to every holy relationship, the home prepared for God and Christ as earth is turned to Heaven.

**Note # 15:** God is life and life is creation. In the holy relationship, two are joined as one. This sharing extends creation. In the holy relationship, egoic making gives way to creation’s extension. The Sonship was created to be co-creators with the Father-Mother-Creator. In heaven, Level #1 creation is the Sonship’s function. While in the dream of separation, Level #2, the function of the split-minded is forgiveness. In the holy relationship, we become co-creators, which demonstrates that we have chosen to reclaim our divine inheritance. We have brought the truth of Heaven to our world of perception.

**II. Your Brother's Sinlessness**

**T-22.II.1.** The opposite of illusions is not disillusionment but truth. 2 Only to the ego, to which truth is meaningless, do illusions and disillusionment appear to be the only alternatives, and different from each other. 3 In truth, illusions and disillusionment are the same. 4 Both illusions and disillusionment bring the same amount of misery, though each one seems to be the way to lose the misery the other brings. 5 Every illusion carries pain and suffering in the dark folds of the heavy garments in which it hides illusion's nothingness. 6 Yet by these dark and heavy garments are those who seek illusions covered, and hidden from the joy of truth.

**Note # 16:** Both illusions and disillusionment are based on the false. ACIM points out that although we can exchange one illusion with another, we are still suffering of the same delusion of claiming that we do not know what we are. The ego is constantly exchanging one promise of happiness for another. The ego changes the means to achieve happiness but the goal is always one step away. Being given everything by God, God’s Son cannot find happiness in the illusion of littleness. Our happiness lies only in the truth that we are as God created us, perfect, whole and complete.

**T-22.II.2.** Truth is the opposite of illusions because truth offers joy. 2 What else but joy could be the opposite of misery? 3 To leave one kind of misery and seek another form of misery is hardly an escape from misery. 4 To change illusions is to make no change. 5 The search for joy in misery is senseless, for how could joy be found in misery? 6 All that is possible in the dark world of misery is to select some aspects out of the world of
misery, see the aspects as different, and define the difference in aspects of the world of misery as joy. Yet to perceive a difference where none exists will surely fail to make a difference.

Note # 17: We have only two possible choices, truth or illusion. Any choice but truth is a choice for the false. Egoic thinking would have you believe that we have multiple choices. It claims one illusion is different from another illusion and thus, is a different choice. Both choices are choices for the nothingness of the false. ACIM points out that any choice for the specialness of littleness is a decision to believe that the separation is real. An illusion is an illusion. Truth is truth. Any illusion, no matter the size, shape or form disappears when brought before the light of truth. An illusion cannot make God’s Son happy.

T-22.II.3. Illusions carry only guilt and suffering, sickness and death, to their believers. 2 The form in which illusions are accepted is irrelevant. 3 No form of misery in reason's eyes can be confused with joy. 4 Joy is eternal. 5 You can be sure indeed that any seeming happiness that does not last is really fear. 6 Joy does not turn to sorrow, for the eternal cannot change. 7 But sorrow can be turned to joy, for time gives way to the eternal. p471 8 Only the timeless must remain unchanged, but everything in time, which is the world of perception, can change with time. 9 Yet if the change be real and not imagined, illusions must give way to truth, and not to other dreams that are but equally unreal. 10 The exchanging one illusion for another illusion is no difference.

Note # 18: Joy, happiness and peace are the Sonship’s natural state and this is eternal. God’s Will is that His Child be happy. Any time we are not in a state of internal peace, we are suffering from the fear of an illusion. We have abdicated our divine birthright as co-creator with our Father for the desire to be special. An illusion is any belief that something outside of our mind, which is part of the Mind of God, can affect or cause our “personal” experience. In the illusion that is the separation, time exists to give us the opportunity to correct the mistaken belief that our will could be separate from our Source’s Will. In the world of perception, time is needed so that we can learn that we are the creator of all we perceive and that there is only the one shared Will of God. Only by freely accepting the fact that our will is the Father’s Will can a Son of God be happy. We cannot be joyous if we are limited.

T-22.II.4. Reason will tell you that the only way to escape from misery is to recognize misery <and go the other way>. 2 Truth is the same and misery the same, but truth and misery are different from each other in every way, in every instance and without exception. 3 To believe that one exception to truth can exist is to confuse what is the same with what is different to truth, which is illusion. 4 One illusion cherished and defended against the truth makes all truth meaningless, and all illusions real. 5 Such is the power of belief. 6 Truth cannot compromise. 7 And faith in innocence is faith in sin, if the belief excludes one living thing and holds one living thing out, apart from faith in innocence’s forgiveness.

Note # 19: To believe in “sometimes” is to deny the eternal. Truth cannot be false
sometimes. This is an internal contradiction of ACIM’s definition for truth. Truth is changeless and everlasting and this is what makes truth real. Illusion or the unreal is anything that is subject to change. In the egoic world of perception, truth has been replaced with the true, the false and the sometimes. The “sometimes” makes the ego the arbiter of truth. Truth just is. Truth cannot be made false by an egoic whim. We can choose to deny the truth, but we cannot change the truth. To withhold forgiveness from one part of a Oneness is to withhold forgiveness from the whole. No part can be separated from the whole without the denial of the existence of the Oneness. If we choose to withhold forgiveness from one brother, we condemn ourselves to the same prison. We are our brother’s jailer. Yet, the jailer cannot go home until all his prisoners have been freed. Thus, we are forever linked to our brother’s freedom.

T-22.II.5.Both reason and the ego will tell you that truth and illusion are different and mutually exclusive, but what reason and the ego make of the fact that truth cannot compromise is not the same. 2 The ego will assure you now that it is impossible for you to see no guilt in anyone. 3 And if this seeing no guilt in anyone is the only means by which escape from guilt can be attained, then the belief in sin must be eternal. 4 Yet reason looks on this seeing of no guilt in anyone in another way, for reason sees the source of an idea as what will make the idea either true or false. 5 The source of the idea is what makes the idea true or false and this must be so, if the idea is like its source. 6 Therefore, says reason, if escape from guilt was given to the Holy Spirit as the Holy Spirit’s purpose, and by God to Whom nothing God wills can be impossible, the means for the achievement of the Holy Spirit’s purpose’s attainment are more than possible. 7 The means for the achievement of the Holy Spirit’s purpose’s attainment of escape from guilt must be there, and you must have the means for the achievement of the Holy Spirit’s purpose’s attainment.

Note # 20: The ego claims that we are a limited ego-body and thus, sees limitation and sin. To the ego, it is impossible to believe that a brother or you could be sinless. The ego tells us that we owe our existence to sin and that sin is our natural state. Reason, however, looks to the idea’s source to determine the accuracy of the idea. Reason knows that the Sonship’s source is Its Creator. The Will of God is all-powerful. God’s Will is that the Sonship be happy. Since the egoic thought system only brings misery, reason determines that there must be another way to achieve God’s promised happiness. Reason understands that God’s Plan for our salvation and happiness must be true because the plan comes from God, Himself. Reason does not concern itself with how the Sonship’s happiness will be obtained. Reason knows that since it is God’s plan, the means to achieve the plan must exist.

The Holy Spirit’s purpose is to reawaken our sleeping minds to the truth. Since the source for the idea of the Holy Spirit comes from God, the means to achieve the Holy Spirit’s purpose must also exist. Reason does not concern itself with the “HOW or MEANS” for the plan’s achievement. Reason looks to the idea’s source knowing that if the source is the Will of God, it must be true. If any idea is in opposition to God’s Will, it must be false. Reason understands that ideas never leave their source and that truth does not compromise.
T-22.II.6. This is a crucial period in this course, for here the separation of you, your Big “S” Self, and the ego must be made complete. 2 For if you have the means to let the Holy Spirit's purpose be accomplished, the means can be used. 3 And through their use will you gain faith in the means that achieve the Holy Spirit's purpose. The Holy Spirit’s purpose is to return the Sonship to the truth that God’s Child is sinless. 4 Yet to the ego the means to achieve the Holy Spirit's purpose must be impossible, and no one undertakes to do what holds no hope of ever being done. 5 *You, Your Big “S” Self*, know what your Creator wills is possible, but what you made, the ego, believes it is not so. 6 Now must you choose between the truth that is your Big “S” Self and an illusion of yourself that is the ego. 7 Not both, but one. 8 There is no point in trying to avoid this one decision for either the truth or the illusion about your identity. 9 This decision that our identity is either egoic littleness or the Big “S” Self must be made. 10 Faith and belief can fall to either side of truth or illusion, but reason tells you misery lies only on illusion's side and joy upon the side for truth.

**Note # 21:** ACIM states that our decision-maker must choose where it will place its faith. Ultimately, this choice for our identity is between the ego and the Christ consciousness. We must choose between the thought system of the ego versus the Holy Spirit’s. Reason tells us that only by siding with God’s plan, which is represented by the Holy Spirit, can joy, happiness and the peace of God be found. Whether we choose to place our faith in truth or illusion will determine how we perceive ourselves in time. As long as we value the false, time will be necessary.

T-22.II.7. Forsake not now your brother. 2 For you who are the same as your brother will not decide alone nor differently. 3 Either you give each other life or death; either you are each other's savior or his judge, offering him sanctuary or condemnation. 4 This course will be believed entirely or not at all. 5 For ACIM is wholly true or wholly false, and cannot be but partially believed. 6 And you will either escape from misery entirely or not at all. 7 Reason will tell you that there is no middle ground where you can pause uncertainly, waiting to choose between the joy of Heaven and the misery of hell. 8 Until you choose Heaven, you <are> in hell and misery.

**Note # 22:** Heaven is a choice away. This choice must be for the entire Sonship. It is not made alone and cannot exclude any part of the whole. You cannot escape the illusion of hell as long as you believe someone belongs there. It is your belief that hell is needed that gives hell its reality within your own mind. A Oneness of Everything cannot be outside of hell, if we judge some part of the indivisible Oneness to be in hell. No part can be separated from the whole. Hell can only exist in the imagination of the insane-minded who believe the separation is real.

T-22.II.8. There is no part of Heaven you can take and weave into illusions. 2 Nor is there one illusion you can enter Heaven with. 3 A savior cannot be a judge, nor mercy condemnation. 4 And vision cannot damn, but only bless. 5 Whose function is to save, will save. 6 *How> the Holy Spirit will accomplish God’s plan for our return to Heaven is beyond your understanding, but *when> God’s plan for our return to Heaven is accomplished it must be your free choice. 7 For time you made, and time you
can command. 8 You, its maker, are no more a slave to time than to the world you made.

Note # 23: Time, being in the world of perception, is something that we control. Time is the measure of change. It is up to us to decide when we will choose only to want the truth of God. When we are vigilant only for God’s Will, we will decide to ask for and exclusively follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. This is the only decision that we need to make to end time. ACIM introduction states that free will does not mean that we can establish the curriculum. The curriculum is for the Holy Spirit to determine. Free will means only that you can elect what you want to take at any given moment in time. How long must the Holy Spirit wait upon our decision to want only the truth?

T-22.II.9. Let us look closer at the whole illusion that what you made has power to enslave its maker. 2 This illusion that what you made has power to enslave its maker is the same belief that caused the separation. 3 This illusion that what you made has power to enslave its maker is the meaningless idea that thoughts can leave the thinker’s mind, be different from the thinker’s mind and in opposition to the thinker’s mind. 4 If this were true, thoughts would not be the mind's extensions, but the mind of the thinker’s enemies. 5 And here we see again another form of the same fundamental illusion we have seen many times before. 6 Only if it were possible the Son of God could leave his Father's Mind, make himself different and oppose God’s Will, would it be possible that the egoic little “s” self he made, and all that was made by this illusionary egoic self should be his master.

Note # 24: ACIM states that effects can never become more powerful than their source. All power that an effect has is derived from its source. Since ideas never leave their source, the effect is always dependent on the mind that originated the idea for its existence. If that mind no longer supports the thought, the thought vanishes along with its effect. The ego would claim the thought’s effect not only has a “mind” of its own, but also that the effect’s “mind” can control or change the mind of its original creator. Reason tell us this is not so. An effect cannot change its cause.

T-22.II.10. Behold the great projection, which is the world of your individual perception, but look on the projection of separation with the decision that it must be healed, and not with fear. 2 Nothing you made has any power over you unless you still would be apart from your Creator, and with a will opposed to your Creator’s Will. 3 For only if you would believe God’s Son could be God’s enemy does it seem possible that what your illusionary ego made is your true reality. 4 Your egoic little “s” self would condemn God’s joy, which must be the Sonship’s joy to misery, and make the Sonship and God different. 5 And all the misery your little “s” self made has been your own egoic illusion. 6 Are you not glad to learn all egoic illusion is not true? 7 Is it not welcome news to hear not one of the egoic illusions that you made replaced the truth?

Note # 25: Since God’s Will is changeless, we are an effect of God’s Thoughts and cannot change our Source. We can only deny the truth of what we are but this denial cannot change the truth. This denial of the truth is the loss of knowledge. Uncertainty and doubt about our true identity birthed perception. Out of the dream of separation, space
and time arose. Since the Mind of God does not share the thought of separation, this egoic illusion can have no reality and thus, no impact on the truth. Only within the egoic mind of the dreamer does the dream appear to have any power. When we decide to awaken from the dream of separation, the dream and all the various forms that the illusion appears as during the dream will disappear into the nothingness from which they arose.

**T-22.II.11.** Only *your* egoic thoughts have been impossible. 2 Salvation cannot be impossible. 3 It is impossible to look upon your savior as your enemy and recognize him as your savior. 4 Yet it is possible to recognize your savior for what he is, if God would have it so. 5 What God has given to your holy relationship is there. 6 For what God gave the Holy Spirit to give to you <the Holy Spirit gave>. 7 Would you not look upon the savior that has been given you? p473 8 And would you not exchange, in gratitude, the function of an executioner you gave your brother for the one your brother has in truth, which is to be your savior? 9 Receive of your brother what God has given your brother for you, which is your salvation. Receive not from your brother what you tried to give yourself, which is the belief in the illusion of sin, littleness, death and the body.

**Note # 26:** In the holy relationship, we see the sinlessness of our brother and thus, know our own sinlessness. Since to give is to receive, our brother becomes our savior. The holy relationship is part of God’s plan for the reawakening of the Sonship. This plan cannot fail. We need only accept the Atonement for ourselves and get out of the way of the Holy Spirit so He can complete His function of returning the Sonship to right-mindedness.

**T-22.II.12.** Beyond the body that you interposed between you and your brother, and shining in the golden light that reaches the body from the bright, endless circle that extends forever, is your holy relationship, beloved of God Himself. 2 How still your holy relationship rests, in time and yet beyond, immortal yet on earth. 3 How great the power that lies in your holy relationship. 4 Time waits upon your holy relationship’s will and earth will be as your holy relationship would have earth be. 5 Here is no separate will, nor the desire that anything be separate. 6 Your holy relationship’s will has no exceptions, and what your holy relationship wills is true. 7 Every illusion brought to your holy relationship’s forgiveness is gently overlooked and disappears. 8 For at your holy relationship’s center Christ has been reborn, to light Christ’s home with vision that overlooks the world. 9 Would you not have Christ’s holy home be your home as well? 10 No misery is here in Christ’s home, but only joy.

**Note # 27:** Light is a symbol for the relationship between God and His Creation. Light is love and love is the truth of the One Self. “Light” emanates from love’s expression. God is Love and love requires relationships to be experienced and known. Our holy relationship with our brother is our relationship to Our Creator. All parts are joined in the Oneness of the holographic Mind of God and no “part” can be separate. Your holy relationship with your brother appears in time. Yet, because it is an extension of creation, it is saved by the Holy Spirit and will be return to Heaven. Thus, the holy relationship extends beyond time and is eternal. Relationships of forgiveness and love can be shared.
The actual form or means that these relationships appear within is irrelevant. Only content, the expression or cry for love, is important. In the unholy relationship, fear, not love, is the underlying emotion or content.

T-22.II.13. All you need do to dwell in quiet here with Christ is share Christ vision with your brothers. 2 Quickly and gladly is Christ vision given anyone who is but willing to see his brother sinless. 3 And no one can remain beyond this willingness to see your brothers as sinless if you would be released entirely from all effects of sin. 4 Would you have partial forgiveness for yourself? 5 Can you reach Heaven while a single sin still tempts you to remain in misery? 6 Heaven is the home of perfect purity, and God created perfect purity and Heaven for you. 7 Look on your holy brother, sinless as yourself, and let your brother lead you there to Heaven and your perfect purity.

Note #28: By granting sinlessness to our brother, we grant it to ourselves. Love allows all to be free and thus, does not judge. Love excludes no one and, therefore, no one can be seen as sinful if we are to know ourselves as perfect purity. No part of the Sonship can be left outside the Oneness of the Mind of God.

Ill. Reason and the Forms of Error

T-22.III.1. The introduction of reason into the ego's thought system is the beginning of the egoic thought system's undoing, for reason and the ego are contradictory. 2 Nor is it possible for reason and the ego to coexist in your awareness. 3 For reason's goal is to make plain, and therefore obvious. 4 You can <see> reason. 5 This is not a play on words, for here is the beginning of a vision that has meaning. 6 Vision is sense, quite literally. 7 If vision is not the body's sight, vision <must> be understood. 8 For vision is plain, and what is obvious is not ambiguous. 9 Vision can be understood. 10 And here do reason and the ego separate, to go their separate ways.

Note #29: Vision allows us to apply reason to a given experience or awareness. Vision looks past form to the content. The Vision of Christ understands content and is not bogged down by the form it may appear within. Content is reduced down to the purpose for the awareness. Am I responding out of fear or love? What would love have me do? Is this relationship an expression of love or a cry for love? Egoic seeing focuses on bodily form and, therefore, comes from fear and limitation. By focusing on the form, the ego keeps us within the illusion of the dream. We are taking the illusion seriously instead of questioning what is the underlying lesson this experience would have me learn and, therefore, teach. Reason is aware that form is of no consequence to the underlying content. Reason understands that reality must be based on truth, not illusion. The ego’s goal is to maintain the illusion that God’s Child is limited. Vision coupled with reason, looks past illusionary form in search of the content. It is this content which supports the truth of the One Self.

T-22.III.2. The ego's whole continuance depends on the ego’s belief that you cannot
learn this course. p474 2 Share this belief that you cannot learn ACIM, and reason will be unable to see your errors and make way for the correction of your errors. 3 For reason sees through errors, telling you what you thought was real is not. 4 Reason can see the difference between sin and mistakes, because reason wants correction. 5 Therefore, reason tells you what you thought was uncorrectable can be corrected, and thus what you thought was uncorrectable must have been an error, not a sin. 6 The ego's opposition to correction leads to the ego's fixed belief in sin and disregard of errors. 7 The ego looks on nothing that can be corrected. 8 Thus does the ego damn, and reason saves.

**Note # 30:** If sin is real, it requires punishment. To the ego, sin requires sin’s punishment since it is very real to the split-minded. The ego sees the witnesses for sin wherever it looks. The ego has a vested interest in its belief in sin, which is the bedrock of the egoic thought system. When sin arrives, it brings its “kissing cousin” of guilt and fear. This unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear spawns our belief in limitation and victim consciousness. Unlike sin, an error or mistake only requires correction. If we understand that what we thought was a sin is only an error, our guilt and fear also disappear. Reason leads us to the abandonment of the thought system of the ego because it dispels from our awareness any belief in sin, guilt and fear when it corrects the error.

**T-22.III.3.** Reason is not salvation in itself, but reason makes way for peace and brings you to a state of mind in which salvation can be given you. 2 Sin is a block, set like a heavy gate, locked and without a key, across the road to peace. 3 No one who looks on sin without the help of reason would try to pass sin’s locked gate. 4 The body's eyes behold sin’s locked gate as solid granite, so thick it would be madness to attempt to pass sin’s blockage. 5 Yet reason sees through sin’s locked gate easily, because sin is an error. 6 The form the error takes cannot conceal sin’s emptiness from reason's eyes.

**Note # 31:** Reason looks past form to content. Reason knows God did not create sin, for there is no sin in God or His Creations. Any thought that would support the belief that God’s Child could sin must be an error in thinking. This idea can only be an illusion, whose source, the thought itself, needs to be corrected. Mistakes only require correction. Reason tells the thinker to choose again.

**T-22.III.4.** Only the form of error attracts the ego. 2 Meaning, the ego does not recognize, and the ego does not see if the error is there or not. 3 Everything the body's eyes can see is a mistake, an error in perception, a distorted fragment of the whole without the meaning that the whole would give. 4 And yet mistakes, regardless of their form, can be corrected. 5 Sin is but error in a special form the ego venerates. 6 The ego would preserve all errors and make errors into sins. 7 For here in making errors into sin is the ego’s own stability, the ego’s heavy anchor in the shifting world the ego made; the rock on which the ego’s church is built. And here in making errors into sin is where the ego's worshippers are bound to bodies, believing the body's freedom is their own freedom.

**Note # 32:** The belief that we are sinners keeps us in victim consciousness. Remove our
belief that we have sinned and we no longer have any reason to fear God. Our world of perception was made as a place where our split-mind could hide from a God that it now perceived as fearful due to our supposed committing of original “sin,” which is the “authority problem.” When reason transforms “sin” into a mistake that only requires correction, all fear of punishment is removed. Now we have no reason to fear God. Due to our innocence, we once again feel worthy to accept the love of our Creator.

T-22.III.5. Reason will tell you that the form of error is not what makes something a mistake or a sin. 2 If what the form conceals is a mistake, the form cannot prevent correction. 3 The body's eyes see only form. 4 The body cannot see beyond what the body’s eyes were made to see. 5 And the body’s eyes were made to look on error and not see past the form. 6 The body’s eyes is indeed a strange perception, for the body eyes can see only illusions, unable to look beyond the granite block of sin, and stopping at the outside form of nothing. 7 To this distorted form of egoic vision the outside of everything, the wall that stands between you and the truth, is wholly true. 8 Yet how can sight that stops at nothingness, as if illusion’s nothingness were a solid wall, see truly? 9 The body’s sight is held back by form, having been made to guarantee that nothing else but form will be perceived.

Note # 33: The body is part of the illusion of separation. By choosing to look with the body’s physical senses, we place our mind into the dream and make the dream’s form appear real. This identification of our mind as the body prevents us from realizing that we are the dreamer. Reason looks past the dream’s form and sees the reality that supports the truth. Reason understands that we are the dreamer and, therefore, the form that the dream appears in is of no consequence to the underlying content. Only the erroneous thought that we are a body needs to be corrected. This thought is not a sin but a correctable mistake. An illusion cannot sin against anything that is real since an illusion has no reality outside the mind of the dreamers themselves.

T-22.III.6. These bodily eyes, made not to see, will never see. 2 For the idea the body’s eyes represent left not its maker, and the ego is their maker that sees through the body’s eyes. p475 3 What was the body maker’s goal but not to see? 4 For the inability to see correctly the body's eyes are perfect means. The body’s eyes were not made by the ego for seeing. The body’s eyes were made by the ego to distort all we perceive. 5 See how the body's eyes rest on externals and cannot go beyond the externals of form. 6 Watch how the body's eyes stop at nothingness, unable to go beyond the form to meaning. 7 Nothing so blinding as perception of form. 8 For sight of form means understanding has been obscured.

Note # 34: The goal of the body and the physical senses is to make the illusion of the separation appear real. They were made by the ego to deceive and, therefore, are witnesses for the false. Bodily form is the ego’s veil that obscures the truth of your spiritual essence. We are not a limited ego-body. We are unlimited spirit, perfect, whole and complete.

T-22.III.7. Only mistakes have different forms, and so the forms can deceive. 2 You can
change form <because> form is not true. 3 Form could not be reality <because> form can be changed. 4 Reason will tell you that if form is not reality form must be an illusion, and form is not there to see. 5 And if you see form you must be mistaken, for you are seeing what can <not> be real as if the form were real. 6 What cannot see beyond what is not there must be distorted perception, and must perceive illusions as the truth. 7 Could the body’s eyes that perceive illusion as the truth recognize the truth?

**Note # 35:** Nothing within an illusion can have any power to change the truth. The entire illusion need not be analyzed in every detail. Once we realize that there is an error in logic, we need go no further into the study of the illusion. All the conclusions that follow from erroneous logic can be dismissed. To resolve the problem, the erroneous flaw in logic needs correction at its source. The ultimate source of the problem is the belief that there could be something outside God’s Will. Realize God’s Will is our will and the problem in logic is resolved.

**T-22.III.8.** Let not the form of his mistakes keep you from your brother whose holiness is your holiness. 2 Let not the vision of your brother’s holiness, the sight of which would show you your forgiveness, be kept from you by what the body’s eyes can see. 3 Let your awareness of your brother not be blocked by your perception of your brother’s sins and of his body. 4 What is there in your brother that you would attack except what you associate with your brother’s body, which you believe can sin? 5 Beyond your brother’s errors is his holiness and your salvation. 6 You gave your brother not his holiness, but tried to see your sins in your brother to save yourself. 7 And yet, your brother’s holiness <is> your forgiveness. 8 Can you be saved by making your brother sinful, when your brother’s holiness is your salvation?

**Note # 36:** Mind cannot attack. Bodies can be used by the mind to attack and bodies can appear to have sinned. It is our belief that we are a body and can be harmed that supports the idea of sin in the world of perception. When we realize that we are not a body, we recover the vision of Christ. We look past the veil of the body and recognize the unlimited spirit in our brother. What appeared to be separate ego-bodies now is seen as a mind that can and is joined as one.

**T-22.III.9.** A holy relationship, however newly born, must value holiness above all else. 2 Unholy values will produce confusion, and unholy values will produce confusion in awareness. 3 In an unholy relationship, each party is valued because each party seems to justify the other's sin. 4 Each party sees within the other what impels him to sin against his own will. 5 And thus each party lays his sins upon the other, and is attracted to the other party to perpetuate his own sins. 6 And so it must become impossible for each party to see himself as causing his own sin by his own desire to have sin made real. 7 Yet reason sees a holy relationship as what the holy relationship is; a common state of mind, where both parties give errors gladly to correction, that both parties may happily be healed as one.

**Note # 37:** In a holy relationship each party is seen as whole. Lacking nothing, sin is not possible. Erroneous thinking is possible and, if found, the error needs only to be given
over to the Holy Spirit for correction. Both parties are desirous of the support of truth and, therefore, any error in thinking is quickly given over to the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Any error in perception is transformed into correct perception that witnesses for the truth of the One Self.

**IV. The Branching of the Road**

**T-22.IV.1.** When you come to the place where the branch in the road is quite apparent, you cannot go ahead. 2 You must go either one way or the other. 3 For now if you go straight ahead, the way you went before you reached the branch, you will go nowhere. 4 The whole purpose of coming this far on our journey to the return to truth and knowledge was to decide which branch you will take now. 5 The way you came no longer matters. 6 The old road you previously traveled can no longer serve you. 7 No one who reaches this branch in the road can make the wrong decision, although he can delay the decision to continue past the branch. 8 And there is no part of the journey that seems more hopeless and futile than standing where the road branches, and not deciding on which way to go.

**Note # 38:** We have traveled along our journey of separation long enough to be able to conclude that there must be a better way. Reason has demonstrated that the egoic thought system is broken. Although we can delay the decision for the thought system of the Holy Spirit, it has become impossible to go back to total victim consciousness. Our decision-maker has been awakened. We now realize that we possess within ourselves the decision making power to choose again.

**T-22.IV.2.** It is but the first few steps along the right way that seem hard, for you have already chosen for the thought system of the Holy Spirit, although you still may think you can go back and make the other choice for the egoic thought system that entraps you in victim consciousness. 2 This is not so that you can choose for the egoic thought system. 3 A choice made with the power of Heaven to uphold the choice for the Holy Spirit’s thought system cannot be undone. 4 Your way is decided. 5 There will be nothing you will not be told, if you acknowledge the decision to follow the Holy Spirit.

**Note # 39:** As soon as the mad idea of separation arose, God already had the plan for the return to knowledge for all who choose to experience the illusion of doubting what they are. The mad idea was the thought that it was possible to be something other than the extension of the Creator. The Holy Spirit was given the function of reawakening any sleeping minds to the truth. Since the plan for salvation is God’s, the results are certain. The Holy Spirit will act as our guide. Our acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves will bring us home to the truth.

**T-22.IV.3.** And so you and your brother stand, here in this holy place, before the veil of sin that hangs between you and the face of Christ. 2 Let the veil that appears to separate you and your brother be lifted! 3 Raise the veil that appears to separate
together with your brother, for it is but a veil that stands between you. 4 Either you or your brother alone will see the veil that appears to separate yourselves as a solid block, nor realize how thin the drapery that separates you now. 5 Yet the belief in separation is almost over in your awareness, and peace has reached you even here, before the veil. 6 Think what will happen after the veil that appears to separate has been lifted. 7 The Love of Christ will light your face, and shine from your face into a darkened world that needs the light. 8 And from this holy place the Christ will return with you, not leaving the once dark world nor you. 9 You will become the Holy Spirit’s messenger, returning the Christ unto Himself.

**Note # 40:** When we accept the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we allow the Holy Spirit to transform our misperception into correct perception. We become messengers for the truth that we are the Christ. Since to give is to receive, our thoughts of forgiveness are shared with our brother. By sharing thought, minds are joined. We cannot progress on the journey to the return to knowledge by ourselves. We must travel with our brother along this path.

**T-22.IV.4.** Think of the loveliness that you will see, who walk with the Christ! 2 And think how beautiful will you and your brother look to the other! 3 How happy you will be to be together, after such a long and lonely journey where you walked alone. 4 The gates of Heaven, open now for you, will you now open to the sorrowful. 5 And none who looks upon the Christ in you but will rejoice. 6 How beautiful the sight you saw beyond the veil, which you will bring to light the tired eyes of those as weary now as once you were. 7 How thankful will they be to see you come among them, who forgot their Christ vision, offering Christ’s forgiveness to dispel their faith in sin.

**Note # 41:** The removal of the veil that separated our brothers from each other is the dispelling the erroneous belief that we are a body. With Christ vision restored, we look past bodily form to the content, the Love of Christ, which is the shared Mind of God. With vision, we can help our brothers correct the belief that they could be less than perfect, whole and complete.

**T-22.IV.5.** Every mistake you and your brother make, the other will gently have corrected for you. p477 2 For in his sight, his Christ vision, your loveliness is his salvation, which he would protect from harm. 3 And you will be your brother's strong protector from everything that seems to rise between you both. 4 So shall you walk the world with me, whose message has not yet been given everyone. 5 For you are here to let the message of the Sonship’s sinlessness be received. 6 God's offer still is open, yet God’s offer for salvation, the Atonement, waits acceptance. 7 From you who have accepted the Atonement is God’s offer for salvation received. 8 Into your hand, joined with your brother's, is God’s offer for salvation safely given, for you who share God’s offer for salvation have become the plan’s willing guardian and protector.

**Note # 42:** When we align with the purpose of the Holy Spirit, which is to reawaken all sleeping minds to the truth, we become messengers for our brother’s sinlessness. By granting our brother his sinlessness, we receive our own. Each party acts as the protector
of the remembrance of the guiltlessness of each other. Sharing this thought of the sinlessness and guiltlessness of the Sonship joins into one united mind, these minds which appeared to be separate.

T-22.IV.6. To all who share the Love of God the grace is given to be the givers of what they have received, which is God’s grace. 2 And so all who share the Love of God learn that God’s grace is theirs forever. 3 All barriers disappear before those who share God’s Love’s coming, as every obstacle was finally surmounted that seemed to rise and block their way before. 4 This veil you and your brother lift together opens the way to truth to more than you. 5 Those who would let illusions be lifted from their minds are this world’s saviors, walking the world with their Redeemer, the Christ, and carrying the Holy Spirit’s message of hope and freedom and release from suffering to everyone who needs a miracle to save him.

Note # 43: By sharing the Love of God, we prove that we have the Love of God. Unless we are willing to share everything, we are still under the delusion of lack and limitation. To free ourselves of the belief in sin, guilt and fear, we must be willing to share that same belief with all. We cannot be free if we insist on imprisoning one brother in sin. Being his jailer, we must remain in the same prison to guard against his possible escape. The jailer and the prisoner are joined as one imprisoned mind.

T-22.IV.7. How easy is it to offer this miracle of God’s grace and our brother’s sinlessness to everyone! 2 No one who has received the miracle for himself could find the miracle difficult. 3 For by receiving the miracle of God’s grace that he is sinlessness, he learned the miracle of sinlessness was not given to him alone but to all. 4 Such is the function of a holy relationship; to receive together and give as you received. 5 Standing before the veil, it still seems difficult to understand that we give and receive together. 6 But hold out your hand, joined with your brother’s, and touch this heavy-seeming block, and you will learn how easily your fingers slip through the veil of separation’s nothingness. 7 The veil of separation is no solid wall. 8 And only an illusion stands between you and your brother, and the holy One Self you share together.

Note # 44: Since the belief that we could be separate from the Oneness was never part of the Mind of God, it has no reality. Being an illusion held only within the mind of the dreamer, the dreamer needs only to reawaken to reality. Once awakened, the truth will reappear. Illusion cannot change Truth. By correcting the error at its source, all effects of the error disappear. The idea that we are a separate ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies appears real only within the dream of separation.
V. Weakness and Defensiveness

T-22.V.1. How does one overcome illusions? 2 Surely not by force or anger, nor by opposing the illusion in any way. 3 Merely by letting reason tell you that the illusions contradict reality. 4 The illusions go against what must be true. 5 The opposition comes from the illusions, themselves, and not reality. 6 Reality opposes nothing. 7 What merely is reality needs no defense, and reality offers no defense. 8 Only illusions need defenses because of illusion’s weakness. 9 And how can it be difficult to walk the way of truth when only the weakness of illusions interferes? 10 <You, your Big “S” Self>, are the strong one in this seeming conflict between truth and illusions. p478 11 And you, your Big “S” Self, need no defense. 12 Everything that needs defense is an illusion you do not want, for anything that needs defense will weaken you.

Note # 45: We are only strong when we are under the guidance of the thought system of the Holy Spirit. If we are in egoic thinking, we will associate ourselves with the illusion of the small “s” self and, therefore, believe that limitation is real. The insane do not know that they are insane. Yet, no matter how deep into egoic victim consciousness we sink, we will always possess deep within us the decision-making ability to choose again. It is the decision-maker that must decide which thought system the split-mind would choose to follow. To believe in anything but truth will strength our belief that we are limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego-bodies.

T-22.V.2. Consider what the ego wants defenses for. 2 The ego always wants to justify what goes against the truth, flies in the face of reason and makes no sense. 3 Can this egoic denial of the truth be justified? 4 What can this egoic denial of the truth be except an invitation to insanity, to save you from the truth? 5 And what would you be saved from but what you fear, which is the truth? 6 Belief in sin needs great defense, and belief in sin comes at enormous cost. Both truth and happiness is sacrificed for our belief in sin. 7 All that the Holy Spirit offers must be defended against and sacrificed due to our belief in sin. 8 For sin is carved into a block out of your peace, and laid between you and your peace’s return.

Note # 46: We sacrifice our divine birthright’s happiness for the egoic desire to be right. What is tragic is that what we are fighting for is not truth but, rather, our right to claim that the false is the truth. If we reject the ego’s thought system, we can accept only the truth. By accepting the truth, we get to be both happy and right. Truth just is and God’s Will is that we be happy. No illusion can change truth or God’s Will.

T-22.V.3. Yet how can peace be so fragmented? 2 Peace is still whole, and nothing has been taken from peace. 3 See how the means and the material of evil dreams are nothing. 4 In truth you and your brother stand together, with nothing in between. 5 God holds your hands, and what can separate whom God has joined as one with God, Himself? 6 It is your Father Whom you would defend against. 7 Yet it remains impossible to keep love out. 8 God rests with you in quiet, undefended and wholly undefending, for in this quiet state alone is strength and power. 9 Here in the quiet state of truth can no weakness enter, for here in the quiet state of truth is no attack and therefore no illusions. 10 Love
rests in certainty. 11 Only uncertainty can be defensive. 12 And all uncertainty is doubt about yourself.

**Note # 47:** God’s home is the Christ. God is truth and truth is certain. Due to our belief in separation, our egoic little “s” self doubted that we were an extension of the Creator and thus, not a part of the Oneness in the Mind of God. Our Christ consciousness still rests in knowledge and knows the truth. It is only our egoic consciousness that wants illusion to replace the reality of truth. Truth needs not attack illusions because to do so would be making the illusion appear to be real. How could you attack nothingness? Instead, we must bring illusion into the light of truth. When is happens, the illusion disappears. The entire egoic thought system is designed to prevent illusions from ever being examined under the light of truth. This is why ACIM does not attempt to teach love but rather to remove all the obstacles we have placed to block love’s presence. Remove the belief that we are a body and the truth reappears. The truth was never missing; we just were unable to see past the illusion. The sun always shines even when it appears to be covered by clouds. The truth is the sun; the clouds only illusions.

**T-22.V.4.** How weak is fear; how little and how meaningless. 2 How insignificant is fear before the quiet strength of those whom love has joined! 3 Fear is your "enemy,"–a frightened mouse that would attack the universe. 4 How likely is it that the frightened mouse of fear will succeed in its attack on Heaven’s truth? 5 Can it be difficult to disregard fear’s feeble squeaks that tell of truth’s omnipotence, and would drown out the hymn of praise to truth’s Creator that every heart throughout the universe forever sings as one? 6 Which is the stronger, an illusion of fear or truth? 7 Is it this tiny mouse of fear or everything that God created? 8 You and your brother are not joined together by this mouse of fear, but by the Will of God. 9 And can a mouse betray whom God has joined?

**Note # 48:** ACIM points out that the illusions that arise from our fears are powerless against the truth of God. Nothing can impact the eternal truth or change God’s Will.

**T-22.V.5.** If you but recognized how little stands between you and your awareness of your union with your brother! 2 Be not deceived by the illusions that fear presents of size and thickness, weight and solidity and firmness of foundation. 3 Yes, to the body's eyes the illusions looks like an enormous solid body, immovable as is a mountain. 4 Yet within you is a Force for truth, which is the Will of God that resides in your Christ consciousness that no illusions can resist. 5 This body only seems to be immovable; this Force of the power of God is irresistible in truth. 6 What, then, must happen when the illusions of fear and the power of truth come together? p479 7 Can the illusion of immovability be long defended from what is quietly passed through and gone beyond the illusion, which is the Christ vision of truth?

**Note # 49:** The illusion of form is powerless against the ability of Christ vision to see only what supports the truth. In the world of perception, the illusions of fear arose from our belief that we are the body and that the mind is the brain. We believe the body is full of sin, guilt and fear. It is the body’s lot in life to suffer pain and ultimately die. If the
egoic body has a soul, it must burn in hell. Is it any wonder, since we believe in the egoic version of “truth” that claims we are a sinner, that we fear God? To the ego, its egoic god must certainly condemn sinners to eternal damnation. Christ vision looks past the nothingness of the illusionary body to the reality that we are unlimited spirit. When we see both our brother and ourselves as the unlimited spirit of a Oneness of everything, what is there to fear?

T-22.V.6. Forget not, when you feel the need arise to be defensive about anything, you have identified yourself with an illusion. 2 And therefore, because you have identified yourselves with an illusion, you feel that you are weak because you are alone. 3 This belief that you are separate is the cost of all illusions. 4 Not one illusion but rests on the belief that you are separate. 5 Not one illusion does not seem to stand, heavy and solid and immovable, between you and your brother. 6 And there is no illusion that truth cannot pass over lightly, and so easily that you must be convinced, in spite of what you thought the illusion was, that the illusion is nothing. 7 If you forgive your brother, this replacement of illusion with truth <must> happen. 8 For it is your unwillingness to overlook what seems to stand between you and your brother, your belief that you are the body, that makes the illusion of the body look impenetrable, and defends the ego’s fearful illusion of the body’s immovability.

Note # 50: The body is the ego’s symbol for sin and limitation. All of our fears are associated with our identification that we are the body. If we saw ourselves as unlimited spirit, what would we fear? What can be outside a Oneness of everything that we could fear? It is our belief that there is something else other than our own oneness that generates fear. The body is the ego’s proof that the separation is real. The body demonstrates that we are not one with our brother. While on earth the Holy Spirit utilizes the egoic body as a neutral communication device. Under the thought system of the Holy Spirit, thoughts are generated from the mind that directs the body to communicate love and teach love. The mind, not the body, is the source for the communication. The body is merely the radio tower through which the signal is transmitted. We need to look past the radio tower’s form and focus on the contents of the message of the unity of the Christ consciousness. We are that One Self.

VI. The Light of the Holy Relationship

T-22.VI.1. Do you want freedom of the body or of the mind? 2 For both freedom of the body and the mind you cannot have. 3 Which do you value, freedom of the body or the mind? 4 Which is your goal, freedom of the body or the mind? 5 For one you see as means; the other, end. 6 And one must serve the other and lead to the other’s predominance, increasing the other’s importance by diminishing its own importance. 7 Means serve the end, and as the end is reached the value of the means decreases, eclipsed entirely when the means are recognized as functionless. 8 No one but yearns for freedom and tries to find freedom. 9 Yet he will seek for freedom where he believes freedom is and can be found. 10 He will believe freedom possible of mind or body, and he will
make the other, either the mind or body, serve his choice as means to find the freedom for the one he values.

**Note # 51:** We cannot serve two masters. Whichever of the two potential masters that we value, we will serve. Our choice is between the two thought systems of the ego and the Holy Spirit. These two thought systems vie for influence over our decision-making mind. The body and the mind are the symbols or battleground that represents each thought system’s core belief. Are we a limited ego-body or unlimited mind or spirit? Which belief do we value? If we value the body, our mind will become the tool or servant that serves the perceived needs of the body. If we side with the truth that we are unlimited spirit, we will allow the Holy Spirit to utilize the body as a communication device to teach only love and the unity of our One Self. Whatever goal we value and desire most, the other one will become a servant for or the means to the achievement of the primary goal of the other. As long as we see ourselves as the body, our mind will follow the egoic thought system and pursue the ego’s goal of “proving” that the Son of God is a sinful limited ego-body and that the separation was real.

**T-22.VI.2.** Where freedom of the body has been chosen, the mind is used as means whose value lies in the mind’s ability to contrive ways to achieve the body's freedom. Yet freedom of the body has no meaning, and so the mind is dedicated to serve illusions. The choice to seek freedom for an illusionary body is a situation so contradictory and so impossible that anyone who chooses this goal of freedom for an illusionary body has no idea of what is valuable. This confusion of valuing the body over the mind is so profound it cannot be described. Yet even in this confusion of what you value the Holy Spirit waits in gentle patience, as certain of the outcome as the Holy Spirit is sure of His Creator's Love. The Holy Spirit knows this mad decision of valuing the body over the mind was made by one, the split-minded Sonship, as dear to His Creator as love is to itself.

**Note # 52:** Since we are here in time and space, we must have valued the body over the mind. The egoic thought system is the superficial attempt to grant freedom to an illusionary body. Yet this is only what the ego tells us its objective is. The ego’s actual goal is the continuation of the belief that our mind lacks any power to choose again. Due to our egoic mind’s belief that we are the body, our mind has slipped into a state of victim consciousness. The mind’s power to create has degraded into the power to make only illusions. Creation requires extending thoughts that are shared with our Creator. Making involves fear-based thoughts of exclusion that are alien to the loving thoughts of God and thus, are not shared. Making occurs within the imaginary world of perception’s time and space. Yet, even this power to “make” is belittled by our ego as we claim we are powerless to act as the creator and cause of our world of provisional reality. We claim to be the effect of outside forces beyond our control. Illusions are made out of the belief that we are limited ego-bodies. Illusions are not real because they are not shared with the Mind of God. By choosing for the egoic thought system, our decision-maker has opted for littleness over magnitude. We have valued the specialness of the little “s” self over the Big “S” Self’s Oneness. The mind is now the servant of the egoic body. The mind pursues the insane egoic goal of making the illusion of separation replace the truth of the
T-22.VI.3. Be not disturbed at all to think how the **Holy Spirit** can change the role of means and end so easily in what God loves, and would have free forever, **which is God’s Creation, the Sonship.** p480 2 But be you rather grateful that you can be the means to serve the **Holy Spirit’s** end. 3 **Your becoming the means to serve the Holy Spirit’s end** is the only service that leads to freedom. 4 To serve this end the body must be perceived as sinless, because the goal is sinlessness. 5 The lack of contradiction between the sinlessness of the illusory body and truth of the sinlessness of the mind makes the soft transition from means to end as easy as is the shift from hate to gratitude before forgiving eyes. 6 You will be sanctified by your brother, using your body only to serve the sinless. 7 And it will be impossible for you to hate the **body** what serves your **brother,** whom you would heal.

**Note # 53:** The body possesses no power to sin. As such, the body cannot be sinful or sinless since all power comes directly from the mind. During the transitory process of returning the split-minded to right-mindedness, the Holy Spirit must work within the illusion of the dream itself. By seeing the body as sinless, we can easily jump to the truth that our mind is sinless. Since we identify a brother and ourselves as a body, it is helpful to remove our underlying belief that the body is the home of sin. The Holy Spirit will reinterpret whatever perceived experiences we are willing to turn over for his guidance. The “sinless” body becomes a teaching device utilized by the Holy Spirit to communicate only love.

T-22.VI.4. This holy relationship, lovely in its innocence, mighty in strength, and blazing with a light far brighter than the sun that lights the sky you see, is chosen of your Father as a means for **God’s Own plan for salvation.** 2 Be thankful that the **holy relationship** serves your **egoic plan for your salvation** not at all. 3 Nothing entrusted to the **holy relationship** can be misused, and nothing given the **holy relationship** but will be used. 4 This holy relationship has the power to heal all pain, regardless of pain’s form. 5 Neither you nor your brother alone can serve at all. 6 Only in your joint will does healing lie. 7 For here in your joint will is your healing, and here in your joint will will you accept Atonement. 8 And in your healing is the Sonship healed <because> your will and your brother's will are joined.

**Note # 54:** In the holy relationship both parties are seen as whole and complete. Being everything the minds of both parties can join to extend love and forgiveness. In the unholy relationship, the parties are seen as limited and lacking. The objective of the unholy relationship is to take from the other party. Sharing is not possible since each is perceived as a limited ego-body. If we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit’s thought system, the ego’s special relationship can be transformed into a holy one. The ego’s special relationship made holy forms the means by which the Holy Spirit teaches the split-minded the truth that we are only love and thus, the sinless extensions of the Mind of God.

T-22.VI.5. Before a holy relationship there is no sin. 2 The form of error is no longer
seen, and reason, joined with love, looks quietly on all confusion, observing merely, "This was a mistake." 3 And then the same Atonement you accepted in your relationship corrects the error by acknowledging that we are **sinless**, and lays a part of Heaven in its place. 4 How blessed are you who let this gift be given! 5 Each **sinless** part of Heaven that you bring is given you. 6 And every empty place in Heaven that you fill again with the eternal light you bring, shines now on you. 7 The means of sinlessness can know no fear because the **sinless** carry only love with them.

**Note # 55:** The holy relationship allows Christ vision to look past form to the content. It sees the truth of the sinless nature of our brother and our own sinlessness. By seeing our brother as sinless and guiltless, we grant this same freedom to ourselves. By giving, we receive. Our loving experiences are shared and thus, real. The Holy Spirit saves all these loving thoughts for us in Heaven.

**T-22.VI.6.** Child of peace, the light, which is the truth, *has* come to you. 2 The light you bring you do not recognize, and yet you will remember this light. 3 Who can deny himself the vision of **sinlessness** that he brings to others? 4 And who would fail to recognize a gift of a **sinless brother** that he let be laid in Heaven through himself? 5 The gentle service that you give the Holy Spirit is service to yourself. 6 You who are now the Holy Spirit’s means must love all that the Holy Spirit loves. 7 And what you bring is your remembrance of everything that is eternal. 8 No trace of anything in time can long remain in a mind that serves the timeless. 9 And no illusion can disturb the peace of a **holy** relationship that has become the means of peace.

**Note # 56:** In the holy relationship, we grant forgiveness and see the other party as sinless. Giving this, we also receive and accept that same truth for ourselves. Love is eternal and nothing can disrupt the peace of the holy relationship.

**T-22.VI.7.** When you have looked upon your brother with complete forgiveness, from which no error is excluded and nothing kept hidden, what mistake can there be anywhere you cannot overlook? p481 2 What form of suffering could block your sight, preventing you from seeing past the **form to its content**? 3 And what illusion could there be you will not recognize as a mistake; a shadow through which you walk completely undismayed? 4 God would let nothing interfere with those whose wills are God’s Will, and they will recognize their wills are God’s Will, *because* they serve God’s Will. 5 And serve God’s Will willingly. 6 And could remembrance of what they are be long delayed to those who look upon a brother with complete forgiveness and thus, follow God’s Will?

**Note # 57:** Choosing to remember the truth about your brother will bring about the remembrance of the truth about yourself. We will remember that our will and our Creator’s Will is one.

**T-22.VI.8.** You will see your value through your brother’s eyes, and each one is released as he beholds his **brother** as savior in place of the attacker who he thought was there. 2 Through this releasing of the perceived “attacker” who he thought was there is the
world released. 3 This granting of forgiveness to the perceived “attacker” is your part in bringing peace. 4 For you have asked what is your function here, and have been answered that your function is to forgive. 5 Seek not to change your function of forgiveness, nor to substitute another goal. 6 This function of forgiveness was given you, and only this. 7 Accept this function of forgiveness and serve it willingly, for what the Holy Spirit does with gifts you give your brother, to whom the Holy Spirit offers these gifts, and where and when, is up to the Holy Spirit. 8 The Holy Spirit will bestow these gifts of forgiveness where they are received and welcomed. 9 The Holy Spirit will use every one of these gifts of forgiveness for peace. 10 Nor will one little smile or willingness to overlook the tiniest mistake be lost to anyone.

Note # 58: Since the Holy Spirit is aware of God’s overall plan for salvation, we should not interfere with the Holy Spirit’s function, which is the leading of the Sonship back to the truth. We do not know how all the parts fit together. To interfere with the Holy Spirit’s function is an egoic attempt to replace God’s plan with the ego’s plan for salvation. No loving or forgiving thought will be left unused by the Holy Spirit. We may not be aware of how our forgiveness is used and we must not let our egoic judgment limit how, when or where it should be used. Our only function in God’s plan of salvation is to grant our brother forgiveness and letting the Holy Spirit handle the details.

T-22.VI.9. What can it be but universal blessing to look on what your Father loves with charity? 2 Extension of forgiveness is the Holy Spirit’s function. 3 Leave this extension of forgiveness to the Holy Spirit. 4 Let your concern be only that you give to the Holy Spirit gifts of forgiveness, which can be extended. 5 Save no dark secrets that the Holy Spirit cannot use, but offer Him the tiny gifts the Holy Spirit can extend forever. 6 The Holy Spirit will take each gift of forgiveness and make of each gift a potent force for peace. 7 The Holy Spirit will withhold no blessing from each gift of forgiveness and love, nor limit each gift in any way. 8 The Holy Spirit will join to each gift all the power that God has given the Holy Spirit, to make each little gift of love a source of healing for everyone. 9 Each little gift you offer to your brother lights up the world. 10 Be not concerned with darkness; look away from darkness and toward your brother. 11 And let the darkness be dispelled by the Holy Spirit Who knows the light, and lays the light gently in each quiet smile of faith and confidence with which you bless your brother.

Note # 59: Again, ACIM warns us to let the Holy Spirit do His job. We grant forgiveness to a brother and the Holy Spirit extends our gift of forgiveness to the entire Sonship. Being clueless, the ego does not know how or what forgiveness is for.

T-22.VI.10. On your learning depends the welfare of the world. 2 And it is only egoic arrogance that would deny the power of your will. 3 Think you the Will of God is powerless? 4 Is this humility? 5 You do not see what this egoic belief that would deny the power of your will has done. 6 You see yourself as vulnerable, frail and easily destroyed, and at the mercy of countless attackers more powerful than you. 7 Let us look straight at how this egoic error of the denial of the power of your will came about, for here lies buried the heavy anchor that seems to keep the fear of God in place, immovable
and solid as a rock. While this egoic error of the denial of the power of your will remains, so will your will's powerlessness seem to be.

**Note # 60:** We must relearn the truth about ourselves. We are an extension of the Mind of God. All the power of God is granted the Sonship for we are one with God. Our power to create comes from following God’s Will, which is our true will. When we see ourselves as something other than a co-creator with God’s Will, we deny our creative ability. We “make” when we follow the egoic belief system that claims we are limited ego-bodies. Our egoic little “s” self can do nothing but make up illusions. Yet, through our Big “S” Self, the Christ, God does everything. This is the acknowledgment that the Christ is the home of God and the seat of all power.

T-22.VI.11. Who can attack the Son of God and not attack his Father? 2 How can God's Son be weak and frail and easily destroyed unless his Father is also weak? 3 You do not see that every sin and every condemnation that you perceive and justify is an attack upon your Father. 4 And that is why sin has not happened, nor could sin be real since the Father is not weak. 5 You do not see that this egoic belief in the Son’s weak and sinful nature is your ego’s attempt to make the separation appear real because you think the Father and the Son are separate. 6 And you must think that the Father and the Son are separate, because of fear. 7 For it seems safer to attack another or yourself than to attack the great Creator of the universe, Whose power you know.

**Note # 61:** The ego realizes that the ego’s thought system rests on the belief that the separation is real. This is the only way that the Sonship could ever have usurped the Will of God. The ego also states that we are separate from our brothers. The body is the “proof” that this illusion is real. Since we believe that we are a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies, it makes sense that we are justified in attacking and stealing from our brother in order to survive. It is easier to believe that we can defeat and take from our brother then to take from God. The ego tells us that an attack on our brother is not an attack on God since each is a separate entity. ACIM points out that since the separation never happened, there remains only the Oneness. Thus, to attack any part of the Oneness is to attack the whole.

T-22.VI.12. If you were one with God and recognized this oneness, you would know His power is your power. 2 But you will not remember this oneness and joint power with God while you believe attack of any kind means anything. 3 Attack is unjustified in any form, because attack has no meaning. 4 The only way attack could be justified is if you and your brother were separate from the other, and all were separate from your Creator. 5 For only then would it be possible to attack a part of the creation without the whole, the Son without the Father; and to attack another without yourself, or hurt yourself without the other feeling pain. 6 And this belief that the separation of the Oneness into individualized parts is real is what you want. 7 Yet wherein lies this belief’s value, except in the desire to attack an individual part in safety? 8 Attack is neither safe nor dangerous. 9 Attack is impossible. 10 And attack is impossible because the universe is one. 11 You would not choose attack on the oneness of each part’s reality if it were not essential to attack to see each part separated from its maker. 12 And thus due to the
egoic belief in separation, it seems as if love could attack and become fearful.

Note # 62: If we realized that we are the Oneness of everything, we would realize there is nothing to attack. The Laws of God state that the whole cannot be subdivided into separate parts. The Mind of God is holographic in nature. Each part contains the whole. The egoic world of perception, however, focuses on form. In the world of form, which is but an illusion, each part is less than the whole and, therefore, can be separated from the whole. Believing we are separate from the whole, each part is free to attack another part while claiming immunity from the consequence of our attack upon the whole. We believe that we can attack a brother and still claim we love the God that created the one we hate.

T-22.VI.13. Only the different can attack. 2 So you conclude <because> you can attack, you and your brother must be different. 3 Yet does the Holy Spirit explain this differently. 4 <Because> you and your brother are not different, you cannot attack. 5 Either position is a logical conclusion. 6 Either position could be maintained, but never both positions. 7 The only question to be answered in order to decide which must be true is whether you and your brother are different. 8 From the position of what you egoically understand you seem to be different with separate bodies, and therefore can attack. 9 Of the alternatives, this seems more natural and more in line with your experience based on your own belief that you are the body. 10 And therefore it is necessary that you have other experiences, more in line with truth, to teach you what is natural and true, which is that you are not the body but rather joined as one unified mind.

Note # 63: Since we deny that we are the dreamer of the illusion of separation, we naturally believe that we are a bodily form. Form cannot be shared and, therefore, must be separate. The Holy Spirit awakens us to the fact that we are mind and are only dreaming. Knowing the truth, the Holy Spirit prompts us to gently awaken so that we can remember the truth about ourselves as a unified thought in the Mind of God. Minds, being thought, are joined. There are no private thoughts.

T-22.VI.14. This providing you with more experiences in line with the truth of the Oneness of Mind is the function of your holy relationship. 2 For what one thinks, the other brother will experience with him. p483 3 What can this mean except your mind and your brother's are one mind? 4 Look not with fear upon this happy fact that your mind and brother's mind are joined, and think not that this joining of minds lays a heavy burden on you. 5 For when you have accepted this joining of minds with gladness, you will realize that your relationship is a reflection of the union of the Creator and His Son. 6 From loving minds there <is> no separation. 7 And every thought in one mind brings gladness to the other mind because they are the same mind. 8 Joy is unlimited, because each shining thought of love extends its being and creates more of itself. 9 There is no difference anywhere in mind, for every thought is like itself.

Note # 64: In the holy relationship, we look past the bodily forms and realize that minds are joined. We learn the truth about ourselves when we experience the joining of two apparently separate minds into the one mind. The Holy Spirit uses the holy relationship as the means to teach this lesson of joining and oneness. This whole and holy experience
strengthens our faith in the thought system of the Holy Spirit. With the Holy Spirit’s transformation of each unholy relationship into a holy relationship, we experience the relinquishing of conflict and fear and receive the inner peace of love and forgiveness. The more relationships that we turn over to the Holy Spirit, the greater the joy and peace we allow ourselves to experience in present time. We realize that we are not a body but that our happiness can only be found by extending love and forgiveness to all. By granting forgiveness, we receive forgiveness.

T-22.VI.15. The light that joins you and your brother shines throughout the universe, and because **the light** joins you and him, so **the light** makes you and him one with your Creator. 2 And in **the Creator** is all creation joined. 3 Would you regret you cannot fear alone, when your relationship can also teach the power of love is there, which makes all fear impossible? 4 Do not attempt to keep a little of the ego with this gift of **the holy relationship**. 5 For **the holy relationship** was given you to be used, and not obscured. 6 What teaches you that you cannot separate denies the ego. 7 Let truth decide if you and your brother be different or the same, and **let the holy relationship** teach you which is true. p484

**Note # 65:** In the world of perception, the holy relationship most clearly represents the truth of what we are. In the holy relationship, two parties realize that they are already complete and also that they are not the body. Being unlimited mind or spirit, what appeared to be two separate bodily forms existing in the illusion of time and space, are now joined has one mind to extend and experience only love and forgiveness. This is the creative process of extension. The holy relationship is the gift that the Holy Spirit can utilize to help awaken the entire Sonship. The miracle is the change in perception within the mind of the perceiver, which transforms the egoic unholy special relationship into a holy one. The holy relationship teaches the truth about our brother and ourselves. We are all the One Self within the holographic Mind of God.
Chapter 23. THE WAR AGAINST YOURSELF

Introduction

T-23.in.1. Do you not see the opposite of frailty and weakness is sinlessness? 2 Innocence is strength, and nothing else is strong. 3 The sinless cannot fear, for sin of any kind is weakness. 4 The show of strength attack would use to cover frailty conceals sin and weakness not, for how can the unreal be hidden? 5 No one is strong who has an enemy, and no one can attack unless he thinks he has an enemy. 6 Belief in enemies is therefore the belief in weakness, and what is weak is not the Will of God. 7 Being opposed to the Will of God, sin and weakness is God's "enemy." 8 And God is feared as an opposing will of those who believe they are sinful and weak.

Note # 1: The belief in sin, guilt and fear form the basis for the egoic thought system. This unholy trinity is the ego’s proof that the separation is real and that we can oppose God’s Will. There is nothing that can oppose a Oneness of Everything for there is nothing outside of It. What is there to fear? What could attack It or be attacked by It?

T-23.in.2. How strange indeed becomes this war against yourself! 2 You will believe that everything you use for sin can hurt you and become your enemy. 3 And you will fight against everything you use for sin, and try to weaken everything you use for sin because of this belief that you have enemies; and you will think that you succeeded by fighting against your enemies, and will attack again. 4 It is as certain you will fear what you attack as it is sure that you will love what you perceive as sinless. 5 He walks in peace who travels sinlessly along the way love shows him. 6 For love walks with him there, protecting him from fear. 7 And he who walks in love, peace and sinlessness will see only the sinless, who can not attack.

Note # 2: By following the thought system of the Holy Spirit, you will follow the path of love and forgiveness. Refusing to see error as sin, you will offer correction for any mistake that would witness for any limitation of God’s Son. Seeing everything as a part of the sinless Oneness, you know that you are that One Self.

T-23.in.3. Walk you in glory, with your head held high, and fear no evil. 2 The innocent are safe because the innocent share their innocence. 3 Nothing the innocent see is harmful, for their awareness of the truth releases everything from the illusion of harmfulness. 4 And what seemed harmful now stands shining in their innocence, released from sin and fear and happily returned to love. 5 The innocent share the strength of love <because> they looked on innocence. 6 And every error disappeared because the
innocent saw the illusion of sin not. 7 Who looks for glory finds glory where it is. 8 Where could glory be but in the innocent?

Note # 3: The innocent are unaware of that which does not exist. God, like our Big “S” Self, does not know what does not exist which is the false. Thus, the innocent are they who know not of sin. Being innocent, they have no concept of sin because it is not part of their thought system. For ACIM purposes, the only perception that the innocent would have is the observation that any part of the indivisible Oneness is perfect, whole and complete. The barriers to love, which are fear, sin and guilt, are unknown to the innocent. They are conduits for God’s Will.

T-23.in.4. Let not the little interferers pull you to littleness. 2 There can be no attraction of guilt in innocence. 3 Think what a happy world you walk, with truth beside you! 4 Do not give up this world of freedom and truth for a little sigh of seeming sin, nor for a tiny stirring of guilt's attraction. 5 Would you, for all these meaningless distractions, lay Heaven aside? 6 Your destiny and purpose are far beyond the attraction of sin and guilt’s littleness. Your destiny and purpose are in the clean place where littleness does not exist. p485 7 Your purpose is at variance with littleness of any kind. 8 And so your purpose is at variance with sin.

Note # 4: Littleness is the idea that God and His creation could be limited in someway and that the separation was real. Our egoic belief in sin birthed littleness. Specialness is the belief in inequality. Already being created as a holographic part of the Oneness of Everything, when we wanted to be special and different from the Oneness, the only playing field available was in the imagination of a deluded mind. In the non-real world of perception, time and space, the game of egoic littleness is played out. In the world of time and space our function is forgiveness, our purpose love and our destiny the peace of God.

T-23.in.5. Let us not let littleness lead God's Son into temptation. 2 The Son of God’s glory is beyond temptation’s littleness. The Son of God’s glory is measureless and timeless as eternity. 3 Do not let time intrude upon your sight of him, God’s Son. 4 Leave him not frightened and alone in his temptation, but help him rise above the temptation of littleness and perceive the light of which he is a part. 5 Your innocence will light the way to his innocence, and so is your innocence protected and kept in your awareness. 6 For who can know his Big “S” Self’s glory, and perceive the little and the weak about him? 7 Who can walk trembling in a fearful world, and realize that Heaven's glory shines on him, who perceives himself as little?

Note # 5: By the acceptance of the Atonement for yourself, you accept your sinless and guiltless nature. You recognize the truth of the Oneness. You realize that to give is but to receive. Having accepted the Atonement for yourself, you now have the Atonement to give to all. You can only give what you have. In your granting forgiveness and sinlessness to your brother, you confirm the reality of the One shared Mind of God that is the One Self.

T-23.in.6. Nothing around you but is part of you. 2 Look on everything around you
lovingly, and see the light of Heaven in everything. 3 So will you come to understand all that is given you is everything. 4 In kind forgiveness will the world sparkle and shine, and everything you once thought sinful now will be reinterpreted as part of Heaven. 5 How beautiful it is to walk, clean and redeemed and happy, through a world in bitter need of the redemption that your innocence bestows upon the world in which you walk! 6 What can you value more than the redemption of the world in which you walk? 7 For here in the world in which you walk is your salvation and your freedom. 8 And your salvation and your freedom must be complete if you would recognize it in the world you walk.

Note # 6: The world you walk in is the world of perception. This is your own provisional reality. It is how you view your world. Is your universe a loving, forgiving and supportive place? Or, is your world a competitive fearful place of limitation, pain and suffering? We, as decision-makers, always control how we will perceive our world. Will we choose to look upon our world through the loving vision of Christ? Or, will we choose to look with our egoic eyes that focus only on sin, guilt and fear? The choice is always our choice alone and no one else’s. We are not victims of the world we perceive. Instead, our perception makes or creates the world we choose to perceive.

I. The Irreconcilable Beliefs

T-23.I.1. The memory of God comes to the quiet mind. 2 The memory of God cannot come where there is conflict, for a mind at war against itself remembers not eternal gentleness. 3 The means of war are not the means of peace, and what the warlike would remember is not love. 4 War is impossible unless belief in victory is cherished. 5 Conflict within you must imply that you believe the ego has the power to be victorious over the memory of God. 6 Why else would you identify with the ego? 7 Surely you realize the ego is at war with God. 8 Certain is the memory of God that it has no enemy. 9 Yet just as certain is the ego’s fixed belief that the ego has an enemy that it must overcome and will succeed.

Note # 7: The quiet mind rests in the truth of its own invulnerability. It understands the truth that its will is all-powerful since its will is the Will of God. The memory of God is this knowing. The ego’s existence rests upon the denial of the Will of God. Since we are here in the world of perception, at some time in the distant past we must have desired the specialness of egoic littleness. The ego attacks anything that threatens its existence. Its existence arose from our belief in the reality of the separation. Since the belief of the separation from God’s Will is not real, everything the ego perceives is considered a threat to the ego’s existence. Enemies abound everywhere and the ego is constantly battling to prove its claim that an illusion can make the false real.

T-23.I.2. Do you not realize a war against yourself would be a war on God? 2 Is victory conceivable against God or yourself? 3 And if victory were conceivable against God, is this a victory that you would want? 4 The death of God, if it were possible, would be
your death. 5 Is this joint death of God and yourself a victory? 6 The ego always marches to defeat, because the ego thinks that triumph over you, the Christ, is possible. 7 And God thinks otherwise and knows that the ego cannot triumph over His Son, the Christ. 8 This is no war; only the mad belief the Will of God can be attacked and overthrown. 9 You may identify with this egoic belief that the Will of God can be attacked and overthrown, but never will this egoic belief be more than madness.

10 And fear will reign in madness, and fear will seem to have replaced love there. 11 The replacement of love with fear is the conflict's purpose. 12 And to those who think that the mad idea is possible, the means seem real.

**Note # 8:** The means to overthrow God’s Will seems possible under the logic of the egoic belief system. The ego supports the belief in the reality of the dream of separation. Without the doubt that arose when we questioned whether it was possible to not know ourselves, the Sonship, would never have identified itself with the body in the illusionary game of separation. This doubt allowed perception to replace knowledge within our decision-making mind. With the loss of knowledge, uncertainty arose and with uncertainty fear. Fear now replaced love as our dominant emotional state of mind. The separation took on a reality of its own when sin, guilt and fear became the controlling factors of our egoic thought system. With all the barriers that we have place in front of love, the idea that fear could replace the truth about love seems possible to the ego. Fear is the world of illusion. Love is the world of truth. We must decide which we value. We cannot give our allegiance to both fear and love for they are mutually exclusive.

**T-23.I.3.** Be certain that it is impossible God and the ego, or yourself, the Big “S” Self and the ego, will ever meet. 2 You seem to meet, and make your strange alliances on grounds that have no meaning, which is within an illusion of a body. 3 For your beliefs converge upon the body, the ego's chosen home, which you mistakenly believe is the home of your true Big “S” Self. 4 You meet at a mistake; an error in your self-appraisal. 5 The ego joins with an illusion of yourself you share with the ego. 6 And yet illusions cannot join. 7 Illusions are the same, and illusions are nothing. 8 Illusions' joining lies in nothingness; two illusions are as meaningless as one or as a thousand illusions. 9 The ego joins with nothing, being nothing. 10 The victory the ego seeks is meaningless as is the ego, itself.

**Note # 9:** The Christ never meets the ego for the Christ, like God, only abides in truth. The split-minded however, appear to meet with the ego in the illusion of separation. They both believe that they reside in the body and that the body is the home of both. This is a case of mistaken identity for being unlimited spirit, we cannot be the egoic little “s” self. Their potential meeting is the result of the erroneous perception that we are the body. Correct this mistake in thinking and the illusion that the ego and our mind could be joined disappears. The truth of what we are can never change. The ego is a mistaken self-appraisal of what we are. The ego represents the mad idea that we could be something other than an extension of Our Creator.

**T-23.I.4.** Brother, the war against yourself is almost over. 2 The journey's end is at the place of peace. 3 Would you not now accept the peace offered you here at the end of the
journey into perception? 4 This "enemy", your erroneous self-appraisal of yourself and, therefore, also Your Creator, that you fought as an intruder on your peace is here transformed, before your sight, into the giver of your peace. 5 Your "enemy" was God Himself, to Whom all conflict, triumph and attack of any kind are all unknown. 6 God loves you perfectly, completely and eternally. 7 The Son of God at war with his Creator is a condition as ridiculous as nature roaring at the wind in anger, proclaiming it is part of itself no more. 8 Could nature possibly establish this, and make it true? 9 Nor is it up to you to say what shall be part of you and what is kept apart.

Note # 10: We have no will but God’s. To believe that an effect can change its source is a mistake. All power flows from its source. We have no power to pick and choose what we are since we are not self-created. The ego insanely believes that truth can be adjusted to conform to what the ego wishes to believe is the truth at any given moment. Our egoic illusions can deny the truth but they cannot change the truth.

T-23.I.5. The war against yourself was undertaken to teach the Son of God that he is not himself, and that he is <not> his Father’s Son. 2 For this erroneous self-appraisal of God’s Son to be possible, the memory of his Father must be forgotten. 3 The memory of his Father <is> forgotten in the body’s life, and if you think you are a body, you will believe you have forgotten the memory of God. 4 Yet truth can never be forgotten by itself, the Christ, and you have not forgotten what you are. 5 Only a strange egoic illusion of yourself, a wish to triumph over what you truly are, remembers not His Father.

Note # 11: The Christ always remembers the truth of what It is. It is only within a tiny split part of our mind that identifies itself with the separation that holds the erroneous belief that we could be a body. We call this tiny split part that believed there was something to fear from an illusion our egoic little “s” self. It was not the illusion of the separation that was the problem. It was our egoic self’s belief that there was something to fear that made an illusion appear real. We forgot to laugh.

T-23.I.6. The war against yourself is but the battle of two illusions, struggling to make the two illusions appear different from each other, in the belief the one that conquers will be true. 2 There <is> no conflict between the two illusions and the truth. 3 Nor are the two illusions different from each other. 4 Both of the two illusions are not true. 5 And so it matters not what form the two illusions take. 6 What made the two illusions, which is the ego, is insane, and the two illusions remain part of what made them, which is the ego and thus, both are equally insane delusions. 7 Madness holds out no menace to reality, and madness has no influence upon reality. 8 Illusions cannot triumph over truth, nor can illusions threaten the truth in any way. 9 And the reality that illusions deny, the truth, is not a part of the illusion. p487

Note # 12: It does not matter what form an illusion may take. All illusions have the same content. They are an attempt to make the false, real. There is no substitute for the truth. Truth just is. We are the extension of our Creator. Our mistaken egoic self-appraisal for littleness cannot change the truth of what we are. The correction of any form of illusion
is always the same. Bring the illusion to the light of truth and the false will disappear. This is why there is no order of difficulty in the performance of miracles. Miracles just bring the truth to the false. The correction of the false must be their result.

_T-23.I.7._What _<you>_ remember _<is>_ a part of you. 2 For you must be as God created you. 3 Truth does not fight against illusions, nor do illusions fight against the truth. 4 Illusions battle only with themselves. 5 Being fragmented, _illusions_ fragment. 6 But truth is indivisible, and far beyond illusions’ little reach. 7 You will remember what you know when you have learned you cannot be in conflict _with yourself_. 8 One illusion about yourself can battle with another _illusion about yourself_, yet the war of two illusions is a state where nothing happens. 9 There is no victor and there is no victory _between illusions_. 10 And truth stands radiant, apart from conflict, untouched and quiet in the peace of God.

Note # 13: Truth does not attack in illusion. To attack would be to give the illusion the appearance of being real. It is impossible to attack the “nothingness” of an illusion, except with another illusion. Truth stands alone because truth is all there is. Illusions hide from the truth, since in truth’s light all illusions fade away. Illusions do battle among themselves within the dream of separation. Within the dream, itself, illusions battle each other for the right to be the “truth for the day”. These dreams, being based on the instability of nothingness, constantly shift around with the changing goals of the ego.

_T-23.I.8._Conflict must be between two forces. 2 _Conflict_ cannot exist between one power and nothingness. 3 There is nothing you could attack that is not part of you. 4 And _<by>_ attacking _the nothingness of an illusion_, you make two illusions of yourself, in conflict with each other. 5 And this _conflict of two opposing illusions about yourself_ occurs whenever you look on anything that God created with anything but love. 6 Conflict is fearful, for _conflict_ is the birth of fear. 7 Yet what is born of nothing cannot win reality through battle. 8 Why would you fill your world with conflicts with yourself? 9 Let all this madness _about conflict with yourself_ be undone for you, and turn in peace to the remembrance of God, still shining in your quiet mind.

Note # 14: The conflicting illusions about ourselves can be corrected by asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will take our misperceptions and correct them to reflect the truth. It is our denial of the use of our Christ Vision that generates all illusion. Egoic seeing focuses only on the illusion of the body-form. Content is ignored.

_T-23.I.9._See how the conflict of illusions disappears when _the conflict of illusions_ is brought to truth! 2 For _the conflict between illusions_ seems real only as long as _the conflict_ is seen as war between conflicting truths; the conqueror to be the truer, the more real, and the vanquisher of the illusion that was less real, made an illusion by defeat. 3 Thus, conflict is the choice between illusions, one to be crowned as real, the other vanquished and despised. 4 Here _within the conflict of an illusionary world_ will the Father never be remembered. 5 Yet no illusion can invade _the Father’s_ home, _the Christ_, and drive _the Father_ out of what _the Father_ loves forever, _His Creation_. 6 And what _the Father_ loves must be forever quiet and at peace _<because>_ it is _the Father’s_
**Note # 15:** Our Christ consciousness never forgets the truth. The Christ is the home of the Creator. The peace of God cannot be found in an illusion but only in the truth.

**T-23.I.10.** You who are beloved of the Father are no illusion, being as true and holy as the Father. 2 The stillness of your certainty of the Father and of yourself, the Christ, is home to Both of You, Who dwell as One and not apart. 3 Open the door of the Father’s most holy home, and let forgiveness sweep away all trace of the belief in sin that keeps God homeless and His Son with Him. 4 You are not a stranger in the house of God. 5 Welcome your brother to the home where God has set your brother in serenity and peace, and where God dwells with your brother. 6 Illusions have no place where love abides. The Christ, where love abides, protects you from everything that is not true. 7 You dwell in peace as limitless as its Creator, and everything is given those who would remember the Creator. p488 8 Over the Creator’s home the Holy Spirit watches, sure that its peace can never be disturbed.

**Note # 16:** The Christ is the home of our brother, the Sonship, the Father, the Holy Spirit and ourselves. This demonstrates that the Oneness is the joint mind of all that is. There is no separation in truth. There is just the Oneness that is the Mind of God. This is what we call the One Self.

**T-23.I.11.** How can the resting place of God, the Christ, turn on itself, and seek to overcome the One Self Who dwells there? 2 And think what happens when the house of God perceives itself divided. 3 The altar of truth disappears, the light grows dim, the temple of the Holy One becomes a house of sin. 4 And nothing is remembered except illusions. 5 Illusions can conflict, because their forms are different. 6 And illusions do battle only to establish which form of the illusion is true.

**Note # 17:** Within the dream of the illusion of separation, our mind appears to be split. The Christ, which is the home of the Holy Trinity, remains within the truth. It is the One Self. The egoic part of the split mind however, has identified itself with the illusion of separation. This loss of knowledge within the egoic mind led to uncertainty and doubt that birthed perception. The ego is the part of our mind that doubts what it was. It is our egoic mind’s identification with the dream that is the problem. While observing the game of separation, part of us forgot to laugh so fear arose. We forgot that we were just observing a game within the mind and that it was not real. When we took the game seriously, we made the dream real within our egoic mind. We became a player within the game. Yet, this player had forgotten that this was just a game of make believe. The egoic mind forgot that we were the dreamer. Thus, to the egoic mind there appeared to be something outside the One Self to fear. With this sense of fear, we no longer felt invulnerable and lost the peace and safety of the One Self.

**T-23.I.12.** Illusion meets illusion; truth meets only itself. 2 The meeting of illusions leads to war. 3 Peace, looking on itself, extends itself. 4 War is the condition in which fear is born, and grows and seeks to dominate. 5 Peace is the state where love abides, and seeks
to share itself. 6 Conflict and peace are opposites. 7 Where either conflict or peace abides the other cannot be; where either conflict or peace goes the other disappears. 8 So is the memory of God obscured in minds that have become illusions' battleground. 9 Yet far beyond this senseless war between illusions, the memory of God shines, ready to be remembered when you side with peace.

**Note # 18:** Peace and conflict, like truth and illusions, are mutually exclusive. The Christ remains always at peace since It is only the Oneness of God. Peace is the state of Heaven, which is the real world. ACIM also states that the Christ is also the state of Heaven. Again we see the Oneness of the whole, which is the Christ

The world of perception is not the real world. It is a world of form in which change is possible and, therefore, time exists. Conflict does appear in time and space. This illusionary world of perception, our private world of provisional reality, becomes the battleground where the game of separation is played out. The outcome is never in doubt since ultimately we must decide for the return to truth, but until that decision is made the game is exciting and appears to be very dangerous. The world of perception is our playschool were we relearn about what we really are. It is where the rubber meets the road. In this world of perception, we can demonstrate that we have remembered that we are only love. We use the body to communicate and demonstrate love in form. By following only the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we become the expression of love in form. Our dream of separation and specialness is transformed into the happy dream of love and forgiveness. The body becomes a communication device the Holy Spirit utilizes to teach our brothers that they also are sinless and guiltless. Being love, we teach only love.

**II. The Laws of Chaos**

T-23.II.1. The "laws" of chaos can be brought to light, though never understood. 2 Chaotic laws are hardly meaningful, and therefore the "laws" of chaos are out of reason's sphere. 3 Yet the "laws" of chaos appear to be an obstacle to reason and to truth. 4 Let us, then, look upon the "laws" of chaos calmly, that we may look beyond them, understanding what they are, not what the "laws" of chaos would maintain. 5 It is essential it be understood what the "laws" of chaos are for, because it is the "laws" of chaos’s purpose to make meaningless, and to attack the truth. 6 Here are the laws that rule the world you made. 7 And yet the "laws" of chaos govern nothing, and need not be broken. The "laws" of chaos need merely be looked upon and gone beyond.

**Note # 19:** The egoic thought system is based on the “laws” of chaos. In the world of perception the “laws” of chaos appear to govern the world and our physical actions seem to be controlled by these laws. Our physical senses confirm the apparent validity of these laws. To the ego the “laws” of chaos are the rules that it believes apply to the game of separation. As long as we believe that the “laws” of chaos rule the game of separation, they will. Only when we ask the Holy Spirit to join in the game do we discover that the Laws of God trump the “laws” of chaos within the game of separation every time. ACIM asks that we be willing to examine the “laws” of chaos in the light of truth, which is a
new paradigm for those who have previously chosen to follow the egoic belief that we are a separate ego-body.

T-23.II.2. The first chaotic law is that the truth is different for everyone. 2 Like all these principles, this first law that the truth is different for everyone maintains that each is separate and has a different set of thoughts that set him off from others. 3 This principle that the truth is different for everyone evolves from the belief there is a hierarchy of illusions; some are more valuable and therefore true. 4 Each one establishes this for himself, and makes his hierarchy of illusions true by his attack on what another values. 5 And this attack on what another values is justified because the values differ, and those who hold different values seem to be unlike, and therefore enemies. p489

Note # 20: This first law of chaos that the truth is different for everyone maintains our separateness. Since we are “separate,” we each have our own individual beliefs, thoughts and experiences. How we perceive our individual world is based on these underlying beliefs and desires. This allows each person to make a unique, private world, which forms his or her own provisional reality. Each person’s provisional reality is based on what they believe to be true within their own private belief system. Thus, each person establishes their own hierarchy of “truth” by which they live. No one else lives entirely within this unique illusionary world except the separate perceiver. Depending on our individual beliefs, these separate worlds may overlap in areas where we share common beliefs. In areas with conflicting and differing truths, we battle over whose “truth” is more powerful and thus, true. Truth is not fixed and is conditional at best. Truth is ever changing based on our constantly changing beliefs, goals and desires.

T-23.II.3. Think how this seems to interfere with the first principle of miracles, which is that there is no order of difficulty in miracles. 2 For this first law of chaos that the truth is different for everyone establishes degrees of truth among illusions, making it seem that some illusions are harder to overcome than other illusions. 3 If it were realized that illusions are all the same and equally untrue, it would be easy, then, to understand that miracles apply to all of them. 4 Errors of any kind can be corrected <because> errors are untrue. 5 When an illusion is brought to truth instead of to each other, illusions merely disappear. 6 No part of nothing can be more resistant to the truth than can another part of nothing.

Note # 21: All illusions give way to truth. To the miracle worker, there is no difference between one illusion and another since he realizes all are equally false.

T-23.II.4. The second law of chaos, dear indeed to every worshipper of sin, is that each one <must> sin, and therefore each sinner deserves attack and death. 2 This principle, closely related to the first law of chaos, which is that truth is different for everyone and is the demand that errors call for punishment and not correction. 3 For the destruction of the one who makes the error places him beyond correction and beyond forgiveness. 4 What error he has done is thus interpreted as an irrevocable sentence upon himself, which God Himself is powerless to overcome. 5 Sin cannot be remitted, being the belief the Son of God can make mistakes for which his own destruction becomes
inevitable.

Note # 22: The second law of chaos states that the dream of separation was a sin, not a mistake. Mistakes only require correction. Sin demands punishment and cannot be forgiven. This second law of chaos lays the groundwork for the egoic god of fear: for sin calls for eternal damnation. Anyone who has sinned, which is everyone, deserves attack and death.

T-23.II.5. Think what this second law of chaos, which states that each one must sin, and therefore each sinner deserves attack and death seems to do to the relationship between the Father and the Son. 2 Now it appears that the Father and the Son can never be One again. 3 For One, either the Father or the Son, must always be condemned, and by the Other. 4 Now are the Father and the Son different, and enemies. 5 And the Father and the Son’s relationship is one of opposition, just as the separate aspects of the Son meet only to conflict but not to join. 6 One becomes weak, the other strong by his defeat. 7 And fear of God and of each other now appears as sensible, made real by what the Son of God has done both to himself and his Creator.

Note # 23: The second law of chaos identifies the error of separation to be reality and, therefore, a real sin deserving and demanding punishment. Being a sinner, our self-preservation requires that we battle against God and our brother who both wish to extract a pound of flesh, preferably from our heart. The world of sin, if it existed in reality, would be a fearful place. Even if we were sinless, we would need to be constantly looking over our shoulder to guard against the next attack from our sinful brothers. Peace cannot be found in a world based on sin.

T-23.II.6. The arrogance on which the laws of chaos stand could not be more apparent than emerges here in this second law of chaos, which states that each one must sin, and therefore each sinner deserves attack and death. 2 Here in this second law of chaos is a principle that would define what the Creator of reality must be; what the Creator of reality must think and what the Creator of reality must believe; and how the Creator of reality must respond, believing that the second law of chaos must apply to our perceived world. 3 It is not seen as even necessary that the Creator of reality be asked about the truth of what has been established for the Creator’s belief. 4 His Son can tell the Creator of reality what has been established by the son as “truth,” and the Creator has but the choice whether to take the Son’s word for it or the Creator must be mistaken. 5 This leads directly to the preposterous belief that seems to make chaos eternal. 6 For if God cannot be mistaken, God must accept His Son's belief in what the son believes himself to be, and God must now hate His “sinful” son for what the son believes himself to be.

Note # 24: This third law of chaos basically says that an illusion can change the truth. Here we have an effect, the Sonship, forcing Its Source, God, Who is the Creator of reality to change what the Creator knows reality to be. With this third law of chaos, we can force God to change His Will by what we think. Our will becomes more powerful than the Will of God.
T-23.II.7. See how the fear of God is reinforced by this third principle. This third law of chaos states that since God cannot be mistaken, God must accept His Son's belief in what the son believes himself to be, and God must now hate His “sinful” son for what the son believes himself to be. Now due to this third principle of chaos, it becomes impossible to turn to God for help in misery. For now God has become the “enemy” Who caused the son’s misery, to Whom appeal is useless. Nor can salvation lie within the Son, whose every aspect seems to be at war with God, and justified in its attack. And now is conflict made inevitable. This conflict is beyond the help of God. For now salvation must remain impossible, because the Savior has become the enemy.

Note # 25: The third principal states that we have the power to usurp the Will of God. God must obey what we say we are. We claimed to be a separate sinner apart from God. We have taken away God’s power to tell us that what we believe we did was not a sin and thus, no punishment is required. We now have converted a God of Love into a revengeful God, Who must be feared. This third “law” of chaos states that God has accepted His Son’s mistaken belief that the Son has sinned and, therefore, God see us as sinners.

T-23.II.8. Due to this third principal that God has accepted His Son’s mistaken belief that the Son has sinned and, therefore, God see us as sinners, there can be no release and no escape from the son’s misery. Atonement thus becomes a myth, and vengeance, not forgiveness, is the Will of God. From where all this begins, there is no sight of help that can succeed. Only destruction can be the outcome. And God Himself seems to be siding with the myth that vengeance must be God’s Will to overcome His sinful Son. Think not the ego will enable you to find escape from what the ego wants. The escape from what the ego wants, which is the belief in a sinful son, is the function of ACIM. ACIM does not value what the ego cherishes, which is the illusion of sin.

Note # 26: According to the ego, the egoic god of revenge could never forgive a “sinful” son. Since the maintenance of sin is the ego’s goal, it is useless to ask the ego for advice on how we could become sinless. Salvation cannot be found by following the insane advice of the ego. The ego’s thought system will only keep us in the madness of victim consciousness. ACIM purpose is the return to right-mindedness of God’s temporarily insane son.

T-23.II.9. The ego values only what the ego takes. This leads to the <fourth> law of chaos, which, if the other three laws are accepted, must be true. This seeming law is the belief you have what you have taken. By this forth law of chaos, which is that you have what you have taken, another's loss becomes your gain, and thus the forth law of chaos fails to recognize that you can never take away save from yourself. Yet all the other laws must lead to this forth law of chaos. For enemies do not give willingly to one another, nor would enemies seek to share the things they value. And what your enemies would keep from you must be worth having, because the enemies keep what
they value hidden from your sight.

Note # 27: This fourth law of chaos, which is that you have what you have taken, means that the world is a zero-sum game. If I’m to win, you must lose. What you have, you must take from others. You also need to be on constant alert since you are vulnerable to attack by outside forces that want to take the little you have. Treachery rules this world of fear and limitation.

T-23.II.10. From this fourth law of chaos, which is that you have what you have taken, all of the mechanisms of madness are seen emerging here: the "enemy" made strong by keeping hidden the valuable inheritance that should be yours; your justified position and attack for what has been withheld; and the inevitable loss the enemy must suffer to save yourself. 2 Thus do the guilty ones protest their "innocence." 3 Were they, the ones that appear to be guilty of attack not forced into this foul attack by the unscrupulous behavior of the enemy? If not for the action of the unscrupulous enemy, the attacker would respond with only kindness. 4 But in a savage world the kind cannot survive, so they must take or else be taken from.

Note # 28: Since the ego comes from lack, it is a dog eat dog world out there. Even when we attack, the ego claims that we are innocent victims. Our brother caused us to attack him because he withheld from us what we need for our survival. Our self-preservation caused us to attack. We had no choice in the matter. This belief that attack is justified keeps our decision-maker asleep at the wheel of our life’s experiences.

T-23.II.11. And now there is a vague unanswered question, not yet "explained." 2 What is this precious thing, this priceless pearl, this hidden secret treasure, to be wrested in righteous wrath from this most treacherous and cunning enemy? 3 This hidden secret treasure must be what you want but never found. 4 And now you "understand" the reason why you never found this hidden secret treasure. 5 For this hidden secret treasure was taken from you by this enemy, and hidden where you would not think to look. 6 This enemy hid this secret treasure in his body, making his body the cover for his guilt, making his body the hiding place for what belongs to you, this secret treasure. 7 Now must this enemy’s body be destroyed and sacrificed, that you may have this secret treasure, which belongs to you. p491 8 This enemy’s treachery demands his death, that you may live. 9 And you attack this enemy only in self-defense.

Note # 29: The ego tells us that we attack only due to our brother’s treachery. We are seeking a hidden treasure that rightfully belongs to us but was stolen long ago. Our enemy has denied us our birthright and, therefore, we have been forced by our brother’s actions to attack him. What we seek is a secret. The ego tells us that this secret holds our escape from misery but the ego never tells us how we will know we have obtained this secret or when we will achieve happiness. This allows the ego to modify the ego’s plan for our happiness whenever we seem to have obtained the goal that the ego told us would bring happiness. The ego’s motto is, “Seek and never find.” If we don’t know what we are looking for, we won’t know when we have found it. We remain in victim consciousness. The ego has made our mind into an effect of the cruel world that
surrounds us.

**T-23.II.12.** But what is this secret treasure you want that needs his death? 2 Can you be sure your murderous attack is justified unless you know what your attack is for? 3 And here a final principle of chaos comes to the "rescue." 4 The final principle of chaos holds there is a substitute for love. 5 This substitute for love is the magic that will cure all of your pain; the missing factor in your madness that makes your madness "sane." 6 This substitute for love is the reason why you must attack. 7 Here in this substitute for love is what makes your vengeance justified. 8 Behold, unveiled, the ego's secret gift, which is this substitute for love, torn from your brother's body, hidden there in malice and in hatred for the one to whom the gift belongs. 9 Your brother would deprive you of the secret ingredient that would give meaning to your life. 10 The substitute for love, born of your enmity or hostility to your brother, must be salvation. 11 This substitute for love has no substitute, and there is only one of them. 12 And all your relationships have but the purpose of seizing this substitute for love and making it your own.

**Note # 30:** This substitute for love is what is needed to make you happy and whole. The ego’s price for the specialness of separation was that you must become imperfect, not whole and therefore, incomplete. You exchanged the truth, which your happiness rested upon, for the ego’s need to be right. The ego has been claiming since the loss of knowledge that it has a plan to return you to wholeness. This egoic plan attempts to recapture your wholeness by stealing something outside of you that you perceive is missing. Thus, the ego tells us that something outside ourselves took away our happiness and that something outside ourselves can make us whole again. This looking outside ourselves for our happiness insures that we will never find it. The Holy Spirit knows that we have hidden the secret deep within ourselves and that if we follow the ego’s advice we will continue to always “seek and never find.” The Holy Spirit tells us that there was never anything wrong with us but we do need to adopt a new plan for our happiness and salvation.

This substitute for love can take many forms. It is anything that we perceive we need in order to be happy. One form of this substitute for love is conditional love. Basically, conditional love states that another must do what you wish because you have demanded it. This is not real love but only a device for getting. The focus of conditional love is on what’s in it for me. What you receive is more important than what you give. Your partner’s best interest is secondary to your own. In its best form, conditional love is a bartering system. I will love you if you do this for me. God's love is real and cannot be earned since it flows freely and abundantly from Its Source. God’s love allows His Creation perfect safety yet they remain free to be whatever they want. God’s love does not judge, instead It allows.

**T-23.II.13.** Never is your possession made complete. 2 And never will your brother cease his attack on you for what you stole. 3 Nor will God end His vengeance upon both you and your brother, for in God’s madness God, Himself, must have this substitute for love, and kill you both. 4 You who believe you walk in sanity with feet on solid ground, and through a world where meaning can be found, consider this: These five principles of
chaos <are> the laws on which your "sanity" appears to rest. 5 These <are> the five principles which make the ground beneath your feet seem solid. 6 And it <is> here in these laws of chaos that you look for meaning. 7 These are the laws you made for your salvation. 8 These laws of chaos hold in place the substitute for Heaven, which is your world of perception, which you prefer over the truth, which is Heaven. 9 This is the laws of chaos’ purpose; they were made for illusions to hide the truth. 10 There is no point in asking what the laws of chaos mean. It is apparent. 12 The means of madness must be insane. 13 Are you as certain that you realize the laws of chaos’ goal is madness?

Note # 31: The laws of chaos’ only purpose are to mislead us from the truth. By establishing the egoic physical world that we perceive based on these laws of chaos, the ego has built a very strong case that the separation must be real. Unless we listen to the thought system of the Holy Spirit, it will be impossible for us to rediscover the truth. By identifying ourselves as a body form, we have no reason to question the validity of the egoic belief system. Only someone not caught up within the madness could tell us the truth.

T-23.II.14. No one wants madness, nor does anyone cling to his madness if he sees that this is what madness is. 2 What protects madness is the belief that madness is true. 3 It is the function of insanity to take the place of truth. 4 Insanity must be seen as truth to be believed. 5 And if insanity is the truth, then must insanity’s opposite, which was the truth before, be madness now. 6 Such a reversal, completely turned around, with madness sanity, illusions true, attack a kindness, hatred love, and murder benediction, is the goal the laws of chaos serve. 7 These laws of chaos are the means by which the laws of God appear to be reversed. 8 Here in the world of perception, which is based on the laws of chaos, do the laws of sin appear to hold love captive, and let sin go free. p492

Note # 32: The laws of chaos reverse the laws of God. Within the mind of the followers of egoic thought, the laws of chaos form the basis for their individual perception of how they view their private world of provisional reality. Perception is based on beliefs not facts. Insane beliefs make an insane world. The false has been substituted for the truth.

T-23.II.15. This replacement of truth by illusion does not seem to be the goals of chaos, for by the great reversal the laws of chaos appear to be the laws of order that rule the world of egoic perception. 2 How could it not be so? 3 Chaos is lawlessness, and has no laws. 4 To be believed, the seeming laws of chaos must be perceived as real. 5 The laws of chaos’ goal of madness must be seen as sanity. 6 And fear, with ashen lips and sightless eyes, blinded and terrible to look upon, is lifted to the throne of love. Love’s dying conqueror is fear. Love’s substitute is fear. And fear becomes the savior from salvation. 7 How lovely do the laws of fear make death appear. 8 Give thanks unto fear, the hero on love's throne, who saved the Son of God for fear and death!

Note # 33: Sin, guilt and fear are the natural outcome of the laws of chaos. Truth has been replaced by the illusion of limitation. The truth of the Oneness has been replaced by the illusion of separation.
T-23.II.16. And yet, how can it be that laws like the laws of chaos can be believed? 2 There is a strange device that makes it possible to believe the laws of chaos. 3 Nor is this device unfamiliar; we have seen how this device appears to function many times before. 4 In truth this device does not function, yet in dreams, where only shadows play the major roles, this device seems most powerful. 5 No law of chaos could compel belief but for the emphasis on form and disregard of content. 6 No one who thinks that one of these laws of chaos is true sees what the laws of chaos says. 7 Some forms the laws of chaos takes seem to have meaning, and that is all.

Note # 34: Following the ego, we focus on form not content. We fail to look at the source to discover whether the source is truth or illusion. Is the source’s content arising from love or fear? By using egoic seeing, we only see the form and ignore the content. The vision of the Holy Spirit looks past form and focuses only on content. It looks upon everything as either love or a cry for love. The question the Holy Spirit’s thought system always asks is, “What would love have me do?”

The term content relates to substance or purpose. According to the Holy Spirit, the underlying content of all we perceive as our experience is either an expression of love or a cry for love. The proper response to a cry for love is love. The form that the cry for love appears in is irrelevant and is disregarded. An attack now becomes an attacker’s cry for the love. The attacker has perceived himself as lacking love and has struck out from fear. It is this fear that is actually a cry for love. To the ego, the form in which the cry for love appears is critical. The ego will perceive and judge the cry for love based on form. The ego will view the form as an attack and thus, respond by either “counter-attacking” or launching a “preemptive strike” upon the other party.

T-23.II.17. How can some forms of murder not mean death? 2 Can an attack in any form be love? 3 What form of condemnation is a blessing? 4 Who makes his savior powerless and finds salvation? 5 Let not the form of the attack on your savoir deceive you. 6 You cannot seek to harm your savoir and be saved. 7 Who can find safety from attack by turning on himself? 8 How can it matter what the form this madness takes? 9 This madness is a judgment that defeats itself, condemning what it says it wants to save. 10 Be not deceived when madness takes a form you think is lovely. 11 What is intent on your destruction is not your friend.

Note # 35: We must reject the thought system of the ego if we are to become free from the madness of the laws of chaos. We only need to ask for the guidance of the One Who is sane. Ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and our return to right-mindedness is insured.

T-23.II.18. You would maintain, and think it true, that you do not believe these senseless laws, nor act upon these senseless laws of chaos. 2 And when you look at what these senseless laws of chaos say, they cannot be believed. 3 Brother, you do believe these senseless laws of chaos. 4 For how else could you perceive the form these senseless laws of chaos take, with content such as this? 5 Can any form of these senseless laws of chaos be tenable? 6 Yet you believe these senseless laws of chaos for the form they take, and do not recognize the content. 7 The content never changes. 8 Can you paint
rossy lips upon a skeleton, dress a skeleton in loveliness, pet it and pamper it, and make a skeleton live? 9 And can you be content with an illusion that you are living?

**Note # 36:** The content of the laws of chaos is always the falseness of illusion. The form shifts from one illusion to another but they all are false and all must be dismissed as nothing that could change the truth. These illusions of nothingness can hold no value when compare to your true reality. God, being all, has given everything to His Son. We can want for nothing. Unfortunately, this is exactly what we do when we choose to follow the thought system of the ego.

T-23.II.19. There is no life outside of Heaven. 2 Where God created life, which is the truth of Heaven, there life must be. 3 In any state apart from Heaven life is illusion. p493 4 At best the illusion seems like life; at worst, like death. 5 Yet both are judgments on what is not life, equal in their inaccuracy and lack of meaning. 6 Life not in Heaven is impossible, and what is not in Heaven is not anywhere. 7 Outside of Heaven, only the conflict of illusion stands. These illusionary conflicts are senseless, impossible and beyond all reason, and yet perceived as an eternal barrier to Heaven. 8 Illusions are but forms. 9 The illusions’ content is never true.

**Note # 37:** Illusions have no reality because they are not of the Mind of God. Illusions only appear to have reality in the world of perception, which is the world of time and space. Illusions appear to follow the laws of chaos and it is these laws that give the illusion its apparent reality. An illusion’s content is always the false. The goal of illusion’s form is to deceive. This is why the ego deals on the level of form, not the content of the perceived experience.

T-23.II.20. The laws of chaos govern all illusions. 2 The forms of illusions conflict, making it seem quite possible to value some illusions above the other illusions. 3 Yet each illusion rests as surely on the belief the laws of chaos are the laws of order as do the other illusions. 4 Each illusion upholds these laws of chaos completely, offering a certain witness that these laws of chaos are true. 5 The seeming gentler forms of the attack are no less certain in their witnessing for the truth of the laws of chaos, or their results. 6 Certain it is illusions will bring fear because of the beliefs that the illusions imply, not for their form in which the illusions appears. 7 And lack of faith in love, in any form, attests to chaos as reality.

**Note # 38:** All illusions, no matter what the form, support the belief in limitation and fear. An illusion always sees something as different from itself. Only difference can be in conflict. Love understands that our brother and we lack nothing and, therefore, we can give everything. If we see form, we are seeing separation.

T-23.II.21. From the belief in sin, the faith in chaos must follow. 2 It is because the belief in sin leads to faith in the laws of chaos that it follows that the laws of chaos seems to be a logical conclusion; a valid step in ordered thought. 3 The steps to chaos do follow neatly from their starting point, which is the belief in sin and that truth is changeable. 4 Each of the laws of chaos is a different form in the progression of truth's reversal,
leading still deeper into terror and away from truth. 5 Think not one step in truth’s reversal is smaller than another step, nor that return from one principal of chaos is easier than return from another principle of chaos. 6 The whole descent from Heaven lies in each of the five laws of chaos. 7 And where your thinking starts, there must your thinking end in the reversal of truth into the illusion of the false.

