

A  
COURSE  
IN  
MIRACLES

BY

Jesus Christ

A Comprehensive Comparison  
between *Jesus' Course in Miracles*  
and the Second Edition of  
*A Course in Miracles*



## INTRODUCTION

An earlier and more complete version of the Text portion of *A Course in Miracles* has recently come to light. It is a public domain document which is now referred to as the “Hugh Lynn Cayce Version of *A Course in Miracle*” or “*Jesus’ Course in Miracles*”.

The following is a chapter-by-chapter comparison between *Jesus’ Course in Miracles* and the Second Edition of *A Course in Miracles*.



**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

The use of miracles as spectacles to INDUCE belief is wrong; or, better, is a misunderstanding of their purpose. They are really used FOR and BY believers.

Prayer is the medium of miracles. Prayer is the natural communication of the created with the Creator. Through prayer love is received, and through miracles love is expressed.

Miracles are thoughts. Thoughts can represent lower-order or higher-order reality. This is the basic distinction between intellectualizing and thinking. One makes the physical and the other creates the spiritual, and we believe in what we make or create.

Miracles are teaching devices for demonstrating that it is more blessed to give than to receive. They simultaneously increase the strength of the giver and supply strength to the receiver.

Miracles are the transcendence of the body. They are sudden shifts into invisibility, away from a sense of lower-order reality. That is why they heal.

Miracles make minds one in God. They depend on cooperation, because the Sonship is the sum of all the Souls God created. Miracles therefore rest on the laws of eternity, not of time.

Miracles are natural expressions of total forgiveness. Through miracles, man accepts God's forgiveness by extending it to others.

Miracles are associated with fear only because of the fallacious belief that darkness can HIDE. Man believes that what he cannot see does not exist, and his physical eyes cannot see in the dark. This is a very primitive solution, and has led to a denial of the Spiritual eye. \*

(\* The term "Spiritual eye" is later replaced by the Holy Spirit and the physical eye becomes the ego. The emphasis on the two ways of seeing, however, remains throughout. )

Miracles rearrange perception, and place the levels of perception in true perspective. This heals at ALL levels, because sickness comes from confusing the levels.

Miracles honor man BECAUSE he is lovable. They dispel illusions about him, and perceive the Light in him. They thus atone for his errors by freeing him from his own nightmares. They release him from a prison in which he has imprisoned HIMSELF, and by freeing his mind from illusions, they restore his sanity. Man's mind CAN be possessed by illusions, but his Spirit is eternally free. If a mind perceives without love it perceives an empty shell, and is unaware of the Spirit within it. But the Atonement restores the Soul to its proper place. The mind that serves the Spirit is invulnerable.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

The use of miracles as spectacles to induce belief is a misunderstanding of their purpose.

Prayer is the medium of miracles. It is a means of communication of the created with the Creator. Through prayer love is received, and through miracles love is expressed.

Miracles are thoughts. Thoughts can represent the lower or bodily level of experience, or the higher or spiritual level of experience. One makes the physical, and the other creates the spiritual.

Miracles are teaching devices for demonstrating it is as blessed to give as to receive. They simultaneously increase the strength of the giver and supply strength to the receiver.

Miracles transcend the body. They are sudden shifts into invisibility, away from the bodily level. That is why they heal.

Miracles make minds one in God. They depend on cooperation because the Sonship is the sum of all that God created. Miracles therefore reflect the laws of eternity, not of time.

Miracles are natural signs of forgiveness. Through miracles you accept God's forgiveness by extending it to others.

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

Miracles rearrange perception and place all levels in true perspective. This is healing because sickness comes from confusing the levels.

Miracles honor you because you are lovable. They dispel illusions about yourself and perceive the light in you. They thus atone for your errors by freeing you from your nightmares. By releasing your mind from the imprisonment of your illusions, they restore your sanity

## CHAPTER I

### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Miracles are examples of right thinking. Reality contact at all levels becomes strong and accurate, thus permitting correct delineation of intra- and interpersonal boundaries. As a result, the doer's perceptions are aligned with truth as God created it.

The Spiritual eye is the mechanism of miracles because what It perceives IS true. It perceives both the Creations of God and the creations of man. Among the creations of man, It can also separate the true from the false by Its ability to perceive totally, rather than selectively. It thus becomes the proper instrument for reality testing, which always involves the necessary distinction between the false and the true.

As you share MY inability to tolerate lack of love in yourself and others, you MUST join the Great Crusade to correct it. The slogan for the Crusade is "Listen, learn, and DO;" – Listen to my voice, learn to undo error, and DO something to correct it.

### THE SECOND EDITION

Miracles are examples of right thinking, aligning your perceptions with truth as God created it.

The Holy Spirit is the mechanism of miracles. He recognizes both God's creations and your illusions. He separates the true from the false by His ability to perceive totally rather than selectively.

As you share my unwillingness to accept error in yourself and others, you must join the great crusade to correct it; listen to my voice, learn to undo error and act to correct it.

#### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

Christ-controlled miracles are part of the Atonement, but Christ-guidance is personal. The impersonal nature of miracles is an essential ingredient, because this enables ME to control their distribution. Christ-guidance leads to the highly PERSONAL experience of Revelation. This is why it involves PERSONAL choice. A guide does NOT control, but he DOES direct, leaving the following up to you." Lead us not into temptation" means "guide us out of our own errors." "Take up thy cross and follow me" means "recognize your errors and choose to abandon them by following my guidance."

## CHAPTER 2

### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

This section deals with a fundamental misuse of knowledge, referred to in the Bible as the cause of the “fall,” or separation. There are some definitions which I asked you to take from the dictionary which will be helpful here. They are somewhat unusual, since they are not the first definitions which are given. Nevertheless, the fact that each of them does appear in the dictionary should be reassuring.

Project (verb): to extend forward or out.

Project (noun): a plan in the mind.

World: a natural grand division.

We will refer later to projection as related to both mental health

and mental illness. We have already observed that man can create an empty shell, but he cannot create anything at all. This emptiness provides the screen for the misuse of projection.

The Garden of Eden, which is described as a literal garden in the Bible, was not an actual garden at all. It was merely a mental state of complete need-lack. Even in the literal account, it is noteworthy that the pre-separation state was essentially one in which man needed nothing. The “tree of knowledge” is also an overly literal figure. These concepts need to be clarified before the real meaning of the separation, or the “detour into fear,” can be fully understood.

Denial of error is a powerful defense of truth. You will note that we have been shifting the emphasis from the negative to the positive use of denial. As we have already stated, denial is not a purely negative device; it results in positive miscreation. That is the way the mentally ill DO employ it. But remember a very early thought of your own; – “Never underestimate the power of denial.” In the service of the “right mind,” the denial of ERROR frees the mind and reestablishes the freedom of the will. When the will is REALLY free, it CANNOT miscreate because it recognizes ONLY truth.

False projection arises out of false denial, NOT out of its proper use. My own role in the Atonement is one of TRUE projection; I can project to YOU the affirmation of truth. If you project error to me, or to yourself, you are interfering with the process. MY use of projection, which can also be yours, is NOT based on faulty denial. It DOES involve, however, the very powerful use of the denial of errors. The miracle worker is one who accepts my kind of denial and projection, unites his own inherent abilities to deny and project with mine, and imposes them back on himself and others. This establishes the total LACK of threat anywhere. Together we can then work for the real time of peace, which is eternal.

The improper use of defenses is quite widely recognized, but their proper use had not been sufficiently understood as yet. They can INDEED create man’s perception, both of himself and of the world. They can distort or correct, depending on what you use them FOR.

Denial should be directed only to error, and projection should be reserved only for truth. You should truly give as you have truly received. The Golden Rule can work effectively only on this basis.

Withdrawal is properly employed in the service of withdrawing from the meaningless. It is NOT a device for escape, but for consolidation. There IS only one mind.

Dissociation is quite similar. You SHOULD split off or dissociate yourself from error, but only in defense of integration.

Detachment is essentially a weaker form of dissociation. Flight can be undertaken in whatever direction you choose, but note that the concept itself implies flight FROM something. Flight from error is perfectly appropriate.

Distantiation can be properly used as a way of putting distance between yourself and what you SHOULD fly from.

Regression is an effort to return to your own original state. It can thus be utilized to RESTORE, rather than to go back to the LESS mature.

Sublimation should be a redirection of effort to the sublime.

## CHAPTER 2

### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

There are many other so-called “dynamic” concepts which are profound errors due essentially to the misuse of defenses. Among them is the concept of different levels of aspiration, which actually result from level confusion. However, the main point to be understood from this section is that you can defend truth as well as error, and, in fact, much better.

The Atonement actually began long before the crucifixion. Many Souls offered their efforts on behalf of the separated ones, but they could not withstand the strength of the attack and had to be brought back. Angels came, too, but their protection did not suffice, because the separated ones were not interested in peace. They had already split their minds, and were bent on further dividing, rather than integrating. The levels they introduced into their minds turned against each other, and they established differences, divisions, cleavages, dispersions, and all the other concepts related to the increasing splits which they produced.

Not being in their right minds, they turned their defenses from protection to assault, and acted literally insanely. It was essential to introduce a split-proof device which could be used ONLY to heal, if it were used at all.

You know that when defenses are disrupted there is a period of real disorientation, accompanied by fear, guilt, and usually vacillations between anxiety and depression. This course is different in that defenses are NOT being disrupted but REINTERPRETED, even though you may experience it as the same thing. In the reinterpretation of defenses, only their use for ATTACK is lost. Since this means they can be used only ONE way, they become much stronger and much more dependable. They no longer oppose the Atonement, but greatly facilitate it.

Their egocentricity usually misperceives this as personally insulting, an interpretation which obviously arises from their misperception of themselves. Egocentricity and communion CANNOT coexist. Even the terms are contradictory.