Note # 39: Place your faith in any of the five laws of chaos and you inevitably follow the thought system of the ego. Truth and illusion are opposites and cannot co-exist. Put your faith in one illusion and you deny the truth of the Oneness of the Mind of God. We cannot pick and choose what and when truth will be truth for us. Truth is not arbitrary or something that we bargain with. Truth just is. Any denial of truth is the confirmation that our will is different from God’s Will and that we are still clinging to the littleness of specialness.

T-23.II.22.Brother, take not one step in the descent to hell by following the laws of chaos. 2 For having taken one step into hell by following the laws of chaos, you will not recognize the rest of the laws of chaos for what they are, which is the witness for sin and the replacement of truth by illusion. 3 And the other laws of chaos follow from the acceptance of the first law. 4 Attack in any form has placed your foot upon the twisted stairway that leads from Heaven. 5 Yet any instant it is possible to have all this belief in the illusion of sin undone. 6 How can you know whether you chose the stairs to Heaven or the way to hell? 7 Quite easily. 8 How do you feel? 9 Is peace in your awareness? 10 Are you certain which way you go? 11 And are you sure the goal of Heaven can be reached? 12 If you have lost your peace and certainty, you walk alone. 13 Ask, then, your Friend, the Holy Spirit, to join with you, and give you certainty of where you go. p494

Note # 40: The litmus test to determine which thought system you are following at any given moment is always a question of inner peace. You need to check with your feelings, not your egoic thinking. It is your feelings that are your link to your Christ consciousness. Your Christ uses your feelings to inform you if your perceptions are in alignment with the truth of what you are. If you are not in the state of true peace and joy, you are coming from fear, not love. If you are without inner peace, you are following the laws of chaos and the thought system of the ego. You need only realize this lack of peace and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Who will restore you to the inner peace you seek.

Our world of perception is based on the “laws” of chaos. These laws are summarized below.
1)Truth is different for everyone.
2)Each one has sinned and, therefore, deserves attack.
3)God has accepted His Son’s fallen belief about himself. Therefore, God see us as sinners.
4)You believe that what you have, you have taken from another. Life in the world of perception is a “zero sum” game. If I win, someone must lose.
5)There is a substitute for love.
III. Salvation without Compromise

T-23.III.1. Is it not true you do not recognize some of the forms attack can take? 2 If it is true attack in any form will hurt you, then any unrecognized form of attack will hurt you and will do so just as much as in another form of attack that you <do> recognize, then it must follow that you do not always recognize the source of pain. 3 Attack in any form, recognized or unrecognized, is equally destructive. 4 Attack’s sole intent is murder, and what form of murder serves to cover the massive guilt and frantic fear of punishment the murderer must feel? 6 The attacker may deny he is a murderer and justify his savagery with smiles as he attacks. 7 Yet the attacker will suffer the massive guilt and fear of punishment, and will look on his intent to murder in nightmares where the smiles are gone, and where the purpose rises to meet his horrified awareness and pursue the attacker still. 8 For no one thinks of murder and escapes the guilt the thought of murder entails. 9 If the intent is death, what matter the form the intent to kill takes?

Note # 41: Like illusion, there is no such thing as a little attack and, therefore, no attack could be truly judged as harmless. Anytime we fail to see the oneness of the whole in all we perceive, we are in attack mode. In the special relationship, our failing to see both parties as perfect, whole and complete is an attack. We may disguise the attack as some warped sense of “love”, but we are only bartering with the other party out of a sense of lack and limitation. Anytime we are not coming out of the emotion of love, we are coming from fear and this is an attack. Due to our faith in the laws of chaos, we are often unaware that our actions are an attack on another party. Anytime we do someone a “favor” with the expectation that we will get a payback, we are confirming that we believe we lack something. Any belief in lack is an attack on our brother and upon ourselves. Attack, whether recognized (intentional) or unrecognized (unintentional), is an attack upon the truth. Since we believe that the laws of chaos are the correct laws for ordering our universe, most of our “attacks” are unrecognized by our conscious mind. When we see someone as a “body,” we don’t think we are attacking that person’s truth, yet, this is exactly what we are doing. We have judged something as different and, therefore, something in our perception must be not whole, not perfect, and not complete. This misperception is an attack for we are attempting to conceal and steal the truth of someone’s identity as the Christ.

T-23.III.2. Is death in any form, however lovely and charitable death may seem to be, a blessing and a sign the Voice for God speaks through you to your brother? 2 The gift’s wrapping paper does not make the gift you give. 3 An empty box, however beautiful and gently given, still contains nothing. 4 And neither the receiver nor the giver is long deceived. 5 Withhold forgiveness from your brother and you attack him. 6 You give him nothing, and receive of him but what you gave, which is nothing.

Note # 42: The only gift that we can give a brother is the truth that he is sinless and guiltless. We do this out of love by the act of forgiveness. Anytime we do not come from
the emotion of love, we are coming from fear, which means we are in attack mode. Often attack mode may appear as only self-defense, but this is still an attack. If you had not identified yourself as a body, you would have realized that you are unlimited spirit that could not be attacked. You would have become invulnerable; someone who fears nothing and attacks nothing. Being a Oneness of everything, what would there be to attack?

**T-23.III.3.** Salvation is no compromise of any kind. 2 To compromise is to accept but part of what you want; to take a little and give up the rest of what you wanted. 3 Salvation gives up nothing. 4 Salvation is complete for everyone. 5 Let the idea of compromise but enter into the plan of salvation, and the awareness of salvation's purpose is lost because salvation's purpose is not recognized. 6 Salvation is denied where compromise has been accepted, for compromise is the belief salvation is impossible. 7 Compromise would maintain you can attack a little, love a little, and know the difference. 8 Thus compromise would teach a little of the same can still be different, and yet the same remain intact, as one. 9 Does this make sense? 10 Can the idea that the same are different be understood?

**Note # 43:** Content, not form is what we need to be aware of. Content is either truth or false. When we focus on form, all we see is differences. Look past the myriad of forms and we can envision the sameness in content. Only the truth is real. All illusions fade before the light of truth. The ego is interested in form; the Holy Spirit focuses on the content. The question is always, “Am I expressing love or fear?” If you are not at peace, you are expressing fear.

**T-23.III.4.** This course is easy just because ACIM makes no compromise. 2 Yet ACIM seems difficult to those who still believe that compromise is possible. 3 Those who believe compromise is possible do not see that, if compromise is possible, salvation is attack. 4 Yet it is certain the belief that salvation is impossible cannot uphold a quiet, calm assurance that salvation has come. 5 Forgiveness cannot be withheld a little. 6 Nor is it possible to attack for this and love for that and understand forgiveness. 7 Would you not want to recognize assault upon your peace in any form, if only thus does it become impossible that you lose sight of your peace? 8 Your peace and salvation can be kept shining before your vision, forever clear and never out of sight, if you do not defend compromise.

**Note # 44:** Compromise allows for sometimes or half-truths. ACIM is a course in black and white; the true and the false. There can be no conditional truths that change from being true to false based on the perceiver’s whim. Compromise requires sacrifice. You must give up something to get something else that you value. Being a Oneness of everything, what could you give up and to whom? Who could give you something if you already have everything? Salvation is the return to the truth. Being everything, salvation restores this knowledge of the truth to you. It would be impossible for salvation to deny you something that is yours by divine birthright.

**T-23.III.5.** Those who believe that peace can be defended, and that attack is justified on peace's behalf, cannot perceive peace lies within them. 2 How could they know peace
lies within them when they attack? 3 Could they who believe that attack is justified on peace’s behalf accept forgiveness side by side with the belief that murder takes some forms by which their peace is saved? 4 Would they, who believe that attack is justified on peace’s behalf, be willing to accept the fact their savage purpose is directed against themselves? 5 No one unites with enemies, nor is at one with the enemy in purpose. 6 And no one compromises with an enemy but hates the enemy still, for what the enemy kept from him.

Note # 45: As long as we believe that we are separate, we will continue to see ourselves as a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. When we negotiate a cease-fire, we continue to build up our armies for our defense against a pending attack that we are sure must follow. We believe we must defend our homeland. Inner peace cannot arrive as long as we believe that some form of attack may be justified. Any belief that attack is possible implies that we believe there is something outside ourselves that we could attack or be attacked by. Inner peace arises only out of the knowledge that we, as unlimited spirit, are invulnerable.

T-23.III.6. Mistake not truce for peace, nor compromise for the escape from conflict. 2 To be released from conflict means that conflict is over. 3 The door is open; you have left the battleground. 4 You have not lingered there on the battleground in cowering hope that conflict will not return because the guns are stilled an instant, and the fear that haunts the place of death is not apparent. 5 There is no safety in a battleground. 6 You can look down on the battleground in safety from above and not be touched. 7 But from within the battleground you can find no safety. 8 Not one tree left still standing will shelter you. 9 Not one illusion of protection stands against the faith in murder. 10 Here stands the body, torn between the natural desire to communicate and the unnatural intent to murder and to die. 11 Think you the form that murder takes can offer safety? 12 Can guilt be absent from a battlefield?

Note # 46: A truce does not end a war as long as you perceive there is still an enemy to fear. If you withhold forgiveness from anyone, you still believe that you have an enemy to attack. Inner peace only comes from the awareness that there is just the One Self. It is this shared Oneness with everything that makes you invulnerable.

IV. Above the Battleground

T-23.IV.1. Do not remain in conflict, for there is no war without attack. 2 The fear of God is fear of life, and not of death. 3 Yet God remains the only place of safety. 4 In God there is no attack, and no illusion in any form stalks Heaven. 5 Heaven is wholly true. 6 No difference enters Heaven, and what is all the same cannot conflict. 7 You are not asked to fight against your wish to murder. 8 But you are asked to realize the form your wish for murder takes conceals the same intent, which is the attack upon the truth. 9 And it is this intent you fear, and not the form. 10 What is not love is murder. 11 What is not loving must be an attack. 12 Every illusion is an assault on truth, and every
assault on truth does violence to the idea of love because the illusion seems to be of equal truth. p496

Note # 47: There is no compromise between truth and illusion. They are both mutually exclusive. Accept any form of illusion as your reality and you deny the truth of Heaven. The return to truth is to be found only by complete vigilance for God’s Will. We must be willing to give all our perceptions over to the Holy Spirit’s guidance. Withhold one perception from the guidance of the Holy Spirit and we get to keep our little “s” self and specialness.

T-23.IV.2. What can be equal to the truth, yet different to the truth? 2 Murder and love are incompatible. 3 Yet if murder and love both are true, then must murder and love be the same, and indistinguishable from one another. 4 So will murder and love be perceived to be the same to those who see God's Son as a body. 5 For it is not the body that is like the Son's Creator. 6 And what is lifeless, which is the body, cannot be the Son of Life. 7 How can a body be extended to hold the universe? 8 Can a body create, and be what it creates? 9 And can a body offer its creations all that it is and never suffer loss?

Note # 48: ACIM states we cannot believe that we are an extension of God and also believe that we are a body. The body is a symbol for the illusion of separation and limitation. God, like His creation cannot be limited. The body is powerless and only obeys the mind. The Son of God must be the shared holographic Mind of God. He cannot be the lifeless egoic illusion that we call the body.

T-23.IV.3. God does not share His function, which is to create, with a body. 2 God gave the function to create unto His Son because it is God's Own Function. 3 It is not sinful to believe the function of the Son is murder, but it <is> insanity to believe the function of the Son is murder. 4 What is the same, God and His Son, the Christ, can have no different function. 5 Creation is the means for God's extension, and what is God’s means for extension must be His Son's means for extension as well. 6 Either the Father and the Son are murderers, or neither is. 7 Life makes not death, creating like itself.

Note # 49: Creation is different than making. Creation is based on extension by giving all that one is. Nothing is withheld as everything is given to the creation. In creation, God gives everything to us because He is everything. Creation comes out of love and unlimitedness. Creation is life because it is real and eternal. Creation is the function of the Mind of God, which we, the Christ, share.

Making is contraction and exclusion based upon the belief in fear and limitation. Making’s goal is not extension, but rather an attempt to separate and split the indivisible whole into parts that are less than the whole. Being an illusionary mad idea, making is not shared within the Mind of God and has no reality. Making has no existence outside the mind of the dreamer and thus, is not life but the absence of life, which we call death. Within the dream of separation, making is the attempt to substitute the false for the truth; an illusion for the reality of Heaven. Making takes place in the illusionary dream world of individual perception. The world of perception embodies the belief that the separation was real and that the separation appears temporarily to exist in time and space within the
Because creation is extension, the Sonship, which is all God created, as God created it, must also be the everything that God is. God is a Oneness and we must share that same Oneness of everything with God. There is one mind and that is the indivisible Mind of God. Our will must be God’s Will for we are one and the same. The Son cannot be different than Its Creator since that is not the Creator’s Will. The Sonship, an effect of God, cannot change God, Its Source. We can deny the truth but we cannot change the truth. When we make, we deny the reality that we are the unlimited extension of the Mind of God. This denial of our divine birthright cannot change the truth of the real world of Heaven. Nor can our denial change the truth about our real nature; we continue to be God’s Child, perfect, whole and complete. Our illusionary dream cannot change the Will of God. Our dreaming that we sinned does not make God or ourselves a sinner. The dreamer only needs to awaken and the dream will disappear into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-23.IV.4. The lovely light of your relationship is like the Love of God. Your relationship cannot yet assume the holy function God gave His Son, for your forgiveness of your brother is not complete as yet, and so your relationship and forgiveness cannot be extended to all creation. Each form of murder and attack that still attracts you and that you do not recognize for what it is, which is a fear-based attack against the truth, limits the healing and the miracles you have the power to extend to all. Yet does the Holy Spirit understand how to increase your little gifts and make your little gifts mighty. Also the Holy Spirit understands how your relationship is raised above the battleground, in the battleground the relationship is no more to be found. This is your part; to realize that murder in any form is not your will. The overlooking of the battleground is now your purpose.

Note # 50: The battleground is the world of perception and form. When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are lifted above seeing the egoic form and instead, look upon our perception with the vision of Christ. The form that our egoic senses had once perceived will give way to the underlying content and we will ask only, “What would love have me do?” We cannot exchange misperception for correct perception without the assistance of the Holy Spirit, Who will raise us above and beyond the thought system of the ego. Content is the expression of the emotion of either fear or love. With vision, the Holy Spirit understands fear-based emotions are only a cry for love and thus, responds only with love and forgiveness.

T-23.IV.5. Be lifted up, and from a higher place look down upon the battleground. From there will your perspective be quite different. Here in the midst of the battleground, the battle does seem real. Here you have chosen to be part of the battle. Murder is your choice. Yet from above the battleground, the choice is miracles instead of murder. And the perspective coming from this choice for miracles shows you the battle is not real, and easily escaped. Bodies may battle, but the clash of forms is meaningless. And the battle is over when you realize the battle over meaningless bodies never was begun. How can a battle be perceived as nothingness when you engage in the battle? How can the truth of miracles be recognized if murder is your
choice?

**Note # 51:** We will perceive attack as necessary as long as we perceive ourselves to be a body. As long as we follow the egoic thought system, we will battle to overcome our perceived sense of lack. The thought system of the Holy Spirit reinterprets our misperception of separation and lack and reawakens us to the truth of the Oneness. When we reawaken, we realize that the dream of separation was not real since it is not the shared Will of God. Since we have forgotten that we are the dreamer, we cannot expect the ego to know the truth. We need the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Who is above the dream to tell us the truth.

**T-23.IV.6.** When the temptation to attack rises to make your mind darkened and murderous, remember you *can* see the battle from above. 2 Even in forms you do not recognize, the signs of attack you *do* know. 3 There is a stab of pain, a twinge of guilt, and above all, a loss of peace. p497 4 This loss of peace that comes from attack, you know well. 5 When the signs of attack occur, leave not your place on high, but quickly choose a miracle instead of murder. 6 And God Himself and all the lights of Heaven will gently lean to you, and hold you up. 7 For you have chosen to remain where God would have you, and no illusion can attack the peace of God together with His Son.

**Note # 52:** When we suffer from a loss of inner peace, we are following the egoic thought system. Our feelings inform us which thought system we have chosen to follow. If we have lost our inner peace, we have pledged our allegiance to the ego. We need to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and choose again.

**T-23.IV.7.** See no one from the battleground of egoic form and thinking, for there you look on him from nowhere. 2 From the battleground of egoic form and thinking, you have no reference point from where to look, where meaning can be given what you see. 3 For only bodies could attack and murder, and if attack is your purpose, then you must be one of the bodies with them. 4 Only a purpose unifies, and those who share a purpose have a mind as one. 5 The body has no purpose of itself, and must be solitary. 6 From below by utilizing the egoic thought system, the body cannot be surmounted. 7 From above by utilizing the thought system of the Holy Spirit, the limits the body exerts on those in battle still are gone, and not perceived. 8 The body stands between the Father and the Heaven the Father created for His Son <because> the body has no purpose.

**Note # 53:** God did not create the body: We did. The body was made, not created, by us to be a place where we could keep out God and God’s Love. Since God is one with His Creation, this separation is impossible. Separation of Cause from Its Effect could only appear to be real in an illusion. The bodily form is one of the means to make the illusion of separation appear real. When we give up the egoic thought system, we give up all illusions.

**T-23.IV.8.** Think what is given those who share their Father's purpose of creation, and who know that their Father's purpose of creation is their purpose. 2 They who share their Father's purpose of creation want for nothing. 3 Sorrow of any kind is
inconceivable. 4 Only the light they love is in awareness, and only love shines upon them forever. 5 It is their past, their present and their future; always the same, eternally complete and wholly shared. 6 They, who share their Father's purpose of creation, know it is impossible their happiness could ever suffer change of any kind. 7 Perhaps you think the battleground can offer something you can win. 8 Can what you might win on the battleground of egoic form be anything that offers you a perfect calmness, and a sense of love so deep and quiet that no touch of doubt can ever mar your certainty? 9 And will what you might win on the battleground of egoic form last forever?

Note # 54: Being everything, we cannot be happy with littleness. When we identify ourselves with form and the body, we imprison ourselves within the illusion of separation, time and space. Believing that we are not whole, we can only make out of limitation. The egoic mind makes. The Christ creates. We cannot share form or a body since that would require sacrifice by at least one party. Only mind or spirit can share without diminishment. Being on extension of God, we cannot be happy unless we fulfill our divine birthright, which is the creative process of love. We are happy only when we come from love and fulfill our purpose, which is the creative extension of the Mind of God. In Heaven, the Sonship’s purpose is co-creation with the Father.

T-23.IV.9. Those with the strength of God in their awareness could never think of battle. 2 What could they who are aware of their strength with God gain in battle but the loss of their perfection? 3 For everything fought for on the battleground is of the body; something the body seems to offer or to own. 4 No one who knows that he has everything could seek for limitation, nor could he who knows he has everything value the body's offerings. 5 The senselessness of conquest is quite apparent from the quiet sphere above the battleground, which is the correct perception of the Holy Spirit’s thought system. 6 What can conflict with everything? 7 And what is there that offers less than everything, yet could be wanted more than everything? 8 Who with the Love of God upholding him could find the choice of miracles or murder hard to make? p498

Note # 55: ACIM points out that anyone who is sane would choose for the thought system of the Holy Spirit over the ego’s. Unfortunately, we are not sane. Reasons can and will bring us back to questioning the logic of the ego’s thought system. Our threshold for pain is high but not unlimited. Eventually, we will say, “There must be a better way.” When we do this, we start to reclaim the sleeping decision-maker within us. We will choose again. The littleness of egoic specialness cannot make the Big “S” Self, the Christ, happy. We will choose the miracle over fear and attack.
Chapter 24. THE GOAL OF SPECIALNESS

Introduction

T-24.in.1. Forget not that the motivation for this course is the attainment and the keeping of the state of peace. 2 Given this state of peace, the mind is quiet, and the condition in which God is remembered is attained. 3 It is not necessary to tell God what to do. 4 God will not fail. 5 Where God can enter, there God is already. 6 And can it be God cannot enter where God wills to be? 7 Peace will be yours <because> it is God’s Will. 8 Can you believe a shadow can hold back God’s Will that holds the universe secure? 9 God does not wait upon illusions to let God be Himself. 10 No more God’s Son must wait on illusions to be his Big “S” Self. 11 Both, God and God’s Son, <are.> 12 And what illusion that idly seems to drift between God and God’s Son has the power to defeat what is Their One Joint Will?

Note # 1: We must quiet our egoic mind’s chatter, so that we can hear the call for God. God’s Will is that His Child be happy. Because we are an extension of God, our destiny is the peace of God. Since creation is extension, our will and God’s Will are One.

T-24.in.2. To learn this course requires willingness to question every value that you hold. 2 Not one value that you hold can be kept hidden and obscure for that one hidden value will jeopardize your learning. 3 No belief is neutral. 4 Every value has the power to dictate each decision you make. 5 For a decision is a conclusion based on everything that you believe. 6 The decision is the outcome of belief, and follows belief as surely as does suffering follow guilt and freedom sinlessness. 7 There is no substitute for peace. 8 What God creates has no alternative. 9 The truth arises from what God knows. 10 And your decisions come from your beliefs as certainly as all creation rose in God’s Mind <because> of what God knows.

Note # 2: Since this illusionary world of perception is nothing, there is nothing here that we should value. If we value something here, it is because our ego has determined that we need it. What can nothing offer of value to a Oneness of Everything? If there is a value that we would attempt to hide from the Holy Spirit, it can only mean that we still believe that we are separate and not the One Self. There are no private thoughts. Decisions are based on our entire belief system. If we believe in one illusion, we have sided with the egoic belief system. There is no compromise with truth. Truth is all or nothing. To reject one part of truth is to decide for the false. We must turn over all our beliefs to the Holy Spirit for His guidance. Within our Christ consciousness, the Holy Spirit is the Voice for God. What we perceive will be based on our beliefs and we will
“see” what we want to believe.

I. Specialness as a Substitute for Love

T-24.I.1. Love is extension. 2 To withhold the smallest gift is not to know love's purpose. 3 Love offers everything forever. 4 Hold back but one belief, one offering, and love is gone, because you asked a substitute to take love’s place. 5 And now must war, the substitute for peace, come with the one alternative that you can choose for love. 6 Your choosing war, the substitute for peace, has given war all the reality war and war’s alternative to love seems to have.

Note # 3: The two emotions, love and fear vie for control of our heart and mind. If we are not looking through the eyes of love, we will perceive our world to be a fearful place. We will lack inner peace; we will be in conflict or war with our universe and ourselves. The egoic substitute for love is specialness. Although we look upon the special relationship as something desirable, it confirms our egoic belief that we are an individual and not a Oneness. The special relationship makes the separation real. Specialness claims that we are not equals and, therefore, we lack something. As long as we believe that we are not perfect, whole and complete, we will doubt what we are. We cannot have the peace of God when we doubt our divine birthright. A doubting mind is a tormented mind that is constantly at war with itself.

T-24.I.2. Beliefs will never openly attack other beliefs because conflicting outcomes are impossible. 2 But an unrecognized belief is a decision to war in secret, where the results of conflict between different beliefs are kept unknown and never brought to reason, to be considered sensible or not. p499 3 And many senseless outcomes due to unrecognized beliefs have been reached, and meaningless decisions have been made and kept hidden, to become beliefs now given power to direct all subsequent decisions. 4 Mistake you not the power of these hidden warriors, your unrecognized beliefs, to disrupt your peace. 5 For your peace is at the mercy of these unrecognized beliefs while you decide to leave your peace under the influence of these hidden unrecognized beliefs. 6 Your unrecognized beliefs are the secret enemies of peace, your least decision to choose attack instead of love, unrecognized and swift to challenge you to combat and to violence far more inclusive than you think, are there by your election. 7 Do not deny the presence of your hidden and unrecognized beliefs nor the terrible results of these beliefs. 8 All that can be denied by you is the reality of these unrecognized beliefs, but not their outcome.

Note # 4: We live our life based on a myriad of beliefs that we are unaware of. Our ego is alive and well and runs our subconscious programming. The subconscious mind is part of the egoic collective consciousness that made the world of time, space and form. Do not trust it. These beliefs may or may not serve our best interest anymore yet they run our lives. Those beliefs may be deliberately chosen or indoctrinated beliefs. They may be helpful or harmful. Unrecognized beliefs are the default programs that run our lives.
Often these beliefs came from early indoctrination as a child. Perhaps we were told we were stupid, clumsy, not good enough or life was hard. Often these beliefs have unknowingly crept into our subconscious mind and secretly control our lives. Many people may have a fear of success and subconsciously go about self-sabotaging themselves to prove they are right. The list of unrecognized beliefs is endless. Questions: What are some of the beliefs that you hold? Are these beliefs helpful or harmful? Were they indoctrinated or deliberately chosen? If we believe that we are something other then the Oneness of the Mind of God, these believes must be given over to the Holy Spirit for correction. ACIM tells us that our subconscious mind is full of egoic beliefs that support the separation. These beliefs need to be looked at, brought before the truth of the Holy Spirit’s thought system and corrected. We, as the decision-maker, have the right to choose again.

T-24.I.3. All that is ever cherished as a hidden belief, to be defended though unrecognized, is faith in specialness. This unrecognized belief in specialness takes many forms, but always clashes with the reality of God's creation and with the grandeur that God gave His Son. What else could justify attack but our unrecognized belief that we are special and different, and thus, could not be part of the Oneness of everything? For who could hate someone whose Self is his, and Whom he knows? Only the special could have enemies, for the special are different and not the same. And difference of any kind imposes orders of reality, and a need to judge that cannot be escaped.

Note # 5: Judgment is only necessary when we perceive something as different from ourselves. If all things were the same, there would be nothing to judge. Without the belief in specialness the ego would have little to do. Because we see everything as different, the ego becomes a full-time judging machine.

T-24.I.4. What God created cannot be attacked, for there is nothing in the universe unlike itself. But what is different calls for judgment, and this judgment must come from someone "better," someone incapable of being like what he, the judge, condemns. He, the judge, must be "above" what is being judged, sinless by comparison with what he judges. And thus does specialness become a means and end at once. For specialness not only sets apart, but serves as grounds from which attack on those who seem "beneath" the special one is "natural" and "just." Those who judge, the special ones, feel weak and frail because of differences, for what would make them special, the perceived differences with another <is> their enemy. Yet those who judge protect their enemy’s enmity or hostility and call their enemy "friend." On specialness’ behalf they, who judge, fight against the universe, for there is nothing in the world they value more than specialness.

Note # 6: Definition: Enmity is defined as: the bitter attitude or feelings of an enemy or of mutual enemies; hostility; antagonism

The ego likes to perceive differences between holographic parts. The sameness of
the hologram defies specialness and thus, threatens the ego’s very existence. In a hologram, one may focus their attention on only one aspect of the whole. Yet, the whole is there in full view. The whole is available to be observed if one would choose to view the entirety by changing their focus. The ego limits what it chooses to observe so that the whole in each part goes unnoticed. These perceived differences then are claimed as “proof” that the separation is real.

T-24.I.5. Specialness is the great dictator of the wrong decisions. 2 Here in specialness is the grand illusion of what you are and what your brother is. 3 And here in specialness is what must make the body dear and worth preserving. 4 Specialness must be defended. 5 Illusions can attack the body, and illusions do attack the body. 6 For what your brother must become to keep your specialness <is> an illusion. 7 A brother who is "worse" than you must be attacked, so that your specialness can live on your brother’s defeat. 8 For specialness is triumph, and your victory for specialness is your brother’s defeat and shame. p500 9 How can your brother live, with all your sins upon him? 10 And who must be your brother’s conqueror but you?

Note # 7: Since we are only an extension of the holographic Oneness, there is no difference between indivisible “parts”. Only in the fantasy of our own mind can we perceive a Oneness of everything to be different from itself. Yet, this is what the ego teaches. The ego cloaks the holographic parts in make-believe physical bodies that give the appearance of separation and of differences. Then the ego projects its judgmental stories of differences upon everything it perceives. We now perceive that we have something that we can oppose and attack without hurting ourselves. Our ego, through specialness, has created an enemy where none previously existed. War and conflict within our split mind is now inevitable.

T-24.I.6. Would it be possible for you to hate your brother if you were like your brother? 2 Could you attack your brother if you realized you journey with your brother to a goal that is the same goal? 3 Would you not help your brother reach this same goal in every way you could, if his attainment of the goal were perceived as your attainment of the goal? 4 You are your brother’s enemy in specialness; you are your brother’s friend in a shared purpose or common goal. 5 Specialness can never share, for specialness depends on goals that you alone can reach. 6 And your brother must never reach that same goal, or your goal is jeopardized. 7 Can love have meaning where the goal is triumph? 8 And what decision can be made for this distorted belief that love is triumph over your brother that will not hurt you who are one with your brother?

Note # 8: Being a Oneness of everything, anything that would deny the Oneness of our true reality must hurt us. The attempt to divide the indivisible into parts that are less than the holographic whole can never make us happy. How can one be content with littleness when they are everything? How can a Oneness triumph over Itself?

T-24.I.7. Your brother is your friend because his Father created your brother like you. 2 There is no difference between your brother and you. 3 You have been given to your brother that love might be extended, not cut off from your brother. 4 What you keep is
lost to you 5 God gave you and your brother Himself, and to remember that God gave Himself to your brother and you is now the only purpose that you share. 6 And so the remembrance that God gave Himself to your brother and you is the only purpose you have. 7 Could you attack your brother if you chose to see no specialness of any kind between you and your brother? 8 Look fairly at whatever makes you give your brother only partial welcome, or would let you think that you are better off apart from your brother. 9 Is it not always your belief your specialness is limited by your relationship with your brother? 10 And is not this specialness the "enemy" that makes you and your brother illusions to each other?

Note # 9: We are the same because that is God’s Will. God’s plan for the split-minded’s return to knowledge is based on the recognition that our salvation must rest in our brother. Perceive ourselves as one and we will be returned to knowledge. Insist on specialness, and we get to keep the egoic thought system that brings us sin, guilt, fear, the body, pain, suffering, death and eternal damnation. The Sonship’s ultimate goal must be the return to the truth that it is the One Self. We are the holographic Oneness of the Mind of God. Only the timing of the choice is ours to make. The Holy Spirit asks that we rethink this decision for specialness as soon as possible and choose again.

T-24.I.8. The fear of God and of your brother comes from each unrecognized belief in specialness. 2 For you demand your brother bow to your belief in specialness against his will. 3 And God Himself must honor your belief in specialness or suffer vengeance. 4 Every twinge of malice, or stab of hate or wish to separate arises here in your belief in specialness. 5 For here due to your belief in specialness the purpose that you and your brother share, which is the remembrance that God gave everything of Himself to your brother and you, becomes obscured from both of you. 6 You would oppose this course because ACIM teaches you you and your brother are alike. 7 You have no purpose that is not the same, and none your Father does not share with you. 8 For your relationship has been made clean of special goals. 9 And would you now defeat the goal of holiness that Heaven gave your relationship? 10 What perspective can the special have that does not change with every seeming blow, each slight, or fancied judgment on itself?

Note # 10: To make holy is to make whole. Specialness and the goals of specialness shift with each passing whim or belief. It has no stability except that specialness is inherently unstable. Anything based on the egoic thought system shifts rapidly over the sands of time. The thought system for the Holy Spirit is stable since it is based on truth, not illusions. The sameness of the One Mind of God is the ultimate in stability since it forms the basis for the changeless, eternal truth of who we are.

T-24.I.9. Those who are special must defend illusions against the truth. 2 For what is specialness but an attack upon the Will of God? 3 You love your brother not, while it is this specialness you would defend against your brother. 4 This specialness is what your brother attacks and you protect. 5 Here is the ground of battle which you wage against your brother. 6 Here must your brother be your enemy and not your friend. 7 Never can there be peace among the different. 8 Your brother is your friend
<because> you are the same as your brother.

Note #11: Your brother’s truth is like our own. Both your brother and you are unlimited spirit and part of the shared holographic Mind of God. Our brother is not the illusionary image that we have painted him to be. He is not a limited ego-body in competition with us. The illusion that we perceive ourselves to be limited ego-bodies results in constant conflicts with each other’s perceptions. Truth does not oppose, but illusions do. This perceived conflict between two equal brothers is between two illusions of specialness that have no reality in truth. Specialness does not exist because the separation is not real. Two opposing thought systems reside in the split-minded and vie for the ear of the decision-maker. The ego shouts loudly proclaiming the “truth” of the laws of chaos and the reality of an illusion.

The Holy Spirit waits patiently within us, awaiting our request for Her guidance. The purpose we share with our brother is our joint reawakening to the remembrance of God. Since giving is receiving, to achieve this goal, it is only required that one brother remember this truth and share this same truth with the other. This remembering will start the process of the return of the Sonship to sanity. By either party looking past the veil of the body, we can behold the truth of what we are. We are the same for we are the Christ. The Christ and Christ Vision are in all of us since that is the Oneness of God. Our brother is our savior and we are his. We are holographic parts in the one Mind of God.

II. The Treachery of Specialness

T-24.II.1. Comparison must be an ego device, for love makes no comparisons. 2 Specialness always makes comparisons. 3 Comparison is established by a lack seen in another, and maintained by searching for lack, and keeping clear in sight, all lacks that comparison can perceive. 4 This lack in another does comparison seek, and this lack in another comparison looks upon. 5 And always whom comparison would thus diminishes would be your savior, had you not chosen to make of your brother-savior a tiny measure of your specialness instead. 6 Against the littleness you see in your brother-savior, who you choose to compare and judge, you stand as tall and stately, clean and honest, pure and unsullied, by comparison with what you perceive to be your brother’s lack. 7 Nor do you understand it is yourself that you diminish thus perceiving yourselves as lacking.

Note #12: Comparison forms the basis for our judgment. Unfortunately, our comparison is based on our misperceptions rather than on the truth of the vision of Christ. Coming out of the egoic thought system, we look for lack and thus, only accept perceptions that are in alignment with our predetermined beliefs and judgments. Since ideas never leave their source, by perceiving our brother as lacking, we confirm that we must also be lacking. Thus, comparisons only diminish both parties and remove them further from the truth of their joint Oneness.

T-24.II.2. Pursuit of specialness is always at the cost of peace. 2 Who can attack his
savior and cut him down, yet recognize his savior’s strong support? 3 Who can detract from his savior’s omnipotence, yet share his savior’s power? 4 And who can use your savior as the gauge of littleness, and be released from limits? 5 You have a function in salvation. 6 The pursuit of your function in God’s plan for salvation will bring you joy. 7 But the pursuit of specialness must bring you pain. 8 Here in the pursuit of specialness is a goal that would defeat salvation, and thus run counter to the Will of God. 9 To value specialness is to esteem an alien will to which illusions of yourself are dearer than the truth.

Note # 13: When we pursue specialness over God’s Will, we are choosing for the egoic desire to be right instead of happy. God’s Will is that we be happy. Specialness requires that we see ourselves as limited and different. When we choose to see inequality, we are choosing the egoic thought system over the truth of the One Self.

T-24.II.3.Specialness is the idea of sin made real. 2 Sin is impossible even to imagine without specialness as sin’s base. 3 For sin arose from specialness out of nothingness; specialness is an evil flower with no roots at all. 4 Here in specialness’ sin is the self-made egoic "savior," the egoic "creator" who creates unlike the Father, and which made God’s Son like to the egoic concept of the little “s” self, and not like unto God, the Father. 5 Egoic "special" sons are many, never one, each one in exile from himself, and God of Whom the "special" sons are a part. 6 Nor do egoic "special" sons love the Oneness which created them as one with God, the Father. 7 The egoic "special" sons chose their specialness instead of Heaven and instead of peace, and wrapped their specialness carefully in sin, to keep their specialness "safe" from truth of their Oneness with God.

Note # 14: Sin is the belief in lack. Specialness is sin’s cornerstone since specialness is based on comparison and judgment that arise from perceived differences. Comparison is judgment based on the misperception of lack in another. Comparison, specialness and sin keep the Sonship shrouded under the veil of illusion. The ego tells us that the body is our special home that no one else can enter. Our body symbolizes our belief in specialness and our denial of the truth.

T-24.II.4.You are not special. 2 If you think you are special, and would defend your specialness against the truth of what you really are, how can you know the truth? 3 What answer that the Holy Spirit gives can reach you, when it is your specialness based on your egoic thought system to which you listen, and which asks and answers? p502 4 Your egoic thought system’s tiny answer, soundless in the melody that pours from God to you eternally in loving praise of what you are, is all you listen to. 5 And God’s vast song of honor and of love for what you are seems silent and unheard before your egoic thought system’s "mightiness." 6 You strain your ears to hear your egoic thought system’s soundless voice, and yet the Call of God Himself is soundless to you.

Note # 15: The call of God is always heard by our Christ consciousness. Unfortunately, we chose not to listen to the thought system of the Holy Spirit, preferring instead to listen to the egoic voice for our “littleness.” This “littleness” was birthed out of our desire to be
special. Our ego’s desire to be different and thus, special requires that God make a choice and love us differently from the rest of the One Self. This requires that God withhold something from His creations. Being a Oneness of Everything, this was impossible for God since it would mean that we, God’s Effect, could change its Cause. This God could not do since this would require God’s Love to become conditional Love. God’s Love is real, equal and freely given to all of creation. God’s Love gives all, to all because It is all. God’s innocence makes conditional love impossible for God to conceive. Again, God’s Innocence is the inability to know what is not real. Conditional love does not exist in the Mind of God.

T-24.II.5. You can defend your specialness, but never will you hear the Voice for God beside your egoic voice for specialness. 2 They, the Holy Spirit and the ego, speak a different language and they fall on different ears. 3 To everyone, who believes they are special, the ego speaks a different message, and one with different egoic meaning. Each message is a different “egoic” truth. 4 Yet how can truth be different to each one? 5 The special messages the special hear convince them who believe they are special that they are different and apart; each in his special sins and "safe" from God’s unconditional love, which does not see his specialness at all. 6 Christ's vision is their "enemy," for Christ's vision sees not what they, who believe they are special, would look upon, and Christ's vision would show them, who believe they are special, that the specialness they think they see is an illusion.

Note # 16: All decisions are a choice between truth or illusion; love or fear; the thought system of the Holy Spirit or the ego’s: the Vision of Christ or egoic seeing; the Oneness of everything or the separation of specialness. The decision-maker can only choose one at a time for each thought system is mutually exclusive.

T-24.II.6. What would they, who believe they are special, see if they looked with Christ's vision instead of egoic seeing? 2 The shining radiance of the Son of God, so like his Father that the memory of God springs instantly to mind. 3 And with this memory of God, the Son remembers his own creations, as like to him, the Big “S” Self, as he, the Big “S” Self is to his Father. 4 And all the egoic world he made out of his “littleness”, and all his specialness, and all the sins he held in egoic specialness’ defense against himself, will vanish as his mind accepts the truth about himself, the Big “S” Self, as truth returns to take the place of the illusions of specialness. 5 This is the only "cost" of truth: You will no longer see what never was, nor hear what makes no sound. 6 Is it a sacrifice to give up nothing, and to receive the Love of God forever?

Note # 17: By choosing for the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we reawaken to the vision of Christ. With this vision our misperception are seen in the light of truth. All illusions fade away before the light of truth.

T-24.II.7. You who have chained your savior, your brother, to your specialness, and given specialness your savior’s place, remember this: He, your brother-savior, has not lost the power to forgive you all the sins you think you placed between him and the function of salvation given him by God for you. 2 Nor will you change your brother-
savior’s Big “S” Self’s function of salvation. You cannot change the truth in your brother-savior, which is his Big “S” Self, any more than you can change the truth in yourself, which is your Big “S” Self. 3 But be you certain that the truth is just the same in both you and your brother. 4 Truth gives no different messages, and truth has one meaning. 5 And truth’s meaning is one you and your brother both can understand, and one that brings release to both of you. 6 Here stands your brother with the key to Heaven in his hand, held out to you. 7 Let not the dream of specialness remain between you, your brother and the truth. 8 What is one is joined in truth.

Note #18: Within every part of the Sonship is the Christ, our Big “S” Self. The Big “S” Self knows the truth about what we are. Seeing the truth within our brother is our salvation. With the vision of Christ, we see our brother as sinless, which, in turn grants us our salvation. By freeing our brother from the illusion of specialness that we have imposed upon him, we free ourselves to the truth and reclaim our divine birthright as God’s Child. We realize that we are sinless and guiltless. We have never left the Oneness of the Mind of God. We remain part of the holographic One Self.

T-24.II.8. Think of the loveliness that you will see within yourself, when you have looked on your brother-savior as on a friend. 2 Your brother-savior’s Christ consciousness is the enemy of specialness, but your brother-savior’s Christ consciousness is only a friend to what is real in you. 3 Not one attack you thought you made on your brother-savior has taken from him the gift that God would have your brother-savior give to you. p503 4 Your brother-savior’s need to give the Father’s gift of your sinlessness and truth’s salvation is as great as your need to have the gift of salvation. 5 Let your brother-savior forgive you all your specialness, and make you whole in mind and one with your brother-savior, the Christ. 6 Your brother-savior waits for your forgiveness only so that he may return that same forgiveness unto you. 7 It is not God Who has condemned His Son, but your egoic little “s” self in an effort to save his egoic specialness and kill his Big “S” Self.

Note # 19: It is only our little “s” self that identifies itself with the dream of separation and specialness. God did not create the world of perception. When the dream of separation was thought, God immediately responded with the solution. The Christ, which is the home of the Holy Spirit, will return us back to the truth from which we never left. It is the Christ, our Big “S” Self, which is in every part of the Sonship. The Christ under the guidance of the Holy Spirit will unite the fragmented Sonship and return our awareness back to the truth. Since we remain a Oneness and to give is to receive, every member of the Sonship holds the remembrance of the salvation for the whole. We remain that One Self.

T-24.II.9. You have come far along the way of truth; too far to falter now. 2 Just one step more along the way of truth, and every vestige of the fear of God will melt away in love. 3 Your brother's specialness and your specialness are enemies, and bound in hate to kill each other and deny their specialness is the same. 4 Yet it is not illusions that have reached this final obstacle of your fear of God, which seems to make God and His Heaven so remote that God and His Heaven cannot be reached. 5 Here in this holy place
of Heaven does truth stand waiting to receive you and your brother in silent blessing, and in peace so real and so encompassing that nothing stands outside. 6 Leave all illusions of yourself outside this place of God and His Heaven, to which you come in hope and honesty.

Note # 20: No illusion can co-exist with truth. All illusions must fade away into the nothingness from which they were birthed when brought into the light of truth. No remnant of the illusion of specialness can be part of the truth of Heaven. Only the equality of the One Self is known in Heaven.

T-24.II.10. Here is your savior from your specialness. 2 Your savior-brother is in need of your acceptance of himself as part of you, as you are in need for his acceptance that you are part of him. 3 You are alike to God as God is to Himself. 4 God is not special, for God would not keep one part of what God is unto Himself, not given to His Son but kept for God, Himself, alone. 5 And it is this fact that God is not special but gives all to all His Creations that you fear, for if God is not special, then God willed His Son to be like Himself, not special, and your brother is like you. 6 Your brother is not special, but possessed of everything, including you. 7 Give your brother but what he has, which is everything including you, remembering God gave Himself to you and your brother in equal love, that both might share the universe with God Who chose that love could never be divided, and kept separate from what love is and must forever be, a Oneness.

Note # 21: This paragraph clearly explains that we all share the united holographic Mind of God; that a Oneness of Everything cannot be sub-divided into parts for each is the whole. Being a Oneness of everything, God could not grant an impossible request that a Oneness of Everything be special and subdivided into something that was less than perfect, whole and complete. To do so would require the destruction of the One Self.

T-24.II.11. Since your brother, like yourself, was given everything by God, you are your brother’s; part of love was not denied to him. 2 But can it be that you have lost because your brother is complete? 3 What has been given your brother makes you complete, as what has been given to you does complete your brother. 4 God's Love gave you to him and God's Love gave him to you because God gave Himself. 5 What is the same as God is one with God. 6 And only egoic specialness could make the truth of God and you as one seem anything but Heaven, with the hope of peace at last in sight.

Note #22: ACIM reiterates the warning of the power or attraction that specialness has on our egoic minds. Even now, this far into the course, ACIM states that our attraction to specialness can temporarily derail our pursuit of the truth, that we are that One Self. ACIM also points out that to be everything also means that we must be complete. Perhaps the term “complete” is easier for our dualistic mind to grasp than the idea that two “things” can both be everything. We can easily grasp the concept that both are complete, but it is harder to understand the truth that two “things” that appear to be separate could both be everything since we believe that they are also separate. This, of course, is due to our constant equating form with content. The form is the veil, not the truth. This is why
we state that God made us perfect, whole and complete. We are a single Oneness of everything.

**T-24.II.12.** Specialness is the seal of treachery upon the gift of love. 2 Whatever serves specialness’ purpose must be given to kill. 3 No gift that bears the seal of specialness but offers treachery to giver and receiver. 4 Not one glance from the eyes of specialness’ veils but looks on sight of death. 5 Not one believer in the potency of specialness but seeks for bargains and for compromise that would establish sin love's substitute, which is specialness, and serve specialness faithfully. p504 6 And no relationship that holds the purpose of specialness dear but clings to murder as safety's weapon, and the great defender of all illusions from the "threat" of love.

**Note # 23:** Specialness is the ego’s substitute for love. The belief in specialness is required for the existence of the egoic special relationship. Love gives everything. Specialness gives to get and seeks only limitation. Sin is the belief in limitation. Comparison, which focuses on perceiving limitation and difference in form, verifies our specialness. In the egoic special relationship, we come from the belief that both parties are imperfect, not whole and very incomplete. In the egoic special relationship, we attempt to steal something from another since we believe that we lack that something. This “stealing” from another is the ego’s replacement for the Love of God. God’s Son, being everything, cannot be content with anything other than the truth of what we are, perfect, whole and complete.

**T-24.II.13.** The hope of specialness makes it seem possible God made the body as the prison house that keeps His Son from God, Himself. 2 For hope of specialness demands a special place God cannot enter, and a hiding place where none is welcome but your tiny self. The body, which God did not make, is this special place. 3 Nothing is sacred here in the egoic body but unto you, and you alone, apart and separate from all your brothers; safe from all intrusions of sanity upon illusions; safe from God and safe for conflict everlasting. 4 Here in the egoic body are the gates of hell you closed upon yourself, to rule in madness and in loneliness your special egoic kingdom, apart from God, away from truth and from salvation.

**Note # 24:** In the world of perception, form is the ego’s witness that the separation is real. The ego invests heavily in making form appear real and thus, convincing us that we are special. The ego claims we are special because we are a limited ego body. The body is the ultimate proof that we are special since form cannot be shared. Any attempt to share form always results in sacrifice and diminishment to the giver. This is why the Holy Spirit’s focus is on content and always looks past the façade of the form. Thoughts of love and forgiveness are real and can be shared. When we share thoughts of love and forgiveness both the idea and the parties are strengthened.

**T-24.II.14.** The key you threw away God gave your brother, whose holy hands would offer the key of your sinlessness to you when you were ready to accept God’s plan for your salvation in the place of your ego’s plan for salvation, which is based on the specialness of lack. 2 How could this readiness to accept God’s plan for your
salvation be reached save through the sight of all your misery, and the awareness that your ego’s plan for salvation and happiness has failed, and will forever fail to bring you peace and joy of any kind? 3 Through this despair in the ego’s plan you travel now, yet it is but illusion of despair. 4 The death of specialness is not your death, but your awaking into life eternal. 5 You but emerge from an egoic illusion of what you are, your belief in “littleness,” to the acceptance of yourself, the Christ, as God created you.

Note # 25: ACIM states that our tolerance for pain is high but it is not unlimited. Eventually, reason will tell us there must be a better way. We will choose for the thought system of the Holy Spirit. We will choose for truth. When we want only truth, God, the Father, will take the final step on our behalf and return the Sonship to knowledge. We will reawaken in Heaven, which is the mind of God.

III. The Forgiveness of Specialness

T-24.III.1. Forgiveness is the end of specialness. 2 Only illusions can be forgiven, and then illusions disappear. 3 Forgiveness is release from all illusions, and that is why it is impossible but partly to forgive. 4 No one who clings to one illusion can see himself as sinless, for he holds one error to himself as lovely still. 5 And so he calls the error that he holds about himself "unforgivable," and makes the “unforgivable” error that he holds about himself into the belief that it is a sin. 6 How can he then give his forgiveness wholly, when he would not receive forgiveness for himself? 7 For it is sure he would receive forgiveness wholly the instant that he gave forgiveness wholly. 8 And thus his secret guilt about his “unforgivable error he called sin” would disappear, forgiven by himself.

Note # 26: Forgiveness must be total or it is not forgiveness. “Conditional forgiveness” is bartering. This forgiveness demands something from the other to earn our forgiveness. An example of “conditional forgiveness” would be, “I will forgive you if…” Even if it is conditioned on the demand that they “don’t do it again” this is a condition and thus, this is not forgiveness. ACIM states that if we believe any one circumstances cannot be forgiven, we have withheld forgiveness from the whole. This is because we still believe that there are different degrees of illusions. We claim that one form of an illusion is more difficult to forgive than another form of an illusion. The content, not the form, is always the same. Both “sins” are equally false. Being a Oneness of Everything, we cannot be hurt or hurt another and thus, there is nothing that cannot be forgiven since there is nothing outside the One Self. Since the truth is that our minds are joined as one, withholding forgiveness from one part is withholding forgiveness from the whole.

T-24.III.2. Whatever form of specialness you cherish, you have made into a sin. 2 Inviolate sin stands, strongly defended with all your puny might against the Will of God. 3 And thus, sin stands against yourself; <your> enemy, not God’s. 4 So does sin’s specialness seem to split you off from God, and make you separate from Him as sin’s defender. 5 You would protect what God created not, which is sin. p505 6 And yet, this
idol of specialness that seems to give you power has taken power away. 7 For you have
given your brother's birthright to this idol of specialness, leaving him alone and
unforgiven, and yourself in sin beside him, both in misery, before the idol of specialness
that can save you not from your belief in sin.

**Note # 27:** Sin was defined as an illusion that we wish to maintain because we value it
over the truth. Our specialness is the illusion that we value over the Will of God. Our
specialness is the belief that we could lack or need something. Sin is the belief that what
is perfect, whole and complete could lack something. God created us as extensions of
Himself. We are the same Oneness of everything. Yet, with sin, we refuse to give up
some part of the illusion of separateness. This part of the illusion forms the basis for our
specialness. Specialness is the “sin” we refuse to give up and thus, will not forgive.
**Note:** Inviolate means kept sacred and unbroken.

T-24.III.3. It is not <you, your Big “S” Self> who are so vulnerable and open to attack
that just a word, a little whisper that you do not like, a circumstance that suits you not, or
an event that you did not anticipate upsets your world, and hurls your world into chaos. 2
Truth is not frail. 3 Illusions leave truth perfectly unmoved and undisturbed. 4 But
specialness is not the truth in you, your Big “S” Self. 5 Specialness can be thrown off
balance by anything. 6 What rests on nothing never can be stable. 7 However large and
overblown the illusion of specialness seems to be, it still must rock and turn and whirl
about with every breeze.

**Note # 28:** Specialness, like any illusion is unstable since it is not based on the
unchangeable truth. The instability of specialness demonstrates its unreality and thus,
specialness is not part of our real Big “S” Self, the Christ.

T-24.III.4. Without the foundation of truth nothing is secure. 2 Would God have left His
Son in such a state of illusionary instability, where safety has no meaning? 3 No, His
Son is safe, resting on God, not the illusion of specialness. 4 It is your specialness that is
attacked by everything that walks and breathes, or creeps or crawls, or even lives at all. 5
Nothing is safe from the attack of specialness, and specialness is safe from nothing. 6
Specialness will forevermore be unforgiving, for that is what the illusionary sin of
specialness is; a secret vow that what God wants for you will never be, and that you will
oppose God’s Will forever. 7 Nor is it possible the two, God’s Will and your egoic
desire for specialness, can ever be the same while specialness stands like a flaming
sword of death between them. Specialness makes them, God’s Will and the will of the
split-minded, who believe they are special, enemies.

**Note # 29:** God’s Will is that His Creation be happy. Our happiness rests on the peace of
God, which is based only on truth. We cannot be happy while we believe that we are
under attack. Specialness breeds comparison, differences and the need to attack. This
cannot lead to peace. God’s Will could never support the reality that His Creation is
limited or special since this would mean God, Himself, would also be limited. The belief
in specialness can only be a mistake for illusions are powerless against the truth. An
effect cannot change its cause.
T-24.III.5. God asks for your forgiveness. 2 God would have no separation, like an alien will, rise between what God wills for you and what you will. 3 They, God’s Will and your Big “S” Self’s will, <are> the same, for neither One wills specialness. 4 How could They, your Big “S” Self’s and God’s Will, will the death of love itself? 5 Yet They, God’s Will and your Big “S” Self’s will are powerless to make attack upon illusions. 6 They, God’s Will and your Big “S” Self’s will, are not bodies; as one Mind, God’s Will and your Big “S” Self’s will wait for all illusions to be brought to Them, and all illusions that are brought to Them are then left behind. 7 Salvation challenges not even death. 8 And God Himself, Who knows that death is not your will, must say, "Thy egoic will be done" because you think death is.

Note #30: To give is to receive. God asks our forgiveness for the illusion of separation’s specialness. This is not because God has done anything to you, but rather because you believe that God has. Remember ACIM’s definition of forgiveness; forgiveness asks us to forgive the other party for all the things we imagined the other party did to us. In reality, the other party did nothing that we had not wished upon ourselves. We wished to experience what it would be like to be other than God. God allowed us to experience that state of specialness within an illusionary dream. God knows that a dream cannot harm anyone and that this does not change the truth of what we are.

Our true will and God’s Will are the same. The split-minded, however believe that they have a will different from God’s. Because of the power of our mind, we can make-up anything we wish to experience within the dream of separation. We can pretend we are limited ego-bodies that are vulnerable and can die if we want that experience. We have total control over of the experiences we choose to have in our dream state. Our decision-maker has chosen to temporarily order our dream by accepting the laws of chaos to rule our world of perception. The Holy Spirit does not force the sleeping child to awaken to the truth. This would be perceived as an attack by the child and thus, frighten the dreamer. The Holy Spirit would never do anything that would increase our fear. Instead, the Holy Spirit allows the sleeping child to gently reawaken to the truth. The Holy Spirit keeps silent watch over the child waiting the child’s request for His guidance. The Holy Spirit knows that a dream holds no power to change the reality of truth. Eventually the child will have played all the special parts he wished to experience in the game of separation. When this has been accomplished, the child will lie down his “toys of specialness” and will return to the truth the he is the Christ. The child’s desire for egoic specialness will fade away as he once again realizes that his and God’s Will are the same.

T-24.III.6. Forgive the great Creator of the universe, the Source of life, of love and holiness, the perfect Father of a perfect Son, for your illusions of your specialness. 2 Here in the illusions of your specialness is the hell you chose to be your home. 3 God, the Creator, chose not this illusionary hell of specialness for you. 4 Ask not God enter this illusionary hell of specialness. 5 In this illusionary hell of your specialness, the way is barred to love and to salvation. 6 Yet if you would release your brother from the depths of hell, you have forgiven God Whose Will it is you rest forever in the arms of peace, in perfect safety, and without the heat and malice of one thought of specialness to mar your
Note # 31: We are unlimited as creators or makers. We can choose to experience anything we want. Creation is real, changeless and eternal since it is based on truth. Making is unreal, changeable and exists only in time. Making is based on the falsity of illusion. In making, we use our imagination to experience an illusion that cannot be part of the Mind of God. We have free will to experience whatever we want to experience in time and space. Yet, only when we are in alignment with God’s Will is our experience real, timeless and shared with the Mind of God.

T-24.III.7. The special ones are all asleep, surrounded by a world of loveliness they, who believe they are special, do not see. 2 Freedom and peace and joy stand there, beside the bier on which they, who believe they are special, sleep, and call to them, who believe they are special, to come forth and waken from their dream of death. 3 Yet they who believe they are special hear nothing. 4 They who believe they are special are lost in dreams of specialness. 5 They who are lost in their dreams of specialness hate the call that would awaken them, and they curse God because God did not make their dream a reality. 6 Curse God and die, but not by God, Who made not death; but your little “s” self can imagine to curse God and die only in the egoic dream of specialness. 7 Open your eyes a little; see the savior, your brother that God gave to you that you might look on your brother-savior and give your brother-savior back his divine birthright. 8 Your brother’s divine birthright is also yours.

Note # 32: Our dreams of specialness are only dreams and thus, have no power over truth. Within the dream itself, they do have power to bind those who believe in the dream. Since we are the dreamer and director, we can demand that any actor who is to play on our stage will read the script that we give to him “correctly.” When we give our brother the role of a limited ego-body that is the role he will play. Our split-minded egoic collective consciousness has given everyone the role of acting as a limited ego-body. The Holy Spirit, however, has given our brother another role. The Holy Spirit has made him our savior. See your brother as sinless and he becomes your savoir and both you and your brother become the Christ.

T-24.III.8. The slaves of specialness will yet be free. 2 Such is the Will of God and of His Son. 3 Would God condemn Himself to hell and to damnation? 4 And do you will that this be done unto your brother-savior? 5 God calls to you from your brother-savior to join God’s Will. Answer this call from God to save you and your brother both from hell. 6 Look on the print of nails upon your brother-savior’s hands that he holds out for your forgiveness. 7 God asks your mercy on His Son and on Himself. 8 Deny God and His Son not. 9 God and His Son ask of you but that your will be done. 10 God and His Son seek your love that you may love yourself. 11 Love not your specialness instead of God and His Son. 12 The print of nails is on your hands as well. 13 Forgive your Father. It was not God’s Will that you be crucified.
Note # 33: The Holy Spirit, the voice for the Father, calls out from our brother for us to give up our dream of specialness and accept the truth that we are the Christ. Hell is not a place but rather a state of mind in which we believe that we can be something less than perfect, whole and complete. By granting mercy and forgiveness to our brother, we also grant this to ourselves. God has preserved our divine birthright for us in Heaven but we must be willing to share it with our brothers. God wills that we freely accepted His gift so that we are happy and at peace in the Oneness that is the shared Mind of God. Until we desire only the truth, we will choose and God will allow us to play the “game of specialness.” The “game of specialness” is played in the world of perception and form, which utilizes the illusion of time and space. Only we control the timing of when the game of specialness will end for us. The Holy Spirit controls the game’s final outcome but we get to choose when we will awaken to the truth.

IV. Specialness versus Sinlessness

T-24.IV.1. Specialness is a lack of trust in anyone except yourself. 2 With specialness, faith is invested in yourself alone. 3 Specialness results in everything else becoming your enemy; feared and attacked, deadly and dangerous, hated and worthy only of destruction. 4 To specialness, whatever gentleness everything else offers is but deception, but everything else’s hate is perceived to be real. 5 In danger of destruction everything else must kill, and you are drawn to everything else to kill everything else first to protect your own specialness. 6 And the protection of your own specialness through the use of attack on everything else is guilt’s attraction. 7 Here is death enthroned as savior; crucifixion is now redemption, and salvation can only mean destruction of the world, except your special little “s’ self.

Note # 34: Specialness sees all things as its enemy. The laws of chaos state that whatever we have must be stolen from another. The world is a zero-sum game. Because specialness comes from limitation, we perceive everything as a limited ego-body that we are in competition against. The ego tells us that eventually everything else will attack us unless we attack and kill them first. Thus, our brother’s defeat is the unspoken goal of the ego-body. Even Western Fundamentalist Religions have made the crucifixion of Jesus, God’s only Son, necessary for our salvation. Only by killing Jesus, God’s pure and sinless Son, can mankind receive redemption. Our specialness was born from an insane collective egoic belief in lack. This egoic collective consciousness demands death for everything that we perceive so that we may “live” in our illusion of fear. Since God did not make this illusionary universe of lack, God demands no sacrifice from His sinless Son, which is an extension of Himself. God’s Mind remains that perfect, whole and complete One Self. There can be no specialness in a Oneness of Everything.

T-24.IV.2. What could the purpose of the body be but specialness? 2 And it is this desire to be special that makes the body frail and helpless in the body’s own defense. 3 The body was conceived to make you frail and helpless. 4 The goal of separation, which attempts to make the invulnerable mind and confine it into a frail body, is its curse.
5 Yet bodies have no goal. 6 Purpose is of the mind. 7 And mind’s purpose can change as the mind’s desire changes. p507 8 What minds are, and all minds’ attributes, minds cannot change. 9 But what minds hold as their purpose can be changed, and body states must shift accordingly to the mind’s changing purposes. 10 Of itself the body can do nothing. 11 If the mind’s purpose is to see the body as means to hurt, the body is hurt. 12 If the mind’s purpose is to see the body as means to heal, the body is healed.

Note # 35: The body is powerless by itself. The body merely fulfills the role that the mind gives it. The mind is the master of the body. The body is the servant of the mind. Based on the mind’s purpose, the body can be a communication device to demonstrate and teach either love or fear. The body of itself is a neutral communication device and does not have a voice over the decision of which thought system the mind will choose to follow.

T-24.IV.3. You can but hurt yourself. 2 This has been oft repeated that you can only hurt yourself, but this concept that you can only hurt yourself is difficult to grasp as of yet. 3 To minds intent on specialness the idea that you can only hurt yourself, is impossible. 4 Yet to those who wish to heal and not attack, the idea that you can only hurt yourself is quite obvious. 5 The purpose of attack is in the mind, and the attack’s effects are felt but where the mind is. 6 Nor is the mind limited; so must it be that harmful purpose hurts the mind as one. 7 Nothing could make less sense to specialness than the belief that an attack on another party is an attack on itself since specialness fails to recognize that there is just Mind's Oneness, of which it must also be a part. 8 Nothing could make more sense to miracles than the belief that an attack on another party is an attack on itself since miracle-mindedness recognizes that there is just a Oneness, of which everything must be a part. 9 For miracles are merely change of purpose from hurt to healing. 10 This shift in purpose from hurt to healing does "endanger" specialness, but only in the sense that all illusions are "threatened" by the truth. 11 All the illusions of specialness will not stand before the light of truth. 12 Yet what comfort has ever been in the illusions of specialness that you would keep the gift your Father asks from the Father, and give the gift your Father asks instead to the illusions of specialness? 13 Given the gift to the Father, the universe is yours. 14 When your gifts are offered to the illusions of specialness, no gifts can be returned. Your gift is your faith. Where do you choose to place your faith? The choice is between either truth or in the falseness of illusion. 15 What you have given to specialness, which is your faith in the egoic thought system, has left you bankrupt and your treasure house barren and empty, with an open door inviting everything that would disturb your peace to enter and destroy.

Note # 36: God only asks that we accept the truth of what we are. We are an extension of God, Who is perfect love. Perfect love demands nothing. Our gift to our Father is our faith in the truth. Where do you choose to place your faith? The choice is between truth or the falseness of illusion. There are no other options. Our decision-maker must decide freely whose thought system it will follow. God, the Father, awaits our choice for the thought system of Holy Spirit’s. This is the choice for only love. Only love is real and you are that One Self.
T-24.IV.4. Earlier I said consider not the means by which salvation is attained, nor how to reach salvation. 2 But do consider, and consider well, whether it is your wish that you might see your brother sinless. 3 To specialness the answer to the question of your wish to see your brother as sinless must be "no." 4 A sinless brother <is> the enemy of specialness. While sin, if sin were possible, would be the friend of specialness. 5 Your brother's sin would justify specialness, and give specialness the meaning that the truth denies. 6 All that is real proclaims your brother's sinlessness. 7 All that is false proclaims your brother's sins as real. 8 If your brother is sinful, then is your reality, which is the truth that you are God's sinless Son not real. If sin is real, God's sinless Son would become just a dream of specialness that lasts an instant, crumbling into dust.

Note # 37: Truth cannot be partial. Either we are sinless or we are sinners. We cannot be both. If we are sinners, then the idea that we are God's Child, perfect, whole and complete must be false. If we are not special but part of the Oneness that is the Mind of God, we are God's sinless and perfect Child. In the illusionary universe of time, space and form, we can choose to deny our sinlessness but this cannot change the truth of the One Self. We need to awaken from our dream of separation from the One Self.

T-24.IV.5. Do not defend this senseless dream of separation, specialness and sinfulness, in which God is bereft of what God loves, and you remain beyond salvation. 2 Only your little "s" self remains beyond salvation is certain in this shifting world of specialness that has no meaning in reality: When peace is not with you entirely, and when you suffer pain of any kind, you have beheld some sin within your brother, and have rejoiced at what you thought was there, which is your brother's sinfulness. 3 Your specialness seemed safe because of your brother's sinfulness. 4 And thus you saved what you egoically appointed to be your savior, which is your specialness and belief in sin, and crucified your sinless brother, whom God has given you instead to be our savior. 5 So are you bound with your brother, for you are one. 6 And so is specialness your brother's "enemy," and your enemy as well. p508

Note # 38: ACIM states that if we are not at peace, it is because we believe that sin is not only possible but has been committed. Since to give is to receive and we insist on jailing our brother for his "sins," we are also condemning ourselves to the role of his prison guard. Both jailer and prisoner are in the same prison. Forgive him and free our brother from belief in sin so we are also free to return to our home in Heaven.

V. The Christ in You

T-24.V.1. The Christ in you is very still. 2 The Christ looks on what the Christ loves, and knows what It loves as Himself. 3 And thus does the Christ rejoice at what the Christ sees, because the Christ knows what It sees is one with the Christ and with God, His Father. 4 Specialness, too, takes joy in what it sees, although what specialness sees is not true. 5 Yet what you seek for is a source of joy as you conceive of joy. 6 What
you wish is true for you. 7 Nor is it possible that you can wish for something and lack faith that what you wish is so. 8 Wishing makes real, as surely as does will create. 9 The power of a wish upholds illusions as strongly as does love extend itself. 10 Except that the power of a wish only deludes; the power of love heals.

Note # 39: The Christ knows and sees the truth of what we are. The split-minded that believe they are a limited ego-body only “see” the illusion of specialness. Whatever we desire will become our own personal reality. If we side with the ego, we “make” an illusionary world in which we appear to be a separate body. If we side with the Holy Spirit, we “create” and align ourselves with the vision of Christ and look upon the truth, which is beyond the bodily form. Love creates because it gives with no reservations.

T-24.V.2. There is no dream of specialness, however hidden or disguised the form, however lovely the dream of specialness may seem to be, however much the dream of specialness delicately offers the hope of peace and the escape from pain, in which you suffer not your condemnation. 2 In dreams effect and cause are interchanged, for here in dreams the maker of the dream believes that what he made, the dream, is happening to him. 3 The maker of the dream does not realize he picked a thread from here, a scrap from there, and wove a picture out of nothing. 4 For the parts of the dream do not belong together, and the whole dream contributes nothing to the parts to give the dream meaning.

Note # 40: No matter what form a dream takes, it has no power to change the truth and, therefore, is meaningless. A happy dream is still an illusion that must eventually give way to truth. ACIM states that we, the dreamer of the dream of separation, have forgotten that we are the original writer of the script for the game of separation. Since we are the screenwriter, we can choose again and rewrite the story’s ending at any time to reflect the truth of what we are, unlimited spirit. As long as we have forgotten that we are the cause or source of the dream, we will fail to recognize that we have control over the dream and can choose to change the dream at anytime. Instead, we will reverse roles and allow the dream to become the apparent cause and we the apparent effect of the dream.

T-24.V.3. Where could your peace arise <but> from forgiveness? 2 The Christ in you looks only on the truth, and sees no condemnation that could need forgiveness. 3 The Christ is at peace <because> the Christ sees no sin. 4 Identify with the Christ and what has the Christ that you have not? 5 The Christ is your eyes, your ears, your hands, your feet. 6 How gentle are the sights the Christ sees, the sounds the Christ hears. 7 How beautiful the Christ’s hand that holds His brother's, and how lovingly the Christ walks beside his brother, showing his brother what can be seen and heard, and where his brother will see nothing and there is no sound to hear.

Note # 41: We, like all our brothers of the Sonship, abide in Christ. We have just chosen to forget this fact. Realize that we are the Christ and we will see the Christ in everything. Christ vision looks through the illusionary veil of form to recognize the lesson that only love is real. Forgiveness reigns supreme since nothing real can be threatened and nothing unreal exists. There is only the One Self. The illusion of the egoic universe is forgiven as
it fades away before the light of this truth.

T-24.V.4. Yet let your specialness direct his brother’s way, and you will follow down the path of egoic specialness. And both you and your brother will walk in danger, each intent, in the dark forest of the sightless, unlit but by the shifting tiny gleams that spark an instant from the fireflies of sin and then go out, to lead the other to a nameless precipice and hurl the other over the nameless precipice. For what can specialness delight in but to kill? What does specialness seek for but the sight of death? Where does specialness lead but to destruction? Yet think not that specialness looked upon your brother first, nor hated your brother before specialness hated you. The sin the eyes of specialness behold in your brother and love to look upon, the eyes of specialness first saw this same sin in you, and specialness looks on this sin still with joy. Yet is it joy to look upon decay and madness, and believe this crumbling egoic bodily thing, with flesh already loosened from the bone and sightless holes for eyes, is like yourself, the Christ?

Note # 42: Follow the egoic thought system and we follow the path of specialness. We get to believe that we are limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego-bodies. Identify ourselves as the body instead of the Christ and we get to play the game of limitation, separation and specialness. The choice is always made by our free will.

T-24.V.5. Rejoice you have no egoic eyes with which to see; no egoic ears to listen, and no egoic hands to hold nor egoic feet to guide. Be glad that only Christ can lend you His eyes, ears, hands and feet, while you have need of the Christ’s eyes, ears, hands and feet. Christ’s eyes, ears, hands and feet are illusions, too, as much as your egoic eyes, ears, hands and feet are. And yet because Christ’s eyes, ears, hands and feet serve a different purpose, which is the return to truth, the strength that the return to truth’s purpose holds is given Christ’s eyes, ears, hands and feet. And what Christ’s eyes, ears, hands and feet see and hear and hold and lead is given light, that you may lead your brother as you were led.

Note # 43: All we need to do is ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and He will access the Christ within us. When we choose to forgive our brother and see our brother as sinless, we are utilizing the Christ within. Having the vision of Christ, we will give this same vision to our brother for we can only give what we have.

T-24.V.6. The Christ in you is very still. The Christ in you knows where you are going, and the Christ in you leads you where you are going in gentleness and blessing all the way. The Christ’s love for God replaces all the fear you egoically thought you saw within yourself. God’s Holiness shows you Himself in your brother whose hand you hold, and whom you lead to God. And what you see is like yourself, the Christ. For what but Christ is there to see and hear and love and follow home? The Christ in you looked upon you first, but recognized that you, who perceived yourself to be a limited ego-body, were not complete. And so the Christ in you sought for your completion in each living thing that the Christ in you beholds and loves. And the Christ in you seeks for your completion still, that each living thing might offer you the
Love of God.

Note # 44: Our true identity is the Oneness of the Christ. Being the Christ, we cannot be happy unless we are fulfilling our divine purpose, which is the extension of love. The Christ, coupled with our guide, the Holy Spirit, is constantly seeking our return to the knowledge of the truth that we are a Oneness in the Mind of God. Only with the return of truth, can we take our rightful place as co-creators with our Father.

T-24.V.7. Yet is the Christ in you quiet, for the Christ in you knows that love is in you now, and that love is safely held in you by that same hand of Christ that holds your brother's hand in your own hand. 2 Christ's hand holds all His brothers in Himself, the Christ. 3 The Christ gives the fragmented Sonship vision for their sightless eyes, and the Christ sings to the fragmented Sonship of Heaven, that the fragmented Sonship's ears may hear no more the sound of battle and of death. 4 The Christ reaches through the sight and sound of battle and death holding out Christ's hand, that everyone may bless all living things, and see their holiness. 5 And the Christ rejoices that these sights are your sights to look upon with the Christ and share the Christ’s joy. 6 The Christ's perfect lack of specialness the Christ offers you this same perfect lack in specialness so that you may save all living things from death, receiving from each living thing the gift of life that your forgiveness offers to your Big “S” Self, which is the Christ in you.

T-24.V.8. You who would be content with specialness, and seek salvation in a war with love, consider this: God, the holy Lord of Heaven, has Himself come down to you, who would be content with specialness, to offer you, who would be content with specialness, your own completion. 2 What is God, the Father’s is yours because in your completion is God’s Own completion. 3 God, the Father, Who willed not to be without His Son could never will that you be brotherless. 4 And would God, the Father give a brother unto you except a brother that be as perfect as yourself, and just as like to God, the Father in holiness as you must be to God, the Father in your holiness? p510

Note # 46: Creation is extension. All that God willed is also our will. Love must be shared. God shares His Love with us and to demonstrate that we are like our Creator, we also seek to share our love with everything, which includes the Sonship and our co-creations.

T-24.V.9. There must be doubt before there can be conflict. 2 And every doubt must be about yourself. 3 Christ has no doubt, and from the Christ’s certainty the Christ’s quiet comes. 4 The Christ will exchange His certainty for all your doubts, if you agree that the
Christ is One with you, and that this Oneness is endless, timeless, and within your grasp because your hands are the hands of Christ. 5 The Christ is within you, yet the Christ walks beside you and before, leading the way that the Christ must go to find Himself, the Christ, complete. 6 The Christ’s quietness becomes your certainty. 7 And where is doubt when certainty has come?

Note # 47: When we first questioned or doubted what we are, it was the beginning of the separation. We constantly doubt that we are the perfect extension of the Oneness of the Creator. We are constantly attempting to fragment the Oneness so that we can compare and judge the indivisible parts. In a hologram, each part contains the whole and the whole contains each part. A rock just is. A tree goes about its job of “treeing”. A tree does not wake up one day and deny that it is a tree. A tree is certain that it is a tree. We, however, have lost that certainty. We no longer live in the now, instead we live in our past judgments and misperceptions. We claim that we are something other than the truth. The Christ, Who knows the truth, has never lost sight of the truth. By asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we can stop the egoic chatter and once again remember the call for God that resides in the Christ.

VI. Salvation from Fear

T-24.VI.1. Before your brother's holiness the world is still, and peace descends on the world in gentleness and blessing so complete that not one trace of conflict still remains to haunt you in the darkness of the night. 2 Your brother’s holiness is your savior from the dreams of fear. 3 Your brother’s holiness is the healing of your sense of sacrifice and fear that what you have will scatter with the wind and turn to dust. 4 In your brother is your assurance God is here, and with you now. 5 While your brother is what he is, you can be sure that God is knowable and will be known to you. 6 For God could never leave His Own creation. 7 And the sign that God could never leave His Own creation is so lies in your brother, offered you that all your doubts about yourself may disappear before your brother’s holiness. 8 See in your brother God’s creation. 9 For in your brother his Father waits for your acknowledgment that God, the Father created you as part of God Himself.

Note # 48: God knows His Creation as a perfect extension of Himself. This perfect Oneness is shared with all. By recognizing this in another, we recognize it in ourselves. To give is to receive and what we believe becomes our apparent reality.

T-24.VI.2. Without you there would be a lack in God, a Heaven incomplete, a Son without a Father. 2 Without you there could be no universe and no reality. 3 For what God wills is whole, and part of God because His Will is One. 4 There is nothing alive that is not part of God, and there is nothing that is but what is alive in God. 5 Your brother's holiness shows you that God is One with your brother and you; that what your brother has is yours because you are not separate from your brother nor from your brother’s Father.
Note # 49: Again, ACIM points out that our shared unity is the Oneness of everything, which is the Shared Mind of God. We are our brothers and our brothers are us. There is no separation since form is but an illusion that cannot change the content, which is the truth that we are unlimited spirit. There is only love and we are that One.

T-24.VI.3. Nothing is lost to you in all the universe. 2 Nothing that God created has God failed to lay before you lovingly, as yours forever. 3 And no Thought within God’s Mind is absent from your own mind. 4 It is God’s Will you share God’s Love for you, and look upon yourself as lovingly as God conceived of you before the world began, and as God knows you still. 5 God changes not His Mind about His Son with passing circumstance which has no meaning in eternity where God abides, and you abide with God. 6 Your brother <is> as God created your brother. p511 7 And it is this remaining of your brother as God created him that saves you from an egoic world that God created not.

Note # 50: An effect cannot change its source. God only knows the truth. Our denial of the truth that we are something other than a Oneness has not changed what the Father knows to be our true identity. The Mind of God is changeless and eternal. The world of perception is one of time and space. It is not changeless or eternal. Perception is not part of the Mind of God. This illusionary world of time, space and form was made by our egoic collective consciousness. God did not make the false world of the ego. God only knows the eternal truth The Father recognizes and knows his Son as the awakened Christ. God does not identify His Child with what the child may dream that he is. The truth is always preserved for us within the Mind of God. It is only a matter of time before we tire of the game of specialness and return to the truth that our will and God’s Will are the same.

T-24.VI.4. Forget not that the healing of God's Son is all the world of perception, time and space is for. 2 That the healing of God's Son is all that the world of perception is for is the only purpose the Holy Spirit sees in the world of perception, and thus the only one purpose the world of perception has. 3 Until you see the healing of the Son as all you wish to be accomplished by the world of perception, by time and all appearances, you will not know the Father nor yourself. 4 For until your see the purpose of the world to be only the healing of the Sonship, you will use the world for what is not the world’s purpose, and will not escape the world of perception’s laws of violence and death. 5 Yet it is given you to be beyond the world of perception’s laws in all respects, in every way and every circumstance. It is given you to be beyond the world of perception’s laws in all temptation to perceive what is not there, and to go beyond and correct all belief God's Son can suffer pain because God's Son sees himself as he is not.

Note # 51: We need to choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit rather than the ego’s. The ego sees the purpose of the world of perception to be the proof that the separation is real and that specialness exists. The Holy Spirit sees the world as a place to heal the split-minded and thus, return us to sanity and the remembrance of God, the One Self. Forgiveness heals our split-mind. Unless we change our allegiance to the Holy Spirit’s
thought system, we will continue to perceive the world as the witness for separation and specialness.

T-24.VI.5. Look on your brother, and behold in your brother the whole reversal of the laws of chaos, violence and death that seem to rule this world of perception. 2 See in your brother’s freedom your freedom, for such your brother’s freedom is. 3 Let not your brother’s specialness obscure the truth in your brother, for not one law of death that you bind your brothers to will you escape. 4 And not one sin you see in your brother but keeps you both in hell. 5 Yet will your brother his perfect sinlessness release and you both are released, for holiness is quite impartial, with one judgment made for all holiness looks upon. 6 And that one judgment of the sinlessness of your brother is made for all holiness, not of itself, but through the Voice that speaks for God in everything that lives and shares God’s Being.

Note # 52: The Holy Spirit is the Voice that speaks for God in everything that lives and shares God’s Being. The Holy Spirit reinterprets all that we perceive based on the purpose of the healing of the Sonship. The Holy Spirit obeys the Laws of God. The Laws of God are the opposite of the laws of chaos that run the world of egoic perception and the egoic thought system of specialness and limitation. The Laws of God understand that only love is real and that to give is to receive. The Laws of God state that parts are indivisible and that any part is the complete whole. Thus, there is only a holographic Oneness.

T-24.VI.6. It is your brother’s sinlessness Big “S” Self that eyes that see with Christ vision can look upon. 2 It is the Christ’s loveliness they see in everything with Christ vision. 3 And it is the Christ they with Christ vision look for everywhere, and find no sight nor place nor time where the Christ is not. 4 Within your brother’s holiness, the perfect frame for your salvation and the world’s salvation is set the shining memory of Him, the Christ in Whom your brother lives, and the Christ in Whom you live along with your brother. 5 Let not your eyes be blinded by the veil of specialness that hides the face of Christ from your brother, and hides the face of Christ from you as well. 6 And let the fear of God no longer hold the vision you were meant to see from you. 7 Your brother's body shows not Christ to you. 8 The Christ <is> set forth within your brother’s holiness.

Note # 53: If we call upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will be able to look past the body form and see the Christ in all. The gift of Christ’s Vision is given when we ask. We must learn to control our egoic fears long enough to have the presences of mind to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance.

This paragraph also demonstrates the all inclusiveness of the Christ. Both our brothers and we are joined in the Oneness of the Christ.

T-24.VI.7. Choose, then, your brother’s body or your brother’s holiness as what you want to see, and which you choose is yours to look upon. 2 Yet will you choose to see either your brother’s body or his holiness in countless situations, and through time that seems to have no end, until the truth be your decision and you choose to see only his
holiness. 3 For eternity is not regained by still one more denial of Christ in your brother. 4 And where is your salvation, if your brother is but a body? 5 Where is your peace but in your brother’s holiness? 6 And where is God Himself but in that part of Him, the Christ, God set forever in your brother’s holiness, that you might see the truth about yourself, set forth at last in terms you recognized and understood? p512

Note # 54: Salvation is one choice away. This choice must be to accept only the truth. We cannot hold one illusion without denying the truth of the Oneness of everything. In time and space, we will continue to be presented opportunities to choose again until we freely choose only for the truth. When we do this, we reject any remaining belief in specialness. We remember God and with the vision of Christ see God in everything.

T-24.VI.8.Your brother's holiness is sacrament and benediction unto you. 2 Your brother's errors cannot withhold God's blessing from your brother, nor can your brother's errors withhold the blessing you who see your brother truly give. 3 Your brother's mistakes can cause delay, which it is given you to take from your brother his mistakes that both you and your brother may end a journey that has never begun, and needs no end. 4 What never was, the separation is not a part of you. 5 Yet you will think the separation is a part of you until you realize that the separation is not a part of your brother who stands beside you. 6 Your brother is the mirror of yourself, wherein you see the judgment you have laid on both you and your brother. 7 The Christ in you beholds your brother’s holiness. 8 Your egoic specialness looks on your brother’s body and beholds your brother, the Christ, not.

Note # 55: Projection always results in “seeing” the thoughts that are already inside our mind by noting what our mind orders our physical eyes to selectively “observe” outside of our own mind. Thoughts never leave their source. How we perceive our brother is how we perceive ourselves. Our brother is either perceived is sinless or sinful. There is no other choice. This choice between our brother’s sin or sinlessness becomes our own perception about ourselves.

T-24.VI.9. See your brother as what your brother is, which is the Christ, so that your deliverance may not be long. 2 A senseless wandering, without a purpose and without accomplishment of any kind, is all the other choice for the ego’s specialness can offer you. 3 Futility of function not fulfilled will haunt you while your brother lies asleep, till what has been assigned to you, which is your granting your brother his forgiveness and salvation is done and your brother is risen from the past. 4 Your brother who condemned himself, and you as well, is given you to save from condemnation, along with you. 5 And both you and your brother shall see God's glory in God’s Son, whom you mistook as flesh, and bound to the laws of chaos, violence and death that have no power over your brother’s Big “S” Self at all.

Note # 56: The laws of chaos apply to the world of time and perception only if we wish them to. Our decision-maker must decide if the ego’s or the Holy Spirit’s rules will be followed. Accept the truth about our sinlessness and the laws of chaos disappear leaving only the Laws of God. Only we are the keepers of the keys of the prison of specialness
that binds your brother and ourselves in our egoic-made hell. Only by offering your brother the truth will we both be free.

T-24.VI.10. Would you not gladly realize these laws of chaos, violence and death are not for you? 2 Then see your brother not as prisoner to the laws of chaos, violence and death. 3 It cannot be what governs part of God holds not for all the rest. 4 You place yourself under the same laws of chaos, violence and death you see as ruling your brother. 5 Think, then, how great the Love of God for you must be, that God has given you a part of God, Himself, to save from pain and give you happiness. 6 And never doubt but that your specialness will disappear before the Will of God, Who loves each part of God, Himself, with equal love and care. 7 The Christ in you can see your brother truly. 8 Would you decide against the holiness the Christ in you sees?

Note # 57: God is in all that He created, for God is life. God’s home is in the Christ, which is also the home of our brother and ourselves. We have been given the task of freeing our brother from the prison of specialness that is the dream of separation. Since this return to right-mindedness is God’s Will, we cannot fail in this assignment. We can only decide how much time we will take before we decide to reawaken to the truth.

T-24.VI.11. Specialness is the function that you gave yourself. 2 Specialness stands for you alone, as self-created, self-maintained, in need of nothing, and unjoined with anything beyond the body. 3 In the eyes of specialness, you are a separate universe with all the power to hold itself complete within itself and with every entry shut against intrusion and every window barred against the light. 4 In the eyes of specialness, you are always attacked and always furious, with anger always fully justified. In the eyes of specialness, you have pursued this goal that you are a separate universe with vigilance you never thought to yield, and effort that you never thought to cease. 5 And all this grim determination of the egoic thought system was for this; you wanted specialness to be the truth.

Note # 58: This world of perception was birthed to be our hiding place where we could be special. The ego wanted to substitute the false for the true; the separation in place of the Oneness. The ego wanted a special love from God. It wanted to be different from the Oneness of Everything. The ego has been defending its claim to be special ever since the mad idea of separation was first taken seriously.

T-24.VI.12. Now you are merely asked that you pursue another goal with far less vigilance; with little effort and with little time, and with the power of God maintaining your pursuit of this other goal, and the power of God promising success for this new goal, p513 2 Yet of the two goals, God’s goal, which is our return to the knowledge of our Christ Big “S” Self, is this one your split-minded selves find more difficult. 3 The "sacrifice" of self you understand, nor do you deem this “sacrifice” of self’s cost too heavy to make for the achievement of your egoic goal of specialness. 4 But a tiny willingness, a nod to God, a greeting to the Christ in you, you find this burden of the “sacrifice” of self too wearsome and tedious, too heavy to be borne. 5 Yet to the dedication to the truth as God established the truth, no sacrifice is asked, no strain called
forth, and all the power of Heaven and the might of truth itself is given to provide the means, and guarantee the goal of truth’s accomplishment.

**Note # 59:** Since truth is God’s Will, the return of the Sonship to truth is inevitable. The timing of the Son’s return to knowledge is contingent upon our willingness to request the Holy Spirit’s guidance. Once we ask for this help, the Holy Spirit, through of Power of God, does all the “work”. We are merely asked to show a little willingness to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-24.VI.13. You who believe it easier to see your brother's body than your brother’s holiness, be sure you understand what made this judgment for illusion over truth. 2 Here is the voice of egoic specialness heard clearly, judging against the Christ and setting forth for you the purpose that you can attain in illusions and what you cannot do in the reality of truth. 3. Forget not that this egoic judgment must apply to what you do in the world of perception with the ego as your ally. 4 For what you do through Christ, the ego does not know. 5 To the Christ this egoic judgment to see your brother's body rather than your brother’s holiness makes no sense at all, for only what His Father wills is possible, and there is no alternative for the Christ to see but your brother’s holiness. 6 Out of the Christ’s lack of conflict comes your peace. 7 And from the Christ’s purpose comes the means for effortless accomplishment and rest.

**Note # 60:** The ego’s thought system has become the default ruler that our decision-maker follows. The ego tells the decision-maker what it can and cannot do. The ego tells us that we can attain your illusion of specialness if we see ourselves as a body. But what the ego cannot do is make the separation real. The Holy Spirit, which resides in the Christ, tells us that the purpose of the world of perception is the healing of all illusions of specialness and the return to the truth. The Holy Spirit can easily accomplish this goal as soon as we display our little willingness by asking for His guidance. All the Power of God is available for the Sonship’s return to truth.

**VII. The Meeting Place**

T-24.VII.1. How bitterly does everyone tied to this world defend the specialness he wants to be the truth! 2 His wish is law to him, and he, who is tied to this world, obeys his wish for specialness. 3 When one is tied to this world, nothing his specialness demands does he withhold. 4 Nothing his specialness needs does he, who is tied to this world, deny to what he loves. 5 And while his specialness calls to him he, who is tied to this world, hears no other Voice but the ego’s voice. 6 No effort is too great, no cost too much, no price too dear to save his specialness from the least slight, the tiniest attack, the whispered doubt, the hint of threat, or anything but deepest reverence. 7 This is your special egoic son, the son of littleness and bodily limitation, beloved of your egoic self as you, the Big “S” Self, are beloved to your Father. 8 Yet your special egoic son, the child of littleness and bodily limitation, stands in place of your true creations, who <are> son to you, that you might share the Fatherhood of God, not snatch the
Fatherhood of God from God, the Father. 9 What is this son of specialness and limitation that your egoic little “s” selves have made to be your egoic mind’s strength? 10 What is this child of earth on whom such love is lavished? 11 What is this parody of God's creation that takes the place of your true creations? 12 And where are they, your true creations, now that the host of God has found another son, which is the egoic child of specialness and limitation whom your mind as the host of God prefers to them, your true creations? p514

Note #61: Mind is the generator of is all that is. It is the home of thought and the host of all that is. Our mind is a thought-generating machine. As Children of God, our thoughts have the power to manifest. When we believe that we are special, our thoughts come from limitation and fear. These fear-based thoughts contract rather than extend. These fear-based projections are making not creating. They reside in our mind’s imagination and are not shared with the Mind of God. Thoughts of limitation support the illusion of separation and specialness. When we create, we come from love and unlimitedness, which is expansive, sharing and giving in nature. Even during this period of split-mindedness, the Holy Spirit saves our true creations, which are our forgiving and loving thoughts that join minds together. Our projections of limitation and littleness that are fear-based are not real. Yet, the Holy Spirit can reinterpret our misperceptions and transform them into learning tools for the rediscovery of the truth. Depending on which thought system our mind chooses to follow, we are either creating by extending only love or making out of fear and limitation.

T-24.VII.2. The memory of God shines not alone. 2 What is within your brother still contains all of creation, everything created and creating, born and unborn as yet, still in the future or apparently gone by. 3 What is in your brother is changeless, and your changelessness is recognized in its acknowledgment in your brother. 4 The holiness in you belongs to your brother. 5 And by your seeing holiness in him, your brother’s holiness returns to you. 6 All of the tribute you have mistakenly given specialness belongs to your brother, and thus returns to you. 7 All of the love and care, the strong protection, the thought by day and night, the deep concern, the powerful conviction this is you, belong to your brother. 8 Nothing you gave to specialness but is your brother’s due. 9 And nothing due your brother is not due to you.

Note # 62: This paragraph once again describes the interconnectedness of the Oneness of everything. By giving to our brother, we give to ourselves. Give him specialness and we receive specialness. These thoughts become our “creations.” Because of the circular nature of thought, these thoughts about our “private world” actually change how we perceive ourselves. Our wish becomes our provisional reality. Because we lack certainty, these thoughts are constantly “reinventing” how we define ourselves to be. We either see ourselves as a son of man, a body or a Child of God, unlimited spirit. Within the split-mind of one who believes that they are special, we believe and, therefore, perceive ourselves to be a limited-ego body. The definition of perception and projection tells us that what we perceive has already been predetermine within the perceiver’s mind. We are not observing an event outside ourselves but rather only selectively focusing on certain limited aspects that we have already determined will support our view of reality. Our
egoic senses are not a camera; rather they act more like a censor and editor. What our brother appears to be is something that we have created in our mind. Thus, Jesus for example, could be perceived as the greatest sinner or the only Son of God. It is all a matter of individual perspective. Yet, our perception will not change the reality of what Jesus is but it will change how we react to our thoughts about him.

T-24.VII.3. How can you know your true worth while specialness claims you instead? 2 How can you fail to know your worth in your brother’s holiness? 3 Seek not to make your specialness the truth, for if your specialness were the truth you would be lost indeed. 4 Be thankful, rather, it is given you to see your brother’s holiness <because> your brother’s holiness is the truth. 5 And what is true in him must be as true in you.

Note # 63: Since our brother is an extension of God, he must be holy. Eventually we will see this truth and thus, know ourselves to be sinless and holy. We can deny this truth about our brother, but we cannot change the Will of God

T-24.VII.4. Ask yourself this: Can <you> protect the mind? 2 You can protected the body, yes, a little; not from time, but temporarily. 3 And much you think you save, you hurt. 4 What would you save the body <for?> 5 For in that choice lie both the body’s health and harm. 6 Save the body for show, as bait to catch another fish, to house your specialness in better style, or weave a frame of loveliness around your hate, and you condemn the body to decay and death. 7 And if you see this purpose in your brother's body, such is your condemnation of your own body. 8 Weave, rather, then, a frame of holiness around your brother that the truth may shine on your brother, and give <you> safety from decay.

Note # 64: The body is a neutral communication device. It takes its orders from our mind. We can use the body to communicate either fear or love. The choice is that of our decision-maker. When we choose to regard our brother or ourselves as unlimited and sinless, only then will that become our provisional reality. Our provisional reality can be based on misperception or the correct perception of the Holy Spirit. When we side with the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we will enter the happy dream of correct perception. The happy dream is still an illusion since we will still perceive an observer and something outside ourselves to observe. God will take the final step in our return to Heaven and the knowledge of our Oneness with “All That Is.”

T-24.VII.5. The Father keeps what the Father created safe. 2 You cannot touch what the Father created with the false egoic ideas you made, because what the Father created was created not by you. 3 Let not your foolish fancies frighten you. 4 What is immortal cannot be attacked; what is but temporal, which is your foolish fancies that appear to exist only in time, has no effect on the immortal. 5 Only the purpose that you see in what the Father created has meaning, and if that is true, the safety of the Father’s creation rests secure. 6 If not, the Father’s creation has no purpose, and is means for nothing. 7 Whatever is perceived as means for truth shares in truth’s holiness, and rests in light as safely as itself, the truth. 8 Nor will that light go out when the light appears to be gone. 9 Its holy purpose, the truth, gave the Father creation’s immortality, setting
another light in Heaven, where your creations recognize a gift from you, a sign that you have not forgotten your creations.

**Note # 65:** Because God’s Law of Creation is the extension of its Source, God’s creation, the Sonship’s safety is assured. The Sonship, being an Effect of God, cannot change its Source or its function. We can temporarily deny the truth only in temporal time, but we can do nothing that can change the truth in eternity.

**T-24.VII.6.** The test of everything on earth is simply this; "What is everything on earth for?" 2 The answer to” What is everything on earth for?" makes it what it is for you. 3 Everything on earth has no meaning of itself, yet you can give reality to everything on earth, according to the purpose that you serve. The purpose you choose to serve is either to be a witness for the truth of the Oneness or for the illusion of separation and specialness. 5 God is a Means as well as End. 6 In Heaven, means and end are one, and one with God. 7 When the means and ends are one and one with God, this is the state of true creation, found not within time, but in eternity. 8 To no one here is this describable. 9 Nor is there any way to learn what this condition means. 10 Not till you go past learning to the Given; not till you make again a holy home for your creations is true creation understood.

**Note # 66:** ACIM states that God is both the Means and the End. To the concept of God being everything, this makes sense since nothing could be outside a Oneness of Everything. Since we live in a dualistic thought system, the concept of a Oneness of Everything and the extension of the Mind of God cannot be fully understood since it is beyond perception. We need our mind’s return to knowledge to comprehend the fact of this One Self.

In Heaven, only love is present. On earth, which is the world of perception, time and space, we can appear to have and perform dual and seemingly contradictory purposes. We can represent the thought system of the ego or the Holy Spirit’s. In the world of perception both the emotions of fear and love appear as possibilities. Although we can within time appear to support the illusion of separation, God’s plan for the return of the Sonship to the truth is always working in the background. Everything that is happening in time is the perfect moment that we must experience to make our return to truth possible. Thus, our egoic refusal to offer our brother forgiveness today is exactly what we need to be able to grant him his sinlessness tomorrow. We do not understand this “Big Picture” and we appear to have our own autonomous egoic purposes and goals. Yet, the job of the Holy Spirit is to direct and produce the movie epic called “The Return of the Sonship to Truth.” In this movie, the Holy Spirit reinterprets what appears to be our own egoic plan to prove the reality of the separation into a small subplot to verify the truth of the One Self. Only the Holy Spirit knows how all the parts fit together to form this gigantic movie epic. This is why ACIM advises us to always take counsel from the Voice for God. Thus, in the world of perception, we are also a part of the means that the Holy Spirit uses to achieve Her purpose of “The Return of the Sonship to Truth.”

**T-24.VII.7.** A co-creator with the Father must have a Son. 2 Yet must this co-creator’s
Son have been created like Himself, the Sonship. 3 This co-creator’s Son must also be a perfect being, all-encompassing and all-encompassed, nothing to add and nothing taken from; not born of size nor place nor time, nor held to limits or uncertainties of any kind. 4 Here do the means and end unite as one, nor does this co-creator’s Son have any end at all. 5 All this is true, and yet it has no meaning to anyone who still retains one unlearned lesson in his memory, one thought with purpose still uncertain, or one wish with a divided aim.

**Note # 67:** The Sonship’s purpose in Heaven is to be co-creator with the Father. By this co-creation process, we complete God because we have proven that creation is extension. When God creates, He gives all because He is all. We too must accept that we are all to give all. If we perceive ourselves as limited, we will also perceive our creations as limited. Although this appears to be our reality, we can only truly extend our unlimited spirit, which is the Oneness of God. Within our perceived making lies the seed of unlimited creation. God does not create any “junk.” All God created is perfect, whole and complete.

**T-24.VII.8.** This course makes no attempt to teach what cannot easily be learned. 2 ACIM’s scope does not exceed your own, except to say that what is yours will come to you when you are ready. 3 Here, on earth are the means and the purpose separate because the means and the ends were so made and so perceived. 4 And therefore do we deal with them as if the means and the purpose were separate. 5 It is essential it be kept in mind that all perception still is upside down until perception’s purpose has been understood. 6 Perception does not seem to be a means. 7 And it is this belief that perception is not a means that makes it hard to grasp the whole extent to which perception must depend on what you see perception’s purpose for. 8 Perception seems to teach you what you see. 9 Yet perception but witnesses to what you taught. 10 Perception is the outward picture of a wish; an image that you wanted to be true.

**Note # 68:** This paragraph tells us that what we perceive to be objective and outside of us is really subjective and predetermined by what our mind wishes to see. This concept shatters the notion that we are innocent victims of the world around us. It states that we are the source of all that we perceive. This is why ACIM advises us not to change the world, but rather to change how we choose to view our world. If we do this, our world will automatically change to realign with our new purpose.

**T-24.VII.9.** Look at yourself, and you will see a body. 2 Look at this body in a different light and the body looks different. 3 And without a light it seems that the body is gone. 4 Yet you are reassured that the body is there because you still can feel the body with your hands and hear the body move. 5 Here, in the body is an image that you want to be yourself. 6 The body is the means to make your wish of bodily egoic specialness come true. 7 The body gives the eyes with which you look on the body. The body gives the hands that feel the body. And the body gives the ears with which you listen to the sounds the body makes. 8 The body proves the body’s own reality to you.

**Note # 69:** The ego uses the body to prove the separation was real. Yet, we fail to realize
that the body was made by the ego to bear false witness to the truth. Thus, the body cannot be considered a credible or unbiased witness for your determination of what you truly are. All of the body’s senses are self-serving witnesses for the truth of the body’s existence. They should not be believed.

T-24.VII.10. Thus is the body made a theory of yourself, with no provisions made for evidence beyond itself, and no escape within the body’s sight. 2 The body’s course is sure, when seen through the body’s own eyes. 3 The body grows and withers, flourishes and dies. 4 And you cannot conceive of you apart from the body. 5 You brand the body sinful and you hate the body’s acts, judging the body evil. 6 Yet your specialness whispers, "Here as the body is my own beloved son, in whom I am well pleased." 7 Thus does the egoic "son", who is the body, become the means to serve his egoic "father's" purpose. 8 This “son” we call the body, is not identical, not even like, but still a means to offer to the egoic "father" what the ego wants. 9 Such is the travesty on God's creation. 10 For as God's Son's true creation gave God joy and witness to God's Love and shared God’s purpose, so does the body testify to the idea that made it, which is the mad idea of separation, and the body speak for egoic reality and egoic truth.

Note # 70: The body was made by the insane egoic mind as a witness for the reality of the separation. The body is the ego’s symbol for limitation and sin. This egoic body is not extension or creation and, therefore, has no place in Heaven. The body does find an illusionary home in hell, which is the state of mind that believes that we could be separate from Our Source. The ego uses the body to mock God and mock our creative powers since the body is the denial of the truth. Our true co-creations await our return to sanity in Heaven.