Man is not willing to look on what he has done TO HIMSELF.

Very instant [it is] creating, and ALWAYS as you will. Many of your ordinary expressions reflect this. For example, when you say, “Don’t give it a thought,” you imply that [if] you do not think about something, it will have no effect on you. And [this is] true enough.

On the other hand, many other expressions clearly illustrate the prevailing LACK of awareness of thought-power. For example, you say, “Just an idle thought,” and mean that the thought has no effect. You also speak of some actions as “thoughtless,” implying that if the person had thought, he would not behave as he did. While expressions like “think big” give some recognition to the power of thought, they still come nowhere near the truth. You do not expect to grow when you say it, because you do not really think that you will.

Many psychotherapists attempt to help people who are afraid, say, of their death wishes by depreciating the power of the wish. They even try to “free” the patient by persuading him that he can think whatever he wants without any REAL effect at all.

There is a real dilemma here which only the truly right-minded can escape. Death wishes do not kill in the physical sense, but they DO kill spiritual awareness. ALL destructive thinking is dangerous. Given a death wish, a man has no choice except to ACT upon the thought, or behave CONTRARY to it. He thus chooses only between homicide and fear. The other possibility is that he depreciates the power of his thought. This is the usual psychoanalytic approach.

The world is full of examples of how man has depreciated himself because he is afraid of his own thoughts. In some forms of insanity thoughts are glorified, but this is only because the underlying depreciation was too effective for tolerance. The truth is that there ARE no “idle” thoughts. ALL thinking produces form at some level. The reason people are afraid of ESP and so often react against it is because they KNOW that thoughts can hurt them. Their own thoughts have made them vulnerable.

You persist in believing that, when you do not consciously watch your mind, it is unmindful. It is time, however, to consider the whole world of the unconscious or “unwatched” mind. This may well frighten you because it is the SOURCE of fear. The unwatched mind is responsible for the whole content of the unconscious which lies ABOVE the miracle level. All psychoanalytic theorists have made some contribution in this connection, but none of them has seen it in its true entirety. They have all made one common error in that they attempted to uncover unconscious CONTENT. You cannot understand unconscious activity in these terms because “content” is applicable ONLY to the more superficial unconscious levels, to which the individual himself contributes. This is the level at which he can readily introduce fear, and usually does.

Its length depends, however, on the effectiveness of the present speed-up.



## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

To "project," as defined above, is a fundamental attribute of God, which He gave to His Son. In the Creation, God projected His Creative Ability from Himself to the Souls He created, and He also imbued them with the same loving will to create. The Soul has not only been fully created, but has also been created perfect. There is NO emptiness in it. Because of its likeness to its Creator, it is creative. No Child of God can lose this ability because it is inherent in what he IS, but he CAN use it inappropriately. Whenever projection is used inappropriately, it ALWAYS implies that some emptiness or lack exists, and that it is in man's ability to put his OWN ideas there INSTEAD of truth.

These related distortions represent a picture of what actually occurred in the separation. None of this existed before, nor does it actually exist now. The world WAS made as "a natural grand division," or a projecting outward of God. That is why everything that He created is like Him. Projection, as undertaken by God, is very similar to the kind of inner radiance which the Children of the Father inherit from Him. It is important to note that the term "project outward" necessarily implies that the REAL source of projection is internal. This is as true of the Son as of the Father.

The world, in the original connotation of the term included both the proper Creation of man by God AND the proper creation by man in his right mind. The latter required the endowment of man by God with free will, because ALL loving creation is freely given. Nothing in these statements implies any sort of level involvement, or, in fact, anything except one continuous line of creation, in which all aspects are of the same order.

All of his miscreations can literally disappear in "the twinkling of an eye," because they are merely visual misperceptions. Man's Spiritual eye can sleep, but a sleeping eye can still see.

It is quite apparent that this release does NOT depend on the kind of "knowledge" which is nothing more than deceiving lies. The knowledge which illuminates rather than obscures is the knowledge which not only SETS you free, but which also shows you clearly that you ARE free.

Once you have learned to consider these two questions, and to bring them into ALL your actions as the true criteria for behavior, I will have little difficulty in clarifying the means. You have not learned to be consistent about this as yet. I have therefore concentrated on showing you that the means ARE available whenever you ASK

To extend is a fundamental aspect of God which He gave to His Son. In the creation, God extended Himself to His creations and imbued them with the same loving Will to create. You have not only been fully created, but have also been created perfect. There is no emptiness in you. Because of your likeness to your Creator you are creative. No child of God can lose this ability because it is inherent in what he is, but he can use it inappropriately by projecting. The inappropriate use of extension, or projection, occurs when you believe that some emptiness or lack exists in you, and that you can fill it with your own ideas instead of truth.

These related distortions represent a picture of what actually occurred in the separation, or the "detour into fear." None of this existed before the separation, nor does it actually exist now. Everything God created is like Him. Extension, as undertaken by God, is similar to the inner radiance that the children of the Father inherit from Him. Its real source is internal. This 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.

All that can literally disappear in the twinkling of an eye because it is merely a misperception.

This release does not depend on illusions. The knowledge that illuminates not only sets you free, but also shows you clearly that you are free.

Once you have learned to consider these questions and to bring them into all your actions, you will have little difficulty in clarifying the means. The means are available whenever you ask.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

THE SECOND EDITION

The ability to learn has no value when change of understanding is no longer necessary. The eternally creative have nothing to learn. Only after the separation was it necessary to direct the creative forces to learning, because changed behavior had become mandatory.

Men can learn to improve their behavior, and can also learn to become better and better learners.

The miracle turns the defense of Atonement to the protection of the inner self, which, as it becomes more and more secure, assumes its natural talent of protecting others. The inner self knows itself as both a brother AND a Son.

The Atonement can only be accepted WITHIN you. You have perceived it largely as EXTERNAL thus far, and that is why your experience of it has been minimal. The reinterpretation of defenses is essential in releasing the INNER light.

The Spiritual eye, on the other hand, cannot see the building at all because It has perfect sight.

Both the separation AND the fear are miscreations of the mind, which must be undone. This is what is meant by "the restoration of the temple." It does not mean the restoration of the building, but the opening of the altar to receive the Atonement. This heals the separation, and places WITHIN man the one defense against ALL separation mind-errors which can make him perfectly invulnerable.

The acceptance of the Atonement by everyone is only a matter of time. In fact, both time AND matter were created for this purpose. This appears to contradict free will because of the inevitability of the final decision. If you review the idea carefully, however, you will realize that this is not true. Everything is limited in some way by the manner of its creation.

The ability to learn has no value when change is no longer necessary. The eternally creative have nothing to learn. You can learn to improve your perceptions, and can become a better and better learner.

The miracle turns the defense of Atonement to your real protection, and as you become more and more secure you assume your natural talent of protecting others, knowing yourself as both a brother and a Son.

The Atonement can only be accepted within you by releasing the inner light. Since the separation, defenses have been used almost entirely to defend against the Atonement, and thus maintain the separation.

Spiritual sight, on the other hand, cannot see the structure at all because it is perfect vision.

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. This heals the separation by placing within you the one effective defense against all separation thoughts and making you perfectly invulnerable.

The acceptance of the Atonement by everyone is only a matter of time. This may appear to contradict free will because of the inevitability of the final decision, but this is not so.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

This ultimately reawakens the Spiritual eye, simultaneously weakening the investment in physical sight. The alternating investment in the two types or levels of perception is usually experienced as conflict for a long time, and can become very acute. But the outcome is as certain as God.

The Spiritual eye literally CANNOT SEE error and merely looks for Atonement. All the solutions which the physical eyes seek dissolve in Its sight. The Spiritual eye, which looks within, recognizes immediately that the altar has been defiled, and needs to be repaired and protected. Perfectly aware of the RIGHT defense, It passes over all others, looking past error to truth. Because of the real strength of ITS vision, It pulls the will into Its service and impels the mind to concur. This reestablishes the true power of the will, and makes it increasingly unable to tolerate delay. The mind then realizes with increasing certainty that delay is only a way of increasing unnecessary pain which it need not tolerate at all. The pain threshold drops accordingly, and the mind becomes increasingly sensitive to what it would once have regarded as very minor intrusions of discomfort.

The reason only the mind can create is more obvious than may be immediately apparent. The Soul HAS BEEN created.

Their purpose is merely to facilitate the thinking of the learner.

This learning device is NOT subject to errors of its own because it was created, but is NOT creating. It should be obvious, then, that correcting the creator, or inducing it to give up its miscreations, is the only application of creative ability which is truly meaningful.

However, as a creative act, the miracle need not await the right-mindedness of the receiver.

The mind, however, can bring ITS illumination TO the body by recognizing that density is the opposite of intelligence, and therefore unamenable to independent learning. It is, however, easily brought into alignment with a mind which has learned to look beyond density toward light.

## THE SECOND EDITION

This 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.

Spiritual vision literally cannot see error, and merely looks for Atonement. All solutions the physical eye seeks dissolve. Spiritual vision looks within and recognizes immediately that the altar has been defiled and needs to be repaired and protected. Perfectly aware of the right defense it passes over all others, looking past error to truth. Because of the strength of its vision, it brings the mind into its service. This re-establishes the power of the mind and makes it increasingly unable to tolerate delay, realizing that it only adds unnecessary pain. As a result, the mind becomes increasingly sensitive to what it would once have regarded as very minor intrusions of discomfort.

Only the mind can create because spirit has already been created, and the body is a learning device for the mind.

Their purpose is merely to facilitate learning.

This learning device is not subject to errors of its own, because it cannot create. It is obvious, then, that inducing the mind to give up its miscreations is the only application of creative ability that is truly meaningful.

However, as a correction, the miracle need not await the right-mindedness of the receiver.

The mind, however, can bring its illumination to the body by recognizing that it is not the learner, and is therefore unamenable to learning. The body is, however, easily brought into alignment with a mind that has learned to look beyond it toward the light.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Corrective learning always begins with the awakening of the spiritual eye, and the turning away from the belief in physical sight. The reason this so often entails fear is because man is afraid of what his Spiritual eye will see. We said before that the Spiritual eye cannot see error, and is capable only of looking beyond it to the defense of Atonement. There is no doubt that the Spiritual eye DOES produce extreme discomfort by what It sees. Yet what man forgets is that the discomfort is NOT the final outcome of Its perception. When the Spiritual eye is permitted to look upon the defilement of the altar, it also looks IMMEDIATELY toward the Atonement. NOTHING the Spiritual eye perceives can induce fear. EVERYTHING that results from accurate spiritual awareness is merely channelized toward correction. Discomfort is aroused only to bring the NEED for correction forcibly into awareness. What the physical eye sees is NOT corrective, nor can it be corrected by ANY device which can be seen physically. As long as a man believes in what his physical sight tells him, ALL his corrective behavior will be misdirected. The REAL vision is obscured because man cannot endure to see his own defiled altar. But since the altar HAS been defiled, his state becomes doubly dangerous unless it IS perceived.

We have said that Christ-control can take over everything that does NOT matter, while Christ-guidance can direct everything that DOES, if you so choose. Fear cannot be Christ-controlled, but it CAN be self-controlled. It PREVENTS me from controlling it. The correction is therefore a matter of YOUR will, because its presence shows that you have raised the UNIMPORTANT to a higher level than it warrants. You have thus brought it under YOUR will, where it does not belong. This means that YOU feel responsible for it. The level confusion here is obvious.

The reason I cannot control fear for you is that you are attempting to raise to the mind level the proper content of lower-order reality. I do not foster level confusion, but YOU can choose to correct it. You would not tolerate insane BEHAVIOR on your part, and would hardly advance the excuse that you could not help it.

When you are fearful you have willed wrongly.

Before you will to do anything, ask me if your will is in accord with mine.

## THE SECOND EDITION

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

My control can take over everything that does not matter, while my guidance can direct everything that does, if you so choose. Fear cannot be controlled by me, but it can be self-controlled. Fear prevents me from giving you my control. The presence of fear shows that you have raised body thoughts to the level of the mind. This removes them from my control, and makes you feel personally responsible for them. This is an obvious confusion of levels.

I do not foster level confusion, but you must choose to correct it. You would not excuse insane behavior on your part by saying you could not help it.

When you are fearful, you have chosen wrongly.

Before you choose to do anything, ask me if your choice is in accord with mine.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Fear is always a sign of strain, which arises whenever the WILL to do conflicts with WHAT you do. This situation arises in two ways; 1. You can will to do conflicting things, either simultaneously or successively. This produces conflicted behavior, which is intolerable to yourself because the part of the will that wants to do something ELSE is outraged. 2. You can BEHAVE as you think you should, but without entirely WILLING to do so. This produces consistent behavior, but entails great strain WITHIN the self. In both cases, the will and the behavior are out of accord, resulting in a situation in which you are doing what you do NOT will. This arouses a sense of coercion, which usually produces rage. The rage then invades the mind, and projection in the wrong sense is likely to follow. Depression or anxiety is virtually certain. Remember that whenever there is fear, it is because you have NOT MADE UP YOUR MIND. Your will is split, and your behavior inevitably becomes erratic. Correcting at the behavioral level can shift the error from the first to the second type of strain described above, but will NOT obliterate the fear.

It is possible to reach a state in which you bring your will under my guidance without much conscious effort, but this implies habit patterns which you have not developed dependably as yet. God cannot ask MORE than you will. The strength to DO comes from your own undivided WILL to do. There is NO strain in doing God's Will as soon as you recognize that it is also your OWN. The lesson here is quite simple, but particularly apt to be overlooked. I will therefore repeat it, urging you to listen. Only your MIND can produce fear. It does so whenever it is conflicted in what it wills, thus producing inevitable strain because willing and doing become discordant. This cannot be corrected by better DOING, but it CAN be corrected by higher WILLING.

Then say to yourself that you must somehow have willed not to love [or] the fear which arises from behavior-will conflict could not have arisen....

...you have done something loveless, having willed without love.

... Actually, "Cause" is a term properly belonging to God, and "Effect," which should also be capitalized, is His Son. This entails a set of Cause and Effect relationships which are totally different from those which man introduced into his own miscreations. The fundamental opponents in the real basic conflict are Creation and miscreation.

It should especially be noted that God has only ONE Son. If all the Souls God created ARE His Sons, then every Soul MUST be an integral part of the whole Sonship. You do not find the concept that the whole is greater than its parts difficult to understand. You should, therefore, not have too much trouble in understanding this. The Sonship in its Oneness DOES transcend the sum of its parts.

## THE SECOND EDITION

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

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. The Holy Spirit cannot ask more than you are willing to do. The strength to do comes from your undivided decision. There is no strain in doing God's Will as soon as you recognize that it is also your own. The lesson here is quite simple, but particularly apt to be overlooked. I will therefore repeat it, urging you to listen. Only your mind can produce fear. It does so whenever it is conflicted in what it wants, producing inevitable strain because wanting and doing are discordant. This can be corrected only by accepting a unified goal.

Say to yourself that you must somehow have chosen not to love, or the fear could not have arisen.

You have done something loveless, having chosen without love.

...Actually, "Cause" is a term properly belonging to God, and His "Effect" is His Son. This entails a set of Cause and Effect relationships totally different from those you introduce into miscreation. The fundamental conflict in this world, then, is between creation and miscreation.

It should especially be noted that God has only one Son. If all His creations are His Sons, every one must be an integral part of the whole Sonship. The Sonship in its oneness transcends the sum of its parts.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

..As soon as a state of readiness occurs, there is usually some will to accomplish, but this is by no means necessarily undivided. The state does not imply more than a POTENTIAL for a shift of will.

.. We have already attempted to correct the fundamental error that fear can be mastered, and have emphasized that only LOVE can be mastered. You have attested only to your readiness. Mastery of love involved a much more complete confidence than either of you has attained. However, the readiness at least is an indication that you believe this is possible.

.. Judgment is not an essential attribute of God. Man brought judgment into being only because of the separation.

.. If a sufficient number of people become truly miracle-minded quickly, the shortening process can be almost immeasurable. It is essential, however, that these individuals free themselves from fear sooner than would ordinarily be the case, because they must emerge from the conflict if they are to bring peace to other minds.

..This is a process of division only in the constructive sense, and reflects the true meaning of the Apocalypse. Man will ultimately look upon his own creations and will to preserve only what is good, just as God Himself looked upon what He had created and knew that it WAS good. At this point, the will can begin to look with love on its own creations because of their great worthiness.

THE SECOND EDITION

... As soon as a state of readiness occurs, there is usually some degree of desire to accomplish, but it is by no means necessarily undivided. The state does not imply more than a potential for a change of mind.

...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. Readiness is only the beginning of confidence.

...Judgment is not an attribute of God. It was brought into being only after the separation, when it became one of the many learning devices to be built into the overall plan.

... If a sufficient number become truly miracle-minded, this shortening process can be virtually immeasurable. It is essential, however, that you free yourself from fear quickly, because you must emerge from the conflict if you are to bring peace to other minds.

This is a process of separation in the constructive sense, and reflects the true meaning of the Apocalypse. 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 it was good. At this point, the mind can begin to look with love on its own creations because of their worthiness.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Clear distinction between what HAS BEEN created and what IS BEING created is essential. ALL forms of correction (or healing) rest on this FUNDAMENTAL correction in level perception.

You can do much on behalf of your own rehabilitation AND that of others if, in a situation calling for healing, you think of it this way:

I am here ONLY to be truly helpful.  
I am here to represent Christ, Who sent me.  
I do NOT have to worry about what to say or what to do because He Who sent me will direct me.  
I am content to be wherever He wishes, knowing He goes there with me.  
I will be healed as I let Him teach me to heal.

...it DOES appear as if God permitted, and even encouraged, one of his Sons to suffer BECAUSE he was good. Many ministers preach this every day.

This particularly unfortunate interpretation, which arose out of the combined misprojections of a large number of my would-be followers, has led many people to be bitterly afraid of God, and this is neither by chance nor by coincidence.

That is the real meaning of the Biblical description of God as "Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End." It also explains the quotation, "Before Abraham was I AM." Perception can and must be stabilized, but knowledge IS stable." Fear God and keep his commandments" should read "KNOW God and accept His certainty."

"Vengeance is Mine sayeth the Lord" is a strictly karmic viewpoint. It is a real misperception of truth, by which man assigns his own "evil" past to God. The "evil conscience" from the past has nothing to do with God. He did not create it and He does not maintain it. God does NOT believe in karmic retribution. His Divine Mind does not create that way. HE does not hold the evil deeds of a man even against himself. Is it likely, then, that He would hold against anyone the evil that ANOTHER did? Be very sure that you recognize how utterly impossible this assumption really is, and how ENTIRELY it arises from misprojection.

Those who represent the lamb as blood-stained, an all-too-widespread error, do NOT understand the meaning of the symbol. Correctly understood, it is a very simple parable which merely speaks of my innocence. The lion and the lamb lying down together refers to the fact that strength and innocence are NOT in conflict, but naturally live in peace.

When we say "the truth shall set you free," we mean that all this kind of thinking is a waste of time, but that you ARE free of the need to engage in it if you are willing to let it go.

## THE SECOND EDITION

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.

You can do much on behalf of your own healing and that of others if, in a situation calling for help, you think of it this way:

I am here only to be truly helpful.  
I am here to represent Him Who sent me.  
I do not have to worry about what to say or what to do, because He Who sent me will direct me.  
I am content to be wherever He wishes, knowing He goes there with me.  
I will be healed as I let Him teach me to heal.