T-24.VII.11. And thus are two sons made, and both appear to walk this earth without a meeting place and no encounter. 2 One, the son of egoic man, do you perceive outside yourself, your own ego’s beloved son. 3 The other, the Son of God’s Christ, rests within, his Father's Son, within your brother as your brother is in you. 4 The difference of these two sons does not lie in how they look, nor where they go, nor even what they do. 5 These two sons have a different purpose. 6 It is this different purpose that joins them to their like, and separates each from all aspects of the other with a different purpose. 7 The Son of God retains his Father's Will. 8 The son of man perceives an alien will and wishes this alien will were so. 9 And thus does the egoic son of man’s perception serve his ego’s wish by giving this alien will the appearances of truth. 10 Yet can perception serve another goal. 11 Perception is not bound to specialness but by your choice made by your own free will. 12 And it is given you to make a different choice, and use perception for a different purpose. 13 And what you see will serve that different purpose well, and prove the different purpose’s own reality to you. p517

Note # 71: Since perception is based on what we have predetermined to be what we want, we can change our perception by changing our goal. Projection makes perception. When we change our purpose, we automatically arrive at an “alternate reality.” This is why ACIM is attempting to reawaken within us our decision-maker so that we can choose again. Within our split mind is both the Big “S” Self, which represents the Christ,
and also the little “s” self, which believes that it is a limited ego-body. It is the decision-maker who determines what it wants to perceive itself to be at any given moment of time. It either follows the egoic thought system or chooses the Holy Spirit’s. These two “selves,” like the thought systems that they represent, are mutually exclusive. You must choose between the two. The choice for littleness however, will require that you eventually must choose again. Eventually, illusion must disappear before the truth. When this happens the need for time will also end.
Chapter 25. THE JUSTICE OF GOD

Introduction

T-25.in.1. The Christ in you inhabits not a body. 2 Yet the Christ is in you. 3 And thus it must be that you are not within a body. 4 What is within you cannot be outside you. 5 And it is certain that you cannot be apart from what is at the very center of your life, the Christ. 6 What gives you life cannot be housed in death. 7 No more can you be housed in death. 8 Christ is within a frame of Holiness whose only purpose is that the Christ may be made manifest to those who know the Christ not, that the Christ may call to them who know Him not to come to the Christ and see the Christ where they who know Him not thought their bodies were. 9 Then will their bodies melt away, that they who know Him not may frame the Christ’s Holiness in them.

Note # 1: Our true self, our Big “S” Self, abides in the Christ. The Christ, not the illusionary body, is the home of our holiness and also our brother’s home even if we both choose to deny this fact.

T-25.in.2. No one who carries Christ in him can fail to recognize the Christ everywhere. 2 Except in bodies, for Christ cannot be found in an illusion. 3 And as long as he believes he is in a body, where he thinks he is which is the body, the Christ cannot be. 4 And so he carries the Christ unknowingly, and does not make the Christ manifest. 5 And thus he does not recognize the Christ where the Christ is, which is in his true Big “S” Self. 6 The son of man, which is the body, is not the risen Christ. 7 Yet does the Son of God abide exactly where the egoic son of man is, and the Son of God walks with the egoic son of man within his holiness, as plain to see as is the egoic son of man specialness set forth within his body.

Note # 2: The Christ is the Mind. This Mind cannot be separated from the Oneness that is the Mind of God. The only place that something other than the Mind of God can appear to exist is in an illusion. It is the split-minded that dream egoic illusions of duality and separation. Yet, the split-minded cannot be real in a holographic Oneness of “All That Is.” The split-mind is an illusion of the One Self. It is not real. The Christ, which is this One Mind, is always within us but cannot be seen with egoic eyes. It requires vision to see the Christ. When we are under the influence of the egoic thought system, we fail to recognize the Christ or hear His Voice for Truth since our focus is on bodily form, not content. Egoic seeing requires the belief in duality and an observer with something outside itself to observe. It requires the belief in the false since only the Oneness is real.
T-25.in.3. The body needs no healing. 2 But the mind that thinks it is a body is sick indeed! 3 And it is here in the mind that perceives itself to be the body that Christ sets forth the remedy. 4 Christ’s healing purpose folds the body in Christ’s light, and fills the body with the Holiness that shines from the Christ. 5 And nothing that the body says or does but makes the Christ manifest. 6 To those who know the Christ not, the light of Christ carries the Christ in gentleness and love, to heal their sick minds. 7 The healing of sick minds is the mission that your brother has for you. 8 And the healing of the sick minded must be what your mission is for your brother.

Note # 3: By seeing the Christ within each other, we discover the Christ within. This restoration of the vision of Christ is the healing process that forgiveness offers. Vision looks past form to content. Is my purpose to communicate by teaching love or fear?

I. The Link to Truth

T-25.I.1. It cannot be that it is hard to do the task that Christ appointed you to do, since it is the Christ Who does the task that He appointed you to do. 2 And in the doing of the task that Christ appointed you to do will you learn the body merely seems to be the means to do the task. 3 For the Mind is the Christ’s Mind. 4 And so it must be your mind. 5 Christ’s Holiness directs the body through the mind at one with Him. p518 6 And you are manifest unto your holy brother, as he is manifest to you. 7 Here in this joining of minds of two brothers is the meeting of the holy Christ unto Himself; nor any differences perceived to stand between the aspects of the Christ’s Holiness, which meet and join and raise God’s Son, the Christ, to His Father, whole and pure and worthy of God’s everlasting Love.

Note # 4: We cannot experience the Christ within if we fail to recognize It in our brother. Only in the joining of two minds that appeared to be separate can the Christ be found. Since we are not separate, this joining of minds into a single purpose, which is the rediscovery of truth, magnifies the power of mind by extending loving and forgiving thoughts.

T-25.I.2. How can you manifest the Christ in you except to look on holiness and see the Christ there? 2 Perception tells you <you> are manifest in what you see. 3 Behold the body, and you will believe that you are there in the body. 4 And every body that you look upon reminds you of yourself as the body; your sinfulness, your evil and, above all, your death. 5 And would you not despise your brother’s body who tells you that you are a sinful body, and seek your brother’s death instead? 6 The message and the messenger are one. 7 And you must see your brother as yourself. 8 Framed in his body you will see your sinfulness, wherein you stand condemned. 9 Set in your brother’s holiness, the Christ in him proclaims Himself as you.

Note # 5: Perception’s source is in the mind of the perceiver. We perceive only what we have predetermine we want to see. Perception is not unbiased or objective. Our physical
senses only confirm what we wish to observe. Judge our brother guilty and we will see him sinful. Since thoughts never leave their source, we will also condemn ourselves as sinners.

T-25.1.3. Perception is a choice of what you want yourself to be; the world you want to live in, and perception’s choice is the state in which you think your mind will be content and satisfied. 2 Perception chooses where you think your safety lies, at your decision. 3 Perception reveals yourself to you as you would have you be. 4 And always is perception faithful to your purpose, from which perception never separates from your purpose, nor gives the slightest witness unto anything the purpose in your mind upholdeth not. 5 Perception is a part of what it is your purpose to behold, for means and end are never separate. 6 And thus you learn what seems to have a life apart, which is what you perceive as your mind’s own projections that appear to be outside of your own mind has no life apart from your mind’s imagination.

Note # 6: The ego tells us that what we perceive is the objective viewing of events that come from outside ourselves. Since the ego says that these events are outside of us, we are powerless to affect these events. Not being the source of the event, the best we can do is to react to the event. The ego also advises us that we may wish to engage in a preemptive strike against our future attacker. For the ego believes that attack is the best defense. In either case, we proclaim that we are victims of the world around us. If we realized that perception is based on our internal beliefs and judgments, we would understand that we are the cause of all we experience. Then if we wish to call into our awareness something different, we can elect to change our purpose and choose again what we wish to experience. With this realization, we would no longer be in victim consciousness. When we change our goal or purpose, our perception will automatically align with the new purpose. The choice for truth over illusion will change our perception from seeing to the vision of Christ. We will see Christ in everything and look past the bodily form and focus on content.

T-25.1.4. <You> are the means for God; not separate, nor are you with a life apart from God’s life. 2 God’s life is manifest in you who are His Son. 3 Each aspect of God, Himself, is framed in holiness and perfect purity, in love celestial and so complete each aspect of God wishes only that each aspect may release all that it looks upon unto itself. 4 Each aspect of God’s radiance shines through each body that each aspect looks upon, and brushes all the body’s darkness into light merely by looking past the body <to> the light. 5 The veil is lifted through each aspect of God’s gentleness, and nothing hides the face of Christ from its beholders. 6 You and your brother stand before the Christ now, to let the Holy Spirit draw aside the veil that seems to keep you and your brother separate and apart.

Note # 7: The Holy Spirit utilizes all experiences as a means to return the split-minded to the truth of the Oneness. If we ask for guidance, the Holy Spirit will reinterpret our misperception into correct perception. Before the mad idea of separation had occurred, God had already envisioned the correction of this mistake. God’s plan for our salvation only requires that we freely accept the Atonement for ourselves. Thus, we become the
means for the achievement of the extension of God’s Love. We are both the means and
the end that we seek. We are God’s extension of Himself. Again the Oneness of the
whole is evident. We are God’s Life made manifest. There is no separation.

T-25.1.5. Since you believe that you are separate, Heaven presents itself to you as
separate, too. 2 Not that Heaven is separate from you in truth, but that the link that has
been given you to join the truth may reach to you through what you understand, which is
your belief in the dualistic or separate nature of everything. 3 Father and Son and
Holy Spirit are as One, as all your brothers join as one in truth. 4 Christ and Christ’s
Father never have been separate, and Christ abides within your understanding, in the part
of you, the Big “S” Self, that shares Christ’s Father’s Will. p519 5 The Holy Spirit links
the other part, the ego,—the tiny, mad desire to be separate, different and special—to the
Christ, to make the oneness clear to what is really one. 6 In this world this Oneness is not
understood, but this Oneness can be taught. This Oneness is the One Self.

Note # 8: ACIM explains that there is only a Oneness and that in reality it cannot be
subdivided into parts. Yet, ACIM knows that the teacher must meet the student at the
student’s level. Since we understand a dualistic world, ACIM attempts to explain the
Oneness in dualistic terms so that the student may understand the concept. Although we
talk as if the ego is a separate entity, it too is part of the indivisible Oneness. Nothing can
be conceived that could be outside this Oneness. There is only God and we are It.
Perhaps the closest example of this concept of the One Self in our physical universe is a
hologram. In a hologram all parts are contained in the whole and the whole is contained
in all parts. Each part has the ability to replicate the entire whole when activated by a
laser beam. This laser beam could be analogous to our conscious awareness. Whatever
we wish to focus on, we will experience. We can choose to focus only on a fragment of
the whole or view the entirety. It is merely a matter of our own free choice.

T-25.1.6. The Holy Spirit serves Christ's purpose in your mind, so that the aim of
specialness can be corrected where the error lies, which is in your mind. 2 Because the
Holy Spirit’s purpose still is one with both the Father and the Son, the Holy Spirit
knows the Will of God and what you, your Big “S” Self, really will. 3 But this is
understood by mind perceived as one, aware that the mind is one, and so experienced as
one. 4 It is the Holy Spirit's function to teach you how this oneness of mind is
experienced, what you must do so that this oneness of mind can be experienced, and
where you should go to do it.

Note # 9: The Holy Spirit is our teacher Whose function It is to restore us to the truth of
this One Self. The Holy Spirit is aware of both the Will of God and our egoic thought
system, which is under the delusion that the separation is real. Because of the Holy
Spirit’s unique position of being aware of egoic thoughts, it can reinterpret any thought
that is not originally in alignment with the truth of Will of God. The Holy Spirit restores
egoic thought to the sanity of truth.

T-25.1.7. All this restoration of egoic thought to the sanity of truth takes note of both
time and place as if both time and place were discrete, for while you think that part of
you is separate, the concept of a Oneness joined as One is meaningless. 2 It is apparent that an egoic mind so split could never be the Teacher of a Oneness which unites all things within Itself. 3 And so What is within this mind, and does unite all things together, must be the egoic split mind’s Teacher. The Holy Spirit is this teacher. 4 Yet must this Teacher, the Holy Spirit use the language that this egoic split mind can understand, in the condition in which this egoic split mind thinks it is, which is that the ego believes that the separation is real. 5 And this Teacher, the Holy Spirit must use all learning to transfer illusions to the truth, taking all false ideas of what you are, and leading you beyond the false ideas of what you are to the truth that <is> beyond the illusion. 6 All this teaching can very simply be reduced to this:

7 <What is the same can not be different, and what is one can not have separate parts.>

Note # 10: ACIM explains that all the lessons that the Holy Spirit must teach to the egoic mind can be summed up in one simple statement of fact, “What is the same cannot be different, and what is one cannot have separate parts.” This is a definition of a oneness. At the physical level, this may best be exemplified by the characteristic of a hologram. These lessons will be taught in time and space in a manner that they who perceive themselves to be trapped time and space can understand. One of the functions of time and space is to provide a playing field in which the lessons of egoic misperception can be undone.

II. The Savior from the Dark

T-25.II.1. Is it not evident that what the body's eyes perceive fills you with fear? 2 Perhaps you think you find a hope of satisfaction there in what the body's eyes perceive. 3 Perhaps you fancy to attain some peace and satisfaction in the world as you perceive it. 4 Yet it must be evident the outcome in the world as you perceive it does not change. 5 Despite your hopes and fancies, always does despair result in the world as you perceive it to be. 6 And there is no exception to this resulting despair in the world that you perceive, nor will there ever be an exception. 7 The only value that the past can hold is that you learn the world as you perceive it gave you no rewards which you would want to keep. 8 For only thus will you be willing to relinquish the world as you perceive it, and have the world that you perceive gone forever. p520

Note # 11: Only when we realize that the egoic thought system has not brought us the happiness we seek, will we decide to abandon it and try another way. The value of our past experiences is that they eventually give us enough examples of egoic failure so that reason tells us there must be a different way. Each failure brings us closer to the final decision to abandon entirely the thought system of the ego. Eventually, we will choose the Holy Spirit to be our one true Teacher. We waste time when we refuse to make the decision to choose again. Our mind may require twenty “failed” attempts before we realize that we need to try a different means if we hope to achieve a different result. Each of these twenty “failures” were actually a “success” in that they were all required to bring
us closer to the correct decision, which happened to be on our twentieth attempt. We need not beat ourselves up after each “successful failure;” we need only to choose again. If we beat ourselves up, we will become paralyzed with fear and delay the making of the next “successful failure.” When we stop belittling ourselves for these “successful failures,” we now can enjoy the journey instead of being fearful of our judgment of the result. Life becomes an exciting journey of learning about one’s self rather than some life and death struggle. We see our world of time and space as a “playschool” If a mistake occurs, correction, not punishment, is the order of the day. Different results occur only when we try something new. Eventually we will try the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-25.II.2. Is it not strange that you should cherish still some hope of satisfaction from the world you see? 2 In no respect, at any time or place, has anything but fear and guilt been your reward from the egoic world you see. 3 How long is needed for you to realize that the chance of change by following the thought system of the ego is hardly worth delaying change that might result in better outcome? 4 For one thing is sure; the egoic world you see, and long have seen, gives no support to base your future hopes for happiness, and no suggestions of success at all. 5 To place your hopes for happiness by following the thought system of the ego where no hope lies must make you hopeless. 6 Yet is this hopelessness your own free choice and this hopelessness will continue while you would seek for hope where none is ever found.

Note # 12: Reason tells us that the egoic thought system offers no hope for our future happiness. We need to choose a different method and a new thought system.

T-25.II.3. Is it not also true that you have found some hope apart from this world as you perceive it; some glimmering,—inconstant, wavering, yet dimly seen,—that hopefulness is warranted on grounds that are not in this world? 2 And yet your hope that happiness may still be here in this world prevents you still from giving up the hopeless and unrewarding egoic task you set yourself. 3 Can it make sense to hold the fixed belief that there is reason to uphold pursuit of what has always failed, on grounds that what has always failed will suddenly succeed and bring what it has never brought before, which is your happiness?

Note # 13: Insanity has been defined as doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result. Different results occur only when we try something new. Eventually reason tells us that if we want to be happy, we must abandon the egoic thought system and try the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-25.II.4. The results that the egoic thought system have brought us in the past <has> failed. 2 Be glad that these past failures have gone within your mind, to darken what is there, which was our faith that the egoic thought system could bring us happiness. 3 Take not the form for content, for the form is but a means for content. 4 And the frame is but a means to hold the picture up, so that the picture can be seen. 5 A frame that hides the picture has no purpose. 6 It cannot be a frame if only the frame is what you see. 7 Without the picture is the frame without its meaning. 8 The frame’s purpose is to set the picture off, and not to set the frame, itself, off.
**Note # 14:** The past failures of the egoic thought system were necessary for us to learn to choose again. We eventually must abandon our misplaced faith in the egoic thought system. These “past failures” were not sins that require punishment, but merely mistakes that require us to choose again. The egoic thought system was needed for us to relearn the truth about ourselves. Eventually, by the complete rejection of the egoic thought system, we will be able to freely choose to follow the thought system of only love.

In the world as we currently perceive it, the egoic belief that we are a body is so pervasive that it effectively blocks our Christ vision and, therefore, we fail to look past our brother’s bodily form to see his Big “S” Self beyond this bodily “frame” that blocks out the “picture” of the Christ.

T-25.II.5. Who hangs an empty frame upon a wall and stands before the empty frame, deep in reverence, as if a masterpiece were there to see? 2 Yet if you see your brother as a body, it is but this admiring of the empty frame that you do revere. 3 The masterpiece that God has set within this frame is all there is to see. 4 The body holds God’s masterpiece, for a while, without obscuring God’s Son, the Christ in any way. 5 Yet what God has created needs no frame, for what God has created God supports and frames within God, Himself. 6 God’s masterpiece God offers you to see. 7 And would you rather see the frame instead of God’s masterpiece? 8 And see the picture, God’s masterpiece, not at all?

**Note # 15:** Christ vision, not egoic seeing, is required if we are to look past bodily form to behold the Christ hidden within. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to reawaken this vision.

T-25.II.6. The Holy Spirit is the frame God set around the part of Him, the Christ that you would see as separate. 2 Yet its frame, the Holy Spirit, is joined to its Creator, One with God and with His masterpiece, God’s Son. 3 This is the frame’s purpose, and you do not make the frame into the picture when you choose to see the frame in the picture’s place. 4 The frame that God has given His masterpiece but serves God’s purpose, not your ego’s purpose apart from God’s purpose. 5 It is your separate egoic purpose that obscures the picture, and cherishes the frame instead of the picture, the Christ. p521 6 Yet God has set His masterpiece within a frame that will endure forever, when your frame, the egoic body, has crumbled into dust. 7 But think you not the picture is destroyed in any way by the removal of the egoic frame, which is the egoic body. 8 What God creates is safe from all corruption, unchanged and perfect in eternity.

**Note # 16:** We are not the body but rather unlimited spirit. The body is merely an egoic “cover up” of the Christ that lies beyond. During God’s plan for the return of the Sonship to knowledge, the Holy Spirit will utilize the physical body to actually teach us the failure of the egoic thought system and thus, return us to the truth. Although the ego made the body to prove the separation, the Holy Spirit will reinterpret the body’s purpose and prove to us that we are a shared Oneness within the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit thus, utilizes the body to be a communication device for truth.
T-25.II.7. Accept God's frame, the Holy Spirit, instead of your ego's frame, the body, and you will see the masterpiece. 2 Look at God's masterpiece. Look at Christ's loveliness, and understand the Mind of God that thought to place this master picture, not in flesh and bones, but in a frame, which is the Holy Spirit, as lovely as the masterpiece, itself, the Christ. 3 The Christ's holiness lights up the sinlessness the egoic body-frame of darkness hides, and casts a veil of light across the picture's face which but reflects the light that shines from the face of Christ to God, the Christ's Creator. 4 Think not this face of Christ was ever darkened because you saw the face in an egoic body-frame of death. 5 God kept the picture safe that you might look on the Christ, and see the holiness that God has given His masterpiece.

Note # 17: God did not create our body. We did. Instead, God has insured our salvation by placing within our mind the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit surrounds the tiny part of our mind, the ego that doubted what it was. This part of our split mind followed the egoic thought system into the separation. The numerous failed attempts of the ego to achieve a substitute for love will be used by the Holy Spirit to prove that our happiness can only be achieved by being love. Our safety rests with the Holy Spirit's purpose, which is guaranteed success.

T-25.II.8. Within the darkness see the savior, our brother's Christ, from the dark, and understand your brother as his Father's Mind shows your brother to you. 2 The Christ will step forth from darkness as you look on your brother, and you will see the dark no more. 3 The darkness touched your brother not, nor you who brought your brother forth for you to look upon your brother-savior. 4 Your brother's sinlessness but pictures your sinlessness. 5 Your brother's gentleness becomes your strength, and both will gladly look within, and see the holiness that must be there because of what you looked upon in your brother-savior, the Christ. 6 Your brother is the frame in which your holiness is set, and what God gave your brother must be given you. 7 However much your brother overlooks the masterpiece in himself and sees only an egoic body-frame of darkness, it is still your only function to behold in your brother what your brother sees not, which is the Christ. 8 And in this seeing the Christ within your brother that he failed to see is the vision shared that looks on Christ instead of seeing death.

Note # 18: Either our brother or we may fail to see the Christ within everyone. If either party asks for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, they will by granted the vision of Christ. Since minds are joined, this vision can than be shared with the other party. Even a temporary joining of these once perceived split minds uplifts the entire Sonship.

T-25.II.9. How could the Lord of Heaven not be glad if you appreciate His masterpiece? 2 What could God, Lord of Heaven do but offer thanks to you who love His Son as He does? 3 Would God not make known to you God's Love, if you but share God's praise of what God loves? 4 God cherishes creation as the perfect Father that God is. 5 And so God's joy is made complete when any part of Him joins in His praise, to share God's joy. 6 This brother is God's perfect gift to you. 7 And God is glad and thankful when you thank God's perfect Son for being what God's perfect Son is. 8 And all God's
thanks and gladness shine on you who would complete God’s joy, along with God. 9 And thus is your joy completed. 10 Not one ray of darkness can be seen by those who will to make their Father's happiness complete, and their happiness complete along with God’s happiness. 11 The gratitude of God Himself is freely offered to everyone who shares His purpose. p522 12 It is not God’s Will to be alone. 13 And neither is it your will to be alone.

Note # 19: Both God and the Sonship cannot be complete until unity is returned to the One Self. Being a Oneness of Everything, we cannot be happy pretending to be a special, limited ego-body. Our happiness is based on our sharing the same purpose that God gave His creation. This purpose is co-creation with God. We are the extension of the Love of God.

T-25.II.10. Forgive your brother, and you cannot separate yourself from your brother nor from your brother’s Father. 2 You need no forgiveness, for the wholly pure have never sinned. 3 Give, then, what God has given you, your sinlessness that you may see God’s Son as one, and thank his Father as God and the Son of God thank you. 4 Nor believe that all God and the Son of God praise is given not to you. 5 For what you give is God’s, and giving it, you learn to understand God’s gift to you. 6 And give the Holy Spirit what the Holy Spirit offers unto the Father and the Son alike. 7 Nothing has power over you except God’s Will and your true will which but extends God’s Will. 8 It was for this, the extension of God’s Will that you were created, and your brother with you and at one with you.

Note # 20: Once again, this paragraph attempts to demonstrate the Oneness of everything. The terms God, the Father, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, our brother and our own true Big “S” Self are all interchangeable since there is only the reality of the One Self. We use different terms because of our belief in duality. There is only one will and that is the shared Will of God. Our will is not the illusionary egoic will of the separation. Our true will and God’s Will are one. God’s Will is to extend love. We are co-creators with God in this process. Being a Oneness, when we forgive our brother, we gain forgiveness.

T-25.II.11. You and your brother are the same, as God Himself is One and not divided in His Will. 2 And you must have one purpose, since God gave the same purpose to both you and your brother. 3 God’s Will is brought together as you join in will that you be made complete by offering completion to your brother. 4 See not in your brother the sinfulness your brother sees, but give your brother honor that you may esteem yourself and your brother with honor due to your joint sinlessness. 5 To you and your brother is given the power of salvation, that escape from darkness into the light to be yours to share with your brother; that you may see as one what never has been separate, nor apart from all God's Love as given equally to all the indivisible parts of the united Sonship.

Note # 21: Being a Oneness, you cannot grant your brothers salvation without granting your own. In this world of perception, the prisoner and the jailer are one.
III. Perception and Choice

T-25.III.1. To the extent to which you value guilt, to that extent will you perceive a world in which attack is justified. 2 To the extent to which you recognize that guilt is meaningless, to that extent you will perceive attack cannot <be> justified. 3 This relationship between guilt and attack is in accord with perception's fundamental law: Perception's fundamental law is, “You see what you believe is there, and you believe it there because you want it there.” 4 Perception has no other law than this. 5 The rest but stems from this fundamental law of perception, to hold what you believe up and offer what you believe up which our mind which than supports it. 6 This is perception's form, adapted to this egoic world, of God's more basic law; that love creates itself, and nothing but itself.

Note # 22: God’s laws of creation state that love gives everything because it is everything: nothing is held back. Creation is extension and the only distinction between the Creator and His Child is that the Creator’s thought was the First Cause. The Creator’s Child has all the powers of the Father but is not self-created. The Child’s source energy continuously flows from the Mind of God. Perception comes from the belief in separation. Perception utilizes projection to make its world. With perception, we prejudge what we want to see and then project it outside our mind. Our physical senses then confirm that what we wanted to see is outside our mind. Our belief comes first and is the cause of what we choose to perceive. What we physically perceive is the effect of this outward self-projection from our mind’s imagination. We believe what we value and we value what we want and desire. Projection makes our perception.

T-25.III.2. God's laws do not obtain directly to a world perception rules, for such a world could not have been created by the Mind of God to which perception has no meaning. 2 Yet are God’s laws reflected everywhere even in the world of perception. 3 Not that the world of perception where this reflection of God’s law is, is real at all. This world of perception is the ego’s attempt to make false illusions appear to replace the truth. 4 Only because God’s split-minded Son believes the world of perception is, and from this split-minded Son's belief God could not let God, Himself, be separate entirely from his Son. p523 5 God could not enter His Son's insanity with him, but God could be sure God’s sanity went there with the son, so the split-minded son could not be lost forever in the madness of his egoic wish of separation. God’s sanity is represented by the Holy Spirit.

Note # 23: Although God’s laws do not rule the world of perception, they are kept in the Christ consciousness part of the split-minded. The Christ is the home of the Holy Spirit, who is the Voice for God and the return of the Sonship to knowledge. When the thought of separation was first perceived, God assigned to the Holy Spirit the function of returning the Sonship to right-mindedness. The Holy Spirit is the call for the Son’s return to sanity. He represents the laws of God in this world of illusion by reinterpreting specialness and egoic special relationships and transforming them into unifying holy.
experiences. This transformation is achieved by forgiveness, which joins two apparently separate minds into one mind that shares the same purpose.

God’s sanity is represented by the Holy Spirit and was placed within the mind of the split-minded at the time of the separation to insure the Son’s return to knowledge.

T-25.III.3. Perception rests on choosing; knowledge does not rest on choice. 2 Knowledge has but one law because knowledge has but one Creator. 3 But this world of perception has two creators who made this world of perception, and these two creators that made this world of perception do not see this world as the same world. 4 To each creator who made this world of perception, this world has a different purpose, and to each who made it, this world, is a perfect means to serve the goal for which this world is perceived. 5 For egoic specialness, this world of perception is the perfect frame to set specialness off; the perfect battleground to wage specialness’ illusionary wars, the perfect shelter for illusions which specialness would make real. 6 Not one illusion can be made real but specialness upholds in its perception the illusion’s reality; not one illusion but can be fully justified nor made real.

Note # 24: The egoic part of the split-minded made the world of perception into a place to prove that the separation was real. The ego does this by trying to convince us that our happiness lies in specialness and that specialness can be a substitute for God’s Love and that the false can be made into the Truth. If any illusion could be made true by the ego, this would be proof that there is another will that is different from God’s Will. The ego’s world of perception is based on specialness. Its purpose is to establish the laws of chaos as the replacement of truth. These laws of chaos are diametrically opposed to God’s Laws. The Holy Spirit supports the laws of God in the world of perception.

T-25.III.4. There is another Maker of the world, the simultaneous Corrector of the mad belief that anything could be established and maintained without some link that kept the world of perception still within the laws of God; not as the law itself upholds the universe as God created it, but in some form adapted to the need the Son of God believes he has while the split-minded perceive they are separate from their Source, God, the Father. This is the Holy Spirit. 2 Corrected error is the error's end. 3 And thus has God protected still His Son, even in error.

Note # 25: The Holy Spirit will take whatever experience we request under His guidance and reinterpret the experience to more accurately reflect the truth that our minds are joined. True forgiveness is the healing balm that cures split-mindedness. Forgiveness and love bring the minds that appear separate back to their common state of joining as one. This reinterpretation is not the “total” truth since it is still based in time, space and change. Correct perception is below knowledge. Yet, this correction within the dream, itself, moves us closer to the reality of the eternal Oneness of the Mind of God, which is Kingdom or Heaven.

T-25.III.5. There is another purpose in the world that error made, because the world that error made has another Maker, the Holy Spirit, Who can reconcile its goal with His Creator's purpose. 2 In, the Holy Spirit’s perception of the world, nothing is seen but
justifies forgiveness and the sight of perfect sinlessness. 3 Nothing arises in the world that error made but is met by the Holy Spirit with instant and complete forgiveness. 4 Nothing remains an instant, to obscure the sinlessness that shines unchanged, beyond the pitiful attempts of specialness to put sinlessness out of mind, where it must be, and light the body up instead of the sinless mind. 5 The lamps of Heaven are not for the egoic mind to choose to see the lamps where the mind wills the lamps to be. 6 If the egoic mind elects to see Heaven’s lamps elsewhere from their home, as if the egoic mind lit a place where Heaven’s lamps could never be, then must the second Maker of the world, the Holy Spirit, correct your egoic error, lest you remain in darkness where the lamps are not.

Note # 26: The Holy Spirit will correct any errors in perception that arise out of our mistaken belief that the separation is real. The Holy Spirit knows God’s Son is whole and sinless and corrects any perception that would bear false witness to this truth.

T-25.III.6. Everyone here in the world that error made has entered darkness, yet no one has entered this darkness alone. 2 Nor need he stay more than an instant in the world that error made. 3 For he has come with Heaven’s Help within him. The Holy Spirit is ready to lead him out of darkness into light at any time. 4 The time he chooses to return to the light of truth can be any time, for help is there, awaiting but his choice. 5 And when he chooses to avail himself of what is given him, the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit, then will he see each situation that he thought before was means to justify his anger turned to an event which justifies his love. 6 He will hear plainly that the egoic calls to war he heard before are really calls to peace when he listens to the Holy Spirit. 7 He, who listens to the Holy Spirit will perceive that where he gave attack is but another altar where he can, with equal ease and far more happiness, bestow forgiveness. 8 And he who listens to the Holy Spirit will reinterpret all temptation as just another chance to bring him joy.

Note # 27: By following the different thought systems, different results are produced. The results are different, not because the event changed, but rather that the purpose was changed. The Holy Spirit’s perception is based on the perfection and sinlessness of God’s Son. Thus, the Holy Spirit knows that forgiveness is offered whenever error occurs. The ego’s purpose is separation and, therefore, everything is perceived as sinful. What we see is always the result of what we want to see. The ego wants to see sin; the Holy Spirit wants to see sinlessness.

T-25.III.7. How can a misperception be a sin? 2 Let all your brother's errors be to you nothing except a chance for you to see the workings of the Helper given you to see the world the Holy Spirit made instead of your egoic version of this world of perception. 3 What, then, <is> justified? 4 What do you want? 5 For these two questions are the same. 6 And when you see these two questions of what <is> justified? And what do you want? as the same, your choice is made. 7 For it is seeing these two questions as one that brings release from the belief there are two ways to see. 8 This world that was made in error has much to offer to your peace, and many chances to extend your own forgiveness. 9 Such, the world of perception’s purpose is, to those who want to see
peace and forgiveness descend on them, and offer them the light.

**Note # 28:** This world was not created by God but rather by our egoic desire to be special and separate. God’s plan for salvation and the return to knowledge however, will utilize this egoic world as a means to return His split-minded Son back to sanity. The Holy Spirit corrects the ego’s errors so that they can bear witness to the truth. Forgiveness is the main tool that allows for the transformation of “sin” into error and thus, rectified by forgiveness. In forgiveness, minds are joined since to give is to receive. The choice of which thought system we will follow becomes the determining factor for what we will perceive as our reality. What the decision-maker wants will be what he sees. Perception is always based on what we want to see, not on the reality of truth. We want what we value and believe in. We then project out into our dream world those beliefs that then become our perception’s “seeing” that we call our egoic provisional reality

T-25.III.8. The Maker of the world of gentleness, the Holy Spirit, has perfect power to offset the world of violence and hate that seems to stand between you and the Holy Spirit’s gentleness. 2 The world of violence and hate is not there in the Holy Spirit’s forgiving eyes. 3 And therefore, the world of violence and hate need not be there in your eyes. 4 Sin is the fixed belief perception cannot change. 5 What has been damned, the sinner is damned and damned forever, being forever unforgivable. 6 If, then, sin is forgiven, sin's perception must have been wrong. 7 And thus since the error is no longer a sin, change is made possible. 8 The Holy Spirit, too, sees what the Holy Spirit sees as far beyond the chance of change. 9 But on the Holy Spirit’s vision sin cannot encroach, for sin has been corrected by the Holy Spirit’s sight. 10 And thus the perception of this “sin” must have been an error, not a sin. 11 For what the perception claimed was sin could never be, and thus, the perception of sin has been an error. 12 Sin is attacked by punishment, and so preserved. 13 But to forgive sin is to change misperception from error into truth.

**Note # 29:** Since God’s Will is that the Sonship be the extension of Himself, we must be perfect, whole and complete. Anything within the world of perception that would limit His Son must be a misperception. Our misperception of the truth does not change the truth. The Holy Spirit reinterprets our misperception by changing the purpose of the perception from a witness for illusion to one for truth. This correction of egoic misperception is the Holy Spirit’s function that God’s plan for salvation gave to our Teacher.

T-25.III.9. The Son of God could never sin, but he can wish for what would hurt him. 2 And he has the power to think he can be hurt. 3 What could this belief that God’s Son could be hurt be except a misperception of himself? 4 Is this a sin or a mistake, forgivable or not? 5 Does God’s confused Son need help or condemnation? 6 Is it your purpose that those who misperceive themselves be saved or damned? 7 Forgetting not that what he is to you, a sinner or sinless, will make this same choice for your future? 8 For you make the choice <now>, the instant when all time becomes a means to reach the goal you chose. 9 Make, then, your choice. 10 But recognize that in this choice for sin or sinlessness, the purpose of the world you see is chosen, and will be justified. p525
**Note # 30:** However we choose to see our brother, we will share the same fate. The choice is between freedom and sinlessness or sin and damnation. Prisoner and jailer are in the same jail. The choice is ours to determine.

**IV. The Light You Bring**

**T-25.IV.1.** Minds that are joined and recognize they are joined, can feel no guilt. 2 For minds that are joined cannot attack, and they rejoice that this is so, seeing their safety in this happy fact that they cannot attack. 3 Their joy of joined minds that are unable to attack is in the innocence that they see. 4 And thus minds that cannot attack seek for innocence, because it is their purpose to behold innocence and rejoice. 5 Everyone seeks for what will bring him joy as he defines joy. 6 It is not the aim, as such, that varies. We all seek joy. 7 Yet it is the way in which the aim to seek joy is seen that makes the choice of means inevitable, and beyond the hope of change unless the aim is changed. 8 And then the means are chosen once again, as what will bring rejoicing is defined another way and sought for differently.

**Note # 31:** The ego tells us that joy and happiness can be found in separation and specialness. The body is the focus. The Holy Spirit advises us that our happiness must lie in truth, forgiveness and love. The realization that we are a Oneness is the key. Each thought system defines what comprises our happiness differently. The means will automatically align with our goal as we choose to define it based on our perception of what we are.

**T-25.IV.2.** Perception's basic law could thus be said, "You will rejoice at what you see because you see it to rejoice." 2 And while you think that suffering and sin will bring you joy, so long will suffering and sin be there for you to see. 3 Nothing is harmful or beneficent apart from what you wish it to be perceived as. 4 It is your wish that makes what you see what it is in its effects on you. 5 Because you chose what you see as a means to gain these same effects of what you want to see, you believing them to be the bringers of rejoicing and of joy. 6 Even in Heaven does this law obtain. What we desire we must bring into our conscious awareness. 7 The Son of God creates to bring him joy, sharing his Father's purpose in his own creation, that his joy might be increased, and God's joy increased along with his.

**Note # 32:** Our mind’s desires have the power to manifest within our conscious awareness. If our desires are loving ones, we create since they can be shared within the Mind of God, which is only Love. If they are fear-based thoughts, they cannot be shared with God and they will manifest only as illusions that appear real within the split mind of the thinker. In either case, the mind’s desire or goal always determines the means that will manifest within the thinking mind’s awareness. All thoughts have power to either make or create. How we define ourselves will determine what we decide to teach and bring into our awareness.
T-25.IV.3. You, the egoic maker of a world that is not so, take rest and comfort in another world where peace abides. This other world is based on the perception of the Holy Spirit. 2 This world that the Holy Spirit perceives, you bring with you to all the weary eyes and tired hearts that look on sin and beat sin's sad refrain. 3 From you can come their rest. 4 From you can rise a world that the weary, who had believed in sin will rejoice to look upon, and where their hearts are glad. 5 In you there is a vision of Christ that extends to all of them, who had believed in sin, and covers them in gentleness and light. 6 And in this widening world of light the darkness that they, who had believed in sin, thought was there is pushed away, until the darkness of sin is but some distant shadows, far away, not long to be remembered as the sun shines the shadows of sin to nothingness. 7 And all those "evil" thoughts and "sinful" hopes of those who had believed in sin including their dreams of guilt and merciless revenge, and every wish to hurt and kill and die, will disappear before the sun you bring.

Note # 33: Minds, being joined, share ideas. When we share the truth with another, the illusion of the false fades from the joined minds. If we see our brother as a separate body, there can be no joining for bodies cannot join. The thoughts of truth come from the shared Mind of God. The thoughts of separation come from the split-minded that we call the ego. The thought of love overcomes all egoic thoughts since love arises from the power of God, Himself.

T-25.IV.4. Would you not do this, the bringing of the vision of Christ that aligns with the Holy Spirit's perception of the world to your brother, for the Love of God? 2 And give this same correct perception for <yourself?> 3 For think what the vision of Christ that aligns with the Holy Spirit's perception of the world would do for you. 4 Your "evil" thoughts that haunt you now will seem increasingly remote and far away from you. 5 And the "evil" thoughts will go farther and farther off, because the sun in you has risen that the "evil" thoughts may be pushed away before the light. 6 The "evil" thoughts linger for a while, a little while, in twisted forms too far away for recognition, and are gone forever. p526 7 And in the sunlight you will stand in quiet, in innocence and wholly unafraid. 8 And from you will the rest you found by following the thought system of the Holy Spirit extend, so that your peace can never fall away and leave you homeless. 9 Those who offer peace to everyone have found a home in Heaven that the egoic world cannot destroy. 10 For your peace that you offer to everyone is large enough to hold the egoic world within its peace, which is your Heavenly home.

Note # 34: By following the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we extend forgiveness and love to our brother. Seeing our brother as sinless and innocent, we obtain our own guiltlessness. By granting peace to our brother, we demonstrate that we possess peace. We can only give what we have and the law of love states that to give is to receive. By releasing our brother from the awareness of any belief in sin, we have freed ourselves from the prison of our own illusion of separation and hell.

T-25.IV.5. In you is all of Heaven. 2 Every leaf that falls is given life in you. 3 Each bird that ever sang will sing again in you. 4 And every flower that ever bloomed has saved its
perfume and its loveliness for you. 5 What aim can supersede the Will of God and of His Son, that Heaven be restored to him for whom Heaven was created as God’s Son’s only home? 6 Nothing before and nothing after the Son’s restoration to Heaven remains outside Our One Self. 7 No other place; no other state nor time. 8 Nothing beyond nor nearer. 9 Nothing else. 10 In any form. 11 This state of Oneness can you bring to all the world, and all the thoughts that entered the egoic world and were mistaken for a little while. 12 How better could your own mistakes be brought to truth than by your willingness to bring the light of Heaven with you, as you walk beyond the egoic world of darkness into light of truth?

Note # 35: In this paragraph ACIM states that in us is all of Heaven. Heaven is the real world of truth. This once again demonstrates that a Oneness of Everything is indivisible; that if a Oneness could be subdivided into parts, each part would contain the whole. The Mind of God is holographic in nature. I and My Father are One because I am that One Self. There can be no separation, for there is no separation. God Is and that is all there IS.

V. The State of Sinlessness

T-25.V.1. The state of sinlessness is merely this: The whole desire to attack is gone, and so there is no reason to perceive the Son of God as other than he is the extension of the Creator, perfect, whole and complete. 2 The need for guilt is gone because guilt has no purpose, and guilt is meaningless without the goal of sin. 3 Attack and sin are bound as one illusion. Attack and sin are each the cause and aim and justifier of the other. 4 Attack and sin are each meaningless alone, but seems to draw a meaning from the other. 5 Attack and sin each depends upon the other for whatever sense it seems to have. 6 And no one could believe in one unless the other were the truth, for attack and sin each attests the other must be true.

Note # 36: Attack and sin are joined together at the hip. If separated from each other, the logic for the other would cease to exist. They cannot logically stand alone for each one’s existence is co-dependent on the existence of the other.

T-25.V.2. Attack makes Christ your enemy, and attack makes God your enemy along with Christ. 2 Must your little “s” self not be afraid with "enemies" like these? 3 And must your little “s” self not be fearful of your Big “S” Self, the Christ? 4 For you have hurt yourself, and made your Big “S” Self your "enemy." 5 And now you must believe you are not you, your Big “S” Self, the Christ but something alien to yourself, and "something else," a "something" to be feared instead of loved. 6 Who would attack whatever he perceives as wholly innocent, the Christ? 7 And who, <because> he wishes to attack, can fail to think he must be guilty to maintain the wish to attack, while wanting innocence? p527 8 For who could see the Son of God as innocent and wish the Son of God dead? 9 Christ stands before you, each time you look upon your brother. 10 The Christ in your brother has not gone because your eyes are closed. 11 But what is there to see by searching for your Savior, seeing the Christ in your brother-savior through
sightless eyes?

**Note # 37:** Bodies can attack. If we see our brother or ourselves as the body, we will use the body for attack purposes. The body-form is the symbol for sin, which is the belief in limitation. The thought system of the Holy Spirit utilizes vision to look past the ego-body to the Christ that lies beyond. If we see ourselves as a body, we get to perceive ourselves as both a sinner and as something that can and does attack. The egoic mind claims that bodies can be hurt and the best defense is a good offense. In egoic thinking, attack becomes both logical and inevitable.

T-25.V.3.It is not Christ you **egoically** see by looking thus **upon the Son of God as innocent and wish the Son of God's death.** 2 It is the "enemy," confused with Christ, you look upon. 3 And **egoic minds hate the "enemy," confused with Christ** because there is no sin in him for you to see. 4 Nor do you hear **the Christ, whom you have confused to be your enemy’s** plaintive call, unchanged in content in whatever form the call is made, that you unite with him, and join with him in innocence and peace. 5 And yet, beneath the ego's senseless shrieks, such is the call that God has given **the Christ in your brother** that you might hear in him God’s Call to you, and answer by returning unto God what is **God’s Own innocent and sinless Son.**

**Note # 38:** The ego sees our sinlessness and innocence as an attack on its existence. Without our belief in sin, the illusion of separation would have no reason to exist and would fade away from our consciousness. This would leave us knowing only the truth that we are God’s beloved Child, sinless and guiltless like our Creator.

T-25.V.4.The Son of God asks only this of you; that you return **innocence and sinlessness** to **your brother that** is his due so that you may share in **innocence and sinlessness** with him. 2 Alone does neither **you or your brothers** have **innocence and sinlessness.** 3 So must **innocence and sinlessness** remain useless to both **you and your brother.** 4 Together, **innocence and sinlessness** will give to each **brother** an equal strength to save the other, and save himself along with **his brother.** 5 Forgiven by you, your savior-**brother** offers you salvation. 6 Condemned by you, **your savior-brother** offers death to you. 7 In everyone you see but the reflection of what you choose to have **your brother be to you.** 8 If you decide against your savior-brother’s proper function, the only one he has in truth, you are depriving your **savior-brother** of all the joy he would have found if he fulfilled the role God gave to him as your savior. 9 But think not Heaven is lost to your savior-brother alone if you refuse to allow him to fulfill the function that God gave him. 10 Nor can **Heaven** be regained unless the way to **Heaven** is shown to him through you, that you may find the way by fulfilling your function, walking by your **brother’s side.** Our function as savior of each other is our granting to the other their innocence and sinlessness through true forgiveness.

**Note # 39:** Since giving and receiving are the same, we cannot expect to return to the truth of Heaven by denying the truth in another. We only demonstrate that we possess something when we give it away. See our brother as sinless and innocent and we grant ourselves the same qualities. Our function in the dream of separation is to grant our
brother forgiveness so that he may perceive himself as sinless and thus, return to the truth. There is only one Sonship. To each of the fragmented parts of the Sonship, God has given the role of saving our brother from the illusion of sin, guilt and fear. This task cannot be accomplished alone and requires the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit’s function is to return the insane to the sanity of truth.

T-25.V.5. It is no sacrifice that your brother be saved, for by his freedom will you gain your own freedom. 2 To let your brother’s function be fulfilled is but the means to let your function be fulfilled. 3 And so you walk toward Heaven or toward hell, but not alone. 4 How beautiful your brother’s sinlessness will be when you perceive it! 5 And how great will be your joy, when your brother is free to offer you the gift of sight, the vision of Christ, God gave to him for you! 6 Your brother has no need but this; that you allow him freedom to complete the task God gave to him. 7 Remembering but this; that what your brother does you do, along with him. 8 And as you see your brother, so do you define the function your brother will have for you. When and until you see your brother differently as the innocent and sinless Christ, only than will you let him be what God appointed that he be to you, which is your savoir.

Note # 40: There is only one Sonship even though it appears to be fragmented within the dream of separation. It is no sacrifice to give our brother his freedom so that we obtain our own. The ego tells us that because we have sinned, someone must atone for our sins. Punishment and sacrifice is required when sin exists. By reinterpreting sin into a mistake that only needs correction, the Holy Spirit has made forgiveness possible. We can now perceive our brother as sinless and innocent. Correct perception, which closely resembles the truth, has replaced the error of sin and limitation that is always present in egoic perception. Correct perception strips away the barriers we have place around love and forgiveness.

T-25.V.6. Against the hatred that the Son of God may cherish toward himself, is God believed to be without the power to save what God created from the pain of hell. 2 But in the love your brother shows himself is God made free to let God’s Will be done. p528 3 In your brother you see the picture of your own belief in what the Will of God must be for you. 4 In your forgiveness will you understand God’s Love for you; through your attack you believe God hates you, and since you attack you thinking Heaven must be hell. 5 Look once again upon your brother, not without the understanding that your brother is the way to Heaven or to hell, as you perceive him to be either sinless or a sinner. 6 But forget not this; the role you give to your brother is given you, and you will walk the way you pointed out to him to be either sinless or a sinner because it is your judgment on yourself.

Note # 41: Thoughts never leave their source. If we choose to see guilt in our brother, it means we see guilt in ourselves. Perception comes from our inner beliefs that are merely projected out of our minds onto our brother and the “outside world.” In truth, thoughts never leave the mind of the thinker. If we hate ourselves, we have not forgiven ourselves from all our past misperception about what we believe we are. We are still judging ourselves to be sinners. God knows we are not sinners, but until we accept the Atonement
for ourselves, we will continue to see ourselves as sinful. It is ourselves, not God, which demands our eternal damnation. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we reclaim innocence for both our brother and ourselves. By accepting the truth about our brother’s eternal sinlessness, we can receive our own.

**VI. The Special Function**

T-25.VI.1. The grace of God rests gently on forgiving eyes, and everything forgiving eyes look on speaks of God to the beholder. 2 He who sees with forgiving eyes can see no evil; nothing in the world to fear, and no one who is different from himself. 3 And as he who sees with forgiving eyes loves everything, so he looks upon himself with love and gentleness. 4 He who sees with forgiving eyes would no more condemn himself for his mistakes than damn another. 5 He who sees with forgiving eyes is not an arbiter of vengeance, nor a punisher of sin. 6 The kindness of his sight rests on himself with all the tenderness his kind sight offers others. 7 For he who sees with forgiving eyes would only heal and only bless everything. 8 And being in accord with what God wills, he who sees with forgiving eyes has the power to heal and bless all those he looks on with the grace of God upon his sight.

**Note # 42:** If you follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, you grant forgiveness to all because the vision of Christ has been awakened within your mind. There is no one who is seen as unworthy of forgiveness since looking though the eyes of love; you see everything as either love or a cry for love and respond appropriately with only forgiveness and love.

T-25.VI.2. Eyes become used to egoic darkness, and the light of brilliant day seems painful to the egoic eyes grown long accustomed to the dim effects perceived at twilight. 2 And the egoic eyes turn away from sunlight of truth and the clarity the light of truth brings to what they look upon. 3 To the ego’s eyes the dimness of illusions seems better; easier to see, and better recognized. 4 Somehow the vague and more obscure seems easier to look upon; less painful to the egoic eyes than what is wholly clear and unambiguous. 5 Yet this seeing of the false is not what eyes are for, and who can say that he prefers the darkness and maintain he wants to see the truth?

**Note # 43:** We will see what we want to see, for this is how perception works. Our choice is between the illusion of separation, specialness, sin, guilt and fear or the choice for the truth of the Oneness, love, forgiveness, sinlessness and innocence.

T-25.VI.3. The wish to see with the vision of Christ calls down the grace of God upon your eyes, and brings the gift of light that makes sight and vision possible. 2 Would you behold your brother? 3 God is glad to have you look on your brother with the vision of Christ. 4 God does not will your savior-brother be unrecognized by you. 5 Nor does God will that your savior-brother remain without the function that God gave to your savior-brother. 6 Let your savior-brother no more be lonely, for the lonely ones are
those who see no function in the world for them to fill; no place where they, who are lonely and functionless are needed, and no aim which only they, who are functionless can perfectly fulfill. p529

**Note # 44:** By asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our egoic sight is transformed into the vision of Christ. Looking past the body, we look upon the Christ, God’s home, within our brother. While in time and space, God has given us the function of returning our brother and ourselves to the Truth. Forgiveness is our function, love is our purpose and the peace of God is our destiny. God will return us to the knowledge of the One Self that we are.

T-25.VI.4. Such is the Holy Spirit's kind perception of specialness; the Holy Spirit’s perception uses what you made, to heal instead of harm. 2 To each the Holy Spirit gives a special function in salvation that he who has perceived himself as special alone can fill; a part for only him who has perceived himself as special. 3 Nor is the plan complete until he who has perceived himself as special finds his special function, and fulfills the part assigned to him, to make himself who had perceived himself as special and thus, not whole, complete within a world where incompleteness rules.

**Note # 45:** The Holy Spirit does not take away our specialness that is perceived in time and space. Instead, the Holy Spirit utilizes our belief in specialness and separation to give us a special function of saving our brother, whom we perceive as separate and sinful. By forgiving and seeing our brother as sinless, we grant our brother his freedom from the illusion of being less than perfect, whole and complete. Since the Holy Spirit knows the truth of our Oneness, He knows that when we give, we receive.

T-25.VI.5. Here in the world made in error, where the laws of God do not prevail in perfect form, can he, the split minded, yet do one perfect thing and make one perfect choice. 2 And by this act of special faithfulness to one brother perceived as other than himself, he, the split minded, learns the gift of forgiveness was given to himself, and so he and his brother who received his gift of forgiveness must be one. 3 Forgiveness is the only function meaningful in time. 4 Forgiveness is the means the Holy Spirit uses to translate specialness from sin into salvation. 5 Forgiveness is for all. 6 But when forgiveness rests on all forgiveness is complete, and every function of this world completed with it. 7 When the function God gave our world made from error is complete, which is the return of the Sonship to truth and knowledge, then is time no more. 8 Yet while in time, there is still much to do. 9 And each who perceives himself as special must do what is allotted him, for on his part does all the plan depend. 10 Each one has a special part in time for so he chose, and choosing his specialness, he made his special part for himself. 11 His wish for specialness was not denied but changed in form, to let his wish for specialness serve his brother and himself, and thus his wish for specialness become a means to save instead of lose.

**Note # 46:** Like everything in the illusion of separation, God’s plan for salvation transforms everything made by the ego to prove the separation is real, into a witness for the truth of the Oneness. When the Sonship fragmented, God transformed our brother
into our savior. When we wanted to be special, time was made available so that each could play a special role in the game of the returning of the Sonship to the union of the Oneness. Through forgiveness, we learn that what appears to be the verification that we are separate from our brother becomes the means to demonstrate that we are of one mind. The body that limits now becomes a communication device to teach only love. The ego’s specialness becomes the means the Holy Spirit utilizes to teach that we are only love.

T-25.VI.6. Salvation is no more than a reminder this world is not your home. 2 The laws of this egoic world made from error are not imposed on you. This world of egoic values are not your true values. 3 And nothing that you think you see in this egoic world is really there at all. 4 This fact that this egoic world is not real is seen and understood as each one takes his part in this egoic world’s undoing, as he did his part in making this egoic world. 5 He has the means for either making or undoing this egoic world, as he always did. 6 The specialness he chose to hurt himself did God appoint to be the means for his salvation, from the very instant that the choice for his specialness was made. 7 His special sin was made his special grace. 8 His special hate became his special love.

Note # 47: As soon as the mad idea was conceived, the Creator had already provided the solution for the Sonship’s return to sanity. Our desire to be special has been transformed from a perceived sin to a special gift and blessing for our brother. This transformation occurs in time with our adopting the Holy Spirit’s purpose for relationships. The special relationship’s purpose is to make Holy. Our “sin of specialness” will be transformed in time so that we can give our own special grace or blessing to our brother through forgiveness. This blessing transforms our brother from a “sinner” into the innocent sinless Child of God. Our special gift of holiness is given to our brother to return and unite our split-minds into joint right-mindedness that is one with the shared Mind of God. The Holy Spirit is our guide during this journey through time. Our egoic desire to be special and separate has been corrected by the Holy Spirit into a special role for each brother to play in the salvation of the Sonship. Without each brother fulfilling his special role, the return of the Sonship to whole-mindedness would be incomplete.

T-25.VI.7. The Holy Spirit needs your special function, so that the Holy Spirit’s function may be fulfilled. 2 Think not you lack a special value here in the fulfillment of the Holy Spirit’s function. 3 You wanted a special function or role and it is given you. 4 All that you made can serve salvation easily and well. 5 The Son of God can make no choice the Holy Spirit cannot employ on the split-mind’s behalf to return him to the truth, and not against himself. 6 Only in darkness does your specialness appear to be attack. 7 In light, you see your specialness as your special function in the plan to save the Son of God from all attack, and let him, the split-minded, understand that he is safe, as he has always been, and will remain safe in time and in eternity alike. 8 This saving of God’s Son from all attack is the function given you for your brother. 9 Take all attack gently, then, from your brother's hand, and let salvation be perfectly fulfilled in you. 10 Do this <one> thing, your special function, which is the saving of God’s Son from all attack, that everything be given you. p530
Note # 48: The thought system of the Holy Spirit tells us that what the ego perceives as a brother’s attack is actually a cry for love. We save our brother from attack when we grant him forgiveness and see him as sinless. To see our brother as a body is to limit him. This is an attack. By following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we realize that our minds are joined and, therefore, only forgiveness is appropriate. If our brother believes he is separate, we offer him the truth of the union of minds. By not seeing our brother or ourselves as limited, we no longer feel any egoic desire to attack. We thus, become our brother’s savior from any attack. Sin and attack always need the other. They are never found alone. Without attack, sin no longer is maintained since both feed on each other. By the removal of all attack thoughts, we acknowledge and recognize the sinlessness of our brother.

VII. The Rock of Salvation

T-25.VII.1. Yet if the Holy Spirit can commute each sentence that you laid upon yourself into a blessing, then **what you perceived required sentencing and punishment** cannot be a sin. 2 **Sin** is the only thing in all the world that cannot change. 3 **Sin** is immutable. 4 And on **sin’s** changelessness the **egoic** world depends. 5 The magic of the world can seem to hide the pain of sin from sinners, and deceive with glitter and with guile. 6 Yet each one, **who perceives sin**, knows the cost of sin is death. 7 And so it is **that due to his belief in sin, death becomes the cost of sin**. 8 For sin is a request for death, a wish to make this world's foundation, **which is sin**, sure as love, dependable as Heaven, and as strong as God Himself. 9 The **egoic** world is safe from love to everyone who thinks sin possible. 10 Nor will the **egoic world** change. 11 Yet is it possible what God created not, **which is our egoic world, which is based on our belief in sin**, should share the attributes of God’s creation, when the **egoic world** opposes God’s creation in every way?

Note # 49: The Holy Spirit’s thought system rests on truth, which is the Will of God. This Will is all-powerful. The egoic world and its thought system are based on illusion. An illusion can appear mighty only against another illusion since illusions can come in various degrees of difficulty. Some illusions appear to be more powerful than other illusions. When any illusion is brought before the light of truth, all illusions disappear into the nothingness from which it arose. In the realm of time and space, this egoic world made from error cannot stand against the correct perception of the Holy Spirit, which is based on the reality of what we are.

T-25.VII.2. It cannot be the "sinner's" wish for death is just as strong as is God's Will for life. 2 Nor can the basis of a world **God** did not make be **as** firm and sure as Heaven. 3 How could it be that hell and Heaven are the same? 4 And is it possible that what **God** did not will cannot be changed? 5 What is immutable besides God’s Will? 6 And what can share God’s Will’s attributes except God’s Will? 7 What wish can rise against God’s Will, and be immutable? 8 If you could realize nothing is changeless but the Will of God, this course would not be difficult for you. 9 For it is this **fact that nothing but**
God’s Will is changeless that you do not believe. 10 Yet there is nothing else you could believe except that only God’s Will is changeless, if you but looked at what this egoic world that was made from error really is.

**Note # 50:** Only God’s Will is eternal. Real is defined by ACIM as the changeless. Everything in time and space is subject to change and is not real. Time was designed to measure change. Only in the illusion of the dream of separation does time have a purpose. Once the Sonship has returned to knowledge, time has no change to measure. Change is only found in the illusionary world of perception. Of course, it is the illusionary world of perception that our decision-maker has chosen to identify with. It is due to the dreamer’s identifying himself as being a real participant in the dream of separation that makes this world of our provisional reality appear real to us.

T-25.VII.3. Let us go back to what we said before, and think of it more carefully. **Since only the Will of God is changeless, what would this mean?** 2 It must be so that either God is mad, or is this egoic world a place of madness. 3 Not one Thought of God’s makes any sense at all within this egoic world. 4 And nothing that the egoic world believes as true has any meaning in God’s Mind at all. 5 What makes no sense and has no meaning is insanity. 6 And what is madness cannot be the truth. 7 If one belief so deeply valued here in the egoic world were true, then every Thought God ever had is an illusion. **If any of the “laws of chaos” are truth, God’s Laws are insane** 8 And if but one Thought of God’s is true, then all beliefs the egoic world gives any meaning to are false, and make no sense at all. 9 This is the choice your decision-maker must make. 10 Do not attempt to see this choice between truth and illusion differently, nor twist this choice into something it is not. 11 For only this decision of when you will freely choose for truth over illusion can you make. 12 The rest is up to God, and not to you to determine what is God’s Will and thus, true.

**Note # 51:** Since only the Will of God is changeless, we cannot choose what the truth is. The egoic world of perception is based on the laws of chaos. The first law of chaos states that truth is different for everyone. This egoic world was made to bear witness to the false idea that truth is not changeless. The ego tells us that we can choose what truth is, when it is true and even when a truth will no longer apply to us. To believe truth complies and bends to our wishes is the mark of insanity. Yet, we believe that truth is conditional and constantly changing rather than accept the fact that truth just is and cannot be changed. The ego claims that we are the arbiters of truth. This is madness. Since God’s Will has predetermined what is truth, in reality there is only truth. Because we are an extension of God, Herself, our will and God’s Will are the same. We also have been given free will. But as ACIM points out, “Free will does not mean you can establish the curriculum. It means only that you can elect what you want to take at a given time.” God’s Will has established the curriculum that will return us to the truth of what we are. We have no control over what is the truth. Yet, we can choose to postpone taking the classes required for the acceptance of the truth. When we choose to deny the truth, we have only postponed the decision for the acceptance of the truth. Ultimately, we will be given as many experiences that we feel we need before we decide to choose only for the truth. This decision can be made in any instant or we can postpone it indefinitely. But the
decision for truth must eventually be made since God’s Will is the truth. Once we have decided that we only desire and want truth, time will no longer be necessary. Since truth is changeless, there is no change for time to measure in eternity. With the return to knowledge and truth, time loses its purpose. In eternity, time becomes functionless and simply fades away.

T-25.VII.4. To justify one value that the egoic world upholds is to deny your Father's sanity and your sanity. 2 For God and His beloved Son do not think differently. 3 And it is the agreement of God and His Son's thought that makes the Son a co-creator with the Mind of God, Whose Thought created him, God's Son. p531 4 So if the split-minded son chooses to believe one thought opposed to truth, the split-minded has decided he is not his Father's Son because the Son is mad, and sanity must lie apart from both the Father and the Son. 5 This you believe that you have somehow become separate from your God-Source, your Creator. 6 Think not that this belief that you are not God’s Son depends upon the form this belief takes. 7 Anyone, who thinks the egoic world is sane in any way, is justified in anything that it thinks, or is maintained by any form of reason, believes in the error that you have somehow become separate from your God-Source to be true. 8 Sin is not real <because> the Father and the Son are not insane. 9 This egoic world is meaningless <because> the egoic world rests on sin. 10 Who could create the changeless if the egoic world does not rest on truth?

Note # 52: ACIM defines REAL as changeless and eternal. In the world of perception, everything is constantly changing since perception is based on our shifting beliefs, wants and desires. Lacking the stability of truth, our illusionary world of perception lacks stability. The unstable mind is an insane one since it believes that its own crazy mind is the arbitrator of truth. The thought of separation is a decision that attempts to make the false, true and the true, false.

T-25.VII.5. The Holy Spirit has the power to change the whole foundation of the egoic world you see to something else; a basis not insane, on which a sane perception can be based, another world perceived. This is the world as the Holy Spirit perceives it to be. 2 And this world of correct perception is one in which nothing is contradicted that would lead the Son of God to sanity and joy. 3 In the world the Holy Spirit perceives, nothing attests to death and cruelty; to separation and to differences. 4 For here in the world the Holy Spirit perceives is everything perceived as one, and no one loses that each one may gain.

Note # 53: The world the Holy Spirit perceives is based on bringing our egoic perception into alignment with the truth. It still is an illusion since it is based on correct perception rather than knowledge. Yet, it applies the Laws of God to what we had originally perceived as separate. The laws of chaos are overturned. It teaches us that we are not separate and that minds, not form, can join and are one. Its focus is on content, not form. The Holy Spirit looks past form with Christ vision and the knowledge of the truth of the Oneness of everything. The Holy Spirit’s world of perception closely aligns itself with the truth of Heaven. In the world the Holy Spirit perceives, the Laws of God are not contradicted. By applying the Laws of God to the egoic world, we discover a kinder and
gentler place. It is a world that can lead us to our destiny, which is the peace of God. The peace of God is found in the realization that the truth is truth always and cannot be threatened. Some of the corollaries to these basic Laws of God are as follows: that creation is extension; that the Oneness is maintained; that It is an indivisible whole and, therefore, parts if possible would contain the whole; that to give is to receive; that there is no sacrifice but only the extension of God’s love; that God’s Will and our will is one and the same and, only love is real.

T-25.VII.6. Test everything that you believe against this one requirement, and understand that everything that meets this one demand is worthy of your faith. The one requirement is that the world you perceive must be a place in which nothing contradicts what would lead and return the Son of God to sanity and joy. This is the world the Holy Spirit perceives in which everything is perceived as one, and no one loses that each one may gain. 2 But place your faith in nothing else but the Holy Spirit’s perception. 3 What is not love is sin, and either love or sin perceives the other as insane and meaningless. 4 Love is the basis for a world perceived as wholly mad to sinners, who believe their egoic perception is the way to sanity. 5 But sin is equally insane within the sight of love, whose gentle eyes would look beyond the madness of egoic sin and rest peacefully on truth. 6 They who believe in either love or sin each sees a world immutable, as each defines the changeless and eternal truth of what you are. 7 And each reflects a view of what the Father and the Son must be, to make that viewpoint meaningful and sane.

Note # 54: How we choose to see our relationship with our Creator will determine the world that we will perceive. If we believe ourselves to be the shared Oneness of the Mind of God, we will look upon the world with the vision of Christ. We will follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. If we follow the ego, we will perceive that we are limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego bodies. The laws of chaos will rule this egoic world of perception. We will believe that we are guilty sinners and fear the wrath of the egoic god of vengeance. Our belief in what we are will make our perceived world conform to how we wish ourselves to be. The choice is ours to perceive a world that supports our belief that we are either a special limited ego-body, or the unlimited Child of God. We cannot be both.

T-25.VII.7. Your special function is the special form in which the fact that God is not insane appears most sensible and meaningful to you. 2 The content is the same. 3 The form is suited to your special needs, and the form is suited to the special time and place in which you think you find yourself, and the form is suited to where you can be free of place and time, and all that you believe must limit you. 4 The Son of God cannot be bound by time nor place nor anything God did not will. 5 Yet if God’s Will is seen as madness, then the form of sanity which makes God’s Will most acceptable to those who are insane requires special choice. 6 Nor can this choice of what makes God’s Will most acceptable to those who are insane be made by the insane, whose problem is their choices are not free because the insane’s choices are not made with reason in the light of sense. p532
Note # 55: It makes no sense to allow the insane to teach the truth. ACIM states that as long as we follow the laws of chaos, we have chosen insanity. We need to allow the correct perception of the Holy Spirit’s thought system to return us to sanity.

T-25.VII.8. It *would* be madness to entrust salvation to the insane. 2 Because God is not mad has God appointed One, the Holy Spirit, Who *is* as sane as God to raise a saner world to meet the sight of everyone who chose insanity as his salvation. 3 To this One, the Holy Spirit is given the choice of form most suitable to the insane-minded. The one form most suitable to the insane-minded, which will not attack the world the insane sees, but enter into the world the insane sees in quietness and show the insane he is mad. 4 This One, the Holy Spirit, but points to an alternative, another way of looking at what the insane-minded has seen before, and recognizes as the world in which he lives, and thought he understood before.

Note # 56: The Holy Spirit’s correct perception offers the alternative for those who have decided to ask the question, “There must be a better way?” The Holy Spirit will reinterpret our misperception about what we are and apply the laws of God to transform our current experience into correct perception. Correct perception responds to any situation with forgiveness and love. It joins minds that once appeared to be separate.

T-25.VII.9. Now must the insane-minded question his belief that he understood the egoic world as he once perceived it because the form of the alternative that the Holy Spirit offered is one which he cannot deny, nor overlook, nor fail completely to perceive at all. 2 To each fragmented insane part of the Sonship, his special function is designed to be perceived as possible, and more and more desired, as it proves to the once insane-minded that it is an alternative he really wants. 3 From this alternative position that the Holy Spirit offers, does the insane-minded sinfulness, and all the sin he sees within the world, offer him less and less. 4 Until this alternative position of the Holy Spirit is accepted, only than does the insane-minded come to understand that his belief in sin cost him his sanity, and that his belief in sin stands between him and whatever hope he has of being sane. 5 Nor is the insane-minded left without escape from madness, for he has a special part in everyone's escape. 6 The insane-minded can no more be left outside, without a special function in the hope of peace, than could the Father overlook His Son, and pass him by in careless thoughtlessness.

Note # 57: God never created any junk. There is never anything wrong with us, but we can and did choose the wrong plan. The Holy Spirit states that our choice was a mistake, not a sin. She asks that we merely choose again.

T-25.VII.10. What is dependable except God's Love? 2 And where does sanity abide except in God? 3 The One Who speaks for God, the Holy Spirit can show you that you abide in God’s Love, in the alternative the Holy Spirit chose especially for you. 4 It is God's Will that you remember that you abide in God’s Love, and so emerge from deepest mourning into perfect joy. 5 Accept the function that has been assigned to you in God's Own plan to show God’s Son that hell and Heaven are different, not the same. 6 And that in Heaven <They, the now united Sonship> are all the same, without the
differences which would have made a hell of Heaven and a heaven of hell, had such insanity been possible.

**Note # 58:** Correct perception heals the split-minded Sonship and returns it to the unity of the Oneness with God. If specialness would be given a place in Heaven, we would be attempting to make Heaven into the hell that we made of the egoic world of misperception. Specialness cannot be part of Heaven since the goal of specialness is to fragment the Oneness of the Mind of God. God’s Love is given completely to all. There is no room for “special love” in Heaven.

**T-25.VII.11.** The whole belief that someone loses but reflects the underlying tenet God must be insane. 2 For in this **egoic** world it seems that one must gain <because> another lost. **This is the forth law of chaos.** 3 If this were true, then God is mad indeed! 4 But what is this belief that **someone must lose if we are to gain** except a form of the more basic tenet. "Sin is real, and rules the world"? **This is a combination of the second and third laws of chaos.** 5 For every little gain must someone else lose and pay an exact offsetting amount in blood and suffering. 6 For otherwise would evil triumph, and destruction be the total cost of any gain at all. 7 You who believe that God is mad, look carefully at this **basic egoic tenet that states, "Sin is real, and rules the world,"** and understand that it must be either God is insane or this **basis egoic tenet** must be insane, but hardly both.

**Note # 59:** Either the laws of God are true or the laws of chaos are true. Since these laws are contradictions of each other, only one can be truth.

**T-25.VII.12.** Salvation is rebirth of the idea no one can lose for anyone to gain. 2 And everyone <must> gain, if anyone would be a gainer. 3 Here is sanity restored and the **laws of chaos dismissed.** 4 And on this single rock of truth that **no one can lose for anyone to gain** can faith in God's eternal saneness rest in perfect confidence and perfect peace. 5 Reason is satisfied, for all insane beliefs can be corrected here in this **truth that no one can lose for anyone to gain.** 6 And sin must be impossible, if this belief that no one can lose for anyone to gain is true. 7 This is the rock on which salvation rests, the vantage point from which the Holy Spirit gives meaning and direction to the plan in which your special function has a part. p533 8 For here your special function is made whole, because your **special function** shares the function of the whole, which is the **return of the fragmented Sonship to the truth that is the Oneness of the Mind of God.**

**Note # 60:** The concept that no one can lose for anyone to gain acknowledges the unity of the Oneness. It states in a different way the ACIM axiom that “to give is to receive.” Each part is the whole and the whole is in each part. The Oneness is holographic in nature. In dualistic thinking, this concept is difficult to comprehend since we perceive ourselves as separate. This is why we must allow the Holy Spirit to teach us the truth about what we are through the reawakening of the Christ vision within us. This is the path to the return to the knowledge of the One Self.
T-25.VII.13. Remember all temptation is but this; a mad belief that God's insanity would make you sane and give you what you want; that either God or you must lose to madness because your aims can not be reconciled. 2 Death demands life, but life is not maintained at any cost. **Life is given freely and eternally from the Mind of God** 3 No one can suffer for the Will of God to be fulfilled. 4 Salvation is God’s Will *because* you share God’s plan of salvation. 5 God’s plan for salvation is not for you alone, but for the Self, the Christ that is the Son of God. 6 The Big “S” Self, the Christ cannot lose salvation, for if he could the loss would be his Father's, and in God, the Father no loss is possible. 7 And this is sane because the fulfillment of the Will of God is the truth.

**Note # 61:** God is Life. God gives life freely since when God creates, She gives Herself totally; nothing is held back. It is not God’s Will that Her Child suffer and die since God wills only that we be happy. Death cannot be part of true life since it is not part of the Mind of God. Death is a contradiction of God, Who is Life.

### VIII. Justice Returned to Love

T-25.VIII.1. The Holy Spirit can use all that you give to Him for your salvation. 2 But the Holy Spirit cannot use what you withhold, for the Holy Spirit cannot take what you would withhold from you without your willingness. 3 For if the Holy Spirit did take from you a perception that you wish to keep, you would believe the Holy Spirit wrested it from you against your will. 4 And so you would not learn it *is* your true will to be without what your egoic mind perceived and had withheld from the Holy Spirit. 5 You need not give your egoic perceptions to the Holy Spirit wholly willingly, for if you could you had no need of the Holy Spirit. 6 But this little willingness to offer your perceptions to the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit needs. That in this little willingness, you prefer the Holy Spirit to take what you give rather than that you keep your perceptions for yourself alone, and that in this little willingness you recognize that what brings loss to no one you would not know. 7 This much, your realization that you cannot judge what brings loss to anyone, is necessary to add to the idea no one can lose for you to gain. 8 And nothing more.

**Note # 62:** Because we have free will, our decision–maker must decide when it will ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will wait patiently for our permission before it would reinterpret our egoic experience to realign with the laws of God. If the Holy Spirit took over the guidance of our mind without our invitation, two things would occur. First, this would increase our fear. Second, it would confirm that we were incapable of making the proper decision to ask for our Teacher’s guidance. Both these results would be counter-productive to the Holy Spirit’s purpose of returning the insane to right-mindedness.

T-25.VIII.2. Here in your little willingness to ask for guidance from the Holy Spirit is your realization that you cannot judge what brings loss to anyone and this is the only principle salvation needs. 2 Nor is it necessary that your faith in the Holy Spirit be
strong, unswerving, and without attack from all beliefs opposed to the Holy Spirit’s help. 3 You have no fixed allegiance. 4 But remember salvation is not needed by the saved. 5 You are not called upon to do what one divided still against himself would find impossible. 6 Have little faith that wisdom could be found in such a state of mind that is still split-minded. 7 But be you thankful that only little faith is asked of you. p534

What but a little faith remains to those who still believe in sin? 9 What could they, who still believe in sin, know of Heaven and the justice of the saved?

Note # 63: The Holy Spirit only requires that we ask for Her help. We do not have to have absolute faith in Her. We merely need ask ourselves if there is a different way to perceive this event and the Holy Spirit will provide the answer. We need only have a little willingness to try a different thought system. The Holy Spirit knows that Her answers will increase our willingness to turn more of our misperception over to Her guidance.

T-25.VIII.3. There is a kind of justice in salvation of which the egoic world knows nothing. 2 To the egoic world, justice and vengeance are the same, for sinners see justice only as their punishment, perhaps sustained by someone else, but not escaped. 3 The laws of sin demand a victim. 4 Who the victim may be makes little difference. 5 But death must be the cost and must be paid. 6 This demand for any victim is not justice, but insanity. 7 Yet how could justice be defined without insanity where love means hate, and death is seen as victory and triumph over eternity and timelessness and life?

Note # 64: The ego tells us that sin requires punishment, yet, it does not require that the sinner be punished. The ego tells us anyone can atone for the sins of the sinner. This requires the sacrifice of the innocent rather than the repentance of the sinner. This type of “justice” is arbitrary, illogical and meaningless.

T-25.VIII.4. You who know not of true justice still can ask the Holy Spirit, and learn the answer. 2 Justice looks on all in the same way. 3 It is not just that one should lack for what another has. 4 For that one should lack for what another has is vengeance in whatever form it takes. 5 Justice demands no sacrifice, for any sacrifice is made that sin may be preserved and kept. 6 Sacrifice is a payment offered for the cost of sin, but not the total cost. 7 The rest of the payment for the cost of sin is taken from another, to be laid beside your little payment, to "atone" for all sin that you would keep, and not give up. 8 So is the victim seen as partly you, with someone else paying by far the greater part of the cost of your sins. 9 And in the total cost, the greater his sacrifice the less is your part to pay for your sins. 10 And egoic justice, being blind, is satisfied by being paid, it matters not to egoic justice by whom the cost for the sin is paid.

Note # 65: Egoic justice allows us to transfer our sin and guilt to another person so that we can escape the punishment that the egoic god requires for our sin. The ego goes so far as to say that the god of the ego would allow his only begotten and innocent son to be killed to atone for a bunch of sinners. This is a strange idea that doesn’t make any logical sense. How could the killing of the innocent child be considered an act of love? We need to ask ourselves if this type of god has his head screwed on right. No wonder the thought
system of the ego is upside-down and insane.

T-25.VIII.5. Can this sacrifice of the innocent be justice? 2 God knows not of this strange egoic version of justice. 3 But justice does God know, and God knows justice well. 4 For God is wholly fair to everyone. 5 Vengeance is alien to God's Mind <because> God knows of justice. 6 To be just is to be fair, and not be vengeful. 7 Fairness and vengeance are impossible, for each one contradicts the other and denies that the other is real. 8 It is impossible for you to share the Holy Spirit's justice with a mind that can conceive of specialness at all. 9 Yet how could God be just if God condemns a sinner for the crimes he did not do, but thinks he did? 10 And where would justice be if God demanded of the ones obsessed with the idea of punishment that they lay the idea of punishment aside, unaided, and perceive that the idea of punishment is not true?

Note # 66: An insane person cannot comprehend the logic of the sane mind. A person that believes sin is real cannot be expected to understand that what they perceive as sin never happened and thus, no punishment is required. If I dream that I killed the Son of God, should I be punished? The ego says yes. The Holy Spirit understands that we are under the illusion of the separation and that the dream is not real in the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit will carefully and gently reawaken the sleeping child so that the child’s dream can be forgotten. The Holy Spirit will not forcefully awaken us since that would increase our fear.

T-25.VIII.6. It is extremely hard for those who still believe sin meaningful to understand the Holy Spirit's justice. 2 They who still believe sin is meaningful must believe the Holy Spirit shares their own confusion, and that the Holy Spirit cannot avoid the vengeance that their own egoic belief in justice must entail. 3 And so they fear the Holy Spirit, and perceive the "wrath" of God in the Holy Spirit. 4 Nor can they who still find sin meaningful trust the Holy Spirit not to strike them dead with lightning bolts torn from the "fires" of Heaven by God's Own angry Hand. 5 They who find sin meaningful <do> believe that Heaven is hell, and <are> afraid of love. p535 6 And deep suspicion and the chill of fear comes over them who still find sin meaningful when they are told that they have never sinned. 7 Their egoic world depends on sin's stability. 8 And they who still find sin meaningful perceive the "threat" of what God knows as justice to be more destructive to themselves and to their egoic world than vengeance, which they understand and love.

Note # 67: If sin is not real, the entire egoic thought system, which is based on sin and the preservation of sin, is insane. To accept the sinlessness of the Sonship would end specialness and the world that our egoic mind knows and claims to understand. The loss of our egoic specialness is more frightening to us than the idea that we must burn in hell for our sins. Because we want to be special, we side with the ego and claim that God, not the ego, is the insane one. For us to be special someone must lack and lack is the belief in sin.

T-25.VIII.7. So do they who still find sin meaningful think the loss of sin a curse. 2 And flee the Holy Spirit as if the Holy Spirit were a messenger from hell, sent from above, in
treachery and guile, to work God's vengeance on them who find sin meaningful in the guise of a deliverer and friend. 3 What could the Holy Spirit be to them who still find sin meaningful except a devil, dressed to deceive within an angel's cloak. 4 And what escape has the Holy Spirit for them who find sin meaningful except a door to hell that seems to look like Heaven's gate?

Note # 68: The ego’s thought system is similar to George Orwell’s double-think. True is false and false is true. The God of Love has been transformed into the egoic god of revenge. The Holy Spirit becomes the great deceiver instead of the Voice for Truth. The egoic world was made to confuse our decision-maker and keep him in victim consciousness. It is difficult for the dreamer to let go of all the illusions that the world of form upholds as truth. Only after we despair of all hope that the ego can lead us to happiness, will we choose to hear the voice for reason that tells us “there must be a better way.” This is the little willingness that the Holy Spirit needs from us so that It can come to our aid.

T-25.VIII.8 Yet justice cannot punish those who ask for punishment, but have a Judge in the Holy Spirit, Who knows that they are wholly innocent in truth. 2 In justice the Holy Spirit is bound to set the holy innocent free, and give them all the honor the innocent deserve and have denied themselves because they are not fair, and cannot understand that they are innocent. 3 Love is not understandable to sinners because sinners think that justice is split off from love, and stands for something else. 4 And thus, to those who believe in sin is love perceived as weak, and vengeance strong. 5 For love has lost when judgment left its side, and is too weak to save the innocent from punishment. 6 But egoic vengeance without love has gained in strength by being separate and apart from love. 7 And what but egoic vengeance now can help and save, while love stands feebly by with helpless hands, bereft of justice and vitality, and powerless to save?

Note # 69: Due to the ego’s belief that we have sinned, the ego demands that someone must be punished. The ego claims that God is helpless to save us from this punishment that the ego demands. If this were true, the ego’s will would be more powerful then God’s. God would be forced to follow the egoic thought system, which would mean that sin had now become real. God’s Will cannot be usurped by the insane belief system of the ego.

T-25.VIII.9 What can Love ask of you who think that all of this egoic logic about sin, love, justice and vengeance is true? 2 Could God and the Holy Spirit in justice and in love, believe that in your confusion you have much to give? 3 You are not asked to trust the Holy Spirit far. 4 You are asked to trust no more than what you see the Holy Spirit offers you, and what you recognize you could not give yourself. 5 In God's Own justice does the Holy Spirit recognize all you deserve, but understands as well that you cannot accept all you deserve for yourself. 6 It is the Holy Spirit’s special function to hold out to you the gifts the innocent deserve. 7 And every one of the gifts that the innocent deserve that you accept brings joy to God and the Holy Spirit as well as you. 8 The Holy Spirit knows that Heaven is richer made by each gift you accept. 9 And God rejoices as His Son receives what loving justice knows to be his due. 10 For love and
justice are not different. 11 *Because* love and justice are the same does mercy stand at God's right Hand, and gives the Son of God the power to forgive himself of sin.

**Note # 70:** The Holy Spirit rejects the ego’s belief in sin. The Holy Spirit knows “egoic sin” is actually only a mistake that requires correction. It reinterprets our misperception about sin and grants us the gifts that God’s justice demands. The Holy Spirit declares the verdict based on the truth. The Holy Spirit’s verdict is and always will be that, “God’s Son is sinless and innocent.”

T-25.VIII.10. To him, God’s innocent Son who merits everything, how can it be that anything be kept from him, **who has temporarily forgotten that he is the innocent Son of God**? p536 2 For that would be injustice, and unfair indeed to all the holiness that is in him, the Christ, however much he recognize his holiness not. 3 God knows of no injustice. 4 God would not allow His Son be judged by those who still find sin meaningful and seek his death, and could not see his worth at all. 5 What honest witnesses could they who seek the death of the innocent call forth to speak on his behalf? 6 And who would come to plead for him, the innocent, and not against his life? 7 No justice would be given to him, the innocent, by your egoic self. 8 Yet God ensured that justice would be done unto the Son God loves, and would protect God’s innocent Son from all unfairness your egoic little “s” self might seek to offer, believing vengeance is his proper due.

**Note #71:** God does not allow the ego to overrule what God knows to be justice. The Holy Spirit tells us that we must suspend all judgment about others and ourselves. It knows that the insane cannot be expected to judge correctly. The only judgment that we are capable of correctly making is that we are incapable of judging anything correctly.

T-25.VIII.11. As specialness cares not who pays the cost of sin, so long as the cost of sin be paid, the Holy Spirit heeds not who looks on innocence at last, provided innocence is seen and recognized. 2 For just <one> witness to the innocence of the Sonship is enough, if he sees truly. 3 Simple justice asks no more than honest witness to declare that God’s Son is innocent. 4 Of each one does the Holy Spirit ask if he will be that one witness for a brother’s innocence, so justice may return to love and there be satisfied. 5 Each special function the Holy Spirit allots is but for this; the witnessing of our brother’s innocence that each one learn that love and justice are not separate. 6 And both the witness and the brother are strengthened by their union with each other. 7 Without love is justice prejudiced and weak. 8 And love without justice is impossible. 9 For love is fair, and cannot chasten without cause. 10 What cause can be to warrant an attack upon the innocent? 11 In justice, then, does love correct mistakes, but not in vengeance. 12 For vengeance would be unjust to the innocence.

**Note # 72:** Since the ego would extract sin’s punishment from the sinless, this cannot be justice, but rather it is vengeance. Revenge is not justice. Love does not seek vengeance. Love does not judge or require someone earn the right to be loved. Love seeks only that the innocent obtain the gift of the Peace of God, which is their divine birthright.
T-25.VIII.12. You can be perfect witness to the power of love and justice, if you understand it is impossible the Son of God could merit vengeance. 2 You need not perceive that it is impossible that the Son of God could merit vengeance in every circumstance, for this fact to be true. 3 Nor need you look to your experience within the egocic world of perception, which is but shadows of all that is really happening within yourself. 4 The understanding that you need comes not of you, but from a larger Self, your Christ consciousness, so great and holy that He, the Holy Spirit, could not doubt the Son of God's innocence. 5 Your special function is a call to the Christ, that the Christ may smile on you whose sinlessness the Christ shares. 6 The Christ's understanding will be yours. 7 And so the Holy Spirit's special function has been fulfilled. 8 God's Son has found a witness unto his sinlessness and not his sins. 9 How little need you give the Holy Spirit that simple justice may be given you.

Note # 73: The Christ is your Big “S” Self and the home of the Holy Spirit. We merely need a little willingness to become a witness for the truth and the Holy Spirit will do the rest. We offer our misperception to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and He reinterprets them correctly so that we can look upon both our brothers and ourselves as innocent. Each time we ask for this guidance, the result will encourage us to ask again. Both the Christ in your brother and yourself bear witness to your joint sinless and guiltless nature as part of the One Self that is the holographic Mind of God.

T-25.VIII.13. Without impartiality there is no justice. 2 How can specialness be just? 3 Judge not because you cannot judge correctly. But do not think that you are unable to judge correctly because you are a miserable sinner too. 4 How can the special really understand that justice is the same for everyone when they perceive differences that do not exist? 5 To take from one to give to another must be an injustice to them both, since they are equal in the Holy Spirit's sight. 6 Their Father gave the same inheritance to both. 7 Who would have more or less is not aware that he has everything. 8 He who believes in specialness is no judge of what must be another's due, because he thinks he is deprived. 9 And so must he who believes in specialness be envious, and try to take away from whom he judges. 10 He who believes in specialness is not impartial, and cannot fairly see another's rights because his own have been obscured to him.

Note # 74: When we claim to be special, we deny that we are a part of the indivisible Oneness of Everything. Coming from the belief in lack, we seek to steal from another what we perceive we lack. We have lost impartiality and cannot see the big picture. If we fail to understand the truth about ourselves, how can we expect to properly judge another?

T-25.VIII.14. You have the right to all the universe; to perfect peace, complete deliverance from all effects of sin, and to the life eternal, joyous and complete in every way, as God appointed for His holy Son. 2 This is the only justice Heaven knows, and all the Holy Spirit brings to earth. 3 Your special function of seeing the Christ in another shows you nothing else but perfect justice can prevail for you. 4 And you are safe from vengeance in all forms. 5 The world deceives, but the egocic world cannot replace God's justice with a version of its own. 6 For only love is just, and only love can perceive what
justice must accord the Son of God. 7 Let love decide, and never fear that you, in your egoic unfairness, will deprive yourself of what God's justice has allotted you, the Holy Son of God.

**Note # 75:** Our divine birthright is preserved for us always within the Mind of God. By witnessing for the truth about the innocence of our brother, our minds are joined and this union grants sinlessness and salvation to both. We accept God’s only judgment about His Creation, which is that we are, and always will be, perfect, whole and complete. We see that both minds are one with the shared holographic the Mind of God.

**IX. The Justice of Heaven**

**T-25.IX.1.** What can it be but arrogance to think your little errors cannot be undone by Heaven's justice? 2 And what could this mean except that you believe that your little errors are sins and not mistakes, forever uncorrectable, and to be met with vengeance, not with justice? 3 Are you willing to be released from all effects of sin? 4 You cannot answer this question about you willingness to be released from all effects of sin until you see all that the answer must entail. 5 For if you answer "yes" to this question about you willingness to be released from all effects of sin, it means you will forego all values of this egoic world in favor of the peace of Heaven. 6 Not one sin would you retain. 7 And not one doubt that this is possible will you hold dear that sin be kept in place. 8 You mean that truth has greater value now than all illusions. 9 And you recognize that truth must be revealed to you, because you know not what truth is.

**Note # 76:** We cannot be totally committed, sometimes. We cannot continue to believe that we are sometimes the arbitrators for truth. Our desire to withhold one illusion from truth is to deny that we seek only truth. We cannot pick and choose when and what will be the truth for us. The truth is immutable. It just is.

In this world of perception, we value what we believe that we lack. To answer yes to the question about our willingness to give up all effects of sin means that we will no longer value anything in the world of illusion. If we fully accept that this world is a dream of nothingness, this should not be hard to do. We would be asked to no longer value nothingness. To give up nothing should be easy. Yet, we do value and find it hard to abandon specialness’ nothingness. Every time we refuse to hand over our misperceptions and egoic judgments to the Holy Spirit, we are valuing the nothingness of specialness. Specialness requires belief in lack and inequality. Lack requires the belief in sin. Thus, by our actions, we insist that we value sin and that we are sinners. We refuse the Holy Spirit our “little willingness” that is required to awaken to our innocence.

**T-25.IX.2.** To give reluctantly is not to gain the gift, because you are reluctant to accept the gift that you reluctantly give. 2 The gift is saved for you until reluctance to receive the gift disappears, and you are willing to let the gift be given you. 3 God's justice warrants gratitude, not fear. 4 Nothing you give is lost to you or anyone, but cherished and preserved in Heaven, where all of the treasures given to God's Son are kept for him,
and **these treasures given God's Son are** offered anyone who but holds out his hand in willingness **that these treasures** be received. p538 5 Nor is the treasure less as **the treasure** is given out. 6 Each gift but adds to the supply. 7 For God is fair. 8 **God** does not fight against His Son's reluctance to perceive salvation as a gift from **God**. 9 Yet would **God's justice** not be satisfied until **the gift of salvation** is received by everyone.

**Note # 77:** If we insist on seeing even one brother as sinful, we are demonstrating our reluctance to look upon the entire Sonship as sinless. Our reluctance to grant salvation to all our brethren means that we are still unwilling to accept God’s plan for our own salvation. There is still some value that we place on specialness and sin. Until all valuing of sin’s “worldly gifts” have been removed from our split mind, we will refuse to accept the Atonement for ourselves.

**T-25.IX.3.** Be certain any answer to a problem the Holy Spirit solves will always be one in which no one loses. 2 And this **fact that no one loses when the Holy Spirit resolves a problem** must be true, because the **Holy Spirit** asks no sacrifice of anyone. 3 An answer which demands the slightest loss to anyone has not resolved the problem, but has added to **the problem** and made **the problem** greater, harder to resolve and more unfair. 4 It is impossible the Holy Spirit could see unfairness as a resolution. 5 To the **Holy Spirit**, what is unfair must be corrected <because> it is unfair. 6 And every error is a perception in which one **side**, at least, is seen unfairly. 7 Thus is justice not accorded to the Son of God. 8 When anyone is seen as losing, he has been condemned. 9 And punishment becomes **the condemned's** due instead of justice for the **losing side**.

**Note # 78:** The Holy Spirit resolves errors of misperception by correction, which does not require any loss or sacrifice on either side. The problem is resolved by bring illusion to the light of truth. The egoic idea of an eye for an eye never works. Instead, it just perpetuates the problem and transfers it to each succeeding generation. Sacrifice always leaves someone feeling wronged and demanding revenge. This revenge the ego calls justice.

**T-25.IX.4.** The sight of innocence makes punishment impossible, and justice sure. 2 The Holy Spirit's perception leaves no ground for an attack **since He sees the innocence of the Sonship**. 3 Only a loss could justify attack, and loss of any kind **the Holy Spirit** cannot see. 4 The world solves problems in another way. 5 The **egoic world** sees a resolution as a state in which it is decided who shall win and who shall lose; how much the one shall take, and how much can the loser still defend. 6 Yet does the problem still remain unsolved, for only justice can set up a state in which there is no loser; no one left unfairly treated and deprived, and thus with grounds for vengeance. 7 Problem solving cannot be vengeance, which at best can bring another problem added to the first, in which the murder is not obvious.

**Note # 79:** The Holy Spirit knows that we are unlimited spirit and can suffer no loss. Thus, there can be no justification for attack or revenge. The ego believes that we are limited ego-bodies in competition with other limited ego-bodies. The ego believes that everything we have or will possess must be obtained by attack and will be lost by attack.
Any so-called peace-treaty is merely an armistice to allow each side to regroup until the next attack, which is inevitable. A resolution that demands a winner and a loser insures that each party will continue to perceive the other as different than themselves and thus, the enemy.

T-25.IX.5. The Holy Spirit's problem solving is the way in which the problem ends. 2 The problem has been solved because the problem has been met with justice. 3 Until the problem has been met with justice, the problem will recur, because the problem has not yet been solved. 4 The principle that justice means no one can lose is crucial to this course. 5 For miracles depend on justice. 6 Not as justice is seen through this world's egoic eyes, but as God knows justice and as knowledge is reflected in the sight the Holy Spirit gives, which is Christ vision.

Note # 80: Egoic justice is revenge and thus, never resolves the problem. Egoic justice focuses on the remembrance of the past, which insures that the future will be the past revisited. The circular cycle of attack, sacrifice and revenge continues indefinitely until someone declares, “there must be a better way.” This asking for guidance allows the Holy Spirit to come to the rescue.

T-25.IX.6. No one deserves to lose. 2 And what would be unjust to him, which is to lose, cannot occur. 3 Healing must be for everyone, because everyone does not merit an attack of any kind. 4 What order can there be in miracles, unless someone deserves to suffer more and others less? 5 And is this justice to the wholly innocent? 6 A miracle <is> true justice based of the laws of God. 7 A miracle is not a special gift to some, while the miracle can be withheld from others as less worthy, more condemned, and thus apart from healing. p539 8 Who is there who can be separate from salvation, if salvation's purpose is the end of specialness? 9 Where is salvation's justice if some errors are unforgivable, and warrant vengeance in place of healing and return of peace?

Note # 81: Since all errors are only mistakes, not sin, all errors merely require correction. There is no degree of difficulty in miracles since any illusion when brought into the light of truth fades away. With sin’s specialness gone, all parts of the Sonship are seen as innocent. The split-minded, who suffer from illusion of specialness and belief in sin, require truth’s healing power, not the ego’s damnation.

T-25.IX.7. Salvation cannot seek to help God's Son be more unfair than his egoic small “s” self has sought to be. 2 If miracles, the Holy Spirit's gift, were given specially to an elect and special group, and kept apart from others as less deserving, then is the Holy Spirit an ally to specialness. 3 What the Holy Spirit cannot perceive, which is our claim to specialness, the Holy Spirit bears no witness to. 4 And everyone is equally entitled to the Holy Spirit’s gift of healing and deliverance and peace. 5 To give a problem to the Holy Spirit to solve for you means that you <want> the problem solved. 6 To keep the problem for yourself to solve without the Holy Spirit’s help is to decide the problem should remain unsettled, unresolved, and lasting in the problem’s power of injustice and attack. 7 No one can be unjust to you, unless you have decided first to <be> unjust. 8 And then because you decided first to <be> unjust must problems rise to
block your way, and peace be scattered by the winds of hate.

**Note # 82:** The mad cannot resolve their own problems within their own mind since their split-mind is the problem. Only by asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit can the solution be found. If asked, the Holy Spirit will transform all misperception into correct perception by aligning the experience with the laws of God. In this realignment by the Holy Spirit, God’s Laws replace the laws of chaos.

**T-25.IX.8.** Unless you think that all your brothers have an equal right to miracles with you, you will not claim your right to **the same miracles** because you were unjust to someone with equal rights as you. 2 Seek to deny and you will feel denied. 3 Seek to deprive, and you have been deprived. 4 A miracle can never be received because another could receive **the miracle** not. 5 Only forgiveness offers miracles. 6 And pardon must be just to everyone.

**Note # 83:** If we are reluctant to offer forgiveness to anyone, it means that we still find some value in this world. We still believe in sin and lack. The reluctant giver cannot receive since he is also reluctant to take the same gift he would reluctantly offer another. When we withhold forgiveness from another, we reject the miracles that our forgiveness offers to ourselves.

**T-25.IX.9.** The little problems that you keep and hide become your secret sins, because you did not choose to let **these problems be given to the Holy Spirit so that these “secret sins” can** be removed for you. 2 And so your secret sins gather dust and grow, until your secret sins cover everything that you perceive and leave you fair to no one. 3 Not one right do you believe you have. 4 And bitterness, with vengeance justified and mercy lost, condemns you as unworthy of forgiveness. 5 The unforgiven have no mercy to bestow upon another. 6 That is why your sole responsibility must be to take forgiveness for yourself.

**Note # 84:** In this world, we often are our own harshest critic and judge. Rather than beat ourselves up over our errors, we need to look at each error as a learning process and choose again. We often are willing to help others yet, we would never ask another to help us. We need to realize this is our ego talking. In this egoic world, we need to realize that by not allowing someone to aid us, we are denying him or her the opportunity to be loving. ACIM states the other person is rewarded by their gift to us because we are one and to give is to receive. ACIM also recognizes that sometimes a person will appear that can temporarily give us what we perceive that we lack. If magic will decrease our fear, ACIM states that you should accept the magic pill since it will help you control or remove your fear. The Holy Spirit will never do anything that would increase your fear and neither should we. We need to always remember to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, rather than listen to our egoic thought system.

**T-25.IX.10.** The miracle that you receive is **the miracle that** you give. 2 Each miracle becomes an illustration of the law on which salvation rests; that justice must be done to all, if anyone is to be healed. 3 **Salvation rest on this principle that** no one can lose, and
everyone must benefit. 4 Each miracle is an example of what justice can accomplish when justice is offered to everyone alike. 5 Justice is received and given equally. 6 Justice is the awareness that giving and receiving are the same. 7 Because justice does not make the same unlike, justice sees no differences where none exists. p540 8 And thus, justice is the same for everyone, because justice sees no differences in anyone. 9 Justice’s offering is universal, and justice teaches but one message:

10 *What is God's belongs to everyone, and is everyone’s due.* p541

**Note # 85:** We all share the Oneness that is God. All parts are indivisible and each part contains the whole. Creation is extension. When God created, He gave everything because God gave the All that is Himself. There can be no specialness in the Oneness of Everything and God’s Son cannot be happy with littleness. Together, we are that holographic One Self.
Chapter 26. THE TRANSITION

I. The "Sacrifice" of Oneness

T-26.I.1. In the "dynamics" of attack is sacrifice a key idea. 2 Sacrifice is the pivot upon which all compromise, all desperate attempts to strike a bargain, and all conflicts achieve a seeming balance. 3 Sacrifice is the symbol of the central theme that somebody must lose.> 4 Sacrifice’s focus on the body is apparent, for sacrifice is always an attempt to limit loss. 5 The body is itself a sacrifice; a giving up of power in the name of saving just a little power for yourself. 6 To see a brother in another body, separate from your body, is the expression of a wish to see a little part of your brother and sacrifice the rest of the One Self. 7 Look at the world as bodily forms, and you will see nothing attached to anything beyond itself. 8 All seeming entities can come a little nearer, or go a little farther off, but cannot join.

Note # 1: Bodies cannot join, only minds can. Identify anything as a body and you limit it. Spirit is an unlimited Oneness. By egoically focusing on form, not content, we make the separation appear real.

T-26.I.2. The world of perception that you see is based on "sacrifice" of oneness. 2 This egoic world of form is a picture of complete disunity and total lack of joining. 3 Around each entity is built a wall so seeming solid that each entity looks as if what is inside the wall can never reach without, and what is outside the body-wall can never reach and join with what is locked away within the wall. 4 Each part of the Oneness must sacrifice the other part outside its own body-wall, to keep itself complete as a separate ego-body. 5 For if they joined each one would lose its own separate ego-body’s identity, and by their separation as a body are their selves’ egoically maintained.

Note # 2: The body is the symbol of the separation. Seeing ourselves as separate ego-bodies, we bear false witness against our spiritual essences. To define is to limit. When we identify ourselves as the body, we raise the body’s form over our spirit’s content. Form may appear diverse and different, yet the content of our spiritual Oneness remains the same. Although form appears to witness for separation, we remain a Oneness.

T-26.I.3. The little that the body fences off becomes the little “s” self, preserved through sacrifice of all the rest of the Oneness. 2 And now you perceive that all the rest of the Oneness must lose you, this little separate ego-body part. The remaining “partial oneness” now must remain incomplete to keep its own separate identity intact. 3 In this misperception of yourself as the body, the body's loss would be a sacrifice indeed. 4 For
sight of bodies becomes the sign that sacrifice is limited, and something still remains for you alone. 5 And for this little part that is perceived as separate from the Oneness to belong to you are limits placed on everything outside, just as limits are placed on everything you think is yours inside the body. 6 For giving and receiving are the same according to the laws of God. 7 And to accept the limits of a body is to impose these bodily limits on each brother whom you see. 8 For you must see your brother as you see yourself, which is as a separate ego-body.

Note # 3: To see the body is to identify something as limited. When we claim to be the little “s” self, we deny our Christ consciousness, which is the Big “S” Self of the Oneness. We sacrifice our spiritual magnificence for the desire to be a little “s” self that claims to be special. Thus, we deny the reality of being a Oneness of everything, for our erroneous claim for egoic littleness and limitation.

T-26.I.4. The body <is> a loss, and the body <can> be made to sacrifice. 2 And while you see your brother as a body, apart from you and separate in his bodily prison cell, you are demanding sacrifice of him and you. 3 What greater sacrifice could be demanded than that God's Son perceive himself without his Father? p542 4 And his Father, God, Himself, must sacrifice and be without His Son? 5 Yet every sacrifice demands that the Father and His Son be separate and without the other. 6 The memory of God must be denied if any sacrifice is asked of anyone. 7 What witness to the Wholeness of God's Son is seen within a world of separate bodies, however much he witnesses to truth? 8 The Son of God's Wholeness is invisible in such a world of separate ego-bodies. 9 Nor can the Son of God's song of union and of love be heard at all in the egoic world of form. 10 Yet is it given God's Son to make the egoic world of form recede before his song, and sight of Christ vision replace the body's eyes.

Note # 4: God has given us the mission of returning our brother's sleeping mind to the truth. God’s plan for our return to knowledge calls for the Holy Spirit to reinterpret the false witnesses of our egoic perception into witnesses for the truth of union. By forgiveness, we reawaken our Christ vision and join mentally with our brothers in the shared Oneness that is the Mind of God.

T-26.I.5. Those who would see the witnesses to truth instead of the witnesses to illusion merely ask that they might see a purpose in the world that gives the world of form sense and makes the world of perception meaningful. 2 Without your special function, which is the returning of your brother to right-mindedness, has this world no meaning for you. 3 Yet this world of perception can become a treasure house as rich and limitless as Heaven itself. 4 No instant passes here in this world of perception in which your brother's holiness cannot be seen, to add a limitless supply of holiness to every meager scrap and tiny crumb of happiness that you allot yourself.

Note # 5: This world of perception can be used to witness for either truth or the illusion of separation. Our decision-maker must decide which thought system it will follow. If we see our brother as sinless, we grant that same sinlessness to ourselves. When we see him as a body, we join him in the bodily-prison of sin, guilt and fear.
T-26.I.6. You can lose sight of oneness, but you cannot make sacrifice of the oneness into a reality. 2 Nor can you lose the oneness that you would sacrifice, nor keep the Holy Spirit from His task of showing you that the oneness has not been lost. 3 Hear, then, the song your brother sings to you of the oneness, and let the world recede, and take the rest his witness offers on behalf of peace. 4 But judge your brother not, for you will hear no song of liberation for yourself, nor see what it is given him to witness to, which is our sinless oneness, that you may see your liberation and rejoice with your brother. 5 Make not your brother's holiness a sacrifice to your belief in sin. 6 You sacrifice your innocence with your brother's innocence, and die each time you see in your brother a sin deserving death.

Note # 6: Although our misperception cannot change truth, our beliefs will affect and control the interpretation of the awareness that we allow ourselves to perceive and experience. Believe that we are sinners and we will project this belief into the world of perception thus, experiencing only a sinful world. It is our beliefs that become the governor of our private dream world of provisional reality. Sacrifice our brother's holiness and we deny our own oneness.

T-26.I.7. Yet every instant can you be reborn, and given life again. 2 Your brother's holiness gives life to you, who cannot die because his sinlessness is known to God; and your brother's sinlessness can no more be sacrificed by you than can the light in you be blotted out because your brother sees not your light. 3 You who would make a sacrifice of life, and make your eyes and ears bear witness to the death of God and the death of His holy Son, think not that you have power to make of God and His Creation what God willed not They be. 4 In Heaven, God's Son is not imprisoned in a body, nor is God's Son sacrificed in solitude to sin. 5 And as God's Son is in Heaven, so must he be eternally and everywhere. 6 God's Son is the same forever. 7 God's Son is born again each instant, untouched by time, and far beyond the reach of any sacrifice of life or death. 8 For neither did God's Son make life or death, and only one, the gift of life, was given God's Son by One, the Father, Who knows His gifts can never suffer sacrifice and loss.

Note # 7: God's Will is certain and changeless. We remain as God created us, perfect, whole and complete. We can refuse and temporarily deny our birthright but we can never lose our inheritance.

Life comes from God, for God is life. The truth is that the Sonship abides as an eternal oneness of the Mind of God. God is Cause and we His Effect and when God extended Himself, we became part of that holographic One Self.

T-26.I.8. God's justice rests in gentleness upon His Son, and God's justice keeps His Son safe from all injustice the world would lay upon God's Son. 2 Could it be that you could make your brother's imagined sins reality, and sacrifice his Father's Will for him, which is that God's creation remain perfect and sinless? 3 Condemn your brother not by seeing him within the rotting prison where he sees himself as a separate body. 4 It is your special function to ensure the prison door of the belief in separation be
opened, that your brother may come forth to shine on you, and give you back the gift of freedom by receiving his freedom of you. 5 What is the Holy Spirit's special function but to release the holy Son of God from the imprisonment he made to keep himself from justice? 6 Could your function be a task apart and separate from the Holy Spirit's Own function, which is the release the holy Son of God from the Sonship’s self-imprisonment in the illusion of separation?

Note # 8: When either our brother or we align our goals with the Holy Spirit’s function, the choice for truth will be made. Ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and miracles will appear. Only our desire for our identification with the specialness of form keeps our mind imprisoned in the body. Drop the belief that we are an ego-body and we drop our demand for littleness. We are our own self-appointed guardians for either Heaven or hell. Only our decision-maker will decide when it will allow all the Sonship’s suffering inmates to go home.

II. Many Forms; One Correction

T-26.II.1. It is not difficult to understand the reasons why you do not ask the Holy Spirit to solve all problems for you. 2 The Holy Spirit has not greater difficulty in resolving some problems than others. 3 Every problem is the same to the Holy Spirit, because each problem is solved in just the same respect and through the same approach. 4 The aspects that need solving for each problem do not change, whatever form the problem seems to take. 5 A problem can appear in many forms, and the problem will do so while the problem lasts. 6 It serves no purpose to attempt to solve the problem in a special form. 7 When we attempted to resolve the problem by dealing with a special form or effect of the problem, it will recur and then recur again and yet again, until the problem has been answered at the causative level for all time and will not rise again in any form. 8 And only then by correcting the problem at the root cause are you released from the entire problem.

Note # 9: Since all problems are errors in perception, we need to resolve the problem at the level of the mind where the error arose. When we ignore the cause of the problem, we are only placing a bandage over the effect of the problem. We mask the result today only to find that the problem manifests tomorrow in a new area of our life. If we believe that we are the body, administering to the neutral communication device we call the body will not correct the source of the problem, which lies in our mind’s erroneous belief that it is a body. We often choose to deal with the immediate form that the problem takes. Yet, if we wish to be healed, we need to focus our healing at the true root cause, which is always our attempt to make an illusionary form appear to be our reality. We have attempted to make the false, true. The Truth is that nothing real can be threatened and nothing unreal exists. There can be no separation in a Oneness of “All That Is.”

EXAMPLE: If someone is throwing people off a bridge, we can choose to stand down stream, fishing the victims out of the water and saving a few before they drown. But, if we wish to resolve the problem, we need to go to the root cause. We need to stop the
person who is throwing the people off the bridge. By correcting the problem at the core causative level, there are no longer any bodies down stream to save.

T-26.II.2. The Holy Spirit offers you release from every problem that you think you have. 2 All problems are the same to the Holy Spirit because each problem, regardless of the form it seems to take, is a demand that someone suffer loss and make a sacrifice that you might gain. 3 And when the situation is worked out so no one loses is the problem gone, because the original error that loss is possible was an error in perception that now that error in thinking’s perception has been corrected. 4 One mistake is not more difficult for the Holy Spirit to bring to truth than another mistake. 5 For there <is> but one mistake; the whole idea that loss is possible, and could result in gain for anyone. 6 If the belief that loss is possible were true, then God would be unfair; sin would be possible, attack be justified and vengeance fair.

Note # 10: If loss were possible, it would mean that God’s Will had been overturned. The egoic mind can deny its inheritance but the Son of God’s inheritance can never be lost. Our divine birthright is always preserved for us by God’s Will and only awaits our reawakening from our game of pretending that we could be something other than what God created us to be.

The world of perception is our “private” provisional reality because it has no ability to change how God created us. Yet, due to our mind’s creative powers, this dream does appear to control our current life’s experiences. The dream has no real power to affect us since we are the dreamer or the dream’s cause. Yet, because within our mind we have chosen to deny our ownership of the dream, we have abandoned our active control over the dream. Now it appears that the dream has power to seemingly control our life’s experience.

Since we are the generator of our own perceptions, these perceptions are unable to change its creator, which is our own mind. Thus, the world we perceive is causeless when it comes to its ability to impact change upon our true reality which was determined by God. ACIM points out that something that has no effect to change the reality of what you are is nothing to you. It produces no measurable results upon you, its source. This making of images that are not your true self is not extension but rather projection. It is imagining. Projection takes place in our imagination, not in the Mind of God. We project in order to believe the egoic stories we have made up about who we are. We believe on both a collective and individual level that we have needs and that fear is real. Projection comes from the mindset of lack and the belief that we are not whole and complete. What you project is what you believe you are. Your earthly world is but a reflection of how you see yourself to be. As long as we perceive ourselves as imperfect and incomplete, we will engage in projection. Only when we know ourselves to be perfect, whole and complete, will we co-create with God.

Creation is the simple act of becoming what you already are by extending yourself outward. Creation is outward bound and is a one-way street. Being only outward bound, the extension of the cause cannot boomerang back upon its creator and change its creator. This one-way street protects the creator and maintains the eternal expansion of the Oneness that is the Mind of God. It preserves the changelessness of eternity. Thus, God who is First Cause has a Son. God’s Son has Its own child, who can have children of
their own. In human genealogy, the Son’s Child, would make God a grandfather. But although a child can have children of their own, they cannot birth their parents. Creation or extension is this one-way street. We are becoming what we already are by extending ourselves. There is no change, just expansion.

Projection does not extend what we are. Projection is an attempt to make what we falsely think we are. We hope to find something outside ourselves that will complete us. It is our denial that we are already whole and complete. Thus, projection only takes place in the mind of the perceiver, while extension expands the whole and is shared throughout the Oneness. This sharing of ourselves by extending what we truly are is co-creation with the Father. Creation is the domain of heaven and knowledge. Without reclaiming knowledge, the closest we can come to extension in the world of perception, time and space is the Holy Spirit’s correct perception that is found in the happy dream. True forgiveness is the path that leads the split-minded toward the happy dream. God will take the final step in the Sonship’s return to knowledge. This return to knowledge and Truth is beyond the illusion of perception’s time, space and form.

T-26.II.3. This one mistake that the belief in loss is possible, in any form, has one correction. 2 There is no loss and to think there is loss is a mistake. 3 You have no problems, though you think you have problems. 4 And yet you could not think you had problems if you saw them vanish one by one, without regard to size, complexity, or place and time, or any attribute which you perceive that makes each form of the problem seem different from the rest p544. 5 Think not the limits you impose on what you see can limit God in any way.

Note # 11: Our egoic illusions have no power to bind or change the Will of God. Only the insane believe an illusion can affect the truth.

T-26.II.4. The miracle of the true justice of God can correct all errors. 2 Every problem is an error. 3 The error caused by egoic thinking does injustice to the Son of God, and therefore is not true. 4 The Holy Spirit does not evaluate injustices as great or small, or more or less. 5 Injustices in any form upon the Son of God have no properties to the Holy Spirit. 6 Injustices in any form upon the Son of God are mistakes from which the Son of God is suffering, but suffering needlessly. 7 And so the Holy Spirit takes the thorns and nails away. 8 The Holy Spirit does not pause to judge whether the hurt be large or little. 9 The Holy Spirit makes but one judgment; that to hurt God's Son must be unfair and therefore is not so and that this mistake in thinking that God's Son could be hurt and suffer loss must be corrected.

Note # 12: The Holy Spirit knows that God sees us as perfect, whole and complete and, therefore, only this can be true. When asked, the Holy Spirit reinterprets our misperception in thinking and transforms these errors in our perception into correct alignment with the truth of our sinlessness.

T-26.II.5. You who believe it safe to give but some mistakes to be corrected by the Holy Spirit while you keep the other mistakes to yourself, remember this: Justice is total. 2 There is no such thing as partial justice. 3 If the Son of God is guilty then is he
condemned, and the guilty deserves no mercy from the God of justice. 4 But ask not God to punish God’s Son because <your egoic little “s” self> find him guilty and would have him die. 5 God offers you the means to see your brother’s and your own innocence. 6 Would it be fair to punish your brother and yourselves because your egoic mind will not look at what is there to see? 7 Each time you keep a problem for your egoic self to solve, or judge that it is one problem that has no resolution, you have made the problem you kept great, and past the hope of healing. 8 You deny that the miracle of justice <can> be fair.

**Note # 13:** We cannot refuse to grant forgiveness to some and not to all. Justice is not arbitrary. It must be total. All misperception must be given over to the Holy Spirit for correction. Our egoic mind cannot judge anything correctly. To allow the ego to handle any problem can only result in masking the error. The ego never addresses the root cause of the problem, which is its belief that if someone is to gain, someone else must lose. To the ego, everything is a zero-sum game and you must take if you are to have.

**T-26.II.6.** If God is just, then can there be no problems that justice cannot solve. 2 But you believe that some injustices are fair and good, and necessary to preserve your egoic self. 3 It is these problems that you think are great and cannot be resolved. 4 For there are those people and yourselves, whom you believe, require to be punished and you want them to suffer loss, and there is no one whom you wish to be preserved from sacrifice entirely. 5 Consider once again your special function of returning your brother to right-mindedness through the tool of forgiveness. 6 This one special function is given to you to see in him his perfect sinlessness. 7 And you will ask no sacrifice of your brother because you could not will he suffer loss. 8 The miracle of justice you call forth will rest on you as surely as on your brother. 9 Nor will the Holy Spirit be content until the miracle of God’s justice is received by everyone. 10 For what you give to the Holy Spirit is everyone’s miracle of justice, and by your giving it can the Holy Spirit ensure that everyone receives the gift of God’s justice equally.

**Note # 14:** When we offer our errors in perception over to the Holy Spirit, our egoic belief that loss is possible in a Oneness of Everything is corrected. Since to give is to receive, we will receive the same judgment that we placed upon our brother and now the same correction. All minds are joined and, therefore, all benefit equally. No one is required to sacrifice so that another can gain.

**T-26.II.7.** Think, then, how great your own release will be when you are willing to receive correction for all your problems. 2 You will not keep one problem, for pain in any form you will not want. 3 And you will see each little hurt resolved before the Holy Spirit’s gentle sight. 4 For all of these problems and hurts <are> little in the Holy Spirit sight, and worth no more than just a tiny sigh before the hurts disappear, to be forever undone and unremembered. p545 5 What seemed once to be a special problem, a mistake without a remedy, or an affliction without a cure, has been transformed into a universal blessing. 6 Sacrifice is gone. 7 And in sacrifice’s place the Love of God can be remembered, and will shine away all memory of sacrifice and loss.
Note # 15: The Holy Spirit replaces our illusionary problems with the truth that we are the unlimited spirit of the One Self. This is the remembrance of God. We reawaken to the fact that we share totally in the Oneness that is the holographic Mind of God. There can be no loss in a Oneness of Everything.

T-26.II.8. God cannot be remembered until justice is loved instead of feared. 2 God cannot be unjust to anyone or anything, because God knows that everything that is belongs to Him, and will forever be as God, Himself, created it. 3 Nothing God loves but must be sinless and beyond attack. 4 Your special function opens wide the door beyond which is the memory of God’s Love kept perfectly intact and undefiled. 5 And all you need to do is but to wish that Heaven be given you instead of hell; that all illusion be brought before the light of truth and every bolt and barrier that seems to hold the door to Heaven securely barred and locked will merely fall away and disappear. 6 For it is not your Father's Will that you should offer or receive less than the Oneness of Everything that God gave, when God created you in perfect love.

Note # 16: God’s changeless Will preserves, insures and protects our divine birthright. It cannot be lost, but we can in time temporarily pretend we have forgotten where we placed it. It is our free will to decide when we will reawaken from time’s temporary insanity. Only when we accept the guiltlessness of all our brothers and sisters, will we receive our freedom from our belief that God’s Love could be limited and opposed. When this decision is made, we will forget time and return to the changeless Oneness that is the eternal Mind of God.

III. The Borderland

T-26.III.1. Complexity is not of God. 2 How could complexity be of God, when all God knows is One? 3 God knows of one creation. God knows of one truth and but one Son. 4 Nothing conflicts with oneness. 5 How, then, could there be complexity in God? 6 What is there to decide? 7 For it is conflict that makes choice possible. 8 The truth is simple; the truth is one, without an opposite. 9 And how could strife enter in truth’s simple presence, and bring complexity where oneness is? 10 The truth makes no decisions, for there is nothing to decide <between.> There is only truth so what is there to choose between. 11 And only if there were something to decide between could choosing be a necessary step in the advance toward oneness. 12 What is everything leaves room for nothing else. 13 Yet is this magnitude beyond the scope of this curriculum of ACIM. 14 Nor is it necessary that we dwell on anything that cannot be immediately grasped.

Note # 17: The truth is that there is only the Mind of God, which is the eternal, changeless Oneness of Everything. Since there is only truth, there is nothing to choose between. A decision for the false has no effect on reality and thus, is a non-choice. The Holy Spirit, Who knows the truth, simply tells us to choose again and reminds us that the only option that we have is truth since only truth is real. Free will does not allow us to
change truth; it only allows us the choice of when we will decide to accept the truth for ourselves. The oneness of Truth is the answer that has already been determined by the Will of God. As God’s Creation, we get to decide the timing of when we will freely choose to accept the Atonement for ourselves.

**T-26.III.2.** There is a borderland of thought that stands between this world of perception and Heaven. 2 *This borderland of thought* is not a place, and when you reach it is apart from time. 3 Here *in this borderland of thought* is the meeting place where thoughts of truth and illusion are brought together; where conflicting values meet and all illusions are laid down beside the truth, where the illusions are judged to be untrue. 4 This borderland is just beyond the gate of Heaven. 5 Here is every thought made pure and wholly simple. p546 6 Here is sin denied, and everything that <is> real and thus, true is received instead.

**Note # 18:** This borderland is the place apart from time where all perceptions are realized to be either misperceptions or correct perceptions that mirror the truth. Perceptions that are fear based fade away before the light of the corrective properties of truth. Only perceptions that are love based and align with truth remain for we now desire only truth. The purpose of the journey of separation was to rediscover what we are. We now have learned that we are the extension of God’s love.

**T-26.III.3.** This *acceptance of our sinlessness and the return to truth* is the journey’s end. 2 We have referred to it as the real world. 3 And yet there is a contradiction here *in the real world*, in that the words imply a limited reality, a partial truth, a segment of the universe made true. 4 This is because knowledge makes no attack upon perception. 5 *Both knowledge and perception* are brought together, and only one, knowledge continues past the gate where oneness is. 6 Salvation is a borderland where place and time and choice have meaning still, and yet it can be seen that place, time and choice are temporary, out of place, and every choice has been already made.

**Note # 19:** With the acceptance of the Atonement and the realization that we are sinless, we no longer are under the spell or influence of the egoic thought system. The only voice we hear is the Voice for truth, the Holy Spirit. We now remember that the false is not an option and that change is impossible since there is only the one Mind of God. Choice is meaningless since the only option is truth. We understand and know the truth that, “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God.” This is the completion of the journey of rediscovery of what we are. We have returned from the “WHAT AM I STATE?” to the “I AM STATE.” We know that “I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE.”

**T-26.III.4.** Nothing the Son of God believes can be destroyed. 2 But what is truth to him must be brought to the last comparison that he will ever make, which is his belief between truth over illusion and knowledge over perception. This comparison of what God’s Son believes is the last evaluation that will be possible, the final judgment upon this world. 3 It is the judgment of the truth upon illusion, of knowledge on perception: "Both illusion and perception has no meaning, and does not exist." 4 This is
not your decision. 5 It is but a simple statement of a simple fact. 6 But in this world of perception there are no simple facts, because what is the same and what is different remain unclear. 7 The one essential thing to make a choice at all is this distinction that both illusion and perception have no meaning, and do not exist. 8 And herein lies the difference between the worlds. 9 In this one, the real world, choice is made impossible. We realize that the only option we can choose is truth over the nothingness of illusion. 10 In the real world is choosing simplified.

**Note # 20:** In this borderland that ACIM calls the real world, we realize that only truth exists and that our will is only to know the truth about ourselves. We freely choose the fact that our will and God’s Will are the same. We have become vigilant only for God, which is the Truth.

**T-26.III.5**. Salvation stops just short of Heaven, for only perception needs salvation. 2 Heaven was never lost, and so Heaven cannot be saved. 3 Yet who can make a choice between the wish for Heaven and the wish for hell unless he recognizes that Heaven and hell are not the same? 4 This difference that Heaven and hell are not the same is the learning goal this course has set. 5 ACIM will not go beyond this aim to teach that Heaven and hell, the true and the false are not the same. 6 ACIM’s only purpose is to teach what is the same and what is different, leaving room to make the only choice that can be made, which is the choice for truth.

**Note # 21:** In the world of perception, Heaven is represented by the thought system of the Holy Spirit; hell is represented by the thought system of the ego. Our decision-maker must decide which it will follow. ACIM teaches, “Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists.” Once we understand that only truth is real, our decision-maker will freely choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit. This choice for truth returns us to the peace of God, which is our destiny.

**T-26.III.6**. There is no basis for a choice in this complex and overcomplicated world of perception. 2 For no one understands in the world of egoic perception what is the same, and one seems to choose where no choice really is. In the world of egoic perception, we believe that deciding between which illusion we will follow is a choice. 3 The real world is the area of choice made real, not in the outcome, but in the perception of alternatives for choice. We realize that an illusion is not a viable choice. 4 That there is choice is an illusion. There is only truth. 5 Yet within this one correct perception that there is no choice but truth lies the undoing of every illusion, not excepting this illusion of the perception of alternatives for choice. There is never a choice that could make the false, true.

**Note # 22:** The will of God is absolute. Since we are the extension of God, our true will and the Father’s Will are the same. The game of separation was the mad idea that there could be something that could change the changeless. There can never be any conflict within a Oneness of Everything. God, which is love, cannot be threatened. God allows all within His dance of creation, which is the holographic Mind of God. God is invulnerable and, therefore, can be totally vulnerable to any thought that arises from the field of
consciousness that is God’s Mind. If the thought of separation arose in the field of consciousness, God allows it to be played out. God knows that truth is eternal and that the denial of truth can have no effect on the truth. God allows all because God just loves. God does not judge out of fear. To judge an illusion would only give the false the appearance that an illusion could be real. God rests in the truth that there is only the changeless Oneness of everything as He created it.

As God’s Child, we wanted not just to know God’s love; we wanted the experience of what it would be like to be unlike God so that we could know our true magnificent of this Oneness. It is difficult to know white without black. God allowed His Creation to play with even the illusion of fear so that His Child could know and be a co-creator of love. By playing with fear; we better understand what love is. We move from knowing God’s love to being God’s love. God’s Will for us is that Her Child be like Herself and that we “BE” only love.

T-26.III.7. Is not this change in the goal of perception, which is the realization that illusion is not an alternative choice like your special function, where the separation is undone by change of purpose in what once was specialness, and now is union? 2 All illusions are but one. 3 And in the recognition that all illusions are one so lies the ability to give up all attempts to choose between the various forms of the one illusion and to make the forms of the one illusion appear to be different choices. p547 4 How simple is the choice between two things so clearly unalike as truth and illusion. 5 There is no conflict here between truth and illusion. 6 No sacrifice is possible in the relinquishment of an illusion when we recognized the illusion as such is not real. 7 Where all reality has been withdrawn from what was never true, can it be hard to give the illusion up, and choose what <must> be true?

Note # 23: When we want only to know truth, the purpose of our perception changes. Now the goal of perception is to reject the false so that we can know the truth. When we are under the influence of the egotic thought system, the goal of perception is to make the false appear to be a viable substitute for the truth. By changing the goal of perception, we reinterpret experiences that once appeared to be witnesses for the separation into witnesses for the truth of the One Self. Our only criterion now is, “What would love have me do?” Forgiveness and love are the only appropriate responses. The illusion of fear holds no power over love, for love is truth. The false fades before the light of truth and only love remains.

IV. Where Sin Has Left

T-26.IV.1. Forgiveness is this borderland world's equivalent of Heaven's justice. 2 Forgiveness translates the world of sin into a simple world, where justice can be reflected from beyond the gate behind which total lack of limits lies. 3 Nothing in boundless love could need forgiveness. 4 And what is charity within the egotic world of perception gives way to simple justice past the gate that opens into Heaven. 5 No one forgives unless he has believed in sin, and no one forgives unless he still believes that he
has much to be forgiven. 6 Forgiveness thus becomes the means by which he, who forgives learns he has done nothing to forgive. 7 Forgiveness always rests upon the one who offers forgiveness, until he sees himself as needing forgiveness no more. 8 And thus is he, who offers forgiveness to another, returned to his real function of creating, which his forgiveness offers him again.

Note # 24: In Heaven, our purpose is to be co-creators with the Father. In the world of perception our function is forgiveness, our purpose is love and our destiny is the peace of God. First, we need to learn forgiveness in order to begin the process of removing all the blocks that we have placed before love’s door. Forgiveness teaches that we are not victims trapped in a body and that no one has the power to harm us. True forgiveness becomes the realization that there is nothing to forgive and that our brothers and we are innocent, guiltless and sinless. This leads toward the return to the truth of our Oneness in the Mind of God. In the borderland, we can compare the truth with perception’s illusions and determine there is only one decision that can be made. We can only choose what supports the truth. We realize that a “choice” for illusion is a non-choice, for illusion only represents nothingness.

T-26.IV.2. Forgiveness turns the world of sin into a world of glory, wonderful to see. 2 Each flower shines in light, and every bird sings of the joy of Heaven. 3 There is no sadness and there is no parting here, for everything is totally forgiven in this transformed world that we once perceived as sinful. 4 And what has been forgiven must join, for nothing stands between to keep the forgiven separate and apart. 5 The sinless must perceive that they are one, for nothing stands between the sinless to push the other off. 6 And in the space that sin left vacant do the forgiven and sinless join as one, in gladness recognizing what is part of them, which is their sinless brother, has not been kept apart and separate.

Note # 25: Fear separates and love binds. By forgiving our brother and ourselves, we no longer perceive the unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear. Forgiveness removes the barriers that we have placed between ourselves and love. Union, which had never been lost, is once again reclaimed.

T-26.IV.3. The holy place on which you stand in the borderland is but the space that sin has left. 2 And here in the space that sin has left you see the face of Christ, arising in sin’s place. 3 Who could behold the face of Christ and not recall His Father as God, His Father, really is? 4 Who could fear love, and stand upon the ground of the borderland where sin has left a place for Heaven's altar to rise and tower far above the world of egoic perception, and reach beyond the universe to touch the Heart of all creation? 5 What is Heaven but a song of gratitude and love and praise by everything created to the Source of its creation? 6 The holiest of altars is set where once sin was believed to be p548. 7 And here in the transformation of sin’s altar into an altar of truth does every light of Heaven come, to be rekindled and increased in joy. 8 For here at this transformed holiest of altars is what was lost, the truth that they are the one Christ. This truth is restored to them who had once perceived themselves as sinners. And all their radiance as the Christ made whole again.
**Note # 26:** With the choice for truth, the vision of Christ returns. Christ vision looks through the facade of form to the content that the body attempts to hide. The magnificence of the sinless and guiltless Christ is all that is left to behold. The Sonship is seen as holy. To make holy is to make whole. We realize that we are that One Self.

**T-26.IV.4.** Forgiveness brings no little miracles to lay before the gate of Heaven. 2 Here the Son of God Himself comes to receive each gift of forgiveness that brings the split minded nearer to his home. 3 Not one gift of forgiveness is lost, and none is cherished more than any other gift of forgiveness. 4 Each gift of forgiveness reminds the split minded of his Father's Love as surely as the rest. 5 And each one teaches the split minded that what he feared, which is love, he loves the most. 6 What but a miracle could change his mind, so that the split minded understands that love cannot be feared? 7 What other miracle is there but this, the realization that love cannot be feared? 8 And what else need there be but the miracle that love cannot be feared to make the space between you and what you perceived as separate disappear?

**Note # 27:** When we forgive, we grant ourselves forgiveness for the judgments that we have placed on our brother. It is irrelevant whether what we claim our brother did or did not do to “harm” us actually physically took place in space and time or was even “confirmed” by other third party ego-bodies. It is our belief that we are a body and could be hurt that needs correcting. Forgiveness is the healing of the mind, not the body. When we believe that another can harm us, we are denying our divine birthright. We have accepted the belief that our brother and we are separate and limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego-bodies. When we forgive, the belief in separation is corrected at its source, which is our mind. Forgiveness heals minds that perceived themselves as separate. Union and joining of these minds can now be recognized as our “new provisional reality.” This correction of erroneous thinking by the Holy Spirit leads to correct perception.

**T-26.IV.5.** Where sin once was perceived will rise a world that will become an altar to the truth, and you will join the lights of Heaven there, and sing their song of gratitude and praise. 2 And as they, your brothers that you once perceived as sinners come to you to be complete, so will you go with them. 3 For no one hears the song of Heaven and remains without a voice that adds its voice’s power to the song, and makes the song of Heaven sweeter still. 4 And each part of the Sonship joins the singing at the altar to truth that was raised within the tiny spot that sin proclaimed to be its own. 5 And what was tiny then has soared into a magnitude of song in which the universe has joined with but a single voice of the united Sonship.

**Note # 28:** Once we decide to accept the Atonement for ourselves, the decision for truth has been made and God takes the final step in our return to knowledge. In the world of time, salvation is only one decision away. Time is the belief that what is over is still happening in the here and now. God corrected the mad idea of the separation before it ever began. We have postponed the decision for truth and denied that God’s Will and our will is one. As long as we continue to deny the truth, we prolong the need for time.
T-26.IV.6. This tiny spot of sin that stands between you and your brother still is holding back the happy opening of Heaven's gate. 2 How little is the hindrance of granting any sin your forgiveness that withholds the wealth of Heaven from you. 3 And how great will be the joy in Heaven when you join the mighty chorus to the Love of God!

Note # 29: ACIM encourages us by stating that our journey of reawakening is rapidly coming to a successful completion. We need only to stay on course and follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Not one private thought can be saved for the ego’s guidance nor one thought withheld from the Holy Spirit.

V. The Little Hindrance

T-26.V.1. A little hindrance of sin can seem large indeed to those who do not understand that miracles are all the same. 2 Yet teaching that miracles are all the same is what this course is for. 3 This teaching that miracles are all the same is ACIM’s only purpose, for only that is all there is to learn. 4 And you can learn that miracles are all the same in many different ways. 5 All learning is a help or hindrance to the gate of Heaven. 6 Nothing in between help or hindrance is possible when considering the learning process. 7 There are two teachers only, who point in different ways. These two teachers are the ego and the Holy Spirit. 8 And you will go along the way your chosen teacher leads. 9 There are but two directions you can take, while time remains and choice is meaningful. The two directions are the restoration of truth or the continued denial of truth. 10 For never will another road be made except the way to Heaven. 11 You but choose whether to go toward Heaven and truth, or away to nowhere and the illusion of separation. p549 12 There is nothing else to choose.

Note # 30: Like everything in ACIM, there is no middle ground. There is only the true and the false. Truth is not a sometimes proposition. You cannot be totally committed sometimes. Sometimes and total are not the same. Total is all or nothing! To choose one illusion over another illusion is not an option. In regard to learning, once a decision is made as to what is to be learned, all learning experiences either help or hinder our progress toward that goal.

T-26.V.2. Nothing is ever lost but time, which in the end, time, itself, is meaningless. 2 For time is but a little hindrance to eternity, quite meaningless to the real Teacher of the world, which is the Holy Spirit. 3 Yet since you do believe in time, why should you waste time going nowhere, when time can be used to reach a goal as high as learning can achieve, which is the return to truth and Heaven? 4 Think not the way to Heaven’s gate is difficult at all. 5 Nothing you undertake with certain purpose and high resolve and happy confidence, holding your brother's hand and keeping step to Heaven’s song, is difficult to do. 6 But an undertaking is hard indeed if you choose to wander off, alone and miserable, down a road that leads to nothing and that has no purpose.
Note # 31: If we are to start a journey, it is important to know where we are going and that the desired destination really exists. Having a skilled navigator like the Holy Spirit who knows the way is most helpful. The ego tells us we can go it alone; that the ego has the right road map and plan. Each guide’s map takes us in an opposite direction. The ego’s course is a circle that goes nowhere.

We are always in the perfect place for our return to truth. We waste time when we fail to immediately choose again the moment we realize that our inner peace has been disturbed. Making a wrong choice should not be viewed as a failure but merely a decision that will get us one step closer to the correct path along the road to truth. We need to realize that we will fail our way to the success of Heaven as long as we continue to choose again. Only by failing to decide to choose again is time wasted. The quicker we learn that the egoic thought system offers no hope for happiness, the sooner we will ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance.

T-26.V.3. God gave the Holy Spirit as His Teacher to replace the egoic teacher you made, not to conflict with the egoic teacher. 2 And what teacher God would replace, which is the ego has already been replaced by God. God has given us the Holy Spirit to act as the teacher for truth. 3 Time lasted but an instant in your mind, with no effect upon eternity. 4 And so is all time past, and everything that is past is exactly as it was before the way to nothingness was made. 5 The tiny tick of time in which the first mistake was made, and all of the illusions within that one mistake, held also the Correction for that one first mistake, and all of the illusions that came within the first mistake. 6 And in that tiny instant of God’s spontaneous correction of the mistake, time was gone, for that was all time ever was, a tiny instant to correct a tiny mistake. 7 What God gave answer to, this tiny mistake in time, is answered by God and is gone.

Note # 32: Time, which is the measure of change, has no reality in the Mind of God. The tiny mistake was the belief that change was possible within the changeless mind of God. God has determined that change is impossible and that God willed only to be Love. The correction that is the Atonement process is God’s answer. The Atonement states that God’s creation, which is the extension of changeless love, must also always remain eternally perfect, whole and complete. God’s Child must be sinless and guiltless. Being changeless, there is no change to measure. As soon as the idea of separation was thought, God’s plan for its correction had already taken place. Only within the dream of separation is time meaningful. Time is the belief that what is over, which is the belief in change and the separation correction is still happening in the here and now. The correction of error that change was possible occurred instantaneously, yet, we continue to choose to deny this truth. Only, when we decide to no longer value any illusion over truth, will time have served its purpose and will no longer be needed. The ego’s focus on time is in the past where the mad idea that we could be other than “Godlike” was first thought. This egoic focus on the past prevents us from being in the now. It is only in the <now> that we can choose a different guidance system.

T-26.V.4. To you who still believe you live in time and know not that time is gone, the Holy Spirit still guides you through the infinitely small and senseless maze you still perceive in time, though time’s maze has long since gone. 2 You think you live in what
is past. 3 Each thing you look upon you saw but for an instant, long ago, before what you thought you saw unreality gave way to truth. 4 Not one illusion still remains unanswered in your mind. 5 Uncertainty was brought to certainty so long ago that it is hard indeed to hold uncertainty to your heart, as if uncertainty were before you still.

**Note #33:** Once again ACIM points out that the illusion of separation has been resolved long ago but we continue to deny this fact. We suffer from delusions when we believe that there can be choice among the changeless Mind of God. Only within the insane mind of the dreamer’s own provisional reality does change appear possible. The egoic split mind has become identified with the dream and is no longer aware that the dream is an illusion. We believe that change is possible within the eternal changelessness of God’s Love. The Holy Spirit is the only one that knows both the illusion's unreality and how to gently reawaken the dreamer to the truth that we always abide in God’s love. When we choose our true Teacher, we will be led in the correct direction.

**T-26.V.5.** The tiny instant you would keep and make eternal, passed away in Heaven too soon for anything to notice that the mad idea that God’s Will could change had come and passed away. 2 What disappeared too quickly to affect the simple knowledge of the sinlessness and perfection of the Son of God can hardly still be there, for you to choose the egoic past to be your teacher for this mad belief that God’s Son is guilty of sin. 3 Only in the past,—an ancient past, too short to make a world in answer to creation,—did this egoic world of perception appear to rise. 4 So very long ago in the past, for such a tiny interval of time, that not one note in Heaven's song was missed. 5 Yet in each unforgiving act or thought, in every judgment and in all belief in sin, is that one instant still called back from the past, as if the tiny instant that belief in sin is possible could be made again in time. p550 6 You keep an ancient memory in the mad idea that change can occur in the changelessness of God’s Love before your eyes. 7 And he who lives in memories of the past alone is unaware of where he is in the now.

**Note #34:** By maintaining our egoic focus on the past, we constantly reconfirm our decision to make the separation real. The separation is the mad idea that we, an effect, could change the source that birthed us. It is the idea that the changeless, which is God’s Love, can be changed by Its effect. Our current focus on the past keeps the present the same as the past. We have failed to change our past belief of what we are. Our belief that we are sinners, not perfect, whole and complete, keeps us in victim consciousness. Current perception is based on what our mind is presently choosing to focus on. Each moment is a new chance to change our focus and be in the <now>. The <now> is the present, without the decision to continuously relive past egoic judgments in the present. We can drop all judgment and choose again. We can only make this choice to change teachers, in the <now>. For most people, the present is not the <now> but rather a replay of the past. In the holy instant, all judgments are suspended so that we can once again follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In the holy instant, we get in touch with and “be” in the <now>. “Being” and what we call “living” are not the same experience.

**T-26.V.6.** Forgiveness is the great release from time. 2 Forgiveness is the key to learning that the past is over. 3 When we are with and in forgiveness, madness speaks no more.
4 When we are with and in forgiveness there <is> no other teacher and no other way. 5 For what has been undone no longer is. 6 And who can stand upon a distant shore, and dream himself across an ocean, to a place and time that have long since gone by? 7 How real a hindrance can this dream of time’s past be to where he really is? 8 For this release from time is fact, and does not change whatever dreams he has. 9 Yet can he still imagine he is elsewhere, and in another time. 10 In the extreme, he can delude himself that this dream is true, and the dream can pass from mere imagining into belief and into madness, quite convinced that where he would prefer to be, which is the dream, he <is.>

Note # 35: Forgiveness is the removal of past judgments and ultimately the removal of time. Remember that time is the mad belief that whatever is over is still happening in the here and now. We can delude ourselves by replaying the past but that can have no real effect upon the truth. Only the madman turns a nightmare into his private reality.

T-26.V.7.Is this dream a hindrance to the place whereon he stands? 2 Is any echo from the past that the dreamer may hear a fact in what is there to hear where he is now? 3 And how much can the dreamer’s own illusions about time and place effect a change in where he really is?

Note # 36: Our dream cannot change the where and what that we are. But a dream can effect our personal awareness of where and what we are while we choose to give reality to that dream. We can dream we are in Paris, but we still remain at home and in bed.

T-26.V.8.The unforgiven is a voice that calls from out a past forevermore gone by. 2 And everything that points to an unforgiven past as real is but a wish that what is gone could be made real again and seen as here and now, in place of what is <really> now and here. 3 Is this unforgiving voice from the past a hindrance to the truth the past is gone, and cannot be returned to you? 4 And do you want that fearful instant kept, when Heaven seemed to disappear and God was feared and made a symbol of your hate?

Note # 37: Jesus asks us why would we wish to relive a past nightmare in which we are something other than the perfect extension of God? Why would we want to be anything but perfect, whole and complete?

T-26.V.9.Forget the time of terror that has been so long ago corrected and undone. 2 Can sin withstand the Will of God? 3 Can it be up to you to see the past and put the past in the present? 4 You can <not> go back. 5 And everything that points the way in the direction of the past but sets you on a mission whose accomplishment can only be unreal. 6 Such is the justice your All-Loving Father has ensured must come to you. God’s justice ensures the unreal cannot affect the truth. 7 And from your own unfairness to yourself has God protected you. 8 You cannot lose your way because there is no way but God’s way, which is God’s Will, and nowhere can you go except to God.

Note # 38: God has insured that all roads lead back to the truth that there is only God. God is only love and ultimately we must reawaken to this changeless truth.
T-26.V.10. Would God allow His Son to lose his way along a road long since a memory of time gone by? 2 This course will teach you only what is now. 3 A dreadful instant in a distant past, now perfectly corrected, is of no concern nor value to what is in the <now>. 4 Let the dead and gone be peacefully forgotten. 5 Resurrection has come to take death’s place. 6 And now you are a part of resurrection, not of death. 7 No past illusions have the power to keep you in a place of death, a vault God's Son entered an instant, to be instantly restored unto his Father's perfect Love. p551 8 And how can God's Son who dreamed of death be kept in chains long since removed and gone forever from his mind?

Note # 39: God’s correction for the separation occurred the instant that it was thought. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we reawaken from the dream of sin, guilt and fear. We realize that God’s Love for His Creation remains changeless.

T-26.V.11. The Son whom God created is as free as God created him. 2 God’s Son, the Christ, was reborn the instant that he chose to die instead of live. 3 And will you not forgive God’s sleeping Son now, because he made an error in the past that God remembers not, and is not there? 4 Now you are shifting back and forth between the past and present. 5 Sometimes the past seems real, as if the past <were> the present. 6 Voices from the past are heard and then are doubted. 7 You are like to one who still hallucinates, but lacks conviction in what he perceives. 8 This is the borderland between the worlds, the bridge between the past and present. 9 Here on this borderland’s bridge between the past and the present, the shadow of the past remains, but still a present light is dimly recognized. 10 Once a present light is seen, this light can never be forgotten. 11 The light from the present must draw you from the past into the present, where you really are.

Note # 40: In this borderland, illusion is compared against the truth and fades into the nothingness from which illusion arose. Past judgments are recognized as misperceptions that are corrected. This borderland is the place where both perception and knowledge meet. Perception gives way to knowledge’s truth and the past no longer holds the present hostage.

T-26.V.12. The shadow voices of the unforgiven do not change the laws of time nor of eternity. 2 The shadow voices of the unforgiven come from what is past and gone, and hinder not the true existence of the here and now. 3 The real world is the second part of the hallucination time and death are real, and that time and death have existence that can be perceived. 4 This terrible illusion was denied in but the time it took for God to give His Answer, which is the Atonement, to illusion for all time and every circumstance. 5 And then this terrible illusion of time and death was no more to be experienced as there.

Note # 41: The separation was over long ago. Only by our personal refusal to accept the Atonement principle for ourselves, do we keep this past illusion of separation alive and in our field of awareness. The Atonement principle is the changeless nature of God’s Will. It is God’s Will that His Creation remain innocent, sinless and guiltless. We remain and always will be as God created us, perfect, whole and complete.
T-26.V.13. Each day, and every minute in each day, and every instant that each minute holds, you but relive the single instant of the mad idea when the time of terror took the place of love. 2 And so you die each day to live again, until you cross the gap between the past and present, which is not a gap at all. 3 Such is each life; a seeming interval from birth to death and on to life again, a repetition of an instant gone by long ago that cannot be relived. 4 And all of time is but the mad belief that what is over is still here and now.

**Note # 42:** The end of time is one decision away. Until we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we constantly choose to relive the mad idea that there is something outside God’s Love. Every moment is an opportunity to forget the past and be in the now. God’s Love is in the eternal changeless <now>. We are that One Self that is the Love of God.

T-26.V.14. Forgive the past and let the past go, for the past <is> gone. 2 You stand no longer on the ground that lies between the worlds of the past and present. 3 You have gone on, and reached the world that lies at Heaven's gate, the borderland. 4 There is no hindrance to the Will of God, nor any need that you repeat again a journey that was over long ago. 5 Look gently on your brother, and behold the world in which perception of your hate has been transformed into a world of love. p553

**Note # 43:** Heaven is a decision away. Accept the Atonement and we accept the truth that we could never be outside God’s love. We stop deluding ourselves that the false could change the changelessness of truth. We return home to the Oneness of Everything, which is the Mind of God. We reclaim our divine birthright as God’s One Self

**VI. The Appointed Friend**

T-26.VI.1. Anything in this world of perception and time that you believe is good and valuable and worth striving for can hurt you, and will do so. 2 Not because anything in the world of perception and time has the power to hurt, but just because you have denied the world of time is but an illusion, and made the world of perception real. 3 And anything in the world of perception and time that you place value upon is real to you. 4 Anything you egoically value and perceive as being real is not nothing. 5 And through the value that you have place on the world of time’s perceived reality has entered all the world of sick illusions. 6 All belief in sin, in power of attack, in hurt and harm, in sacrifice and death, has come to you. 7 For no one can make one illusion real, and still escape the rest. 8 For who can choose to keep only the illusions that he prefers, and find the safety that the truth alone can give? 9 Who can believe illusions are the same, and still maintain that even one illusion is best?

**Note # 44:** There is nothing in this world of illusion that can hold any value to a Oneness of Everything. If we value anything in this world, we are confirming our belief in our own lack. We value what we perceive that we lack. All illusions, no matter the specific form that they may take, are the same. Any illusion is an attempt to make the false appear
to be real. Keep one illusion and you deny that you are the Oneness. You claim you are not perfect, whole and complete. We cannot choose when and what will be truth.

T-26.VI.2. Lead not your little life in solitude, with one illusion that you are an egoic little “s” self as your only friend. 2 This is no friendship worthy of God's Son, nor one with which he could remain content. 3 Yet God has given His sleeping Son a better Friend, the Holy Spirit, in Whom all power in earth and Heaven rests. 4 The one illusion that you think is friend, the ego, obscures the Holy Spirit’s grace and majesty from you, and keeps the Holy Spirit’s friendship and forgiveness from your welcoming embrace. 5 Without the Holy Spirit you are friendless. 6 Seek not another friend to take the Holy Spirit’s place. 7 There <is> no other friend. 8 What God appointed has no substitute, for what illusion can replace the truth?

Note # 45: At the time of the separation, God placed the Holy Spirit within our Christ consciousness, which insures our safe journey home. The ego is not our friend and is the embodiment of the belief that the separation was real. The Holy Spirit is the keeper of the Truth.

T-26.VI.3. Who dwells with shadows is alone indeed, and loneliness is not the Will of God. 2 Would you allow one shadow to usurp the throne that God appointed for your Friend, the Holy Spirit, if you but realized the emptiness of the Holy Spirit’s throne that has left your throne empty and unoccupied? 3 Make no illusion friend, for if you do, an illusion can but take the place of the Holy Spirit Whom God has called your Friend. 4 And it is the Holy Spirit Who is your only Friend in truth. 5 The Holy Spirit brings you gifts that are not of this world, and only the Holy Spirit to Whom these gifts that are not of this world have been given can make sure that you receive the miracle that are these gifts. 6 The Holy Spirit will place these gifts from God on your throne, when you make room for the Holy Spirit on His throne of truth.

Note # 46: We need to offer our daily activities to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit knows the “big picture” in God’s plan for the salvation of the split-minded Sonship. By offering our day to the Holy Spirit, our perception can be correctly interpreted to bear witness for the truth of the One Self. We cannot value one egoic illusion without denying the truth of the Oneness of the Mind of God. Truth is whole. Truth cannot be partial. Truth just is.

VII. The Laws of Healing

T-26.VII.1. This is a course in miracles. 2 As such, the laws of healing must be understood before the purpose of the course, which is the miracle, can be accomplished. 3 Let us review the principles of the laws of healing that we have covered, and arrange the principles in a way that summarizes all that must occur for healing to be possible. 4 For when healing once is possible healing must occur.
Note # 47: ACIM states that when all the conditions needed for healing the mind occur, the mind will be healed. Nothing can prevent God’s Will from returning the Sonship to right-mindedness.

T-26.VII.2. All sickness comes from separation. 2 When the separation is denied, all sickness goes. 3 For all sickness is gone as soon as the idea that brought all sickness, which is the idea that the separation could be real has been healed, and been replaced by sanity. 4 In egoic thinking, sickness and sin are seen as consequence and cause, in a relationship kept hidden from awareness so that the true cause, the belief in separation may be carefully preserved from reason's light.

Note # 48: Sin has been defined as any belief that God’s Son could be limited. This belief that sin has occurred arose out of the belief of separation. As long as we believe that we are separate, sickness will occur because the root cause of sickness is not sin, but the separation. We have mistaken an effect, sin and attempted to claim that sin is the cause of sickness. Both sin and sickness are the effect and consequences of one cause, which is the illusion that the separation was real. By focusing on sin as the imagined cause of sickness, we merely hide one illusion with another illusion. We fail to attempt to heal the problem at the source, instead, opting only to administer to the effect. This only results in bandaging up the problem until it manifests somewhere else.

T-26.VII.3. Guilt asks for punishment, and guilt’s request is granted. 2 Guilt’s request is granted not in truth, but in the world of shadows and illusions built on sin. 3 The Son of God perceived what he would see, which is an illusionary world based on sin, because perception is a wish fulfilled. 4 Perception changes, made to take the place of changeless knowledge. 5 Yet is truth unchanged. 6 Truth cannot be perceived, but only known. 7 What is perceived takes many forms, but none of these perceived forms has meaning. 8 Brought to truth, the perceived form’s senselessness is quite apparent. 9 Kept apart from truth, perception’s illusions seems to have a meaning and be real.

Note # 49: Because we believe in limitation and thus, sin, we demand that sinners be punished. Since sin is not possible in a Oneness, we make a dream world in which our desires can be fulfilled. Perception, which has replaced knowledge, allows for fantasy to be substituted for truth. As long as we choose to deny the truth, we can maintain our illusionary world based of the misperception that sin is real.

T-26.VII.4. Perception's laws are opposite to truth, and what is true of knowledge is not true of anything that is apart from knowledge. 2 Yet has God given answer to the world of sickness, which applies to all forms in the perceived world of sickness. 3 God's answer, the Atonement, is eternal, though the Atonement works in time, where the Atonement is needed. 4 Yet because the Atonement, which is God’s answer to the illusion of sickness, is of God, the laws of time do not affect the answer’s workings. 5 The answer is in this world, but not a part of this world. 6 For the answer is real, and dwells where all reality must be. 7 Ideas leave not their source, and their effects but seem to be apart from their source. 8 Ideas are of the mind. 9 What is projected out of the mind, and seems to be external to the mind, is not outside at all, but what is projected
out of the mind is an effect of what is inside the mind, and this effect has not left its source, which is the mind of the perceiver.

Note # 50: Perception’s laws do not apply to the Atonement since the Atonement is God’s principle of correction for the illusion of separation. The world of sin is the result of the illusion of separation. By correcting the illusion of separation at its source, which is at the level of mind, the Atonement automatically dissolves any affects that are the result of the first error. The Holy Spirit was given to the split-minded Sonship to insure that the Atonement process would be fulfilled. The Atonement process is of God and remains of God yet, it operates within the illusion because that is where we perceive ourselves to be. The laws of God supersedes any laws that seem to operate in perception’s world of illusion. The laws of chaos and perception have no power over the Atonement, which is of the Mind of God.

T-26.VII.5. God's answer lies where the belief in sin must be, for only there within the place where the belief in sin is can sin’s effects be utterly undone and without cause. 2 Perception's laws must be reversed, because perception's laws <are> reversals of the laws of truth. 3 The laws of truth forever will be true, and cannot be reversed; yet laws of truth can be seen as upside down. 4 And this upside down understanding of the laws of truth must be corrected where the illusion of reversal lies.

Note # 51: The problem can only be permanently corrected at its source. Anything else merely temporarily hides the problem.

T-26.VII.6. It is impossible that one illusion be less amenable to truth than are the rest of all illusions amenable to truth. 2 But it is possible that some illusions are given greater value, and that some illusions are less willingly offered to truth for healing and for help. 3 No illusion has any truth in it. 4 Yet it appears some illusions are more true than other illusions, although this clearly makes no sense at all. 5 All that an egoic hierarchy of illusions can show is preference, not reality. 6 What relevance has preference to the truth? 7 Illusions are illusions and are false. p554 8 Your preference gives illusions no reality. 9 Not one illusion is true in any way, and all illusions must yield with equal ease to what God gave as answer to all illusions, which is the Atonement Principle. 10 God's Will is One. 11 And any wish that seems to go against God’s Will has no foundation in the truth.

Note # 52: We choose to believe that one illusion is harder to correct than another. We may believe that we can cure a cold but not cancer. There is no order of difficulty in miracles. The Atonement works equally on all illusions. The Atonement rests on the simple truth that God’s Son is sinless and guiltless. It is not the inability of the miracle to works its “magic” on the problem but rather our unwillingness to give the problem over to the Holy Spirit for correction. We get to keep the problem because we want the problem. There is some valuable payback that we believe is derived from the problem, itself. Argue for your limitations, which is your claim to specialness, and you get to keep your limitation.

T-26.VII.7. Sin is not error, for sin goes beyond correction to impossibility. 2 Yet the
belief that sin is real has made some errors seem forever past the hope of healing, and would make some errors that we believe cannot be healed the lasting grounds for hell. 3 If this belief that sin is not error and, therefore, not correctable were so, would Heaven be opposed by its own opposite, hell, and hell would be as real as Heaven. 4 Then would God's Will be split in two, and all creation be subjected to the laws of two opposing powers of Heaven and hell, until God becomes impatient, splits the world apart, and relegates attack unto Himself. 5 Thus has God lost His Mind, proclaiming sin has taken God’s reality from Him and brought God’s Love at last to vengeance's heels. 6 For such an insane picture an insane defense can be expected, but the insane defense cannot establish that the insane picture must be true.

Note # 53: If we were sinful, this would also make God’s Will powerless against our egoic will. The changeless First Cause, the Mind of God, would be forced to change by Its own Effect, the Sonship. An effect has no power over its cause. Only the cause can change the effect, not the other way around. The effect can deny the truth, but the effect’s denial of its source does not change its cause.

T-26.VII.8. Nothing gives meaning where no meaning is. 2 And truth needs no defense to make the truth true. 3 Illusions have no witnesses and no effects. 4 Who looks on the illusions is but deceived. 5 Forgiveness is the only function here in the world of perception, and forgiveness serves to bring the joy this world denies to every aspect of God's Son where sin was thought to rule. 6 Perhaps you do not see the role forgiveness plays in ending death and all beliefs that rise from mists of guilt. 7 Sins are beliefs that you impose between your brother and yourself. 8 The beliefs in sin limit you to time and place, and give a little space to you, another little space to him. 9 This separating off from the oneness is symbolized, in your perception, by a body which is clearly separate and a thing apart from your brother. 10 Yet what this symbol of the body represents is but your wish to <be> apart and separate.

Note # 54: The goal of separation is the desire to be special. Being a shared Oneness of everything, we could not be special when there is only the One Self. Specialness can only be obtained by limiting the unlimited. In the world of form, we can obtain the illusion of specialness since form cannot be shared. By identifying ourselves as a body-form, we perceive that the illusion of separation is real. We now perceive ourselves to be an ego-body, not the unlimited spiritual essences of the Mind of God.

T-26.VII.9. Forgiveness takes away the bodily illusion of separation that stands between your brother and yourself. 2 Forgiveness is the wish that you be joined with your brother, and not apart. 3 We call it "wish" because forgiveness still conceives of other choices, and forgiveness has not yet reached beyond the world of choice entirely. 4 Yet is this wish for forgiveness in line with Heaven's state, and not in opposition to God's Will. 5 Although forgiveness falls far short of giving you your full inheritance, forgiveness does remove the obstacles that you have placed between the Heaven where you are and recognition of where and what you are. 6 Facts are unchanged. 7 Yet facts can be denied and thus unknown to the perceiver, though these facts were known before they were denied by the perceiver.
**Note # 55:** Forgiveness allows us to look past the illusion of the body-form and see the Christ within. By asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, our Christ vision is reawakened. Our Christ consciousness has never lost the truth of what it is. The Voice for Christ just could not be heard over the roar of the voice for the ego.

**T-26.VII.10.** Salvation, perfect and complete, asks but a little wish that what is true be true. Salvation asks but a little willingness to overlook what is not there, the body-form. Salvation asks a little sigh that speaks for Heaven as a preference to this world that death and desolation seem to rule. p555 2 In joyous answer to this preference for Heaven will creation rise within you, to replace the world your egoic perception sees with Heaven, wholly perfect and complete. 3 What is forgiveness but a willingness that truth be true? 4 What can remain unhealed and broken from a unity which holds all things within itself? 5 There is no sin in a unity, which holds all things within itself. 6 And every miracle is possible the instant that the Son of God perceives his wishes and the Will of God are one.

**Note # 56:** What we desire will be what we perceive. When we stop denying the truth of the Oneness, we will see beyond the body-form and behold the face of Christ in all we perceive. We will freely choose to allow our will to be only God’s Will.

**T-26.VII.11.** What is the Will of God? 2 God wills His Son have everything. 3 And this God guaranteed when God created His Son <as> everything. 4 It is impossible that anything be lost, if what you <have> is what you <are>, which is the Oneness of Everything. 5 God’s guarantee that you are everything and that nothing God created can be lost is the miracle by which creation became your function, sharing creation with God. 6 This function of creation is not understood apart from God, and therefore has no meaning in this world that claims to be separate from God. 7 Here, in the world of perception, does the Son of God ask not too much, but far too little. 8 In the world of perception, the Son of God would sacrifice his own identity with everything, to find a little treasure of his own, which he would call specialness. 9 And this sacrifice of his own identity as a Oneness with Everything, the split-minded Son of God cannot do without a sense of isolation, loss and loneliness. 10 This sense of isolation, loss and loneliness is the treasure the split-minded Son of God has sought to find. 11 And the split-minded Son of God could only be afraid of this egoic treasure, which has brought him a sense of isolation, loss and loneliness. 12 Is fear a treasure? 13 Can uncertainty be what you want? 14 Or is this sacrificing of your own true identity as the One Self your attempt to find the little treasure that you called specialness really a mistake about your will, and what you really are, which is the One Self?

**Note # 57:** After you have been a Oneness of Everything, how can you be content with less? Only by reclaiming our divine birthright can we be happy. This is the peace of God.

**T-26.VII.12.** Let us consider what the error is, so this error can be corrected, not protected. This error is your belief that it is possible to lose your guarantee of being
the One Self that God’s Will created you to be 2 Sin is belief attack can be projected outside the mind where the belief in sin originally arose, which is the mind. 3 Here is the firm egoic conviction that ideas can leave their source and be made real and meaningful. 4 And from this error that ideas can leave the mind from which the idea arose and become real does the world of sin and sacrifice arise. 5 This world of sin and sacrifice is an attempt to prove your innocence, while cherishing attack. 6 This attempt’s failure to prove your innocence lies in the fact that you still feel guilty, though without understanding why you feel guilty. 7 In this failed world that cherishes attack, effects are seen as separate from their source, and effects seem to be beyond you to control or your ability to prevent the effect. 8 What is thus kept apart can never join.

Note # 58: The world of perception is a world created to prove the separation. Form cannot join and it is this false identification with the egoic body-form that keeps our minds from realizing that they are already joined. They, who perceive themselves as guilty, hope to prove their innocence by blaming and projecting their guilt upon another. Since ideas never leave their source, they are forced to keep their guilt. Yet, due now to their own mental powers of projection, they can also claim that they are innocent victims and are helpless to reactivate their decision-maker so that they may choose again. They, who perceive themselves as guilty, claim they are the effect of outside forces beyond their control and are powerless to affect any change.

T-26.VII.13.Cause and effect are one, not separate. 2 God wills you learn what always has been true: that God created you as part of Him, and this must still be true because ideas leave not their source. 3 Such is creation's law; that each idea the mind conceives but adds to the mind's own abundance. The idea never takes away from the mind that conceived of the idea. 4 This is as true of what is idly wished as what is truly willed, because the mind can wish to be deceived, but cannot make itself be what the mind is not. 5 And to believe ideas can leave their source is to invite illusions to be true, without success. 6 For never will success be possible in trying to deceive the Son of God. p556

Note # 59: Wishes that would conflict with truth hold no power to change the truth. When we wish to be special, we claim to be different from God’s Will. Within the dream of separation, we can deny our birthright, but we cannot change it. The Holy Spirit preserves our inheritance, which is returned to us, the moment we decide to want to reawaken to the truth.

T-26.VII.14.The miracle is possible when cause and consequence are brought together, not when cause and consequence are kept separate. 2 The healing of effect without healing the cause can merely shift effects to other forms. 3 And this shifting of the effect to other forms is not release. 4 God's Son could never be content with less than full salvation and escape from guilt. 5 For otherwise without full escape from guilt he still demands that he must make some sacrifice, and thus denies that everything is his, and that he is unlimited by loss of any kind. 6 A tiny sacrifice is just the same in sacrifice’s effects as is the whole idea of sacrifice. 7 If loss in any form is possible, then is God's Son made incomplete and not himself. 8 Nor if loss in any form is possible will God’s Son know himself, nor recognize his will. 9 God’s Son has forsworn his Father and
himself, and made **God’s Son and God** both his enemies in hate.

**Note # 60:** In the egoic world, time is needed because we believe there must be a gap between cause and effect. In reality, cause and effect are instantaneously connected. There is no gap for there is only the *<now>*. Because we refuse to allow cause and effect to be brought together, we need time to measure what we perceive to be the resulting change, which we call the effect. This is why ACIM states that time is the mad belief that what is over is still happening in the here and now. The effect of the thought is instantaneous. Stop the thought and the effect stops immediately. This is why ACIM advises us not to attempt to change the world, but rather to change how we choose to view our world. By changing our thought, the world must automatically align with the new thinking. Each moment is a choice to recreate whatever we wish to perceive. We cannot heal the belief in separation unless we choose to allow the Holy Spirit to heal the source of the problem that is found in the mind. Until we grant total forgiveness to all and value no illusion over truth, we will be caught within time refusing to accept the Atonement for ourselves. The Atonement was God’s answer to the separation. This answer was given long ago but since we refuse to accept God’s answer, we remain trapped in time.

T-26.VII.15. Illusions serve the purpose the illusions were made to serve. 2 And from illusions’ purpose illusions derive whatever meaning the illusions seem to have. 3 God gave to all illusions that were made another purpose that would justify a miracle whatever form the illusions took. 4 In every miracle all healing lies, for God gave answer to all illusions as one. 5 And what is one to God must be the same. 6 If you believe what is the same is different you but deceive yourself. 7 What God calls One will be forever One, not separate. 8 **God’s Kingdom** is united; thus **God’s Kingdom** was created, and thus will **God’s Kingdom** ever be united.

**Note # 61:** God only knows truth. Since an illusion is the belief that something that does not exist is real, all illusions fall into one category, which is the false. No illusion is more false than another. They are all the same. Because of this fact, the healing method for all forms of illusion is the same. Bring the illusion before the light of truth and the illusion must fade away into the nothingness from which it was conceived. The Atonement is God’s answer that provides the correction of the illusion of separation. The miracle corrects each apparent form that the illusion might take. God’s Will is that there is and always will be the eternal One Self.

T-26.VII.16. The miracle but calls your ancient Name, which you will recognize because the truth is in your memory. 2 And to this Name your brother calls for his release and your release. 3 Heaven is shining on the Son of God. 4 Deny your brother not, that you may be released. 5 Each instant is the Son of God reborn until he chooses not to die again. 6 In every wish to hurt, the split-minded chooses death instead of what his Father wills for him. 7 Yet every instant offers life to the split-minded because his Father wills that he should live.

**Note # 62:** Every moment, we are asked to choose again until we desire only truth. This
decision for separation is constantly being made whenever we perceive anything outside the Vision of Christ. The Vision of Christ looks upon everything and sees the truth that there is just the One Self that we share. Christ hears only the Voice for God and calls God’s Name, which is our Name.

T-26.VII.17. In crucifixion is redemption laid, for healing is not needed where there is no pain or suffering. The crucifixion demonstrated that we are not a body but rather unlimited mind or spirit. 2 Forgiveness is the answer to attack of any kind. 3 By the use of the tool of forgiveness, so is attack deprived of attack’s effects, and hate is answered in the name of love. 4 To you to whom your function has been given to save the Son of God from crucifixion and from hell and death, all glory be forever. 5 For you have power to save the Son of God because his Father willed that you save His Son and that it be so. 6 And in your hands does all salvation lie, to be both offered and received as one.

Note # 63: Grant our brother his sinlessness and we grant our own. God has willed that the split-minded be made whole through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The tool of forgiveness has been given to save our brother. We are inseparably linked within the Mind of God. I and My Father are One also means that my brother and I are One. There is just the One Self. God just Is!

Jesus’ crucifixion not only demonstrated that we are not a body, it also illustrated by an extreme example that forgiveness is the proper response to any form of perceived attack. Forgiveness is always proper since mind is invulnerable. It demonstrated that anger is never justified since nothing outside our own mind has any power over it. An illusion cannot harm you unless you choose to make it real within your mind. Illusions are powerless to affect our true reality. We remain as we were created. Nothing outside ourselves has the power to disturb the peace of God which is our divine destiny.

T-26.VII.18. To use the power God has given you as God would have used this power is natural. 2 It is not arrogant to be as God created you, nor to make use of what God gave to answer all His Son's mistakes and set him free. 3 But it is arrogant to lay aside the power that God gave, and choose a little senseless wish instead of what God wills. 4 The gift of God to you is limitless. 5 There is no circumstance God’s gift cannot answer, and no problem which is not resolved within God’s gift of gracious light.

Note # 64: God’s gift to you is everything that God wills for you. God wills only that you be happy. In the context of the separation, the Atonement principle is the embodiment of God’s Will. It states that God’s Son is, and always will be, as God created the Christ, perfect, whole and complete. God’s judgment is that we are innocent, sinless and guiltless. This judgment of God cannot be changed for it is the eternal truth of what we are. Since thoughts never leave their source, by forgiving our brother, we forgive ourselves. The miracle of forgiveness becomes the interlocking chain of consciousness that becomes the acceptance of the Atonement for ourselves as part of the united holographic Mind of God.

T-26.VII.19. Abide in peace, where God would have you be. 2 And be the means whereby your brother finds the peace in which your wishes are fulfilled. 3 Let us unite in
bringing blessing to the world of sin and death. 4 For what can save each one of us, the peace of God, can save us all. 5 There is no difference among the Sons of God. 6 The unity that specialness denies, this same unity will save them all, for what is one can have no specialness. 7 And everything belongs to each of them for they are part of the united Sonship. 8 No wishes lie between a brother and his own wish. 9 To get from one brother is to deprive all the Sonship. 10 And yet to bless but one brother gives blessing to all brothers as one.

**Note # 65:** What we do onto the least of our brethren, we do onto all. Minds are joined. The law of creation states that there can be no loss. The law of chaos states that gain must come at someone else’s loss. The laws of chaos cannot override God’s Will.

**T-26.VII.20.** Your ancient Name belongs to everyone, as his or her ancient Name belongs to you. 2 Call on your brother’s name and God will answer, for on God you call. 3 Could God refuse to answer this call when God has already answered all who call on Him? 4 A miracle can make no change at all. 5 But a miracle can make what always has been true be recognized by those who know truth not; and by this little gift of truth but let the truth to be itself, the Son of God allowed to be himself, and all creation freed to call upon the Name of God as one.

**Note # 66:** The miracle changes nothing. Instead the miracle removes all illusionary obstacles that hide the light of truth from our awareness. Truth is now recognized by the split-minded. We are the extension of the Mind of God. Since the creative process is the extension of the Mind of God, it allows no separation. We must share in that same Oneness. There is just the expansion of the One Self. I and My Father are One and You are that One. Herein lies the peace of God.

**VIII. The Immediacy of Salvation**

**T-26.VIII.1.** The one remaining problem that you have is that you see an interval between the time when you forgive, and the time when you will receive the benefits of trusting in your brother. 2 This perceived interval between when you forgive and when you receive the benefits that you gain by trusting in your brother but reflects the little you would keep between you and your brother, that you and your brother might be a little separate. 3 For time and space are one illusion, in which time and space each take on different forms yet remain the same illusion. 4 If the illusion of this gap between when you forgive and when you receive the benefits that you gain by trusting in your brother has been projected beyond your mind you think of the illusionary interval as time. 5 The nearer this gap between when you forgive and when you receive the benefits that you gain by trusting in your brother is brought to where it is, the more you think of the illusionary interval in terms of space.

**Note #67:** In order to maintain the illusion of separation between the forgiven and the forgiver, our ego insists that there is a gap between the time of the forgiving thought and
the effect of that thought. If the effect were instantaneous, this would verify that we are one with the forgiven and that there is no separation between our minds since they are the same shared Mind of God. ACIM states that the longer we perceive the interval between the forgiving thought and its returning beneficial effect, the longer we will perceive this gap between cause and effect as time. If the perceived gap is small, we tend to see this same gap between cause and effect as space. Both time and space are different forms of the same illusion of separation. The illusion is the belief that cause and effect are not instantaneous. In actuality, both cause and effect are simultaneous. In reality, there is no gap between cause and effect since in eternity there is only the <now>. Time appears to measure length between changes. Space appears to measure the length that we believe ourselves to be separate from one another.

**T-26.VIII.2.** There is a distance you would keep apart from your brother, and this space you perceive as time because you still believe you are external to your brother. 2 This **belief that you are external to your brother** makes trust impossible. 3 And you cannot believe that trust would settle every problem now **because you believe you are external and separate from your brother**. 4 Thus do you think it safer to remain a little careful and a little watchful of interests perceived as separate. 5 From this perception **that you and your brother’s interests are separate**, you cannot conceive of gaining what forgiveness offers in the instantaneous <now>. 6 The interval you think lies in between the giving and receiving of the gift seems to be one in which you sacrifice and suffer loss. 7 You see eventual salvation, not immediate results.

**Note # 68:** When we offer forgiveness to our brother, we believe that there will be an interval between the granting of this forgiveness and the future payback that we expect. This demonstrates that we are still under the influence of some relics of egoic thinking. Because we still see ourselves as separate from our brother, we do not realize that we are of One Mind. We see the benefits of our granting our brother forgiveness as something that we will receive in the future, not in the present moment. During this time interval between when we offered forgiveness and when we receive our reward for this forgiveness, we feel we are making a sacrifice. We do not believe our reward is instantaneously granted to us since we do not to fully believe that to give is to receive.

**T-26.VIII.3.** Salvation <is immediate. 2 Unless you so perceive salvation as immediate, you will be afraid of the interval you think lies in between the giving and receiving of the gift of forgiveness and salvation, believing that the risk of loss is great between the time forgiveness’ purpose is made yours and forgiveness effects will come to you. 3 In this form’s belief that an interval exists between giving and receiving, is the error of separation still obscured that is the source of fear. **We fear that by joining, we will lose our specialness that our belief in separation brings.** 4 Salvation <would> wipe out the space you see between you and your brother still, and let you instantly become as one. 5 And it is here in your joining as one you fear the loss of separation would lie. 6 Do not project this fear of joining as one with your brother to time, for time is not the enemy that you perceive. 7 Time is as neutral as the body is, except in terms of what you see time for. 8 If you would keep a little space between you and your brother still, you then would want a little time in which forgiveness is withheld a little
while. 9 And this little space of separation you keep between you and your brother but makes the interval between the time in which forgiveness is withheld from you and given to you seem dangerous, with terror justified.

Note # 69: During this perceived gap between giving and receiving, we worry whether the benefits the Holy Spirit offered, our own forgiveness and salvation, will ever arrive. We question whether we made a “good trade.” Maybe we granted our brother his forgiveness and we won’t get our own in return. Until the benefit is recognized as already having been received, we remain fearful. We believe that we have sacrificed something and fear we will never get our just reward.

T-26.VIII.4. Yet space between you and your brother is apparent only in the present, <now,> and cannot be perceived in future time. 2 No more can the space between you and your brother be overlooked except within the present. 3 Future loss is not your fear. 4 But present joining is your dread. 5 Who can feel desolation except now? 6 A future cause as yet has no effects on the present. 7 And therefore must it be that if you fear in the present, there is a present cause. 8 And it is <this> present cause, your fear of joining in the present <now>, that needs correction, not a future state.

Note # 70: We wish to maintain a gap between giving and receiving because this gap confirms that we are still separate body forms and not joined as one mind. We like the idea of our specialness that arises out of our belief in egoic separation.

T-26.VIII.5. The plans you make for safety all are laid within the future, where you cannot plan. 2 No purpose has been given to the future as yet, and what will happen in the future has as yet no cause. 3 Who can predict effects without a cause? 4 And who could fear effects unless he thought the effect had been caused, and judged the effect disastrous <now?> 5 Belief in sin arouses fear, and like belief in sin’s cause, fear is looking forward, looking back, but overlooking what is here and now. 6 Yet only in the here and now must the cause of the belief in sin be, if the belief in sin’s effects already have been judged as fearful. 7 And in overlooking this fact that the cause of fear must be in the present, is the belief in sin protected and kept separate from healing. 8 For a miracle is <now.> 9 The miracle stands already here, in present grace, within the only interval of time that sin and fear have overlooked, but the miracle stands within the present <now> which is all there is to time.

Note # 71: The Holy Spirit’s focus on time is in the present <now>. The ego avoids the present and wants us to focus either on the past or the future. In the past, we find verification that we are limited and are victims. According to the ego, it is in the future where we will finally achieve our happiness as long as we follow its thought system. The ego’s motto is “Seek but do not find.” To the ego, our happiness is always, “I’ll be happy when…?” and of course the “when” never arrives.

T-26.VIII.6. The working out of all correction takes no time at all. 2 Yet the acceptance of the working out of all corrections can seem to take forever. 3 The change of purpose the Holy Spirit brought to your relationship has in it all effects that you will see from
changing your relation’s purpose to that of the Holy Spirit’s purpose. 4 The effects of changing your relation’s purpose to align with the Holy Spirit’s purpose can be looked at in the now. 5 Why wait till the effects from the realignment of your purpose with that of the Holy Spirit’s unfold in time? And while you are waiting for these effects to appear before you, you fear that the effects from this new alignment of your purpose with the Holy Spirit may not come. Although its effects are already there in the now, you fail to recognize them. 6 You have been told that everything brings good that comes from God. 7 And yet it seems as if this fact that everything from God brings good is not so. 8 Good in disaster's form is difficult to credit in advance. Nor is there really sense in this idea that disaster must appear before the good effects of the cause can be received.

Note # 72: We believe that there must be a lag between when a good deed is done and when we will receive the benefits from this good deed. Since both giving and receiving and cause and effect are instantaneous, there is no gap between these two in the eternal now, which is the mind of God. Only in the world of time and space does this appearance of a gap seem real. The time span of this gap is controlled within the mind of the one who perceives the separation as real.

T-26.VIII.7. Why should the good appear in evil's form? 2 And is it not deception if the good does appear in evil's form? 3 Good’s cause is here, if good appears at all. 4 Why are not the effects of good apparent, then in the here of the now? 5 Why are the effects of good in the future? 6 And you seek to be content with sighing, and with "reasoning" you do not understand why good would appear in evil's form in the now, but you believe that the perceived evil will some day appear in the future as something good. 7 And then the meaning of why the good had to appear in the form of present evil will be made clear in the future. 8 This is not reason, for this delay is unjust, and clearly hints at punishment until the time of liberation is at hand. 9 Given a change of purpose for the good, there is no reason for an interval in which disaster strikes, to be perceived as "good" some day but now in form of pain. 10 This is a sacrifice of now, which could not be the cost the Holy Spirit asks for what the Holy Spirit gave without a cost at all.

Note # 73: The Holy Spirit gives the miracle of forgiveness whenever we ask to see things differently. The Holy Spirit asks nothing in return. No sacrifice is required when forgiveness is offered to another. Our giving up of the illusion of limitation and separateness is the giving up of the false, which is nothing. It is only our belief in time that creates an appearance of a gap between cause and effect. This gap creates the appearance that forgiveness requires sacrifice. The ego tells us that we must sacrifice something before we receive our just reward.

T-26.VIII.8. Yet this illusion that we must sacrifice the now before we can receive the benefits of good has a cause which, though untrue, must be already in your mind. 2 And this illusion of a delay in time before good benefits arrive is but one effect that it engenders, and one form in which its outcome is perceived. 3 This interval in time, when retribution is perceived to be the form in which the "good" appears, is but one aspect of
the little space that lies between you, unforgiven still.

**Note # 74:** To receive the benefits of forgiveness instantaneously, we must forgive totally. We must perceive ourselves to be a joint oneness. When we withhold our forgiveness from one brother, we will continue to perceive that there appears to be a delay in our receiving the benefits from an act of partial forgiveness. We cannot truly forgive one brother unless we forgive all. Forgiveness, like truth, is all or nothing.

T-26.VIII.9. Be not content with future happiness. 2 **Future happiness** has no meaning, and is not your just reward. 3 For **in forgiveness of your brother** you have cause for freedom <now>. 4 What profits freedom in a prisoner's form? 5 Why should deliverance be disguised as death? 6 Delay is senseless, and the "reasoning" that would maintain effects of present cause must be delayed until a future time, is merely a denial of the fact that consequence and cause must come as one. 7 Look not to time, but to the little space between you still, to be delivered from the illusion that consequence and cause must be delayed. 8 And do not let the illusion that consequence and cause are not simultaneous be disguised as time, and so preserved the illusion as a delay because its form is changed and what it is cannot be recognized. 9 The Holy Spirit's purpose now is yours. 10 Should not the Holy Spirit’s happiness be yours as well?

**Note # 75:** If we align our purpose with the Holy Spirit’s purpose, our perception of the relationship will automatically change. By changing our purpose to love and forgiveness, we will receive the benefits of love and forgiveness. The Holy Spirit’s purpose is that we know the peace of God. This is where our happiness lies. Cause and effect are instantaneous in the <now>. You cannot have one without the other. Our purpose, which is our goal, determines what we perceive. Thoughts become things. We must choose to teach either fear or love. Time and space will continue to exist within our split-mind as long as we perceive any part of the Sonship to be separate or excluded from our forgiveness. To escape the prison of separation and limitation, both prisoner and jailer must be allowed to go free.

**Note:** The <now> is not the same as Time’s use of the term the ‘present.’” Time allows for change and is illusionary. The <now> is real, changeless and eternal.

**IX. For They Have Come**

T-26.IX.1. Think but how holy you must be from whom the Voice for God calls lovingly unto your brother, that you may awake in your brother the Voice that answers to your call! 2 And think how holy your brother must be when in your brother sleeps your own salvation, with his freedom joined! p560 3 However much you wish your brother be condemned, God is in your brother. 4 And never will you know God is in you as well while you attack God’s chosen home, and battle with God’s host, the Christ that is your brother. 5 Regard your brother gently. 6 Look with loving eyes on your brother who carries Christ within him, that you may behold your brother’s glory and rejoice that Heaven is not separate from you.
Note # 76: God, the Christ, our brother and we are all part of the same Oneness. Our fate is directly tied to how we choose to perceive our brother.

T-26.IX.2. Is it too much to ask a little trust for your brother who carries Christ to you, that you may be forgiven all your sins, and left without a single sin you cherish still? 2 Forget not that a shadow held between your brother and yourself obscures the face of Christ and memory of God. 3 And would you trade the face of Christ and memory of God for an ancient hate? 4 The ground whereon you stand is holy ground because of the face of Christ and memory of God Who, standing there with you, have blessed the ground you stand with Their innocence and peace.

Note # 77: We must look past all beliefs that hold ourselves to be a limited ego-body and trust that our brother is innocent, sinless and guiltless. When we do this, we will see the face of Christ and memory of God in everything we perceive.

T-26.IX.3. The blood of hatred fades to let the grass grow green again, and let the flowers be all white and sparkling in the summer sun. 2 What was a place of death has now become a living temple in a world of light. 3 Because of the face of Christ and memory of God. 4 It is the face of Christ and memory of God’s Presence which has lifted holiness again to take hatred’s ancient place upon an ancient throne. 5 Because of the face of Christ and memory of God have miracles sprung up as grass and flowers on the barren ground that hate had scorched and rendered desolate. 6 What hate has wrought have the face of Christ and memory of God undone. 7 And now you stand on ground so holy Heaven leans to join with this holy ground, and make this holy ground like Heaven, itself. 8 The shadow of an ancient hate has gone, and all the blight and withering have passed forever from the land where the face of Christ and memory of God have come.

Note # 78: Love has replaced all hatred and fear. The world of perception has accepted the Holy Spirit’s purpose to witness only for the Oneness of the Christ in all of us. Correct perception has replaced egoic misperception and judgment. God will take the final step in the return of the Sonship to knowledge and heaven.

T-26.IX.4. What is a hundred or a thousand years to the face of Christ and memory of God, or tens of thousands? 2 When the face of Christ and memory of God come, time’s purpose is fulfilled. 3 What never was passes to nothingness when the face of Christ and memory of God have come. 4 What hatred claimed is given up to love, and freedom lights up every living thing and lifts every living thing into Heaven, where the lights grow ever brighter as each living thing comes home. 5 The incomplete is made complete again, and Heaven's joy has been increased because what is Heaven’s own, all living things that comprise the Oneness of Everything has been restored to Heaven. 6 The bloodied earth is cleansed, and the insane have shed their garments of insanity to join the face of Christ and memory of God on the ground whereon you stand.

Note # 79: The once separate Sonship is once again united and takes it rightful place
within the truth that comprises Heaven.

T-26.IX.5. Heaven is grateful for this gift of what has been withheld so long, which is the right-mindedness of the united Sonship. 2 For the face of Christ and memory of God have come to gather in Their Own, the entire Sonship. 3 What has been locked is opened; what was held apart from light is given up, that light may shine on what had been perceived as separate and leave no space nor distance lingering between the light of Heaven and the world. p561

Note # 80: The face of Christ and memory of God is gathering all the fragmented parts in order to restore the Sonship of the truth and rejoin Heaven.

T-26.IX.6. The holiest of all the spots on earth is where an ancient hatred has become a present love. 2 And the face of Christ and memory of God come quickly to the living temple, within the Sonship where a home for Them has been set up. 3 There is no place in Heaven holier. 4 And the face of Christ and memory of God have come to dwell within the temple offered Them, to be Their resting place as well as yours. 5 What hatred has released to love becomes the brightest light in Heaven's radiance. 6 And all the lights in Heaven brighter grow, in gratitude for what has been restored.

Note # 81: Heaven rejoices in the return of God’s prodigal Son to the truth of Heaven.

T-26.IX.7. Around you angels hover lovingly, to keep away all darkened thoughts of sin, and keep the light where your awareness of your Christ consciousness has entered in. 2 Your footprints lighten up the world, for where you walk forgiveness gladly goes with you. 3 No one on earth but offers thanks to one who has restored his home, and sheltered a brother from bitter winter and the freezing cold. 4 And shall the Lord of Heaven and His Son give less in gratitude for so much more?

Note # 82: The light of Christ consciousness has saved the world from our egoic judgments and the whole Mind of God is thankful for the restoration of the split-minded to the sanity of the One Self.

T-26.IX.8. Now is the temple of the living God rebuilt as host again to God, the Father by Whom the temple was created. 2 Where God, the Father dwells, His Son dwells with Him, never separate. 3 And the Father and His Son give thanks that They are welcome made at last. 4 Where stood a cross stands now the risen Christ, and ancient scars are healed within Christ sight. 5 An ancient miracle has come to bless and to replace an ancient enmity that came to kill. 6 In gentle gratitude do God the Father and the Son return to what is Theirs, which is the Christ, and will forever be. 7 Now is the Holy Spirit's purpose done. 8 For God, the Father and, His Son have come! 9 For God, the Father and, His Son have come at last to be restored to Heaven and truth!

Note # 83: Oneness has been restored to Heaven and the peace of God has returned to all. We abide in the truth that there is only a Oneness of Everything. The holographic Mind of God is that One Self.
X. The End of Injustice

T-26.X.1. What, then, remains to be undone for you to realize God, the Father and, His Son’s Presence within your awareness? 2 Only this; you have a differential view of when attack is justified, and when you think attack is unfair and not to be allowed. 3 When you perceive attack as unfair, you think that a response of anger now is just. 4 And thus you see what is the same as different. Our belief that something is unfair is also a disguise. 5 Confusion is not limited. 6 If confusion occurs at all, confusion will be total. 7 And confusion’s presence, in whatever form, will hide God and God’s Son’s Presence. 8 God and God’s Son are known with clarity or not at all. 9 Confused perception will block knowledge. 10 It is not a question of the size of the confusion, or how much confusion interferes. 11 The simple presence of confusion shuts the door to God and God’s Son’s presence, and keeps Them there unknown to your awareness.

Note # 84: To perceive unfairness is to believe that we can be hurt and that we are not causative to our experiences. Unfairness implies that we are the victims of something outside ourselves and are unable to determine what we choose to call into the field of our awareness. It claims that we are a vulnerable ego-body that can be attacked even though we did nothing that would warrant our being punished or attacked by another. Anger is never justified since it is an attack that only perpetuates this false claim of unfair treatment caused by another's actions.

T-26.X.2. What does it mean if you perceive attack in certain forms to be unfair to you? 2 If you perceive attack in certain forms to be unfair to you, it means that there must be some forms in which you think attack is fair. 3 For otherwise, how could some attacks be evaluated as unfair? 4 Some attacks, then, are given meaning and perceived as sensible. 5 And only some attacks are seen as meaningless. 6 And this denies the fact that <all attacks> are senseless, equally without a cause or consequence, and that all attacks cannot have effects of any kind. 7 God and His Son’s Presence is obscured by any veil that stands between Their shining innocence, and your awareness that Their shining innocence is your own innocence and Their shining innocence equally belongs to every living thing along with you. 8 God limits not. 9 And what is limited cannot be Heaven. 10 So what is limited must be hell.

Note # 85: Our belief that unfairness exists is a veil that blocks the realization of the Christ in all. Our belief that we could be treated unfairly is a witness to our ego’s claim that we are vulnerable victims of outside forces.

T-26.X.3. Unfairness and attack are one mistake, so firmly joined that where one is perceived the other must be seen. 2 You cannot be unfairly treated. 3 The belief you are unfairly treated is but another form of the idea you are deprived by someone not yourself. 4 Projection of the cause of sacrifice is at the root of everything perceived to be
unfair and not your just deserts. Yet it is you who ask this of yourself in deep injustice to the Son of God. **You wanted to believe that you could abdicate your power of choice to someone else and thus claim he or she had the power to deprive you of something. You choose to claim that you could be an innocent victim.** 6 You have no enemy except yourself, and you are enemy indeed to **your brother** because you do not know **your brother** <as> yourself. 7 What could be more unjust than that **your brother** be deprived of what **your brother** is, denied the right to be himself, and asked to sacrifice his Father's Love and yours as not his due?

**Note # 86:** Projection allows us to play the role of innocent victims. In projection, we attempt to transfer something that arose or was birthed in our mind and claim that something outside our own mind was responsible for the idea or cause. Projection allows us to make our brother appear guilty for our “perceived crimes of limitation” whenever we wish. Projection allows us to create any illusion we want. We can make our brother a sinner or a saint.

**T-26.X.4.** Beware of the temptation to perceive yourself unfairly treated. 2 In this view that **you can be treated unfairly,** you seek to find an innocence that is not **God and God’s Son** but your innocence alone, and at the cost of someone else's guilt. 3 Can innocence be purchased by the giving of your guilt to someone else? 4 And <is> it innocence that your attack on **your brother** attempts to get? 5 Is it not retribution for your own attack upon the Son of God you seek? 6 Is it not safer to believe that you are innocent of this attempt to purchase your innocence by the giving of your guilt to someone else? And is it not safer to believe that you are victimized despite your innocence? 7 Whatever way the game of guilt is played, there must be loss. 8 In the game of guilt, someone must lose his innocence so that someone else can take the innocence from the losing player, making the losing player’s innocence his own.

**Note # 87:** Projection is the tool of the game of guilt. With projection, we can throw our own guilt on anyone and believe that it sticks to the other person. Unfortunately, for the guilt-thrower, since ideas never leave the mind of the thinker, the thinker also gets to keep his guilt. Projection allows us to play the role of innocent victims even though our own mind’s beliefs are the source of the perceived guilt.

**T-26.X.5.** In the game of guilt, you think your brother is unfair to you because you think that one **player** must be unfair to make the other **player** innocent. 2 And in this game of guilt do you perceive one egoic purpose for your whole relationship. **This one egoic purpose of our relationship is to transfer our guilt to an innocent brother and steal his innocence as our own.** 3 And this special egoic purpose for the relationship you seek to add unto the true purpose given the relationship by the Holy Spirit. 4 The Holy Spirit's purpose is to let the Presence of your holy Guests, **God and God’s Son,** be known to you. 5 And to the Holy Spirit’s purpose of letting you recognize God and God’s Son’s presence in all relationships nothing can be added, for the world is purposeless except for this goal of reawakening to the truth of what you are, which is part of the One Self. 6 To add or take away from this one goal of the Holy Spirit, which is to return the Sonship to the truth, is but to take away all purpose from the
world and from yourself. p563 7 And each unfairness that the world appears to lay upon you, you have laid your unfairness on the world by rendering the world purposeless, without the function that the Holy Spirit sees that the world is for. 8 And simple justice has been thus denied to every living thing upon the earth.

**Note # 88:** The ego uses this world to prove that we are the body and that the separation is real. The Holy Spirit reinterprets all of our experiences in this world in order to return the insane to right-mindedness. The Holy Spirit teaches that we remain part of the Oneness of the Mind of God.

*T-26.X.6.* What this injustice does to you who judge unfairly, and who see as you have judged, you cannot calculate. **This injustice is the result of our use of projection to transfer our perceived guilt to another.** 2 *Due to our misuse of projection*, the world grows dim and threatening, not a trace of all the happy sparkle that salvation brings can you perceive to lighten up your way. 3 And so *due to our misuse of projection*, you see yourself deprived of light, abandoned to the dark, unfairly left without a purpose in a futile world. 4 The world is fair because the Holy Spirit has brought injustice that resulted from our misuse of projection to the light within, and there has all unfairness been resolved and been replaced with justice and with love. 5 If you perceive injustice anywhere, you need but say:

6 *By this misuse of projection do I deny the Presence of the Father and the Son.*
7 *And I would rather know of the Presence of the Father and the Son than see injustice, which the Presence of the Father and the Son’s Presence shines away.* p564

**Note # 89:** We are asked not to judge anything. When we judge, we project our egoic beliefs upon another. We cannot judge correctly since we lack knowledge. Instead, we should ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit’s guidance will transform all our misperceptions into correct perceptions that witnesses for the truth. The Holy Spirit will utilize this egoic world of perception to prove that we remain the shared Oneness within the Mind of God.

Projection and extension both rely upon the creative power of the mind. Projection is fear-based and is not in alignment with our Christ nature. Extension is love-based and is in alignment with the thoughts of God. Creation is the simple act of becoming what you already are by extending yourself outwardly. To create you need to have knowledge of what you are. Because we have lost knowledge’s certainty, we believe we are incomplete and not whole. Thus, we think we need something outside ourselves which results in fear-based thoughts. Projection is based on what you mistakenly believe you are, not what you truly are. You project in order to believe the stories you have made up about what you are. The world that we each perceive is but a reflection of what we believe we are. Projection makes our perception and our beliefs determine what we will project.
Chapter 27. THE HEALING OF THE DREAM

I. The Picture of Crucifixion

T-27.I.1. The wish to be unfairly treated is a compromise attempt that would combine attack and innocence. 2 Who can combine the wholly incompatible, which is attack and innocence, and make a unity of what can never join? 3 Walk you the gentle way, and you will fear no evil and no shadows in the night. 4 But place no terror symbols on your path, or you will weave a crown of thorns from which your brother and yourself will not escape. 5 You cannot crucify yourself alone. 6 And if you are unfairly treated, your brother must suffer the unfairness that you see. 7 You cannot sacrifice yourself alone. 8 For sacrifice is total. 9 If sacrifice could occur at all sacrifice would entail the whole of God's creation, and the Father with the sacrifice of His beloved Son.

Note # 1: Because we are interconnected as the Oneness, everything is impacted by our beliefs. The wish to be treated unfairly is a compromise that attempts to combine attack and innocence. To be treated unfairly, we need to have both an attacker and someone who does not deserve attack. Yet, since both the perceived attacker and the one being wrongly attacked are joined as one, this is impossible. There are no victims. Each person is responsible for what they choose to call into the field of their awareness.

T-27.I.2. In your release from sacrifice is your brother’s release from sacrifice made manifest, and shown to be his own. 2 But every pain you suffer do you see as proof that your brother is guilty of attack. 3 Thus would you make yourself through the pain you suffer to be the sign that your brother has lost his innocence, and need but look on you in pain to realize that your brother has been condemned. 4 And what to you has been unfair, which is the pain you suffer from your brother’s perceived attack, will come to your brother in righteousness. 5 The unjust vengeance that you suffer now belongs to your brother, and when unjust vengeance rests on your brother your ego claims you are set free since the ego claims you are innocent. 6 Wish not to make yourself a living symbol of his guilt, for you will not escape the death you made for your brother. 7 But in your brother’s innocence you find your own innocence.

Note # 2: When we perceive ourselves as being treated unfairly, our ego tells us that this perceived attack upon us is unjustified. Perceiving ourselves as innocent, we are made to suffer at our brother’s hand and must sacrifice our well being through no fault of our own. If we perceive ourselves in pain or sickness, we believe that it is due to our brother’s unprovoked attack on our innocent self. Our sickness and pain is proof that our brother is guilty of attack and we, the innocent, have been unfairly treated.
T-27.I.3. Whenever you consent to suffer pain, to be deprived, unfairly treated or in need of anything, you but accuse your brother of attack upon God's Son. 2 You hold a picture of your crucifixion before your brother's eyes so that your brother may see his sins are writ in Heaven in your blood and death, and that your brother's sins go before him, closing off the gate of Heaven and damning your brother to hell. 3 Yet this writ of your brother's damnation is writ in hell and not in Heaven, where in Heaven you are beyond attack and prove writ your brother's innocence. 4 The picture of yourself you offer your brother you show yourself, and give this picture of yourself all your faith. 5 The Holy Spirit offers you, to give to your brother, a picture of yourself in which there is no pain and no reproach at all. 6 And what was martyred to your brother's guilt, which was your egoic picture of your innocent self, now becomes transformed by the Holy Spirit into the perfect witness to your brother's innocence.

Note # 3: Whenever we see unfairness in this world of perception, we need to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit so that we can perceive this in another way. Any belief in unfairness is a confirmation that we believe the separation to be real. Unfairness, injustice and our projection of guilt upon another go hand in hand.

T-27.I.4. The power of witness is beyond belief because the power of witness brings conviction in its wake. p565 2 The witness is believed because the witness points beyond himself to what the witness represents as the truth. 3 A sick and suffering you but represents your brother's guilt; the witness that you send lest your brother forget the injuries he gave to you, from which you swear your brother never will escape. 4 This sick and sorry picture <you> accept, if only through the use of this sick picture of yourself, it can serve to punish your brother. 5 The sick are merciless to everyone, and in contagion do the sick seek to kill. 6 Death seems an easy price, if the sick can say, "Behold me, brother, at your hand I die." 7 For sickness is the witness to your brother's guilt, and death would prove your brother's errors must be sins. 8 Sickness is but a "little" death; a form of vengeance not yet total. 9 Yet sickness speaks with certainty for what sickness represents. 10 The bleak and bitter picture you have sent your brother <you> have looked upon in grief. 11 And everything that this sick picture of yourself has shown to your brother have you believed, because this sick picture of yourself witnessed to the guilt in your brother which you perceived and loved.

Note # 4: Claiming you are sick proves that you have been damaged at your brother's hand. For your brother's unfair attack on your innocent self, you believe your brother must be damned. If you did not perceive yourself to being a limited ego-body, you would realize that you could not be attacked nor made to suffer. If you give this misperception over to the Holy Spirit, this error would be corrected.

T-27.I.5. Now in the hands made gentle by the Holy Spirit's touch, the Holy Spirit lays a picture of a different you. 2 The Holy Spirit's picture of you is a picture of a body still, for what you really are, unlimited spirit, cannot be seen nor pictured. 3 Yet this different picture of you presented by the Holy Spirit is one that has not been used for purpose of attack, and therefore never suffered pain at all. 4 This different picture of
you presented by the Holy Spirit witnesses to the eternal truth that you cannot be hurt, and points beyond the picture to both your innocence and your brother’s innocence. 5 Show this different picture unto your brother and your brother will see that every scar is healed, and every tear is wiped away in laughter and in love. 6 And your brother will look on his forgiveness there in this different picture of your unhurt self, and with healed eyes will look beyond this picture to the innocence that your brother beholds in you. 7 Here in this different picture of your unhurt self is the proof that your brother has never sinned; that nothing which your brother’s madness bid him do was ever done, or ever had effects of any kind. 8 That no reproach that your brother laid upon his heart was ever justified, and no attack can ever touch your brother with the poisoned and relentless sting of fear.

Note # 5: By demonstrating that you are not a body and, therefore, cannot be hurt, the Holy Spirit shows that the illusion of sin or attack has no effect. Your brother cannot be guilty of a sin, if the “sin” has no effect. Your brother, like you, his mirror image, both must be innocent and not guilty.

T-27.I.6. Attest your brother’s innocence and not your brother’s guilt. 2 Your healing is your brother’s comfort and his health because your healing proves illusions are not true. 3 It is not will for life but wish for death that is the motivation for this egoic world. 4 This egoic world’s only purpose is to prove guilt real. 5 No worldly thought or act or feeling has a motivation other than to prove guilt real. 6 These egoic worldly acts and feelings are the witnesses that are called forth to be believed, and lend conviction to the egoic thought system that these worldly acts speak for and represent. 7 And each of these worldly acts has many voices, speaking to your brother and yourself in different tongues. 8 And yet to both your brother and yourself the message is the same, guilt is real. 9 Adornment of the body seeks to show how lovely are the witnesses for guilt. 10 Concerns about the body demonstrate how frail and vulnerable is your life; how easily destroyed is what you love, which is the body. p566 11 Depression speaks of death, and vanity of real concern with anything at all.

Note # 6: This world was made to prove the separation was real. Perceive ourselves to be the body and we “prove” that we have usurped God’s Will. The kissing cousins of sin, guilt and fear now appear instantaneously. They are very real to anyone who identifies themselves as the body and believes that the wages of sin are death.

T-27.I.7. The strongest witness to futility, that bolsters all the rest and helps the witnesses for the egoic thought system paint the picture in which sin is justified, is sickness in whatever form sickness takes. 2 The sick have reason for each one of their unnatural desires and strange needs. 3 For who but they that desire sickness, could live a life so soon cut short and not esteem the worth of passing joys? 4 What pleasures could there be that will endure? 5 Are not the frail entitled to believe that every stolen scrap of pleasure is their righteous payment for their little lives? 6 The frail’s death will pay the price for all of them, if they enjoy their benefits or not. 7 The end of life must come, whatever way that life be spent. 8 And so take pleasure in the quickly passing and ephemeral.
Note # 7: The belief in the separation is the belief that the unlimited could be limited. What better way to prove this, than to be a limited ego-body that appears sick and must eventually die. Even the innocent must be made to suffer and die. If this is the case, the egoic version of God must indeed be feared.

T-27.I.8. These acts that witness for the egoic thought system are not sins, but witnesses unto the strange belief that sin and death are real, and innocence and sin will end alike within the termination of the grave. If this were true that sin and death were real, and innocence and sin would end alike within the termination of the grave, there would be reason to remain content to seek for passing joys and cherish little pleasures where you can. Yet in this picture that sin and death are real is the body not perceived as neutral and without a goal inherent in itself. For the body becomes the symbol of reproach, the sign of guilt whose consequences still are there to see, so that the cause can never be denied.

Note # 8: In the world of form, the body is the symbol for limitation, sin and guilt. If we believe that we are the body, the death of the body proves that sin is real. If both the innocent and the guilty must die, we are innocent victims. Victim consciousness will naturally follow. Our belief that we are a body prevents our decision-maker from choosing again since we believe that we are powerless to affect change. Our mind, not the body, is the source of the problem and where the healing must take place.

T-27.I.9. Your function is to show your brother sin can have no cause and that he is guiltless. How futile must it be to see yourself as a picture of a sick body! This picture of yourself as a sick body would be the egoic proof that what your function is can never be! The Holy Spirit's picture changes not the body into something the body is not. The Holy Spirit's picture only takes away from the body all signs of accusation and of blamefulness. Pictured without a purpose, the body is seen as neither sick nor well, nor bad nor good. No grounds are offered that the body may be judged in any way at all. The body has no life, but neither is the body dead. The body stands apart from all experience of love or fear. For now the body witnesses to nothing yet, the body’s purpose being open, and the mind made free again to choose what the body is for. Now is the body not condemned, but waiting for a purpose to be given, that the body may fulfill the function that the body will receive.