...it DOES appear as if God permitted, and even encouraged, one of his Sons to suffer BECAUSE he was good.

This particularly unfortunate interpretation, which arose out of projection, has led many people to be bitterly afraid of God. Such anti-religious concepts enter into many religions.

That is the real meaning of "Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end," and "Before Abraham was I am." Perception can and must be stabilized, but knowledge is stable. "Fear God and keep His commandments" becomes "Know God and accept His certainty."

The statement "Vengeance is Mine, sayeth the Lord" is a misperception by which one assigns his own "evil" past to God. The "evil" past has nothing to do with God. He did not create it and He does not maintain it. God does not believe in retribution. His Mind does not create that way. He does not hold your "evil" deeds against you. Is it likely that He would hold them against me? Be very sure that you recognize how utterly impossible this assumption is, and how entirely it arises from projection.

...do not understand the meaning of the symbol. Correctly understood, it is a very simple symbol that speaks of my innocence. The lion and the lamb lying down together symbolize that strength and innocence are not in conflict, but naturally live in peace.

Ingenious thinking is not the truth that shall set you free, but you are free of the need to engage in it when you are willing to let it go.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

"God created man in his Own image and likeness" is correct in meaning, but the words are open to considerable misinterpretation. This is avoided, however, if "image" is understood to mean "thought" and "likeness" is taken as "of a like quality."

The Bible says that the branch that bears no fruit will be cut off and will wither away.

God offers only mercy. Your words should reflect only mercy, because that is what you have received, and that is what you should give. Justice is a temporary expedient, or an attempt to teach man the meaning of mercy. Its judgmental side arises only because man is capable of injustice, if that is what his mind creates

Every symptom which the ego has made involves a contradiction in terms. This is because the mind is split between the ego and the Soul, so that WHATEVER the ego makes is incomplete and contradictory. This untenable position is the result of the authority problem which, because it accepts the one inconceivable thought as its premise, can only produce ideas which are inconceivable.

Sacrificing another in ANY way is a clearcut violation of God's Own injunction that man should be merciful even as his Father in Heaven. It has been hard for many Christians to realize that this commandment (or assignment) also applies to THEMSELVES. Good teachers never terrorize their students. To terrorize is to attack, and this results in rejection of what the teacher offers. The result is learning failure.

A pure mind knows the truth, and this IS its strength. It cannot attack the body because it recognizes exactly what the body IS. This is what "a sane mind in a sane body" really means. It does NOT confuse destruction with innocence because it associates innocence with strength, NOT with weakness.

The innocence of God is the true state of mind of His Son. In this state, man's mind DOES see God in the sense that he sees Him as He is, and realizes that the Atonement, NOT sacrifice, is the ONLY appropriate gift to His Own altar, where nothing except true perfection belongs. The understanding of the innocent is TRUTH. That is why their altars are truly radiant

THE SECOND EDITION

The statement "God created man in his own image and likeness" needs reinterpretation. "Image" can be understood as "thought," and "likeness" as "of a like quality."

The branch that bears no fruit will be cut off and will wither away.

God offers only mercy. Your words should reflect only mercy, because that is what you have received and that is what you should give. Justice is a temporary expedient, or an attempt to teach you the meaning of mercy. It is judgmental only because you are capable of injustice.

I have spoken of different symptoms, and at that level there is almost endless variation. There is, however, only one cause for all of them: the authority problem. This is "the root of all evil." 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. This untenable position is the result of the authority problem which, because it accepts the one inconceivable thought as its premise, can produce only ideas that are inconceivable.

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 applies to themselves. Good teachers never terrorize their students. To terrorize is to attack, and this results in rejection of what the teacher offers. The result is learning failure.

A pure mind knows the truth and this is its strength. It does not confuse destruction with innocence because it associates innocence with strength, not with weakness.

The innocence of God is the true state of the mind of His Son. In this state your mind knows God, for God is not symbolic; He is Fact. 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. The understanding of the innocent is truth. That is why their altars are truly radiant.



## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Certain fundamental concepts CANNOT be meaningfully understood in terms of coexisting polarities. It is impossible to conceive of light and darkness, or everything and nothing, as joint possibilities. They are all true OR all false. It is essential that you realize that behavior is erratic until a firm commitment to one or the other is made.

A firm commitment to darkness or nothingness is impossible. No one has ever lived who has not experienced SOME light and SOME thing. This makes everyone really unable to deny truth totally, even if he generally deceives himself in this connection. That is why those who live largely in darkness and emptiness never find any lasting solace. Innocence is NOT a partial attribute. It is not a real defense UNTIL it is total. When it is partial, it is characterized by the same erratic nature that holds for other two-edged defenses.

You CANNOT validate the invalid. I would suggest that you voluntarily give up all such attempts, because they can only be frantic. If you are willing to validate what IS true in everything you perceive, you will make it true for YOU. Truth overcomes ALL error. This means that if you perceive truly, you are canceling out misperceptions in yourself AND in others simultaneously. Because you see them as they are, you offer them your own validation of THEIR truth. This is the healing which the miracle actively fosters.

We have been emphasizing perception and have said very little about cognition as yet, because you are confused about the difference between them. The reason we have dealt so little with cognition is because you must get your perceptions straightened out before you can KNOW anything. To know is to be certain. Uncertainty merely means that you do NOT know. Knowledge is power BECAUSE it is certain, and certainty is strength. Perception is merely temporary. It is an attribute of the space-time belief, and is therefore subject to fear or love. Misperceptions produce fear, and true perceptions produce love. NEITHER produces certainty, because ALL perception varies. That is why it is NOT knowledge.

The unquestioning mind is closed because it believes the future and present will be the same. This establishes an unchanged state, or stasis.

Visions are the natural perception of the Spiritual eye, but they are still corrections. The Spiritual eye is symbolic, and therefore not a device for knowing.

However, it is not until you RECOGNIZE him that you can KNOW him.

## THE SECOND EDITION

Certain fundamental concepts cannot be understood in terms of opposites. It is impossible to conceive of light and darkness or everything and nothing as joint possibilities. They are all true or all false. It is essential that you realize your thinking will be erratic until a firm commitment to one or the other is made. A firm commitment to darkness or nothingness, however, is impossible. No one has ever lived who has not experienced some light and some thing. No one, therefore, is able to deny truth totally, even if he thinks he can.

Innocence is not a partial attribute. It is not real until it is total.

The way to correct distortions is to withdraw your faith in them and invest it 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 it 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 in others simultaneously. Because you see them as they are, you offer them your acceptance of their truth so they can accept it for themselves. This is the healing that the miracle induces.

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 it is certain, and certainty is strength. Perception is temporary. As an attribute of the belief in space and time, it 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 it is not knowledge.

The closed mind believes the future and the present will be the same. This establishes a seemingly stable state...

True vision is the natural perception of spiritual sight, but it is still a correction rather than a fact. Spiritual sight is symbolic, and therefore not a device for knowing.

However, until you first perceive him as he is you cannot know him.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## Conflict and the Ego

Only the levels of the Trinity are capable of Unity. The levels which man created by the separation cannot BUT conflict.

In OUR picture of the psyche, there is an unconscious level which properly consists ONLY of the miracle ability, and which should be under MY direction. There is also a conscious level, which perceives or is aware of impulses from both the unconscious and the superconscious. Consciousness is thus the level of perception, but NOT of knowledge. Again, to perceive is NOT to know.

Consciousness was the first split that man introduced into himself. He became a PERCEIVER, rather than a creator in the true sense. Consciousness is correctly identified as the domain of the ego. The ego is a man-made attempt to perceive himself as he WISHED to be, rather than as he IS.

The ego is the questioning compartment in the post-separation psyche which man created for himself. It is capable of asking valid questions but NOT of perceiving valid answers, because these are cognitive and cannot BE perceived.

Right-mindedness is not to be confused with the KNOWING mind because it is applicable only to right perception. You can be right-minded or wrong-minded, and even this is subject to degrees, a fact which clearly demonstrates a lack of association with knowledge.

Perception ALWAYS involves some misuse of will because it involves the mind in areas of uncertainty. The mind is very active because it has will-power. When it willed the separation, it willed to perceive. Until then, it willed ONLY to know. Afterwards it willed ambiguously...

Thereafter, the superconscious was perceived as a threat, because light does abolish darkness merely by establishing the fact that it is not there. The truth will ALWAYS overcome error in this sense. This is not an ACTIVE process of destruction at all.

God and the Souls He created remain in surety, and therefore KNOW that no miscreation exists. Truth cannot deal with unwilling error, because it does not will to be blocked out. I was a man who remembered the Soul and its knowledge, and as a man, I did not attempt to COUNTERACT error with knowledge so much as to CORRECT error from the bottom up.

The "chosen ones" are merely those who choose right SOONER. This is the real meaning of the celestial speed-up. Strong wills can do this NOW, and you WILL find rest for your Souls.

## THE SECOND EDITION

## Error and the Ego

Only the Levels of the Trinity are capable of Unity. The levels created by the separation cannot but conflict. This is because they are meaningless to each other.

- NOT FOUND -

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. Consciousness is correctly identified as the domain of the ego. The ego is a wrong-minded attempt to perceive yourself as you wish to be, rather than as you are.

The ego is the questioning aspect of the post-separation self, which was made rather than created. It is capable of asking questions but not of perceiving meaningful answers, because these would involve knowledge and cannot be perceived.

Right-mindedness is not to be confused with the knowing mind, because it is applicable only to right perception. You can be right-minded or wrong-minded, and even this is subject to degrees, clearly demonstrating that knowledge is not involved.

Perception always involves some misuse of mind, because it brings the mind into areas of uncertainty. The mind is very active. When it chooses to be separated it chooses to perceive. Until then it wills only to know. Afterwards it can only choose ambiguously...