Note # 9: The body has no power or purpose of its own. It is only our mind that gives the body direction and determines the body’s purpose. The body is a neutral communication device. The mind will determine if the body will be used to communicate fear or love.

T-27.I.10. Into this empty space, from which the goal of sin has been removed, is Heaven free to be remembered. Here in this empty space free from guilt, Heaven’s peace can come, and perfect healing take the place of death. The body can become a sign of life, a promise of redemption, and a breath of immortality to those grown sick of breathing in the fetid scent of death. Let the body have healing as the body’s purpose. Then will the body send forth the message it received from the thought system of the Holy Spirit, and by the body’s health and loveliness proclaim the truth and value that the
Holy Spirit’s message represents. 6 Let the body receive the power to represent an endless life, forever unattacked. 7 And to your brother let the body’s message be, "Behold me, brother, at your hand I live."

Note # 10: Fear results from our belief that we are a body. If we can control this fear long enough, we can then ask the Holy Spirit to reinterpret our ego’s erroneous misperception of what the body’s purpose is. The ego sees the body as the symbol of sin, sickness and death. The Holy Spirit knows the body has no function except what we choose to give it. If allowed, the Holy Spirit will use the body as a communication device to teach that we are forgiveness and love. The Sonship is now perceived as sinless and guiltless. As mind, we can once again be joined together. Minds, not bodies, can be shared.

T-27.I.11. The simple way to let this empty space, which is free from guilt and allows for the remembrance of Heaven to be achieved is merely this; to let the body have no purpose from the egoic past, when you were sure you knew the body’s purpose was to foster guilt. 2 For any egoic purpose from the past insists your crippled picture is a lasting sign of what the body represents. 3 This crippled picture of yourself leaves no space in which a different view, another purpose, can be given the body. 4 You do not know the body’s purpose. 5 You but gave illusions of a purpose to a thing, which is your body that you made to hide your true function from yourself. 6 This thing without a purpose, which is your body, cannot hide the function that the Holy Spirit gave your body. 7 Let, then, your body’s purpose and your function both be reconciled at last and seen as one.

Note # 11: Our purpose is to save our brother and thus, ourselves from the illusions of sin, guilt and fear. This purpose of salvation is from God and the Holy Spirit cannot fail in Its mission to return the Sonship to right-mindedness. Forgiveness is the tool for granting sinlessness to our brother. While we are under the influence of the egoic thought system, the ego has determined that the body’s purpose is to confirm that sin and guilt are real. Thus, the ego and the Holy Spirit see the purpose of the body differently. The Holy Spirit realizes that the body is a neutral communication device and that under Its guidance, the body would be used to teach only love. By adopting the Holy Spirit’s thought system, the body and our function of teaching our brother that he is guiltless would finally align and be seen as one uniformed goal.

II. The Fear of Healing

T-27.II.1. Is healing frightening? 2 To many, yes healing is frightening. 3 For accusation is a bar to love, and damaged bodies are accusers. 4 Damaged bodies, which are accusers, stand firmly in the way of trust and peace, proclaiming that the frail can have no trust and that the damaged have no grounds for peace. 5 To the accuser who has perceived himself to have been injured by his brother, how can this accuser love and trust his brother still? 6 In the accuser’s egoic mind, his brother has attacked the accuser and will attack again. 7 The egoic mind implores you to protect not the
accuser’s brother, because your damaged body shows that <you> must be protected from your brother. 8 To forgive your perceived attacking brother may be an act of charity, but not your brother’s due. 9 Your perceived attacking brother may be pitied for his guilt, but not exonerated from his guilt. 10 And if you forgive your perceived attacking brother’s transgressions, you but add to all the guilt that your brother has really earned.

Note # 12: Because we see ourselves hurt by our brother’s failure to give us everything we want, we cannot justify his sinlessness. We perceive ourselves as a body with needs and limitations and we must have these needs met by some outside forces. Our ego tells us that if we are not at peace or if we are sick, it is due to our brother’s failure to meet our needs. Our sickness proves that our brother is guilty and demonstrates that we have suffered at his hands. If we choose to “forgive” him, it is out of pity, which is not justified nor earned. Our offending brother will always be guilty in our eyes and his ongoing guilt is verified by our continued sickness and lack of inner peace.

T-27.II.2. The unhealed cannot pardon. 2 For the unhealed are the witnesses that pardon is unfair. 3 The unhealed would retain their frail sick bodies, which are the consequences of the guilt the unhealed overlook in their perceived attacker. 4 Yet no one can forgive a sin that he believes is real. 5 And to the ego what has perceived consequences, the sickness of the body, must be real, because what sin has done is there to see in our sick body. 6 Forgiveness is not pity, which but seeks to pardon what the “forgiver” thinks to be the truth. 7 Good cannot <be> returned for evil, for forgiveness does not first establish sin and then forgive the sin the “forgiver” made real. 8 Who can say and mean, "My brother, you have injured me, and yet, because I am the better of the two, I pardon you my hurt." 9 Your brother’s pardon and your hurt cannot exist together. 10 One, either the pardon or hurt, denies the other and must make the other false. p568

Note # 13: We cannot pardon those we know perpetrated a crime against us. Our sickness and loss of peace “proves that we believe the crime is real. Sin cannot be forgiven. If sin is real, justice demands that it must be punished. The key is that sin is not real. If we are not a body, we cannot be hurt. The problem is not our brother’s alleged wrong doings, but our belief that we are a limited ego-body. This is why ACIM states that forgiveness is the act of forgiving myself for all the wrong doing that I perceived my brother did to me. My brother did nothing. He is only the result of my projected thoughts. Forgiveness is always an inside job. Perceiving myself to be a limited ego-body, I must forgive myself of this limiting belief’s harmful results. Realize that I am a Oneness of unlimited spirit and there is nothing left for me to forgive.

T-27.II.3. To witness sin and yet forgive sin is a paradox that reason cannot see. 2 For sin maintains what has been done to you deserves no pardon. 3 And by giving sin pardon, you grant your brother mercy but retain the proof your brother is not really innocent. 4 The sick remain accusers. 5 The sick cannot forgive their brothers and themselves as well. 6 For no one in whom true forgiveness rests can suffer. 7 One who truly forgives holds not the proof of sin before his brother's eyes. 8 And thus one who truly forgives
must have overlooked sin and removed sin from their own vision. 9 Forgiveness cannot be for one who truly forgives and not the other brother, the one perceived as the wrongdoer. 10 Who truly forgives is healed. 11 And in his healing lies the proof that one who truly forgives has truly pardoned, and retains no trace of condemnation that the one who truly forgives still would hold against himself or any living thing.

Note # 14: True forgiveness recognizes that it is our own belief that we are limited ego-bodies that can be hurt that needs correction. Our own mind is the cause of all we choose to perceive. We are our own scriptwriter, director, producer and star of our own Broadway production that we call our life. When we realize that our mind needs healing, we recover the truth that we are interconnected to our brother’s mind. When each experience is viewed as a lesson in need of learning, it is easy to recognize that the “actors” are only playing their parts in a school play so that we can rediscover the truth of who we are. A fellow actor deserves our gratitude, not our condemnation. Instead of a hurt, there is only the realization that we had mistaken a playschool lesson for a life and death struggle. We have once again taken ourselves too seriously and have forgotten to laugh.

T-27.II.4. Forgiveness is not real unless forgiveness brings a healing to your brother and yourself. 2 You must attest your brother’s sins have no effect on you to demonstrate your brother’s sins are not real. 3 How else could your brother be guiltless? 4 And how could your brother’s innocence be justified unless your brother’s sins have no effect to warrant guilt? 5 Sins are beyond forgiveness just because sins would entail effects that cannot be undone and overlooked entirely. 6 In the undoing of sins effects lies the proof that sins are merely errors. 7 Let yourself be healed that you may be forgiving, offering salvation to your brother and yourself.

Note # 15: If the effect of your brother’s sin, which is the hurt and loss of your inner peace, are no longer perceived within your own mind, your brother’s perceived sin must not be real. If sin has no effect, it does not exist. Cause must have an effect. Without the loss of your inner peace, sin is no longer real and there is nothing to blame your brother for. Without sin’s effect, both you and your brother can allow correction of the mistaken perception that someone was guilty of a sin. Without sin’s effect, there is nothing to forgive.

T-27.II.5. A broken body shows the mind has not been healed. 2 A miracle of healing proves that separation is without effect. 3 What you would prove to your brother you will believe. 4 The power of witness comes from your belief. 5 And everything you say or do or think but testifies to what you teach to your brother. 6 Your body can be means to teach that your body-mind has never suffered pain because of your brother. 7 And in your body-mind's healing can the body-mind offer your brother mute testimony of your brother’s innocence. 8 It is this testimony that you cannot be hurt that can speak with power greater than a thousand tongues. 9 For here in your healed body-mind is your brother’s forgiveness proved to your brother.

Note # 16: When you show that your brother’s perceived sins have no effect on your
body-mind, you demonstrate that you have not made body thoughts real. You have not
allowed any body identification onto the level that could impact your mind’s inner peace
in the reality of what you are. You understand that both your brother and yourself are
unlimited spirit. As such, you are both a part of the holographic oneness that is the shared
Mind of God.

T-27.II.6. A miracle can offer nothing less to your brother than the miracle has given
unto you. 2 So does your healing show your mind is healed, and has forgiven what your
brother did not do. 3 And so is your brother convinced his innocence was never lost,
and your brother is healed along with you. 4 Thus does the miracle undo all things the
world attests can never be undone, which is the affect of the belief in sin. 5 And
hopelessness and death must disappear before the ancient clarion call of life. 6 This call
of truth has power far beyond the weak and miserable cry of death and guilt of the egoic
thought system. 7 The ancient calling of the Father to His Son, and of the Son’s calling
unto His Son’s Own Creation, will yet be the last trumpet that the world will ever hear. 8
Brother, there is no death. p569 9 And this you learn when you but wish to show your
brother that you had no hurt of or from your brother. 10 Your brother thinks your
blood is on his hands, and so your brother stands condemned. 11 Yet it is given you to
show your brother by your healing that your brother’s guilt is but the fabric of a
senseless dream.

Note # 17: By our healing, we call our brother to the joint realization that spirit cannot be
hurt and that we are one. Our brother is our creation because he is part of our split-mind’s
belief that the separation was real. It is our split-mind’s misperception that gives our
brother the appearance of a separate ego-body. In truth, we are of One Mind. This is why
by healing our mind, we also heal our brother’s. Our brother’s mind is the other part of
our “split-mind.” Forgiveness is the joining of minds that appear to be separate, but in
truth were always one. ACIM states that the miracle does nothing. Instead, what was
always a One Self is now recognized as the simple truth of our reality. The miracle takes
place when truth is no longer denied or blocked by erroneous thinking.

T-27.II.7. How just are miracles! 2 For the miracle bestow an equal gift of full
deliverance from guilt upon your brother and yourself. 3 Your healing saves your
brother pain as well as you, and you are healed because you wished your brother well.
4 This equal deliverance from guilt for both you and your brother is the law the
miracle obeys; that healing sees no specialness at all. 5 The miracle’s healing does not
come from pity but from love. 6 And love would prove all suffering is but a vain
imagining, a foolish wish with no effects. 7 Your health is a result of your desire to see
your brother with no blood upon his hands and your health is a result of your desire to
see no guilt upon your brother’s heart made heavy with the proof of sin. 8 And what
you wish for your brother is given you to see.

Note # 18: Whatever the mind of the perceiver wishes to see, he will see. Our thoughts
always precede what we choose to call into our awareness. Our mind holds the power to
perceive our brother as either sinless or guilty. The choice is ours. When we realize that
we are unlimited spirit, we will not identify ourselves with any bodily thoughts. Release
our mind’s identification as being a body and we free both ourselves and our brother from all limitation associated with the body. We can now pardon all the Sonship for no sin was ever committed. Mind cannot attack and cannot be hurt.

T-27.II.8. The "cost" of your serenity is your brother’s loss of his serenity. 2 This loss of serenity is the "price" the Holy Spirit and the world interpret differently. 3 The world perceives the statement that “The "cost" of your serenity is your brother’s loss of his serenity.” as a statement of the "fact" that your salvation sacrifices his salvation. 4 The Holy Spirit knows your healing is the witness unto your brother's healing, and that your healing cannot be apart from your brother's healing at all. 5 As long as your brother consents to suffer, you will be unhealed. 6 Yet you can show your brother that his suffering is purposeless and wholly without cause. 7 Show your brother your healing, and your brother will consent no more to suffer. 8 For your brother’s innocence has been established in your sight and your brother's sight. 9 And laughter will replace your sighs, because God's Son remembered that he <is> God's Son.

Note # 19: The split-minded see their brothers as different and not as their own projected thoughts. In projection, we transfer our guilt upon another. Since thoughts never leave the mind of the thinker, we, the split-minded, get to keep our sin, guilt and fear. We cannot heal alone. Both parts of the split-minded Sonship must be healed so that they both realize that they are the shared Oneness with the Mind of God. In mind, not in any illusionary body form, My Brother and I are One.

T-27.II.9. Who, then, fears healing? 2 Only those to whom their brother's sacrifice and pain are seen to represent their own serenity. 3 To those who fear healing, their own helplessness and weakness represent the grounds on which those who fear healing can justify their brother’s pain. 4 The constant sting of guilt their brother suffers serves to prove that their brother is slave, but they who fear healing are free. 5 The constant pain they who fear healing suffer demonstrates that they who fear healing are free <because> they hold their brother bound. 6 And sickness is desired to prevent a shift of balance in the sacrifice. 7 How could the Holy Spirit be deterred an instant, even less, to reason with an argument for sickness such as this? 8 And need your healing be delayed because you pause to listen to insanity?

Note # 20: The insane reasoning behind our ego’s desire to be sick is to prove that our brother has harmed us. In egoic logic, if our body is sick, hurt and suffering, it proves and demonstrates that our brother has treated us unfairly. Since we are innocent victims of our brother’s attack, we deserve our freedom. Our brother deserves eternal damnation for the cruel and sinful acts that he perpetrated against us. To the ego, our brother’s condemnation is perceived as our salvation.

T-27.II.10. Correction is not your function. 2 Correction belongs to the Holy Spirit, Who knows of fairness, not of guilt. 3 If you assume correction's role, you lose the function of forgiveness. 4 No one can forgive until he learns correction is but to forgive, and never to accuse. 5 Alone, your egoic self cannot see correction and forgiveness are the same, and therefore is the function of correction not of you, who perceive yourself
as a separate ego-body. 6 Identity and function are the same, and by your function do you know yourself. 7 And thus, if you confuse your function with the function of Another Who is the Holy Spirit you must be confused about yourself and who you are. 8 What is the separation but a wish to take God's function from Him and deny that God's function is God's? 9 Yet if it is not God's it is not yours, for you must lose what you would take away.

Note # 21: Because we are split-minded, we are under the guidance of the egoic thought system. The ego tells us that we are separate. Being separate from our brother, egoic logic states that correction requires that our brother be condemned as the wrong doer for some perceived sin. If he must be condemned, we cannot forgive him. Thus, if we assume the role of being the corrector, which the ego understands as condemnation, we must lose our function of forgiveness. Egoic condemnation and forgiveness cannot both occur. They are mutually exclusive. The Holy Spirit knows that sin is unreal and only requires correction, not condemnation. When we allow the Holy Spirit to do Its function of correcting our misperception that our brother could harm us, we now can fulfill our function of forgiveness. Remember, ACIM defines forgiveness as forgiving ourselves from our desire to hold our brother guilty for what we imagined he did to us. Everything we perceive is an inside job. It is impossible for the Son of God to be harmed.

T-27.II.11. In a split mind, identity must seem to be divided. 2 Nor can anyone perceive a function unified which has conflicting purposes and different ends. 3 Correction, to a mind so split, must be a way to punish sins you think are yours in someone else. 4 And thus does your brother become your victim of your sin, not your brother's sin. Your brother is different from you in that the split-minded perceive that your brother is more guilty, thus in need of your correction, since you are perceived as the one more innocent than your brother. 5 This splits your brother's function off from your function, and gives you both a different role. You are the guilt-thrower and your brother is the guilt catcher. 6 And so you cannot be perceived as one, and with a single function that would mean a shared identity with but one end, which is forgiveness.

Note # 22: Perceiving ourselves as separate, we give ourselves the Holy Spirit’s function of correction. We project our sin and guilt upon a brother and then perceive our sinful brother as requiring our correction. This insures our mind will remain split, for we have usurped the function of the Holy Spirit and thus, lost our function of forgiveness. We cannot forgive a sinner. Justice demands that we only condemn and punish a sinner. By changing our function to correction, we require two parties. We need a wrongdoer and a judge. Our egoic little “s” self becomes the guilt-thrower and the self-made brother of the split-minded becomes the guilt catcher. The one mind now has “proof” that the separation is real.

T-27.II.12.Any egoic correction <you> would do must separate, because that is the function given correction <by> your egoic self. 2 When you perceive correction is the same as pardon, then you also know the Holy Spirit's Mind and yours are One. 3 And so your own Identity is found. 4 Yet must the Holy Spirit work with what is given the Holy Spirit, and you allow the Holy Spirit only half your mind. 5 And thus the Holy Spirit
represents the other half, and seems to have a different purpose from the one your egoic self would cherish, and you think is yours. 6 Thus does your function seem divided, with a half in opposition to a half. 7 And these two halves with different functions appear to represent a split within a self perceived as two.

Note # 23: The ego claims our function is to correct by condemning all sin. It also claims that separation and sin are possible. Thus, the ego has divided the mind into a judge and a sinner. In the world of form, we become the judge and our brother becomes the one being judge as a sinner. The one mind of the Sonship now appears to be fragmented and separate.

T-27.II.13. Consider how this self-perception must extend, and do not overlook the fact that every thought extends because that is the thought’s purpose, thought being what extension really is. 2 From an idea of self as two, there comes a necessary view of function split between the two. 3 And what you would correct is only half the error, which you think is all of the error. 4 Your brother's sins become the central target for correction, lest your errors and your brother’s error be seen as one. 5 Your errors are mistakes, but your brother's errors are sins and not the same as your errors. 6 Your brother’s errors are sins that merit punishment, while your errors are viewed as mistakes that in fairness, should be overlooked.

Note # 24: Projection allows us to transfer anything to another, and claim our innocence from this transference. We can claim that we are innocent victims and deserve a more favorable fate then our alleged perpetrators of the crime. The ego claims that the criminal should be punished and the correcting judge should go free.

T-27.II.14. In this interpretation of correction, your own mistakes you will not even see. 2 The focus of correction has been placed outside yourself, on your brother, who cannot be a part of you while this perception lasts. 3 What is condemned can never be returned to its accuser, who had hated what is condemned and hates it still as symbol of his fear. 4 What is condemned is your brother, focus of your hate, unworthy to be part of you and thus outside yourself; the other half of the split-mind, which is denied. p571 5 And only what is left without your brother’s presence is perceived as all of you. 6 To this remaining half, your egoic self, the Holy Spirit must represent the other half, your mind’s perceived separate brother, until you recognize your mind’s perceived separate brother <is> the other half of your own split mind. 7 And this the Holy Spirit does by giving your egoic mind and the brother that your egoic mind’s perceived as separate a function that is one, not different.

Note # 25: The Holy Spirit gives the function of forgiveness to both you and your bother. The Holy Spirit knows that the split-minded are only of one mind and thus, must share the same function. Our brother and ourselves become each others savior.

T-27.II.15. Correction, which is the same as pardon, is the function given both you and your brother, but neither one alone. 2 And when the function of correction is fulfilled as shared, the fulfillment of your shared function must correct mistakes in you and
him. 3 The fulfillment of the function of correction cannot leave mistakes in one unhealed and set the other free. 4 That is divided purpose, which can not be shared, and so leaving one party unhealed cannot be the goal in which the Holy Spirit sees His Own function being fulfilled. 5 And you can rest assured that the Holy Spirit will not fulfill a function that the Holy Spirit does not see and recognize as His function. 6 For only thus can the Holy Spirit keep your function preserved intact, despite Your separate views of what your function is. 7 If the Holy Spirit upheld divided function, you were lost indeed. 8 The Holy Spirit’s inability to see the Holy Spirit’s goal divided and distinct for you and your brother’s one shared goal, preserves yourself from the awareness of a function not your own. 9 And thus is healing given you and your brother.

Note # 26: The Holy Spirit preserves our function for us. Eventually, we must fulfill our role as savior of our brother. Our function as our brother’s savior has never left our Christ consciousness. Our salvation rests upon our realization that we remain united with our brother as the oneness of the Christ.

T-27.II.16. Correction must be left to the Holy Spirit, Who knows correction and forgiveness are the same. 2 With half a mind this fact that correction and forgiveness are the same is not understood by the egoic mind. 3 Leave, then, correction to the Mind, which is the Christ consciousness, that is united, functioning as one because the Christ consciousness is not split in purpose, and conceives a single function as its only one. 4 Here is the function given the united mind conceived to be its Own Christ consciousness’s function, and not apart from that its Giver, the Holy Spirit keeps <because> the function has been shared. 5 In the Christ acceptance of this function lies the means whereby your mind is unified. 6 The Christ’s single purpose unifies the halves of you that you perceive as separate. 7 And each perceived half forgives the other, that he may accept his other half, his brother, as part of him.

Note # 27: When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we ask for the Vision of Christ. The Christ, which is the home of the Holy Spirit, knows that we are an eternal Oneness with all. The Christ represents right-mindedness, which is the acknowledgment that our will and God’s Will are the same. The ego cannot perceive correction and pardon to be the same since the egoic thought system claims that both separation and sin are real. To the ego, the body is the symbol of sin and guilt as well as proof that the separation is real.

III. Beyond All Symbols

T-27.III.1. Power cannot oppose. 2 For opposition would weaken power, and weakened power is a contradiction in ideas. 3 Weak strength is meaningless, and power used to weaken is employed to limit. 4 And therefore power used to weaken must be limited and weak, because that is the purpose of power which is used to weaken. 5 Power is unopposed, to be itself. 6 No weakness can intrude on power without changing power into something power is not. 7 To weaken is to limit, and impose an opposite that
contradicts the concept that it attacks. And by this egoic attempt to weaken by attaching a contradictory concept to the original idea does this attack attempt to join to the original idea something that the original idea is not. By this attack the ego makes the original idea unintelligible. Who can understand a double concept, such as "weakened power" or "hateful love"? p572

Note # 28: The ego believes there are many choices. ACIM states there is only truth and the “non-choice” which is the choice for the false. By the ego claiming that we are the arbitrator’s of truth, the egoic thought system invents the idea of conditional or sometimes truths. A “sometimes truth” can only weaken and attack the original idea for it contradicts the totally of the first idea. ACIM states that we cannot have opposites joined as one. There is no gray. There is only the truth and what is not true. All that is not truth is an illusion of nothingness and can have no power over the truth. The illusionary world of perception is the world of time. In time, we can deny the truth but our denial cannot change the truth. Truth cannot be weakened for there is only the truth. Truth does not attack since it knows no opposite. The false, in reality, is not an opposite. The false is a “nothing” and, therefore, meaningless. The false has no effect on the real world or Heaven. The false is the ego’s attempt to claim there are “sometimes truths” or “conditional truths.” It is an attempt to confuse the split-minded into the illusionary belief of choice. Truth is not negotiable. When everything is said and done, there was no choice; there was only truth. All other seeming options were only illusions.

T-27.III.2. You have decided that your brother is a symbol for a "hateful love," a "weakened power," and above all, a "living death." And so your brother has no meaning to you, for your brother stands for what is meaningless. Your brother represents a double thought, where half is cancelled out by the remaining half. Yet even this is quickly contradicted by the half it cancelled out, and so both halves are gone since each half was cancelled out by its contradictory opposite half. And now your brother stands for nothing. Symbols which but represent ideas that cannot be must stand for empty space and nothingness. Yet nothingness and empty space can not be interference. What can interfere with the awareness of reality is the belief that there is something there.

Note # 29: Illusions, being nothing, are meaningless and have no real power to affect truth. The only power an illusion has is the power the dreamer chooses to freely give the illusion. If the dreamer chooses to believe a dream to be real, he will act accordingly. Thus, the dreamer, not the dream, allows the dream to interfere with reality. Outside the dreamer’s own provisional reality, the dream has no effect.

Contradictory terms that are placed together in an attempt to join as one make each part of the new terminology meaningless. The result is that any truth that either concept held now is made false. Thus, terms like “hateful love” can have no clear meaning. They only appear to confuse and give the illusion of another nonexistent option. In this example ACIM would state there is either love or hate, which is fear. There cannot be “hateful love”.

T-27.III.3. The picture of your brother that you see means nothing. There is nothing to
attack or to deny; to love or hate, or to endow with power or to see as weak. 3 The picture you hold of your brother has been wholly cancelled out, because the imagined picture symbolized a contradiction that cancelled out the thought it represents. 4 And thus the picture has no cause at all. 5 Who can perceive effect without a cause? 6 What can the causeless be but nothingness? 7 The picture of your brother that you see is wholly absent and has never been. 8 Let, then, the empty space the imagined picture which your brother occupies be recognized as vacant, and the time devoted to seeing this imagined picture be perceived as idly spent, a time unoccupied.

Note # 30: Since the imagined picture of your brother is contradictory, it can have no effect other than to confuse the mind that thinks it real. The picture of our brother as a body separate from the Oneness is contradictory to the truth. It has no effect on reality. This is why our brother is causeless to hurt us. Our illusion of what he is cannot impact the reality of the Oneness. Forgiveness can only be forgiving oneself for all the illusions of wrongdoing that I thought that my brother did to me.

T-27.III.4. An empty space that is not seen as filled, an unused interval of time not seen as spent and fully occupied, become a silent invitation to the truth to enter, and the truth to make itself at home in this unused interval of time and space. 2 No preparation can be made that would enhance the invitation's real appeal. 3 For what you leave as vacant God will fill, and where God is there must the truth abide. 4 Unweakened power, with no opposite, is what creation is. 5 For truth there are no symbols. 6 Nothing points beyond the truth, for what can stand for more than everything? 7 Yet true undoing must be kind. 8 And so the first replacement for your imagined and contradictory picture of your brother and your false perception is another picture of another kind, the picture of forgiveness.

Note # 31: God, through the Holy Spirit, will take every opportunity we give the Holy Spirit to return the Sonship to the truth. This reawakening of the split-minded to the truth, the Holy Spirit will do gently since the Holy Spirit will do nothing that would increase our fear. The Holy Spirit will reinterpret our misperceptions so that they will align with the truth, but these reinterpretations still reside within the illusionary world of perception. Since the Holy Spirit’s function is supported by the totality and power of the Will of God, the result of the mission, the Sonship’s return to knowledge, is guaranteed.

T-27.III.5. As nothingness cannot be pictured, so there is no symbol for totality. 2 Reality is ultimately known without a form, unpictured and unseen. 3 Forgiveness is not yet a power known as wholly free of limits. 4 Yet forgiveness sets no limits you have chosen to impose. 5 Forgiveness is the means by which the truth is represented temporarily. 6 Forgiveness lets the Holy Spirit make exchange of pictures possible, until the time when aids are meaningless and learning done. 7 No learning aid has use that can extend beyond the goal of learning. p573 8 When the learning aid of forgiveness’s aim has been accomplished forgiveness is functionless. 9 Yet in the learning interval the learning aid of forgiveness has a use that now you fear, but yet will love.

Note # 32: Forgiveness is the tool the Holy Spirit will utilize to reinterpret our
misperceptions. Forgiveness provides a gentle means to reawaken God’s sleeping Son. Forgiveness does not restore the truth, but it does realign our perceptions so that our perception no longer contradicts the truth.

**T-27.III.6.** The picture of your brother given you to occupy the space so lately left unoccupied and vacant will not need defense of any kind. 2 For you will give the picture of your brother given you by the Holy Spirit overwhelming preference. 3 Nor delay an instant in deciding that picture of a forgiven brother given you by the Holy Spirit is the only picture that you want. 4 The picture of a forgiven brother given you by the Holy Spirit does not stand for double concepts. 5 Though this picture of a forgiven brother is but half the picture and is incomplete, within itself this picture of a forgiven brother is the same. 6 The other half of what this picture of a forgiven brother represents remains unknown, but is not cancelled out. 7 And thus is God left free to take the final step Himself. 8 For this final step taken by God to return you to knowledge, you need no pictures and no learning aids. 9 And what will ultimately take the place of every learning aid will merely <be> Truth and knowledge will be remembered by the once split-minded.

**Note # 33:** By the learning aid of forgiveness, the Holy Spirit is correcting our image of our brother as a sinner. Forgiveness allows our split mind to see our brother as sinless and guiltless. This new picture of our brother no longer contradicts the truth of what he is. The original picture of our sinful brother is representative of the other half of our split mind. The split-minded need both a guilt thrower and a guilt catcher. This corrected picture is still incomplete since it implies separation and fails to recognize that God’s Laws state that to give is to receive. It is this reciprocating law that extends to the other side of the missing picture. We too must be sinless and guiltless since this is how we now perceive our brother. We cannot see something in another unless we believe it also resides in ourselves.

**T-27.III.7.** Forgiveness vanishes and symbols fade, and nothing that the eyes have ever seen or ears have heard remains to be perceived. 2 A power wholly limitless has come, not to destroy, but to receive the power’s own creations. 3 There is no choice of function anywhere. 4 The choice you fear to lose, your imagined power to make the false, real and true, you never had. 5 Yet only this imagined choice you never had appears to interfere with power unlimited and single thoughts, complete and happy, without opposite. 6 You do not know the peace of power that opposes nothing. 7 Yet no other kind of peace but the peace of power that opposes nothing can be at all. 8 Give welcome to the power beyond forgiveness, and beyond the world of symbols and of limitations. 9 God would merely be, and so God merely is.

**Note # 34:** God is only love. Love does not oppose. Love allows all because love is all. Nothing is outside the unlimited, loving power of God.
IV. The Quiet Answer

T-27.IV.1. In quietness are all things answered, and in quietness is every problem quietly resolved. 2 In conflict there can be no answer and no resolution, for conflict’s purpose is to make no resolution possible, and to ensure no answer will be plain. 3 A problem set in conflict has no answer, for a problem set in conflict is seen in different ways. 4 And what would be an answer from one point of view is not an answer in another light. 5 

Believing yourself to be two, you, the split-minded, <are> in conflict. 6 Thus it must be clear you cannot answer anything at all, for conflict has no limited effects. 7 Yet if God gave an answer there must be a way in which your problems are resolved, for what God wills already has been done.

Note # 35: Conflict involves viewpoints that oppose each other. Conflict involves the belief that we have choices that impact us in different ways and are mutually exclusive. Each side has determined that the other viewpoint demands that someone must sacrifice and that the rules of a zero-sum game apply. If one side is to win, the other must lose. Conflict is not outside but rather inside your mind. When we view ourselves as outside the Oneness of the truth of what we are, we will be conflicted.

T-27.IV.2. Since what God wills already has been done, thus it must be that time is not involved and every problem can be answered <now.> 2 Yet it must also be that, in your split-minded state of mind, solution is impossible. 3 Therefore, God must have given you a way of reaching to another state of mind, your Christ consciousness, in which the answer is already there. p574 4 Such is the holy instant. 5 It is here in the holy instant that all your problems should be brought and left. 6 Here in the holy instant, all your problems belong, for here in the holy instant their answer is. 7 And where the problem’s answer is, a problem must be simple and be easily resolved. 8 It must be pointless to attempt to solve a problem where the answer cannot be. 9 Yet just as surely the problem must be resolved, if the problem is brought to where the answer is.

Note # 36: A problem needs to be resolved at the origin of the problem. The origin of the problem is always the faulty thinking within the mind of the perceiver. The problem cannot be resolved at the level of an illusion that claims the separation is real. In the holy instant, all judgments are suspended so that we can be in the <now>. In the egoic present, we bring our past judgments into the present and thus, relive our past belief that we exist only as limited ego-bodies in competition with other ego-bodies. Our past judgments are utilized as our egoic filters through which we perceive the present. In the holy instant, our past judgments are laid aside so that we are in the awareness of the now.

T-27.IV.3. Attempt to solve no problems but within the holy instant's surety. 2 For there in the holy instant the problem <will> be answered and resolved. 3 Outside the holy instant there will be no solution, for there is no answer there that could be found. 4 Nowhere outside a single, simple question is ever asked. 5 The world can only ask a double question. 6 A double question, which is one with many answers, can have no answers. 7 None of the answers to a double question will do. 8 They, who would ask a double question does not ask a question to be answered, but only to restate the
questioner’s own point of view.

Note # 37: A simple question has but one answer. This answer is simply the truth. A double or egoic question, does not seek the answer of the truth, but rather an answer that will prevent the questioner from obtaining inner peace. The ego wants to keep the belief in different options to the truth and thus, keep conflict alive. An egoic question already has a predetermined “right” answer that the ego expects. This “right” answer is based on illusion, not truth. Any different answer, especially the truth, will be viewed as an attack.

T-27.IV.4. All questions asked within this world of perception are but a way of looking, not a question asked. 2 A question asked in hate cannot be answered, because a question asked in hate, which is a double question, is an answer in itself. 3 A double question asks and answers, both attesting the same thing in different form. 4 The egoic world of perception asks but one question. 5 The question the egoic world asks is this: "Of these illusions, which of these illusions <is> true? 6 Which one of the illusions establish peace and offer joy? 7 And which one of the illusions can bring escape from all the pain of which this world is made?" 8 Whatever form the ego’s question takes, the question asked in hate’s purpose is the same. 9 The questions the ego asks of this world are but to establish sin is real, and answers in the form of preference. 10 "Which sin do you prefer? 11 That is the one illusion that you should choose. 12 The others illusion will be considered to be not true. 13 What can the body get that you would want the most of all? 14 The body is your servant and also your friend. 15 But tell the body what you want, and the body will serve you lovingly and well." 16 And this question asked in hate is not a question, for the egoic body tells you what you want and where to go for what you want. 17 The egoic body leaves no room to question the ego’s beliefs that you are a separate body, except that what the ego states takes question’s form.

Note # 38: A question asked in hate has already accepted the underlying premise that you are a separate ego-body. Since the underlying premise of all egoic questions is that the separation is real, the egoic question does not seek an answer that is based on truth. Instead, an egoic question asks which illusion you would prefer to pretend is real in this moment. In the egoic question, there is never a choice between the true and the false. Its only option is between which false statement you wish to pretend is momentarily “true.”

T-27.IV.5. A pseudo-question has no answer. 2 A pseudo-question dictates the answer even as it asks. 3 Thus is all questioning within the world a form of propaganda for a world based on the illusion of separation. 4 Just as the body's witnesses are but the senses from within the body, itself, so are the answers to the questions of the world contained within the questions that are asked. 5 Where answers represent the questions, the answers add nothing new and nothing has been learned. 6 An honest question is a learning tool that asks for something that you do not know. 7 An honest question does not set conditions for response, but merely asks what the response should be. p575 8 But no one in a conflicted state is free to ask this honest question, which set no conditions for the response, for he, who is in a conflicted state, does not <want> an honest answer where the conflict ends.
Note # 39: An honest question does not limit the range of possible answers to only the false. An honest question is open to a response that is based upon truth. It seeks to learn what it does not know. It is open to a different answer that is only based on truth, not illusion. An egoic question claims to know you are a body form and merely asks what modification to this illusion do you currently desire to change.

T-27.IV.6. Only within the holy instant can an honest question honestly be asked. 2 And from the meaning of the question does the meaningfulness of the answer come. 3 Here **within the holy instant** is it possible to separate your wishes from the answer, so the **answer** can be given you and also be received. 4 The **Holy Spirit’s answer** is provided everywhere. 5 Yet it is only here **within the holy instant that the Holy Spirit’s answer** can be heard. 6 An honest answer asks no sacrifice because it answers questions truly asked. 7 The questions of the world but ask of whom is sacrifice demanded, asking not if sacrifice is meaningful at all. 8 And so, to the egoic world, unless the answer tells "of whom **sacrifice is demanded,**" the Holy Spirit’s **answer** will remain unrecognized, unheard, and thus the question is preserved intact because the **ego** gave the answer to itself. 9 The holy instant is the interval in which the egoic mind is still enough to hear an answer that is not entailed within the question asked. 10 An honest answer offers something new and different from the question. 11 How could the question be answered if the question but repeats itself in the form of an answer?

Note # 40: An honest question does seek to confirm what it does not know. An honest question only seeks the truth. Thus, the questioner is open to changing their own viewpoint. The ego never allows us to hear an answer that is outside the ego’s point of view that claims we are a limited ego-body. Thus, the ego is not open to changing its underlying viewpoint, which is based on limitation and separation.

T-27.IV.7. Therefore, attempt to solve no problems in a world from which the answer has been barred. 2 But bring the problem to the only place that holds the answer lovingly for you, **which is the holy instant.** 3 Here **in the holy instant** are the answers that will solve your problems because **the answer of the Holy Spirit** stand apart from the world of **form,** and here in the holy instant you see what can be answered; what the question **<is.>** 4 Within the world of egoic misperception, the answers merely raise another question, though the answers leave the first question still unanswered. 5 In the holy instant, you can bring the question to the answer, and receive the answer that was made for you.

Note # 41: Because the holy instant is the suspension of all judgments, our ego is silenced. Without the past, the ego is unable to dictate an answer based on past misperception. Egoic judgment is not possible without a past reference base. Now, we are able to hear the voice for Christ. We are open to the Holy Spirit’s guidance. Since only the Holy Spirit is aware of both the truth and our misperceptions, It alone can offer the truth as an answer. The ego does not know what the truth is. The ego can only offer answers that are based on the false.
V. The Healing Example

T-27.V.1. The only way to heal is to be healed. 2 The miracle extends without your help, but you are needed that the miracle can begin. 3 Accept the miracle of healing, and the miracle of healing will go forth because of what the miracle is. 4 It is the miracle’s nature to extend itself the instant the miracle of healing is born. 5 And the miracle of healing is born the instant the miracle is offered and received. 6 No one can ask another to be healed. 7 But he can let himself be healed, and thus offer the other what he has received, which is his own healing. 8 Who can bestow upon another what he does not have? 9 And who can share what he denies himself? 10 The Holy Spirit speaks to you. 11 The Holy Spirit does not speak to someone else. 12 Yet by your listening, the Holy Spirit’s Voice extends, because you have accepted what the Holy Spirit says. p576

Note # 42: The miracle and the guidance of the Holy Spirit all wait upon our invitation. We must give our perceptions over to the Holy Spirit, so that our awareness can be brought into alignment with the truth.

T-27.V.2. Health is the witness unto health. 2 As long as health is unattested, health remains without conviction. 3 Only when health has been demonstrated is health proved, and health must provide a witness that compels belief in health. 4 No one is healed through double messages. 5 If you wish only to be healed, you heal. 6 Your single purpose of health makes healing possible. 7 But if you are afraid of healing, then healing cannot come through you. 8 The only thing that is required for a healing is a lack of fear. 9 The fearful are not healed, and cannot heal. 10 This does not mean the conflict must be gone forever from your mind to heal. 11 For if it were so that conflict had to be gone forever from your mind to heal, there were no need for healing then. 12 But to heal does mean, if only for an instant, you love without attack. 13 An instant is sufficient. 14 Miracles wait not on time.

Note # 42: Healing comes out of love, not fear. Miracles do not wait on time since miracles follow the Laws of God. God’s Laws supersede the laws of chaos that appear to operate in the egoic world of time and space.

T-27.V.3. The holy instant is the miracle’s abiding place. 2 From there within the holy instant, each miracle is born into this world as witness to a state of mind that has transcended conflict, and has reached to peace. 3 The miracle carries comfort from the place of peace into the battleground, and demonstrates that war has no effects. 4 For all the hurt that war has sought to bring, the broken bodies and the shattered limbs, the screaming dying and the silent dead, are gently lifted up and comforted.

Note # 43: The miracle is all encompassing and is uniform. It applies to all illusions regardless of shape and form. No illusion is beyond the healing power of the miracle.

T-27.V.4. There is no sadness where a miracle has come to heal. 2 And nothing more than just one instant of your love without attack is necessary that all this healing power of the miracle to occur. 3 In that one holy instant you are healed, and in that single instant is all
healing done. 4 What stands apart from you, when you accept the blessing that the holy instant brings? 5 Be not afraid of blessing, for the One Who blesses you, the Holy Spirit, loves all the world, and leaves nothing within the world that could be feared. 6 But if you shrink from blessing, will the world indeed seem fearful, for you have withheld the miracles blessing of peace and comfort, leaving the world to die.

**Note # 44:** To suspend all judgment is to suspend all attack on both yourself and others. We cannot withhold or exclude forgiveness and love from anyone and still claim our love is total. Total means all with no exceptions. Total does not mean sometimes. As ACIM states, “You cannot be totally committed sometimes.” Love allows all, for love is all.

T-27.V.5. Would not a world so bitterly bereft be looked on as a condemnation by you, the one who could have saved the world, but you, the one who could save the world, stepped back because he was afraid of being healed? 2 The eyes of all the dying bring reproach, and suffering whispers, "What is there to fear?" 3 Consider well the dying’s question, “What is there to fear?” 4 This question is asked of you on your behalf. 5 A dying world asks only that you rest an instant from attack upon yourself, that the dying world be healed.

**Note # 45:** If we consent to be healed, we must take responsibility for our thoughts as the source of our experience. We can no longer project our guilt upon another. To the unhealed, this acceptance of personal responsibility can appear very frightening indeed. When we attack another, we get to claim someone has treated us unfairly and they are the cause of our suffering. We get to be an innocent victim of the world around us. The world becomes the cause and we become its effect.

T-27.V.6. Come to the holy instant and be healed, for nothing that is there received is left behind on your returning to the world. 2 And being blessed in the holy instant, you will bring blessing to the world. 3 Life is given you to give life to the dying world. 4 And suffering eyes no longer will accuse, but shine in thanks to you who blessing gave. p577 5 The holy instant's radiance will light your eyes, and give the suffering sight to see beyond all suffering and see Christ's face instead. 6 Healing replaces suffering. 7 Who looks on suffering cannot perceive the face of Christ nor vice versa, for suffering and the face of Christ cannot both be there. 8 And what you choose to see the world of perception will witness, and the world will witness to either suffering or the face of Christ.

**Note # 46:** The world of perception witnesses to whatever we desire. When under the influence of the ego, it will witness through the eyes of fear. The Holy Spirit is the witness for the power of love and under Her guidance we will look through the eyes of Christ.

T-27.V.7. Thus is your healing everything the world requires, that the world may be healed. 2 The world needs one lesson that has perfectly been learned. This lesson is that you love without attack so that healing can occur. 3 And then, when you forget this one lesson of love without attack, then will the world remind you gently of what you
have taught the world that love is the suspense of all attack. 4 No reinforcement to this lesson of healing will the world’s thanks withhold from you who let yourself be healed that the world might live. 5 The world will call forth the world’s witnesses to show the face of Christ to you who brought the sight to them, by which they witnessed this lesson of the one instant that you love without attack and thus, saw the face of Christ in them. 6 The world of accusation is replaced by one in which all eyes look lovingly upon the Friend who brought them their release. 7 And happily your brother will perceive the many friends your brother thought were enemies.

Note # 47: To give is to receive. We can only give what we have. By giving forgiveness to our brother, he has forgiveness. Now our brother can return forgiveness to us. The miracle only requires someone, not both, to request the Holy Spirit’s guidance. The Holy Spirit will make sure the world will derive and maximum benefit of each miracle requested. The results of the miracle may not be clearly visible to the outside world since the miracle is the healing of the mind’s misperceptions. Healing takes place at the level of mind since it is the mind that is sick and needs healing.

T-27.V.8.Problems are not specific but they take specific forms, and these specific shapes make up the world. 2 And no one understands the nature of his problem. 3 If he did understand the nature of his problem, the problem would be there no more for him to see. 4 The problem’s very nature is that the problem is <not> The source of the problem is the split-mind’s attempt to make the false, real. 5 And thus, while the split-minded perceives the problem as a specific form, he can not perceive the content of the problem as the problem really is. 6 But healing is apparent in specific instances, and healing generalizes to include all specific forms of problems. 7 This is because all specific forms of problems really are the same problem, despite their different forms. 8 All learning aims at transfer, which becomes complete within two situations that are seen as one, for only common elements are there. 9 Yet this looking past form to the common elements can only be attained by One, the Holy Spirit, Who does not see the differences you see. 10 The total transfer of your learning is not made by you but by the Holy Spirit. 11 But that the transfer of learning that allows you to looking past specific forms of problems to the common elements has been made in spite of all the differences in the problem’s form that you see, convinces you that the problem’s form could not be real.

Note # 48: Problems appear in different forms and, therefore, appear to require different solutions. Any problem, no matter what form it takes, can be reduced down to one common denominator. We have chosen to deny that we are of one will and that will is the Will of God. We have identified ourselves with the body and have given body-thoughts the appearance of reality. Correction must occur at the level of the mind, not the body, since the mind is where the source of the problem lies. Correct the belief in separation and we heal the mind. Only the Holy Spirit is above the illusion of the dream that we are a body, and only She can gently awaken the sleeping dreamer to the truth of what we are. We, being part of the Oneness of God must be perfect, whole and complete. Inductive thinking allows us to learn by going from the specific to the general. After enough examples, we will finally conclude that truth can never change and that the false
can never be truth. Our return to truth is the goal of both the Holy Spirit’s teaching and our learning.

T-27.V.9. Your healing will extend, and will be brought to problems that you thought were not your own problems. 2 And it will also be apparent that your many different problems will be solved as any one of the problems has been escaped by your healing. 3 It cannot be the problem’s differences in form which made this uniformed healing possible, for learning does not jump from situations to their opposites and bring the same results. 4 All healing must proceed in lawful manner, in accord with laws that have been properly perceived but never violated. 5 Fear you not the way that you perceive the specific form of the problem. 6 You are wrong to see specific forms of the same problem as different problems. But there is One, the Holy Spirit within you Who is right and can look past specific forms of problems to the common elements and heal the one problem. p578

Note # 49: The proof that the problem is the same is that the same solution resolves all forms of that same problem. The Holy Spirit knows only one solution. Bring the false before the light of truth and the false will disappear. All problems stem from our denial that we are the extension of the mind of God. We are as God created us. We are unlimited spirit, perfect, whole and complete.

T-27.V.10. Leave, then, the transfer of your learning to the Holy Spirit Who really understands God’s laws, and Who will guarantee that God’s laws remain unviolated and unlimited. 2 Your part is merely to apply what the Holy Spirit has taught you to yourself, and the Holy Spirit will do the rest. 3 And it is thus the power of your learning will be proved to you by all the many different witnesses the Holy Spirit finds. 4 Your brother first among them will be seen to witness the power of your learning, but thousands stand behind your brother, and beyond each one of them there are a thousand more. 5 Each brother may seem to have a problem that is different from the rest. 6 Yet all your many brothers’ problems are solved together. 7 And their common answer to all these specific forms shows the questions could not have been separate.

Note # 50: All apparent problems are different forms of the one problem, which is the belief in the separation. Because we do not understand the “big picture” of God’s plan for salvation, we cannot comprehend how the Holy Spirit uses our own healing to extend it through the entire Sonship. Yet, this miracle of healing impacts all our brothers.

T-27.V.11. Peace be to you to whom is healing offered. 2 And you will learn that peace is given you when you accept the healing for yourself. 3 Its total value need not be appraised by you to let you understand that you have benefited from the peace of healing. 4 What occurred within the instant that love entered in without attack will stay with you forever. 5 Your healing will be one of the holy instant’s effects, as will your brother's healing. 6 Everywhere you go, will you behold the holy instant’s multiplied healing effects. 7 Yet all the witnesses that you behold will be far less than all there really are. 8 Infinity cannot be understood by merely counting up infinity’s separate parts. 9 God thanks you for your healing, for God knows your healing is a gift of love
unto His Son, and therefore **your healing gift** is given unto **God**.

**Note # 51:** We are all interconnected. With our return to right-mindedness, we complete ourselves by becoming co-creators with God.

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**VI. The Witnesses to Sin**

T-27.VI.1. Pain demonstrates the body must be real. 2 **Pain** is a loud, obscuring voice whose shriecks would silence what the Holy Spirit says, and keep the **Holy Spirit’s** words from your awareness. 3 Pain compels attention, drawing attention away from the **Holy Spirit** and focusing attention upon itself, the **body**. 4 Pain’s purpose is the same as pleasure, for **pain and pleasure** both are means to make the body real. 5 What shares a common purpose is the same. 6 **What shares a common purpose is the same** is the law of purpose, which unites all those who share in a **common purpose** within itself. 7 Pleasure and pain are equally unreal, because both pleasure and pain’s purpose cannot be achieved. 8 Thus both pleasure and pain are means for nothing, for both pleasure and pain have a goal without a meaning, **which is to make the body real, which cannot be achieved**. 9 And both pleasure and pain share the lack of meaning which their purpose, **which is to make the body real**, has.

**Note # 52:** ACIM states that meaning comes from one’s purpose. If the purpose or goal is unobtainable because it is unreal, any pursuit of the goal is an exercise in futility. We cannot make the body real. Although both pain and pleasure appear to “prove” that the body is real, this is only another part of the illusion that we are the body. A non-existent illusionary witness cannot testify to anything. All witnesses for the false cannot make the false real. Since we are unlimited spirit, pain, pleasure and the body are all meaningless and cannot be achieved. They are not part of the shared Oneness that is the Mind of God.

T-27.VI.2. Sin shifts from pain to pleasure, and again to pain. 2 For either pleasure or pain’s witness is the same, and carries but one message: "You are here, within this body, and you can be hurt. 3 You can have pleasure, too, but only at the cost of pain." p579 4 These witnesses of pleasure and pain are joined by many more witnesses for the illusion that you are a sinful body. 5 Each one of the witnesses for the illusion that you are a sinful body seems different because each witness for the reality of the body has a different name, and so each false witness seems to answer to a different sound. 6 Except for this difference in the form’s name, the witnesses of sin are all alike. All witnesses for sin attempt to make the body appear real 7 Call pleasure pain, and pleasure will hurt. 8 Call pain a pleasure, and the pain behind the pleasure will be felt no more. 9 Sin's witnesses but shift from name to name, as one steps forward and another back. 10 Yet which of sin’s witnesses is foremost makes no difference. 11 Sin's witnesses hear but the call of death.

**Note # 53:** All witnesses for sin attempt to make the false a substitute for the truth. There is no substitute for the truth. The truth just is. Place no value on something that cannot be.
God’s Child can only be the extension of the Creator, which is only Love. We can deny our birthright but we cannot lose it. The Holy Spirit and the Christ maintain the truth within us. We remain unlimited spirit, part of the Oneness, perfect, whole and complete.

T-27.VI.3. This body, purposeless within itself, holds all your memories and all your hopes. 2 You use the body’s eyes to see, the body’s ears to hear, and let the body tell you what it is the body feels. 3 <The body does not know how to see, hear or feel.> 4 The body tells you but the names you gave to the body to use, when you call forth the witnesses to the body’s reality. 5 You cannot choose among which of the body’s false witness are real, for any one you choose is like the rest. All are false and meaningless 6 You get to choose this name or that name for the false witness, but nothing more than the name do you choose. 7 You do not make a witness true because you called him by truth's name. 8 The truth is found in the witness if it is truth the witness represents. 9 And otherwise if it is not the truth the witness represents, he lies. Even if you should call the false witness by the holy Name of God Himself, the witness is still a lair.

Note # 54: Even if everyone agrees that the illusion appears true, this cannot change what the truth is. If a witness is found to be a lair, he is dismissed from the witness stand and the jury is told to disregard his entire testimony since its purpose was only to distort the truth. Truth is not decided by majority rule. The majority can deny the existence of truth but they cannot change the truth. The truth just remains running in the background until truth is finally recognized for what it is.

T-27.VI.4. God's Witness, the Holy Spirit, sees no witnesses against the body. 2 Neither does the Holy Spirit harken to the witnesses by other names that speak in other ways for the body’s reality. 3 The Holy Spirit knows the body is not real. 4 For nothing could contain what you believe the body holds within. 5 Nor could what you believe the body is tell a part of God Himself what this part of God should feel and what this part of God, which is your Big “S” Self’s function is. 6 Yet must the Holy Spirit love whatever you hold dear. 7 And for each witness to the body's death the Holy Spirit sends a witness to your life in Christ, Who knows no death. 8 Each miracle the Holy Spirit brings is witness that the body is not real. 9 Its pains and pleasures does the Holy Spirit heal alike, for all sin's witnesses do the Holy Spirit’s witnesses replace.

Note # 55: In sentence # 6, “Yet must the Holy Spirit love whatever you hold dear.” references your false witnesses for the reality of the body. The Holy Spirit will take any false witness for the separation and reinterpret our misperceptions into something that can support and align with the truth of the Oneness that we share. Even Jesus’ crucifixion has been reinterpreted to prove that death is not real and that the body is a neutral communication device. The miracle is a change from misperception to correct perception within the mind of the perceiver. Thus, the witness that originally appeared to testify for the reality of the body now has been converted into a witness that supports the truth that our mind is not an illusionary body. Instead, it will now testify that minds are joined as one.

T-27.VI.5. The miracle makes no distinctions in the names by which sin's witnesses are
called. 2 The miracle merely proves that what sin's witnesses represent has no effects. 3 And this lack of any effect by sin's witnesses proves the miracle because the miracle's own effects have come to take the place of sin's witnesses. 4 It matters not the name by which you called your suffering. 5 Suffering is no longer there. 6 The Holy Spirit, Who brings the miracle perceives sin's witnesses all as one, and called all of sin's witnesses by the one name of fear. 7 As fear is witness unto death, so is the miracle the witness unto life. 8 The miracle is a witness no one can deny, for it is the effects of life that the miracle brings. 9 The dying live, the dead arise, and pain has vanished. 10 Yet a miracle speaks not but for itself, but what the miracle represents, which is life and truth.

Note # 56: The Holy Spirit knows sin is unreal. Sin is defined as limitation. When we come from the emotion of fear, we constrict and limit love’s natural flow. Instead of creating and extending love, we exclude, limit and restrict. When we come from fear we make, rather than create. Making is the false witness for the belief that the separation is real. There are only neutral witnesses. When we choose to interpret their neutral testimony out of the emotion of either fear or love, we determine what thought system will guide our decision-maker.

T-27.VI.6. Love, too, has symbols in a world of sin. 2 The miracle forgives because the miracle stands for what is past forgiveness and is true. 3 How foolish and insane it is to think a miracle is bound by the laws of chaos that the miracle came solely to undo! p580 4 The laws of sin have different witnesses with different strengths. 5 And sin’s witnesses attest to different sufferings. 6 Yet to the Holy Spirit, Who sends forth miracles to bless the world, a tiny stab of pain, a little worldly pleasure, and the throes of death itself are but a single sound; a call for healing, and a plaintive cry for help within a world of misery. 7 It is the witnesses for sin’s sameness that the miracle attests. 8 It is the witnesses for sin’s sameness that the miracle proves. 9 The laws of sin and chaos that call sin’s witnesses different are dissolved, and the laws of sin and chaos are shown as powerless. 10 The purpose of a miracle is to accomplish the dissolving and abolishment of the laws of sin and chaos. 11 And God Himself has guaranteed the strength of miracles for what the miracle witness to, which is life and truth.

Note #57: In the world of perception, the miracle is the witness and symbol of love. The miracle comes from God and, therefore, follows the laws of God. These laws of God insure the changelessness of the Oneness. They supersede the laws of chaos, which claim there is a substitute for love and that truth is different for everyone. In the world of perception, the miracle witnesses to life, love and truth

T-27.VI.7. Be you then witness to the miracle, and not the laws of sin. 2 There is no need to suffer any more. 3 But there <is> need that you be healed, because the suffering and sorrow of the world have made the world deaf to the world’s salvation and deliverance.

Note # 58: We, the decision-maker, must choose between what we will use the body for. Will we teach fear or love? By teaching only love, we heal ourselves. Only the healed can offer healing to the world. Our role in God’s plan for salvation is to accept the Atonement for ourselves and let the Holy Spirit do the rest.
T-27.VI.8. The resurrection of the world awaits your healing and your happiness, that you may demonstrate the healing of the world. 2 The holy instant will replace all sin if you but carry the holy instant’s effects with you. 3 And no one will elect to suffer any more if you but carry the holy instant’s effects with you. 4 What better function could you serve than this, the salvation of the world? 5 Be healed that you may heal, and suffer not the laws of sin to be applied to you. 6 And truth will be revealed to you who chose to let love’s symbols take the place of sin.

**Note # 59:** Before any healing can begin in our world of perception, we must give our perception over to the Holy Spirit’s guidance. The Holy Spirit will correct our misperceptions and the process of healing our split-mind will begin. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, our healing is complete. By recognizing our brother’s sinlessness, we receive our own. The world’s healing has begun.

**VII. The Dreamer of the Dream**

T-27.VII.1. Suffering is an emphasis upon all that the world has done to injure you. 2 Here in suffering is the world's demented version of salvation clearly shown. 3 Suffering is like to a dream of punishment, in which the dreamer is unconscious of what brought on the attack against himself, the sufferer sees himself attacked unjustly and by something not himself. 4 The sufferer of this “unjust” attack is the victim of this "something else," a thing outside the sufferer, himself, for which the sufferer has no reason to be held responsible. 5 The sufferer of this “unjust” attack must be innocent because the sufferer knows not what the sufferer does to himself, but what is done to the sufferer by the “outside” party. 6 Yet is the sufferer’s own attack upon himself apparent still, for it is the sufferer who bears the suffering. 7 And the sufferer cannot escape because the source of the suffering is seen outside himself. The sufferer refuses to recognize that he is the dreamer of the dream.

**Note # 60:** We are the source of all we perceive. Yet, the ego tells us that we can deny responsibility for our perceptions and project our internal sourceness to another. The abdication of our ability to call into our awareness anything we desire can be denied but cannot be lost. Whether we think we can or we think we can’t, we are right. Our beliefs become our provisional reality. When we disavow our sourceness, we fall into victim consciousness. This allows us to claim that we are innocent victims who are unable to affect any change within our own dream. We forget that we are the dreamer and instead opt to be a player within the dream, itself. To the ego, victim consciousness is the preferred state since it insures that our decision-maker will not rediscover that it has the right to “choose again”.

T-27.VII.2. Now you are being shown by the guidance of the Holy Spirit that you <can> escape suffering. 2 All that is needed is you look upon the problem as the problem is, and not the way that you have set the problem up. 3 How could there be
another way to solve a problem that is very simple, but has been obscured by heavy clouds of complication, which were made to keep the problem unresolved? p581
Without the clouds the problem will emerge in all the problem’s primitive simplicity. The choice will not be difficult, because the problem is absurd when clearly seen. No one has difficulty making up his mind to let a simple problem be resolved if the problem is seen as hurting him, and also very easily removed.

Note # 61: Because of the egoic thought system, we are unable to see the problem clearly. We are caught up in the form that the problem appears to take rather than focusing on the content and cause of the problem. We fail to realize that we are the source of the dream of separation. As the dreamer, we have the power to both change the dream and awaken from the dream.

T-27.VII.3. The egoic "reasoning" by which the egoic world is made, on which the world rests, by which the egoic world is maintained, is simply this: "<You, the outside egoic world represented by my brother> are the cause of what I do. My brother's presence justifies my wrath, and you, my brother, exist and think apart from me. While you, my brother attack, I must be innocent. And what I suffer from is you, my brother's attack." No one who looks upon this egoic "reasoning" exactly as this reasoning could fail to see this reasoning does not follow and this egoic reasoning makes no sense. Yet this egoic reasoning seems sensible, because it looks as if the world were hurting you. And so it seems as if there is no need to go beyond the obvious in terms of cause because you believe it is obvious that the world is the cause of your suffering.

Note # 62: Because we fail to understand that we are projecting our awareness from our own mind, we fail to realize that we are the cause of all we perceive. Due to projection, it appears that the outside world is the cause of our problem and we are the innocent victims, powerless to affect change. We can only respond to what the world throws our way and make the best of a bad situation. The ego tells us that we cannot change what the world is. Our physical senses, being thought confirmation devices, merely verify our mind’s internal beliefs. Yet, it was our mind’s beliefs that were the source for the projection that became our perceived external environment in the first place.

T-27.VII.4. There is indeed a need. The world's escape from condemnation is a need which those within the world are joined in sharing. Yet they, who are within this egoic world, do not recognize their common need to escape from condemnation. For each one thinks that if he does his part, the condemnation of the world will rest on him. And it is this condemnation of the world that he perceives to be his part in the world's deliverance. Vengeance must have a focus. Otherwise is the avenger's knife in his own hand, and pointed to himself. And the avenger must see the avenger's knife in another's hand, if the avenger would be a victim of attack that the avenger did not choose. And thus the avenger suffers from the wounds a knife the avenger does not appear to hold yet has made upon himself.

Note # 63: Due to our belief in sin, we made this world a place to hide from God’s condemnation that the ego insists must be coming. All within this world that was birthed
out of sin, guilt and fear hope to escape this egoic condemnation. Projection is the egoic tool that allows each of us to transfer our guilt upon another. We all share this need to get rid of our guilt that arises from our belief that the separation was real. This world becomes our dumping ground for all the projected guilt that we have now made real within our split-minds.

First, we transfer our sins and guilt to our brother. Next, we claim it is our brother’s fault that we are made to suffer for his sins. Finally, we place our own knife in our brother’s hand and then thrust ourselves upon this knife. According to our ego, we have become the innocent victims of our brother’s perceived betrayal.

**T-27.VII.5.** This personal escape from condemnation is the purpose of the world the avenger sees. 2 And looked at thus, the world provides the means by which this purpose of personal escape from condemnation seems to be fulfilled. 3 The means, which is the world’s condemnation attest the purpose, but are not themselves a cause. 4 Nor will the cause be changed by seeing the means apart from the cause’s effects. 5 The cause produces the effects. The effects then bear witness to the cause, and the effects do not bear witness to themselves. 6 Look, then, beyond effects. 7 It is not here in the effect that the cause of suffering and sin must lie. 8 And dwell not on the affects of suffering and sin, for the effects are but reflections of their cause.

**Note # 64:** When we administer to the effect of a problem, we merely place a bandage over the wound. We fail to address to cause of the problem. If we believe that we are a body, we will direct our attention on the body instead of healing our mind, which is the source of the problem. We must focus on the cause of our belief in sin, guilt and fear, not on its effects. The effect is the bodily suffering caused by our belief in this unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear. We must heal our split-mind’s belief in limitation and separation from our Creator and fear’s effects will automatically disappear.

**T-27.VII.6.** The part you play in salvaging the world from condemnation is your own escape from condemnation. 2 Forget not that the witness to the world of evil cannot speak except for what has seen a need for evil in the world. 3 And this need for evil in the world is where your guilt was first beheld. 4 In separation from your brother was the first attack upon yourself begun. 5 And it is this first self-attack, your separation from your brother, that the world bears witness to. 6 Seek not another cause other than this self-attack of separation from your brother for evil in this world. Nor seek or look among the mighty legions of the witnesses of separation for the separation’s undoing.

**Note # 65:** We cannot find our salvation within the world itself since this world is the effect of the separation. To correct the effect, we must heal the source of the problem. The source of the problem is our mind’s belief that the separation was real. It was this belief that lead to the fragmentation of the Sonship. Only when we heal the mind’s belief that we are separate, limited ego-bodies will the Sonship be reunited.
one little space of your split mind’s guilt that you find the cause of your perspective on
the world. 3 Once you were unaware of what the cause of everything the world appeared
to thrust upon you, uninvited and unasked, must really be. 4 Of one thing you were sure:
Of all the many causes you perceived as bringing pain and suffering to you, your guilt
was not among the causes. 5 Nor did you in any way request the causes and their
effects for yourself. 6 This is how all illusions came about. 7 The one who makes the
illusion does not see himself as making the illusion, and the illusion’s reality does not
depend on him, whose mind is the actual cause of the illusion and the illusion’s
effects. 8 Whatever cause the illusions have is something quite apart from the person
suffering from the illusion, and what he sees is separate from his mind. 9 The person
suffering from the illusion cannot doubt his dreams' reality, because the person
suffering from the illusion does not see the part he plays in making the dream and
making the dream seem real.

Note # 66: We forget that we are the dreamer and disavow any responsibility for the
dream, itself. Thus, an insane person mistakes their own mind’s illusions for the truth of
reality.

T-27.VII.8.No one can waken from a dream the world is dreaming for him. 2 He
becomes a part of someone else's dream. 3 He who is part of the world’s dream cannot
choose to waken from a dream he did not make. 4 Helpless he who is part of the
world’s dream stands, a victim to a dream conceived and cherished by a separate mind.
5 Careless indeed of him who has a tiny role in the world’s dream, this separate mind
that created this world dream must be, as thoughtless of this tiny role player’s peace
and happiness as is the weather or the time of day. 6 The separate mind that created
this world dream loves not this tiny role player, but casts this tiny role player as this
separate mind wills in any role that satisfies this separate mind’s dream. 7 So little is
his worth that the tiny role player is but a dancing shadow, leaping up and down
according to a senseless plot conceived within the idle dreaming of the world.

Note # 67: Rather than claiming responsibility for the dream of separation, we claim that
we are bit players upon the world stage. We claim that the world’s dream is real and we
are not the dreamer. Instead, we claim to have no control over how the creator of this
world treats us. We have no control over how we play our role since we are not the
director of the play. We get to claim that we were the innocent victims and that we were
unfortunately cast in some really bad roles. The ego tells us that these scripts were real
“stinkers” that we are powerless to change them.

T-27.VII.9.This world dream is the only picture you can see; the one alternative that
you can choose, the other possibility of cause, if you be not the dreamer of your dreams.
2 And this view that you are not the dreamer of your dreams is what you choose if
you deny the cause of suffering is in your mind. 3 Be glad indeed the cause of suffering
is in your mind, for thus are you the one decider of your destiny in time. 4 Since you are
the dreamer, the choice is yours to make between a sleeping death and dreams of evil or
a happy wakening and joy of life.
**Note # 68:** If we are the dreamer, we can change the outcome of the dream. Thoughts are things. Our beliefs color our perceptions of all that we observe in the world. We can choose to be the writer, direct and star in either dramatic tragedies or fun filled comedy-adventures. It is our decision-maker that decides our fate. One of ACIM’s goals is to reawaken our decision-maker so that we will be able to choose again.

**T-27.VII.10.** What could you choose between but life or death, waking or sleeping, peace or war, your dreams or your reality? 2 There is a risk of thinking death is peace, because the world equates the body with the Big “S” Self which God created. 3 Yet a thing can never be that same thing’s opposite. 4 And death is opposite to peace, because death is the opposite of life. 5 And life is peace. 6 Awaken and forget all thoughts of death, and you will find you have the peace of God. 7 Yet if the choice between death and peace is really given you, then you must see the causes of the things you choose between exactly as they are and where they are, which is in your mind. p583

**Note # 69:** If we are the dreamer, we can choose for egoic littleness or choose the role of the Big “S” Self in a happy dream. In the world dream, we are currently choosing to play the role of a limited ego-body. In the happy dream, we start to align with the truth that we are not a body. Instead, we come to realize that we are part of a joint mind with our brother.

**T-27.VII.11.** What choices can be made between two states, but one of which is clearly recognized? 2 Who could be free to choose between effects, when only one choice is seen as up to him? 3 An honest choice could never be perceived as one in which the choice is split between a tiny you and an enormous world, with different dreams about the truth in you. 4 The gap between reality and dreams lies not between the dreaming of the world and what you dream in secret. 5 They are one dream, for what you dream in secret causes the world dream. 6 The dreaming of the world is but a part of your own dream you gave away, and saw the world dream as if the world dream were its start and ending, both. 7 Yet was the world dream started by your secret dream, which you do not perceive although your secret dream caused the part you see and do not doubt is real, which is the world dream. 8 How could you doubt the world dream while you lie asleep, and dream in secret that the world dream cause is real?

**Note # 70:** ACIM states that we mistakenly assumed that this fouled up world dream is our reality. In this fouled dream, we claim to be innocent victims of the world. We refuse to acknowledge that we are the original authors of the dream itself. The original dream was the dream that we could be separate from the Oneness. The world dream and all the dreams that followed are the progression of the initial dream of separation. Thus, all illusion arose out of our mind’s desire to be special. The authorship of all illusions is within the mind of the dreamer. Until we acknowledge that we are the dream’s creator, we will claim that we are powerless to change our dream’s provisional reality.

**T-27.VII.12.** In the world dream a brother separated from yourself, becomes an ancient enemy, a murderer who stalks you in the night and plots your death, yet this brother plans that your death be lingering and slow; of this you dream. 2 Yet underneath this
world dream is yet another secret dream. In this your secret dream, you become the murderer, the secret enemy, the scavenger and the destroyer of your brother and the world alike. 3 Here in this initial secret dream is the cause of suffering, the space between your little dreams and your reality. 4 The little gap between the world and your secret dream you do not even see. This little gap between the dreams is the birthplace of illusions and of fear, the time of terror and of ancient hate, the instant of disaster, all are here. 5 Here is the cause of unreality. 6 And it is here in the mind of the dreamer that the cause of illusion and fear will be undone.

Note # 71: The little gap between the two dreams is when fear arose. It is here that we forgot to laugh and took this first dream seriously. In that moment, we gave the dream of separation a reality of its own. We made the separation “real” within our now split mind. We believed that we had sinned and with this the unholy trinity of sin, guilt and fear arrived almost in unison. The second dream about our brother and his egoic revengeful god is just a continuation from the initial dream of our denial of the truth of our One Self.

T-27.VII.13. <You> are the dreamer of the world of dreams. 2 No other cause has the world of dreams, nor ever will the world of dreams have a cause other than your mind. 3 Nothing more fearful than an idle dream has terrified God's Son, and made him think that God’s Son has lost his innocence, denied his Father, and made war upon himself, whom he perceives to be his brother. 4 So fearful is the egoic dream, so seeming real, that the dreamer could not waken to reality without the sweat of terror and a scream of mortal fear, unless a gentler dream preceded the dreamer’s awaking, and allowed his calmer mind to welcome, not to fear, the Voice of the Holy Spirit that calls with love to waken the dreamer to a gentler “happy” dream, in which the dreamer’s suffering was healed and where his brother was his friend. 5 God willed the egoic dreamer waken gently and with joy, and gave him means to waken without fear.

Note # 72: The Holy Spirit will transform the terrifying dream of separation into a happy dream of forgiveness and joining. The Atonement is the means to our awakening and the Holy Spirit is the guide the Creator gave to His sleeping Child. If the Holy Spirit were to awaken us directly from our dream of sin and separation, our fear and terror would increase. The Holy Spirit will do nothing that would increase our fear. Thus, the happy dream is provided, which allows for our gentle awakening to the truth

T-27.VII.14. Accept the dream the Holy Spirit gave instead of your egoic dream. 2 It is not difficult to change a dream when once the dreamer has been recognized. 3 Rest in the Holy Spirit, and allow the Holy Spirit’s gentle dreams to take the place of those you dreamed in terror and in fear of death. 4 The Holy Spirit brings forgiving dreams, in which the choice is not who is the murderer and who shall be the victim. 5 In the dreams the Holy Spirit brings there is no murder and there is no death. 6 The dream of guilt is fading from your sight, although your eyes are closed. 7 A smile has come to lighten up your sleeping face. 8 The sleep is peaceful now, for these are happy dreams.

Note # 73: The Holy Spirit has replaced our misperception with correct perception. Our illusions have been replaced by happier illusions, which replicate the truth. They are still
illusions because they are perceived rather than known. Knowledge still has not been restored to the dreamer.

T-27.VII.15. Dream softly of your sinless brother, who unites with you in holy innocence. 2 And from this dream of your brother's sinlessness, the Lord of Heaven will Himself awaken His beloved Son. 3 Dream of your brother's kindnesses instead of dwelling in your egoic dreams on your brother's mistakes. 4 Select your brother's thoughtfulness to dream about instead of counting up the hurts your brother gave. 5 Forgive your brother his illusions, and give thanks to your brother for all the helpfulness he gave. 6 And do not brush aside your brother's many gifts because your brother is not perfect in your dreams. 7 Your brother represents his Father, Whom you still mistakenly see as offering both life and death to you.

Note # 74: We need to see our brother from love, not fear. By changing our fear-based thought system to one of love and oneness, we move from the dreams of fear, limitation and competition, to the happy dreams of forgiveness, sinlessness and love.

T-27.VII.16. Brother, God gives but life. 2 Yet what you see as gifts your brother offers represent the gifts you dream your Father gives to you. 3 Let all your brother's gifts be seen in light of charity and kindness offered you. 4 And let no pain disturb your dream of deep appreciation for your brother's gifts to you.

Note # 75: We will perceive our brother’s gifts and our Father’s gifts to be the same. Perceive our brother as our attacker and we will believe God also desires our death. See our brother as offering us our sinlessness and that is what we will expect from our Creator.

VIII. The "Hero" of the Dream

T-27.VIII.1. The body is the central figure in the dreaming of the world. 2 There is no dream without the body, nor does the body exist without the dream in which the body acts as if the body were a person to be seen and be believed. 3 The body takes the central place in every dream, which tells the story of how the body was made by other bodies, born into the world outside the body, lives a little while and dies, to be united in the dust with other bodies dying like itself. 4 In the brief time allotted the body to live, the body seeks for other bodies as the body's friends and enemies. 5 The body's safety is the body's main concern. 6 The body's comfort is the body's guiding rule. 7 The body tries to look for pleasure, and avoid the things that would be hurtful. 8 Above all, the body tries to teach itself the body’s pains and joys are different and that pain and joy can be told apart and are different from each other.

Note # 76: The body is the central character in the dream of separation. The dream revolves around the body’s activities and appears to prove that we are the body and the body is “us.”
T-27.VIII.2. The dreaming of the world takes many forms, because the body seeks in
many ways to prove the body is autonomous and real. 2 The body puts things on itself
that the body has bought with little metal discs or paper strips the world proclaims as
valuable and real. 3 The body works to get money, doing senseless things, and tosses
money away for senseless things the body does not need and does not even want. 4 The
body hires other bodies, that the other bodies may protect the body and collect more
senseless things that the body can call the body’s own. p585 5 The body looks about for
special bodies that can share the body’s dream. 6 Sometimes the body dreams the body
is a conqueror of bodies weaker than itself. 7 But in some phases of the dream, the body
is the slave of bodies that would hurt and torture the body.

Note # 77: Identifying ourselves as the body, we do whatever we believe is necessary to
maintain and provide for the well being of the body.

T-27.VIII.3. The body's serial adventures, from the time of birth to dying are the theme of
every dream the world has ever had. 2 The "hero" of this dream will never change, nor
will the hero's purpose. 3 Though the dream itself takes many forms, and seems to show
a great variety of places and events wherein the dream’s "hero" finds itself, the dream
has but one purpose, taught in many ways. 4 This single lesson does the dream try to
teach again, and still again, and yet once more; that the dream is cause and not effect. 5
And you, the hero of the dream as the body are the dream’s effect, and you, the hero
of the dream, cannot be the dream’s cause.

Note # 78: The dream is designed for the sole purpose of making the separation appear
real and thus, prove that we are a limited ego-body. As such, we are powerless to change
the dream. The ego’s goal is that our mind loses all comprehension that we are the
dreamer and that our decision-maker is the cause of all it beholds. If we are the effect,
rather than the cause of the dream, we will believe we can do nothing to change our fate.
We slip into victim consciousness and abdicate the awareness of our mind’s causative or
creative powers.

T-27.VIII.4. Thus are you not the dreamer, but the dream. 2 And so you wander idly in
and out of places and events that the dream contrives. 3 That this aimless wandering is
all the body does is true, for the body is but a figure in a dream. 4 But who reacts to
figures in a dream unless he sees the figures in the dream as if the figures in the dream
were real? 5 The instant that he sees the figures in the dream as the illusions that they
are the figures in the dream have no more effects on him, because he understands he
gave the figures in the dream their effects by causing the figures in the dream and
making the figures seem real.

Note # 79: In order for the dream to appear real, we must not believe we are the dreamer.
If we realized that we are the dreamer, we would have control over the dream but more
importantly we would realize that the dream has no effect on our reality. We would
understand that the dream is merely a game that we choose to play. In this game, we can
either be entertained or use the game as a safe way to learn some lesson. The dream of
separation is like a movie. The movie can teach and entertain. Movies come in many forms. Some people like comedies, some tragedies. Some people even like to go to horror films. The dream, like the movie, is our choice. Each movie either entertains or teaches: most do both. ACIM’s goal is to teach us that we are not only the star of the movie, but our decision-maker is also the scriptwriter and director.

T-27.VIII.5. How willing are you to escape effects of all the dreams the world has ever had? 2 Is it your wish to let no dream appear to be the cause of what it is you do? 3 Then let us merely look upon the dream's beginning, for the part you see is but the second part of the dream. This second part of the dream’s cause lies in the first part of our dream. 4 No one asleep and dreaming in this second half of the dream that we call this world remembers his original attack upon himself, which caused the beginning of the first half of the dream of separation. 5 No one believes there really was a time before the dream of separation began, when he knew nothing of a body, and could never have conceived this world as real. 6 He would have seen at once that these two ideas of the dream of separation are one illusion, too ridiculous for anything but to be laughed away. 7 How serious these two ideas of the dream of separation now appear to be! 8 And no one, who is now caught up in the dream, can remember when these two ideas of the dream of separation would have met with laughter and with disbelief. 9 We can remember when the dream of separation would have been laughed at, if we but look directly at the dream of separation’s cause, which is our own mind, we will see the grounds for laughter, not a cause for fear.

Note # 80: Because we are so far removed from the beginning of the dream, it is difficult for us to conceive of a time before the dream began. We are in the second half of the dream and the idea that we are the actual dreamer now seems too ridiculous for our decision-maker even to consider. We have lost knowledge and now wander as an actor on the stage of the world of perception. When you are so accustomed to playing the role of innocent victim, the actor starts to take on this same role in his real life. We have lost the ability to separate the stage actor’s role from the actor’s real essence. We now identify ourselves as being our costume. We believe we are a limited-body, not unlimited spirit.

T-27.VIII.6. Let us return the dream he gave away unto the dreamer, who perceives the dream as separate from himself and done to himself. 2 Into eternity, where all is one, there crept a tiny, mad idea, at which the Son of God remembered not to laugh. 3 In his forgetting that he was the originator of the thought, did the thought become a serious idea, and the thought possible of both accomplishment and real effects. p586 4 Together, we can laugh both the mad idea’s accomplishment and its effects away, and together, we can understand that time cannot intrude upon eternity. 5 It is a joke to think that time can come to circumvent eternity, which <means> there is no time.

Note # 81: The problem with the thought of separation was not the idea itself, but rather that we forgot to laugh. When we looked upon the mad idea that we could be something other than ourselves, our mind’s seriousness gave the idea a reality of its own. Rather than realizes that it was a powerless illusion that our mind created, we endowed the
illusion with a power it did not possess. We thought an effect, the mad idea, could change or attack, its cause, our mind. Effects always follow their cause. An effect is powerless to change its cause. Without its cause, the effect disappears. We are love. Love loves all, because it is all. Love allows and does not judge. When we took the idea seriously that there could be something other than a Oneness of Everything, we mistakenly believed that love could be threatened. We forgot that we were invulnerable. Instead, we identified with the dream body to prove that we were separate and could be hurt. We made the illusion appear real and thus, time was born within the dream itself. Time allows the dreamer the opportunity to be both entertained and to learn from within the dream and thus, rediscover our eternal spiritual magnificence

T-27.VIII.7. A timelessness, we have made-up a dream in which time is made real; In timelessness eternity, we have made-up a dream so that a part of God that can attack itself; a separate brother as an enemy; a mind within a body all are forms of circularity whose ending starts at the dream's beginning, ending at the dream's cause. 2 The world you see depicts exactly what you thought you did. 3 Except that now you think that what you did is being done to you. 4 The guilt for what you thought is being placed outside yourself, and on a guilty world that dreams your dreams and thinks your thoughts instead of you. 5 A now guilty world brings the guilty world’s vengeance, not your own vengeance. 6 The now guilty world keeps you narrowly confined within a body, which the world punishes because of all the sinful things the body does within the guilty world’s dream. 7 You have no power to make the body stop the world’s evil deeds because you claim you did not make the world or the body, and cannot control the world’s actions nor the world’s purpose nor the world and the body’s fate.

Note # 82: At the start of the dream of separation, which I will call Act # I, our minds began as the scriptwriter, who created a world in which a play can be stage. The play is called the dream of separation. At the end of “Act # I”, we abdicated our power as the author of the script and gave all apparent power over to the world. The world will now appear to be allowed to continue as the writer and director of the play as long as we choose to pretend that we are only an actor within the world’s play. In reality, we continue to control the play, but as the behind the scene producer, our control is not apparent to the world and the actors within the play. In Act # II, we now find ourselves as an actor on the world stage. Instead of remembering that we are the writer and director of the play, we claim to be mere actors. Our role that we now proclaim and accept for ourselves in our world play is that of an innocent victim. This role as a victim becomes our provisional reality. ACIM’s goal is to reawaken our sleeping decision-maker. Once awakened, the decision-maker can reclaim its power to finish the script and write and star in the dream’s happy ending.

T-27.VIII.8. The world but demonstrates an ancient truth; you will believe that others do to you exactly what you think you did to the others. 2 But once deluded into blaming the others, you will not see the cause of what the others do, because you want the guilt to rest on the others, not on yourself. 3 How childish is the petulant device to keep your innocence by pushing guilt outside yourself, but never letting go of the guilt! 4 It is not easy to perceive the jest, the dream of separation, when all around you do your eyes
behold the dream’s heavy consequences, but without the dream’s trifling cause. 5 Without the cause do the cause’s effects seem serious and sad indeed. 6 Yet the effects of the dream but follow the cause of the dream. 7 And it is the dream’s cause that follows nothing and is but a jest.

**Note # 83:** We have forgotten the first part of the dream. We started the dream by attacking the idea that we are a Oneness of Everything. The second part, Act II, is still our dream. By correcting the original misperception that we could be something other than as God created us, all illusions that follow disappear. In the dream of separation, we utilize the tool of projection in order to appear powerless to affect the world outside our body-mind. Yet, our mind remains in control. Ideas never leave their source. We can blame and project our guilt upon our brother, but we can never lose our guilt by projection. Only through forgiveness of our brother will we regain our sinlessness.

T-27.VIII.9.In gentle laughter does the Holy Spirit perceive the cause, and looks not to effects. 2 How else could the Holy Spirit correct your error, you, who have overlooked the cause entirely? 3 The Holy Spirit bids you bring each terrible effect to the Holy Spirit that you may look together with the Holy Spirit on the terrible effect’s foolish cause and laugh with the Holy Spirit for a while. 4 <You> judge effects of your dream, but <the Holy Spirit> has judged their cause, which is that the cause is only a dream and you are the dreamer. 5 And by the Holy Spirit’s judgment are effects removed. 6 Perhaps you come in tears. 7 But hear the Holy Spirit say, "My brother, holy Son of God, behold your idle dream, in which this terrible effect could occur." 8 And you will leave the holy instant with your laughter and your brother's joined with the Holy Spirit.

**Note # 84:** The Holy Spirit is aware of both our dream of separation and the truth that we remain as God created us. The Holy Spirit knows that we cannot be punished for something that we imagined for it never happened within the Mind of God. Dreams are not reality.

T-27.VIII.10.The secret of salvation is but this: that you are doing this unto yourself. 2 No matter what the form of the attack, this still is true, “that you are doing this unto yourself. 3 Whoever takes the role of enemy and of attacker, still is this the truth “that you are doing this unto yourself. p587 4 Whatever seems to be the cause of any pain and suffering you feel, this is still true “that you are doing this unto yourself.” 5 For you would not react at all to figures in a dream you knew that you were dreaming. 6 Let the figures in your dream be as hateful and as vicious as the figures in your dream may, for they could have no effect on you unless you failed to recognize it is your dream.

**Note # 85:** Once we realize that we are the dreamer of the illusion that we perceive as this world, we can no longer blame another party for our own dream. This means that we now realize that we are in control of what we choose to call into our field of awareness. Our decision-maker must be reawakened if we are to move out of egoic victim consciousness.

T-27.VIII.11.This single lesson, which is “that you are doing this unto yourself,” once
learned will set you free from suffering, whatever form the suffering takes. 2 The Holy Spirit will repeat this one inclusive lesson of deliverance until this lesson “that you are doing this unto yourself,” has been learned, regardless of the form of suffering that brings you pain. 3 Whatever hurt you bring to the Holy Spirit, He will make answer with this very simple truth “that you are doing this unto yourself.” 4 For this one answer “that you are doing this unto yourself” takes away the cause of every form of sorrow and of pain. 5 The form affects the Holy Spirit’s answer not at all, for the Holy Spirit would teach you but the single cause of all of the effects, no matter what their form of suffering they take. 6 And you will understand that miracles reflect the simple statement, "<I> have done this thing, and it is this thing I would undo."

Note # 86: We need to realize that we are our own scriptwriters. We choose what we bring into our field of awareness. ACIM wants us to regain control over our decision-making self so that we can choose deliberately for love instead of blindly follow egoic fear.

T-27.VIII.12. Bring, then, all forms of suffering to the Holy Spirit Who knows that every form of suffering is like the rest. 2 The Holy Spirit sees no differences where none exists, and the Holy Spirit will teach you how each one is caused. 3 None has a different cause from all the rest, and all of the causes are easily undone by but a single lesson truly learned. This lesson is that "<I> have done this thing, and it is this thing I would undo." 4 Salvation is a secret you have kept but from yourself. 5 The universe proclaims salvation’s secret so. 6 Yet to the witnesses of salvation’s secret, you pay no heed at all. 7 For the witnesses of salvation’s secret attest the thing you do not want to know, which is “that you are doing this unto yourself.” 8 The witnesses of salvation’s secret seem to keep salvation’s secret from you. 9 Yet you need but learn you chose but not to listen, not to see the witnesses for salvation’s secret.

Note # 87: As long as we blindly follow the egoic thought system, we will be unable to accept the idea that our mind controls our perception and that we are not innocent victims of a world outside of us. Instead, we control everything that we choose to call into our field of awareness. We are the scriptwriters of our own private world.

T-27.VIII.13. How differently will you perceive the world when this fact “that you are doing this unto yourself” is recognized! 2 When you forgive the world your guilt, you will be free of guilt. 3 The world’s innocence does not demand your guilt, nor does your guiltlessness rest on the world’s sins. 4 This is the obvious; a secret kept from no one but yourself. 5 And it is this dual misperception that the world’s innocence demands your guilt that your guiltlessness demands a sinful world that has maintained you separate from the world, and kept your brother separate from you. 6 Now need you but to learn that both of you are innocent or guilty. 7 The one thing that is impossible is that you be unlike each other; that they both be true. 8 This is the only secret yet to learn. You and the world most both be the same. Both are innocent and guiltless. 9 And when you learn the secret that you are both guiltless, it will be no secret you are healed. p588

Note # 88: When we realize that we did nothing that could tear apart the oneness of the
Mind of God we will be healed. We will reawaken to the fact that we never lost our birthright and that we have remained eternally as we were created, an extension of the Mind of God, perfect, whole and complete.
Chapter 28. THE UNDOING OF FEAR

I. The Present Memory

T-28.1.1. The miracle does nothing. 2 All the miracle does is to undo. 3 And thus the miracle cancels out the interference to what has been done. 4 The miracle does not add, but merely takes away past egoic interference or judgment. 5 And what the miracle takes away is long since gone, but the egoic interference that is long since gone has being kept in memory and still appears to have immediate effects. 6 This egoic world of separation was over long ago. 7 The thoughts that made the egoic world of separation are no longer in the mind that thought of them and loved the belief of separation for a little while. 8 The miracle but shows the past is gone, and what has truly gone has no effects. 9 Remembering a cause can but produce illusions of the cause’s presence, not the cause’s effects.

Note # 1: Remembering past causes produces no current effect. Our mind can allow the past causes to be relived so that we make the present a duplicate of the past. We can also choose within our mind to re-experience the past effect in our mind. By doing this the mind, not the past-perceived historical “event” causes the apparent renewal of the past effect. The cause is our mind’s choice, not the past-perceived event. If we chose to perceive the past event differently, the mind would generate a different current effect.

T-28.1.2. All the effects of guilt are here no more. 2 For guilt is over. 3 In guilt’s passing went guilt’s consequences, left without a cause. 4 Why would you cling to past guilt in memory if you did not desire guilt’s effects? 5 Remembering is as selective as perception; remembering being perception’s past tense. 6 Remembering is perception of the past as if the past were occurring now, and as if the past still were there to see. 7 Memory, like perception, is a skill made up by your egoic small “s” self to take the place of what God gave in your creation. 8 And like all the things your ego made to “prove” separation, memory and remembering can be used to serve another purpose. Memory and remembering can be used by the Holy Spirit as the means for something else, which is joining. 9 Memory and remembering can be used to heal and not to hurt, if you so wish it be.

Note # 2: Memory, being the past tense of perception, can be modified. Perception follows our mind’s purpose. By choosing to follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, the currently perceived effect of the memory will change. Memory is not fixed, but rather malleable to our current desires.
T-28.I.3. Nothing employed for healing represents an egoic effort to do anything at all. 2 Healing is a recognition that you have no needs which would require or mean that something must be done by the ego. 3 Healing is an unselective memory, that is not used to interfere with truth. 4 All things the Holy Spirit can employ for healing have been given the Holy Spirit, without the content and the purposes for which they have been egoically made. 5 All things or experience given the Holy Spirit are but skills without an application. 6 All things await their use. 7 All things have no dedication and no aim. In healing, all things wait upon the Holy Spirit to give them a different purpose.

Note #3: All things that we perceive are neutral. It is our mind that predetermines for what content and purpose the item will bear witness. Our mind’s thought system will either support oneness or separation. It cannot support both at the same time.

T-28.I.4. The Holy Spirit can indeed make use of memory, for God Himself is there in memory. 2 Yet this is not a memory of past events, but only a memory of present state. 3 You are so long accustomed to believe that memory holds only what is past, that it is hard for you to realize memory is a skill that can remember <now>. 4 The limitations on remembering the world imposes on memory are as vast as those limitations you let the world impose on you. 5 There is no link of memory to the past. 6 If you would have memory be linked to the past, then there it is. p589 7 But only your desire made the link to the past, and only you have held memory to a part of time where guilt appears to linger still.

Note #4: The Christ, the home of the Holy Spirit, knows the truth. The Holy Spirit’s memory “recalls” our true present state that is the <now>. In the <now>, we have never left the Mind of God. The Christ and the Holy Spirit’s memory is the remembrance of Our Source, God, Itself.

T-28.I.5. The Holy Spirit’s use of memory is quite apart from time. 2 The Holy Spirit does not seek to use memory as a means to keep the past, but rather the Holy Spirit uses memory as a way to let the past go. 3 Memory holds the message memory receives, and memory does what the mind is given memory to do. 4 Memory does not write the message, nor appoint what the message is for. 5 Like to the body, memory is purposeless within itself. 6 And if memory seems to serve to cherish ancient hate, and gives you pictures of injustices and hurts that you were saving, this is what you asked memory’s message be and that memory message is. 7 Committed to memory’s vaults, the history of all the body's past is hidden there. 8 All of the strange associations made to keep the past alive, the present dead, are stored within egoic memory, waiting your command that past egoic memory be brought to you, and lived again. 9 And thus do past egoic memory’s effects appear to be increased by time, which time took away their cause.

NOTE #5: Only our mind’s current purpose affects our present perception. In the <now> and throughout time, cause and effect are instantaneous. You cannot have a cause without its effect. If the effect did not happen, we would not claim it was caused by something. In time, we perceive that there is a gap between cause and effect. In reality
there is no gap. Since time was over long ago, nothing that we perceive from the past can have any effect on the present. Any apparent effect that a past memory has on our current experience is being called into our awareness by our current thinking. It is our choice to allow the Holy Spirit to reinterpret this past memory so that it aligns with truth. If we still value separation, we will choose to repeat the egoic judgments of the past in what we perceive to be the present.

**NOTE:** The present is not the same as the <now>. For most people, due to their focus on the past misperceptions, the present is the replaying of the past in present time. When we are being in the now, our mind is experiencing the present moment without past misperceptions and judgments. We are being, feeling or experiencing rather than thinking and judging.

T-28.I.6. Yet time is but another phase of what does nothing. 2 Time works hand in hand with all the other attributes with which your ego seek to keep concealed the truth about yourself. 3 Time neither takes away nor can time restore. 4 And yet you make strange use of time, as if the past had caused the present, which is but a consequence in which no change can be made possible because past cause has gone. 5 Yet change must have a cause that will endure, or else change will not last. 6 No change can be made in the present if change’s cause is past. 7 Only the past is held in memory as you make use of the memory, and so memory is a way to hold the past against the now.

**Note # 6:** Since memory is the past tense for perception, memory, like perception can change. Both lack knowledge and thus, are based on the unstable thought system of the ego. When our mind changes our purpose or message, our memory will automatically realign with the current purpose. The past, present and future appear to exist in time and space because this is where change seems to be possible within the mind of the split-minded. In the reality of the <now>, there is only the changeless eternal truth. Time is irrelevant in the <now> since there is no change and time is the measurement of change.

T-28.I.7. Remember nothing that your ego taught yourself, for you were badly taught by your ego. 2 And who would keep a senseless lesson in his mind, when he can learn and can preserve a better one? 3 When ancient egoic memories of hate appear, remember that their cause for this past hatred is gone. 4 And so you cannot understand what ancient egoic memories of hate are for. 5 Let not the cause that you would give these ancient memories now be what it was that made them what they were, or seemed to be in the past. 6 Be glad that the past cause is gone, for this is what you would be pardoned from. 7 And see, instead, the new effects of cause accepted <now> with consequences <here>. 8 The new effects of the Holy Spirit's memory of the cause will surprise you with their loveliness. 9 The ancient new ideas they bring will be the happy consequences of a Cause so ancient that It far exceeds the span of memory which your perception sees.

**Note # 7:** The Holy Spirit’s memory is the remembrance of God. God is the true cause and there is no true effect that is not the extension of God. The Sonship is the effect of the Creator, which is the First Cause. The Creator is only love and thus, the Sonship can only co-create out of love. Love gives all because it is all. The ego believes it is separate and,
therefore, makes out of limitation and fear. The new idea that the memory of the Holy Spirit brings to egoic thinking is the fact that we are sinless, guiltless and share in the One Self that is the Mind of God.

T-28.I.8. This is the Cause the Holy Spirit has remembered for you, when you would forget the remembrance of God. 2 The Cause, the remembrance of God, is not past because the Holy Spirit let the Cause not be unremembered. 3 The Cause has never changed, because there never was a time in which the Holy Spirit did not keep the Cause, the remembrance of God, safely in your mind. 4 The Cause, the remembrance of God’s consequences will indeed seem new, because you thought that you remembered not their Cause. 5 Yet was God never absent from your mind, for it was not your Father’s Will that the Creator be unremembered by His Son.

Note # 8: God is the cause of all that is real. Love does not limit and God allows all. God’s love even allows His Creation, the Sonship, the ability to play with the idea of limitation, separation and fear. Since we are an extension of God, we cannot change our true nature yet, we are allowed to temporarily deny the truth so that we can rediscover our magnificence with the Mind of God. In our rediscovery of truth, we allow our Big “S” Self and thus, the Creator to not only know love but also to “be” love. The remembrance of God is “being” love.

T-28.I.9. What you remember never was. 2 What you remember came from egoic causelessness which you confused with cause. p590 3 It, the remembrance of the illusionary world of separation, can deserve but laughter, when you learn you have remembered consequences that were causeless and could never be effects. 4 The miracle reminds you of a Cause, which is God, the Creator, forever present, perfectly untouched by time and interference. 5 This Cause never changed from what God, the Creator is. 6 And you, the Sonship, are God’s Effect, as changeless and as perfect as, God, Itself. 7 The memory of God does not lie in the past, nor waits the future. 8 The memory of God is not revealed in miracles. 9 Miracles but remind you that the memory of God has not gone. 10 When you forgive God for your sins, God, the Cause, will no longer be denied.

Note # 9: It is our belief that we are special and separate from God that allows the ego to suppress the Voice for the remembrance of God. Both the Holy Spirit and the Christ consciousness mind remember that they are one with the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit’s purpose is to gently reawaken the Sonship to the truth that we will always remain perfect, whole and complete; just as our Father created us.

T-28.I.10. You who have sought to lay a judgment on your own Creator cannot understand it is not God, your Creator, Who laid a judgment on His Son. 2 You would deny God, your Creator, His Effects, yet have the Sonship never been denied. 3 There was no time in which His Son could be condemned for what was causeless and against God’s Will. 4 What your egoic remembering would witness to is but the fear of God. 5 God has not done the thing you fear. 6 No more have you done the thing you fear. 7 And so your innocence has not been lost. 8 You need no healing to be healed. 9 In
quietness, see in the miracle a lesson in allowing Cause, which is the Father, to have Its Own Effects, the Sonship, and have your ego doing nothing that would interfere with God’s Will.

Note #10: We need to quiet our egoic chatter so that we can hear the Voice for God. If we ask the Comforter, the Holy Spirit will guide us home. Since Oneness is our true nature, we do not have to change anything. We need only remember what we are. This remembrance of our spiritual reality can be accomplished by choosing the Holy Spirit’s thought system.

T-28.I.11. The miracle comes quietly into the mind that stops an instant and is still. 2 The miracle reaches gently from that quiet time, and from the mind it healed in quiet then, to other minds to share its quietness. 3 And these quiet minds will join in doing nothing to prevent the miracle’s radiant extension back into the Mind which caused all minds to be. 4 Born out of sharing, there can be no pause in time to cause the miracle delay in hastening to all unquiet minds, and bringing these unquieted minds an instant's stillness, when the memory of God returns to them. 5 Their own egoic remembering is quiet now, and what has come to take egoic remembering’s place will not be wholly unremembered afterwards.

Note #11: Since all minds are joined, the miracle extends to all parts of the Sonship. All parts of the Sonship are uplifted even though the change may not be apparent on the surface. Miracles are never wasted.

T-28.I.12. The Holy Spirit to Whom time is given offers thanks for every quiet instant given Him. 2 For in that instant is God's memory allowed to offer all its treasures to the Son of God, for whom God's memory and Its treasures have been kept. 3 How gladly does the Holy Spirit offer God’s treasures unto the one for whom He has been given them! 4 And His Creator shares His thanks, because God would not be deprived of His Effects, the Sonship. p591 5 The instant's silence that His Son accepts gives welcome to eternity and God, and lets the Sonship enter where the Sonship would abide. 6 For in that instant does the Son of God do nothing that would make himself afraid.

Note #12: When we silence our egoic mind, we hear the Voice for God and our Christ consciousness reawakens to the truth of our divine inheritance.

T-28.I.13. How instantly the memory of God arises in the mind that has no fear to keep the memory away! 2 Its own egoic remembering has gone. 3 There is no past to keep the ego’s fearful image of separation in the way of glad awakening to present peace. 4 The trumpets of eternity resound throughout the stillness, yet disturb the stillness not. 5 And what is now remembered is not fear, but rather is the Cause, the remembrance of God, that fear was made to render unremembered and undone. 6 The stillness speaks in gentle sounds of love the Son of God remembers from before his own egoic remembering came in between the present and the past, to shut the remembrance of God out.

Note #13: Our ego’s focus on time is on its past. This is why we believe that memories
only arise from the past. If the ego can keep us reliving our past, we will never realize that we can use the <now> to choose again. In the <now>, we no longer place any value on the egoic past.

T-28.I.14. Now is the Son of God at last aware of present Cause (God’s extension of Himself as creation) and Its benign Effects, the Sonship. 2 Now does he understand what he has egoically made is causeless, having no effects at all on the Mind of God. 3 The egoic little “s” self has done nothing. 4 And in seeing that egoic “causes” produce no effects, he, God’s Son, understands he never had a need for doing anything egoically, and that he never did anything egoically. 5 His Cause, the Father, <is> Its Effects, the Sonship. 6 There never was a cause beside God as Cause that could generate a different past or future. 7 God’s Effects, the Sonship, are changelessly eternal, beyond fear, and past the world of sin entirely.

Note # 14: With egoic thinking silenced, we understand that our will and God’s Will are the same. We are One and all thoughts of separation have disappeared. Our denial of the truth could never change the truth. God, which is truth, just eternally is.