Thereafter, spirit is perceived as a threat, because light abolishes darkness merely by showing you it is not there. Truth will always overcome error in this way. This cannot be an active process of correction because, as I have already emphasized, knowledge does not do anything.

God and His creations remain in surety, and therefore know that no miscreation exists. Truth cannot deal with errors that you want. I was a man who remembered spirit and its knowledge. As a man I did not attempt to counteract error with knowledge, but to correct error from the bottom up.

The "chosen ones" are merely those who choose right sooner. Right minds can do this now, and they will find rest unto their souls,

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

## The Loss of Certainty

We said before that the abilities which man possesses are only shadows of his real strengths, and that the intrusion of the ability to perceive, which is inherently judgmental, was introduced only AFTER the separation. No-one has been sure of anything since.

Man CANNOT perceive himself correctly. He has no image. The word "image" is always perception-related, and NOT a product of learning.

Methodologically man's mind has been very creative, but, as always occurs when method and content are separated, it has not been utilized for anything but an attempt to escape a fundamental and entirely inescapable impasse.

In electing to perceive instead of to know, man placed himself in a position where he could resemble his Father ONLY by miraculously perceiving. He has lost the knowledge that he HIMSELF is a miracle. Miraculous creation was his Source, and also his real function.

...continual process of accepting and rejecting, or organizing and reorganizing, of shifting and changing focus.

Forgiveness is the healing of the perception of separation. Correct perception OF EACH OTHER is necessary, because minds have willed to see themselves as separate. Each Soul knows God completely. That IS the miraculous power of the Soul. The fact that each One has this power completely is a fact that is entirely alien to human thinking, in which if anyone has everything, there is nothing LEFT.

After the Last Judgment there will be no more. This is symbolic only in the sense that everyone is much better off WITHOUT judgment.

Judgment ALWAYS involves rejection. It is NOT an ability which emphasizes only the positive aspects of what is judged, whether it be in or out of the self. However, what has been perceived and rejected, – or judged and found wanting, – remains in the unconscious because it HAS been perceived.

Nothing that you have refused to accept can be brought into awareness. It does NOT follow that it is dangerous, but it DOES follow that you have MADE it dangerous.

## Beyond Perception

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. No one has been sure of anything since.

Yet you cannot perceive yourself correctly. You have no image to be perceived. The word "image" is always perception-related, and not a part of knowledge.

Your mind may have become very ingenious, but as always happens when method and content are separated, it is utilized in a futile attempt to escape from an inescapable impasse.

In electing perception instead of knowledge, you placed yourself in a position where you could resemble your Father only by perceiving miraculously. You have lost the knowledge that you yourself are a miracle of God. Creation is your Source and your only real function.

... continual process of accepting and rejecting, organizing and reorganizing, shifting and changing

Forgiveness is the healing of the perception of separation. Correct perception of your brother is necessary, because minds have chosen to see themselves as separate. Spirit knows God completely. That is its miraculous power. The fact that each one has this power completely is a condition entirely alien to the world's thinking. The world believes that if anyone has everything, there is nothing left.

After the Last Judgment there will be no more.

Judgment always involves rejection. It never emphasizes only the positive aspects of what is judged, whether in you or in others. What has been perceived and rejected, or judged and found wanting, remains in your mind because it has been perceived.

Nothing that you have refused to accept can be brought into awareness. It is not dangerous in itself, but you have made it seem dangerous to you.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

THE SECOND EDITION

Souls were GIVEN their true Authorship, but men preferred to be anonymous when they chose to separate themselves from their Author. The word "authority" has been one of their most fearful symbols ever since. Authority has been used for great cruelty because, being uncertain of their true Authorship, men believe that their creation was anonymous. This has left them in a position where it SOUNDS meaningful to consider the possibility that they must have created themselves.

The dispute over authorship has left such uncertainty in the minds of men that some have even doubted whether they really exist at all. Despite the apparent contradiction in this position, it is in one sense more tenable than the view that they created themselves. At least it acknowledges the fact that SOME true authorship is necessary for existence.

Existence does not depend on your ability to identify it, nor even to place it. It is perfectly possible to look on reality without judgment, and merely KNOW that it is there.

To deny His Authorship is to deny themselves the reason for their own peace, so that they see themselves only in pieces. This strange perception IS the authority problem.

It is essential to realize this, because otherwise you will not understand why you have so much trouble with this course, and will be unable to escape from the prisons which you have made for yourselves. You cannot resolve the authority problem by depreciating the power of your minds. To do so is to deceive yourself, and this will hurt you because you KNOW the strength of the mind.

Yet he ATTRACTS men rather than repels them, and they are seen as willing to "sell" him their Souls in return for gifts they RECOGNIZE are of no real worth. This makes absolutely no sense. The whole picture is one in which man acts in a way he HIMSELF realizes is self-destructive, but which he does not choose to correct, and therefore perceives the cause as beyond his control. We have discussed the fall, or separation, before, but its meaning must be clearly understood without symbols. The separation is not symbolic. It is an order of reality, or a system of thought that is real enough in time, though NOT in eternity. All beliefs are real to the believer. We have discussed the fall, or separation, before, but its meaning must be clearly understood without symbols. The separation is not symbolic. It is an order of reality, or a system of thought that is real enough in time, though NOT in eternity. All beliefs are real to the believer.

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Its existence does not depend on your ability to identify it, or even to place it. It is possible to look on reality without judgment and merely know that it is there.

To deny His Authorship is to deny yourself the reason for your peace, so that you see yourself only in segments. This strange perception is the authority problem.

It is essential to realize this, because otherwise you will be unable to escape from the prison you have made.

You cannot resolve the authority problem by depreciating the power of your mind. To do so is to deceive yourself, and this will hurt you because you really understand the strength of the mind.

Yet he attracts men rather than repels them, and they are willing to "sell" him their souls in return for gifts of no real worth. This makes absolutely no sense. We have discussed the fall or separation before, but its meaning must be clearly understood. The separation is a system of thought real enough in time, though not in eternity. All beliefs are real to the believer.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

Eating of the fruit of the tree of knowledge is a symbolic expression for incorporating into the self the ability for self-creating. This is the ONLY sense in which God and His Souls are NOT co-creators. The belief that they ARE is implicit in the "self concept," a concept now made acceptable by its WEAKNESS, and explained by a tendency of the self to create an IMAGE of itself. Its fear aspect is often ascribed to fear of retaliation by a "father figure," a particularly curious idea in view of the fact that no-one uses the term to refer to the physical father. It refers to an IMAGE of a father in relation to an IMAGE of the self.

Your minds are split with your Souls on this point, and there is NO resolution while you believe the one thing that is literally inconceivable.

Never underestimate the power of this denial. Look at your lives, and see what the devil has made.

Your starting point is truth, and you must return to this Beginning.

You who fear salvation are WILLING death.

Eating of the fruit of the tree of knowledge is a symbolic expression for usurping the ability for self-creating. This is the only sense in which God and His creations are not co-creators. The belief that they are is implicit in the "self-concept," or the tendency of the self to make an image of itself.

Your mind is split with the Holy Spirit on this point, and there is no resolution while you believe the one thing that is literally inconceivable.

Look at your lives, and see what the devil has made.

Your starting point is truth, and you must return to your Beginning.

You who fear salvation are choosing death

MOST OF THE CONTENT OF THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS CANNOT BE FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

(Italics indicate sentences that were moved somewhere else)

There has been some human controversy about the nature of seeing in relation to the integrative powers of the brain. Correctly understood, the issue revolves around the question of whether the body or the mind can see (or understand). This is not really open to question at all. The body is not capable of understanding, and only the mind can perceive ANYTHING. *A pure mind knows the truth, and this IS its strength.* It cannot attack the body because it recognizes exactly what the body IS. This is what "a sane mind in a sane body" really means

Freud realized this perfectly, and that is why he conceived the different levels in his view of the psyche as forever irreconcilable. They were conflict-prone by definition because they wanted different things and obeyed different principles. In OUR picture of the psyche, there is an unconscious level which properly consists ONLY of the miracle ability, and which should be under MY direction. There is also a conscious level, which perceives or is aware of impulses from both the unconscious and the superconscious. *Consciousness is thus the level of perception, but NOT of knowledge. Again, to perceive is NOT to know.*

Intrapersonal conflict arises from the same basis as interpersonal conflict. One part of the psyche perceives another part as on a different level, and does not understand it. This makes the parts strangers to each other, without recognition. *This is the essence of the fear-prone condition, in which attack is ALWAYS possible. Man has every reason to feel afraid, as he perceives himself. This is why he cannot escape from fear until he KNOWS that he did not and could not create himself. He can NEVER make his misperceptions valid. His creation is beyond his own error, and that is why he must eventually choose to heal the separation.*

Repetition compulsions can be endless unless they are given up by an act of will.

God gave you a very lofty responsibility which you are not meeting. You KNOW this, and you are afraid

Surprise is a reasonable response to the unfamiliar, but hardly to something that has occurred with such persistence. I am using your present state of how the mind CAN work, provided you fully recognize that it NEED not work that way. Why are you surprised that something happened in the dim past when it is so clearly happening right now?

The speed-up has placed you in the same position

but the IDEA that this is possible is a decision of the ego, which is completely confused about what is REALLY possible. This accounts for its erratic nature.

Right-mindedness dictates the next step

This is the whole message of the Atonement, a message, which, in its totality transcends the sum of its parts. Christmas is not a time; it is a state of mind. The Christ mind wills from the Soul, NOT from the ego, and the Christ Mind IS yours

...the ego has to offer you some sort of reward ...All it CAN offer is a sense of temporary existence, which begins with its OWN beginning and ends with its OWN ending

You project onto your OWN idea of yourself will to separate

releasing the strength of God into everything you think and will and do.