T-28.I.15. What has been lost, to see the causeless not? 2 And where is sacrifice, when memory of God has come to take the place of loss? 3 What better way to close the little gap between illusions and reality than to allow the memory of God to flow across the gap between illusion and reality, making the memory of God a bridge an instant will suffice to reach beyond? 4 For God has closed this gap between illusion and reality with Himself. 5 God’s memory has not gone by, and left a stranded Son forever on a shore where he can glimpse another shore that he can never reach. 6 His Father wills that His Son be lifted up and gently carried over this gap. 7 God has built the bridge, and it is God Who will transport His Son over the bridge and across this gap. 8 Have no fear that God will fail in what God wills. 9 Nor fear that you be excluded from the Will that is for you.

Note # 15: God will take the final step and return the Sonship from perception back to knowledge. When we remember God, we will recognize that God’s Will and our will are one.

II. Reversing Effect and Cause

T-28.II.1. Without a cause there can be no effects, and yet without effects there is no cause. 2 The cause a cause is <made> by the cause’s effects; the Father <is> a Father by His Son. 3 Effects do not create their cause, but effects establish the effect’s causation. 4 Thus, the Son gives Fatherhood to his Creator, and the Son receives the gift that he has given His Creator, which is fatherhood. 5 It is <because> he is God's Son that he must also be a father, who creates as God created him. 6 The circle of creation has no end. 7 The circle of creation’s starting and the circle of creation’s ending are the same. 8 But in itself, the circle of creation holds the universe of all creation, without beginning and
without an end.

**Note # 16:** If cause has no effect, it is not a cause. If we do not exist as God created us, God is not a Creator. By definition, ACIM defines the “real” as being changeless. In order for a cause to be real, the cause must produce a real, changeless effect. We, God’s effect, must be changeless since we are real. The law of creation states “like begets like”. Creation is extension and is total. Since God is love, we too must be everything that love is. We must be like our Cause, perfect, whole and complete.

**T-28.II.2.** Fatherhood <is> creation. 2 Love must be extended. 3 Purity is not confined. 
4 Purity is the nature of the innocent to be forever uncontained, without a barrier or limitation. 5 Thus is purity not of the body. 6 Nor can purity be found where limitation is. 7 The body can be healed by purity’s effects, which are as limitless as is purity, itself. 8 Yet must all healing come about because the mind is recognized as not within the body, and mind’s innocence is quite apart from the body, and the mind is where all healing is. 9 Where, then, is healing? 10 Only where healing’s cause is given is healing’s effects. 11 For sickness is a meaningless attempt to give effects to causelessness, and make sickness be a cause.

**Note # 17:** The cause of a sick body is a mind that is not whole. The deluded mind, not the body, is the cause of sickness. The deluded mind is where healing must take place. The body is the effect of a mind that does not know itself to be perfect, whole and complete. The ego, in its attempt to prove that we were not as God created us, claims that we are the body. The ego claims that the body, which is the “effect” of a projection from a deluded and sick mind, is the cause that affects the mind, which created the original projection of the body in the first place. The ego claims that we are a separate limited ego-body and that this effect, which is the body-projection from our own mind, is somehow self-created. Now the effect, which is the body, somehow has become the cause that rules over its creator, which is the mind. This belief that an effect can change or create its own cause is egoic madness and delusion.

**T-28.II.3.** Always in sickness does the Son of God attempt to make himself his cause, and not allow himself to be his Father’s Son, which is the Effect of God’s Fatherhood. 2 For in this impossible desire of self-creation, he, the egoic Sonship, does not believe that he is Love’s Effect, and must be cause because of what he egoically believes he is, which is not perfect, whole and complete. We perceive ourselves to be unlovable. 3 The cause of healing is the only Cause of everything. 4 The cause of healing has but <one> Effect, which is the return of the Sonship to the truth of His perfection. 5 And in that recognition, causelessness is given no effects and none is seen. 6 A mind within a body and a world of other bodies, each with separate minds, are your egoic "creations of limitation," you the "other" mind of the little “s” self, creating with effects unlike yourself. 7 And as their "father," you must be like them and also be limited.

**Note # 18:** Because the law of creation states “like begets like,” we, being God’s Effect, must be part of the Oneness of Everything, which is God. To create unlike our Father would be to deny our Creator’s Fatherhood. This is the root of the authority problem in
which the ego claims we are self-created. Because we have free will, we have the power
to deny the truth yet, our denial cannot change the truth. We remain as God created us, an
extension of the Mind of God, perfect, whole and complete. Only in our deluded minded
could we dream the illusion of separation. The dream, itself, is not real and has no effect
on truth. I can dream that I killed Wyatt Earp but this does not make it so. Dreams have
no reality outside the dreamer’s own mind. Thus, the dream becomes causeless in the real
world of the changeless Mind of God.

**T-28.II.4.** Nothing at all has happened but that you have put yourself to sleep, and
dreamed a dream in which you were an alien to yourself, and but a part of someone else's
dream. 2 The miracle does not awaken you **from dreaming**, but merely shows you who
the dreamer is. 3 **The miracle** teaches you there is a choice of dreams while you are still
asleep, depending on the purpose of your dreaming. 4 Do you wish for dreams of healing,
or for dreams of death? 5 A dream is like a memory in that **the dream** pictures what you
wanted shown to you.

**Note # 19:** By allowing the Holy Spirit to teach us that we are the dreamer, we can
reclaim our decision-making ability. As the decision-maker, we can decide what dream
we wish to perceive within the dream, itself. We can decide for the “happy dream” of the
Holy Spirit to replace all egoic misperception.

**T-28.II.5.** An empty storehouse, with an open door, holds all your shreds of memories
and dreams **within the egoic mind.** 2 Yet if you are the dreamer, you perceive this much
at least: that you have caused the dream, and can accept another dream as well. 3 But for
this change in content of the dream, it must be realized that it is you who dreamed the
dreaming that you do not like. 4 **The dream you do not like** is but an effect that <**you**>
have caused, and you, **the dreamer,** would not continue to be the cause of this
unwanted effect. 5 In dreams of murder and attack are you the victim in a dying body
slain. p593 6 But in forgiving dreams is no one asked to be the victim and the sufferer. 7
These **forgiving dreams** are the happy dreams the miracle exchanges for your own
dreams of murder and attack. 8 **The miracle** does not ask you make another dream;
**the miracle asks** only that you see you made the one **undesirable dream that** you
would exchange for this **the happy dream.**

**Note # 20:** In order to modify the dream, we need to understand that we are the authors
of the dream. When we realize that we are the dreamer and not an innocent victim, we
will be empowered to choose again. The miracle occurs when we ask for the guidance of
the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit can then correct our misperception within the dream
itself and transform the dream into a happy, forgiving and healing dream.

**T-28.II.6.** This world is causeless, as is every dream that anyone has dreamed within the
**egoic dream** world of individual perception. 2 In the mad dream of separation, no
plans are possible, and no design exists that could be found and understood. 3 What else
could be expected from a thing that has no cause? 4 Yet if a **thing has no cause, a thing**
has no purpose. 5 You may cause a dream, but never will you give the dream real effects
that could change the truth of reality. 6 For the dream had real effects that would
change the dream’s cause, and it is this you cannot do. 7 The dreamer of a dream is not awake, but does not know he sleeps. 8 He who is not awake sees illusions of himself as sick or well, depressed or happy, but without a stable cause with guaranteed effects.

**Note # 21:** The egoic thought system is unstable since its foundation is built on the denial of the truth of our oneness. The false cannot be stable. When we are under the influence of the egoic thought system, we forget that our own mind is the decision-maker. We choose to make ourselves limited. Our denial of the truth becomes the provisional reality that we seem to experience. This denial cannot change our divine birthright. The truth just is. Being caught up within the dream of separation, we are unable to know the truth about ourselves. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of both our dream and the truth. Only the Holy Spirit knows how best to heal our deluded mind.

T-28.II.7. The miracle establishes you dream a dream, and that the dream’s content is not true. 2 This is a crucial step in dealing with illusions. 3 No one is afraid of an illusion when he perceives that he made up the illusion. 4 The fear was held in place because he did not see that he was author of the dream, and not a figure in the dream. 5 The unaware dreamer gives himself the consequences that he dreams he gave his brother. 6 And it is but this denial of his mind’s own sourceness that the dream has put together and has offered him, to show him that his wishes have been done. 7 Thus does he fear his own attack, but sees his own attack’s source as coming from another’s hands. 8 As victim of his own dream, he is suffering from its effects, but not their cause. 9 He, the unaware dreamer, authores his own attack, and he is innocent of what he caused. 10 The miracle does nothing but to show him that he has done nothing that has affected the truth. 11 What he fears is cause without the consequences that would make what he fears a cause. 12 And so what he fears never was.

**Note # 22:** If a cause has no effect, it is not a cause. The denial of truth cannot change the truth and thus, has no effect on the Mind of God. The illusion of separation never had any effect on reality and, therefore, cannot be a sin. The Sonship must remain as It was created, perfect, sinless and guiltless. This is God’s Will. The sin or limitation that the dreamer feared never happened. We remain a Oneness of the Mind of God.

T-28.II.8. The separation started with the dream the Father was deprived of His Effects, which is the Sonship, and that the Father was powerless to keep His Effects since the Father was no longer their Creator. 2 In the dream of separation, the dreamer, the Sonship, made himself. 3 But what he made, which is the egoic world of perception, has turned against him, taking on the role of being its own creator instead of allowing the egoic mind of the Sonship to be its father and creator. This is exactly the same thing that the Sonship claimed it did within the dream of separation. The Sonship, as the dreamer, had usurped the role of His Creator, God, the Father. 4 And as he hated his Creator, so the figures in the dream have hated him. 5 His body is their slave, which the dream figures now abuse because the motives he has given the body have they, the dream figures, adopted as their own. 6 And the dream figures hate his body for the vengeance it would offer them. 7 It is the dream figures’ vengeance on the body which appears to prove the dreamer could not be the maker of the dream. 8 Effect and cause are
first split off, and then **effect and cause** reversed, so that effect becomes a cause; **and** the cause becomes the effect. p594

**Note # 23:** In both the authority problem and the egoic world of perception, the ego claims that the effect has somehow self-created itself and now the original effect has the ability to be a cause that can change its own creator. Thus, in the dream of separation, the effect has become cause and cause has become the effect. This is the bedrock of egoic thinking. It has taken the indivisible Oneness and divided the One Self into separate and incomplete parts. A Oneness cannot be divided. The ego cannot change the law of creation which says that like begets like. This is why, when the mind believes that it is limited, what it makes is made in its same imagined image of limitation. Its dream figures act exactly as its dreamer perceives that our little “s” self’s nature would behave. The dream figures attack, us, as we believe we have attacked our creator. Our egoic denial of the truth has become our own deluded provisional reality. The dream of separation, time and space become “truth” within the deluded mind of the dreamer. Not realizing that we are the dreamer, we become the victim of our own dream.

**T-28.II.9.** The reversal of **cause and effect** is the separation’s final step, with which salvation, which proceeds to go the other way, begins. 2 This final step is an effect of what has gone before, appearing as a cause. 3 The miracle is the first step in giving back to cause the function of causation, not effect. 4 For this confusion has produced the dream, and while **the confusion between cause and effect** lasts, **this** wakening to salvation will be feared. 5 Nor will the call to wakening be heard, because **the call to wakening** seems to be the call to fear.

**Note # 24:** With the reversal of cause and effect, we have reached the bottom of the ladder in our belief that we are separate from God. We have accepted our role as victim. As long as we remain in victim consciousness, we will never reclaim our ability to choose again. We have completely forgotten that we are the source and that our mind is the decision-maker. We believe that we are powerless and that the outside world is the cause of all our experiences. We fail to remember that our mind is the source of all the projections that we perceive.

**T-28.II.10.** Like every lesson that the Holy Spirit requests you learn, the miracle is clear. 2 **The miracles** demonstrates what the Holy Spirit would have you learn, and shows you **the miracle’s** effects are what you want. 3 In the Holy Spirit’s forgiving dreams are the effects of **your egoic dreams** undone, and hated enemies perceived as friends with merciful intent. 4 **In the Holy Spirit’s forgiving dreams the enemies’** enmity is seen as causeless now, because they did not make it. **You, the dreamer, did.** 5 And you can accept the role of maker of their hate, because you see that it has no effects. 6 Now are you freed from this much of the dream; the world is neutral, and the bodies that still seem to move about as separate things need not be feared. 7 And so they are not sick.

**Note # 25:** Once we realize that we are the dreamer, we also realize that our dreams can have no affect on reality. Dreams now are seen as neutral and are not feared since we understand that dreams are powerless to change reality.
T-28.II.11. The miracle returns the cause of fear to you who made fear. 2 But the miracles also shows that fear, having no effects, it is not cause, because the function of causation is to have effects. 3 And where effects are gone, there is no cause. 4 Thus is the body healed by miracles because the miracles show the mind made sickness, and employed the body to be victim, or effect, of what the mind made. 5 Yet half the lesson will not teach the whole lesson. 6 The miracle is useless if you learn but that the body can be healed, for this is not the lesson the miracle was sent to teach. 7 The lesson the miracle was sent to teach is that the mind was sick that thought the body could be sick; projecting out the mind’s guilt caused nothing, and had no effects.

Note # 26: The miracle is a change in perception. It is the mind that is healed by the miracle. It is irrelevant if anything happens to the body for the body is not the source of the sickness.

T-28.II.12. This world is full of miracles. 2 Miracles stand in shining silence next to every dream of pain and suffering, of sin and guilt. 3 Miracles are the dream's alternative, the choice to be the dreamer, rather than deny the active role in making up the dream. 4 Miracles are the glad effects of taking back the consequence of sickness to its cause, which is the egoic mind’s belief in limitation. 5 The body is released because the mind acknowledges "this is not done to me by something outside of my mind, but I am doing this." 6 And thus the mind is free to make another choice instead. 7 Beginning here by making another choice, salvation will proceed to change the course of every step in the descent to separation, until all the steps have been retraced, the ladder gone, and all the dreaming of the world undone. p595

Note # 27: It is in reclaiming our decision-making power to choose again that starts our journey back to knowledge. Eventually, we all get tired of victim consciousness and decide there must be another way. By following the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we will ascend the ladder of separation. Our decision-maker is beginning to wake up and reclaim our divine birthright and thus, reverse our egoic thinking process.

III. The Agreement to Join

T-28.III.1. What waits in perfect certainty beyond salvation is not our concern. 2 For you have barely started to allow your first, uncertain steps to be directed up the ladder separation led you down. 3 The miracle alone is your concern at present. 4 Here, as the decision-maker is where we must begin. 5 And having started, will the way be made serene and simple in the rising up to waking and the ending of the dream. 6 When you accept a miracle, you do not add your dream of fear to one that is already being dreamed. 7 Without support, the egoic dream will fade away without effects. 8 For it is your support that strengthens the egoic dream.

Note # 28: It is our decision-maker that must ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The
Holy Spirit must wait for our request. If It acted without our permission, this would only increase our fear. The Holy Spirit will never do anything that would increase fear.

T-28.III.2. No mind is sick until another mind agrees that they are separate. 2 And thus it is their joint decision to be sick. 3 If you withhold agreement and accept the part you play in making sickness real, the other mind cannot project its guilt without your aid in letting the other mind perceive itself as separate and apart from you. 4 Thus by your withholding your agreement that minds are separate is the body not perceived as sick by both your minds from separate points of view. 5 Uniting with a brother's mind prevents the cause of sickness and perceived effects. 6 Healing is the effect of minds that join, as sickness comes from minds that separate.

Note # 29: In order for sickness to exist, the unified mind must find two parts that wish to believe they are separate from one another. Without our acceptance that our mind is separated by something that we perceive as outside ourselves, the dream of separation is powerless. There are no victims. Both parties must agree for the thought to manifest. Each part must agree that they are not one unified mind and, therefore, are powerless in their ability to control the fate of the whole. Where two minds are joined in a common belief, that belief has power to manifest within their joint provisional reality. There must be a “mirror” for the thought to “reflect” and thus, return to the original projecting mind.

T-28.III.3. The miracle does nothing just because the minds are joined, and mind cannot separate. 2 Yet in the dreaming this fact that minds cannot be separate has been reversed, and separate minds are seen as bodies, which are separated and which cannot join. 3 Do not allow your brother to be sick, for if he is allowed to be sick you have abandoned him to his own dream by sharing his dream with him. 4 Your brother has not seen the cause of sickness where it is, in his own mind, and you have overlooked the gap of the belief in separation between you, where the sickness has been bred. 5 Thus are you joined in sickness, to preserve the little gap of separation unhealed, where sickness is kept carefully protected, cherished, and upheld by firm belief, lest God should come to bridge the little gap that leads to God. 6 Fight not God’s coming with illusions, for it is God’s coming that you want above all things that seem to glisten in the dream.

Note # 30: When we perceive our brother as a separate body-mind, we are accepting the belief that we are separate. The joint belief of our brother’s and ourselves is that we are the body that denies the truth of what we are. Together we fail to see that there is only one joined mind. Since we have free will, God allows His children to play the childish game of separation. We can play until we finally decide to freely give up our desire for specialness, limitation and separation. God, being love, does not judge, fear or worry about His Child since God knows truth is eternal and reawakening is assured. God knows His creations and the holographic extension of the One Self. Thus, they must be perfect, whole and complete.

T-28.III.4. The end of dreaming is the end of fear, and love was never in the world of dreams. 2 The gap little between dreaming and reality. 3 Yet the gap of separation holds the seeds of pestilence and every form of ill, because the gap of
separation is a wish to keep apart and not to join. And thus the gap of separation seems to give a cause to sickness which is not sickness’ cause. The gap claims that sickness is caused by something outside our mind. It claims that you are a body, not mind, which is spirit. The purpose of the gap, which is to support the belief of separation, is all the cause that sickness has. For the gap was made to keep you separated, in a body which you see as if the body were the cause of pain. p596

Note # 31: The cause of sickness is our belief in the egoic thought system that supports the idea of separation. The body is the symbol and proof that we are separate. The gap between dreams and reality is small and is the result of the “tiny mad idea” that we could be something other than what we are. This gap is our belief that we are not perfect, whole and complete. It is the belief that we are separate limited ego-bodies. That Oneness has been lost.

T-28.III.5. The cause of pain is separation, not the body, which is only the belief in separation’s effect. Yet separation is but empty space, enclosing nothing, doing nothing, and as unsubstantial as the empty place between the ripples that a ship has made in passing by. And this empty space is covered just as fast, as water rushes in to close the gap, and as the waves in joining cover it. Where is the gap between the waves when the waves have joined, and covered up the space which seemed to keep them separate for a little while? Where are the grounds for sickness when the minds have joined to close the little gap between them, where the seeds of sickness seemed to grow?

Note # 32: All pain, suffering and guilt flow from our belief and desire to be separate; to be something other than the Oneness. Separation is our desire to be special. Yet, our denial of truth cannot change the truth that we are that One Self. Ultimately, illusion must fade away before the light of truth.

T-28.III.6. God builds the bridge, but only in the space left clean and vacant by the miracle. The seeds of sickness and the shame of guilt, God cannot bridge, for God can not destroy the alien will that God created not. Let the alien will of the egoic thought system’s effects be gone and clutch them not with eager hands, to keep them for your egoic small “s” self. The miracle will brush all egoic illusions of sickness and guilt aside, and thus make room for God Who wills to come and bridge His Son's returning to God, Himself.

Note # 33: The miracle is the replacement of the egoic thought system by the correct perception of the Holy Spirit. The miracle is a change in perception. The miracle does nothing to change the truth. The Holy Spirit is the bridge that we utilize to get from illusion to heavens gate. God, the Father, will take the final step in returning the Sonship to knowledge.

T-28.III.7. Count, then, the silver miracles and golden dreams of happiness as all the treasures you would keep within the storehouse of the world. The door is open, not to thieves, but to your starving brothers, who mistook for gold the shining of a pebble, and who stored a heap of snow that shone like silver. They, who mistook illusion for
truth, have nothing left behind the open door. 4 What is the world except a little gap perceived to tear eternity apart, and break eternity’s Oneness into days and months and years? 5 And what are you who live within the world except a picture of the Son of God in broken pieces, each concealed within a separate and uncertain bit of clay?

Note #34: We have dreamed that an indivisible Oneness can be broken into separate and distinct parts. This is impossible. Our denial of the truth cannot change the fact that the Oneness of everything is all there is. There is nothing outside the shared Mind of God. Our will and God’s Will are one and the same.

T-28.III.8. Be not afraid, my child, but let your world be gently lit by miracles. 2 And where the little gap was seen to stand between you and your brother, join your brother there in the gap of the empty space of nothingness. 3 And so sickness will now be seen without a cause. 4 The dream of healing in forgiveness lies, and gently shows you that you never sinned. 5 The miracle would leave no proof of guilt to bring you witness to what never was. 6 And in your memory’s storehouse the dream of healing will make a place of welcome for your Father and your Big “S” Self, the Christ. 7 The door is open, that all those may come who would no longer starve, and would enjoy the feast of plenty set before them there. 8 And they, all brothers that come to the feast of forgiveness, will meet with your invited Guests the miracle has asked to come to you.

Note #35: In the miracle, our mind that perceived itself as separate from a brother is joined. All the Sonship benefits from the healing of forgiveness since minds are joined. In truth, the Father, Sonship and Holy Spirit and the Sonship’s own creations are all part of the indivisible One Self. There is nothing outside and each part contains the whole.

T-28.III.9. This is a feast unlike indeed to those the dreaming of the world has shown, for in the egoic world everything is based on the egoic belief in limitation. 2 For here in the feast lit by miracles, the more that anyone receives, the more is left for all the rest to share. 3 The Guests, your Father and the Big “S” Self, have brought an unlimited supply of abundance with Them. 4 And no one is deprived or can deprive. 5 Here is a feast the Father lays before His Son, and the Father shares the feast equally with His Son. 6 And in the Father and Son’s sharing there can be no gap in which abundance falters and grows thin. 7 Here in the Father’s feast can the lean years enter not, for time waits not upon this feast, which has no end. 8 For love has set its table in the space that seemed to keep your Guests, your Father and the Big “S” Self, apart from you.

Note #36: In this closing of the gap of separation, the laws of chaos fade away before the Laws of God. God’s Will is done. The law of creation is extension. In creation, God, which is everything, gives everything. Love is extension and the whole is strengthened. There is no diminishment, for thoughts can be shared. The Oneness is maintained.

IV. The Greater Joining
T-28.IV.1. Accepting the Atonement for yourself means not to give support to someone's dream of sickness and of death. 2 **Accepting the Atonement for yourself** means that you share not a brother's wish to separate, and let a brother turn illusions on himself. 3 Nor do you wish that a brother's illusions be turned, instead, on you. 4 Thus have a brother's illusions no effects. 5 And you are free of dreams of pain because you let a brother be free of his dreams of pain. 6 Unless you help a brother, you will suffer pain with him because that is your wish. 7 And you become a figure in his dream of pain, as he becomes a figure in your dream of pain. 8 So do you and your brother both become illusions, and without identity. 9 You could be anyone or anything, depending on whose evil dream you share. 10 Your egoic self tells you that you can be sure of just one thing; that you are evil, for you share in dreams of fear with a brother.

**Note # 37:** For something to appear real to the dreamer, someone else must also share in the belief of separation. When we see our brother as sick, we see him as limited. This bears witness to his dream of separation. We confirm that we believe his dream is real. We become each other's effect and cause for each other's dream. Without this confirmation of each other's dream of separation, there would be no effect. A cause must have an effect or it is not a cause. If either party is not willing to confirm the other's illusion, the illusion will fade away before the light of truth.

T-28.IV.2. There is a way of finding certainty right here and now. 2 Refuse to be a part of fearful dreams whatever form they take, for you will lose identity in the dream. 3 You find yourself by not accepting the fearful dream as causing you, and giving you effects. 4 You stand apart from the fearful dream, but not apart from a brother who dreams the fearful dream. 5 Thus you separate the dreamer from the dream, and join in one with your brother's mind, but let the fearful dream go. 6 The dream is but illusion in the mind. 7 And with the mind you would unite, but never with the dream. 8 It is the dream you fear, and not the mind. 9 You see the dream and the mind as the same, because you think that <you> are but a dream. 10 And what is real and what is but illusion in yourself you do not know and cannot tell apart.

**Note # 38:** In the fearful dream, we fail to realize that we are the dreamer. Not realizing that we are the dreamer, we believe that the dream is cause and we its effect. We believe that we will become a victim and as such, we dream in fear.

When we join with our brother’s mind, we let the fearful dream go and healing is possible. We are granting the gift of understanding to our brother who like us is the dreamer and thus, can choose for right-mindedness and lay his fearful dream aside.

T-28.IV.3. Like you, your brother thinks he is a dream. 2 Share not in his illusion of himself, for your Big “S” Self's Identity depends on his reality. 3 Think, rather, of him as a mind in which illusions still persist, but as a mind which your brother, his Big “S” Self, is to you. 4 He is not brother made by what he dreams, nor is his body, "hero" of the dream, your brother. 5 It is his reality, his Big “S” Self that is your brother, as is your Big “S” Self to him. 6 Your mind and his are joined in brotherhood. 7 His body and his dreams but seem to make a little gap, where your dreams of separation have joined with his dreams of separation. p598
Note # 39: We need to recognize our brother as the Christ and not see him as a limited ego-body. By not accepting any illusion of being the body, we can share the truth that our minds are joined and that we are not the body. Thus, we give no effect to our brother’s fearful dream. A dream without an effect becomes causeless. Without an effect, the dream fades into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-28.IV.4. And yet, between your minds there is no gap, for minds are joined. 2 To join his dreams is thus to meet him not, because his dreams would separate from you. 3 Therefore you release your dreaming brother, merely by your claim on brotherhood in your Big “S” Selves and not on dreams of fear. 4 Let your dreaming brother acknowledge who he is, by not supporting his illusions by your faith, for if you do support his illusions by your faith, you will have faith in your own illusions. 5 With faith in your own illusions, he will not be released, and you are kept in bondage to his dreams. 6 And dreams of fear will haunt the little gap, inhabited but by illusions which you have supported in your brother’s mind.

Note # 40: The little gap is our joint belief in separation and limitation. This belief results in our identification with and as the body. Believing we are a body, we confirm that we are separate. Only minds, not illusionary body-forms, can join.

T-28.IV.5. Be certain, if you do your part, your brother will do his part, for your brother will join you where you stand. 2 Call not to your brother to meet you in the gap of illusion between you, or you must believe that the illusion is your reality as well as his reality. 3 You cannot do your brother’s part, but this you <do> when you become a passive figure in your brother’s egoic dreams, instead of dreamer of your own dream. 4 Identity in dreams is meaningless because the dreamer and the dream are one. 5 Who shares a dream must be the dream he shares, because by sharing is a cause produced.

Note # 41: To give is to receive. By sharing the role of a separate being, we confirm each other’s dream of separation. We become each other’s effect and cause. This acceptance of our not being of joint mind, results in maintaining each other’s belief that we are both a separate ego-body in competition in a world based on limitation. We give each other’s fearful dream a reality of its own. Both illusions appear to be real because their common purpose is shared.

T-28.IV.6. You share confusion and you are confused, for in the gap of the illusion of separation, no stable self exists. 2 What is the same, our mind, seems different, because what is the same mind appears to be unlike hidden under the illusion of separate bodies. 3 His dreams are your dreams because you let them be your dreams. 4 But if you took your own dreams away would your brother be free of your dreams and of his own dreams as well. 5 Your dreams are witnesses to his dreams, and his dreams attest the truth of your dreams. 6 Yet if you see there is no truth in your dreams, his dreams will go, and he will understand what made the dream.

Note # 42: By not being part of your brother’s dream, you can share the truth that we are
mind or spirit. You can share the truth that his mind was the source of his dream and that dreams have no effect on the truth. Being the dreamer, your brother need not fear a dream that has no effect. We share the truth that we are part of the One Mind of God and not a limited ego-body.

T-28.IV.7. The Holy Spirit is in both your minds, and the Holy Spirit is One because there is no gap that separates God’s Oneness from Itself. 2 The gap between your bodies matters not, for what is joined in God is always one. 3 No one is sick if someone else accepts his union with him. 4 Someone’s desire to be a sick and separated mind can not remain without a witness or a cause. 5 And both a witness or a cause are gone if someone wills to be united with someone who desires to be a separate mind. 6 Someone who desires to be a separate mind has dreams that he was separated from his brother who, by sharing not his dream, has left the space between them vacant since he did not share his brother’s illusion. 7 And the Father comes to join His Son the Holy Spirit joined.

Note # 43: By not sharing our brother’s illusion of separation, the Holy Spirit can enter into the gap and correct any misperception of egoic thought. The Holy Spirit is acting as the bridge that brings all illusions to the light of truth. The Holy Spirit’s miracle joins the two minds that believed that they were separate. We join with our brother as one united Sonship. The truth that the Father, the Sonship and the Holy Spirit are joined as One Mind and One Self is recognized.

T-28.IV.8. The Holy Spirit's function is to take the broken picture of the Son of God and put the pieces into place again. 2 This holy picture of the Sonship healed entirely, does the Holy Spirit hold out to every separate piece that thinks it is a picture in itself. 3 To each part that believes it is separate, the Holy Spirit offers this part his true Identity as the Christ, which the whole picture represents, instead of just a little, broken bit that he insisted was himself. p599 4 And when he sees this picture of himself as the whole he will recognize himself, the Christ. 5 If you share not your brother's evil dream, this is the picture that the miracle will place within the little gap, left clean of all the seeds of sickness and of sin. 6 And here the Father will receive His Son, because His Son was gracious to himself and recognized the truth.

Note # 44: The Holy Spirit utilized our dreams of separation to return the fragmented Sonship back to the truth of the One Self. The happy dream of forgiveness joins two minds as one. When we forgive, we drop our illusion that our brother ever did anything to us. An illusion is any belief that something outside of our mind can affect our personal experience. There are no victims. We choose to make our own provisional reality. We can deny the truth but we cannot change it. Ultimately, the Oneness of everything is all there is and this truth must be recognized in time.

Your divine birthright is the recognition that you are free to imagine anything you want and that nothing you imagine can ever do anything to another. By the same token, nothing your brother imagines can hurt you. There are no victims. Each party in any experience in time and space is a willing co-participant. Our imagining has no effect upon the reality of the truth that is the holographic Mind of the One Self. There never
was, is, or could be anything outside the One Self. We are eternally free from sin and guilt. This divine birthright is God’s love for His Creation. Life is this extension of the Mind of God.

**T-28.IV.9.** I thank You, Father, knowing You will come to close each little gap that lies between the broken pieces of Your holy Son. 2 God’s Holiness, complete and perfect, lies in every one of the broken pieces of the Sonship. 3 And the broken pieces of the Sonship are joined because what is in one is in them all. 4 How holy is the smallest grain of sand, when it is recognized as being part of the completed picture of God's Son! 5 The forms the broken pieces seem to take mean nothing. 6 For the whole is in each one of the holographic pieces. 7 And every aspect of the Son of God is just the same as every other part.

**Note # 45:** Under the Laws of God each part is the whole and the whole is in each part. This is the holographic nature of the Sonship and the holographic nature of creation. Creation is extension. When God creates, He gives everything because He is everything. This is how God extends Herself. God is in all because there only remains a Oneness of everything. It is God’s Holiness that made us whole. Holiness is to be whole Our free will will give us the ability to determine what part of the whole we wish to call into our awareness. Knowledge is complete and total. The whole is the truth for knowledge is not partial. Yet, in the world of perception and time, our decision-maker determines what fragmented part of the whole it is willing to call into our current awareness and experience. Perception is based on judgment, valuing and selectivity. Perception attempts to segregate the whole into separate imagined parts and then claim that the part is not perfect, whole and complete. Thus, it perceives lack that engenders fear. The Holy Spirit knows and teaches the equality of the Sonship. Every aspect of the Son of God is just the same as every other part. Once this lesson has been relearned, it will lead to the return of the Sonship to truth and eventually knowledge.

**T-28.IV.10.** Join not your brother's dreams but join with him as the Christ mind, and where you join His Son the Father is. 2 Who seeks for substitutes when he perceives he has lost nothing? 3 Who would want to have the "benefits" of sickness when he has received the simple happiness of health? 4 What God has given cannot be a loss, and what is not of God has no effects. 5 What, then, would you perceive within the gap of your egoic belief in separation? 6 The seeds of sickness come from the belief that there is joy in separation, and its giving up of the seeds of sickness, which is the belief in separation, would be a sacrifice. 7 But miracles are the result when you do not insist on seeing the seeds of sickness in the illusionary gap that is not there. 8 Your willingness to let illusions go is all the Healer of God's Son requires. The Healer of God's Son is the Holy Spirit. 9 The Holy Spirit will place the miracle of healing where the seeds of sickness were. 10 And there will be no loss, but only gain by the Holy Spirit’s healing of the Sonship's seeds of sickness.

**Note # 46:** In the miracle, we meet our brother in Christ-mindedness and we realize that we are one. The belief that we are separate ego-bodies disappears as our minds are joined. The release of the illusion of separation results in no loss since an illusion is only
a fantasy. By asking for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we indicate our “little willingness” to give up our desire for specialness. Without this request, we remain trapped in the egoic thought system based on the illusion of limitation. Until we no longer value anything in the egoic world of perception, we will be unwilling to be vigilant only for the remembrance of God. It is impossible to be totally committed sometimes. We cannot withhold some experiences from the guidance of our true Teacher and claim we have accepted the Atonement for ourselves.

V. The Alternate to Dreams of Fear

T-28.V.1. What is a sense of sickness but a sense of limitation? 2 What is a sense of sickness but of a splitting <off> and separating <from>? 3 Sickness is a gap that is perceived between you and your brother, and what is perceived in this gap is what is now seen as health? 4 And so the good is seen to be outside; the evil, in. 5 And thus is sickness separating off the egoic self from good, and keeping evil in. 6 God is the Alternate to dreams of fear. 7 Who shares in dreams of fear can never share in God. 8 But who withdraws his mind from sharing dreams of fear <is> sharing God. 9 There is no other choice. 10 Except you share choice, nothing can exist. 11 And you exist because God shared His Will with you, that His creation, the Sonship, might create. p600

Note # 47: Two minds must share the same idea for each to perceive the idea as being their provisional reality. To be a cause, the cause must have an effect. The choice is between thoughts of love or fear. God creates out of love, which is unlimited extension. The ego makes and projects out of fear, which is based on limitation. When we make, two minds meet in the egoic gap that each perceives as a boundary that separates them as two different body-minds. This gap is the world of perception, the world of time and space. It is here in this world of form that we perceive ourselves as separate ego bodies. We believe that our egoic body can keep both our brother and God out. We believe our safety lies in being a body. Our little “s” self fears the thought of joining with either God or our brother as one. Our egoic thought system warns us that if we were to be joined and become one, our special existence would cease to be.

T-28.V.2. It is the sharing of the evil dreams of hate and malice, bitterness and death, of sin and suffering and pain and loss, that makes the evil dream seem real. 2 Unshared, the evil dreams are perceived as meaningless. 3 The fear is gone from the evil dreams because you did not give the evil dreams your support. 4 Where fear has gone there love must come, because there are but these alternatives, fear or love. 5 Where one appears, the other disappears. 6 And which one you share, either fear or love, becomes the only one you have. 7 You have the one that you accept, because the one you share is the only one you wish to have.

Note # 48: The Laws of God state that to give is to receive. Whichever emotion, fear or love, we choose to give to our brother, we will receive that same emotion in return.
T-28.V.3. You share no evil dreams if you forgive the dreamer, and perceive that the dreamer is not the dream he made. 2 And so he cannot be a part of your evil dream, from which you both are free. Forgiveness transforms the evil dream of separation into a happy dream. 3 Forgiveness separates the dreamer from the evil dream, and thus releases the dreamer from the evil dream. 4 Remember if you share an evil dream, you will believe you are the dream you share. 5 And fearing the evil dream you share, your egocic you will not want to know your own Identity, because you think that It, your Big “S” Self, is fearful. 6 And you will deny your Self, the Christ, and walk upon an alien ground which your Creator did not make, and where you seem to be a something you are not. 7 You will make war upon your Big “S” Self, which seems to be your enemy; and will attack your brother, as a part of what you hate. 8 There is no compromise. 9 You are your Big “S” Self or an illusion, which claims you are the limited little “s” self. 10 What can be between illusion and the truth? 11 A middle ground, where you can be a thing that is not you, must be a dream and cannot be the truth.

Note # 49: This middle ground is what we perceive to be the gap of egoic perception. In this gap, our ego perceives an imaginary world that it claims to be real. God did not create this illusionary world of egoic separation. There is no middle ground between truth and illusion. Yet, within our split mind, the Sonship has dreamed or perceived a world of time and space. It is in this gap that we project our desire for specialness and separation. This imaginary gap is a dream world in which form hides content and the denial of truth appears to be real. Identifying with the dream itself, we believe that we are a body. We take the dream seriously. It becomes our provisional reality. The dreamer “becomes” trapped within the dream and becomes an integral player within the dream. Egoic specialness grants our desire of individuality. The body is the ego’s means to “prove” that we are a separate individual.

T-28.V.4. You have conceived a little gap between illusions and the truth to be the place where all your safety lies, and where your Big “S” Self is safely hidden by what you have made, which is the world of egoic perception. 2 Here is a world established that is sick, and this sickness in the world the body's ears perceive. 3 Here are the sounds the body hears; the voices that the body’s ears were made to hear. 4 Yet sights and sounds the body can perceive are meaningless. 5 The body cannot see nor hear. 6 The body does not know what seeing is; what listening is for. 7 The body is as little able to perceive as the body can judge or understand or know. 8 The body’s eyes are blind; the body’s ears are deaf. 9 The body can not think, and so the body cannot have effects.

Note # 50: The body is a neutral communication device. The body is the servant of the mind. It is only the projected thoughts of the mind that the body bears witness to. The mind, not the body, is the cause. As a communication device, the body communicates in two ways. The first, tells us what our thoughts are focused upon. The body is the mind’s servant and does exactly what the mind imagines the body to do. The body communicates to you every moment what you are thinking. What the body sees, does and feels reflect our mind’s current state of thinking. If the mind imagines a sick body, the body will be sick. The second area of communication is between you and your brothers. There are no private thoughts. What you think is instantly communicated to your brother so that each
knows what the other is thinking. This intercommunication is not at the egoic level of consciousness. Instead, it is part of the shared, joint mind of the dreamers.

**T-28.V.5.** What is there God created to be sick? 2 And what that God created not can be? 3 Let not your eyes behold a dream; your ears bear witness to illusion. 4 The body and its physical senses were made to look upon a world that is not there; to hear the voices that can make no sound. 5 Yet are there other sounds and other sights that *can* be seen and heard and understood. 6 For eyes and ears are senses without sense. The body’s physical senses are not mind. And what the body’s physical senses see and hear they but report back to the mind that projected them. p601 7 It is not the body’s physical senses that hear and see, but your egoic mind, who put together every jagged piece, each senseless scrap and shred of evidence, and make a witness to the world you want. 8 Let not the body's ears and eyes perceive these countless fragments seen within the gap that you imagined, and let not the body's physical senses persuade their maker his imaginings are real.

**Note # 51:** When the dreamer shares the dream through projection, the dreamer forgets he is the dreamer. By sharing and identifying with the dream, we become the dream. We now perceive ourselves to be a body within the dream of separation. The dreamed-up body then becomes the main instrument that the egoic mind utilizes to “prove” that the perceived dream is real. Only the Holy Spirit is outside the dream and thus, can recognize the mind’s projection as a false witness for the illusion of separation. If we ask for the Comforter’s help, our egoic misperception will be corrected.

**T-28.V.6.** Creation proves reality because creation shares the function all creation shares. Creation’s function is the extension of love. 2 Reality is not made of little bits of glass, a piece of wood, a thread or two, perhaps, all put together to attest to reality’s truth. 3 Reality does not depend on this. 4 There is no gap that separates the truth from dreams and from illusions. 5 Truth has left no room for dreams and illusions in any place or time. 6 For truth fills every place and every time, and makes every place and every time wholly indivisible.

**Note # 52:** Reality is truth. Both the happy and the fearful dream are not reality. Dreams and illusions being unreal disappear when brought before the light of truth. There is only truth. In eternity, the false does not exist and is not a real choice.

**T-28.V.7.** You who believe there is a little gap of separation between you and your brother, do not see that it is here in this illusionary gap that you are as prisoners in a world perceived to be existing here in this gap. 2 The world you see does not exist, because the place where you perceive the world that our physical eyes see is within this illusionary gap and, therefore, is not real. 3 The gap is carefully concealed in fog, and misty pictures rise to cover the illusionary gap with vague uncertain forms and changing shapes, forever unsubstantial and unsure. 4 Yet in the gap is nothing. 5 And there are no awesome secrets and no darkened tombs where terror rises from the bones of death. 6 Look at the little gap, and you behold the innocence and emptiness of sin that you will see within yourself, when you have lost the fear of recognizing love.
Note # 53: This gap, which comprises the world of perception, was made as a cover up for the egoic kissing cousins of sin, guilt and fear. It is our egoic misperception of what love is that results in our fear of God. Ultimately, this dream world was made to be a place where God could not enter. Because the ego believes that love is conditional, love must be earned. The ego fears the vengeance that an egoic god would extract for any sin we committed against it. When we reject the egoic belief that God’s Son has sinned, we realize that we are guiltless and our fear subsides. Unless we learn to control our fear, we will refuse to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. The Holy Spirit knows the truth of what God’s love is. God’s Will is that His Creation be happy. Because God and His Creations are One, we remain perfect, whole and complete. There is nothing to fear in the One Self that is the Mind of God.

VI. The Secret Vows

T-28.VI.1. Who punishes the body is insane. 2 For here the little gap is seen, and yet the body is not here. 3 The body has not judged itself, nor made itself to be what the body is not. 4 The body does not seek to make of pain a joy and look for lasting pleasure in the dust. 5 The body does not tell you what its purpose is and cannot understand what the body is for. 6 The body does not victimize, because the body has no will, no preferences and no doubts. 7 The body does not wonder what it is. 8 And so the body has no need to be competitive. 9 The body can be victimized, but cannot feel itself as victim. 10 The body accepts no role, but does what the body is told by the mind, without attack.

Note # 54: Our body is merely a neutral communication device that obeys the wishes of our mind. All the power that our body seems to have was bestowed upon it from our mind. From our mind’s wish to be special and separate, we projected the illusionary body that we now perceive as real. Our body communicates to us what our current thinking is. In the dream of separation, the body communicates to you what you have thought or imagined in the dream. What the body sees, does and feels tell you what you have thought. The body is the servant of the mind and does what the mind desires and imagines.

T-28.VI.2. It is indeed a senseless point of view to hold responsible for sight a thing that cannot see, and blame the body for the sounds you do not like, although the body cannot hear. 2 The body suffers not the punishment you give because the body has no feeling. 3 The body behaves in ways you want, but the body never makes the choice. p602 4 The body is not born and does not die. 5 The body can but follow aimlessly the path on which the body has been set by the mind. 6 And if that path is changed, the body walks as easily another way. 7 The body takes no sides and judges not the road the body travels. 8 The body perceives no gap, because the body does not hate. 9 The body can be used for hate, but the body cannot be hateful made thereby.

Note # 55: The body is the order taker or servant of the mind. All control and power
resides in our mind and the body simply obeys its master.

T-28.VI.3. The thing you hate and fear and loathe and want, the body does not know. 2 You send the body forth to seek for separation and be separate. 3 And then you hate the body, not for what the body is, but for the uses you have made of the body, which is to be a witness for your separation from the Oneness. 4 You shrink from what the body sees and what the body hears, and hate the body’s frailty and littleness. 5 And you despise the body’s acts, but not your own egoic mind’s thoughts. 6 The body sees and acts for your mind. 7 The body hears your voice. 8 And the body is frail and little by your egoic mind’s wish. 9 The body seems to punish you, and thus, the body seems to deserve your hatred for the limitations that the body brings to you. 10 Yet you have made of the body a symbol for the limitations that you want your mind to have and see and keep.

Note # 56: The body is a projection of our mind’s wish to be special and separate. God created us as an extension of the Oneness, perfect, whole and complete. Given this reality, the only way that we could perceive ourselves to be special is to believe that we were limited. Thus, the body is the symbol that was made to bear false witness to our belief that we are not perfect, not whole and very incomplete. During the miracle, the purpose of the body is changed from one of separation to one that restores the joining of minds that once perceived themselves to be split and separated ego-bodies.

T-28.VI.4. The body represents the gap between the little bit of mind you call your own egoic little “s” self and all the rest of what is really yours, which is the everything of the Christ consciousness, the One Self. 2 You hate the body, yet you think the body is your self, and that, without the body, would your egoic self be lost. 3 This belief that you are the body is the secret vow that you have made with every brother who would walk apart. 4 This belief that you are the body is the secret oath you take again, whenever you perceive yourself attacked. 5 No one can suffer if he does not see himself attacked, and losing by attack. 6 Unstated and unheard in consciousness is every pledge to sickness. 7 Yet the pledge to sickness is a promise to another to be hurt by him, and to attack him in return.

Note # 57: The mind utilizes the body for the purpose of attack. Mind cannot attack. The belief that we are a body that can hurt and be hurt is needed in order for attack to be perceived as possible. In reality, our mind remains invulnerable and cannot be hurt. Yet, within our mind is the power of the decision-maker to choose to deny the truth about our spiritual nature. That secret vow that we take with our brother is the belief that we are the body and not unlimited mind or spirit. Sickness, pain and suffering are the false witnesses used to “prove” that we must be a limited body, which is separate and, therefore, special.

T-28.VI.5. Sickness is anger taken out upon the body, so that the body will suffer pain. 2 Sickness is the obvious effect of what was made in secret, in agreement with another’s secret wish to be apart from you, as you would be apart from him. 3 Unless you both agree that it is your wish to be separate, sickness can have no effects. 4 Whoever says, "There is no gap between my mind and yours" has kept God's promise, not his tiny oath.
to be forever faithful unto death. 5 And by his healing is his brother healed.

Note # 58: The body is the symbol for our desire to be separate. It is the embodiment of our belief in separation. God's promise is that there is only the perfect Oneness that is the extension of the Mind of God. The Sonship must remain eternally perfect, whole and complete. Our Big “S” Self remains sinless and guiltless as God created His Son. The tiny egoic oath that the fragmented split-minded Sonship made is the joint belief that we are separate limited ego-bodies. As bodies, we can be sick, suffer and die. Sickness is our egoic attempt to prove that we have successfully usurped the Will of God.

T-28.VI.6. Let this be your agreement with each one; that you be one with your brother and not apart. 2 And your brother will keep the promise that you make with him of our joint oneness, because the promise of our oneness is the one promise that your brother has made to God, as God has made to your brother. 3 God keeps His promises of Oneness with the Sonship; His Son keeps his promise of Oneness with the Father. 4 In his creation did his Father say, "You are beloved of Me and I am beloved of you forever. 5 Be you, My Son perfect as Myself, for you can never be apart from Me, your Source." 6 His Son remembers not that he replied "I will," though in that promise God’s Son was born. p603 7 Yet God reminds His Son of the joint promise of Oneness and love every time His Son does not share a promise to be sick with his brother, but lets his mind be healed and unified. 8 The split-minded Sonship’s secret vows of separation are powerless before the Will of God, Whose promises of Oneness the Sonship shares with His Father. 9 And what secret vows of separation he substitutes is not his Big “S” Self’s will, who has made promise of himself to God.

Note # 59: Our egoic wish that we separate from the One Self that is the Mind of God, cannot usurp God’s Will. The Sonship is an Effect of the Mind of God. An effect cannot change its cause. When we were extended from the Mind of God, the Sonship agreed to be God’s Effect. By being the Effect of God, we complete God, for cause must have its effect or it is not a cause. Like begets like. Because we are like the Father, we have free will. We can deny the truth of what we are but we cannot change what we are. Free will does not allow us to change what we are but it does allow us to freely choose to imagine what it would be like to be something other than God, our One Self. This imagining of separation is played out within the dream of time and space. Ultimately, we must choose to be what we are, which is God’s Effect. The Father is our eternal Cause and we, God’s eternal Effect. There is but One Will. Our will and Our Cause’s Will are the same. Separation can have no reality within the Oneness of Everything that is the Mind of God. The truth is all there is.

VII. The Ark of Safety

T-28.VII.1. God asks for nothing, and His Son, like God, need ask for nothing. 2 For there is no lack in him, God’s Son. 3 An empty space, a little gap, would be a lack. 4 And it is only there in a gap of lack that he could want for something he has not. 5 A
space where God is not, a gap between the Father and the Son is not the Will of Either
God or His Son, Who have promised to be One. 6 God's promise is a promise to God,
Himself, and there is no one who could be untrue to what God wills as part of what God
is. 7 The promise that there is no gap between God, Himself, and what God is cannot be
false. 8 What will can come between what must be One, and in Whose Wholeness there
can be no gap?

Note # 60: There can be no gap between Father and Son for They are literally One.
Extension is not creating something outside oneself. It is just a continuation of the
Oneness of Everything. There is no point or gap where God stops and the Sonship begins
for there is nothing outside the One Mind of God. This One Mind is shared completely.
There is nothing else.

T-28.VII.2. The beautiful relationship you have with all your brothers is a part of you
because this beautiful relationship is a part of God Himself. 2 Are you not sick, if you
deny yourself your wholeness and your health, the Source of help, the Call to healing and
the Call to heal? 3 Your savior, your brother, waits for healing, and the world waits with
your brother. 4 Nor are you apart from healing’s beautiful relationship. 5 For healing
will be one or not at all. Healing’s relationship of oneness is being where the healing is.
6 What could correct for separation but its opposite, which is the Oneness of
everything? 7 There is no middle ground in any aspect of salvation. 8 You accept
salvation’s oneness wholly or accept it not. 9 What is unseparated must be joined. 10
And what is joined cannot be separate.

Note # 61: The Oneness is all there is. There are no gaps within the whole. To keep any
brother outside the oneness is to deny the totality of the oneness. You cannot believe that
both the Oneness of Everything and the separation co-exist. They are mutually exclusive.

T-28.VII.3. Either there is a gap between you and your brother, or you are as one. 2 There
is no in between, no other choice, and no allegiance to be split between the two. 3 A split
allegiance is but faithlessness to both choices, and merely sets you spinning round, to
grasp uncertainly at any straw that seems to hold some promise of relief. 4 Yet who can
build his home upon a straw, and count on it as shelter from the wind? 5 The body can be
made a home like this built on straw, because the body lacks foundation in the truth. 6
And yet, because the body does lacks foundation based in the truth, the body can be
seen as not your home, but merely as an aid to help you reach the home where God
abides, which is in truth.

Note # 62: The body has only the purpose our mind gives it. The ego utilizes the body to
be the witness that the separation is real. The Holy Spirit can use the body to
communicate that we are not a separate body-form but rather that we are joined as one
mind. The purpose we choose to give the body can either support the truth or deny the
truth. It cannot do both.

T-28.VII.4. With <the use of the body as an aid to our return to our truth that we abide
in the Oneness of God> as the body’s purpose, is the body healed. 2 The body is not
used to witness to the dream of separation and disease.

Nor is the body idly blamed for what the body did not do. The body serves to help the healing of God's Son, and for this purpose the body cannot be sick. The body will not join a purpose not your own, and you have chosen that the body not be sick. All miracles are based upon this choice that the body cannot be sick, and the miracle is given you the instant the choice for Oneness is made. No forms of sickness are immune, because the choice cannot be made in terms of form. The choice of sickness seems to be of form, yet the choice of sickness is one choice, as is sickness' opposite choice, which is the wholeness of the One.

And you are sick or well, accordingly.

Note # 63: The body will serve the purpose we give it. Will we choose truth or illusion, the little “s” self or the Big “S” Self, separation or union? One choice brings sickness and the other choice brings the miracle for the reality of truth. Sickness is any belief that you are not joined with the One Self and, therefore, are not whole and complete. Note that this definition is relevant only at the level of mind. The illusionary appearance of the body-form is of no consequence. Mind, not the body, is where healing takes place.

T-28.VII.5. But never are you sick or well alone. This world is but the dream that you can be alone, and that you can think without affecting those apart from you. To be alone must mean you are apart, and if you are apart, you cannot but be sick. This seems to prove that you must be apart since you are sick in this dream world. Yet all that this sickness in your dream world means is that you tried to keep a promise to be true to faithlessness. Yet faithlessness is sickness. Both faithlessness and sickness is like the house set upon straw. The house, the body, seems to be quite solid and substantial in itself. Yet the house’s stability cannot be judged apart from the house’s foundation. If the house rests on straw, there is no need to bar the door and lock the windows and make fast the bolts. The wind will topple the house, and rain will come and carry the house into oblivion.

Note # 64: A thought system based on illusion cannot stand against the truth. The light of truth will cause the illusion to disappear. We are not a body. We are the unlimited spirit of the Mind of God.

T-28.VII.6. What is the sense in seeking to be safe in a body and its dream world that was made for danger and for fear? Why burden the body with further locks and chains and heavy anchors, when the body’s weakness lies, not in itself, but in the frailty of the little gap of the illusion of nothingness whereon the body stands? What can be safe that rests upon a shadow? Would you build your home upon what will collapse beneath a feather’s weight?

Note # 65: Because the world of perception is based on the shifting sands of the illusions of sin, guilt and fear, the egoic thought system cannot withstand the light of truth. We need to stop following the egoic thought system of separation. The ego can never lead us to the happiness and peace that we seek. We can only be at peace when we accept the truth that we are One with Our Creator. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we break free from the dead-end thought system of the ego.
Your home is built upon your brother's health, upon your brother's happiness, your brother's sinlessness, and everything his Father promised your brother. 2 No secret promise for sickness and separation that you have made instead has shaken the Foundation of your brother's home. 3 The winds will blow upon your brother's true home and the rain will beat against your brother's true home, but with no effect. 4 The world will wash away and yet this house will stand forever, for the strength of your brother's true home lies not within itself alone. 5 Your brother's true home is an ark of safety, resting on God's promise that His Son is safe forever in God, Himself. 6 What gap can interpose itself between the safety of this shelter and its Source, which is God? 7 From here the body can be seen as what the body is, which is a neutral communication device for learning. And from here the body can be seen as neither less nor more in worth than the extent to which the body can be used to liberate God's Son unto his home. 8 And with this holy purpose is the body made a home of holiness a little while, because the body shares your Father's Will with you. p605

**Note # 66:** The miracle transforms our special relationships into holy relationships. The body will serve the purpose our mind gives it. When we follow the Holy Spirit, the body is utilized to realign the mind’s past misperception with the reality of truth. Salvation rests on God’s promise that creation is extension and that the Sonship is the effect of God, perfect, whole and complete. It is the Sonship’s and the Father’s sacred vow to each other that protects the Oneness of the Mind of God. Our shared Will is where our safety lies. God is the Cause and we are the Effect and together is the Oneness complete. In eternity, cause and effect are indivisible and are one.
Chapter 29. THE AWAKENING

I. The Closing of the Gap

T-29.I.1. There is no time, no place, no state where God is absent. 2 And since God is never absent, there is nothing to be feared. 3 There is no way in which a gap could be conceived of in the Wholeness that is God. 4 The compromise the least and littlest gap would represent in God’s eternal love is quite impossible. 5 For a gap in God’s love would mean God’s Love could harbor just a hint of hate, God’s gentleness turn sometimes to attack, and God’s eternal patience sometimes fail. 6 All this do you believe, when you perceive a gap between your brother and yourself. 7 How could you trust God, then if your ego perceives there is a gap in God’s love? 8 For God must be deceptive in His Love. 9 Be wary, then; let God not come too close, and the ego tells you to leave a gap between you and God’s Love, through which you can escape if there be need for you to flee.

Note # 1: Since God is all there is, God cannot be separate from the Oneness of everything that we share. The ego would have us believe that we are a body-form, not part of the unlimited Mind of God. Bodies cannot join. When we perceive ourselves to be a separate body, we claim that separation is real and that God must be apart from us. Minds cannot be hurt, attacked or attack, but egoic bodies can. The body becomes our safe haven that can be used to keep God’s love out. The gap we perceive between our egoic mind and all that is “outside” of us protects us from joining. The ego fears minds joining with another since if minds were to join, this would bring the end of our perceived separation and we would no longer be special. God’s love is perceived by the ego as treacherous since by joining our mind with God’s presence our private identity would be lost. This loss of private identity is perceived as a threat to the ego’s existence.

T-29.I.2. Here, in this “protective” gap, is the fear of God most plainly seen. 2 For love is treacherous to those who fear, since fear and hate can never be apart. 3 No one who hates but is afraid of love, and therefore must he be afraid of God, Who is only love. 4 Certain it is he knows not what love means. 5 He, who does not know what love means, fears to love and loves to hate, and so he, who does not know what love means, thinks that love is fearful; hate is love. 6 This is the consequence the little gap must bring to those who cherish the gap, and think that this gap between joining is their salvation and their hope.

Note # 2: God’s love demands no sacrifice. The ego does not understand what love is. The ego fears the love of God, because the ego perceives God to be made in the same
image of our small “s” self. Coming from lack, we believe both our brother and God will take what little we have. Our body was made to protect our small “s” self from being destroyed by these competing outside forces. This gap that we believe is between us provides an escape route whenever we attack or perceive that we are about to be attacked. This gap is seen as our protective safety net.

T-29.I.3. The fear of God! 2 The greatest obstacle that peace must flow across, which is the egoic fear of God, has not yet gone. 3 The rest of the obstacles to peace are past, but this one, the fear of God, still remains to block your path to truth, and make the way to light seem dark and fearful, perilous and bleak. 4 You had decided that your brother is your enemy. 5 You had decided that your brother could sometimes be a friend, perhaps, provided that your separate interests made your friendship possible a little while. 6 But not without a gap perceived between you and your brother, lest your brother turn again into an enemy. 7 Let your brother come close to you, and you jumped back; as you approached, did your brother but instantly withdraw. 8 Between you and your brother, a cautious friendship, and limited in scope and carefully restricted in amount, became the treaty that you had made with him. 9 Thus you and your brother but shared a qualified entente, in which a clause of separation was a point you both agreed to keep intact. 10 And violating this clause of separation was thought to be a breach of treaty not to be allowed. p606

Note # 3: Underlying all our special relationships is an unwritten agreement that both parties will remain separate and limited ego-bodies. The egoic special relationship is conditional upon each party getting their needs met. We only give to get. If either party feels they are no longer getting a “good deal” they can terminate the relationship. By seeing each other as a body, joining is impossible and thus, this unwritten agreement to remain separate is maintained. The egoic special relationship is a primary tool that maintains the belief that the separation is real. In the egoic special relationship, we remain not whole and complete. We must look outside ourselves for our happiness.

T-29.I.4. The gap between you and your brother is not one of space between two separate bodies. 2 And this gap between you and your brother but seems to be dividing off your separate minds. 3 The gap between you and your brother is the symbol of a promise made to meet when you prefer, and separate till you and your brother elect to meet again. 4 And then when you elect to meet again, your bodies seem to get in touch, and thereby signify a meeting place to join. 5 But always is it possible for you and him to go your separate ways. 6 Conditional upon the "right" to separate will you and your brother agree to meet from time to time, and keep apart in intervals of separation, which do protect you from the "sacrifice" of love. 7 The body saves you from the "sacrifice" of love, for by utilizing the “right to separate” the body gets away from total sacrifice and gives to you the time in which to build again your separate self, which you truly believe diminishes as you and your brother meet.

Note # 4: The ego understands that the joining of minds would lead to the “death” of specialness that it perceives as you. The agreement to the “right to remain separate” is the agreement that we continue to identify ourselves as a body, not as mind. Although minds
can join, bodies cannot. By identifying ourselves as a body, the body becomes a limiting factor that prevents the two minds from becoming one. When we perceive ourselves as a body instead of spirit, both time and space are available to prevent the joining of minds that appear to occupy separate bodies.

T-29.I.5. The body could not separate your mind from your brother's unless you wanted the body to be a cause of separation and of distance seen between you and him. Thus do you endow the body with a power that lies not within itself but rather belongs to your mind. And herein lies the body’s power over you. For now you think that the body determines when your brother and you meet, and you think that the body limits your ability to make communion with your brother's mind. And now the body tells you where to go and how to go there, what is feasible for you to undertake, and what you cannot do. The body dictates what the body’s health can tolerate, and what will tire the body and make the body sick. And the body’s "inherent" weaknesses set up the limitations on what you would do, and keep your purpose limited and weak.

Note # 5: Your mind is the controller of the body. The body is the mind’s servant. When we identify ourselves as the body, our mind abdicates its creative powers and gives its authority over to the body. When we accept the belief that we are a body, we must also accept the limitations that arise from the body. The body thus, becomes the symbol of egoic separation and limitation.

T-29.I.6. The body will accommodate to this transfer of powers from the mind that believes itself to be separate and thus, limited, if your mind would have it so. The body will allow but limited indulgences in "love," with intervals of hatred in between. And the body will take command of when to "love," and when to shrink more safely into fear. The body will be sick because you do not know what loving means. And so you must misuse each circumstance and everyone you meet, and see in them a purpose that is not in alignment with your own egoic purpose.

Note # 6: If we choose the thought system of the ego, we will forget that our mind is the power source for all we perceive. By abdicating our power of “sourceness”, we identify with and become the “body.” The “body-form” now appears to become the response center that interfaces with all the outside forces that control our perceived world. We accept the limitations that come with the body. Our mind is now thought to be the physical organ we call the brain. We no longer perceive ourselves to be unlimited spirit.

T-29.I.7. It is not love that asks a sacrifice. But fear demands the sacrifice of love, for in love's presence fear cannot abide. For hate to be maintained, love must be feared; and only is love sometimes present, sometimes love is gone. Thus is love seen as treacherous, because love seems to come and go uncertainly, and offer no stability to you. You do not see how limited and weak is your allegiance to love, and how frequently you have demanded that love go away, and leave you quietly alone in "peace." p607

Note # 7: Love cannot coexist with fear. As we switch back and forth between the thought system of the ego and the Holy Spirit’s, we alternate between the emotions of
love and fear. Believing that love requires sacrifice, love does appear to be frightening. Our fear of love arises out of our egoic misperception of what love is. Because we were created in God’s image, which is love, our underlying belief is that to be happy we need to be loved. This is why the ego must constantly allow us to seek for love. Unfortunately for us, the motto of the ego is “Seek but do not find.” Thus, the ego has the body seeking for love everywhere within the illusion of separation. Within the egoic dream, love is as unstable as the illusion itself. For the ego, love must be earned and sacrifice is required. When the sacrifice becomes too much, we are overcome by fear and we leave the egoic special “love” relationship to preserve our identity. The ego never tells us that we are but a dreamer who has fallen into a deep sleep. We need merely to reawaken to our Big “S” Self and our egoic dream of fear will disappear.

**T-29.I.8.** The body, innocent of goals, is your excuse for variable egoic goals you hold, and force the body to maintain. 2 Your egoic self does not fear the body’s weakness, but your ego fears the body’s lack of strength <or> lack of weakness. 3 Would you know that nothing stands between you and your brother? 4 Would you know there is no gap behind which you can hide? 5 There is a shock that comes to those who learn their savior, who is your brother, is their enemy no more. 6 There is a wariness that is aroused by learning that the body is not real. 7 And there are overtones of seeming fear around the happy message, "God is Love."

**Note # 8:** The ego fears that the mind will rediscover that the body is powerless. The body is neither strong nor weak because the body is not real. The body arose only out of the egoic split-minded and is the servant of the mind. If we realized that the dream body is powerless and cannot protect us, we would also realize the insanity of the egoic thought system. We would reclaim our decision-making powers and choose again.

**T-29.I.9.** Yet all that happens when the gap is gone is peace eternal. 2 Nothing more than eternal peace, and nothing less than eternal peace. 3 Without the fear of God, what could induce you to abandon God? 4 What toys or trinkets in the gap could serve to hold you back an instant from God’s Love? 5 Would you allow the body to say "no" to Heaven’s calling, were you not afraid to find a loss of the egoic little “s” self in finding God? 6 Yet can your self be lost by the truth being found of what you really are, your Big “S” Self?

**Note # 9:** When we drop our identification with the egoic thought system, we drop the belief that we are the body. We rediscover our true identity. As our Big “S” Self, the Christ, we find that we are the host to God, the Father. The Christ is the abode not only of our true Self, the Sonship, but also the home of the Father and the Holy Spirit. The Christ is the embodiment of the One Self since there is nothing outside the Oneness of Everything. Christ is pure consciousness resting without fear in the reality that love is only real. To give up our nothingness in the illusion of egoic littleness is to give up nothing and gain everything. Only the insane would call this a sacrifice.
II. The Coming of the Guest

T-29.II.1. Why would you not perceive the truth of your Big “S” Self and that there is no gap in God’s Love as release from suffering and thus, to learn that you are free? 2 Why would you not acclaim the truth instead of looking on the truth as an enemy? 3 Why does an easy path of the truth, so clearly marked that the path is impossible to lose the way, seem thorny, rough and far too difficult for you to follow? 4 Is it not because you see the path of the truth as the road to hell instead of looking on the truth about what you are as a simple way, without a sacrifice or any loss, to find yourself in Heaven and in God? 5 Until you realize you give up nothing by accepting the truth, until you understand there is no loss, you will have some regrets about the way that you have chosen when you follow the path of the truth. 6 And you will not see the many gains your choice for the path of the truth has offered you. 7 Yet though you do not see the gains from your choice for following the truth, the gains are there. 8 Their cause, your acceptance of the truth has been effected, and the effects of your acceptance of the truth must be present where the cause for truth has entered in.

Note # 10: Cause and effect go hand in hand. If they are not both present, the cause is not a cause and the effect is not an effect of each other. When we accept the truth of what we are, unlimited spirit, we must also gain the effect of being unlimited spirit. When we drop our fear of God and what love is, we realize the presence of God within us and the gifts God’s presence brings. Cause and effect always appear in unison.

T-29.II.2. You have accepted healing’s cause, and so its effect must be that you are healed. 2 And being healed, the power to heal must also now be your power. 3 The miracle is not a separate thing that happens suddenly, as an effect without a cause. 4 Nor is the miracle, in itself, a cause. 5 But where the miracle’s cause is must the miracle’s effect also be. 6 Now is the miracle caused, though the miracle is not as yet perceived. 7 And the miracle’s effects are there, though the miracle’s effects are not yet seen. 8 Look inward now, and you will not behold a reason for regret that the miracle’s effects are not yet seen, but a cause indeed for glad rejoicing and for hope of peace. p608

Note # 11: If the cause for a miracle happens, the miracle’s effect must be present even if the physical senses do not notice any change. When we truly ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, miracles happen. It is important that the requester does not lose faith if the result of the miracle is not apparent to him. In healing, if the healer/conduit loses faith and perceives that the healing has not taken place, the healer now becomes the one that requires a healing. Healing and the miracle take place at the level of mind, not at the illusionary physical level we call the body. The healing may also be apparent on the physical level but this is not required. The miracle’s effect is manifested at the level of mind. The miracle has been defined as a change in perception. It is merely a shift from the egoic thought system to the Holy Spirit’s.

T-29.II.3. It has been hopeless to attempt to find the hope of peace upon a battleground. 2 It has been futile to demand escape from sin and pain of what was made to serve the function of retaining sin and pain, which is the body’s and the world of form’s egoic
function. 3 For pain and sin are one illusion, as are hate and fear, attack and guilt but one illusion. 4 Where the illusions are causeless the illusions’ effects are gone, and love must come wherever the illusions are not. 5 Why are you not rejoicing when the effects of the illusions are gone? 6 You are free of pain and sickness, misery and loss, and all effects of hatred and attack. 7 No more is pain your friend and guilt your god, and you should welcome the effects of love.

Note # 12: Cause and effect come in pairs. Fear’s effect is hate. Pain is caused by sin. Guilt is the cause and the attack is guilt’s effect. Without both cause and effect appearing, we can deduce the absence of the other. There is only fear and love. When fear and fear’s effect, which is hate, is not present, love must be there. Fear and love are mutually exclusive.

T-29.II.4. Your Guest, God, the Father, <has> come. 2 You asked God to come, and God came. 3 You did not hear God enter, for you did not wholly welcome God. 4 And yet God’s gifts came with God. 5 God has laid His gifts at your feet, and asks you now that you will look on God’s gifts and take God’s gifts for your own. 6 God needs your help in giving God’s gifts to all who walk apart, believing they are separate and alone. 7 Those who believe they are separate and alone will be healed when you accept your gifts, because God, your Guest, will welcome everyone whose feet have touched the holy ground whereon you stand, and where God’s gifts for those who believe they are separate and alone are laid.

Note # 13: When we show a little willingness for the acceptance of the truth, the remembrance of God will start to appear. Our Big “S” Self will start to reawaken. With the remembrance of God, we start to accept our divine inheritance. By accepting the gifts of our inheritance, these gifts are now ours to share with others. Only by sharing do we demonstrate what we have. We cannot give away what we do not possess. The Sonship is the Effect of God. By giving God’s gifts, we demonstrate that we have received God’s gift. We have accepted our divine inheritance that we are perfect, whole and complete. We proclaim that we are guiltless and sinless like Our Creator.

T-29.II.5. You do not see how much you now can give, because of everything you have received. 2 Yet God Who entered in but waits for you to come where you invited God to be, which is the Christ consciousness. 3 There is no other place than the Christ consciousness where God can find His host, nor where His host, the Sonship, can meet with God. 4 And nowhere else God’s gifts of peace and joy, and all the happiness God’s Presence brings, can be obtained. 5 For peace and joy are where God is Who brought them with Him, that peace and joy might be yours. 6 You cannot see your Guest, God, but you can see the gifts God, your Guest, has brought. 7 And when you look on God’s gifts of peace and joy, you will believe God’s Presence must be there. 8 For what you now can do could not be done without the love and grace God’s Presence holds.

Note # 14: Effects cannot be causeless. If we see the effects of love’s presence, which is peace and joy, we can deduce that the cause, which is God, must also be present.
T-29.II.6. Such is the promise of the living God; His Son have life and every living thing be part of His Son, and nothing else have life. 2 What your egoic small “s” selves have given "life" is not alive, and the body and the world of form symbolizes but your wish to be alive apart from life, alive in death, with death perceived as life, and living, death. 3 Confusion follows on confusion here, for on confusion has this world based on the belief in separation been based, and there is nothing else but confusion that this world of form rests upon. 4 The world of form’s basis does not change, although the world of form seems to be in constant change. 5 Yet what is that constant change except the state confusion really means? 6 Stability to those who are confused is meaningless, and shift and change become the law on which they, who are confused, predicate their lives.

Note # 15: In our confusion of what we are, we made a world based on limitation. An illusion can never be stable because its foundation is based on fallacy. Since we identify ourselves as the dream, instead of the controller of the dream, we have adopted the belief that change is not only possible; it is the only thing that is inevitable. Hence the saying, “Only change is certain.” In the egoic world of perception, everything is the opposite of what it appears to be. Thus, love is hate and false is true.

T-29.II.7. The body does not change. 2 The body represents the larger dream that change is possible. p609 3 To change is to attain a state unlike the one in which you found yourself before. 4 There is no change in immortality, and Heaven knows change not. 5 Yet here on earth the body has a double purpose, for the body can be made to teach opposing things. 6 And the body’s purposes reflect the teacher who is teaching about the body. 7 The body can appear to change with time, with sickness or with health, and with events that seem to alter the body. 8 Yet this apparent bodily change but means the mind remains unchanged in the mind’s belief of what the purpose of the body is.

Note # 16: If we perceive ourselves changing with the body-form, we are still identifying ourselves as the body, not as unlimited spirit or mind. We are following the thought system of the ego which states the purpose of the body is to maintain and prove that the separation is real.

T-29.II.8. Sickness is a demand the body be a thing that the body is not. 2 The body’s nothingness is guarantee that the body can <not> be sick. 3 In your demand that the body be more than this nothingness lies the idea of sickness. 4 For the belief that the body is real asks that God be less than all God really is. 5 What, then, becomes of you, for it is you of whom the sacrifice to be less than what you are is asked? 6 For God is told that part of God belongs to God no longer. 7 God must sacrifice your self, and in God’s sacrifice are you made more and God is lessened by the loss of you. 8 And what is gone from God becomes your god, protecting you from being part of God.

Note # 17: Our split-minded small “s” self demands that we be special. It desires to be something other than the Oneness of God. The split-minded are under the delusion that they have separated from the oneness. Their egoic self denies the truth and hides in the dream world of form. The ego proclaims that we are now a limited ego-body. The ego, the body and the world of form all become idols that keeps us apart from the
remembrance of God. All these idols are nothing but illusions that bear false witness against the truth.

T-29.II.9. The body that is asked to be a god will be attacked, because the body’s nothingness has not been recognized. 2 And so the body seems to be a thing with power in itself. 3 As something, the body can be perceived and thought to feel and act, and hold you in the body’s grasp as prisoner to itself. 4 And the body can fail to be what you demanded that the body be. 5 And you will hate the body for the body’s littleness, unmindful that the failure does not lie in that the body is not more than the body should be, but only in your failure to perceive that the body is nothing. 6 Yet the body’s nothingness is your salvation, from which you would flee.

Note # 18: We made the body to hide from God yet the body is not real. Our belief or identification that we are the body is the cause of the separation. Love allows all but love cannot change the truth. We can dream that we are not what we are but that does not change what we are. When we forgot to laugh at the idea that we were actually the body, we forgot that we were the dreamer of the dream of separation. In this state of forgetfulness, we became entrapped by our identification with our dream-body. We made the dream appear real to us. Now the nothingness of the dream has become our own “provisional reality” which appears true only within the mind of the dreamer. God and the truth remain unchanged.

T-29.II.10. As "something" is the body asked to be God's enemy, replacing what God is with littleness and limit and despair. 2 It is God’s loss you celebrate when you behold the body as a thing you love, or look upon the body as a thing you hate. 3 For if God be the sum of everything, then what is not in God does not exist, and God’s completion is the body’s nothingness. 4 Your savior is not dead, nor does your savior dwell in the body that was built as a temple unto death. 5 Your savior lives in God, and it is this living in God that makes him, your brother, savior unto you, and only his living in God. 6 Your savior’s body's nothingness releases your body from sickness and from death. 7 For what is your body cannot be more or less than what is his body. p610

Note # 19: Our salvation lies in the recognition that our brother is not a body, but rather the unlimited spirit of the Living God. By realizing that the body is nothing, we understand that the body cannot be our home. We reawaken to the remembrance of God and what we truly are. We are the effect of God and God is only love.

III. God’s Witnesses

T-29.III.1. Condemn your savior-brother not because your brother thinks he is a body. 2 For beyond your savior-brother’s dreams is his reality. 3 But your savior-brother must learn he is a savior first, before your savior-brother can remember what he is, which is the Effect of the Mind of God. 4 And your savior-brother must save you, who would be saved. 5 On saving you depends your savior-brother’s happiness. 6 For
who is savior but the one who gives salvation? 7 Thus your savior-brother learns salvation must be his to give. 8 Unless your savior-brother gives salvation, your savior-brother will not know he has salvation, for giving is the proof of having. 9 Only those who think that God is lessened by their strength could fail to understand that by giving you prove you have and that this must be so. 10 For who could give unless he has, and who could lose by giving what must be increased thereby by his giving?

Note # 20: We share thoughts, not form. When a thought is shared with another, this thought is strengthened. Sharing an idea diminishes neither party. Form cannot be shared without diminishment. Minds, not bodies, share because minds are joined. By giving we prove we have. The Laws of God state that to give is to receive.

T-29.III.2. Think you the Father lost Himself when the Father created you? 2 Was the Father made weak because the Father shared His Love? 3 Was the Father made incomplete by your perfection? 4 Or are you the proof that the Father is perfect and complete? 5 Deny the Father not His witness, which is the Sonship, in the egoic dream the split-minded Son prefers to the Sonship’s reality. 6 He must be savior from the egoic dream the split-minded son made, that the split-minded son be free of the dream. 7 Your savior-brother must see someone else as not a body, one with your savior-brother without the wall the world has built to keep apart all living things who know not that they live.

Note # 21: God is love and love is life. We live when we are aware that we are God’s Effect and God is cause. When we deny what we are, we deny life. By acknowledging our brother as a spirit, not a body, our minds are joined. When we claim we are a body, we deny that we are God’s Effect.

T-29.III.3. Within the dream of bodies and of death is yet one theme of truth; no more, perhaps, than just a tiny spark, a space of light created in the dark, where God still shines abiding within the Christ consciousness. 2 You cannot wake yourself. 3 Yet you can let yourself be wakened. 4 You can overlook your brother's dreams. 5 So perfectly can you forgive your savior-brother his illusions your brother becomes your savior from your dreams. 6 And as you see your savior-brother shining in the space of light where God abides within the darkness, you will see that God Himself is where your brother-savior’s body is. 7 Before this light the body disappears, as heavy shadows must give way to light. 8 The darkness cannot choose that the darkness remain where there is this light. 9 The coming of the light means darkness is gone. 10 In glory will you see your brother then, and understand what really fills the gap so long perceived as keeping you apart. 11 There, in the gap's place, God's witness has set forth the gentle way of kindness to God's Son. 12 Whom you forgive is given power to forgive you your illusions. 13 By your gift of freedom is freedom given unto you.

Note # 22: The vision of Christ looks past the illusion of the body and sees the light. The body serves as an egoic cloak to hide the light. Light is also the symbol for understanding that arises from following the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Forgiveness lifts the veil or gap that appears to maintain the separation of two minds that were actually joined as
T-29.III.4. Make way for love, which you did not create, but which you can extend. 2 To make way for love so that love can be extended on earth means, to forgive your brother, so that the darkness may be lifted from your own mind. 3 When light has come to your brother through your forgiveness, your brother will not forget his savior, which is you, and leaving you unsaved. 4 For it was in your face he saw the light that your brother would keep beside him, as your savior-brother walks through darkness to the everlasting light with you. p611

Note # 23: To give is to receive. By granting your brother his sinlessness, you receive this same gift. We cannot enter the light of truth alone. Truth is total. We cannot choose to deny the Sonship’s divine birthright from one brother without denying it to ourselves. By granting our brother his freedom, we become his savior and he becomes our savior. Forgiveness is the cause and salvation is the effect. Without effect there is no cause.

T-29.III.5. How holy are you, that the Son of God can be your savior in the midst of the egoic dreams of desolation and disaster. 2 See how eagerly your savior-brother comes, and steps aside from heavy shadows that have hidden your savior-brother, and shines on you in gratitude and love. 3 Your savior-brother is himself, but not himself alone. 4 And as his Father lost not part of your brother in your creation, so the light in your brother is brighter still because you gave your light to your brother, to save your brother from the dark. 5 And now the light in you must be as bright as shines in your brother. 6 This is the spark that shines within the dream; that you can help your brother waken, and be sure your brother’s waking eyes will rest on you. 7 And in your brother’s glad salvation you are saved.

Note # 24: When we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we are granted the vision of Christ. We look past the body and see the light of unlimited spirit. We perceive oneness not separation; the whole, not an isolated part. Forgiveness removes the misperceptions of the past and allows us to be in the <now>. Without past judgments, the body, which was made to hide the light of truth, fades away. During the Holy Instant, all judgment is suspended. We remember that we are spirit or mind. As mind, we are joined as one with our brother. By granting our brother his freedom from our own dream’s misperception of his function, we receive the same from our brothers.

IV. Dream Roles

T-29.IV.1. Do you believe that truth can be but in some illusions? 2 Illusions are dreams <because> illusions are not true. 3 All illusion is equal in its lack of truth and becomes the basis for the miracle, which means that you have understood that dreams are dreams; and that escape from dreams depends, not on the dream, but only on awakening. 4 Could it be some dreams are kept, and others dreams wakened from? 5 The choice is not between which dreams to keep, but only if you want to live in dreams or to awaken from dreams.
6 Thus it is the miracle does not select some dreams to leave untouched by the miracle’s beneficence. 7 You cannot dream some dreams and wake from some dreams, for you are either sleeping or awake. 8 And dreaming goes with only one of these.

**Note # 25:** Miracles call for the awakening from all dreams since an illusion is an illusion. All are equally false and thus, require the same correction, which is the return to truth. We cannot reawaken to the fact that we are the dreamer if we only wish to awaken from dreams that have lost their appeal to our senses. We can only be asleep or awake. There is no middle ground. Keep one illusion and you deny the truth of what you are.

**T-29.IV.2.** The dreams you think you like would hold you back as much as those dreams in which the fear is seen. 2 For every dream is but a dream of fear, no matter what the form the dream seems to take. 3 The fear is seen within, without, or both. 4 Or fear can be disguised in pleasant form. 5 But never is fear absent from the dream, for fear is the material of dreams, from which dreams all are made. 6 Their form the fear takes within a dream can change, but the dream cannot be made of something else other than fear. 7 The miracle were treacherous indeed if the miracle allowed you still to be afraid because you did not recognize the fear that was hidden in the dream. 8 You would not then be willing to awake from the dream, for which the miracle prepares the way.

**Note # 26:** If we do not realize that all egoic dreams are built around fear, we would not desire to awaken from them. We would actually fear the miracle since we would not wish to lose what we perceive as a benefit from the dream. A miracle that would take away our favorite dream would appear to require sacrifice on our part. Sacrifice is always fearful. If we desire to abandon or awaken from the egoic thought system, we must not withhold some illusionary experience from the Holy Spirit. Any part of the dream that we value, we will attempt to withhold from the Holy Spirit. Our withholding is our belief that we have private thoughts. This belief in private thoughts only supports the belief in separation, specialness and littleness. We cannot be “partially awake” and also reclaim our divine birthright.

**T-29.IV.3.** In simplest form, it can be said attack is a response to function unfulfilled as you perceive the function. 2 The perceived unfulfilled function can be in you or someone else, but where the unfulfilled function is perceived it will be there it is attacked. p612 3 Depression or assault must be the theme of every dream, for depression or assault are made of fear. 4 The thin disguise of pleasure and of joy in which depression or assault may be wrapped but slightly veils the heavy lump of fear that is in depression or assault’s very core. 5 And it is this fear the miracle perceives, and not the disguised wrappings of form in which the fear is bound.

**Note # 27:** The Holy Spirit understands that fear is at the core of all egoic dreams. Thus, to the Holy Spirit, all egoic dreams are based on misperception, which requires correction. To be under the illusion that you, who have been given everything, can be content with limitation is madness. If we believe we are happy, it is only because we have failed to remember the truth of what we are. Underlying the dream of separation is the belief that we are in competition with other ego-bodies. We fear that someone or something will take what little we have. The egoic life we dream is one of struggle, pain
and death interspersed with temporary moments of perceived joy. Even during the moments of joy, we fear the loss of joy since we know it is only temporary.

**T-29.IV.4.** When you are angry, is it not because someone has failed to fill the function you allotted him? 2 And does not his failure to fill the function you allotted him become the "reason" your attack upon him is justified? 3 The dreams you think you like are those dreams in which the functions you have given the dreams have been filled; the needs, which you ascribe to you, are met by the dream. 4 It does not matter if the functions you have given the dream be fulfilled or merely wanted. 5 It is the idea that they, the functions you have given the dream, exist from which the fears arise. The dream’s functions attest to your belief that you come from lack and are limited. You need something outside yourself to become perfect, whole and complete. 6 Dreams are not wanted more or less. 7 Dreams are desired or not desired. 8 And each dream represents some function that you have assigned; some goal which an event, or body, or a thing <should> represent, and <should> achieve for you. 9 If the dream succeeds in achieving the desired outcome, you think you like the dream. 10 If the dream should fail in achieving the desired outcome, you think the dream is sad. 11 But whether the dream succeeds or fails is not the dream’s core, but just the flimsy covering. At the dreams core is fear.

**Note # 28:** Anger is the result of someone or something not fulfilling the role we have given them. Based on our perceived needs, we assign roles to others that they must perform if we are to be happy. When they fail to meet our needs, we believe they have let us down and, therefore, they deserve punishment and attack. We fail to realize that we were the one that assigned their roles to them in the first place. Since we are coming from lack, we believe that we are the body and we have needs that only something outside ourselves can fulfill. Anger is fueled by our belief in lack and limitation. We are angry and attack whenever we perceive that the other actors in our dreams are not meeting our needs.

**T-29.IV.5.** How happy would your dreams become if you were not the one who gave the "proper" role to every figure which the dream contains. 2 No one can fail but your idea of him as predetermined by your perceived "proper" role for him, and there is no betrayal but of this idea. 3 The core of dreams the Holy Spirit gives is never one of fear. 4 The coverings or form of the dream may not appear to change, but what the forms mean has changed because the forms cover something else. 5 Perceptions are determined by their purpose, in that the coverings or form seem to be what they are for. 6 A shadow figure who attacks becomes a brother giving you a chance to help, if this becomes the function of the dream. 7 And dreams of sadness thus are turned to joy by the Holy Spirit.

**Note # 29:** When we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the form or event that is taking place does not change. What does change is the interpretation of what the event means and represents. It is this change in viewpoint or perception that the miracle represents. The Holy Spirit has changed the purpose or goal of the experience from egoic separation and fear, to one of forgiveness and joining. When we change the purpose, the
same event is automatically perceived based on the new purpose that we desire. Our perception follows our goals and our goals follow our desire or wants.

T-29.IV.6. What is your brother for? 2 You do not know what your brother is for, because your function is obscure to you. 3 Do not ascribe a role to your brother that you imagine would bring happiness to you. 4 And do not try to hurt your brother when your brother fails to take the part that you assigned to him, in what you dream your life was meant to be. 5 Your brother asks for help in every dream your brother has, and you have help to give your brother if you see the function of the dream as the Holy Spirit perceives the dream’s function. The Holy Spirit can utilize all dreams as means to serve the function given the Holy Spirit, which is to return the Sonship to the remembrance of God and the truth. 6 Because the Holy Spirit loves the dreamer, not the dream, each dream becomes an offering of love. 7 For at the dream’s center is the Holy Spirit’s Love for you, which lights whatever form the dream takes with love. p613

Note # 30: We do not know what we are and, therefore, cannot know what our purpose is. Since we are deluded about our true nature, we are in no position to correctly determine the function of our brother. We need to drop all our past egoic interpretations and judgments and realize we need help from someone who knows the truth. The guidance that we seek must come from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit knows that we are God’s Effect. Arising from love, our purpose is the extension of love. The Holy Spirit reinterprets our egoic experiences with correct perception. Our dreams of fear and separation now are reinterpreted as calls for forgiveness, love and joining. The Holy Spirit will never do anything that would increase our fear. Instead, the Holy Spirit gently reawakens the dreamer to the fact that dreams have no effect on reality. God’s Son remains sinless and guiltless; perfect, whole and complete. The Sonship remains safe in the Oneness that is the eternal reality of the Mind of God.

V. The Changeless Dwelling Place

T-29.V.1. There is a place in you where this whole egoic world has been forgotten; where no memory of sin and of illusion lingers still. 2 There is a place in you, your Christ consciousness or Big “S” Self, which time has left, and echoes of eternity are heard. 3 There is a resting place, the Christ, so still no sound except a hymn to Heaven rises up to gladden God the Father and the Son. 4 Where Both, God, the Father, and the Son abide, are They remembered Both. 5 And where They, God the Father and the Son, are is Heaven and is peace.

Note # 31: There is only the Oneness of Everything. However, since we are coming from our belief in separation and duality, we must speak as if there are separate parts of this One Self. The Christ is the home of the Father, the Sonship and the Holy Spirit. As such, we could call It a symbol for the holographic Mind of God. The Christ is pure consciousness resting without fear knowing that only love is real. While we are under the illusion of the separation, we perceive our mind to be split into two parts, the egoic
consciousness and the Christ consciousness. Where the truth of the Oneness is remembered, Mind is joined and we know the truth of Heaven. The Sonship is all God create, as God created It. The Sonship is the extension of the Oneness that is the shared Mind of God. The Father is “First Cause” and the Sonship is God’s Effect. Together they complete the whole, are not separate and are indivisible.

Note: In this section, “he” will be utilized often. This small lettered “h” “he” will represent the Sonship in various states of mind. It will be part of the Sonship fragmented into separate parts. It could range from a part of the Sonship’s egoic mind that has forgotten what it is (the little “s” self), to a part of the fragmented split-mind that remembers what it is (the Big “S” Self). I will attempt to use terms that hopefully will help make the passage more easily understood. In truth these terms are symbols for the Sonship that is in varying stages within the dream of separation.

T-29.V.2. Think not that your egoic, little “s” self, can change God the Father and the Son’s dwelling place. 2 For your Identity abides in both God, the Father, and the Son, and where They are, forever must you be. 3 The changelessness of Heaven is in you, so deep within that nothing in this egoic world but passes by, unnoticed and unseen. 4 The still infinity of endless peace of Heaven surrounds you gently in Heaven’s soft embrace, so strong and quiet, tranquil in the might of its Creator, nothing can intrude upon the sacred Son of God within.

Note # 32: Even though we perceive ourselves to be caught in the dream of separation, our sleeping mind still rests in the Oneness of the reality of the truth, which is Heaven.

T-29.V.3. Here is the role the Holy Spirit gives to you who wait upon the Son of God. Your role the Holy Spirit gives you would be to behold the fragmented Sonship wholly waken and be glad. 2 The fragmented Sonship that you perceive as a brother is a part of you and you of him, because your brother is his Father's Son, and not for any egoic purpose that your egoic little “s” self may see in him. 3 Nothing is asked of you but to accept the changeless and eternal that abide in your brother, which is the Christ, for your Identity is there. 4 The peace in you can but be found in your brother's Big “S” Self. 5 And every thought of love you offer your brother but brings you nearer to your wakening to peace eternal and to endless joy.

Note # 33: Our role that is given to us by the Holy Spirit is to reawake our Christ vision. Utilizing true vision, we look past the body of a brother and behold the Christ that is the reality of the fragmented and dreaming Sonship.

T-29.V.4. This sacred Son of God is like yourself, your Big “S” Self; the mirror of his Father's Love for you, the soft reminder of his Father's Love by which the Sonship was created and which still abides in your fragmented brother, as your Father's Love abides in you. 2 Be very still and hear God's Voice in your brother, and let God's Voice tell you what your brother’s function is. 3 God's Voice, the Holy Spirit, was created that you might be whole, for only the complete can be a part of God's completion, which created you.
**Note # 34:** The Holy Spirit is the Voice for the remembrance of God. The Creator placed the Holy Spirit within us when the mad idea of separation first arose. The Holy Spirit is that part of Mind that bridges the gap between illusion and truth and insures that the split-minded will reawaken to the truth of its united oneness with the Wholeness that is the Mind of God.

**T-29.V.5.** There is no gift the Father asks of you but that you see in all creation but the shining glory of the Father’s gift to you, which is the extension of God’s Love. 2 Behold God’s Son, God’s perfect gift, in whom his Father shines forever, and to whom is all creation given as God’s Son’s own. 3 Because God’s Son has been given the perfect gift of Oneness is this same gift given you, and where God’s gift lies in your brother behold your peace. 4 The quiet that surrounds you dwells in your brother and from this quiet come the happy dreams in which your hands are joined in innocence. 5 These are not hands that grasp in dreams of pain. 6 The hands of innocence hold no sword, for they have left their hold on every vain illusion of the world. 7 And being empty the hands of innocence receive, instead, a brother's hand in which completion lies. p614

**Note # 35:** God’s gift to the Sonship is that He shared and gave His Will to us. This sharing results in our will being the same as God’s Will. God’s Will is that all God’s Effects, which is the Sonship, remains perfect, whole and complete. God created the Sonship as the Christ. Creation, which is extension, is God’s gift to His Son. In creation God, which is all, give Himself to His creation, the Sonship. Thus, the Sonship is part of the Oneness of the whole. The Father is the cause. The Sonship is the Effect of God. Cause and Its Effect, together as One, complete God. For if God had no Effect, would God exist? This completion is the One Self.

**T-29.V.6.** If you but knew the glorious goal that lies beyond forgiveness, you would not keep hold on any thought, however light the touch of evil on this thought may appear to be. 2 For you would understand how great the cost of holding anything God did not give in minds that can direct the hand to bless, and lead God's Son unto his Father's house. 3 Would you not want to be a friend to him, a brother of the Sonship that was created by his Father as his Father’s home? 4 If God esteems your brother worthy of God, Himself, would you attack your brother with the hands of hate? 5 Who would lay bloody hands on Heaven itself, and hope to find Heaven’s peace? 6 Your brother thinks he holds the hand of death. 7 Believe your brother’s illusion of death not. 8 But learn, instead, how blessed are you who can release your brother from his dreams of death, just by offering him your forgiveness and your esteem as being worthy to be the Home of God.

**Note # 36:** The Sonship is God’s home because creation is God’s Effect. Cause and effect always come together. When we grant our brother forgiveness from all dreams of separation, we both regain our divine inheritance. If God has determined that the Sonship is perfect, whole and complete, who are we to argue with God? God makes His home in
the Christ, which is also the home of the Sonship, the Sonship’s creations and the Holy Spirit.

T-29.V.7.A dream is given you in which your brother is your savior, not your enemy in hate. 2 A dream is given you in which you have forgiven your brother for all your brother’s dreams of death; a happy and forgiving dream of hope you share with your brother, instead of dreaming evil separate dreams of hate. 3 Why does it seem so hard to share this happy and forgiving dream? 4 Because unless the Holy Spirit gives the dream its function, the dream was egoically made for hate, and will continue in death's services. 5 Each form the egoic dream of separation takes in some way calls for death. 6 And those who serve the lord of death have come to worship in a separated world of egoic perception and each is armed with his tiny spear and rusted sword, to keep his ancient promises to die.

Note # 37: All illusions are made from egoic consciousness out of fear. Only the Holy Spirit can change the purpose of the egoic dream of separation into a dream that has a new purpose, which is the return to truth. Change the purpose of the dream and our perception of the dream changes. The form of the dream does not change, but now we hear a cry for love instead of attack. By not participating in our brother’s dream of separation, we give no reality to his illusion. His illusion has no effect on our mind and thus, the brother’s dream has not been made real within our joint mind. Instead, our brother can choose to adapt our happy dream of forgiveness and joining. We can only experience one dream at a time. How we perceive the dream will be contingent on the purpose we give the experience. Love or fear, the choice is ours.

T-29.V.8.Such is the core of fear in every dream that has been kept apart from use by the Holy Spirit, Who sees a different function for an egoic dream. 2 When dreams are shared they lose the function of attack and separation, even though it was originally for egoic attack and separation that every dream was made. 3 Yet nothing in the world of dreams remains without the hope of change and betterment, for here in dreams is not where changelessness is found. 4 Let us be glad indeed that this is so that dreams are changeable, and seek not the eternal in this dream world of egoic perception. 5 Forgiving dreams are means to step aside from dreaming of a world outside yourself. 6 And forgiving dreams are means to leading finally beyond all dreams, unto the peace of everlasting life.

Note # 38: The happy and forgiving dream is not the final solution. Even in the happy dream, we have not returned home. We are still in a dream that more closely resembles the truth. But a dream is still a dream and to dream of heaven is not the same as being there. We have reached far up the ladder of truth and have reached the rung of correct perception. Yet perception is not knowledge. The Father, Himself, will take this final step in returning the fragmented Sonship to knowledge and the truth of Heaven. Heaven is not a place, but a state of mind or consciousness.
VI. Forgiveness and the End of Time

T-29.VI.1. How willing are you to forgive your brother? 2 How much do you desire peace instead of endless strife and misery and pain? 3 These questions about forgiveness and the end of pain are the same in different form. 4 Forgiveness is your peace, for herein lies the end of separation and the dream of danger and destruction, sin and death; of madness and of murder, grief and loss. 5 This is the "sacrifice" salvation asks, and gladly offers peace instead of suffering, sin and death.

Note # 39: We have the choice to choose to accept the truth that we are the unlimited spirit of the One Self or to deny the truth and claim we are a limited ego-body: one choice offers peace, the other suffering.

T-29.VI.2. Swear not to die, you holy Son of God! 2 You make a bargain that you cannot keep. 3 The Son of Life cannot be killed. 4 The Son of Life is immortal as his Father. 5 What the Son of God is cannot be changed. 6 The Son of God is the only thing in all the universe that must be one. 7 What <seems> eternal all will have an end. The eternal that is the One Self will never disappear. 8 The stars will disappear, and night and day will be no more. 9 All things that come and go, the tides, the seasons and the lives of men; all things that change with time and bloom and fade will not return. 10 Where time has set an end is not where the eternal of the Oneness is. 11 God's Son can never change by what men made of the Sonship. 12 God's Son will be as he was and as God's Son is, for time appointed not the Son of God's destiny, nor set the hour of the Son of God's birth and death. God's Will established the purpose and reality of God's Son. 13 Forgiveness will not change God's Son, who is guiltless. For in reality God's Son is not of time. 14 Yet time waits upon forgiveness that the things of time may disappear because the things of time have no use.

Note # 40: Time is the measure of change. Since God's Son is an extension of the Will of God, the Sonship is eternally perfect and changeless. Only in the illusionary world of perception, born out of our belief that we could not know what we are, is change needed. Time is needed during the dream of separation, since this dream must be corrected or changed so that the split-minded can reawaken to the changeless truth of the One Self. The allowance for change is the purpose of time.

T-29.VI.3. Nothing survives its purpose. 2 If something be conceived to die, then die that something must unless it does not take this purpose of death as that something's own purpose. 3 Change is the only thing that can be made a blessing here in the world of perception, where purpose is not fixed, however changeless something appears to be. 4 Think not that you can set a goal unlike God's purpose for you, and establish that egoic goal as changeless and eternal. 5 You can give yourself a purpose that you do not have. 6 But you can not remove the power to change your mind, and see another purpose, the one purpose given by God, which is truly there.

Note # 41: Because we share God's Will, ultimately, we must freely choose the purpose God has given the Sonship. Our purpose is to be God's Effect. We are the extension of
God and thus, our purpose is to extend only love. Being a Oneness of Everything, we cannot be happy with being less than what we are.

T-29.VI.4. Change is the greatest gift God gave to all that you would make eternal, to ensure that only Heaven would not pass away. 2 You were not born to die. 3 You cannot change, because your function has been fixed by God. Your function is life, which is God’s love. We fulfill our function when we extend only love. 4 All other goals are egoic and are set in time and change that time might be preserved, excepting one goal. 5 Forgiveness does not aim at keeping time, but forgiveness aims at time’s ending, when time has no use. 6 When all other goal’s purpose ended, time is gone. 7 And where the ego’s goals or purpose once held seeming sway is now restored the function God established for His Son in full awareness. 8 Time can set no end to the fulfillment of the function God established for His Son. Nor can time set an end to the changelessness of the function God established for His Son. 9 There is no death because the living share the function their Creator gave to life. 10 Life's function cannot be to die. 11 Life’s function must be life's extension, that life be as one forever and forever, without end.

Note # 42: We were created in God’s image. As an extension of God, we are co-creators with the Father. Time insures that all our “illusionary miscreations” made from the belief in the separation will be corrected. Creation is extending or sharing the everything that we are. Creation is inclusive. Making comes from limitation and exclusion. Change, which is the function of time, allows for egoic misperceptions to be corrected by the Holy Spirit. Only love is real. All that the Sonship co-creates out of love is preserved in Heaven.

T-29.VI.5. This world of perception will bind your feet and tie your hands and kill your body only if you think that this world of perception was made to crucify God's Son. 2 For even though this world of perception was an egoic dream of death, you need not let this world of perception stand for death to you. p616 3 Let this egoic purpose be changed by the Holy Spirit, and nothing in the world but must be changed as well. 4 For nothing here in this world of perception but is defined as what you see its purpose for.

Note # 43: In the world of perception, what we experience is determined by what we want. If we change our thought system from the ego’s to the Holy Spirit’s, the purpose we give the world changes. What we perceive is determined by the goal or purpose we desire. This world of form can witness for either the separation and for union, which is the extension of love.

T-29.VI.6. How lovely is the world whose purpose is forgiveness of God's Son! 2 How free from fear, how filled with blessing and with happiness is the world whose purpose is forgiveness of God's Son! 3 And what a joyous thing it is to dwell a little while in such a happy place as the world whose purpose is forgiveness of God's Son! 4 Nor can forgiveness of God's Son be forgot, in such a world, it <is> a little while till timelessness comes quietly to take the place of time.
**Note # 44:** With forgiveness, we recognize the guiltlessness and sinlessness of God’s Son. This is the returning of the Sonship to the remembrance of God. With the return of this remembrance, time, whose function is to allow for change, has fulfilled its role. In eternity, which is changeless, time is without purpose since there is no change to measure. Time is replaced by timelessness. God and the Sonship are changeless and eternal. They are the Oneness of the Mind of God, perfect, whole and complete.