The ego SHOULD be brought to your judgment

Judge your ego truly and you

a decision which will remain in effect unless you change the decision

What IS the "you" who are living in this world?

but it is still only YOUR willingness

it utilizes repression against all truly natural impulses

You have been chosen to live so as to...

The Holy One shares my trust, and always approves my Atonement decisions

Such repetitions are endless until they are voluntarily given up.

God gave you a very lofty function which you are not meeting

Your own state of mind is a good example of how the ego was made. When you threw knowledge away it is as if you never had it. This is so apparent that one need only recognize it to see that it does happen. If this occurs in the present, why is it surprising that it occurred in the past? Surprise is a reasonable response to the unfamiliar, though hardly to something that occurs with such persistence. But do not forget that the mind need not work that way, even though it does work that way now.

In this sense you are still a baby.

but the idea that this is possible is a decision of the mind, which is completely confused about what is really possible.

Right-mindedness leads to the next

This is the whole message which, in its totality, transcends the sum of its parts.

...the ego has to offer you some sort of reward  
All it can offer is a sense of temporary existence.

You project onto the ego the decision to separate...

releasing the strength of God into everything you think and do.

The ego should be brought to judgment...

Let it be judged and you

a decision which will remain in effect unless you change your mind

Who is the "you" who are living in this world?

but it is still only your decision

it denies all truly natural impulses

You are asked to live so as to...

The Holy One shares my trust, and accepts my Atonement decisions...

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

My chosen receiving and sending channels

Ego-illusions are QUITE specific, although they frequently change, and although the mind is naturally abstract.

Divine Abstraction takes joy in application

Even revelation is not enough, because it is communication FROM God. It is not enough until it is SHARED.

This is the meaning of Freud's "reality principle," since Freud thought of the ego as very weak and deprived, capable of functioning ONLY as a thing in need.

The "reality principle" of the ego is not real at all. The ego is forced to perceive the "reality" of other egos because it cannot establish the reality of ITSELF. In fact, its whole perception of other egos AS real is only an attempt to convince itself that IT is real." Self esteem," in ego terms, means nothing more than that the ego has deluded itself into accepting its reality, and is therefore temporarily less predatory. This "self esteem" is ALWAYS vulnerable to stress, a term which actually refers to a condition in which the delusion of the ego's reality is threatened. This produces either ego deflation or ego inflation, resulting in either withdrawal or attack.

My chosen channels...

Ego-illusions are quite specific although the mind is naturally is abstract.

Divine Abstraction takes joy in sharing...

Revelation is not enough, because it is communication from God.

Its whole perception of other egos as real is only an attempt to convince itself that it is real. "Self-esteem" in ego terms means nothing more than that the ego has deluded itself into accepting its reality, and is therefore temporarily less predatory. This "self-esteem" is always vulnerable to stress, a term which refers to any perceived threat to the ego's existence.

## THESE PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

Money is but one of its many reflections, and is a reasonably representative example of the kind of thinking which stems from it. The idea of buying and selling implies precisely the kind of exchange that the Soul cannot understand at all, because its Supply is always abundant and all its I demands are fully met.

Every thought system has internal consistency, and this provides the basis for the continuity of behavior. However, this is a matter of reliability, and not validity." Reliable behavior" is a meaningful perception, as far as ego thinking goes. However, "valid behavior" is an expression which is inherently contradictory, because validity is an END and behavior is a MEANS. These cannot be combined logically because, when an end has been attained, the means for its attainment are no longer meaningful.

A hypothesis is either false or true, to be accepted or rejected accordingly. If it is shown to be true it becomes a fact, after which no-one attempts to evaluate it unless its status AS fact is questioned. EVERY idea to which the ego has accorded the status of fact is questionable, because facts are in the realm of knowledge.

Confusing realms of discourse is a thinking error which philosophers have recognized for centuries. Psychologists are generally quite deficient in this respect, as are many theologians. Data from one realm of discourse do not mean anything in another because they can be understood only WITHIN the thought system of which they are a part. That is why psychologists are concentrating increasingly on the ego, in an attempt to unify their clearly unrelated data. It need hardly be said that an attempt to relate the unrelated CANNOT succeed.

The more recent ecological emphases are but another ingenious way of trying to impose order on chaos. We have already credited the ego with considerable ingenuity, though not with creativeness. It should, however, be remembered that inventiveness is really wasted effort, even in its most ingenious forms. We do not have to explain ANYTHING. This is why we need not trouble ourselves with inventiveness. The highly specific nature of invention is not worthy of the abstract creativity of God's creations.

## CHAPTER 4

### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

In its characteristically upside-down way, the ego has taken the impulses from the superconscious and perceives them as if they arise in the unconscious. The ego judges what is to be accepted, and the impulses from the superconscious are unacceptable to it because they clearly point to the nonexistence of the ego itself. The ego therefore experiences threat, and not only censors but also reinterprets the data. However, as Freud correctly pointed out, what you have repressed can retain a very active life BEYOND your awareness.

Repression thus operates to conceal not only the baser impulses but also the most lofty ones from awareness because BOTH are threatening to the ego and, being concerned primarily with its own preservation in the face of threat, the ego perceives them AS THE SAME. The threat-value of the lofty is actually much greater to the ego because the pull of God Himself can hardly be equated with the pull of human appetites. By perceiving them AS the same, the ego attempts to save itself from being swept away, as it would surely BE in the presence of knowledge.

The upper level of the unconscious thus contains the Call of God as well as the call of the body. That is why the basic conflict between love and fear is unconscious; the ego cannot tolerate either, and represses both by resorting to inhibition. Society depends on inhibiting the latter, but SALVATION depends on DISinhibiting the former.

It may surprise you to learn that had the ego wished to do so it could have made the eternal because, as a product of the mind, it IS endowed with the power of its own creator. However, the DECISION to do this, rather than the ability to do it, is what the ego cannot tolerate. That is because the decision, from which the ability would naturally develop, would necessarily involve accurate perception, a state of clarity which the ego, fearful of being judged truly, MUST avoid.

The results of this dilemma are peculiar, but no more so than the dilemma itself. The ego has reacted characteristically here as elsewhere because mental illness, which is ALWAYS a form of ego involvement, is not a matter of reliability as much as of validity.

Consider the alchemist's age-old attempts to turn base metal into gold. The one question which the alchemist did not permit himself to ask was, "What FOR?" He could not ask this, because it would immediately become apparent that there was no sense in his efforts even if he succeeded. If gold became more plentiful its value would decrease, and his own purpose would be defeated. The ego has countenanced some strange compromises with the idea of the eternal, making many odd attempts to relate the concept to the UNimportant, in an effort to satisfy the mind without jeopardizing itself. Thus, it has permitted minds to devote themselves to the possibility of perpetual MOTION, but NOT to perpetual thoughts.

The problems of squaring the circle and carrying pi to infinity are good examples. A more recent ego attempt is particularly noteworthy. The idea of preserving the BODY by suspension, thus giving it the kind of limited immortality which the ego can tolerate, is among its more recent appeals to the mind.

Psychologists are in a good position to realize that the ego is capable of making and accepting as real some very distorted associations. The confusion of sex with aggression, and the resulting behavior which is perceived as the same for both, serves as an example. This is "understandable" to the psychologist, and does not produce surprise. The lack of surprise, however, is NOT a sign of understanding. It is a symptom of the psychologist's ability to accept as reasonable a compromise which is clearly senseless; to attribute it to the mental illness of the patient, rather than his own, and to limit his questions about both the patient AND himself to the trivial.

Such relatively minor confusions of the ego are not among its more profound misassociations, although they do reflect them. Your egos have been blocking the more important questions which your minds SHOULD ask. You do not understand a patient while you yourselves are willing to limit the questions you raise about HIS mind, because you are also accepting these limits for YOURS. This makes you unable to heal him AND yourselves. Be always unwilling to adapt to ANY situation in which miracle-mindedness is unthinkable. That state in itself is enough to demonstrate that the perception is wrong.



## CHAPTER 4

### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

Immortality is a constant state. It is as true now as it ever was or ever will be, because it implies NO CHANGE AT ALL. It is not a continuum, nor is it understood by being compared to an opposite. Knowledge never involves comparisons. That is its essential difference from everything else the mind can grasp." A little knowledge" is not dangerous except to the ego. Vaguely it senses threat, and being unable to realize that "a little knowledge" is a meaningless phrase since "all" and "a little" in this context are the same, the ego decides that since "all" is impossible, the fear does not lie there." A little," however, is a scarcity concept, and THIS the ego understands well." A little," then, is perceived as the real threat.

The ratio of repression and dissociation varies with the individual ego-illusion, but dissociation is always involved, or you would not believe that you ARE here.

The ego cannot withstand the conditioning process because the process itself DEMONSTRATES that there is another way.

A far greater reward, however, will break through any conditioning, if it is repeatedly offered whenever the old habit pattern is broken.

While this is always so, individual egos perceive different kinds of threat, which are quite specific in their own judgment. For example, although all forms of perceived demands may be classified, or judged, by the ego as coercive communication which must be disrupted, the response of breaking communication will nevertheless be to a SPECIFIC person or persons.

#### TRUE REHABILITATION

Every mind which is split needs rehabilitation. The medical orientation to rehabilitation emphasizes the body, while the vocational orientation stresses the ego. The "team" approach generally leads more to confusion than to anything else because it is too often misused as a way of exerting the ego's domination over other egos, rather than as a real experiment in the cooperation of minds. Rehabilitation as a movement is an improvement over the overt neglect of those in need of help, but it is often little more than a painful attempt on the part of the halt to lead the blind.