**VII. Seek Not Outside Yourself**

T-29.VII.1. Seek not outside yourself. 2 For **if you seek outside yourself you** will fail, and you will weep each time an idol falls. 3 Heaven cannot be found where Heaven is not, and there can be no peace excepting there in Heaven. 4 Each idol that you worship when God calls will never answer in God’s place. 5 There is no other answer you can substitute for God’s answer, and find the happiness God’s answer brings. 6 Seek not outside yourself. 7 For all your pain comes simply from a futile search for what you want, insisting where **what you want** must be found. 8 What if **what you want** is not there outside of you? 9 Do you prefer that you be right or happy? 10 Be you glad that you are told where happiness abides, **which is within you**, and seek no longer elsewhere. 11 You will fail to find the happiness you seek outside yourself. 12 But **what you want** is given you to know the truth, and not to seek for **what you want** outside yourself.

**Note # 45:** Being an extension of God, we are the Oneness of Everything. When we believe that there is something outside ourselves, we deny our Oneness with God. God cannot be limited by our denial of the truth. When God created us, He gave us everything because we are the extension of God. Being everything, we cannot be happy with littleness. The ego wants us to be special and different. We can only be different if we are outside the whole. To be outside the Oneness of Everything is impossible. Attempting to look outside of the Oneness can only lead to fear and loneliness. Our happiness can never be founded in the false and changeable.

T-29.VII.2. No one who comes here to the egoic world of perception, but must still have hope, some lingering illusion, or some dream that there is something outside of himself that will bring happiness and peace to **himself**. 2 If everything is in him this cannot be so. 3 And therefore by his coming into the egoic world of perception, he denies the truth about himself that he has been given everything, and seeks for something more than everything, as if a part of everything were separated off and found where all the rest of everything is not. 4 This seeking outside himself for something more than everything is the purpose he bestows upon the body; that the body seek for what he lacks, and the purpose of the body is to give him what would make himself complete. 5 And thus he, **as the body**, wanders aimlessly about, in search of something that he cannot find, **which is something more than everything**. And he continues wandering aimlessly about believing that he is what he is not, **which is to be limited**.

**Note # 46:** We wanted to be special. We wanted to experience what it would be like to
be separate and different from God. Not believing that we are the oneness of everything, we believe that there is something outside ourselves that could complete us. Unfortunately for us, denial of this truth, leads us on an impossible quest since we truly are already everything. This quest is to make the false, true and the true, false. The only place that this impossible quest could be attempted is in a fantasy world of make-believe. In this fantasy world, the ego tells us to seek, knowing we can never find. Happiness can never be found in the unstable dream world of fantasy. The world of perception was made as a place where the denial of truth would appear to be possible. In the world of perception, the Son of God can claim to be something other than what he was created to be. He can claim to not know his true nature. His denial, however, cannot change the truth.

T-29.VII.3. The lingering illusion that there was something outside himself, which he lacked, will impel his egoic self to seek out a thousand idols, and to seek beyond these idols for a thousand more. 2 And each idol will fail him, all excepting one idol; for he will die, and he does not understand the idol that he seeks <is> but his death. 3 The idol’s form appears to be outside himself. 4 Yet does he seek to kill God’s Son within, and prove that he is victor over God’s Son. 5 This seeking to kill God’s Son is the purpose every idol has, for this the role that is assigned to the idol, and this role of killing God’s Son is the role that cannot be fulfilled.

Note # 47: To kill God’s Son requires that the ego prove that we are not as God created us. If we are different, we are no longer the Effect of God and thus, are either self-created or have usurped God’s authority and Will. To be something other than as we were created would be to change God. It is impossible that an effect can change its cause. Extension is the creative process. Like begets like. God’s greatest gift to the Sonship is that His creation shares the same will as God, Himself. This sharing of one will allows us to be an extension of our source. God’s Will is that we are one with the Mind of God and as such, we remain like God. We remain the Oneness of Everything, always perfect, whole and complete.

T-29.VII.4. Whenever you attempt to reach a goal in which the body’s betterment is cast as major beneficiary, you try to bring about your death as your Big “S” Self, the Christ. 2 For you believe that you can suffer lack, and lack <is> death. 3 To sacrifice is to give up, and thus to be without and to have suffered loss. 4 And by this giving up of your Big “S” Self is life renounced. 5 Seek not outside yourself. 6 The search outside yourself implies you are not whole within and that you fear to look within upon what you believe to be your own internal devastation and lack. But, the search outside yourself implies that you prefer to seek outside yourself for what you are.

Note # 48: Sin is defined as belief in lack. According to the thought system of the ego, we lack something and, therefore, must have sinned. The ego tells us that we are not perfect, not whole and very incomplete. Believing that we are a limited body, we seek to fulfill our need to be made whole by something outside ourselves that would make us complete and happy. We seek an idol to do this. An idol is an egoic wish that has been given form and then perceived as real and seen outside our mind. The idol is any false
belief that something outside ourselves can complete us. In this world, we have many idols. Money, power, sex, fame and health are some broader categories of our worldly egoic idols.

T-29.VII.5. Idols must fall because idols have no life, and what is lifeless is a sign of death. 2 You came here to the egoic world of form and perception to die, and what would you expect but to perceive the signs of death you seek? 3 No sadness and no suffering proclaim a message other than an idol found that represents a parody of life which, in the idol’s lifelessness, is really death, conceived as real and given living form. 4 Yet each idol must fail and crumble and decay, because a form of death cannot be life, and what is sacrificed cannot be whole.

Note # 49: The egoic thought system represents the opposite of truth. As such, the illusionary world of perception is the dreaming of an alternate reality. God is love and love is life. The ego does not know what love is. The ego mistakes hate for love and death for life. The world of perception was made to be a place to hide from the truth that we are already whole. To the ego, we only give to get. Idols demand that we offer sacrifices to them if we are to be blessed in return. Yet, this giving demands loss, which insures we remain incomplete. This embodies the ego’s motto of “seek yet, do not find.”

T-29.VII.6. All idols of this world were made to keep the truth within from being known to you, and to maintain allegiance to the dream that you must find what is outside yourself to be complete and happy. 2 It is vain to worship idols in the hope of peace. 3 God dwells within you, the Christ, and your completion lies in God. 4 No idol takes God’s place. 5 Look not to idols. 6 Do not seek outside yourself.

Note # 50: Our salvation and happiness rest on our acceptance of our divine birthright. God is Cause and we are God’s Effect. Cause and Effect are forever joined as one.

T-29.VII.7. Let us forget the purpose of the world the egoic past has given this world of perception. 2 For otherwise unless we forget the past, the future will be like the past, and but a series of depressing dreams, in which all idols fail you, one by one, and you see death and disappointment everywhere.

Note # 51: The ego’s focus is on the past in order to avoid the <now>. By utilizing past judgments and misperception, the ego insures that we will constantly replay the past and thus, create the same future. The past is based on the belief that the separation is real. Without the past, we would have no frame of reference upon which to base our judgments. Without judgment, we would be in the <now>. The ego’s goal is to insure that we never rediscover our decision-making ability that has always resided within us. Only in the <now> can we decide to choose again.

T-29.VII.8. To change all these depressing dreams of death and disappointment and to open up a road of hope and of release in what appeared to be an endless circle of despair, you need but to decide you do not know the purpose of the world. 2 You give this world of perception goals it does not have, and thus do you decide what this world
is for. 3 You try to see in this world a place of idols found outside yourself, with these idols having power to make complete what is within you by splitting what you are between the two, your egoic self and your world of idols. 4 You choose your dreams, for your dreams are what you wish, perceived as if the dream had been given you by something outside your own mind. 5 Your idols do what you would have your idols do, and have the power you ascribe to your idols. 6 And you pursue your idols vainly in the dream, because you want your idols’ power as your own power.

Note # 52: Idols have no purpose and power of their own. They derive all the power and purpose from a mind that sees himself as limited and lacking something. The split-mind takes a whole and claims that only part of the whole, the little “s” self, belongs to him. The rest of the whole appears to be split-off and separate from the little “s” self. To regain happiness and the peace of God, the Holy Spirit must reawaken the split-minded to the reality that they are the whole and that dreams cannot change their spiritual essence.

T-29.VII.9. Yet where are dreams but in a mind asleep? 2 And can a dream succeed in making real the picture the dream projects outside itself? p618 3 Save time, my brother; learn what time is for, which is the forgiveness of God’s Son. 4 Save time, my brother; and speed the end of idols in a world made sad and sick by seeing idols there in your dreaming mind. 5 Your holy mind is altar unto God, and where God is no idols can abide. 6 The fear of God is but the fear of loss of idols. 7 The fear of God is not the fear of loss of your true reality, your Big “S” Self. 8 But your egoic dream has made of your reality an idol, which you must protect against the light of truth. 9 And all the world becomes the means by which this idol can be saved from the light of truth. 10 Salvation, the reawakening from the dream to the truth, thus appears to threaten life and offer death.

Note # 53: Because we have identified ourselves with the dream, we believe we are a limited ego-body. We fail to realize that we are the dreamer and that by reawakening, we can end the dream of separation. When we forgot to laugh at the mad idea that we could be outside the One Self, we made the dream fearful and perceived it as real. Doubt and uncertainty were born and knowledge was lost.

T-29.VII.10. It is not so that salvation threatens life and offers death. 2 Salvation seeks to prove there is no death, and only life exists. 3 The sacrifice of death is nothing lost. 4 An idol cannot take the place of God. 5 Let the Holy Spirit remind you of God’s Love for you, and do not seek to drown the Holy Spirit’s Voice in chants of deep despair to idols of yourself. 6 Seek not outside your Father for your hope. 7 For hope of happiness is <not> despair.

Note # 54: Being a Oneness of Everything, we can never be happy in the dream of limitation and littleness. The remembrance of God as our Source is our salvation. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we accept the truth of our Oneness in the holographic Mind of God.
VIII. The Anti-Christ

T-29.VIII.1. What is an idol? 2 Do you think you know what an idol is? 3 For idols are unrecognized as such, and never seen for what the idols really are. 4 This failure to recognize an idol for what they really are is the only power that idols have. 5 The idol’s purpose is obscure, and the idols are feared and worshipped, both, <because> you do not know what the idols are for, and why the idols have been made. 6 An idol is an image of your brother that you would value more than what your brother truly is. 7 Idols are made that your brother’s true value may be replaced, no matter what the idol’s form. 8 And it is this replacement of your brother’s true value that never is perceived and recognized. 9 Be the idol a body or a thing, a place, a situation or a circumstance, an object owned or wanted, or a right demanded or achieved, the idol is the same because all idols’ purposes are the same, which is the replacement of you and your brother’s true value as the One Son of God.

Note # 55: The idol calls for the devaluing of your brother as our savior. It is our brother that represents the part of our mind that we have projected outside our split-mind. This gives us the illusion in the world of bodies that we are separate from our brother. Through the Holy Spirit’s guidance, we rejoin as one mind with our brother and we are made whole again. Our brother, being not of the body, can only be correctly perceived with the vision of Christ. Idols, being nothing, have no power since they exist only within the insane mind of the dreamer.

T-29.VIII.2. Let not the idol’s form deceive you. 2 Idols are but substitutes for your reality. 3 In some way, you believe that idols will complete your little “s” self. Your little “s” self believes that idols are needed for safety in a world perceived as dangerous, with forces massed against your confidence and peace of mind. 4 Your little “s” self believes that idols have the power to supply your lacks, and add the value that you do not have. 5 No one believes in idols who has not enslaved himself to littleness and loss. 6 And he, who believes in littleness thus, must seek beyond his little “s” self for strength to raise his head, and stand apart from all the misery the world reflects. 7 This is the penalty for looking not within your mind, which is the Big ”S” Self, for certainty and quiet calm that liberates you from the egoic world of perception, and lets you stand apart, in quiet and in peace. p619

Note # 56: Our ego perceives us to be limited and imperfect, not whole and complete. We believe there is something outside ourselves that will make us more than the everything that is God’s creative gift of extension to His Effect, the Sonship. Idols are made to fill the lack that we perceive within us. Because we deny that we are the Oneness of Everything, we believe there is something more that we can get. We want to have more than the Everything God gave us. Egoically, we want to be a special, unique individual who is separate from God and our brother. Thus, we want to be different from our brother whom the Holy Spirit knows must also be the same Oneness of Everything. Because the One Self is all there is, the Oneness of Everything can be no more or no less. It remains eternally perfect, whole and complete.
T-29.VIII.3. An idol is a false impression, or a false belief; some form of anti-Christ, that constitutes a gap between the Christ and what you see. 2 An idol is a wish, made tangible and given form, and thus an idol is perceived as real and seen outside the mind. 3 Yet an idol is still a thought, and cannot leave the mind that is an idol's source. 4 Nor is an idol's form apart from the idea an idol represents. 5 All forms of anti-Christ, which is an idol, oppose the Christ. 6 And fall before the Christ's face like a dark veil that seems to shut you off from the Christ, alone in darkness. 7 Yet the light of the Christ is there. 8 A cloud does not put out the sun. 9 No more a veil can banish what the veil seems to separate, nor darken by one whit the light itself.

Note # 57: Idols can obscure the truth but they cannot change the truth. An idol is something we place between our split minds that hides the truth that we are the shared Oneness of All That Is.

T-29.VIII.4. This world of idols is a veil across the face of Christ, because this world's purpose is to separate your brother from yourself. 2 A dark and fearful purpose is this desire to separate your brother from yourself, yet it is a thought without the power to change one blade of grass from something living to a sign of death. 3 The form of this desire to separate your brother from yourself is nowhere, for its source abides within your egoic mind where God abideth not. 4 Where is this place of egoic separation where what is everywhere has been excluded and been kept apart? 5 What hand could be held up to block God's way? 6 Whose voice could make demand that God enter not? 7 The idea of a "more-than-everything", which the idol represents, is not a thing to make you tremble and to quail in fear. There cannot exist a "more-than-everything." 8 Christ's enemy is nowhere. 9 A "more-than-everything" can take no form in which a "more-than-everything" ever will be real.

Note # 58: There can never be a "more-than-everything." It is a contradiction of the definition of the word "everything". The only place that a "more-than-everything" could appear real is within an insane mind that believes such a dream is real.

T-29.VIII.5. What is an idol? 2 Nothing! 3 An idol must be believed before an idol seems to come to life, and is given power so that the idol may be feared. 4 An idol's life and power are the believer's gift that the believer gives to the idol. And this abdication of power by the believer is what the miracle restores to what <has> life and power worthy of the gift of Heaven and eternal peace. It is the Christ conscious Son of God that has life and power worthy of the gift of Heaven and eternal peace. 5 The miracle does not restore the truth, the light the veil between has not put out. 6 The miracle merely lifts the veil, and lets the truth shine unencumbered, being what the truth is. 7 Truth of Christ does not need belief to be itself, for truth of Christ has been created; so truth <is>.

Note # 59: We are the perfect, whole and complete extension of the holographic Mind of God. The Oneness remains indivisible. The denial of the truth cannot change the truth. Truth just <is> and there is nothing the ego can do to change the reality of God’s Son.
T-29.VIII.6. An idol is established by belief, and when the belief in the idol is withdrawn the idol "dies." This belief in idols is the anti-Christ; the strange idea there is a power past omnipotence, a place beyond the infinite, a time transcending the eternal. 3 Here due to the belief that there could be a “more than everything;” the world of idols has been set up by this idea. From this idea, the idols are given this power and place and time and the world of idols are given form, and shape the world of perception where the impossible has happened. 4 Here in the idol’s world of form and perception, the deathless come to die, the all-encompassing to suffer loss, the timeless to be made the slaves of time. 5 Here in the idol’s world of form and perception, does the changeless change; the peace of God, forever given to all living things, give way to chaos. 6 And here in the idol’s world of form and perception, the Son of God, as perfect, sinless and as loving as his Father, come to hate a little while; to suffer pain and finally to die. p620

Note # 60: In the idol’s world of form and perception, we have forgotten to laugh. We have taken the mad idea that there could be something more than a Oneness of Everything and made it appear real. The dreamer has identified with the dream and thus, the dream becomes the provisional reality within the mind of the perceiver-dreamer. We have birthed the belief in separation.

T-29.VIII.7. Where is an idol? 2 Nowhere! An idol can only appear real in an insane mind, yet in truth the idol remains unreal. 3 Can there be a gap in what is infinite? Can there be a place where time can interrupt eternity? 4 There can be a place of darkness set where all is light, a dismal alcove separated off from what is endless. Such a place has no place to be and, therefore, is nothing and is not real. 5 An idol is beyond where God has set all things forever, and has left no room for anything to be except God’s Will. 6 Nothing and nowhere must an idol be, while God is everything and everywhere.

Note # 61: There is nothing beyond the Oneness of Everything. There is only the indivisible Mind of God that is the “All That Is”.

T-29.VIII.8. What purpose has an idol, then? 2 What is an idol for? 3 This question of the idol’s purpose is the only question that has many answers, each depending on the one of whom the question has been asked. 4 The world believes in idols. 5 No one comes to this world of form and perception unless he worshipped idols, and still attempts to seek for one idol that yet might offer him a gift reality does not contain. 6 Each worshipper of idols harbors hope his special deities or idols will give him more than what other men possess. 7 In his egoic desire for specialness, an idol must be more. 8 It does not really matter more of what; more beauty, more intelligence, more wealth, or even more affliction and more pain. 9 But more of something is what an idol is for. 10 And when one idol fails another takes the fallen idol’s place, with hope of finding more of something else. 11 Be not deceived by forms the "something" takes. 12 An idol is a means for getting more. 13 And it is this impossible getting more than the everything of the Oneness that is against God's Will.

Note # 62: Because we believe that we are separate, we believe that there is something
outside the Oneness that we do not already possess. The idol is birthed from the delusional belief that something outside the Oneness of Everything exists and that this something can make us special or different from what we are. God has already given everything to His creation. Creation is extension, which is holographic in nature. Each part is indivisible from the whole. If we could divide the indivisible, we would find that each part contains the whole. In the Oneness of Everything that is the One Self of the Mind of God, each part is the whole, and the whole is each part. If there is only the one, there can be no separation or specialness. They are mutually exclusive.

T-29.VIII.9. God has not many Sons, but only One Son. 2 Who can have more, and who be given less if there is only One Son? 3 In Heaven would the Son of God but laugh, if idols could intrude upon the Son of God’s peace. 4 It is for him, the Son of God that the Holy Spirit speaks, and tells you idols have no purpose here. 5 For more than Heaven can you never have. 6 If Heaven is within, why would you seek for idols that would make of Heaven less, to give you more than God bestowed upon your brother and on you, as one with God, Himself? 7 God gave you all there is. 8 And to be sure you could not lose the all God gave you, did God also give the same all of everything to every living thing as well. 9 And thus is every living thing a part of you, as of God, Himself. 10 No idol can establish you as more than God. 11 But you will never be content with being less than God. p621

Note # 63: This paragraph once again reiterates the truth that there is just the indivisible Mind of God. This is a shared Oneness, holographic in nature. There is no separation. Cause and Effect are simultaneous. You cannot have cause without effect, nor effect without cause. We complete each other and thus, are One Self. I am God and so are you since there is only God.

IX. The Forgiving Dream

T-29.IX.1. The slave of idols is a willing slave. 2 For willing he, the slave of idols, must be to let himself bow down in worship to what has no life, and seek for power in the powerless idol that his mind imagines to be real. 3 What happened to the holy Son of God that this could be his wish; to let himself fall lower than the stones upon the ground, and look to idols that are powerless and lifeless to raise him up? 4 Hear, then, your story in the dream you made, and ask yourself if it be not the truth that you believe that your story is not a dream but has become our reality.

Note # 64: ACIM is about to explain the story of separation and ask us to realize that the story is only a dream and that we are the dreamer. We have identified so strongly with the dream of separation that we have forgotten what we are. We have forgotten that we are the dreamer.

T-29.IX.2. A dream of judgment came into the mind that God created perfect as Himself. 2 And in that dream of judgment that came into the egoic mind of the Sonship was
Heaven changed to hell, and God made enemy unto God's Son. 3 How can God's Son awaken from the dream of judgment? 4 It is a dream of judgment. 5 So must he, who believed himself separate from the Oneness, judge not, and he will waken. 6 For the dream of judgment will seem to last while he is part of the dream of judgment. 7 Judge not, for he who judges will have need of idols, which will hold the judgment off from resting on himself, who has judged. 8 Nor can he who has judged know the Big "S" Self he has condemned. 9 Judge not, because you who judged make yourself a part of evil dreams, where idols are your "true" identity, and your salvation from the judgment laid in terror and in guilt upon yourself.

Note # 65: Idols are the belief in the false. An idol is a wish, made tangible and given form, which is then perceived as real and seen as outside the mind that is its source. Idols are an image of anything you have made to replace the reality of the Oneness that is the Mind of God. Seeing ourselves as limited, we make idols and endow them with make-believe powers that will protect our little “s” Self from the outside world. Thus, we believe idols can make our littleness more bearable. The idol becomes the veil that protects the gap that we perceive between ourselves and others. The idols purpose is to separate you from your brother and hide the truth of the reality of the Oneness. Judgment gave rise to the world of perception. For without that belief that there is something outside the oneness, there can be no judgment. The belief in the separation and judgment go hand in hand.

T-29.IX.3. All figures in the dream of judgment are idols, made to save you from the dream. 2 Yet all figures in the dream are part of what they have been made to save you <from>, which is your belief in separation and littleness. 3 Thus does an idol keep the dream alive and terrible, for who could wish for and idol unless he were in terror and despair? 4 And in this dream, the idol represents that terror and despair are real, and so idol worship is the worship of despair and terror. And idol worship is the worship of the dream from which terror, despair and idols come from. Idol worship makes the dream appear to be real. 5 Judgment is an injustice to God's Son, and it <is> justice that he who judges will not escape the penalty he who judges God's Son laid upon himself within the dream he who judges has made. 6 God knows of justice, not of penalty. 7 But in the dream of judgment you attack and are condemned; and in the dream of judgment you wish to be the slave of idols, which are interposed between your judgment and the penalty your judgment brings.

Note # 66: To give is to receive. When we judge our brother as anything but the Christ, we condemn ourselves to that same judgment. The idol is seen as something that can deflect this judgment of littleness from ourselves, thus keeping us safe from punishment. Because we fear our own judgments of littleness, we need a protector. Unfortunately, if you believe you need a protector, you confirm that you are vulnerable and have something to fear. This need for an idol establishes an additional fear. What if the idol that you made to protect yourself, turns its power against you? Idols help maintain the underlying terror of the dream of separation, littleness and specialness.

T-29.IX.4. There can be no salvation in the dream as you are dreaming the dream. 2 For
idols must be part of the dream to save you from what you believe you have accomplished, and have done to make you sinful and put out the light within you. 3 Little child, the light is there but you must awaken. 4 You do but dream, and idols are the toys you dream you play with. 5 Who has need of toys but children? 6 Children pretend toys rule the world, and children give their toys the power to move about, and talk and think and feel and speak for the child. 7 Yet everything the child’s toys appear to do is in the minds of those who play with the toys. 8 But the children are eager to forget that the children made up the dream in which the child’s toys are real, nor do the children recognize the toy’s wishes are the child’s own wishes. p622

Note # 67: Children’s toys, like idols, derive all their power from the child’s own mind. The child makes the rules that the toys must follow and often will change the rules when the child does not like the outcome. Although the child will tend to disappear within the game, it is always the child who controls both the toys and the game. We, the dreaming child, forgot this is only make-believe. Because of our forgetting the knowledge of what we are, the game now appears to be real and can terrorize the childlike dreamer.

T-29.IX.5. Nightmares are childish dreams. 2 The toys have turned against the child who thought he made the toys real. 3 Yet can a dream attack? 4 Or can a toy grow large and dangerous and fierce and wild? 5 This belief that the toy is real and can attack, the child does believe, because the child fears his thoughts and gives his thoughts to the toys instead. 6 And the toys’ reality becomes his own reality, because the toys’ thoughts seem to save him from his own thoughts. 7 Yet do the toys’ thoughts keep the child’s thoughts alive and real, but now these thoughts are seen outside himself, where these thoughts can turn against the child for his treachery to these thoughts of judgment. 8 The child thinks he needs the toys that he may escape his thoughts, because he thinks the thoughts are real. 9 And so the child makes of anything a toy, to make this child’s world remain outside himself, and play that the child is but a part of this toy world.

Note # 68: When we identified ourselves as just a player within the game of separation, the game of separation was transformed. Instead of the game being a way to enjoy and experience our Oneness, the game became a matter of life and death. We judged that the unreal could threaten the real. Now, due to our own judgment, we had something to struggle against. The dream of separation was originally just a way to experience the fullness of the Oneness. The problem of sin and guilt arose, not from the dream, but from our taking the dream seriously. We forgot that we were the dreamer. We forgot to laugh at the tiny mad idea of separation from the Oneness that is God’s Will.

T-29.IX.6. There is a time when childhood should be passed and gone forever. 2 Seek not to retain the toys of children. 3 Put all the toys of children away, for you have need of the toys no more. 4 The dream of judgment is a children’s game, in which the child becomes the father, powerful, but with the little wisdom of a child. 5 In the dream of judgment, what hurts the egoic little “s” self is destroyed; what helps the egoic little “s” self is blessed. 6 Except the egoic little “s” self judges what is destroyed and what is blessed as does a child, who does not know what hurts and what will heal. 7 And bad
things seem to happen to the egoic little “s” self, and he is afraid of all the chaos in a world the egoic little “s” self thinks is governed by the laws he made, which are the laws of chaos. 8 Yet is the real world unaffected by the illusionary world the egoic little “s” self thinks is real. 9 Nor have the real world’s laws, which are the Laws of God, been changed because the egoic little “s” self does not understand the Laws of God.

Note # 69: Dreams have no effect on reality. Since dreams have no effect on reality, they are causeless and cannot result in sin, guilt and fear being made real. Only in the deluded mind of the dreamer does the dream appear to have any effect. Awaken the dreamer and the illusion disappears into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-29.IX.7. The real world still is but a dream. 2 Except the figures have been changed. 3 The figures in the real world dream are not seen as idols which betray. 4 The real world dream is a dream in which no one is used to substitute for something else, nor interposed between the thoughts the mind conceives and what the mind sees. 5 In the real world dream, no one is used for something he is not, for childish things and idols have all been put away. 6 And what was once a dream of judgment now has changed into a dream where all is joy, because that is the purpose that the real world dream has. 7 Only forgiving dreams can enter here, for time is almost over. 8 And the forms that enter in the dream are now perceived as brothers, not in judgment, but in love.

Note # 70: When we ask for guidance, the Holy Spirit will reinterpret our dreams of judgment into dreams of forgiveness. We will start to perceive ourselves as living in the happy dream. The happy dream is more tolerable but it is still a dream that is based on corrected perception. It is still a dream because perception is not knowledge. At the level of true perception, you are aware of all other beings as One with your Big “S” Self. You are still aware of time, space and bodies but recognize that these are only illusionary devises. You are aware that there is nothing outside of your Big “S” Self and that there is nothing outside any Self for there is only the One Self. Everything is experienced and understood in terms of peace, joy and harmony. True perception is the closest you can get to knowledge, which is found in the state of timeless Heaven.

T-29.IX.8. Forging dreams have little need to last. 2 Forging dreams are not made to separate the mind from what the mind thinks. 3 Forging dreams do not seek to prove the dream is being dreamed by someone else. 4 And in these forging dreams a melody is heard that everyone remembers, though he has not heard the melody of Heaven since before all time began. 5 Forgiveness, once complete, brings timelessness so close the song of Heaven can be heard, not with the ears, but with the holiness that never left the altar for truth that abides forever deep within the Son of God. p623 6 And when he hears this song of Heaven again, he knows he never heard the song of Heaven not. 7 And where is time, when dreams of judgment have been put away?

Note # 71: Judgment is based upon past experiences that we have judged to be outside ourselves. Without the past, we would have to be in the now. In the Holy Instant, all judgments are suspended and we are in the <now>. The dream of judgment birthed a world of time, space and bodies. Without judgment, time, space and bodies become
irrelevant. Heaven is the “knowing” and the “being” the Oneness of the Mind of God.

**T-29.IX.9.** Whenever you feel fear in any form,–and you *are* fearful if you do not feel a deep content, a certainty of help, a calm assurance Heaven goes with you,–be sure you made an idol, and believe the idol will betray you. 2 For beneath your hope that the idol will save you lie the guilt and pain of self-betrayal and uncertainty, so deep and bitter that the dream of judgment cannot conceal completely all your sense of doom. 3 Your self-betrayal must result in fear, for fear *is* judgment, leading surely to the frantic search for idols and for death.

**Note # 72:** ACIM provides a litmus test to determine if we are coming from fear or love. If we lack or have lost our inner peace, we are in fear. We need to stop thinking what we were thinking and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**T-29.IX.10.** Forgiving dreams remind you that you live in safety and have not attacked yourself. 2 So do your childish terrors melt away, and forgiving dreams become a sign that you have made a new beginning. Forgiving dreams become a sign that you have decided not to try to worship a different set of idols and to keep attack. 3 Forgiving dreams are kind to everyone who figures in the dream. 4 And so forgiving dreams bring the dreamer full release from dreams of fear. 5 The dreamer of forgiving dreams does not fear his own judgment for he has judged no one, nor has he sought to be released through judgment from what judgment must impose. 6 And all the while the dreamer of forgiving dreams is remembering what he forgot, when judgment seemed to be the way to save him from his own judgment’s penalty. p624

**Note # 73:** In forgiving dreams, we realize that there is nothing to forgive since there are no victims. In forgiving dreams, everything that we thought had occurred to us is understood to be the projection from our own mind. Realizing that we are the dreamer, we know that illusions cannot harm our real Self. We allow and accept our brother without judgment or attack. The Holy Spirit has brought our awareness back to a level where we now realize that giving is receiving since all minds are joined. The Voice for God is starting to be heard. The remembrance of God is rapidly approaching.
Chapter 30. THE NEW BEGINNING

Introduction

T-30.in.1. The new beginning, which is our desire for the forgiving dreams of love, now becomes the focus of the curriculum. 2 The goal is clear that you do not want the dreams of judgment, but now you need specific methods for attaining the forgiving dream. 3 The speed by which the new beginning can be reached depends on this one thing alone: your willingness to practice every step. 4 Each step towards the decision for loving and forgiving dreams of the new beginning will help a little, every time each step is attempted. 5 And together will these steps lead you from dreams of judgment to forgiving dreams and out of pain and fear. 6 The steps are not new to you, but the steps are more ideas than rules of thought to you as yet. 7 So now we need to practice the steps awhile, until the steps are the rules by which you live. 8 We seek to make the steps for choosing dreams of forgiveness habits now, so you will have the steps for choosing dreams of forgiveness ready for whatever need.

Note # 1: ACIM is now about to provide the steps for choosing dreams of forgiveness over dreams of judgment. ACIM points out that the choice is ours to make and that we are finally ready to reclaim from the ego our decision-making ability. We can now decide if we will choose to teach love or fear. It is our decision.

I. Rules for Decision

T-30.I.1. Decisions are continuous. 2 You do not always know when you are making decisions. 3 But with a little practice with the decisions you recognize, a set of steps begins to form which sees you through the rest of your decisions. 4 It is not wise to let yourself become preoccupied with every step you take in the decision making process. 5 The proper set of steps, adopted consciously each time you wake, will put you well ahead. 6 And if you find resistance strong and dedication weak, you are not ready to follow the steps to choose for forgiving dreams. 7 <Do not fight yourself.> 8 But think about the kind of day you want, and tell yourself there is a way in which this very day can happen just like that. 9 Then try again to have the day you want.

Note # 2: Our day is the choice between the decision for love or fear, judgment or
forgiveness, the thought system of the ego or the Holy Spirit. What type of day do we wish to call into our experience?

T-30.I.2. (1) The outlook starts with this:

2 Today I will make no decisions by myself.

3 This means that you are choosing not to be the judge of what to do. 4 But it must also mean you will not judge the situations where you will be called upon to make response. 5 For if you judge the situations where you will be called upon to make response, you have set the rules for how you should react to the situations. 6 And then another answer, cannot but produce confusion and uncertainty and fear.

Note # 3: If we have already predetermined what the correct response is based on our past egoic judgments, we will become confused and conflicted when we hear a different answer coming from the Holy Spirit. This confusion and conflict would increase fear which the Holy Spirit is pledged not to do.

T-30.I.3. This decision to first egoically decide by yourself is your major problem now. 2 You still make up your mind, and <then> decide to ask what you should do. 3 And what you hear may not resolve the problem as you saw first how the problem should be egoically resolved. 4 This second answer leads to fear, because this second answer contradicts what you perceive and so you feel attacked. 5 And therefore angry. 6 There are rules by which this feeling of confusion and attack will not happen. 7 But this feeling of confusion and attack does occur at first, while you are learning how to hear the Voice for the Holy Spirit and the forgiving dream.

Note # 4: If we have already predetermined the answer that we want, anytime we hear a different answer, we will feel attacked and fearful. Now, we must decide if we would rather be right or happy. The ego will insist that we need to declare ourselves right even if we are wrong. Our happiness will be sacrificed and fear and attack will be our natural egoic response.

T-30.I.4. (2) Throughout the day, at any time you think of it and have a quiet moment for reflection, tell yourself again the kind of day you want; the kind of feelings you would have, the kind of things you want to happen to you, and the things you would experience, and say:

2 If I make no decisions by myself, this is the kind of day that will be given me.

3 These two procedures, decide not to make decisions by yourself and reminding yourself of the kind of day you want, when practiced well, will serve to let you be directed without fear, for opposition will not first arise and then become a problem in itself.

Note # 5: By doing these first steps, we have laid the foundation for a day in which we
will choose to experience only forgiveness and love.

T-30.I.5. But there will still be times when you have judged already. 2 Now the answer, which is different from your previous judgment, will provoke attack, unless you quickly straighten out your mind to want an answer that will work. 3 Be certain this previous choice to decide by yourself has happened if you feel yourself unwilling to sit by and ask to have the answer given you. 4 This means you have decided by yourself, and can not see the question. 5 Now you need a quick restorative before you ask again.

Note # 6: If we have not been restored to a sense of inner peace, we can rest assured we have chosen not to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We need to stop thinking what our ego was thinking, breath and ask again. Anytime we are not at inner peace, we are coming out of fear and judgment. This is the litmus test for the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-30.I.6. (3) Remember once again the day you want, and recognize that something has occurred that is not part of the day you want. 2 Then realize that you have asked a question by yourself, and must have set an answer in your egoic terms. 3 Then say:

4 I have no question. 5 I forgot what to decide.

6 This cancels out the egoic terms that you have set, and lets the answer show you what the question must have really been.

Note # 7: This step cancels out our previous predetermine judgment and allows us to be open to making a different choice.

T-30.I.7. Try to observe this rule for cancellation of past egoic judgments without delay, despite your opposition. 2 For you have already gotten angry. 3 And your fear of being answered in a different way from what your version of the question asks will gain momentum, until you believe the day you want is one in which you get your egoic answer to your egoic question. 4 And you will not get your egoic answer from the Holy Spirit, for your egoic answer would destroy the day by robbing you of what you really want, which is a day of love and forgiveness. p626 5 This can be very hard to realize, when once you have decided by yourself the rules that promise you a happy day. 6 Yet this egoic decision that claims your happiness lies in past egoic judgments still can be undone, by simple methods that you can accept.

Note # 8: Since the ego believes that you are limited, it also believes that the world is a zero-sum game. To have, you must take. Happiness lies in your ability to defend your separation from your brother and maintain whatever you have taken from him. If we decide by ourselves, our little “s” self will come out of fear and will decide that our happiness lies in attack. The day we choose will be a day of judgment, hate and fear. Our ego will fight to be right and claim that happiness must be sacrificed.

T-30.I.8. (4) If you are so unwilling to receive guidance from the Holy Spirit that you
cannot even let your egoic question go, you can begin to change your mind with this:

2 At least I can decide I do not like what I feel now.

3 This much that you do not like what you feel, is obvious, and paves the way for the next easy step.

Note # 9: Our egoic decision to be right will not result in happiness. We will not feel inner peace. Would you rather be right or happy?

T-30.I.9. (5) Having decided that you do not like the way you feel, what could be easier than to continue with:

2 And so I hope I have been wrong.

3 This hope that you have been wrong works against the sense of opposition, and reminds you that help is not being thrust upon you but is something that you want and that you need, because you do not like the way you feel. 4 This tiny opening will be enough to let you go ahead with just a few more steps you need to let yourself be helped by the Holy Spirit.

Note # 10: The Holy Spirit will not force His thought system upon us. We must be ready to freely accept His advice.

T-30.I.10. Now you have reached the turning point, because it has occurred to you that you will gain if what you have egoically decided is not so. 2 Until this point is reached, you will believe your happiness depends on being egoically right. 3 But this much reason have you now attained; you would be better off if you were wrong.

Note #11: The pain and suffering you feel when you follow the ego’s insistence on being right does not make sense to you now. You recognize that you would be better off if you were wrong than egoically right. You realize that you have sacrificed your happiness. There must be a better way. You are ready to make the choice to choose again and abandon the thought system of the ego.

T-30.I.11. (6) This tiny grain of wisdom that you would be better off if you were wrong will suffice to take you further. 2 You are not coerced, but merely hope to get a thing you want. 3 And you can say in perfect honesty:

4 I want another way to look at this.

5 Now you have changed your mind about the day, and have remembered what you really want, which is the forgiving dream based on love. 6 This day’s purpose has no longer been obscured by the insane belief you want this day for the goal of being right when you are wrong. 7 Thus is the readiness for asking brought to your awareness, for you cannot be in conflict when you ask for what you want, and see that it is this for which you
ask.

**Note # 12:** By changing the purpose of our day, what we choose to perceive will automatically change to realign with our day’s current goal. We now realize that it is in our own best interests to seek the guidance of a new advisor, which is the Holy Spirit.

**T-30.I.12.** This final step in the decision making process for a new beginning is but acknowledgment of lack of opposition to be helped. It is a statement of an open mind, not certain yet, but willing to be shown: p627

3 Perhaps there is another way to look at this.
4 What can I lose by asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit?

5 Thus you now can ask a question that makes sense, and so the answer will make sense as well. 6 Nor will you fight against the Holy Spirit’s answer, for you see that it is you who will be helped by the Holy Spirit’s answer.

**Note # 13:** We have now realized that if we ask an egoic question, we will inevitably get our predetermined egoic answer. We are now willing to be still, silence the ego and listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We now are ready to ask the question, “What would love have me do? We are now open to fully and freely accept the Holy Spirit’s answer.

**T-30.I.13.** It must be clear that it is easier to have a happy day if you prevent unhappiness from entering at all into your day. 2 But this preventing of unhappiness from entering into your day takes practice in the rules that will protect you from the ravages of fear. 3 When this protection against fear has been achieved, the sorry dream of judgment has forever been undone. 4 But meanwhile, you have need for practicing the rules for fear’s undoing. 5 Let us, then, consider once again the very first of the decisions which are offered here. This was, “Today I will make no decisions by myself.”

**Note # 14:** ACIM will now explain the logic and value of the first step in the decision for dreams of forgiveness.

**T-30.I.14.** We said you can begin a happy day with the determination not to make decisions by yourself. 2 This seems to be a real decision in itself. 3 And yet, you cannot make decisions by yourself. 4 The only question really is with what voice you will choose to listen to when you make your decision. It will either be the voice for your ego or the voice for the Holy Spirit. 5 That is really all. 6 The first rule, which is not to make decisions by yourself, then, is not coercion, but a simple statement of a simple fact. 7 You will not make decisions by yourself whatever you decide. 8 For decisions are made with idols or with God. 9 And you ask help of anti-Christ idols or Christ, and which you choose will join with you and tell you what to do.

**Note # 15:** We never make a decision by ourselves. We are constantly choosing what thought system we will follow. Any decision is a joint decision with either our ego or the Christ. The Holy Spirit is the voice for both the Christ and the Voice for God, Our
Creator. The ego’s idols are all false beliefs rooted in fear.

T-30.I.15. Your day is not at random. 2 Your day is set by what you choose to live your day with, and how the friend whose counsel you have sought perceives your happiness. 3 You always ask advice before you can decide on anything. 4 Let this be understood that you always ask advice before you can decide on anything, and you can see there cannot be coercion here in your decision, nor grounds for opposition that you may be free. 5 There is no freedom from what must occur. 6 And if you think there is freedom from what must occur, you must be wrong.

Note # 16: What must occur is the natural outcome from whom you seek and use as your council. If you side with the egoic idols, the effect must be one that supports fear, limitation and littleness. If you side with the Holy Spirit, the effect must be love and forgiveness. Cause and effect are intertwined and cannot be separated. The world of time is a world of choice. Our thoughts are things. They will manifest and determine what kind of experience we will choose to have each day. We need to choose wisely. ACIM points out that the only judgment we are capable of making is that we are incapable of judging anything correctly. We need the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Ultimately, since we share God’s Will, we will freely choose to be only love. Time will give way to eternal timelessness.

T-30.I.16. The second rule as well is but a fact. The second rule is, “If I make no decisions by myself, this is the kind of day that will be given me.” 2 For you and your adviser must agree on what you want before what you want can occur. 3 It is but this agreement that permits all things to happen. 4 Nothing can be caused without some form of union, be the union with a dream of judgment or the Voice for God. 5 Decisions cause results <because> decisions are not made in isolation. 6 Decisions are made by you and your adviser, for yourself and for the world as well. 7 The day you want you offer to the world, for the day will be what you have asked for, and the day you have asked for will reinforce the rule of your adviser in the world. 8 Whose kingdom is the world for you today? 9 What kind of day will you decide to have?

Note # 17: Whatever we desire will manifest in our world of perception. Perception follows our desires, thoughts and beliefs. Whatever thought system we feed, that thought system’s rule will be strengthened. It is our decision-maker, who asks for council. Wherever two are joined there is power. The split-mind will obey our decision-maker and project out the desired effect. Our provisional reality will witness for either separation or Oneness. We will experience either the dream of judgment or forgiveness, but not both. They are mutually exclusive.

T-30.I.17. It needs but two who would have happiness this day to promise happiness to all the world. p628 2 It needs but two to understand that each cannot decide alone, to guarantee the joy the two asked for will be wholly shared. 3 For the two have understood the basic law that makes decision powerful. And that the basic law, which is “that to give is to receive”, gives decisions all effects that decisions will ever have. 4 A decision needs but two so that each can give and receive. 5 These two are joined before there can
be a decision. 6 Let this **fact that decisions need two** be the one reminder that you keep in mind, and you will have the day you want, and give **the day you want** to the world by having **the day you want** yourself. 7 Your judgment has been lifted from the world by your decision for a happy day. 8 And as you have received, so must you give.

**Note # 18:** The basic law of God is that to give is to receive. We cannot give what we do not have and we cannot have unless we give. There are no victims. What we choose to experience is our own free choice. Love is only a decision away. Would I rather claim falsely that I am right, or would I rather be happy? Do I want to judge or forgive? When we realize that what I give to my brother, I will also receive, the decision is made easier.

**II. Freedom of Will**

**T-30.II.1.** Do you not understand that to oppose the Holy Spirit is to fight <yourself?> 2 The Holy Spirit tells you but your will; the Holy Spirit speaks for you. 3 In the Holy Spirit's Divinity is but your own divinity. 4 And all the Holy Spirit knows is but your knowledge, which He has saved for you that you may do your will through the Holy Spirit. 5 God <asks> you do your will. 6 God joins with <you.> 7 God did not set God's Kingdom up alone. 8 And Heaven itself but represents your true will, where everything created is for you. 9 No spark of life but was created with your glad consent, as you would have the spark of life be. 10 And not one Thought that God has ever had but waited for your blessing to be born. 11 God is no enemy to you. 12 God asks no more than that God hear you call Him "Friend."

**Note # 19:** The Holy Spirit preserves the truth about ourselves so that we can remember the truth whenever we decide to accept our will. Our will is the same as our Creator's Will. We are the thought of God. As God's Effect, the Sonship shares in the co-creation process with God, His Cause. Cause and Effect are interconnected and you cannot have one without the other. We, being God's Effect, complete God. Each spark of life has been co-created and agreed upon by the shared Mind of God. Love is life and we, being life, must express and extend what we are. By extending what we are, the Mind of God knows Itself because It is Itself. By the extension of life or love, we are being God. By co-creating with God, our Cause, we are going about “GODING”. For “GODING” is being Love or Life. God created me, His thought, to be a conduit for love. In time, love is the creative process in which time is utilized to reawaken sleeping minds to their own magnificence as the Christ. The Christ is the Oneness, which is the extension of God.

**T-30.II.2.** How wonderful it is to do your will! 2 For **to do your will** is freedom. 3 There is nothing else that ever should be called by freedom's name. 4 Unless you do your will you are not free. 5 And would God leave His Son without what God's Son has chosen for himself? 6 God but ensured that you would never lose your will when God gave you God's perfect Answer, **which is that you do your will.** 7 Hear God's perfect Answer now, that you may be reminded of God's Love and learn your will. 8 God would not have His Son made prisoner to what God's Son does not want. 9 God joins with you in
willing you be free. 10 And to oppose God is to make a choice against yourself, and choose that you be bound.

**Note # 20:** To do our will is to do God’s Will. If we are an extension of God, we are part of the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. Being given everything, we cannot be happy by pretending to be something that we are not. We are not littleness. In order to be happy, we need to “BE” ourselves. Being ourselves means that we co-create like our Source. We extend Love and thus, we complete Our Creator. The cycle of giving and receiving is complete.

T-30.II.3. Look once again upon your enemy, which is anything or anyone, you chose to hate instead of love. 2 For thus was hatred born into the world, and thus the rule of fear established there in this world. 3 Now hear God speak to you, through the Holy Spirit, Who is God’s Voice and your voice as well. The Holy Spirit is reminding you that it is not your will to hate and be a prisoner to fear, a slave to death, a little creature with a little life. 4 Your will is boundless; it is not your will that your will be bound. p629 5 What lies in you has joined with God Himself in all creation's birth. 6 Remember God Who has created you, and through your will God created everything. 7 Not one created thing but gives you thanks, for it is by your will that each created thing was born. 8 No light of Heaven shines except for you, for each light was set in Heaven by your will.

**Note # 21:** We are co-creators with God. We, the united Sonship, are God’s Effect. In order for God’s Son to experience Himself, the Sonship had to “BE” Itself. Yet, it is difficult to know white without black, night without day. Egoically, we, the collective Sonship, chose to perceive what it would be like to be other than God in order to better understand, know, and be the Love of God. Being a Oneness, it is difficult to fully understand what we are without something outside the Oneness for comparison. Egoically we chose to perceive that there was something outside ourselves. To do this, we needed the illusion of duality. The illusion of separation was never a problem. It was only when the Sonship forgot the difference between the illusion and reality that fear was believed to be real. Even the illusion of fear is not a problem. It is our belief that an illusion can effect or change the truth that is the problem. When the Sonship decided that fear needed to be opposed, our identification with the illusion resulted in the belief that fear was real.

It is only when we believe in opposites that can we experience conflict. This is what we chose to do within our deluded split mind when we claimed we could deny our divine inheritance as God’s Son. There now appeared to be something that was outside the Oneness. As a result in both the belief in separation and the “authority problem,” time, space, form and individuality all appeared within the illusion of duality. Duality is the imaged fragmentation of the Oneness of All That Is. Duality claims that there is some will outside of the Mind of the Oneness of Everything. Duality requires both an observer and something to observe. With duality, perception replaces knowledge. Now within the illusion of duality there was something that could threaten the One Self. For an insane moment, the invulnerable believed that it could be harmed. Thus, we experienced the thought of limitation that now appeared to be made real due to our own erroneous belief. Sin, guilt and fear arose only in the minds of the split-minded who claimed that they did
not know what they were. These three kissing cousins of sin, guilt and fear are the opposite of truth’s holy trinity of sinlessness, guiltlessness and love. By allowing the illusion that opposites exist, the split-minded must relearn its true reality as God’s Son. Within the illusionary dream of separation, we can safely pretend we are something we are not. Through this pretending, we rediscover our only true desire is to be vigilant only for God. We now can “BE LOVE IN FORM” and thus, we can experience and know what we are. We have safely played at being something other than what we are so that we can experience the joy of rediscovering that we are the Will of God.

We are God expressing Herself as God, perfect, whole and complete. The dream of separation was not a sin. Instead, the dream of separation became a learning device to rediscover our ability to co-create with God. We do this when we realize and know that only God Is. The ego’s illusion of separation has been corrected by the Father’s answer of the Atonement. The “Sonship’s grand plan for “egoic separation” has been transformed by the Holy Spirit into the Sonship’s rediscovery of Itself. By our being co-creator, God is complete. Like has begotten like. Cause and Effect cannot be separated. Ultimately, Cause and Effect are so intertwined that they are One. The Sonship, like God, is only Love. Love allows all and Love transcends all, for Love is all there is. Love extends what It Is. There is only the One Self and Love is that One. God, and only God, just Is.

T-30.II.4. What cause have you for anger in a world that merely waits your blessing to be free? 2 If you be prisoner, then God Himself could not be free. 3 For what is done to him, the Sonship, whom God so loves is done to God Himself. 4 Think not God wills to bind you. For God has made you co-creator of the universe along with Himself. 5 God would but keep your will forever and forever limitless. 6 This world awaits the freedom you will give when you have recognized that you are free. 7 But you will not forgive the world until you have forgiven God, Who gave your will to you. 8 For it is by your will the world is given freedom. 9 Nor can you be free apart from God Whose holy Will you share.

Note # 22: We share the Will of God and, ultimately, we can only do God’s Will. God’s Will is changeless. Yet, within the illusion of time, change appears to be possible. It is in time that we will freely choose to only witness for the truth. We reclaim our divine birthright and only want the Oneness of God. We freely choose to come home to the reality that our will and God’s Will are one. The world of time was made by the Sonship to play the game of “keep away from God.” When we get tired of playing this game, we will freely choose to reawaken to the truth of the Oneness. And by playing this game, the Sonship will relearn what It is.

T-30.II.5. God turns to you to ask the world be saved, for by your own salvation is the world healed. 2 And no one walks upon the earth but must depend on your decision, that each brother learn death has no power over him, because each brother shares your freedom as each brother shares your will. 3 It <is> your will to heal each brother, and because you have decided with each brother to heal, each brother is healed. 4 And now is God forgiven, for you chose to look upon your brother as a friend.

Note # 23: Until we forgive all figures in the dream of separation, we cannot be free. To
withhold forgiveness from any figure in the illusion is to deny the Oneness of God. We cannot claim to be God’s friend if we are not a friend to all our brothers, for God and the entire Sonship are the One Self.

**III. Beyond All Idols**

**T-30.III.1.** Idols are quite specific. 2 But your will is universal, being limitless. 3 And so your will has no form, nor is your will content for your will’s expression to be in the terms of form, like a body. 4 Idols are limits. 5 Idols are the belief that there are forms that will bring happiness, and that, by limiting, is all attained. 6 It is as if you said, "I have no need of everything. 7 This little thing I want, and this little thing will be as everything to me." 8 And this little thing must fail to satisfy, because it is your will that everything be yours. 9 Decide for idols and you ask for loss. 10 Decide for truth and everything is yours.

**Note # 24:** Being created as everything, we cannot be content with less. Idols arise from false beliefs that we are incomplete and that some outside form, the idol, can make us whole. Our choice for idols confirms our belief in our “littleness.” The body was made to bear witness to limitation. Form cannot be shared and, therefore, always limits.

**T-30.III.2.** It is not form you seek. 2 What form can be a substitute for God the Father’s Love? 3 What form can take the place of all the love in the Divinity of God the Son? 4 What idol can make two of what is one? 5 And can the limitless be limited? 6 You do not want an idol. p630 7 It is not your will to have one idol. 8 An idol will not bestow on you the gift you seek, which is completeness. 9 When you decide upon the form of what you want, you lose the understanding of the form’s purpose. 10 So you see your will within the idol, thus reducing your will to a specific form. 11 Yet this idol’s specific form could never be your will, because what shares in all creation cannot be content with small ideas and little things, which the idol represents.

**Note # 25:** God’s Will is that we be happy. We can only be happy by being the everything that we are.

**T-30.III.3.** Behind the search for every idol lies the yearning for completion. 2 Wholeness has no form because wholeness is unlimited. 3 To seek a special person or a thing to add to you to make yourself complete, can only mean that you believe some form is missing. 4 And by finding this missing form, you will achieve completion in a form you like. 5 This completion of yourself by acquiring the missing part is the purpose of an idol; You will not look beyond the idol. You will not look to the idol’s source or cause, which is the belief that you are incomplete. 6 Only if you had sinned could this belief that you are incomplete be so. 7 For sin is the idea you are alone and separated off from what is whole. 8 And thus, the idea you are alone and separated off from what is whole and that you have sinned would be necessary for the search for wholeness to be made beyond the boundaries of limits on yourself.
**Note # 26:** If there is only a Oneness, it is impossible not to be whole. Only by claiming that we are incomplete could there be something outside ourselves that could make us whole.

T-30.III.4. It never is the idol that you want. 2 But what you think the idol offers you, which is your completion, is what you want. It is your completion you want indeed and have the right to ask for. 3 Nor could it be possible that your completion, be denied. 4 Your will to be complete is but God's Will, and your completion is given you by being God’s Will. 5 God knows not form. 6 God cannot answer you in terms of forms that have no meaning. 7 And your will could not be satisfied with empty forms, made but to fill a gap that is not there. 8 It is not this form that you want. 9 Creation gives no separate person and no separate thing the power to complete the Son of God. 10 What idol can be called upon to give the Son of God what he already has, which is completion and wholeness?

**Note # 27:** Being created complete by God, we cannot be anything less. We are unlimited spirit. Spirit cannot be trapped by form. We can deny that we are unlimited spirit but we cannot change our unlimited reality. Nothing can be granted that is more than the everything that we are. Being already perfect, whole and complete, what could an illusionary idol of nothingness give us that we could want or truly value?

T-30.III.5. Completion is the <function> of God's Son. 2 God's Son has no need to seek for completion at all. 3 Beyond all idols stands the Son of God's holy will to be but what God's Son is. 4 For more than whole is meaningless. 5 If there were change in God's Son, if he could be reduced to any form and limited to what is not in him, God's Son would not be as God created him. 6 What idol can God's Son need to be himself? 7 For can God's Son give a part of himself away? 8 What is not whole cannot make whole. 9 But what is really asked for cannot be denied by God's Will. 10 Your will <is> granted because it is God’s Will. 11 Your will <is> granted not in any form that would content you not, but in the whole completely lovely Thought God holds of you.

**Note # 28:** God is cause and we are God’s Effect. Thus, we complete God. Our function is the completion of the Will of God. The effect of Love can only be the extension of love. We complete God by being the whole and the holy loving thought that God knows His Son to be. We are perfect, whole and complete because this is how God thought His Son to be. We are an Effect of the Mind of God and an effect cannot change its Cause. The effect’s true core must remain as it was conceived by the mind that created it. Only the Mind that created the thought could hold the power to change the thought. A thought never leaves its source and the thought of God is eternal and changeless. In the holographic Mind of God, we cannot be anything other than perfect, whole and complete. We can deny the truth, but we cannot change the truth.

T-30.III.6. Nothing that God knows not, exists. 2 And what God knows exists forever, changelessly. 3 For thoughts endure as long as does the mind that thought of the thought. 4 And in the Mind of God there is no ending, nor a time in which God’s Thoughts were absent or could suffer change. p631 5 Thoughts are not born and cannot
Thoughts share the attributes of their creator, nor have thoughts a separate life apart from their creator. The thoughts you think are in your mind, as you are in the Mind of God, which thought of you. And so there are no separate parts in what exists within God's holographic Mind. God's Mind is forever One, eternally united and at peace.

Note # 29: There is no reality outside the Mind of God since God's thought is the Oneness. Nothing can be outside God's Will since nothing is outside this Oneness. We are the whole completely, lovely Thought that God holds of us. The Sonship is God's eternal Effect. Like a hologram, each seemingly separate part contains the whole. Our thoughts are like the laser beam that activates the holographic image. If our thoughts are fear based, we will place our awareness upon the dream of separation. If our thoughts are loving and forgiving, the happy dream will be what we choose to perceive.

T-30.III.7. Thoughts seem to come and go. Yet all this coming and going of a thought means is that you are sometimes aware of the thought, and sometimes not aware of the thought. An unremembered thought is born again to you when the unremembered thought returns to your awareness. Yet the unremembered thought did not die when you forgot it. The unremembered thought was always there, but you were unaware of it. The Thought God holds of you is perfectly unchanged by your forgetting. The Thought God holds of you will always be exactly as it was before the time when you forgot, and the Thought God holds of you will be just the same when you remember. And the Thought God holds of you is the same within the interval when you forgot.

Note # 30: The Thought God holds of you remain changeless and eternal. During the illusion of separation, we have forgotten the Thought God holds of us. Thus, we are freely choosing to deny the truth. Yet, our denial cannot change the truth. We still remain perfect, whole and complete throughout each phase of our denial of our true reality as God's Effect. Upon our reawakening to truth, the once split-minded will again become aware of the Thought God holds of His Son. During the dream of the separation, the Christ remains fully aware of our true reality and the Holy Spirit guides us back to the rediscovery of our true nature.

T-30.III.8. The Thoughts of God are far beyond all change, and shine forever. The Thoughts of God await not birth. The Thoughts of God wait for welcome and remembering. The Thought God holds of you is like a star, unchangeable in an eternal sky. So high in Heaven is the star set that those outside of Heaven know not the star is there. Yet still and white and lovely will the star shine through all eternity. There was no time when the Thought God holds of you was not there; no instant when this star's light grew dimmer or less perfect ever was.

Note # 31: The Thought God holds of us shines forth whether we are aware of it are not. Its light is unaffected be our awareness of its presence. This light’s presence remains eternal for God’s Thoughts cannot die, change or be extinguished.

T-30.III.9. Who knows the Father knows this light, for the Father is the eternal sky that
holds this star safe, forever lifted up and anchored sure. 2 This light’s perfect purity does not depend on whether this star is seen on earth or not. 3 The sky embraces this star and softly holds this light in its perfect place, which is as far from earth as earth from Heaven. 4 It is not the distance nor the time that keeps this star invisible to earth. 5 But those who seek for idols cannot know the star is there.

**Note # 32:** If one refuses to look in the right direction, one will not see a star. Our egoic thought system tells us to look everywhere outside ourselves for some light that would make us complete. Yet, such a light cannot be found. We were never incomplete. Only the Holy Spirit knows that the correct direction to look is within. We need to ask the advice of the Holy Spirit Who knows where we hid the truth. The truth is the Thought God holds of the Sonship. God knows His Creation to be perfect, whole and complete.

T-30.III.10. Beyond all idols is the Thought God holds of you. 2 The Thought God holds of you is completely unaffected by the turmoil and the terror of the world, the dreams of birth and death that here are dreamed, the myriad of forms that fear can take; quite undisturbed, the Thought God holds of you remains exactly as it always was. 3 The Thought God holds of you is surrounded by a stillness so complete no sound of battle comes remotely near. The Thought God holds of you rests in certainty and perfect peace. 4 Here in perfect certainty and peace is your one reality kept safe, completely unaware of all the world that worships idols, and that knows not God. 5 In perfect sureness of this Thought’s changelessness and of its rest in its eternal home, the Thought God holds of you has never left the Mind of its Creator Whom this Thought knows, as its Creator knows that this Thought is there within the Creator’s Mind. p633

**Note # 33:** We are a thought of God. Since thoughts never leave their source, nothing can be outside the Mind of God. The Oneness remains perfect, whole and complete.

T-30.III.11. Where could the Thought God holds of you exist but where you are? 2 Is your reality a thing apart from you, and is your reality in a world which your reality knows nothing of? 3 Outside you there is no eternal sky, no changeless star and no reality. 4 The mind of Heaven's Son in Heaven is, for there the Mind of Father and of Son joined in creation which can have no end. 5 You have not two realities, but one. 6 Nor can you be aware of more than one. 7 An idol <or> the Thought God holds of you is your reality. 8 Forget not, then, that idols must keep hidden what you are, not from the Mind of God, but from your own true reality, the Christ. 9 The star shines still; the sky has never changed. 10 But you, the holy Son of God Himself, are unaware of your reality.

**Note # 34:** There is only truth. In Heaven, there is no choice for there is only truth. The false does not exist in Heaven. Yet, in the world of time, there appears to be a choice between the true and the false. The split-minded made the choice to follow the thought system of egoic separation. Believing they lack, the split-minded seek outside themselves for something that will make them whole. The split-minded cannot serve two masters. Our provisional reality will be based on whichever thought system to which we give our allegiance. In the world of perception, both thought systems produce something less than reality. The ego produces dreams of judgment. The Holy Spirit produces dreams of
forgiveness. Both dreams are really birthed out of our own mind’s desire and thoughts. Whichever thought system our mind chooses to feed will determine how the dream is interpreted or perceived. Fear and love are mutually exclusive.

**IV. The Truth behind Illusions**

T-30.IV.1. You will attack what does not satisfy, and thus you will not see you made **what does not satisfy** up. 2 You always fight illusions. 3 For the truth that is hidden behind the illusion is so lovely and so still in loving gentleness, were you aware of the truth, you would forget defensiveness entirely, and rush to truth’s embrace. 4 The truth could never be attacked. 5 And this fact that the truth could never be attacked, you knew when you made idols. 6 Idols were made that this fact that the truth could never be attacked might be forgotten. 7 You attack but false ideas, and never truthful ideas. 8 All idols are the false ideas you made to fill the gap you think arose between yourself and what is true. 9 And you attack the idols of your false ideas for the things you think the idols represent. 10 What lies beyond the idols of your false ideas, which is the truth, cannot be attacked.

**Note # 35:** Truth does not attack and cannot be attacked since truth is invulnerable. Nothing can change the truth. Truth does not defend. Truth just is. We attack our idols when they fail to provide us with what we perceive to be our ever-changing needs. Coming from the false belief of lack, the egoic thought system is as unstable as is its foundation. We give our idols a purpose that they cannot fulfill. We ask the idols to give us more than the everything that we already are. When the idol fails to achieve this impossible goal that we gave it, the idol is attacked and overthrown. Our ego than tells us to choose another idol and thereby, maintain our belief in the dream of separation.

T-30.IV.2. The wearying, dissatisfying egoic gods or idols you made are blown-up children's toys. 2 A child is frightened when a wooden head springs up as a closed box is opened suddenly, or when a soft and silent woolly bear begins to squeak as the child takes hold of the stuffed bear. 3 The rules the child made for boxes and for bears have failed the child, and have broken the child’s “control” of what surrounds the child. 4 And the child is afraid, because the child thought the rules protected him. 5 Now must the child learn the boxes and the bears did not deceive him, broke no rules, nor mean the child’s world is made chaotic and unsafe. 6 The child was mistaken. 7 The child misunderstood what made him safe, and thought that what made the child safe had left.

**Note # 36:** The child has substituted his rules for the rules of reality. In the world of time, the ego tells us that we can substitute the false for the true. Our substitution does not prevent the truth from governing over the false. False rules are unstable and can be overruled by other false rules whenever we choose. This constant changing and overriding of rules can be very frightening indeed. The laws of chaos govern the egoic thought system. The first law of chaos is that truth is different for everyone. Based of this law alone, we can understand why egoic dreams of judgment would be frightening. The
Holy Spirit’s thought system follows the Laws of God. A fundamental Law of God is that creation is extension and that to give is to receive. These are the Laws of Truth. Whenever the laws of God confront the laws of chaos, the false disappear. Our safety lies with the truth of the Thought God holds about His creation. God knows His Child as perfect, whole and complete. We eternally remain safe within the Mind of God.

**T-30.IV.3.** The gap that is not there is filled with toys in countless forms. 2 And each toy or idol seems to break the rules you set for the idol to fill this nonexistence gap. 3 The idol never was the thing you thought. p633 4 The idol must appear to break your rules for safety, since the rules were wrong. 5 But <you> are not endangered by the idol or by the idol’s apparent breaking of your incorrect rules for safety and enjoyment. 6 You can laugh at popping heads and squeaking toys, as does the child who learns the toys are no threat to him. 7 Yet while the child likes to play with the toys, the child still perceives the toys as obeying rules the child made for his enjoyment. 8 So there still are rules that the toys can seem to break and frighten the child. 9 Yet <is> the child at the mercy of his toys? 10 And <can> the toys represent a threat to the child?

**Note # 37:** We cannot be hurt by illusions. Because we believe that we are the body, we believe that we can be hurt. Spirit, the Thought God holds of us, cannot be hurt. The laws of chaos are false and have no power over the Thought God holds of us. Only within our egoic thought system can fear appear to be real. Fear has been defined as false evidence appearing real. Our safety is found by following the thought system of the Holy Spirit. By doing this, we will accept the Atonement for ourselves and reclaim our divine birthright.

**T-30.IV.4.** Reality observes the laws of God, and not the rules you set. 2 It is God’s laws that guarantee your safety. 3 All illusions that you believe about yourself obey no laws. 4 All illusions that you believe about yourself seem to dance a little while, according to the rules you set for them. 5 But then all illusions that you believe about yourself fall and cannot rise again. 6 These idols are but toys, my child, so do not grieve for the idols of illusions that you believe about yourself. 7 The idol’s dancing never brought you joy. 8 But neither were idols things to frighten you, nor were idols made to make you safe if the idol obeyed your rules. 9 Idols, which are all illusions that you believe about yourself, must be neither cherished nor attacked, but merely looked upon as children's toys without a single meaning of their own. 10 See meaning in one idol and you will see meaning in all idols. 11 See no meaning in idols and idols will touch you not.

**Note # 38:** Idols, like all illusions that you believe about yourself, have no power of their own. The only power that they have is what we choose to give them. It is our split-mind that made-up the illusion and it is our mind that controls the illusion. All illusions that you believe about yourself disappear when brought before the thought system of the Holy Spirit. Truth dissipates the false. Yet, in the world of time, the Holy Spirit waits for God’s Son to ask for His guidance. The Holy Spirit will not force the truth upon us since truth never defends or attacks. Truth just abides in Itself.
T-30.IV.5. Appearances deceive <i>because</i> appearances are appearances and not reality. 2 Dwell not on appearances in any form. 3 Appearances or form but obscure reality, and appearances bring fear <i>because</i> appearances hide the truth. 4 Do not attack what you have made to let you be deceived, <b>which is appearances or form</b>, for thus you prove that you have been deceived. 5 Attack has power to make illusions real. 6 Yet what attack makes is nothing <b>since it is but an illusion</b>. 7 Who could be made fearful by a power that can have no real effects at all? 8 What could attack be but an illusion, making things appear like to itself? 9 Look calmly at fear’s toys, and understand that fear’s toys are idols which but dance to vain desires. 10 Give fear’s illusionary toys not your worship, for fear’s toys are not there. 11 Yet this <b>fact that fear’s illusionary toys are not there</b> is equally forgotten in attack. 12 God’s Son needs no defense against his dreams. 13 The idols of God’s Son do not threaten God’s Son at all. 14 The Son of God’s one mistake is that he thinks the idols of his dream are real. 15 What can the power of illusions do?

Note # 39: Because appearance and form were made to hide the truth, we believe and thus, perceive our illusionary dream of separation to be real. When we chose to identify our existence as being a body-mind, instead of unlimited spirit, our identification with form made the dream appear real. The dream’s “reality” is only held within the mind of the dreamer. Awaken the dreamer and the dream’s appearance fades into the nothingness from which it arose. Illusion can neither protect nor harm your real Self.

T-30.IV.6. Appearances can but deceive the mind that wants to be deceived. 2 And you can make a simple choice that will forever place you far beyond deception. 3 You need not concern yourself with how this <b>ability to place yourself far beyond deception</b> will be done, for this you cannot understand. <b>All you need do is make the simple choice to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit</b>. 4 But you will understand that mighty changes have been quickly brought about, when you decide one very simple thing; you do not want whatever you believe an idol gives. 5 For thus the Son of God declares that he is free of idols. 6 And thus <i>is</i> God’s Son free. p634

Note # 40: Eventually, we will grow tired of the game of separation and the belief in sin, guilt and fear that the illusion engenders. We will seek a different solution to relieve our pain and suffering. We will ask to be shown another away. When we ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, the egoic thought will be willingly abandoned for the correct perception of our new Guide. When we “see” with the Vision of Christ, we will be free. Dreams of judgment will now become dreams of forgiveness. When we judge, we value. We will refuse to give over to the Holy Spirit any idols that we still value. Any valuing of worthless idols will keep us bound within our egoic prison of misperception.

T-30.IV.7. Salvation is a paradox indeed! 2 What could salvation be except a happy dream? 3 Salvation asks you but that you forgive all things that no one ever did. Salvation asks you to overlook what is not there. And <b>salvation asks you</b> not to look upon the unreal as reality. 4 You are but asked to let your will be done, and seek no longer for the things you do not want. 5 And you are asked to let yourself be free of all the dreams of what you never were, and seek no more to substitute the strength of idle
wishes for the Will of God.

**Note # 41:** Salvation asks that we be vigilant only for the truth. When we no longer value any potential "gifts" from the idols for the separation, the false will fade before the light of truth about God’s Son. We will no longer seek to find a substitute for God’s Love. Note the similarity between how ACIM defines salvation and the term forgiveness. The definition is the same in that it is the rejection of the false for the truth. Thus, we forgive all things that we believe were done to us that never really happened. Salvation’s forgiveness is for all illusions. The term forgiveness would be applied to a specific illusion that you hold against something. Since there is only the One Self, true forgiveness and salvation are synonymous and interchangeable.

**T-30.IV.8.** Here does the dream of separation start to fade and disappear. 2 For here the gap that is not there begins to be perceived without the toys of terror that you made to fill this imagined gap. 3 No more than this is asked of you than to abandon our idols and end your seeking to find a substitute for God’s Will. 4 Be glad indeed salvation asks so little, not so much. 5 Salvation asks for nothing in reality since the separation is not real and thus, is nothing. 6 And even in illusions salvation but asks forgiveness be the substitute for fear. 7 This substitution of forgiveness for fear is the only rule for happy dreams. 8 The gap is emptied of the toys of fear, and then the gap of separation’s unreality is plain. 9 Dreams are for nothing. 10 And the Son of God can have no need of the nothingness of dreams. 11 Dreams offer him no single thing that the Son of God could ever want. 12 The Son of God is delivered from illusions by his will, and but restored to what he is. 13 What could God's plan for His Son's salvation be, except a means to give His Son to God, Himself?

**Note # 42:** Salvation is the return of the Sonship to the truth. Salvation asks that we realize that nothing real can be threatened and that nothing unreal exists. Salvation asks that we abandon the impossible dream that we be given more that everything. Being created as everything how could we be given more? We are the Oneness of the Mind of God and share God’s Will. The Sonship is the Effect of God. The effect cannot be separate from its source. God’s Plan for Salvation is that His Effect be returned to the truth of what the Sonship is. By accepting our divine birthright, we complete God.

**V. The Only Purpose**

**T-30.V.1.** The real world is the state of mind in which the only purpose of the world is seen to be forgiveness. 2 Fear is not the real world’s goal, for the escape from guilt becomes the real world’s aim. 3 In the state of mind, which is the real world, the value of forgiveness is perceived and takes the place of idols, which are sought no longer, for the idols’ "gifts" are not held dear. 4 In the state of mind, which is the real world, no rules are idly set, and no demands are made of anyone or anything to twist and fit into the dream of fear. 5 Instead, in the state of mind, which is the real world, there is a wish to understand all things created as they really are. 6 And in the state of mind,
which is the real world, it is recognized that all things must be first forgiven, and <then> understood.

**Note # 43:** The real world is not a place but a state of mind. Forgiveness, not fear, is valued. Dreams of forgiveness, not dreams of judgment, are what we perceive. The real world is still a dream in which the happy dream has been substituted for the dream of separation. This state of mind is not heaven since perception, not knowledge, is utilized. But misperception has now been replaced with the correct perception of the Holy Spirit’s thought system.

**T-30.V.2.** Here, in the world of egoic perception, it is thought that understanding is acquired by attack. Judgmental dreams rule egoic perception. J 2 There, in the state of mind, which is the real world, it is clear that by attack is understanding lost. 3 In the state of mind, which is the real world, the folly of pursuing guilt as goal is fully recognized. 4 And in the state of mind, which is the real world, idols are not wanted there, for guilt is understood as the sole cause of pain in any form. 5 No one is tempted by guilt’s vain appeal, for suffering and death have been perceived as things not wanted and not striven for. 6 In the state of mind, which is the real world, the possibility of freedom has been grasped and welcomed, and the means by which freedom can be gained can now be understood. p635 7 In the state of mind, which is the real world, the world becomes a place of hope, because the world’s only purpose is to be a place where hope of happiness can be fulfilled. 8 And no one stands outside this hope that happiness can be fulfilled, because the world has been united in belief that the purpose of the world is one which all must share, if hope be more than just a dream.

**Note # 44:** In the state of mind, which is the real world, thoughts are shared. We realize that there are no private thoughts. Because we have changed the purpose of the dream of not knowing what we are from one of egoic judgment to the forgiving dream, forgiveness has replaced fear. By changing our purpose, we have automatically changed our perception of the dream, itself. Instead of the dream’s goal being guilt, the purpose is now the removal of guilt through forgiveness. The happy dream more clearly mirrors the truth of Heaven. We have joined with our brother in the common purpose of the removal of all guilt by replacing guilt with the desire for only truth.

**T-30.V.3.** Not yet is Heaven quite remembered, for the purpose of forgiveness still remains. 2 Yet in the state of mind, which is the real world, everyone is certain he will go beyond forgiveness, and he but remains until forgiveness is made perfect in himself. 3 He has no wish for anything but this perfection of forgiveness in himself. 4 And in the state of mind, which is the real world, fear has dropped away, because he is united in his purpose with himself, which is to forgive himself and thus, reawaken to the truth. 5 There is a hope of happiness in him so sure and constant he can barely stay and wait a little longer, with his feet still touching earth. 6 Yet is he glad to wait till every hand is joined, and every heart made ready to arise and go with him. 7 For thus is he made ready for the step in which is all forgiveness left behind.

**Note # 45:** In the state of mind called Heaven, co-creation is our purpose. In the state of
mind, which is the real world, forgiveness is our purpose. In the real world, we still perceive. To see something outside ourselves still implies that all the Sonship has not come to the realization that there is no separation and that only the One Self exists. We have not yet remembered the whole truth about our Oneness with our Source. We still perceive a small gap between the Oneness of the holographic Mind of God and ourselves.

T-30.V.4. The final step is God's, because it is but God Who could create a perfect Son and share His Fatherhood with him. 2 No one outside of Heaven knows how God shared His Fatherhood with His perfect Son for understanding this is Heaven itself. 3 Even the real world has a purpose still beneath creation and eternity. 4 But in the state of mind, which is the real world, fear is gone because the real world's purpose is forgiveness, not idolatry. 5 And so is Heaven's Son prepared to be himself, and to remember that the Son of God knows everything his Father understands, and understands everything perfectly with His Father.

Note # 46: Prior to accepting the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our egoic function was judgment. Judgment insured that the illusion of separation continued to appear real and that guilt was maintained. When we follow the Holy Spirit, our function within the illusion of duality is forgiveness. Forgiveness is the tool that the Holy Spirit utilizes to remove all guilt from our minds. True forgiveness removes duality and corrects what had been misperceived as separate and real. In the state of mind that is Heaven, our function becomes co-creation with our Father. The Father takes the final step in the process of the return of our minds from perception to knowledge. Knowledge is the remembering that the Son of God knows everything his Father understands, and understands everything perfectly with His Father. Knowledge is the remembering that there is only the shared One Self of the Mind of God and we are “That One”. We have returned to the knowledge that there is only the Oneness of the One Self. The illusion of duality has disappeared into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-30.V.5. The real world still falls short of this remembering that the Son of God knows everything his Father understands, and understands everything perfectly with His Father, for this sharing God’s Fatherhood with His Son is God's Own purpose; only God’s purpose, and yet completely shared and perfectly fulfilled. 2 The real world is a state in which the mind has learned how easily do idols go when idols are still perceived but wanted not. 3 How willingly the mind can let idols go when the mind has understood that idols are nothing and nowhere, and are purposeless. 4 For only then can guilt and sin be seen without a purpose, and as meaningless.

Note # 47: As long as we perceive ourselves as less than whole, idols will be valued. Idols are needed to save someone who believes in sin and guilt. Sin is the belief that we lack something and are not whole. The goal of the idol is to save us from our perceived lack and make us complete. When we realize that we already are the wholeness of everything, we will realize that idols cannot grant the impossible. We cannot be more than the everything that we are. Since we are whole, God’s Son must be sinless and guiltless. Without the belief in lack, idols no longer serve any purpose. Since idols produce no effect, the forgiving mind can easily dismiss the idol as the nothing that it is.
T-30.V.6. Thus is the real world's purpose, which is to utilize forgiveness to prepare God’s Son to be his Big “S” Self, gently brought into awareness, to replace the egoic goal of sin and guilt. 2 And all that stood between your image of yourself and what you are, forgiveness washes joyfully away. 3 Yet God need not create His Son again, that what is his son’s divine inheritance be given back to God’s Son. 4 The gap between your brother and yourself was never there. 5 And what the Son of God knew in creation he must know again.

Note # 48: We never lost our divine nature as unlimited spirit. We just forgot where we had put it. Forgiveness removes the guilt that was hiding our true nature. What God created remains eternal and changeless. We only need to drop the game of fear, lack and separation and simply remember the truth of what we are. We are God’s beloved Child with Whom He is well pleased. We are as God Thought Us to be, perfect, whole and complete.

T-30.V.7. When brothers join in the purpose of forgiveness in the world of fear, they stand already at the edge of the real world. 2 Perhaps the joined brothers still look back, and think they see an idol that they want. 3 Yet has the joined brothers’ path been surely set away from idols toward reality. p636 4 For when brothers joined their hands it was Christ's hand they took, and they will look on the face of Christ Whose hand they hold. 5 The face of Christ is looked upon before the Father is remembered. 6 For the Father must be unremembered till His Son has reached beyond forgiveness to the Love of God. 7 Yet is the Love of Christ accepted first. 8 And then will come the knowledge the Christ and the Father are One.

Note # 49: We cannot love God and yet not love our brother. The Father and Son are One. God, as Cause, and We, as God’s Effect, are intertwined as the One Self. The love of the Christ in our brother and ourselves must come first before we can truly say we love God. We cannot reject our brother’s Oneness without losing our own. Since God loves our brother, to fail to see the Face of Christ in our brother is to attack God.

T-30.V.8. How light and easy is the step across the narrow boundaries of the world of fear when you have recognized the Christ in your brother, Whose hand you hold! 2 Within your hand is everything you need to walk with perfect confidence away from fear forever, and to go straight on, and quickly reach the gate of Heaven itself. 3 For the Christ Whose hand you hold was waiting but for you to join Him, the Christ. 4 Now that you have come, would the Christ delay in showing you the way that the Christ that is your brother must walk with you? 5His blessing lies on you as surely as His Father's Love rests upon the Christ that is your brother. 6 Your brother’s gratitude to you is past your understanding, for you have enabled the Christ that is your brother to rise from chains and go with you, together, to His Father's house.

Note # 50: Forgiveness looks past the form to see the Christ within all of us for we are the shared Mind of God. When we forgive, we utilize the vision of Christ to acknowledge the truth that spirit cannot be harmed and that shared thoughts unite and join minds that
once appeared to be separate. To give is to receive and we cannot give what we do not have. By releasing our brother from the belief in sin and guilt, we free ourselves. When we release our brother from illusions, we are acknowledging that although mind has creative power and is free to either create or project any experience that it would like, an illusion can never change in mind’s true reality. Mind, being the perfect extension of God, must continue as God created It, perfect, whole and complete.

T-30.V.9. An ancient hate is passing from the world. 2 And with an ancient hate’s passing goes all hatred and all fear from the world. 3 Look back no longer, for what lies ahead is all you ever wanted in your heart. 4 Give up the world! 5 But when you give up the world it is not to sacrifice. 6 You never wanted this world of form, perception, separation and limitation. 7 What happiness have you sought here in the world of time and space that did not bring you pain? 8 What moment of content has not been bought at fearful price in coins of suffering? 9 Joy has no cost. 10 Joy is your sacred right, and what you pay for joy is not happiness. Joy is happiness and love and God’s Love is free. 11 Be speeded on your way by honesty, and let not your experiences here in the world of time and space deceive in retrospect. 12 Your experiences here in the world of egoic perception were not free from bitter cost and joyless consequence.

Note # 51: God’s love is freely given and cannot be earned. By the same token, God’s Love cannot be lost. We wanted to have a special love that could make as more than the everything God created us to be. The world of egoic perception has been based on the motto, “Seek but do not find.” In the world of form, it is impossible for a part to be made whole without a sacrifice. Yet, to sacrifice requires you remain incomplete. Form must be limited. Bodily joy and happiness is fleeting and always comes at a price. The price that the ego demands for our egoic desire to be right even when we are wrong is our happiness. The ego wants us to cling to the past memories of fleeting images of egoic joy in exchange for the eternal peace of God. The price is too high. God’s love is perfect freedom and is freely given. This freedom demands no sacrifice, cost or exclusive membership. God, being All, extends Himself fully to all.

T-30.V.10. Do not look back at past egoic memories except in honesty. 2 And when an idol tempts you, think of this:

3 There never was a time an idol brought you anything except the "gift" of guilt. 4 Not one idyllic gift was bought except at cost of pain, nor was the pain ever paid by you alone.

5 Be merciful unto your brother, then. 6 And do not choose an idol thoughtlessly, remembering that your brother will pay the cost as well as you. 7 For your brother will be delayed when you look back to past egoic memories without honesty, and you will not perceive the Christ in your brother Whose loving hand you hold. 8 Look forward toward the truth of Heaven, then; in confidence walk with a happy heart that beats in hope and does not pound in fear. p637

Note # 52: ACIM advises us to not look back to the past. The past is full of egoic
judgments based upon misperception. Images of the past are twice removed from the now. The ego wants as to recall the past so that we can relive the past again in the future. The past keeps us out of the <now>. Only in the <now> can we decide to choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit.

T-30.V.11. The Will of God forever lies in those whose hands are joined. 2 Until two brother’s hands are joined, each brother thought the Christ, Who is their brother was their enemy. 3 But when two brothers joined and shared a purpose of forgiveness, they were free to learn their will is one. 4 And thus the Will of God must reach to their awareness. 5 Nor can brothers who are joined forget for long that this joint shared will with God’s Will is but their own will.

Note # 53: When brothers’ share in the same purpose, minds are joined. In the forgiving dream, forgiveness, union and joining are the goals. In the judgmental dream, judgment, separation and the maintenance of guilt are the goals. Forgiveness removes the blockages of sin, guilt and fear from our minds. When these blocks have been removed, we realize that we remain sinless and guiltless and are not the body. The ego’s voice for fear has been removed. We are now open to hearing the Voice for God and the Oneness of the Sonship’s joint Will.

VI. The Justification for Forgiveness

T-30.VI.1. Anger is <never> justified. 2 Attack has <no> foundation. 3 It is here in the realization that anger is never justified and attack has no foundation that escape from fear begins, and will be made complete. 4 Here in this realization that anger is never justified and attack has no foundation is the real world given in exchange for dreams of terror. 5 For it is on this realization that anger is never justified and attack has no foundation that forgiveness rests, and is but natural. 6 You are not asked to offer pardon where attack is due, and where attack would be justified. 7 For that would mean that you forgive a sin by overlooking what is really there. 8 This forgiving of a sin that is really there is not pardon. 9 For forgiving of a sin that is real would assume that, by responding in a way which is not justified, your pardon will become the answer to attack that has been made. 10 And thus is pardon inappropriate, by being granted where pardon is not due.

Note # 54: Pardon should be granted only if the perceived wrongdoing did not take place. If the wrongdoing did take place, punishment, not pardon, is warranted. If we were to forgive when we were truly wronged, we would be required to sacrifice our own rights and thus, reward the wrongdoer. If sin is real, the sinner should be punished.

T-30.VI.2. Pardon is <always> justified. 2 Pardon has a sure foundation. 3 In pardon, you do not forgive the unforgivable, nor overlook a real attack that calls for punishment. 4 Salvation does not lie in being asked to make unnatural responses which are inappropriate to what is real. 5 Instead, salvation merely asks that you respond
appropriately to what is not real by not perceiving what has not occurred. 6 If pardon were unjustified, you would be asked to sacrifice your rights when you return forgiveness for attack. 7 But you are merely asked to see forgiveness as the natural reaction to distress that rests on error, and thus calls for help. 8 Forgiveness is the only sane response. 9 **Forgiveness** \(<\textit{keeps}>\) your rights from being sacrificed.

**Note # 55:** Sin is different than a mistake. A mistake requires correction, not punishment. If we believe ourselves to be a physical body, we believe that we can be attacked or hurt. In the world of form, attack and wrongdoing appear to be both possible and real. Yet, if we are unlimited, invulnerable spirit, how can we be hurt? We are not held accountable for dreams because they are illusions that have no effect on reality. The world of form is merely a playschool where God’s Son came to remember and rediscover what he is. In this playschool where we appear to have in physical body, we may become frighten but we cannot be hurt. Mistakes during the learning process can occur, but sin is impossible. Mistakes are errors that call for help, not punishment.

**T-30.VI.3.** This understanding that pardon is \(<\textit{always}>\) justified while attack never is justified is the only change that lets the real world rise to take the place of dreams of terror. 2 Fear cannot arise unless attack is justified, and if **attack** had a real foundation pardon would have none. 3 The real world is achieved when you perceive the basis of forgiveness is quite real and fully justified. 4 While you regard **pardon or forgiveness** as a gift unwarranted, **pardon** must uphold the guilt you would "forgive." 5 Unjustified forgiveness is attack. 6 And **unjustified forgiveness** is all the world can ever give. 7 **Unjustified forgiveness** pardons "sinners" sometimes, but remains aware that they have sinned. 8 And so **these supposed “sinners”** do not merit the forgiveness that **pardon** gives.

**Note # 56:** If we grant forgiveness but still hold the person as a wrongdoer within our mind, we have not granted true forgiveness. Instead, we have branded that person with a scarlet letter that tells the world this person is an imperfect sinner. This type of forgiveness is like an I.O.U. that we hold against the person and intend to collect upon at some future date. Pardon or forgiveness is easy to grant when we realize that any "given mistake" has no impact on what we are. We remain invulnerable and unlimited spirit. Pardon is easily granted since we understand that where there is no harm, there can be no foul play.

**T-30.VI.4.** **Unjustified forgiveness** is the false forgiveness which the world employs to keep the sense of sin alive. p638 2 And recognizing God is just, it seems impossible to the **ego** that only understands the idea of false forgiveness that **God’s pardon** could be real. 3 Thus is the fear of God the sure result of seeing pardon as unmerited. The **ego tells us God still believes us to be sinners.** 4 No one who sees himself as guilty can avoid the fear of God. 5 But he is saved from this dilemma of seeing himself as guilty of **sin** if he can forgive. 6 The mind must think of its Creator as the **mind** looks upon itself. 7 If you can see your brother merits pardon, you have learned forgiveness is your right as much as **your brother’s right.** 8 Nor will you think that God intends for you a fearful judgment that your brother does not merit. 9 For it is the truth that you can merit neither
more nor less than your brother.

**Note # 57:** If we realize that our brother could not harm us, we realize that we also could not harm our Creator. If error has no effect, it cannot be a sin. True sin must have an effect that harms or changes reality. Pardon is justified since any error is only a mistake that we understand and interpret as a cry for love. Thus, only love is the proper response to the mistake and love is not something that we need to fear. The fear of God is now seen as unwarranted.

**T-30.VI.5.** Forgiveness recognized as merited will heal. 2 Forgiveness when recognized as merited gives the miracle its strength to overlook illusions. 3 Through the miracle’s ability to overlook illusions you learn that you must be forgiven too. 4 There can be no appearance that can not be overlooked. 5 For if there were some form or appearances of illusions that could not be overlooked, it would be necessary first there be some sin that stands beyond forgiveness. 6 There would be an error called sin that stands beyond forgiveness that is more than a mistake; a special form of error, called sin, that remains unchangeable, eternal, and beyond correction or escape. 7 There would be one mistake called sin that stands beyond forgiveness that had the power to undo creation, and to make a world that could replace creation and destroy the Will of God. 8 Only if this special error that could replace creation and destroy God’s Will were possible could there be some appearances that could withstand the miracle, and not be healed by the miracle.

**Note # 58:** We are the Effect of God. An effect cannot change its cause. God remains changeless and thus, His Will is changeless. As God’s Effect, we can forget the truth and pretend to play the game of separation. Yet, this childhood game of limitation and duality has no power to change the truth. We remain God’s perfect child, part of the Oneness that is the Mind of God.

**T-30.VI.6.** There is no surer proof idolatry is what you wish than a belief there are some forms of sickness and of joylessness forgiveness cannot heal. 2 This belief that there are some forms of sickness that forgiveness cannot heal means that you prefer to keep some idols, and are not prepared, as yet, to let all idols go. 3 And thus you think that some appearances are real and not appearances at all. 4 Be not deceived about the meaning of a fixed belief that some appearances are harder to look past than others appearances are. 5 Your belief in degrees of difficulty among illusion’s appearances always means you think forgiveness must be limited. 6 And your belief in degrees of difficulty means you have set a goal of partial pardon and a limited escape from guilt for you. 7 What can this be except a false forgiveness of yourself, and everyone who seems apart from you?

**Note # 59:** There is no order of difficulty among illusions. The false is always false no matter what form its appearance may take. An illusion is an illusion. All dreams only require that the dreamer wake up. If some parts of the dream of separation seem harder to correct, it is because we still value what that idol can offer our egoic mind. It is our refusal to give up an egoic experience that we still value to the Holy Spirit’s guidance.
that prevents the miracle from being brought into our awareness. Our failing to ask for help prevents the Holy Spirit from performing its function of reinterpretation of misperception and thus, ultimately forgiveness. If given over to the Holy Spirit, the false always must disappear before the truth.

T-30.VI.7. It must be true the miracle can heal all forms of sickness, or the miracle cannot heal. 2 The miracle’s purpose cannot be to judge which forms are real, and which appearances are true. 3 If one appearance must remain apart from healing, one illusion must be part of truth. 4 And if one illusion must be part of truth, you could not escape all guilt, but only some of the parts of guilt. 5 You must forgive God's Son entirely. 6 Or if you refuse to forgive the entire Sonship, you will keep an image of yourself that is not whole, and you will remain afraid to look within your Christ mind and find escape from every idol there. 7 Salvation rests on faith there cannot be some forms of guilt that you cannot forgive. p639 8 And so there cannot be appearances that have replaced the truth about God's Son.

Note # 60: We cannot keep some idols for ourselves since this means that we still cling to our desire to be special and outside the Will of God. Only if we see our brother as unlimited and perfect, can we see ourselves as the Christ.

T-30.VI.8. Look on your brother with the willingness to see your brother as the Christ that he is. 2 And do not keep a part of him outside your willingness that your brother be healed. 3 To heal is to make whole. 4 And what is whole can have no missing parts that have been kept outside the whole. 5 Forgiveness rests on recognizing the unity of the whole, and being glad there cannot be some forms of sickness which the miracle must lack the power to heal.

Note # 61: Someone cannot be a little pregnant. You are either pregnant or not pregnant. There is no in-between. Healing is all or nothing. Healing takes place at the level of mind, not at the illusionary body level. Appearances are made to deceive. Do not place your faith in appearance or you will wrongly judge the miracle’s effectiveness.

T-30.VI.9. God's Son is perfect, or he cannot be God's Son. 2 Nor will you know him as the Christ, if you think he does not merit the escape from guilt in all guilt’s consequences and guilt’s forms. 3 There is no way to think of your brother but this, if you would know the truth about yourself.

4 I thank You, Father, for Your perfect Son, and in my brother’s glory as the Christ will I see my own glory as the Christ.

5 Here is the joyful statement that there are no forms of evil that can overcome the Will of God. This statement is the glad acknowledgment that guilt has not succeeded by your wish to make illusions real. 6 And what is this except a simple statement of the truth?

Note # 62: Since it is God’s Will that His Son be like Himself, perfect, whole and complete, who are we to argue with Our Creator. To argue with God is the height of
egoic arrogance.

T-30.VI.10. Look on your brother with this statement’s hope in you, and you will understand your brother could not make an error that could change the truth in him as the Christ. 2 It is not difficult to overlook mistakes that have been given no effects. 3 But what you see as having power to make an idol of the Son of God you will not pardon. 4 For if you refuse to overlook mistakes that have no effect, your brother has become to you a graven image and a sign of death. 5 Is this sign of death the idols represents your savior? 6 Is his Father wrong about His Son? 7 Or have you been deceived in your interpretation of your brother who has been given you to heal, for your salvation and deliverance?

Note # 63: To give is to receive and we cannot give what we do not have. Our beliefs about how we perceive ourselves to be will determine what we believe we can give. If we see our brother as a body, we will not be able to look beyond the body’s appearance and behold the face of Christ. Our beliefs control our perception. Change our beliefs to the truth that we are unlimited spirit and we will be able to behold the Christ. Our beliefs about what we are determine our goal or purpose. Based upon our purpose, our perception then follows.

VII. The New Interpretation

T-30.VII.1. Would God have left the meaning of the world to your interpretation? 2 If He had left the meaning of the world to your interpretation, the world has no meaning. 3 For it cannot be that meaning changes constantly, and yet is true. 4 The Holy Spirit looks upon the world as with one purpose, changelessly established. 5 And no situation can affect the world’s aim, but must be in accord with the one purpose that the Holy Spirit has given the world. 6 For only if the world’s aim could change with every situation could each situation be open to interpretation which is different every time you think of each situation. 7 You add an element into the script you write for every minute in the day, and all that happens now means something else. p640 8 You take away another element, and every meaning shifts accordingly.

Note # 64: Stability in our perception depends on having a single purpose for all our experiences. The Holy Spirit has established a single purpose for all situations in this world. Each experience is to be a tool to teach forgiveness and love. The Holy Spirit’s goal is the reawakening of all sleeping minds to the truth. If we exclusively adopt the goal that we are here to teach only love, there is no conflict within our world. All events are perceived as either love or a cry for love. Our function becomes forgiving our brother by granting our brother his freedom. By doing this, we receive our own. By having the single purpose of forgiveness and love, decision-making is simplified. We need only ask the Holy Spirit the one question, “What would love have me do?” This single purpose gives instant stability to our perceived world. Correct perception replaces egoic misperception.
What do your scripts reflect except your plans for what the day *should* be? 2 And thus you judge disaster and success, advance, retreat, and gain and loss *based on our own changeable scripts*. 3 These judgments all are made according to the roles the script assigns. 4 The fact *the scripts* have no meaning in themselves is demonstrated by the ease with which these labels change with other judgments, made on different aspects of experience. 5 And then, in looking back *at the experience*, you think you see another meaning in what went before. 6 What have you really done, except to show there was no meaning there *since meaning is changeless if it is real*? 7 But you assigned a meaning in the light of goals that change, and *this results in* every meaning shifting as *the goal* changes.

**Note # 65:** As we change our goal, how we perceive the same event will also change. Our interpretation of the event will change in order to realign with the new goal. This leads to instability and instability leads to fear. If the situations meaning is constantly changing, any interpretation that we give it is meaningless for truth is stable and does not change. If we adopt the Holy Spirit’s single purpose, judgment and conflict disappear. With this single purpose, stability is reestablished within our healed mind.

Only a constant purpose can endow events with stable meaning. 2 But a *constant purpose* must accord <one> meaning to all *events*. 3 If *events* are given different meanings, it must be that *events* reflect but different purposes. 4 And this *instability* is all the meaning that *the event can* have. 5 Can this be meaning? 6 Can confusion be what meaning means? 7 Perception cannot be in constant flux, and make allowance for stability of meaning anywhere. 8 Fear is a judgment never justified. 9 *Fear’s presence* has no meaning but to show you wrote a fearful script, and are afraid accordingly. 10 But not because the thing you fear has fearful meaning in itself but *rather that you have written a fearful script*.

**Note # 66:** Our mind calls into our awareness every event that we perceive. We are our own scriptwriter in this play we call our earthly experience and life. We determine what, when, where and how, our life will unfold. Since we believe that we are separate and incomplete, we will write scripts that confirm this. Our goal will be to look outside to find what will make us whole. We will write scripts with assorted adventures that have various goals. If our goal is to prove that we are unworthy of love, that is the movie we will write, direct and star in. If we decide the goal is to be wealthy, we will modify the script and change the movie reel we choose to project from the movie projector of our own mind. If we give all our scripts over to the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit will be able to edit the film so that the movie is utilized to teach only love and forgiveness. Instead of dreams of judgment, these same movies will be seen as forgiving dreams.

A common purpose is the only means whereby perception can be stabilized, and one interpretation given to the world and all experiences here *in this world*. 2 In this shared purpose is one judgment shared by everyone and everything you see. 3 You do not have to judge, for you have learned one meaning has been given everything, and you are glad to see *that one meaning* everywhere. 4 *That one meaning* cannot change.
<because> you would perceive that one meaning everywhere, unchanged by circumstance. 5 And so you offer that one meaning to all events, and let all events offer you stability.

**Note # 67:** If our goal is to teach only love, we must be only love. The Holy Spirit will interpret all situations as either love or a cry for love. The proper response to any cry for love is the granting of love and forgiveness. All events now call for the same response since all events are utilized to teach the goal of being only love. Having one goal and one meaning removes the instability in our lives. The changeability of past egoic goals always results in conflict and fear.

**T-30.VII.5.** Escape from judgment simply lies in this; all things have but one purpose, which you share with all the world. 2 And nothing in the world can be opposed to that one-shared purpose, for that one-shared purpose belongs to everything, as that one-shared purpose belongs to you. 3 In single purpose is the end of all ideas of sacrifice. Sacrifice must assume a different purpose for the one who gains and a different purpose for the one who loses. 4 There could be no thought of sacrifice apart from this idea of different purposes. 5 And it is this idea of different goals that makes perception shift and meaning change. 6 In one united goal does this shifting of perception and meaning become impossible, for your agreement makes interpretation stabilize and last. p641

**Note # 68:** If we share a common goal with the entire world, no one will be excluded from the goal. There will be only one meaning given to each event. When we ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, our shared goal will be to teach only love. Forging dreams will be what we choose to project from our minds. Egoic misperception will now become the correct perception of the Holy Spirit.

**T-30.VII.6.** How can communication really be established while the symbols that are used mean different things? 2 The Holy Spirit's goal gives one interpretation, meaningful to you and to your brother. 3 Thus can you communicate with your brother, and your brother with you. 4 By communicating in symbols that you both can understand the sacrifice of meaning is undone. 5 All sacrifice entails the loss of your ability to see relationships among events. 6 And events looked at separately have no meaning. 7 For there is no light by which the event looked at separately can be seen and understood. 8 Events that are looked at separately have no purpose. 9 And what events that are looked upon as separate are for, cannot be seen. 10 In any thought of loss there is no meaning. 11 No one has agreed with you on what the event that was looked as separate means. 12 The event that was looked as separate is a part of a distorted script, which cannot be interpreted with meaning. 13 The event that was looked as separate must be forever unintelligible. 14 This is not communication. 15 Your dark dreams are but the senseless, isolated scripts you write in sleep. 16 Look not to separate dreams for meaning. 17 Only dreams of pardon can be shared. 18 Dreams of pardon mean the same to both of you.

**Note # 69:** In the dream of judgment, each party has written a script on how the event is to play out. Each party has predetermined the role the other person must play in the
scriptwriter’s dream to fulfill the scriptwriter’s incompleteness. The role we assign to the other party is our own goal. This goal is not shared with the other party for the other party has also written their own script. Each party has their own secret agenda, which they have written. Each party has assigned secret roles for the other party to play in their own dream of judgment. Since each party has different private goals, each party sees the events meaning differently and each act is isolated from the interplay of all relationships to the whole. Only the Holy Spirit knows how each event fits into the big picture. Because of this fact, we should always trust the judgment of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will take dreams of judgment and convert them into dreams of forgiveness.

**Note # 70:** To communicate, we must have a common language. By having only one shared purpose, which is the teaching of love and forgiveness, we can now communicate with our brother. We have one goal and all events are given one meaning, which is shared by all. Thus, minds that once appeared separate now join in their one shared purpose. This one purpose is the reawakening of the Sonship to the truth of what we are.

**VIII. Changeless Reality**

**T-30.VIII.1.** Appearances deceive, but can be changed. 2 Reality is changeless. 3 Reality does not deceive at all, and if you fail to see beyond appearances you <are> deceived. 4 For everything you egoically see will change, and yet you thought what you saw real before, and now you think what you see real again. 5 Reality is thus reduced to form, and form is capable of change. 6 Reality is changeless. 7 It is this changelessness that makes reality real, and keeps reality separate from all appearances. 8 Reality must transcend all form to be itself. 9 Reality cannot change.