The ego is likely to fear broken bodies because it cannot tolerate them. The ego cannot tolerate ego weakness either without ambivalence because it is afraid of its own weakness as well as the weakness of its chosen home. When it is threatened, the ego blocks your natural impulse to help, placing you under the strain of divided will. You may then be tempted to withdraw to allow your ego to recover and to gain enough strength to be helpful again on a basis limited enough NOT to threaten your ego, but too limited to give YOU joy. Those with broken bodies are often looked down on by the ego because of its belief that nothing but a perfect body is worthy as its OWN temple.

A mind that recoils from a hurt body is in great need of rehabilitation itself. ALL symptoms of hurt need true helpfulness, and whenever they are met with this, the mind that so meets them heals ITSELF. Rehabilitation is an attitude of praising God as He Himself knows praise. He offers praise to you, and you must offer it to others. The chief handicaps of the clinicians lie in their attitudes to those whom their egos perceive as weakened and damaged. BY these evaluations, they have weakened and damaged their own helpfulness, and have thus set their own rehabilitation back. Rehabilitation is NOT concerned either with the ego's fight for control, or its need to avoid and withdraw.

The term "profess" is used quite frequently in the Bible. To profess is to identify with an idea, and offer the idea to others to be their own. The idea does not lessen; it becomes STRONGER.

## CHAPTER 4

### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

### THE SECOND EDITION

Soul	spirit
Souls	Sons
Holy Inspiration	Holy Spirit
we	I
will	decision, choice
perceiving	recognizing
meditations	thoughts
yourselves	yourself
Holy Communion	communion
your ego	the ego
awareness	recognition
perverted	unnatural
thought disorder	disordered thoughts
create	make
interpreted	Explained

I will never forsake you, any more than God will, but I MUST wait as long as you choose to forsake yourself. Because I wait in love and not in impatience you will surely ask me truly.

He is referred to in the Bible as the Healer, the Comforter, and the Guide.

He is referred to as the Healer, the Comforter, and the Guide.

Let us reconsider the Biblical statement "my yolk (sic) is easy and my burden light"

Let us restate "My yoke is easy and my burden light" in this way;

You are more than your Brother's keeper. In fact, you do not WANT to keep him.

- NOT FOUND -

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

His ability to deal with symbols enables Him to work AGAINST the ego's beliefs in its own language.

I have made His plan perfectly explicit to you, and have also told you of your part in His plan, and how urgent it is that you fulfill it.

Real birth is not a beginning; it is a CONTINUING

Healing is an act of thought by which two minds perceive their oneness and become glad

The Holy Spirit is nothing more than your own right mind. He was also mine.

First, its universality is perfectly clear, and no-one who receives it could ever believe for one instant that sharing it involves anything BUT gain.

It is partly His and partly yours. The miracle itself is just this fusion or union of will between Father and Son.

When man made the ego, God placed in him the call to joy. This call is so strong that the ego always dissolves at its sound. That is why you can choose to listen to two voices within you.

Direct communication was broken because you had made another voice through another will

Choosing MEANS divided will.

It brings to your mind the OTHER way, remaining quiet even in the midst of the turmoil you have made for yourselves.

Both Heaven and earth are in YOU because the call of both is in your will, and therefore in your mind.

This decision is the will to SHARE it because the decision itself IS the decision to share.

We have already said that the Holy Spirit is the bridge or thought-transfer of perception to knowledge, so we can use the terms as if they were related

He undoes it in the same realm of discourse in which the ego itself operates, or the mind would be unable to understand the change.

Perception as well as knowledge derives meaning from relationships.

The Holy Spirit can deal with an unwilling learner without going counter to his will because part of his will IS still for God.

## THE SECOND EDITION

His ability to deal with symbols enables Him to work with the ego's beliefs in its own language.

I am making His plan perfectly explicit to you, and will also tell you of your part in His plan, and how urgent it is that you fulfill it.

Physical birth is not a beginning; it is a continuing.

Healing is a thought by which two minds perceive their oneness and become glad.

The Holy Spirit is in your right mind, as He was in mine.

First, its universality is perfectly clear, and no-one who attains it could believe for one instant that sharing it involves anything BUT gain.

The miracle itself is a reflection of this union of will between Father and Son.

When the ego was made, God placed in him the call to joy. This call is so strong that the ego always dissolves at its sound.

Direct communication was broken because you had made another voice.

Choosing depends on a split mind.

It brings to your mind the other way, remaining quiet even in the midst of the turmoil you may make.

Both Heaven and earth are in you because the call of both is your in mind.

This decision is the choice to share it because the decision itself is the decision to share

I have already said that the Holy Spirit is the bridge for the transfer of perception to knowledge, so we can use the terms as if they were related

He undoes it in the same level in which the ego itself operates, or the mind would be unable to understand the change.

Perception derives meaning from relationships.

The Holy Spirit can deal with a reluctant learner without going counter to his mind because part of it is still for God.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

If you enthrone the ego in it, the fact that you have accepted it or allowed it to enter **MAKES** it your reality. This is because the mind, as God created it, **IS** capable of creating reality.

Your mind **DOES** create your future, and it can turn it back to full creation at any minute

The Bible is a fearful thing to the ego because of its prejudiced judgment. Perceiving it as fearful, it interprets it fearfully. Having made **YOU** afraid you do not appeal to the Higher Court because

“I will visit the sins of the fathers unto the third and fourth generation,” as interpreted by the ego, is particularly vicious. It is used, in fact, as an attempt to guarantee its survival beyond itself. Actually, all the quotation means is that the Holy Spirit, in later generations, retains the power to interpret **CORRECTLY** what former generations have thought, and thus release **THEIR** thoughts from the ability to produce fear anywhere in the Sonship.

He reminds you of this in very passing moment of time because it is His special function to return you to eternity...

I **WILL** to decide otherwise because I **WANT** to be at peace.

I **WILL** to let Him by allowing **HIM** to decide for God for me.

The separation is merely another term for a split mind. It was not an act, but a **THOUGHT**. Therefore, the idea of separation can be given away, just as the idea of unity can. Either way, the idea will be strengthened **IN THE MIND OF THE GIVER**.

The ego is the symbol of separation, just as the Holy Spirit is the symbol of peace.

The mind does indeed know its power, because the mind does indeed know God. Remember the Kingdom always, and remember that you who are part of the Kingdom **CANNOT** be lost.

Actually, all the quotation means is that the Holy Spirit, in later generations, retains the power to interpret **CORRECTLY** what former generations have thought, and thus release **THEIR** thoughts from the ability to produce fear anywhere in the Sonship.” The wicked shall perish” is merely a statement of fact, if the word “perish” is properly understood. Every loveless thought **MUST** be undone. Even the word “undone” is fearful to the ego, which interprets “I am undone” as “I am destroyed.”

## THE SECOND EDITION

If you enthrone the ego in your mind, your allowing it to enter makes it your reality. This is because the mind is capable of creating reality or making illusions.

Your mind does make your future, and it will turn it to full creation at any minute...

The Bible is a fearful thing to the ego. Perceiving it as frightening, it interprets it fearfully. Being afraid you do not appeal to the Higher Court because....

“I will visit the sins of the fathers unto the third and fourth generation,” as interpreted by the ego, is particularly vicious. It becomes merely an attempt to guarantee its own survival. To the Holy Spirit, the statement means that in later generations He can still reinterpret what former generations had misunderstood, and thus release the thoughts from the ability to produce fear.

He reminds you of this in very passing moment of time because it is His special function to return to eternity...

I **WANT** to decide otherwise because I **WANT** to be at peace.

I **CHOOSE** to let Him by allowing **HIM** to decide for God for me.

The separation is merely another term for a split mind. The ego is the symbol of separation, just as the Holy Spirit is the symbol of peace.

Remember the Kingdom always, and remember that you who are part of the Kingdom cannot be lost.

"The wicked shall perish" becomes a statement of Atonement, if the word "perish" is understood as "be undone." Every loveless thought must be undone, a word the ego cannot even understand. To the ego, to be undone means to be destroyed.

## CHAPTER 5

### THESE PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

I came into your minds because you had grown vaguely aware of the fact that there IS another way, or another Voice. Having given this invitation to the Holy Spirit, I could come to provide the model for HOW TO THINK. Psychology has become the study of BEHAVIOR, but no-one denies the basic law that behavior is a response to MOTIVATION, and motivation is will.

Will itself is an idea. And is therefore strengthened by being shared.

The mind must be led into eternity THROUGH time because, having made time, it is capable of perceiving its opposite.

#### THERAPY AND TEACHING

You must have noticed how often I have used your own ideas to help you. You have learned to be a loving, wise and very understanding therapist EXCEPT FOR YOURSELF. That exception has given you more than perception for others because of what you saw in THEM, but LESS than knowledge of your real relationships TO them because you did not accept them as PART of you. Understanding IS beyond perception because it introduces meaning. It is, however, below knowledge, even though it can grow TOWARDS it. It is possible, with great effort, to understand someone else to some extent and to be quite helpful to him, but the effort is misdirected. The misdirection is quite apparent; it is directed away from YOU.

This does not mean that it is LOST to you, but it DOES mean that you are not aware of it.

As a therapist, you yourself tell your patients that the real difference between neurotic and “healthy” guilt feelings is that neurotic guilt feelings DO NOT HELP ANYONE. This distinction is wise though incomplete. Let us make the distinction a little sharper now. Neurotic guilt feelings are a device of the ego for “atoning” without sharing, and for asking pardon without change. The ego NEVER calls for REAL Atonement, and cannot tolerate forgiveness, which IS change.

Your concept of “healthy guilt feelings” has merit, but without the concept of the Atonement it lacks the healing potential it holds. You made the distinction in terms of feelings which led to a decision not to REPEAT the error, which is only PART of healing. Your concept lacked the idea of UNDOING it. What you were really advocating, then, was adopting a policy of sharing without a real FOUNDATION.