**Note # 71:** Only the changeless is real. Form is constantly changing. The vision of Christ allows us to look past form to content.

**T-30.VIII.2.** The miracle is the means to demonstrate that all appearances can change because appearances <are> appearances, and appearances cannot have the
changelessness reality entails. p642 2 The miracle attests salvation from appearances by showing appearances can change. 3 Your brother has a changelessness in him beyond appearance and deception, both. 4 Your brother’s changelessness is obscured by the changing views of your brother that you perceive as your brother’s reality. 5 The happy dream about your brother takes the form of the appearance of your brother’s perfect health, his perfect freedom from all forms of lack, and your brother’s safety from disaster of all kinds. 6 The miracle is proof your brother is not bound by loss or suffering in any form, because your perception of the appearance of loss or suffering in any form can so easily be changed. 7 This demonstrates that your perception of appearance in any form was never real, and could not stem from your brother’s reality. 8 For your brother’s reality is changeless, and appearance has no effects that anything in Heaven or on earth could ever alter. 9 But appearances are shown to be unreal <because> appearances change.

Note # 72: Appearances are based on our perception yet, our perception changes based on the purpose we give to the event. Appearances are form, not content. Reality is truth and truth just is. Knowledge, not perception, is changeless. In the miracle, the Holy Spirit transforms our egoic misperception into correct perception. This is accomplished by changing the experience’s function to realign with truth. Miracles occur in the mind. Miracles do not have to modify physical form. Instead, miracles correct the mind’s misperceptions. Our misperceptions are a result of our egoic desire to maintain a goal that is different from the one, common shared goal of the Holy Spirit and the Christ. This common goal is the return to truth and to the remembrance of God.

T-30.VIII.3.What is temptation but a wish to make illusions real? 2 Temptation does not seem to be the wish that no reality be so. 3 Yet temptation is an assertion that some forms of idols have a powerful appeal that makes some forms of idols harder to resist than those idols you would not want to have as part of your perceived reality. 4 Temptation, then, is nothing more than this; a prayer the miracle touch not some dreams, but keep some dreams’ unreality obscure and give to these illusions that we wish to keep a false reality instead. 5 And Heaven gives no answer to this kind of prayer, nor can a miracle be given you to heal appearances you do not like. 6 Your egoic little “s” self has established limits. 7 What you ask, which is limitation, is given you, but it is not given to you of God Who knows no limits. 8 You have limited yourself.

Note # 73: Within the dream of separation and limitation, we are free to make-up whatever rules we wish to experience. We are free to call anything into our field of awareness that we would like. We are even allowed to pretend that we are something other than part of the unlimited Mind of God. When we choose to play the game of egoic littleness, we get to perceive limitation. This limitation is not real but will appear to bind us as long as we choose to follow the thought system of the ego. We are equally free to reawaken from our game of littleness whenever we choose.

T-30.VIII.4.Reality is changeless. 2 Miracles but show what you have interposed between reality and your awareness is unreal, and does not interfere with reality at all. 3 The cost of the belief there must be some appearances beyond the hope of change is that
the miracle cannot come forth from you consistently. 4 For you have asked the miracle be withheld from power to heal all dreams. 5 There is no miracle you cannot have when you desire healing. 6 But there is no miracle that can be given you unless you want healing. 7 Choose what you would heal, and the Holy Spirit, Who gives all miracles, has not been given freedom to bestow God’s gifts upon God's Son. 8 When the egoic self is tempted, the egoic self denies reality. 9 And the egoic self becomes the willing slave of what he chose instead, which is limitation.

Note # 74: Temptation is our wish to withhold some experience from the guidance of the Holy Spirit. When we attempt to pick and choose which illusions we want to keep, the Holy Spirit is unable to answer our prayer in the form of a miracle. We are not the arbitrators of truth. Egoic prayers that attempt to restrict the possible solution that our ego will accept cannot be answered. For the miracle to occur, we must surrender all egoic thinking about the event and allow the Holy Spirit to change our misperceptions into correct perception. Since the Holy Spirit has changed the purpose, the resulting perception must also change.

T-30.VIII.5. <Because> reality is changeless is a miracle already there to heal all things that change. The miracle is able to modify the appearance in things that change and offer them to you to see in happy form, devoid of fear. 2 The miracle’s modification of the appearance of experience will be given you to look upon your brother thus in a happy form, devoid of fear. 3 But the miracle’s modification in appearance to the happy form cannot be given while you would have it appear otherwise in some respects. 4 For this egoic limitation on the acceptable form for the answer but means you would not have your brother healed and whole. 5 The Christ in your brother is perfect. 6 Is it this, the Christ in your brother that you would look upon? 7 Then let there be no dreams about your brother that you would prefer to seeing this, the Christ in your brother. 8 And you will see the Christ in your brother because you let the Christ in your brother come to you. 9 And when the Christ in your brother has appeared to you, you will be certain you are like the Christ, for the Christ is the changeless in your brother and the Christ is the changeless in you.

Note # 75: If we do not place limits upon the Holy Spirit, we will look with the vision of Christ. The miracle allows us to see past the body-form and observe the Christ, which is the true spiritual essence of all creation that comprises the equality of the One Self.

T-30.VIII.6. This changeless Christ will you look upon when you decide there is not one appearance you would hold in place of what your brother really is. 2 Let no temptation to prefer a dream allow uncertainty to enter here. 3 Be not made guilty and afraid when you are tempted by a dream of what your brother is. 4 But do not give a dream power to replace the changeless Christ in your brother in your sight of him. 5 There is no false appearance but will fade, if you request a miracle instead. 6 There is no pain from which your brother is not free, if you would have your brother be but what he is, which is the Christ. 7 Why should you fear to see the Christ in your brother? 8 You but behold yourself in what you see. 9 As your brother is healed are you made free of guilt, for your brother’s appearance is your own appearance to you. p644
Note # 76: Appearance will give way to the truth when we ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance. The miracle cuts through the veil of form that hides the essence of the Christ from our vision. When we allow our brothers to be free from all the illusions that we have place upon them, we will receive that same freeing gift.
Chapter 31. THE FINAL VISION

I. The Simplicity of Salvation

T-31.I.1. How simple is salvation! 2 All salvation says is what was never true is not true now, and never will be true. 3 The impossible that the false is true has not occurred, and can have no effects. 4 And that is all salvation says. 5 Can this lesson that only the truth is true and that the false cannot change the truth be hard to learn by anyone who wants salvation to be true? 6 Only unwillingness to learn this lesson that only the truth is true and that the false cannot change the truth could make such an easy lesson difficult. 7 How hard is it to see that what is false can not be true, and what is true can not be false? 8 You can no longer say that you perceive no differences in false and true. 9 You have been told exactly how to tell the false from the truth, and just what to do if you become confused between what is true and false. 10 Why, then, do you persist in learning not such simple things?

Note # 1: This lesson, that what is false is false and what is true is true and that the false cannot change the truth, is a simple one. If we have not learned it, it is because we do not wish to learn this lesson. We want something other than the truth to be our imagined reality. We want to be the arbitrators of truth.

T-31.I.2. There is a reason why you persist in failing to learn the simple lesson of salvation. 2 But confuse the reason not with difficulty in the simple things salvation asks you learn. 3 Salvation teaches but the very obvious. 4 Salvation merely goes from one apparent lesson to the next, in easy steps that lead you gently from one step to another, with no strain at all. 5 This teaching cannot be confusing, yet you are confused. 6 For somehow you believe that what is totally confused, which is the egoic thought system, is easier to learn and understand than the truth. 7 What you have taught yourself that the false is true is such a giant learning feat it is indeed incredible. 8 But you accomplished teaching yourself that the false was true because you wanted to, and did not pause in diligence to judge the egoic thought system hard to learn or too complex to grasp.

Note # 2: To willfully abandon the knowledge of the truth that you are perfect, whole and complete for the misperception of limitation is a difficult task to accomplish. The egoic thought system was created because we wanted to be something other than the truth. We wanted to be special. We wanted to be something different from the Oneness of everything. We have gone to great lengths to make the false appear real. We have made our split-mind the master of the world of illusionary form. This is our ego’s effort to prove that we are separate and special. The ego claims that our little “s” self is the
T-31.I.3. No one who understands what you have learned, how carefully you learned the 
*egoic thought system*, and the pains to which you went to practice and repeat the lessons 
endlessly, in every form you could conceive of the *lessons*, could ever doubt the power 
of your learning skill. 2 There is no greater power in the world. 3 The world was made by 
your mind’s *egoic thought system*, and even now depends on nothing else. 4 The 
lessons you have *egoically* taught yourself have been so over learned and fixed these 
*lessons* rise like heavy curtains to obscure the simple and the obvious. 5 Say not you 
cannot learn the *simple lesson of salvation*. 6 For your power to learn is strong enough 
to teach you the *complex egoic lessons* that your will is not your own, your thoughts do 
not belong to you, and even you are someone else.

Note # 3: Our ability to learn is not the problem. It is our desire not to rediscover the 
truth about ourselves that is the problem. Salvation’s lesson is simple. The changeless 
truth just is.

T-31.I.4. Who could maintain that *egoic* lessons such as these *that your will is not your 
own, your thoughts do not belong to you, and even you are someone else* are easy to 
learn? 2 Yet you have learned more than this. 3 You have continued, taking every step, 
however difficult, without complaint, until a world was built that suited your *egoic belief 
system*. p645 4 And every lesson that makes up the *egoic* world arises from the first 
accomplishment of learning; an enormity so great the Holy Spirit's Voice seems small 
and still before its magnitude. 5 The world began with one strange *egoic* lesson, powerful 
enough to render God forgotten, and His Son an alien to himself, *God’s Son* in exile 
from the home where God Himself established him. 6 You who have taught yourself the 
Son of God is guilty, say not that you cannot learn the simple things salvation teaches 
you!

Note # 4: Our egoic thought system rests on the belief that the Sonship is guilty of 
usurping our Creator’s authority. We have denied that we are God’s Effect. We believe 
that we are guilty of sinning against God and that the guilty must be punished. Sin, guilt 
and fear are the kissing cousins that form the bedrock of the egoic thought system.

T-31.I.5. Learning is an ability you made and gave yourself. 2 Learning was not made to 
do the Will of God, but *learning was made* to uphold a wish that *God’s Will* could be 
opposed, and that a will apart from *God’s Will* was yet more real than *God’s Will*. 3 
And this *lesson that we have a will different from God’s Will* has learning sought to 
demonstrate, and you have learned what *this lesson* was made to teach. 4 Now does your 
ancient over learning that *we have a will different from God’s Will* stand implacable 
before the Voice of truth, and *this ancient egoic over learning teaches* you that the 
*Voice of truth*’s lessons are not true; too hard to learn, too difficult to see, and too 
opposed to what is really true. 5 Yet you will learn the *Voice of truth*’s *lessons* for their 
learning of *truth’s lessons* is the only purpose for your learning skill the Holy Spirit sees 
in all the world. 6 The *Holy Spirit*’s simple lessons in forgiveness have a power mightier 
than *your ego’s lessons*, because *truth’s lessons* call from God and from your Self, the
Christ, to you.

Note # 5: Like everything else that the ego has made to witness falsely for the separation, the Holy Spirit can utilize this same item to witness for the truth. The Holy Spirit will transform our egoic learning ability to teach the truth about ourselves. The correction of the egoic thought system is guaranteed because the Voice of the Holy Spirit is the Voice for Truth, which is God.

T-31.I.6. Is this a little Voice, so small and still this voice of truth cannot rise above the senseless egoic noise of sounds that have no meaning? 2 God willed not His Son forget His Father. 3 And the power of God’s Will is in the Voice that speaks for God, which is the Voice of the Holy Spirit. 4 Which lesson will you learn? 5 What outcome is inevitable, sure as God, and far beyond all doubt and question? 6 Can it be your little egoic learning, strange in outcome and incredible in difficulty will withstand the simple lessons being taught to you in every moment of each day, since time began and learning had been made?

Note # 6: Since the beginning of the mad idea of separation, God’s correction has been in place. The Atonement Principle is the correction and is part of God’s Plan of Salvation. The Holy Spirit has been given the function of reawakening the Sonship to the truth of Its sinlessness and guiltlessness. In order to reawaken to the truth, we need merely to accept the Atonement for ourselves.

T-31.I.7. The lessons to be learned are only two. You are either guilty or guiltless. 2 Each thought system’s answer has its outcome in a different world. 3 And each world follows surely from the answer’s source. 4 The certain outcome of the lesson that God's Son is guilty is the world you see. 5 The answer that the egoic thought system of the false gives is a world of terror and despair. 6 Nor is there hope of happiness in the world of the egoic thought system. 7 In the world of the egoic thought system, there is no plan for safety you can make that ever will succeed. 8 In the world of the egoic thought system, there is no joy that you can seek for here and hope to find. 9 Yet this is not the only outcome which your learning can produce. 10 However much you may have over learned your chosen egoic task, which was to make God’s Son guilty, the Holy Spirit’s lesson of the Sonship’s guiltlessness that reflects the Love of God is stronger still. 11 And you will learn God's Son is innocent, and see another world. p646

Note # 7: The Will of God guarantees the outcome between the false thought system of the ego and that of the truth, which is represented by the Holy Spirit’s thought system. In the end, we are all going to “make it”. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we will all reawaken to this truth that we remain God’s Son, always perfect, whole and complete.

T-31.I.8. The outcome of the lesson that God's Son is guiltless is a world in which there is no fear, and everything is lit with hope and sparkles with a gentle friendliness. 2 In this world of guiltlessness, nothing but calls to you in soft appeal to be your friend, and let it join with you. 3 And in this world of guiltlessness never does a call remain unheard,
misunderstood, nor left unanswered in the selfsame tongue in which the call was made. 4 And in this world of guiltlessness you will understand it was this call that everyone and everything within the world has always made, but you had not perceived the call of guiltlessness as it was. 5 And now you see you were mistaken about how you perceived this call of guiltlessness. 6 You had been deceived by forms the call of guiltlessness was hidden in. 7 And so you did not hear the call of guiltlessness, and had lost a friend who always wanted to be part of you. 8 The soft eternal calling of each part of God's creation to the whole is heard throughout the world this second lesson brings. This second lesson from the Holy Spirit is that God’s Son is sinless, guiltless and innocence.

Note # 8: Based on which thought system we choose to follow, we will perceive two entirely different worlds. The ego’s world speaks through dreams of judgment. The Holy Spirit’s represents dreams of forgiveness. This second world is the real world. Although it is called the real world, it differs from heaven in that it is still based on perception, not knowledge. In time, correct perception is the closest we can get without our return to knowledge. The return of the Sonship to knowledge is the last step, which is taken by the Creator.

T-31.I.9. There is no living thing that does not share the universal Will that it be whole, and that you do not leave any living thing’s call unheard. 2 Without your answer is it left to die, as any living thing is saved from death when you have heard its calling as the ancient call to life, and when you have understood that any living thing’s call to life is but your own call to life. 3 The Christ in you remembers God with all the certainty with which the Christ knows God’s Love. 4 But only if God’s Son is innocent can God's Son, Who is the Christ be Love. 5 For God were fear indeed if the Sonship whom God created innocent could be a slave to guilt. 6 God's perfect Son, the Christ, remembers his creation. 7 But in egoic guilt the split-minded has forgotten the Christ that he really is.

Note # 9: Our egoic thought system’s goal is to block the remembrance of God. When this occurs, the Voice for truth, which resides in the Christ, appears to be drowned out by egoic chatter. Our brother’s cry for love is heard as an attack. If allowed, the Holy Spirit will respond with forgiveness and love to our brother’s cry for love. Depending on the interpretation or purpose we choose to give the event, we will experience it as part of either a judgmental or a forgiving dream.

T-31.I.10. The fear of God results as surely from the lesson that God’s Son is guilty as God's Love must be remembered when the split-minded learns his innocence. 2 For hate must father fear, and look upon its father as itself. 3 How wrong are you who fail to hear the call that echoes past each seeming call to death, that sings behind each murderous attack and pleads that love restore the dying world. 4 You do not understand the Christ in your brother, Who calls to you beyond each form of hate; each call to war. 5 Yet you will recognize the Christ in your brother as you give Him answer in the language that the Christ in your brother calls, which is the guiltlessness of love. 6 The Christ in your brother will appear when you have answered Him in the language of love, and you will know in the Christ in your brother that God is Love.
**Note # 10:** We must have a common goal if we are to be able to communicate. To see love, we must be love. When we have the goal of love and forgiveness, we will interpret each event that we call into the field of our consciousness as either love or a cry for love. If love is our goal, proper communication will be established and minds will join. We will be able to look upon the Christ in our brother and his gift to us in return will be to see our own Christ nature within ourselves.

**T-31.I.11.** What is temptation but a wish to make the wrong decision on what you would learn, and have an outcome that you do not want? It is the recognition that temptation is a state of mind unwanted that becomes the means whereby the choice is reassessed; another outcome seen to be preferred. You are deceived if you believe you want disaster and disunity and pain. Hear not the call for temptation within yourself. But listen, rather, to the deeper call beyond temptation that appeals for peace and joy. And all the world will give you joy and peace. For as you hear, you answer. And behold! Your answer is the proof of what you learned. The answer’s outcome is the world you look upon.

**Note # 11:** The choice is always one between the true and the false, between love and fear, between guiltlessness and guilt. If we are not at peace, we can always choose again.

**T-31.I.12.** Let us be still an instant, and forget all things we ever egoically learned, all thoughts we egoically had, and every preconception that we egoically hold of what things mean and what their purpose is. Let us remember not our own egoic ideas of what the world is for. We do not know. Let every image held of everyone be loosened from our egoic minds and swept away.

**Note # 12:** To reestablish correct perception, we must abandon all past judgments of littleness and guilt. Judgments are based on the past. Without the past, judgment is impossible. Until we discard our egoic past, we cannot be in the <now>. Only in the <now> can we make the decision to choose again.

**T-31.I.13.** Be innocent of judgment, unaware of any thoughts of evil or of good that ever crossed your mind of anyone. Now do you know your brother not. But you are free to learn of your brother, and learn of him anew. Now is the Christ in your brother born again to you, and you, the Christ, are born again to your brother. Now without the judgmental egoic past that sentenced your brother to die, and you to die with him is the Christ recognized. Now is the Christ in your brother free to live as you, the Christ, are free, because an ancient egoic learning that the Sonship was guilty has passed away, and left a place for truth to be reborn, that God’s Son is guiltless.

**Note # 13:** All events are neutral. Only our judgments make them good or bad. To judge is to make separate. ACIM states that all judgments, both good and bad, must be abandoned since judgment can only be a function of egoic consciousness. When we judge, we value and utilize that judgment to define ourselves. When we define ourselves, we limit our unlimited spiritual essence. We cannot be in the <now> if we carry egoic
judgments into the present. A Oneness of everything does not judge since there is nothing outside itself to judge. Truth does not attack or defend since truth is changeless and, therefore, invulnerable. When egoic judgment is put aside, all that remains is the truth.

II. Walking with Christ

T-31.II.1. An egoic ancient lesson is not overcome by the opposing of the new and old. An egoic ancient lesson is not vanquished that the truth be known, nor fought against to lose to truth's appeal. There is no battle that must be prepared against an egoic ancient lesson; no time to be expended, and no plans that need be laid for bringing in the new. There is an ancient battle being waged against the truth by an egoic ancient lesson, but truth does not respond. Who could be hurt in such a war, unless he hurts himself? He, the Christ, has no enemy in truth. And can he, the Christ, be assailed by dreams?

Note # 14: Truth does not defend or attack. Truth rests in the knowledge that it is invulnerable and changeless. When we attack or defend, we raise the illusion up to a false sense of reality. When we failed to laugh at the notion that God’s Son could not know Himself, we gave the dream of separation a reality of its own. The dreamer forgot it was only his dream and thus, the dream become real within the dreamer’s own deluded mind. Fear was born and along with it, the need to attack and defend.

T-31.II.2. Let us review again what seems to stand between you and the truth of what you are. For there are steps in relinquishment that stand between you and the truth of what you are. The first step in recovering the truth of what you are is a decision that you make. This is the decision to seek only truth by asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. But afterwards, the truth is given you by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In the egoic thought system, you would establish truth. And by your wish that you establish the truth, you set two choices to be made, each time you think you must decide on anything. Since both “choices” are based on egoic thinking, neither choice is true. Nor are either egoic choices different. Yet must we see both egoic “choices”, before you can look past both egoic “choices” to the one alternative that is a different choice. But real choice between different alternatives is no choice might be obscured to you.

Note # 15: Only the Holy Spirit’s thought system offers a choice between the true and the false. The egoic thought system only offers a choice between two illusions upon which to place your attention. Both illusions are equally false and, therefore, both alternatives continue to confirm the belief of separation and limitation. Our first decision to be made is which thought system we will follow. After that decision, we are given two different perceptions of the events that we experience. If we originally choose the thought system of truth, the Holy Spirit will make all the rest of the decisions on our behalf. If we side with the ego, we will continue to be given what appear to be additional choices in which we decide what is to be our truth of the day or moment. These additional decisions are
merely between which poisons we will choose to take. Both egoic choices lead to the same result, which is that God’s Son is guilty and must die for his sins.

T-31.II.3. In the egoic thought system, what you would choose between is not a choice and gives but the illusion it is free, for the choice will have one outcome either way. Thus egoic choice between two false alternatives is really not a choice at all. In the egoic thought system, the leader and the follower emerge as separate roles, each seeming to possess advantages you would not want to lose. So in the leader and follower’s fusion there appears to be the hope of satisfaction and of peace. You see yourself divided into both these roles of leader and follower, forever split between the two. And every friend or enemy becomes a means to help you save yourself from these split roles of leader and follower.

Note # 16: In the egoic thought system, we perceive ourselves to be split into two separate parts. We do not believe that we are whole and, therefore, are continually seeking the part we believe is missing. Whether we see ourselves in the role of a leader or a follower, we are conceding that we are not perfect, whole and complete. Either role we choose to play is a decision that can only confirm that the separation is real. Once we decide to follow the egoic thinking, all choices that follow can only be the decision to replaced the true with the false.

T-31.II.4. Perhaps you call this egoic choice of roles love. Perhaps you think that this egoic choice of roles is murder justified at last. You hate the brother you gave the leader’s role when you would have the leader’s role, and you hate as well your brother’s not assuming the leader’s role at times you want to let the follower in you arise, and give away the role of leadership. And this role-playing is what you made your brother for, and learned to think that this role-playing is your brother’s purpose. Unless your brother serves this role-playing as you wish it, your brother has not fulfilled the function that was given him by you. And thus your brother merits death, because your brother has no purpose and no usefulness to you.

Note # 17: Believing ourselves to be split and incomplete, we assign roles to our brother that we perceive are needed to make us whole. When he fails to fulfill the role we assigned to him, we discard and condemn our brother for his failure to follow the roles we bestowed upon him. In the egoic thought system, we use our brother to be the foil upon which we project our belief in sin, guilt and fear. When we choose to be a follower, we get to claim that we are not responsible for the events we call into our life. We can blame our brother for what he did to us. When we choose to be the leader, we get to claim that our egoic self has the right plan that all must follow. Either way, we confirm our belief that we are separate from our brother.

T-31.II.5. And what of your brother? What does your brother want of you? What could your brother want, but what you want of him? Herein is life as easily as death, for what you choose you choose as well for your brother. Two calls you make to your brother, as your brother makes two calls to you. Between these two calls choice, because from between these two calls there is a different outcome. If your
brother be the leader or the follower to you it matters not, for you have chosen death. 8 But if your brother calls for death or calls for life, for hate or for forgiveness and for help, this choice is not the same in outcome. 9 Hear the one choice for death and hate, and you are separate from your brother and are lost. 10 But hear the other choice for life, forgiveness and help, and you join with your brother and in your answer is salvation found. 11 The voice you hear in your brother is but your own voice. 12 What does your brother ask you for? 13 And listen well! 14 For your brother is asking what will come to you, because you see in your brother an image of yourself and hear your voice requesting what you want.

Note # 18: Being split-minded, we fail to see that we are of one mind. Being of one mind, to give is to receive. The choice between life and death is a choice between truth and illusion, between the ego and the Holy Spirit’s thought systems. As long as we see our brother as different, whether it is the leader or the follower, we see him as not being one with us. In order for minds to join, there must be a sharing in purpose.

T-31.II.6.Before you answer the question, “What do you want?” pause to think of this:

2 The answer that I give my brother is what I am asking for. 3 And what I learn of my brother is what I learn about myself.

4 Then let us wait an instant and be still, forgetting everything we thought we heard; remembering how much we do not know. 5 This brother neither leads nor follows us, but walks beside us on the selfsame road. 6 This brother is like us, as near or far away from what we want as we will let this brother be. 7 We make no gains this brother does not make with us, and we fall back if this brother does not advance. p649 8 Take not this brother’s hand in anger but in love, for in this brother’s progress do you count your own progress. 9 And we go separately along the way unless you keep this brother safely by your side.

Note # 19: Equals walk together. The separate ones walk alone. We cannot enter the Kingdom alone.

T-31.II.7.Because your brother is your equal in God's Love, you will be saved from all appearances and answer to the Christ within your brother, Who calls to you. 2 Be still and listen. 3 Think not ancient egoic thoughts. 4 Forget the dismal egoic lessons that you learned about this Son of God who calls to you. 5 Christ calls to all with equal tenderness, seeing no leaders and no followers, and hearing but one answer to them all. 6 Because Christ hears one Voice, Christ cannot hear a different answer from the one God gave when God appointed Christ God’s only Son.

Note # 20: God’s love is endless. God’s answer is that His Son was, is and always will be perfect, whole and complete. We remain sinless and guiltless as we were created.

T-31.II.8.Be very still an instant. 2 Come without all egoic thought of what you ever learned before, and put aside all images you made. 3 The old thought and images will
fall away before the new thought and images without your opposition or intent. 4 There will be no attack upon the things you thought were precious and in need of egoic care. 5 There will be no assault upon your wish to hear a call for separation that never has been made. 6 Nothing will hurt you in this holy place, to which you come to listen silently and learn the truth of what you really want. 7 No more than this to learn the truth of what you really want will you be asked to learn. 8 But as you hear the truth of what you really want, you will understand you need but come away without the egoic thoughts you did not want, and that were never true.

**Note # 21:** In the silence, we will hear the Voice for truth. The Holy Spirit’s voice for truth does not condemn, but gently awakens the sleeping child to the truth of what he wants. We want to know we are complete, perfect and whole. Love’s truth is all we want for our will and God’s Will are One.

**T-31.II.9.** Forgive your brother all appearances, that are but ancient egoic lessons you have taught yourself about the sinfulness in you. 2 Hear but your brother’s call for mercy and release from all the fearful images your brother holds of what your brother is and of what you must be. 3 Your brother is afraid to walk with you, and your brother thinks perhaps he should walk a bit behind or a bit ahead and that to keep his distance would be a safer place for him to be. 4 Can you make progress if you think the same as your brother and keep apart, advancing only when your brother would step back, and falling back when your brother would go ahead? 5 For do you forget the journey's goal, which is but to decide to walk with your brother as equals, so neither leads nor follows. 6 Thus by your walking together as equals, it is a way you go together, not alone. 7 And in this choice to go together with your brother as equals is learning's outcome changed, for Christ has been reborn to both of you and your brother.

**Note # 22:** We must grant our brother the dream of forgiveness, not of judgment. In the dream of forgiveness, we look past form and judgment and accept our brother. Our goal for this dream world is now our joining with our brother so that we can rediscover and reclaim our one divine birthright. We no longer want the illusion of separation.

**T-31.II.10.** An instant spent without your old egoic ideas of who your great companion is and what your brother should be asking for, will be enough to let this rebirth of the Christ in your brother happen. 2 And you will perceive your brother’s purpose is the same as your purpose. 3 Your brother, the Christ, asks for what you want, and needs the same as you. 4 It takes, perhaps, a different form in your brother, but it is not the form you answer to. 5 Your brother, the Christ, asks and you receive, for you have come with but one purpose; that you learn you love your brother with a brother's love. 6 And as a brother, must your brother’s Father be the same as your Father, as your brother, the Christ, is like yourself in truth.

**Note # 23:** Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you and you will be able to be in the <now>. The holy instant is the suspension of all past judgments. Without the past, the vision of Christ is restored. By looking through the eyes of forgiveness, we understand that our brother was crying out for our love. Joining, forgiveness and love are now the joint
purpose we share with our brother. It is in this removal of guilt that we see our brother as our equal and that we both share the total Love of our Creator.

**T-31.II.11.** Together is your joint inheritance remembered and accepted by you both. 2 Alone your joint inheritance is denied to both you and your brother. 3 Is it not clear that while you still insist on leading or on following, you think you walk alone, with no one by your side? 4 This path of separation is the road to nowhere, for the light cannot be given while you walk alone, and so you cannot see which way you go. 5 And thus, because you choose to walk alone, there is confusion, and a sense of endless doubting as you stagger back and forward in the darkness and alone. 6 Yet these are but appearances of what the journey is, and how the journey must be made. 7 For next to you is One, the Holy Spirit, Who holds the light before you, so that every step is made in certainty and sureness of the road. 8 A blindfold can indeed obscure your sight, but the blindfold cannot make the way itself grow dark. 9 And He, the Holy Spirit, Who travels with you has the light.

**Note # 24:** We need merely to ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and the blindfold of the egoic thought system will be removed. The light of the Christ is in our Big “S” Self. But this light will not be seen if we hide it under the belief that we are separate ego-bodies in competition with our brothers. By seeing the Christ in our brother, our brother can see Christ’s light in us. Together, we light each other’s way.

**III. The Self-Accused**

**T-31.III.1.** Only the self-accused condemn. 2 As you prepare to make a choice that will result in different outcomes, there is first one thing that must be over learned. 3 It must become a habit of response so typical of everything you do that it becomes your first response to all temptation, and to every situation that occurs. 4 Learn this, and learn well this fact that only the self-accused condemn, for it is here in your relearning that only the self-accused condemn that the delay of your happiness is shortened by a span of time you cannot realize. 5 You never hate your brother for your brother’s sins, but only for your own sins. 6 Whatever form your brother’s sins appear to take, the form that his sins take but obscures the fact that you believe your brother’s sins to be your own sins, and therefore, your brother’s sins meriting a "just" attack.

**Note # 25:** Projection does not get rid of the thought from the mind that originated the projected thought. Thoughts never leave their source. Everything we observe is the result of egoic projection. If we see our brother as sinful and guilty, we must hold that same belief about ourselves. To attack our brother for his alleged sins, simply confirms that we see ourselves as sinners that should also be condemned and attacked.

**T-31.III.2.** Why should your brother’s sins be sins, if you did not believe your brother’s sins could not be forgiven in you? 2 Why are your brother’s sins real in him, if you did not believe that your brother’s sins are your reality? 3 And why do you attack
your brother’s sins everywhere except for this fact that you hate yourself? 4 Are you a sin? To the ego, the answer is yes, you are a sinner. 5 You answer "yes" whenever you attack, for by attack do you assert that you are guilty, and must give as you deserve. 6 And what can you deserve but what you are? 7 If you did not believe that you deserved attack, it never would occur to you to give attack to anyone at all. 8 Why should you? 9 What would be the gain to you by attacking another if you did not deserve attack? 10 What could the outcome be that you would want by attacking another if you did not deserve attack? 11 And how could murder bring you benefit? p651

Note # 26: The ego tells us that since we have sinned, we lack. ACIM defines sin as belief in lack. Since we lack, this egoic world of perception becomes a battleground that is based of competition. If I am to gain, someone must lose. The world of form is a zero-sum game in which the best defense is a good offense. Attack is seen as the way to protect our ill-gotten gains. If we did not believe in lack, which ACIM calls sin, there would be no reason for anyone to fear attack or to attack for there would be nothing we could gain. There would be constant equality in which all our wants were met.

T-31.III.3. Sins are in bodies. 2 Sin are not perceived in minds. 3 Sins are not seen as purposes, but sins are seen as actions. 4 Bodies act, and minds do not act. 5 And therefore must the body be at fault for what sin does. 6 The body is not seen to be a passive thing, obeying your mind’s commands, and doing nothing of itself at all. 7 If you are sin you are a body, for the mind acts not. 8 And the ego claims that if you are sin and you are a body the purpose must be in the body, not the mind. 9 The body must act on its own, and motivate itself. 10 If you are sin you lock the mind within the body, and you give the mind’s purpose to its prison house, which is the body, the body now acts on its own volition instead of following the mind’s commands. 11 A jailer does not follow orders, but enforces orders on the prisoner.

Note # 27: The ego tells us that we have sin and that we can transfer or project our sin and guilt into the body. Fearing punishment for our perceived sins, we follow our ego’s advice and we leave our right-mind and enter into a deluded state in which we believe we are the body and thus can hide from the wrath of God. The body is a neutral communication device that has no power or purpose on its own. All power the body seems to have is derived from our mind. In our attempt to hide from God, we voluntarily surrender our mind’s decision-making ability and enter into the belief that we are the body. With our mind’s decision-making ability surrendered to the body, our mind becomes a victim of its surroundings and is incapable of effectively controlling its outside environment. Instead of the mind being the source of all our experiences, we now believe that we are the effect of outside forces. Since thoughts are things, we do become this self-fulfilling prophecy. Our mind now believes it is effect, not cause. The mind freely volunteers to enter the prison of the body.

T-31.III.4. Yet is the body prisoner, and not the mind. 2 The body thinks no thoughts. 3 The body has no power to learn, to pardon, nor enslave. 4 The body gives no orders that the mind need serve, nor does the body set conditions that the mind must obey. 5 The body holds in prison but the willing mind that would abide in the body. 6 The body
sickens at the bidding of the mind that would become the body’s prisoner. 7 And the body grows old and dies, because that mind is sick within itself. 8 Learning is all that causes change. 9 And so the body, where no learning can occur, could never change unless the mind preferred the body change in its appearances, to suit the purpose given by the mind to the body. 10 For mind can learn, and there in the mind is all change made.

Net # 28: It is the mind that controls the body. The body is actually the prisoner to the mind’s commands. The ego’s thought system tells our split mind that it is the other way around. The ego claims the body controls the mind and that the body is the victim of outside forces beyond our control.

T-31.III.5. The mind that thinks it is a sin has but one purpose; that the body be the source of sin, to keep the mind in the prison house of the body, the mind chose and guards and holds itself at bay, a sleeping prisoner to the snarling dogs of hate and evil, sickness and attack; of pain and age, of grief and suffering. 2 Here in the mind’s prison house are the thoughts of sacrifice preserved, for here guilt rules, and orders that the world be like itself; a place where nothing can find mercy, nor survive the ravages of fear except in murder and in death. 3 For here in the mind’s prison house are you made sin, and sin cannot abide the joyous and the free, for the joyous and the free are enemies which sin must kill. 4 In death is sin preserved, and those who think that they are sin must die for what they think they are, which is the sinful body.

Note # 29: When we identify ourselves as the body, we are subject to the limitations of form. Form limits and guarantees that we lack. Our belief that we are a body confirms our belief that we are guilty sinners. The ego insists that the wages of sin are death, and to this death wish the split-mind complies.

T-31.III.6. Let us be glad that you will see what you believe, and that it has been given you the power to change what you believe. 2 The body will but follow what the mind believes. 3 The body can never lead you where your mind would not be. 4 The body does not guard your sleep, nor does the body interfere with your awakening. 5 Release your body from imprisonment, and you will see no one as prisoner to what you have escaped. 6 You will not want to hold in guilt your chosen enemies, nor keep in chains, to the illusion of a changing love, the ones you think are friends. p652

Note # 30: By reclaiming our decision-making power, our mind can free its servant, which is the body, from the body’s false imprisonment. As long as we believe someone must be imprisoned for sin, we, their jailer, must remain in prison to prevent their escape. Jailer and prisoner serve the same common sentence. Both are in prison. When we realize our common fate, we, their jailer, will choose to free all prisoners so that we can all go home together.

T-31.III.7. The innocent release in gratitude for their release. 2 And what the innocent see, which is guiltlessness in all, upholds their freedom from imprisonment and death. 3 Open your mind to change from your belief in sin to sinlessness, and there will be no ancient penalty exacted from your brother or yourself. 4 For God has said there <is> no
sacrifice that can be asked. **God has said that** there is no sacrifice that can be made.

**Note # 31:** By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we realize that God’s Son is sinless and guiltless. We remain innocent as God created us. The innocent freely choose forgiveness and understand that our happiness lies in our acceptance that our will is the same as our Creator’s Will. There is only the one-shared Will of God. Since there was no sin committed, there is nothing to punish. The only thing we must sacrifice to reawaken is the illusion that we are limited. And this, being itself an illusion, can mean we sacrifice nothing.

### IV. The Real Alternative

**T-31.IV.1.** There is a tendency to think the world can offer consolation and escape from problems that the world’s purpose is to keep. 2 Why should this be that we would think we could find solutions within the dream of separation when that dream world was designed to keep the solution beyond our reach? 3 Because this world is a place where choice among illusions seems to be the only choice. 4 And in this illusionary world you are in control of outcomes of your choosing within the dream itself. 5 Thus you think, within the narrow band from birth to death, a little time is given you to use for you alone; a time when everyone conflicts with you, but you can choose which road will lead you out of conflict, and away from difficulties that concern you not. 6 Yet everyone and these conflicts are your concern. 7 How, then, can you escape from these conflicts by leaving everyone behind? 8 What must go with you, you will take with you whatever road you choose to walk along.

**Note # 32:** This world is predicated on our belief in separation. There is no separation since minds are joined. We cannot leave are brother in guilt, sin and fear without maintaining those same beliefs within our mind. We can pretend that we are autonomous individuals but there is no separation between our minds. We cannot hope to find viable solution within the dream, for all answers must also be make-believe. The only way out of a fantasy is to awake up from your own self-delusion. Someone from outside the illusion must tell us the truth.

**T-31.IV.2.** Real choice is no illusion. 2 But the world has no real choice to offer, instead it offers only illusions as solutions. 3 All the world’s roads but lead to disappointment, nothingness and death. 4 There is no choice in the world’s alternatives. 5 Seek not escape from problems here within this illusionary world. 6 The world was made that problems could not be escaped. 7 Be not deceived by all the different names the world’s roads are given. 8 The world’s roads have but one end. 9 And each of the world’s roads are but the means to gain that end, for it is here that all the world’s roads will lead, however differently they seem to start; however differently the world’s roads seem to go. 10 The end of the world’s roads is certain, for there is no choice among them. 11 All of the world’s solutions will lead to death. 12 On some of the world’s roads you travel gaily for a while, before the bleakness enters. 13 And on some the
thorns are felt at once. 14 The choice is not what will the ending be, but when the ending of disappointment, nothingness and death comes.

**Note # 33:** This world offers us all kinds of roads that claim to lead to happiness and fulfillment. Wealth, health, power, sex and glory are just a few roads that ultimately will leave us dissatisfied. In the end, happiness is never found and, if found, is fleeting at best. Being created as everything, we cannot be content with “littleness”.

T-31.IV.3 There is no choice where every end is sure. 2 Perhaps you would prefer to try them all, before you really learn that all roads or alternatives are but one since they all terminate in disappointment, nothingness and death. 3 The roads this world can offer seem to be quite large in number, but the time must come when everyone begins to see how like all choices are to one another. 4 Men have died on seeing that all choices produce the same undesirable result, because these men saw no way except the pathways offered by the world. p653 5 And learning the worlds solutions led nowhere, these men lost their hope. 6 And yet this was the time these men could have learned their greatest lesson. 7 All must reach this point, and go beyond this point of despair. All men must eventually ask the question, “There must be another way?” 8 It is true indeed there is no choice at all within the world. 9 But this is not the lesson in itself. 10 The lesson has a purpose, and in this lesson that there is no choice within the world, you come to understand what this lesson is for. This lesson will lead all men to eventually seek the guidance from God’s Comforter within their own mind. They will decide to choose again and reclaim their divine birthright.

**Note # 34:** The despair that comes from the realization that sin, fear and death cannot be escaped within the thought system of the ego, eventually leads one to ask if there must be another way. This despair leads us to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Only within the thought system of the Holy Spirit is there real choice. Now our decision-maker can choose between the truth and the falseness of illusions. Joining, not just separation is possible.

T-31.IV.4. Why would you seek to try another road, another person or another place, when you have learned the way the lesson starts, but do not yet perceive what the lesson is for? 2 The lesson’s purpose is the answer to the search that all must undertake who still believe there is another answer to be found. 3 Learn now, without despair, there is no hope of answer in the world. 4 But do not judge the lesson that is but begun with this realization that there is no hope of answer in the world. 5 Seek not another signpost in the world that seems to point to still another road. 6 No longer look for hope within this world’s egoic thought system where there is none. 7 Make fast your learning now, and understand you but waste time unless you go beyond what you have learned to what is yet to learn. 8 For from this lowest point of despair that there is no hope in this world, will your learning lead to heights of happiness, in which you see the purpose of the lesson that there is no hope in this world shining clear, and perfectly within your learning grasp.

**Note # 35:** ACIM suggests that we give up the futile hope of finding our completion and
happiness in a world of make-believe. Abandon whatever faith you have left in the egoic thought system, for your faith is been badly misplaced. The truth that you are already whole and complete cannot be found in the dream of littleness. Our egoic dream of separation was been adopted and transformed within God’s Plan for salvation. It purpose now is to teach the lesson that God’s Son cannot be happy in a world of false limitation. God’s Son can only be happy by being the Christ. The thought system of the Holy Spirit will reawaken the Sonship to this truth.

T-31.IV.5. Who would be willing to be turned away from all the roadways of the world, unless he understood their real futility? 2 Is it not needful that he should begin with this realization that there is no hope in this world, to seek another way instead? 3 For while he sees a choice in a world where there is no choice, what power of decision can he use? 4 The great release of power must begin with learning where the power of decision really has a use. 5 And what decision has power if the power of decision be applied in situations without choice?

Note # 36: We cannot properly utilize our decision-making power when we are only allowed to choose the false. A decision between which poisons we must take is not a decision. In order to properly utilize the power of decision, we need to be able to choose between whether we will drink the poison or not. The choice now is between life and death. The choice between death and death is no choice for either decision gives the same undesirable results.

T-31.IV.6. The learning that the world can offer but one choice, no matter what the choice’s form may be, is the beginning of acceptance that there is a real alternative instead. 2 To fight against this step of the acceptance that there is a real alternative is to defeat your purpose here. 3 You did not come to learn to find a road the world does not contain. 4 The search for different pathways in the world is but the search for different forms of truth. 5 And this useless and futile search would keep the truth from being reached.

Note # 37: Until we are willing to abandon the thought system of the ego, we will not seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Our happiness cannot be found in a world that was designed to keep the remembrance of God’s Love outside our awareness.

T-31.IV.7. Think not that happiness is ever found by following a road away from happiness. 2 To following a road away from our goal of happiness makes no sense, and cannot be the correct way. 3 To you who seem to find this course to be too difficult to learn, let me repeat that to achieve a goal you must proceed in the goal’s direction, not away from the goal. 4 And every road that leads the other way will not advance the purpose to be found. 5 If this be difficult to understand that you need to advance in the correct direct of the goal, then is this course impossible to learn. 6 But only then. p654 7 For otherwise, this lesson that you need to advance in the correct direction of the goal is a simple teaching in the obvious.

Note # 38: If we are looking for gold, we must look for the gold where it can be found.
There is no purpose in digging in a place were the gold could never be. This useless egoic activity of, “Seek but do not find,” is a waste of time.

T-31.IV.8. There <is> a choice that you have power to make when you have seen the real alternatives. 2 Until that point is reached when you have seen the real alternatives, you have no choice, and you can but decide how you would choose the better to deceive yourself again with different forms of egoic idols of illusions. 3 This course attempts to teach no more than that the power of decision cannot lie in choosing different forms of what is still the same illusion and the same mistake. 4 All choices in the world depend on this; you choose between your brother and yourself, and you will gain as much as your brother will lose, and what you lose is what is given your brother. 5 How utterly opposed to truth is this, when all the lesson's purpose is to teach that what your brother loses <you> have lost, and what your brother gains is what is given <you.>

Note # 39: The ultimate lesson to be learned from the dream of separation is that there is no separation. The Sonship, which is all God created as He created It remains perfect, whole and complete. To give is to receive because there is nothing outside the Oneness. The Laws of God are the universal reality of Heaven. We are God’s Thoughts. As God’s Effect, the Sonship completes God for Cause and Effect cannot be separated.

T-31.IV.9. God has not left His Thoughts, which is the Sonship! 2 But you forgot God’s Presence and remembered not God’s Love. 3 No pathway in the world can lead to God, nor any worldly goal be one with God’s goal, which is expressed in God’s Thoughts. 4 What road in all the world of false illusion will lead within, when every road was made to separate the journey from the purpose the journey must have unless the journey be but futile wandering? 5 All roads that lead away from what you are will lead you to confusion and despair. 6 Yet has God never left His Thoughts, the Sonship, to die. And God has never left the Sonship without their Source, which is God’s Thoughts forever in themselves, the Sonship of the Christ.

Note # 40: Mind is thought, not form. The Sonship is the thought of God. God could not abandon His Son even in the dream of separation. God placed the Holy Spirit within our Christ mind before the dream of separation had begun. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for the reawakening of the Sonship to the truth. The Christ is not only our home, but it is also home to the Father, Holy Spirit, the Sonship and the Sonship’s co-creations. The Christ is the all-encompassing One Self that is the holographic Mind of God.

T-31.IV.10. God has not left His Thoughts! 2 God could no more depart from His Thoughts than His Thoughts could keep God out. 3 In unity with God do God’s Thoughts, which is the Sonship, abide, and in Their Oneness Both God and the Sonship are kept complete. 4 There is no road that leads away from God. 5 A journey from yourself that is this Oneness does not exist. 6 How foolish and insane it is to think that there could be a road with such an aim! 7 Where could a road go outside a Oneness of Everything? 8 And how could you be made to travel on a nonexistent road, walking there without your own reality at one with you?

Note # 41: You can never be apart from the Oneness that is the Mind of God. In the
illusionary world of changing perception, space and time, you can pretend you are outside the One Self, but your illusion cannot change the truth of what you are.

T-31.IV.11. Forgive yourself your madness, and forget all senseless journeys and all goal-less aims. All senseless journeys and all goal-less aims of the egoic thought system have no meaning. You can not escape from what you are, which is the Christ. For God is merciful, and did not let His Son abandon God. For what God is be thankful, for in that is your escape from madness and from death. Nowhere but where God is can you be found. There <is> no path that does not lead to God. p655

Note # 42: Ultimately, we must reawaken to the truth of what we are. We cannot be happy unless we are ourselves. We remain the Effect of God. Cause and Effect intertwined as One. This Oneness of Everything remains the eternal and changeless wonderment that is the Mind of God. We are jeweled facets of the inseparable Oneness that is God. We are the perfect, whole and complete One Self that is the holographic Mind of God.

V. Self-Concept versus Self

T-31.V.1. The learning of the egoic world is built upon a concept of the little “s” self adjusted to the world’s egoic reality. This concept of the little “s” self adjusted to the reality of the egoic world fits the world well. For this concept of a little “s” self is an image that suits an egoic world of shadows and illusions. Here this little “s” self walks at home, where what the ego’s concept of the littleness of the little “s” self sees is one with the world’s reality of lack. The building of a concept of the little “s” self is the egoic world’s purpose; that you come into the world without a real self, and make a concept of a little “s” self as you go along in time. And by the time you reach "maturity" you have perfected a concept of a little “s” self to meet the world on equal egoic terms, at one with the world’s competitive demands.

Note # 43: This world of perception is a place where we can create any illusion about ourselves that we want. We adjust our concept about what we are as we experience different aspects of this world of perception and form. This concept of the self that we imagine ourselves to be is not fixed. New learning lessons are the tools that lead to our modification of the concept that we hold of ourselves. We have created an image of ourselves as a limited ego-body. This fits our concept of the egoic world as a place of lack and competition.

T-31.V.2. A concept of the little “s” self is made by your egoic self. This concept of the little “s” self bears no likeness to yourself, the Christ, at all. This concept of the little “s” self is an idol, made to take the place of your reality as Son of God. The concept of the self the world would teach is not the thing that it appears to be. For the concept of the self the world would teach is made to serve two purposes, but only one
of which the mind can recognize. The first purpose for the concept of the self that the world would teach us, presents the face of innocence, the aspect acted on. This concept is the one that our mind can and is willing to recognize. The face of innocence is this face that smiles and charms and even seems to love. The face of innocence searches for companions and the face of innocence look at times with pity, on the suffering, and sometimes offers solace. The face of innocence believes that it is good within an evil world.

Note # 44: The face of innocence is the aspect of our self-image that we can easily recognize. We are the good guys. We perceive ourselves as a body surrounded by an evil world that is out to get us. This evil world is a place that we need to fear. In this evil world, we seek something that our self-concept tells us that we lack. As the face of innocence, we are acted upon by forces beyond our control and we view ourselves as vulnerable innocent victims.

T-31.V.3. This aspect of self that we call the face of innocence can grow angry, for the world is wicked and unable to provide the love and shelter innocence deserves. And so this face of innocence is often wet with tears at the injustices the world accords to those who would be generous and good. This aspect of the face of innocence never makes the first attack. But every day a hundred little things make small assaults upon its innocence, provoking the face of innocence to irritation, and at last to open insult and abuse.

Note # 45: Underlying the face of innocence is the aspect that it can and will be attacked by outside forces. Because it is a vulnerable body, the face of innocence is forced to defend itself. The face of innocence does not want to attack but is forced into this position because it sees itself as a victim. As a victim, it is affected by powers beyond its control. These powers are responsible for forcing the innocent to change their “spots” in order to defend themselves.

T-31.V.4. The face of innocence the concept of the self so proudly wears can tolerate attack in self-defense, for is it not a well-known fact the world deals harshly with defenseless innocence? No one who makes a picture of himself omits this face that allows for the defense of his innocence, for he has need of self-defense. The other side of this self-concept he does not want to see. Yet it is here on this other side of this self-concept that the learning of the world has set its sights, for it is here the world's "reality" of sin, guilt and fear is set, to see to it the idol lasts.

Note # 46: Line # 4 is a reference to the idol as our egoic concept of our small “s” self. If the ego is to survive, we must believe in our littleness. Although our concept of self is one of innocence, this concept must adapt if it is to survive in an evil world whose reality is one of lack. Hidden beneath the face of innocence is the belief in lack and lack’s consequences, which are sin, guilt and fear. This world is seen as a zero sum game. If I am to win, someone must lose. The face of innocence expects to be attacked and thus, prepares to defend itself. Eventually, preemptive strikes may be deemed necessary if the innocent are to survive in the hostile environment of its own self-perception. Attack thus,
becomes a justified means for self-defense.

T-31.V.5. Beneath the face of innocence there is a lesson that the concept of the small “s” self was made to teach. 2 It is a lesson in a terrible displacement, and a fear so devastating that the face that smiles above this other self-image must forever look away, lest it perceive the treachery the face of innocence hides. Beneath the face of innocence is a self that has learned the lesson of projection. 3 The lesson teaches this: "I am the thing you, my brother, made of me, and as you look on me, you, my brother, stand condemned because of what I am, which is no longer perfect innocence." 4 On this conception of the self the world smiles with approval, for this concept of self guarantees the pathways of the world are safely kept, and those who walk on the world’s pathways will not escape. p656

Note # 47: Underlying the face of innocence is the fact that we perceived ourselves to be victims at our brothers’ hands. As innocent victims, we are an effect. If we have been changed into something other than perfect innocence, it is because of what our brother did to us. If we live in a world of sin, guilt and fear, it is not our fault. Our brother did this to us. Projection is the tool we use to transfer to someone else our guilt about what we believe we have become. We believe that in order to defend our innocence, we have been forced to become a sinner. It is our brother, not ourselves, who is guilty of all the sins which he caused us to commit in defense of our innocence. As long as we remain in victim consciousness, we see ourselves as powerless to cause a new reality to enter the field of our awareness. The ego’s goal is to keep us playing the role of innocent victim because there can be no escape as long as we perceive ourselves to be a powerless effect of forces outside and beyond our control. We believe that we are our egoic small “s” selves.

T-31.V.6. Here is the central lesson that ensures your brother is condemned eternally. 2 For what you are has now become your brother’s sin. 3 For your brother’s sin of what you have become is so terrible that no forgiveness of your brother is possible. 4 No longer does it matter what your brother does, for your accusing finger points to your brother, unwavering and deadly in your aim. 5 Your accusing finger points to you as well, but this is kept still deeper in the mists below the face of innocence. 6 And in these shrouded vaults are all your brother’s sins and your sins preserved and kept in darkness, where these sins cannot be perceived as errors, which the light would surely show these supposed “sins” to be. 7 You can be neither blamed for what you are, nor can you change the things that what you are now makes you do. 8 Your brother then is symbol of your sins to you who are but silently, and yet you with ceaseless urgency, condemning still your brother for the hated thing you are.

Note # 48: The lesson that, “I am the thing you, my brother, made of me, and as you look on me, you, my brother, stand condemned because of what I am, which is no longer perfect innocence” is the bedrock of projection. In projection, we get to blame others whenever we do not want to claim responsibility for the choices that generate our perceived experiences. We move away from responsibility thinking into victim consciousness. We lose our ability to act as source and decision-maker. We become guilt
throwers yet, since thoughts never leave their source, we also get to keep our guilt. We remain trapped in a belief that we are a limited body in the evil world of form. We are causeless and remain the effect of outside sources.

**T-31.V.7.** Concepts are learned. 2 **Concepts** are not natural. 3 Apart from learning concepts do not exist. 4 **Concepts** are not given, so concepts must be made. 5 Not one of the concepts are true, and many concepts come from feverish imaginations, hot with hatred and distortions born of fear. 6 What is a concept but a thought to which its maker gives a meaning of his own to the concepts? 7 Concepts maintain the world. 8 **Concepts** can not be used to demonstrate the world is real. 9 For all of concepts are made within the world, born in the world’s shadow, growing in the world’s ways and finally "maturing" in the world’s thought. 10 **Concepts** are ideas of idols, painted with the brushes of the world, which cannot make a single picture representing truth.

**Note # 49:** Concepts must be made within the mind that thought them. They have no self-reality but are only agreed upon thoughts or beliefs of the mind that perceives the concepts and accepts them to be true. Concepts are not based on knowledge but rather thinking. If one does not know the truth about one’s spiritual nature, all thinking is inaccurate since it is based on the fallacy that the separation is real.

**T-31.V.8.** A concept of the self is meaningless, for no one here can see what the concept of the self is for, and therefore cannot picture what the concept of the self is. 2 Yet it is all learning that the world directs begun and ended with the single aim of teaching you this concept of yourself, that you will choose to follow this world's laws, and never seek to go beyond this world's roads nor realize the way you see yourself. The way we see ourselves is as a victim who continually cries out, “It’s not my fault. Blame him. He made me do it.” 3 Now must the Holy Spirit find a way to help you see this concept of the self as a causeless victim must be undone, if any peace of mind is to be given you. 4 Nor can this concept of the self as a causeless victim be unlearned except by lessons aimed to teach that you are something else. 5 For otherwise, you would be asked to make exchange of what you now believe to be your self identity for total loss of self, and with this perceived loss greater terror would arise in you.

**Note # 50:** The Holy Spirit must reawaken the sleeping child slowly to avoid any increase in fear within the child. The Holy Spirit will take whatever experience we are willing to give Him and reinterpret these experiences so that we can slowly modify our self-image. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will move out of victim consciousness and slowly reclaim our decision-making abilities. With the recovery of the decision-maker, our mind can move into responsibility thinking. We can now realize we are the cause of all we perceive. We are not the affect of outside forces that reside in a dream world. As the dreamer, we are the cause of all we perceive.

**T-31.V.9.** Thus are the Holy Spirit's lesson plans arranged in easy steps, that though there be some lack of ease at times and some distress, there is no shattering of what was learned, but just a re-translation of what seems to be the evidence on the concept of the old egoic self’s behalf. p657 2 Let us consider, then, what proof there is that you are what
your brother made of you. 3 For even though you do not yet perceive that this is what you think, you surely learned by now that you behave as if you believe you are what your brother made of you. 4 Does your brother react for you? 5 And does your brother know exactly what would happen? 6 Can your brother see your future and ordain, before it comes, what you should do in every circumstance? 7 Your brother must have made the world as well as you to have such prescience in the things to come.

**Note # 51:** ACIM questions why we would believe that we are mindless victims of our evil brother. What is the logic that would support such a belief that we are powerless victims yet our twin brother is omnipotent and somehow responsible for our every move?

**T-31.V.10.** That you are what your brother made of you seems most unlikely. 2 Even if your brother did, who gave the face of innocence to you? 3 Is this the face of innocence your contribution? 4 Who is, then, the "you" who made the face of innocence? 5 And who is deceived by all your goodness, and who attacks your goodness so? 6 Let us forget the concept's foolishness that you are what your brother made of you, and merely think of this; there are two parts to what you think yourself to be. 7 If one part of what you think yourself to be were generated by your brother, who was there to make the other? 8 And from whom must something be kept hidden? 9 If the world be evil, there is still no need to hide what you are made of. 10 Who is there to see? 11 And what but is attacked could need defense?

**Note # 52:** ACIM continues questioning the validity of the concept that we are not responsible for what we perceive ourselves to be.

**T-31.V.11.** Perhaps the reason why this concept of your victimhood at your brother’s hands must be kept in darkness is that, in the light, the one who would not think it true is you. This egoic concept of the self, states that we are a little “s” self that is a causeless innocent victim of outside force that are beyond our control. We are not to blame for our actions or what we have become. 2 And what would happen to the world you see, if all the world’s underpinnings were removed? 3 Your concept of the world depends upon this concept of the small “s” self. 4 And both the world and the egoic self would go, if either one were ever raised to doubt by looking upon them with the eyes of truth. 5 The Holy Spirit does not seek to throw you into panic. 6 So the Holy Spirit merely asks if just a little question might be raised.

**Note # 53:** The Holy Spirit will never do anything that would increase our fear. Because of this, the Holy Spirit must carefully and slowly modify the concept of the small “s” self, which we have learned in this world of time and space. If our false concept of littleness was overthrown all at once, it would result in heightened fear within our already split-mind. This is because we are too strongly identified with the egoic world of form. We believe that we are a body. We would be terrified if we were asked to give up the world of form or our body overnight. The Holy Spirit must carefully baby-step our split mind back to the truth of what we are.

**T-31.V.12.** There are alternatives about the thing that you must be. 2 You might, for
instance, be the thing you chose to have your brother be. 3 This alternative that you are the thing you chose to have your brother be, shifts the concept of the self from what is wholly passive, and at least makes way for active choice, and some acknowledgment that interaction must have entered in. 4 In this alternative that you are the thing you chose to have your brother be, there is some understanding that you chose for both of you and your brother, and what your brother represents has meaning that was given it by you. 5 This alternative that you are the thing you chose to have your brother be also shows some glimmering of sight into perception's law that what you see reflects the state of the perceiver's mind. 6 Yet who was it that did the choosing first? 7 If you are what you chose your brother be, alternatives were there to choose among, and someone must have first decided on the one to choose, and let the other alternative for your brother’s meaning go.

Note # 54: The alternative that you are the thing that you chose to have your brother be is a statement of self-responsibility. Unlike the egoic viewpoint that you are a blameless innocent victim, this statement reclaims your own sourceness. It empowers, rather than detracts. It still remains to be understood who is doing all the deciding. But at least this gives us some choice as to how we perceive our world, our brother and ourselves.

T-31.V.13. Although this step has gains, this step does not yet approach a basic question. 2 Something must have gone before these concepts of the self. p658 3 And something must have done the learning which gave rise to these concepts of the self. 4 Nor can this something that did the learning be explained by either view. 5 The main advantage of the shifting to the second alternative from the first explanation is that you somehow entered in the choice by your decision. 6 But this gain in your entering into the decision-making process is paid in almost equal loss, for now you stand accused of guilt for what your brother is. 7 And you must share your brother’s guilt, because you chose your brother’s guilty image for him in the image of your own guilt. 8 While only your brother was treacherous before, now must you be condemned along with your brother.

Note # 55: If we are involved in the decision-maker process of what our brother is, we are responsible for the outcome. Unlike projection that wrongly claims we can transfer our own guilt to another, this alternative clearly makes us the source of both our brother and ourselves. Once we accept this concept of the self, we no longer can claim the role of innocent victim. Now we are responsible for ourselves and we are also our brother’s keeper.

Note: Remember that there is but one united Sonship and only one mind. In the illusion of separation the Sonship appears to be fragmented and shattered. Thus, we perceive the image of brother and sister as being separate, physical bodies. In reality, all forms are projected out of the part of the mind that desires to perceive itself as separate from the wholeness of the One Self.

T-31.V.14. The concept of the self has always been the great preoccupation of the world. 2 And everyone believes that he must find the answer to the riddle of himself. 3 Salvation can be seen as nothing more than the escape from concepts. 4 Salvation does not concern itself with content of the mind, but with the simple statement that the mind thinks. 5 And
what can think, **which is the mind**, has choice, and can be shown that different thoughts have different consequence. 6 So **the mind** can learn that everything **the mind** thinks reflects the deep confusion that **the mind** feels about how **the mind** was made and what **the mind** is. 7 And vaguely does the concept of the self appear to answer what **the mind** does not know.

**Note # 56:** A major goal of ACIM is the recovery of the mind’s decision-making abilities. We never lost our decision-making power, but we abdicated it to the egoic thought system. If we are not a body, but rather mind, which is unlimited spirit, we can think. If we think, we can make decisions. We can reclaim our decision-making abilities from the ego and choose to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit can properly choose the correct path for only the Holy Spirit is aware of both our dream of limitation and the truth of what we are.

**T-31.V.15.** Seek not your Big “S” Self in symbols. 2 There can be no concept that can stand for what you are, **the Christ**. 3 What matters it which concept you accept while you perceive a little “s” self that interacts with evil, and reacts to wicked things? 4 Your little “s” concept of yourself will still remain quite meaningless as long as you perceive **yourself in symbols like the form you call the body**. 5 And you will not perceive that you can interact but with yourself. 6 To see a guilty world is but the sign your learning has been guided by the world, and you behold **the world** as you see yourself. 7 The concept of the self embraces all you look upon, and nothing is outside of this perception of the self. 8 If you can be hurt by anything, you see a picture of your secret wishes. 9 Nothing more than this **secret wish that would attack**. 10 And in your suffering of any kind you see your own concealed desire to kill.

**Note # 57:** As long as we perceive ourselves as a body, we will never be unable to remove the veil that hides the Christ within. The symbols of the world of form were made to confuse us. They cannot be trusted. We cannot know ourselves within the dream of form since form is unstable and constantly changing. The world of form is unreal. It is the Sonship’s projection of our desire for specialness, which is an attempt to limit the unlimited. We cannot discover our Big “S” Self if we wish to remain trapped in a body-mind of littleness. We need to use our decision-making ability to make the one and only judgment that we can correctly make. We must decide that we are incapable of making any decision correctly by ourselves and thus, decide to ask the Holy Spirit for guidance. Only with the Holy Spirit’s guidance will we be able to see through the eyes of Christ and reclaim our divine inheritance.

**T-31.V.16.** You will make many concepts of the self as learning goes along. 2 Each **concept of the self** will show the changes in your own relationships, as your perception of yourself is changed. 3 There will be some confusion every time there is a shift, but be you thankful that the learning of the egoic world is loosening its grasp upon your mind. 4 And be you sure and happy in the confidence that **the learning of the egoic world** will go at last, and leave your mind at peace. 5 The role of the accuser will appear in many places and in many forms. 6 And each will seem to be accusing you. 7 Yet have no fear **your peace of mind** will not be undone. p659
Note # 58: As we proceed under the guidance of our teacher, the Holy Spirit, we will modify and correct our misperceptions about what we are. There will be bumps along the road during this relearning process. Ultimately the process of reawakening the sleeping mind to its true reality will succeed since this is the Will of God. The Father will not be without His Effect, which is the Sonship of the Christ.

T-31.V.17. The world can teach no images of you unless you want to learn these worldly images of you. 2 There will come a time when images have all gone by, and you will see you know not what you are. 3 It is to this unsealed and open mind that realizes that it does not know what it is, that truth returns, unhindered and unbound. 4 Where concepts of the self have been laid by is truth revealed exactly as truth is. 5 When every concept has been raised to doubt and question, and been recognized as made on no assumptions that would stand the light of truth, then is the truth left free to enter in the mind’s sanctuary, clean and free of guilt. 6 There is no statement that the world is more afraid to hear than this:

7 I do not know the thing I am, and therefore do not know what I am doing, where I am, or how to look upon the world or on myself.

8 Yet in this learning that you do not know what you are is salvation born. 9 And What you are, the Big “S” Self will tell you of Itself, the Christ.

Note # 59: We must be willing to discard all past egoic concepts of the self. These egoic concepts about ourselves are all based on misinformation that the world of perception claims is true. When all past judgments have been dropped, we will be in the <now> and will be open to the return of truth. The holy instant is the dropping of all past judgments. These past judgments, which we value, have become the basis for our limiting beliefs about ourselves. Salvation is the rejection of our reliance on the egoic thought system. By adopting the Holy Spirit’s thought system, we traverse the path to our reawakening to the truth that we have always been and always will be the Christ.

VI. Recognizing the Spirit

T-31.VI.1. You see the flesh or recognize the spirit. 2 There is no compromise between the belief that you are either a body-form or unlimited spirit. 3 If one is real the other must be false, for what is real denies its opposite. 4 There is no choice in vision but this one choice between body and spirit. 5 What you decide in this choice between body and spirit determines all you see and think is real and hold as true. 6 On this one choice between body and spirit that determines all you see and think is real and hold as true does all your world depend, for here have you established what you are, as flesh or spirit in your own belief. 7 If you choose flesh, you never will escape the body as your own reality, for you have chosen that you want the body to be your own reality and so it is so. 8 But choose the spirit, and all Heaven bends to touch your eyes and bless your
holy sight, that you may see the world of flesh no more except to heal and comfort and to bless.

**Note # 60:** Our concept of ourselves pivots around the idea of how we choose to see ourselves. This choice is based on what we value or desire most. Are we an ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies or are we unlimited spirit, perfect whole and complete? This self-concept will determine how we perceive our world. Once we individually answer this question about our self-perception of what we are, our provisional reality will conform to this belief. Our perception always follows our purpose.

T-31.VI.2. Salvation is undoing. 2 If you choose to see the body, you behold a world of separation, unrelated things, and happenings that make no sense at all. 3 This one body-form appears and disappears in death; that one body-form is doomed to suffering and loss. 4 And no one body-form is exactly as he was an instant previous, nor will he be the same as he is now an instant hence. 5 Who could have trust where so much change is seen, for who is worthy if he be but dust? 6 Salvation is undoing of all this belief that we are a body. Salvation is undoing of all this belief that you behold a world of separation, of unrelated things and happenings that make no sense at all. p660 7 For constancy arises in the sight of those whose eyes salvation has released from looking at the cost of keeping guilt, because those with salvation’s eyes chose to let guilt go instead.

**Note # 61:** The world of form is constantly shifting and changing. Because of this, all our concepts of the world and ourselves are in a constant state of flux. Form changes but spirit is the eternal and changeless. By looking past form to content, we can change our viewpoint of what we are. Change our viewpoint and our world of perception must automatically align with our new concept of self. Because we believe ourselves as guilty, we perceive ourselves as a body. Body and guilt go hand in hand.

T-31.VI.3. Salvation does not ask that you behold the spirit and perceive the body not. 2 Salvation merely asks that this should be your choice to either behold the spirit or perceive the body. 3 For you can see the body without help, but do not understand how to behold a world apart from the body. 4 It is your egoic world salvation will undo, and let you see another world your eyes could never find. 5 Be not concerned how this could ever be. 6 You do not understand how what you see arose to meet your sight. 7 For if you did, your egoic projections of image making that we call seeing would be gone. 8 The veil of ignorance is drawn across the evil and the good, and must be passed that both the judgment of evil and good may disappear, so that perception finds no hiding place. 9 How is this removal of ignorance, which is the judgment of good and evil and perception done? 10 It is not done at all. 11 What could there be within the universe that God created that must still be done?

**Note # 62:** God did not create ignorance, judgment of good and evil or perception and, therefore, they are not real and do not exist in the Mind of God. There reality exists only within the deluded mind. Bring these worldly concepts before the light of truth and these
concepts will disappear. Concepts are changeable: Truth is not. The false will be undone and only truth will remain.

T-31.VI.4. Only in arrogance could you conceive that you must make the way to Heaven plain. 2 The means are given you by which to see the world that will replace the world your egoic judgments made. This replacement world is the real world based on the correct perception of the Holy Spirit. The real world is based on the forgiving and happy dream, not egoic dreams of judgment. 3 Your Big “S” Self’s will be done! 4 In Heaven as on earth this is forever true that your Big “S” Self’s will be done. 5 It matters not where you believe you are, nor what you think the truth about yourself must really be. 6 It makes no difference what you look upon, nor what you choose to feel or think or wish. 7 For God Himself has said, "Your will be done." 8 And it is done to you accordingly.

Note # 63: Because we are created in God’s image, we are co-creators with God. Creation is the extending and sharing of the One Self. We have also been given free will. Free will allows us to play the game of pretending that we do not know what we are. In this game, we imagine what it would be like to not know what we are. Our natural state, the “I AM” State, becomes the unnatural state of “WHAT AM I?” Knowledge is replaced by perception. This game of “What AM I?” is played on the game-board of the world of perception, form, time and space. In this game of discovery that we call the illusion of separation, we all must ultimately win. We win by choosing the truth over the false. When we win the game, we return to the “I AM” State, which represents knowledge and the return to the awareness that we are the One Self. During the game of separation, we have the choice to freely call into the dream field of our awareness whatever we wish to experience. It is our mind’s selective awareness that provides the field upon which we play the game of separation. If we choose to experience fear-based thoughts, we make experiences based on limitation, lack and exclusion. If we wish to experience loving and forgiving thoughts, we create experiences based on abundance, sharing and inclusion. Depending on which emotion, fear or love, we choose to be conscious of, we will experience either a forgiving dream or a dream of judgment. Dreams of judgment are played out upon the egoic world game-board level and dreams of forgiveness on the level of the real world. Both these levels are part of the game board of separation and are not real. Dreams of forgiveness are also preserved in Heaven while dreams of judgment are only found in the insane split mind of the dreamer.

T-31.VI.5. You who believe that you can choose to see the Son of God as you would have him be, forget not that no concept of your egoic self will stand against the truth of what you are, the Christ. 2 Undoing truth would be impossible. 3 But concepts, which are not based on truth, are not difficult to change. 4 One vision, clearly seen, that does not fit the picture as the concept was perceived before will change the world for eyes that learn to see, because the concept of the self has changed.

Note # 64: Concepts are changeable. If we experience and learn of something that does not align with our current concept, we can and will modify the concept. This allows for learning to take place. Within the world of time and space, we are constantly modifying
what we believe that we are. These modifications are the learning process that leads us from the “WHAT AM I?” State to the rediscovery of the “I AM” State.

T-31.VI.6. Do you believe you are invulnerable? 2 Then the world of perception is harmless in your sight. 3 Do you forgive? 4 Then is the world forgiving, for you have forgiven the world its trespasses, and so the world looks on you with forgiving eyes that see as your forgiving eyes see. 5 Do you believe you are a body? 6 So is all the world perceived as treacherous, and out to kill. 7 Do you believe you are a spirit, deathless, and without the promise of corruption and the stain of sin upon you? 8 So the world is seen as stable, fully worthy of your trust; a happy place to rest in for a while, where nothing need be feared, but only loved. 9 Who is unwelcome to the kind in heart? 10 And what could hurt the truly innocent? p661

Note # 65: The world you perceive will be based on your own self-concept. If you believe you are a body, you will perceive an egoic world of judgment and lack. Believe that you are unlimited spirit and you will perceive the forgiving, happy dream of the real world that is based on the correct perception of the Holy Spirit.

T-31.VI.7. Your will be done, you holy child of God. 2 It does not matter if you think you are in earth or Heaven. 3 What your Father wills of you can never change. 4 The truth in you remains as radiant as a star, as pure as light, as innocent as love itself. 5 And you are worthy that your will be done!

Note # 66: No matter how we choose to perceive ourselves, God will always protect the truth of what we are. Whether we choose to play the game of forgetfulness or choose the remembrance of God, the truth will always remain unwavering and eternal. God’s Will is that we be happy. If we wish to play the game of “What Am I?” we are allowed to play that game. No game can harm the truth of what we are. God’s Love allows all and judges not since God rest in the knowledge of the truth. God knows that we are and always will be, the shared Oneness of the Mind of God, perfect, whole and complete.

VII. The Savior’s Vision

T-31.VII.1. Learning is change. 2 Salvation does not seek to use a means as yet too alien to your thinking to be helpful, nor to make the kinds of change you could not recognize. 3 Concepts are needed while perception lasts, and changing concepts is salvation’s task. 4 For concepts must deal in contrasts, not in truth, which has no opposite and cannot change. 5 In this egoic world's concepts are the guilty "bad"; the "good" are innocent. 6 And no one here in the egoic world but holds a concept of himself in which he counts the "good" to pardon him the "bad." 7 Nor does he trust the "good" in anyone, believing that the "bad" must lurk behind the good. 8 This egoic world concept of self emphasizes treachery, and trust becomes impossible. 9 Nor could this egoic world concept of self, which makes trust impossible change while you perceive the "bad" in you.
Note # 67: The egoic world’s concept of self allows us to claim that our good deeds can offset our bad ones. Yet, we hold a different standard for our brother. If our brother performs a good deed, we see some ulterior motive and wonder what he is up to? We believe we cannot trust anyone since we believe that they, like us, must only be “giving to get”. As long as we perceive others and ourselves as being an ego-body with needs, we will not be able to change our own self-concept that we are a blend of both the guilty and the innocent. We cannot be both guilty and innocent since they are mutually exclusive.

T-31.VII.2. You could not recognize your "evil" thoughts as long as you see value in attack. 2 You will perceive your "evil" thoughts sometimes, but will not see your "evil" thoughts as meaningless since you value them. 3 And so your "evil" thoughts come in fearful form, with content still concealed, to shake your sorry concept of yourself and blacken your sorry concept of yourself with still another "crime." 4 You cannot give yourself your innocence, for you are too confused about yourself, your "evil" thoughts and what you value. 5 But should <one> brother dawn upon your sight as wholly worthy of forgiveness, then your concept of yourself is wholly changed. 6 Your "evil" thoughts have been forgiven with this brother’s forgiveness, because you let all your "evil" thoughts affect you not. 7 No longer do you choose that you should be the sign of evil and of guilt in this brother. 8 And as you give your trust to what is good in this brother, you give your trust to the good in you.

Note # 68: Because minds are connected, either party can choose to look upon an overlapping experience and see it through forgiving eyes. This granting of forgiveness or innocence by one party upon another will be reciprocated and their self-concepts will be modified to realign with this newly shared experience.

T-31.VII.3. In terms of concepts, it is thus you see your brother more than just a body, for the good is never what the body seems to be. 2 The actions of the body are perceived as coming from the "baser" part of you, and thus of your brother’s body as well. 3 By focusing upon the good in your brother, the body grows decreasingly persistent in your sight, and will at length be seen as little more than just a shadow circling round the good. 4 And this reduction in your identification of your brother as being a body will be your concept of yourself, when you have reached the world beyond the sight your eyes alone can offer you to see. p662 5 For you will not interpret what you see without the Aid that God has given you, which is the Holy Spirit and Christ vision. 6 And in the Holy Spirit’s sight there <is> another world, the real world of the forgiving and happy dream.

Note # 69: Minds cannot attack. The mind needs a body to attack another body. In our egoic world, the body is seen as the symbol of sin. We naturally associate “bad” deeds with the body and “good” deeds with our higher state of consciousness. When we perceive “good” deeds, we look beyond the bodily form into our brother’s “heart,” which is his nonphysical, spiritual essence. We look past form with Christ vision and witness the content that the experience represents. Seeing the good in others allows us the opportunity to raise our own self-image of what we are.
T-31.VII.4. You live in the real world of the forgiving dream of the Holy Spirit just as much as the egoic world of the judgmental dream. 2 For both dream worlds are concepts of yourself, which can be interchanged but never jointly held. 3 The contrast between the judgmental and forgiving dream worlds is far greater than you think, for you will love this concept of yourself provide by the Holy Spirit, because the forgiving and loving concept of self was not made for you alone. 4 Born as a gift for some brother not perceived to be yourself, this forgiving and loving concept of self has been given you by the Holy Spirit’s guidance. 5 For your forgiveness, offered unto your brother, has been accepted now for both of you.

Note #70: By perceiving our brother’s action as only love or a cry for love, we are given the opportunity to respond to our brother with forgiveness and love. When we hold the concept that our brother is both sinless and guilt-free, we are free to adopt and receive that same concept for ourselves. God gave us our innocence and freedom when He created Us. It is God’s gift of our eternal innocence that is the logic behind the Atonement principle.

T-31.VII.5. Have faith in your brother who walks with you, so that your fearful concept of yourself may change. 2 And look upon the good in your brother, that you may not be frightened by your "evil" thoughts because your “evil” thoughts do not cloud your view of your brother. 3 And all this shift requires is that you be willing that this happy change occur. 4 No more than this little willingness to let this happy change occur is asked of you. 5 On behalf of this forgiving and loving concept of self, remember what the concept of your egoic self that now you hold has brought you in its egoic wake, and welcome the glad contrast this loving and forgiving concept of self offered you. 6 Hold out your hand, that you may have the gift of kind forgiveness which you offer your brother whose need for forgiveness is just the same as your need for forgiveness. 7 And let the cruel concept of your egoic self be changed to a self-concept of forgiveness and love that brings the peace of God.

Note #71: We cannot achieve the peace of God as long as we hold a self-concept that someone is guilty of sin and cannot be forgiven. By granting our brother our forgiveness, we also grant a new self-image of forgiveness and love for ourselves. To give is to receive.

T-31.VII.6. The egoic concept of yourself as a little “s” separate self that now you hold would guarantee your function here remain forever unaccomplished and undone. 2 And thus the egoic concept of yourself as a little “s” separate self dooms you to a bitter sense of deep depression and futility. 3 Yet the egoic concept of yourself as a little “s” separate self need not be fixed, unless you choose to hold this concept of yourself past the hope of change and keep this concept of yourself static and concealed within your mind. 4 Give this egoic concept of yourself as a little “s” separate self instead to the Holy Spirit, Who understands the changes that the egoic concept of yourself needs to let the concept of yourself serve the function given you to bring you peace, that you may offer peace to have peace yours. 5 Alternatives are in your mind to use, and you can see yourself another way. 6 Would you not rather look upon yourself as needed for salvation
of the world, instead of as salvation's enemy?

Note # 72: Our self-image is a concept and thus, can be modified. Change our beliefs about ourselves and we automatically change our view of all that we experience.

T-31.VII.7. The concept of the self stands like a shield, a silent barricade before the truth, and hides the truth from your sight. 2 All things you see are images, because you look on all things as through a barrier that dims your sight and warps your vision, so that you behold nothing with clarity. 3 The light is kept from everything you see. 4 At most, you glimpse a shadow of what lies beyond. 5 At least, you merely look on darkness, and perceive the terrified imaginings that come from guilty thoughts and concepts born of fear. p663 6 And what you see is hell, for fear <is> hell. 7 All that is given you is for release; the sight, the vision and the inner Guide, the Holy Spirit, all lead you out of hell with those you love beside you, and the universe with them.

Note # 73: The image that we hold of ourselves colors all that we perceive. If we see ourselves as separate and limited, we perpetuate the problem of separation. If we perceive ourselves as the unlimited Son of God, we became the savior of all that is perceived.

T-31.VII.8. Behold your role as savior within the universe! 2 To every part of true creation has the Lord of Love and life entrusted all salvation from the misery of hell. 3 And to each part of true creation has God, Lord of Love, allowed the grace to be a savior to the holy ones especially entrusted to each one’s care. 4 And this role as savior each part of true creation learns when first he looks upon one brother as he looks upon himself, and sees the mirror of himself in one brother. 5 Thus is the concept of the egoic self laid by, for nothing stands between his sight and what he looks upon, to judge what he beholds. 6 And in this single vision does he see the face of Christ, and understands he looks on everyone as he beholds this one brother, whom he now see as the Face of Christ. 7 For there is light where darkness was before, and now the veil is lifted from his sight.

Note # 74: When we ask for the Holy Spirit’s guidance, our old egoic concept of self is put aside. By removing this egoic image from the filter of our mind, we are able to observe with the Vision of Christ. Now we look beyond form and see the truth that the body-form had previously blocked from our vision. The egoic filters of fear, separation and littleness have been replaced by our new concept of self. This new self-image filters out past egoic judgments and allows us to be in the <now>. Being in the <now> we can look through the eyes of love, forgiveness and inclusion. The Christ in our brother is seen as the Christ in all of us. This joining is the recognition of the reunion of the united Sonship.

T-31.VII.9. The veil across the face of Christ, the fear of God and of salvation, and the love of guilt and death, they all are different names for just one error; that there is a space or gap of separation between you and your brother. This space between you and your brother is kept apart by an illusion of yourself that holds your brother off from you, and you away from your brother. 2 The sword of judgment is the weapon that you give to
the illusion of yourself, that the sword of judgment may fight to keep the space of separation that holds your brother off unoccupied by love. 3 Yet while you hold this sword of judgment, you must perceive the body as yourself, for you are bound to separation from the sight of your brother’s Christ self who holds the mirror to another view of what he, your brother is, and thus what you must be, which is the Christ.

Note # 75: To judge is to keep separate. Our belief that we are the body proves that there is something outside ourselves to judge. This self-concept that we are a body prevents our minds from perceiving their shared oneness. We are unable to utilize the vision of Christ to pierce through the cloak of the body. Body-forms cannot join. Only mind or thoughts can be shared.

T-31.VII.10. What is temptation but the wish to stay in hell and misery? 2 And what could temptation, this wish to stay in hell and misery, give rise to but an image of yourself that can be miserable, and remain in hell and torment? 3 Who has learned to see his brother not as this self-image of someone who is miserable and should remain in hell has saved himself, and thus is he a savior to the rest. 4 To everyone has God entrusted all of true creation, which is the Sonship, because a partial savior would be one who is but partly saved. 5 The holy ones whom God has given you to save are but everyone you meet or look upon, not knowing who they are; all those you saw an instant and forgot, and those you knew a long while since, and those you will yet meet; the unremembered and the not yet born. 6 For God has given you His Son to save from every concept that he, the split-minded egoic self, ever held.

Note # 76: We are responsible for all of creation because we are all of creation. The Sonship, which is all God created as He created it, remains the extension of the shared Mind of God. The laws of God state that there can be no separation within a Oneness. Thus, if we could divide the Oneness into parts, which we cannot, each part would contain the whole and the whole would contain each part. Each part, being holographic in nature, maintains the integrity of the whole. Being holographic in nature, we have already been the everything and the every when in the illusion of the separation. Each part of the perceived fragmented Sonship is the savior of the whole because each part contains the whole within its joint mind.

T-31.VII.11. Yet while you wish to stay in hell, how could you be the savior of the Son of God? 2 How would you know your brother’s holiness apart from your holiness? 3 For holiness is seen through holy eyes that look upon the innocence within Itself, the Christ, and thus expect to see innocence everywhere. 4 And so they that see with holy eyes call innocence forth in everyone they look upon, that their brother may be what they expect of him, which is innocence. 5 This is the savior's vision; that the savior sees his innocence in all that the savior looks upon, and sees the savior’s own salvation everywhere. 6 The savior holds no concept of himself between his calm and open eyes and what the savior sees. 7 The savior brings the light to what he looks upon, that he may see what he looks upon as it really is.

Note # 77: To be the savior of the universe, you need the correct concept of the self.
Littleness must give way to the Christ that the Holy Spirit knows us to be. Without a corrected self-concept, we could never look past form and observe the hidden content that underlies each part of true creation. We can only give what we possess. If we see ourselves as an unforgiven sinner, we cannot offer sinlessness and guiltlessness to our brother. See ourselves as sinless and guiltless Sons of God, and our guiltlessness is what we will give away to our brother. And by giving, we receive.

**T-31.VII.12.** Whatever form temptation seems to take, temptation always but reflects a wish to be a little “s” self that you are not. And from that wish to be a self that you are not a concept rises, teaching that you are the thing you wish to be. It will remain your concept of yourself until the wish that fathered that concept of yourself no longer is held dear. 4 But while you cherish temptation’s wish to be a self that you are not, you will behold your brother in the likeness of the self whose image has the wish begot of you. 5 For seeing can but represent a wish, because seeing has no power to create. Yet seeing can look with love or look with hate, depending only on the simple choice of whether you would join with what you see, or keep yourself apart and separate.

**Note # 78:** Hate keeps the gap of separation alive. Love removes the perceived gap between minds so that thoughts can be shared and minds joined.

**T-31.VII.13.** The savior’s vision is as innocent of what your brother is as the savior’s vision is free of any judgment made upon yourself. 2 The savior’s vision sees no past in anyone at all. 3 And thus the savior’s vision serves a wholly open mind, unclouded by old concepts, and prepared to look on only what the present holds. 4 The savior’s vision cannot judge because it does not know. 5 And recognizing this, the savior merely asks the Holy Spirit, “What is the meaning of what I behold?” Then is the answer given. 7 And the door held open for the face of Christ to shine upon the one who asks, in innocence, to see beyond the egoic veil of old ideas and ancient concepts held so long and dear against the vision of the Christ in you.

**Note # 79:** The ego represents our concept of what we perceive ourselves to be. The savior has dropped the egoic sword of judgment so that he can be in the <now>. Without the past, comparison is not possible. Being in the moment, the Voice of the Holy Spirit is heard since Its voice aligns with the savior’s new self concept of Himself as the Christ. It is through the eyes of Christ that the savior now views this world.

**T-31.VII.14.** Be vigilant against temptation, then, remembering that temptation is but a wish, insane and meaningless, to make yourself a thing that you are not. And think as well upon the thing that you would be instead. 3 Temptation is a thing of madness, pain and death; a thing of treachery and black despair, of failing dreams and no remaining hope except to die, and end the dream of fear. 4 <This dream of fear> is temptation; nothing more than this. 5 Can temptation’s dream of fear be difficult to choose against? 6 Consider what temptation is, and see the real alternatives you choose between. 7 There are but two alternatives to choose between. 8 Be not deceived by what appears as many choices. 9 There is hell or Heaven, and of these you choose but one.
**Note # 80:** Everything comes down to only two possible choices. One is truth. The other is the false. The choice between different forms of illusion is only the choice for the false. The truth accepts the fact that we are the Effect of our Source, which is God. The false claims that we could be something that we are not. The false claims that we are not God’s Creation or Effect. Heaven or hell waits upon our answer or choice. Because the false is a choice for nothingness, we are always allowed to choose again until we finally decide for truth. In reality, the only viable option open to us was the decision for truth since only truth exists within the Mind of God. Only in the illusion of time does it appear that the false is a possible choice. In time, the choice for the false is actually the refusal to choose the truth that is the only real option available to us. When we fail to choose again, we waste time.

**T-31.VII.15.** Let not the world's light, given unto you, be hidden from the world. p665 2

The world needs the light **given onto you**, for the world is dark indeed, and men despair because the savior's vision is withheld and what **these despairsing men** see is death. 3

These despairsing men’s savior stands, unknowing and unknown, beholding **these men of despair** with his own savior’s eyes, which he has also kept unopened. 4 And **these men of despair** cannot see until their savior looks on them with seeing eyes, and offers **these men** forgiveness with their savior’s own forgiveness. 5 Can you to whom God says, "Release My Son!" be tempted not to listen to God’s Will, when you learn that it is you for whom God asks release? 6 And what but this **releasing of God’s Son** is what this course would teach? 7 And what but this **releasing of God’s Son** is there for you to learn?

**Note # 81:** To "release My Son" calls for us to release any false concept of self that we still hold and that would tempt us to pretend that we are less than as God created us. We no longer would perceive our mind to be trapped in a form of limitation that we call the body. We are our brother’s savoir when we choose to be the Christ. We can only be the Christ when we adopt the correct self-concept about ourselves and perceive ourselves as the Big “S” Self. Each one of us is savior to our own world of perception. Our role as savior is to accept the Atonement for ourselves. Since minds are joined and to give is to receive, each individual’s acceptance of the Atonement for themselves is the acceptance of the Atonement for the whole. This accepting of the Atonement for ourselves means that we do not withhold the reality of the Sonship’s Oneness from any part of spirit or mind that might perceive itself as separate from the whole. We allow all sleeping minds the freedom to choose to leave our mind’s prison of limitation. We have unlocked all the doors of our inner prison of limitation and thus, all, including the jailer, are free to leave.

**VIII. Choose Once Again**

**Note # 82:** It may be beneficial to review Page 431 from the Part II of the daily workbook lessons. This section entitled “What is the Christ?” explains the interplay between the Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Sonship, our Big “S” Self and God. Also review Page 425 of the workbook entitled “What is the Body?” In this final section, we are
implored by Jesus to choose again. The choice we are asked to make deals with our concept of self. “Are we the body?” or “Are we the Christ?”

T-31.VIII.1. Temptation has one lesson it would teach, in all its forms, wherever temptation occurs. 2 Temptation would persuade the holy Son of God he is a body, born in what must die. Temptation would persuade the holy Son of God he is unable to escape the body’s frailty, and that he is bound by what the body orders him to feel. 3 The body sets the limits on what he can do; the body’s power is the only strength he has; his grasp cannot exceed the body’s tiny reach. 4 Would you be this concept of a limited body, if Christ appeared to you in all Christ’s glory, asking you but this:

5 Choose once again if you would take your place among the saviors of the world, or would remain in hell, and hold your brothers there.

6 For Christ <has> come, and Christ <is> asking this.

Note # 83: Christ is asking us to reclaim our divine inheritance and accept the truth about our creation. We are God’s Effect. Christ asks that we reject all temptation that would have us believe that God’s Child could be limited and call his home a body. Heaven or hell hangs on our decision of which thought system we will utilize for our self-concept of what we are. Heaven and hell are not physical places but rather states of consciousness within our mind.

T-31.VIII.2. How do you make the choice between being a savior, the Christ, or a witness for littleness? 2 How easily is this choice explained! 3 You always choose between your weakness and the strength of Christ in you. 4 And what you choose is what you think is real. 5 Simply by never using weakness to direct your actions, you have given weakness no power. 6 And the light of Christ in you is given charge of everything you do. 7 For you have brought your weakness unto Christ, and Christ has given you His strength instead of your weakness.

Note # 84: We merely turn over all decision to the Christ. This is the same as asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Whichever thought system we choose to feed is the self-concept we will adopt as our reality. We will feed the thought system that we value because that is the thought system we desire to make real. The egoic thought system is the choice for the weakness that is natural result in claiming that we are a body.

T-31.VIII.3. Trials are but lessons that you failed to learn presented once again, so where you made a faulty choice before you now can make a better one, and thus escape all pain that what you chose before has brought to you. 2 In every difficulty, all distress, and each perplexity Christ calls to you and gently says, "My brother, choose again." 3 Christ would not leave one source of pain unhealed, nor any image left to veil the truth. p666 4 Christ would remove all misery from you whom God created altar unto joy. 5 Christ would not leave you comfortless, alone in dreams of hell, but would release your mind from everything that hides Christ’s face from you. 6 Christ’s Holiness is your Holiness because Christ is the only power that is real in you. 7 Christ’s strength is your strength.
because Christ is the Self that God created as God’s only Son.

**Note # 85:** Christ will never abandon us for that is not God’s Will. Christ’s strength flows from God. Our egoic illusion must give way to truth when we choose to bring all temptation to our Inner Guide, the Christ. Christ is our true reality. Trials are simple tests to discover if we have truly absorbed life lessons at their conceptual core level of content. Have we mastered and responded to the content of the experience with love or did we allow fear to rule our decision and thus, disturbed our peace? If we “fail” the test, we are not punished but merely given additional experiences over time so that when we desire to retest ourselves, we can demonstrate that we have integrated that lesson’s experience into our being, which is only love.

**T-31.VIII.4.** The egoic images you make cannot prevail against what God Himself would have you be. 2 Be never fearful of temptation, then, but see temptation as it is; Temptation is another chance to choose again, and let Christ's strength prevail in every circumstance and every place you raised an egoic image of yourself before. 3 For what appears to hide the face of Christ, the idols of temptation, are powerless before Christ’s majesty, and disappears before Christ’s holy sight. 4 The saviors of the world, who see like Christ, are merely those who choose Christ’s strength instead of choosing their own egoic weakness, which they would withhold and see apart from Christ. 5 The saviors of the world will redeem the world, for the saviors of the world are joined in all the power of the Will of God. 6 And what the saviors of the world will is only what God wills.

**Note # 86:** Our true will, Christ’s will and God’s Will are all the same Will. The egoic illusions of the small “s” self are no match for God’s Will. The will of our true Big “S” Self must prevail over of will of the small “s” self. The false always dissipates when brought before the light of truth.

**T-31.VIII.5.** Learn, then, the happy habit of response to all temptation to perceive yourself as weak and miserable with these words:

2 I am as God created me. 3 His Son can suffer nothing. 4 And I am His Son.

5 Thus is Christ's strength invited to prevail, replacing all your egoic weakness with the strength that comes from God and that can never fail. 6 And thus are miracles as natural as fear and agony appeared to be before the choice for holiness was made. 7 For in that choice for holiness are false distinctions gone, illusory alternatives laid by, and nothing left to interfere with truth.

**Note # 87:** When we are willing to accept the truth about what we are, the truth will be revealed. The truth about our Christ nature has never left us. We have just refused to allow ourselves to hear and be the unlimited spirit that we are. We can choose to block, hide and deny the truth but we could not change the truth. As the extension of the Mind of God we are like Herself, perfect, whole and complete. We always remain God’s Effect.
T-31.VIII.6. You <are> as God created you, and so is every living thing you look upon created as God created you, regardless of the images you see. 2 What you behold as sickness and as pain, as weakness and as suffering and loss, is but temptation to perceive yourself defenseless and in hell. 3 Yield not to this temptation to perceive yourself defenseless and in hell and you will see all pain, in every form, wherever it occurs, but disappear as mists before the sun. 4 A miracle has come to heal God's Son, and close the door upon his egoic dreams of weakness, opening the way to the Son of God's salvation and release. 5 Choose once again what you would have the Son of God be, remembering that every choice you make establishes your own identity as you will see your own identity and believe your own identity is.

Note # 88: God created One Son. We are the Effect of God. “All That Is” is part of God for there is just the Oneness of the One Self. We may have distorted the image of God’s Son by our insane concept of ourselves but we cannot change the truth that both Cause and Effect is the perfect completion that is the holographic Mind of God. Being only love, God extends Herself as the Oneness of everything, perfect, whole and complete.

T-31.VIII.7. Deny me not the little gift of your willingness that I ask, when in exchange for your little willingness I lay before your feet the peace of God, and power to bring this peace to everyone who wanders in the world uncertain, lonely, and in constant fear. p667 2 For the power to bring this peace to everyone is given you to join with your fearful brother, and through the Christ in you unveil his eyes, and let your once fearful brother look upon the Christ in himself.

Note # 89: When we correct our concept of what we are, we will share this Vision of Christ with our brother. A brother that previously saw himself to be a limited ego-body will now recognize the Christ within himself. To prove you have something you must give it away. We cannot claim to be the Christ and withhold Christ consciousness from one brother. The Christ knows there is no gap between the two; there is just the One Self.

T-31.VIII.8. My brothers in salvation, do not fail to hear my voice and listen to my words. 2 I, as Jesus, ask for nothing but your own release. 3 There is no place for hell within a world whose loveliness can yet be so intense and so inclusive this world, which would be the real world of the happy dream, is but a step from there to Heaven. 4 To your tired eyes I, as Jesus, bring a vision of a different world, so new and clean and fresh you will forget the pain and sorrow that you saw before. 5 Yet this vision of a different world is a vision which you must share with everyone you see, for otherwise you will behold this vision of a different world not. 6 To give this gift is how to make this vision of a different world yours. 7 And God ordained, in loving kindness, that this vision of a different world be for you.

Note # 90: God does not desire that His Son remain in time experiencing dreams of egoic judgment. If we must play, we have the play school of the happy dream. In the happy dream, we can experience what love would have us do in the playschool of time, form and space. School does not have to be a fearful place unless we want it to be. If we
choose to play in a horror film, we are free to do so. No imagined game can harm God’s Child at play. Yet, while at play, we can demonstrate what it is like to experience, feel and be love in form. While we play, God’s Child, the Christ, remains eternally safe under the protective and watchful eye of the Holy Spirit. God, as both Cause and Effect, is the eternal completion and extension of the One Self of the “All That Is”.

T-31.VIII.9. Let us be glad that we can walk the world, and find so many chances to perceive another situation where God’s gift can once again be recognized as ours! 2 And thus will all the vestiges of hell, the secret sins and hidden hates be gone. 3 And all the loveliness which the vestiges of hell concealed appear like lawns of Heaven to our sight, to lift us high above the thorny egoic roads we travelled on before the Christ appeared. 4 Hear me, my brothers, hear and join with me. 5 God has ordained I, as Jesus, cannot call in vain, and in God’s certainty I rest content. 6 For you <will> hear, and you <will> choose again. 7 And in this choice to choose for the strength of Christ is everyone made free.

Note # 91: God’s gift is more than love. Ultimately, His greatest gift to the Sonship is God’s Will. God’s Will is that creation would be the extension of God, Himself. When God created, He gave everything because God is everything. Nothing was held back. Because we share the Will of God, we cannot do anything that could destroy or harm the Oneness of the whole. Although we can imagine the dream of separation, the dream can have no impact on the Mind of God. We remain perfect, whole and complete. We cannot earn God’s Love, for God’s love is eternally given free of charge. Because of this, we cannot lose God’s Love. The flow is constant. We can pretend that the flow is not there, but we cannot stop the endless flow of God’s Love.

T-31.VIII.10.1, as Jesus, thank You, Father, for these holy ones who are my brothers as these holy ones are Your Sons. 2 My faith in these holy ones is Your faith. 3 I am as sure that these holy ones will come to me, Jesus, as You, My Father, are sure of what these holy ones are, and will forever be. 4 These holy ones will accept the gift I offer them, because You, My Father, gave the gift to me on these holy ones behalf. 5 And as I would but do My Father’s holy Will, so will these holy ones choose to do My Father’s holy Will. 6 And I give thanks for these holy ones. 7 Salvation's song will echo through the world with every choice these holy ones make. 8 For we are one in purpose, and the end of hell is near.

Note # 92: The holy ones have made the choice to accept the Christ as themselves. They have accepted the Atonement for themselves. We will all freely choose to make this choice. When Jesus accepted the Atonement for himself, he accepted it for all. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we will have accepted it for all. There is no separation in mind. Time waits upon the decision of each seemingly divisible part to make the choice for the remembrance of God. This choice is inevitable for the Christ’s and the Father’s Will is the same.

T-31.VIII.11. In joyous welcome is my hand outstretched to every brother who would join with me, Jesus, in reaching past temptation and to every brother who looks with
fixed determination toward the light that shines beyond in perfect constancy. 2 Give me my own, for they belong to You, My Father. 3 And can You, My Father, fail in what is but Your Will? 4 I give You, My Father, thanks for what my brothers are. 5 And as each one elects to join with me, the song of thanks from earth to Heaven grows from tiny scattered threads of melody to one inclusive chorus from a world redeemed from hell, and giving thanks to You, My Father. p668

Note # 93: Jesus gives thanks to all who would join him in the rediscovery that we are the light of the world. He also thanks God, the Father, for sharing the Father’s Will with His Child, the Christ.

T-31.VIII.12. And now we say "Amen." 2 For Christ has come to dwell in the abode You, My Father, set for Him, the Christ, before time was, in calm eternity. 3 The journey closes in Heaven, ending at the place where the journey of separation began. 4 No trace of the journey of separation remains. 5 Not one illusion is accorded faith, and not one spot of darkness still remains to hide the face of Christ from anyone. 6 God’s Will is done, complete and perfectly, and all creation recognizes You, My Father, and all creation knows You, the Father, as the only Source all creation has. 7 Clear in My Father’s likeness does the light shine forth from everything that lives and moves in You, My Father. 8 For we have reached where all of us are one, and we are home in Heaven, where You, My Father would have us be. p669

Note # 94: Heaven is not a place; it is a state of mind. Heaven is the state of mind in which we recognized the truth that we are the Oneness of the Mind of God; nothing more and nothing less. We, the Christ, are at home in the Mind of God. Cause and Its Effect are intertwined as One Indivisible Whole. We are the united, indivisible One Self that is the holographic Mind of God.