You have become willing to receive my messages as I give them without interference by the ego, so we can clarify an earlier point. We said that you will one day teach as much as you learn, and that will keep you in balance. The time is now because you have LET it be now. You cannot learn EXCEPT by teaching.

Turning the other cheek does NOT mean that you should submit to violence without protest.

You are more than your brother’s keeper. In fact, you do not WANT to keep him.

Ideas do not LEAVE the mind which thought them to have a separate being, nor do separate thoughts conflict with one another in space because they do not occupy space at all. However, human ideas CAN conflict in content because they occur at different levels, and include opposite thoughts at the SAME level.

and speaking itself was unnecessary before the ego was made.

The idea of “set” is among the better psychological concepts. Actually, it is used quite frequently in the Bible and also in this course under many different terms. For example, “God will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed (or set) on Him,” a statement which means that God’s peace is set in the Holy Spirit because it is fixed on God. It is also fixed in you. You, then, ARE fixed in the peace of God. The concept of “Fixation” is also a very helpful one which Freud understood perfectly. Unfortunately, he lost his understanding because he was afraid, and, as you know all too well, fear is incompatible with good judgment. Fear distorts thinking, and therefore DISorders thought.

## CHAPTER 5

### THESE PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

Freud's system of thought was extremely ingenious because Freud was extremely ingenuous, and a mind MUST endow its thoughts with its own attributes. This is its inherent strength, although it may misuse its power. Freud lost much of the potential value of his thought system because he did NOT include himself in it. This is a dissociated state because the thinker cuts himself off from his thoughts. Freud's thought was so conflicted that he could not have retained his sanity as HE saw it WITHOUT dissociation. That is why the many contradictions which are quite apparent in his thinking became increasingly less apparent to HIM. A man who knows what fixation really means and yet does not yield to it is terribly afraid.

Fixation is the pull of God, on Whom your mind IS fixed because of the Holy Spirit's irrevocable set. "Irrevocable" means "cannot be called back or redirected." The irrevocable nature of the Holy Spirit's set is the basis for His unequivocal Voice. The Holy Spirit NEVER changes His mind. Clarity of thought CANNOT occur under conditions of vacillation. Unless a mind is fixed in its purpose it is NOT clear. Clarity literally means the state of light, and enlightenment IS understanding. Enlightenment stands UNDER perception because you have denied it as the REAL foundation of thought. This is the basis for ALL delusional systems.

The concept of fixation, as Freud saw it, has a number of learning advantages. First, it recognizes that man can be fixated at a point in development which does NOT accord with a point in time. This clearly could have been a means toward real release from the time belief had Freud pursued it with an open mind. Freud, however, suffered all his life from refusal to allow eternity to dawn upon his mind and enlighten it truly. As a result, he overlooked NOW entirely, and merely saw the continuity of past and future.

Second, although Freud misinterpreted what the Holy Spirit told him, or better, reminded him of, he was too honest to deny more than was necessary to keep his fear in tolerable bounds as he perceived the situation. Therefore, he emphasized that the point in development at which the mind is fixated is more real to ITSELF than the external reality with which it disagrees. This, again, could have been a powerful RELEASE mechanism had Freud not decided to involve it in a strong DEFENSE system because he perceived it as an attack.

Third, although Freud interpreted fixation as involving irrevocable "danger points" to which the mind could always regress, the concept can also be interpreted as an irrevocable call to sanity which the mind cannot LOSE. Freud himself could not accept this interpretation, but throughout his thought system, the "threat" of fixation remained, and could never be eliminated by any living human being. Essentially, this was the basis of Freud's pessimism, personally as well as theoretically. He tried every means his very inventive mind could devise to set up a form of therapy which could enable the mind to escape from fixation forever, even though he KNEW this was impossible.

This knowledge plagued Freud's belief in his own thought system at every turn because he was both an honest man and a healer. He was therefore only partially insane, and was unable to relinquish the HOPE of release even though he could not cope with it. The reason for this amount of detail is because YOU are in the same position. You were eternally fixated on God in your creation, and the pull of this fixation is so strong that you will never overcome it. The reason is perfectly clear. The fixation is on a level so high that it cannot BE surmounted. You are ALWAYS being pulled back to your Creator because you BELONG to Him.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

## Attack and Fear

The relationship of anger to attack is obvious, but the inevitable association of anger and FEAR is not always so clear.

Everyone teaches, and teaches all the time. This is a responsibility which he inevitably assumes the moment he accepts any premise at all, and no-one can organize his life without ANY thought system. Once he has developed a thought system of any kind, he lives by it AND TEACHES IT.

You have been chosen to teach the Atonement precisely because you have been extreme examples of allegiance to your thought systems, and therefore have developed the CAPACITY for allegiance. It has indeed been misplaced, but it IS a form of faith, which you yourselves have been willing to redirect. You cannot doubt the strength of your devotion, when you consider how faithfully you have observed it. It was quite evident that you had already developed the ability to follow a better model, if you could accept it.

For teaching purposes, let us consider the crucifixion again. We have not dwelt on it before, because of its fearful connotations.

I also told you that the crucifixion was the last foolish journey that the Sonship need take, and that it should mean RELEASE from fear to anyone who understands it.

While we emphasized only the resurrection before, the purpose of the crucifixion and how it actually LED to the resurrection was not clarified at that time. Nevertheless, it has a definite contribution to make to your own lives, and if you will consider it WITHOUT fear, it will help you understand your own role as teachers.

You have reacted for years AS IF you were being crucified. This is a marked tendency of the separated ones, who always refuse to consider what they have done TO THEMSELVES.

The real meaning of the crucifixion lies in the APPARENT intensity of the assault of some of the Sons of God upon another. This, of course, is impossible, and must be fully understood AS an impossibility. In fact, unless it IS fully understood as only that, I cannot serve as a real model for learning.

We have said before, "As you teach so shall you learn." If you react as if you are persecuted, you are TEACHING persecution. This is not a lesson which the Sons of God should WANT to teach if they are to realize their own salvation. Rather teach you own perfect immunity, which IS the truth in you, and KNOW that it cannot be assailed.

## The Lessons of Love

The relationship of anger to attack is obvious, but the relationship of anger to fear is not always so apparent.

Everyone teaches, and teaches all the time. This 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. Once you have developed a thought system of any kind, you live by it and teach it. Your capacity for allegiance to a thought system may be misplaced, but it is still a form of faith and can be redirected.

For learning purposes, let us consider the crucifixion again. I did not dwell on it before because of the fearful connotations you may associate with it.

I have also told you that the crucifixion was the last useless journey the Sonship need take, and that it represents release from fear to anyone who understands it.

While I emphasized only the resurrection before, the purpose of the crucifixion and how it actually led to the resurrection was not clarified then. Nevertheless, it has a definite contribution to make to your own life, and if you will consider it without fear, it will help you understand your own role as a teacher.

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 have done to themselves.

The real meaning of the crucifixion lies in the apparent intensity of the assault of some of the Sons of God upon another. This, of course, is impossible, and must be fully understood as impossible. Otherwise, I cannot serve as a model for learning.

As I have said before, "As you teach so shall you learn." If you react as if you are persecuted, you are teaching persecution. This is not a lesson a Son of God should want to teach if he is to realize his own salvation. Rather, teach your own perfect immunity, which is the truth in you, and realize that it cannot be assailed.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

Do not protect it yourselves, or you have believed that it IS assailable. You are not asked to BE crucified, which was part of my own teaching contribution. You are merely asked to follow my example in the face of much LESS extreme temptations to misperceive, and NOT to accept them falsely as justifications for anger.

God placed it there Himself, and so it is true forever. I believed in it, and therefore made it forever true for me.

My brothers slept during the so-called "agony" in the garden, but I could not be angry with them because I had learned I could not BE abandoned. Peter swore he would never deny me, but he did so three times. He did offer to defend me with the sword, which I naturally refused, not being at all in need of bodily protection.

A church is where an altar is, and the presence of the altar is what MAKES it a church. Any church which does not inspire love has a hidden altar which is not serving the purpose for which God intended it. I must find His church on you because you who accept me as a model are literally my disciples. Disciples are followers, but if the model they follow has chosen to save them pain in all respects, they are probably unwise NOT to follow him.

I elected, both for your sake AND mine, to demonstrate that the most outrageous assault, as judged by the ego, did not matter. As the world judges these things, but NOT as God KNOWS them, I was betrayed, abandoned, beaten, torn, and finally killed. It was perfectly clear that this was only because of the projection of others, because I had not harmed anyone and had healed many.

We are still equal as learners, even though we need not have equal experiences. The Holy Spirit is glad when you can learn enough from mine to be re-awakened by them. That was their only purpose, and that is the only way in which I can be perceived as the Way, the Truth and the Light.

When you hear only one voice you are NEVER called on to sacrifice. On the contrary, by enabling yourselves to hear the Holy Spirit in others, you can learn from their experiences, and gain from them WITHOUT experiencing them yourselves.

Remember that the Holy Spirit is the communication link between God the Father and His separated Sons. If you will listen to His Voice, you will know that you cannot either hurt or BE hurt, and that many need your blessing to help them hear this for themselves. When you perceive ONLY this need in them, and do not respond to ANY other, you will have learned of me, and will be as eager to share your learning as I am.

The Apostles often misunderstood it, and always for the same reason that makes anyone misunderstand anything.

Do not try to protect it yourself, or you are believing that it is assailable. You are not asked to be crucified, which was part of my own teaching contribution. 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.

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We are still equal as learners, although we do not need to have equal experiences. The Holy Spirit is glad when you can learn from mine, and be reawakened by them. That is their only purpose, and that is the only way in which I can be perceived as the way, the truth and the life.

When you hear only one Voice you are never called on to sacrifice. On the contrary, by being able to hear the Holy Spirit in others you can learn from their experiences, and can gain from them without experiencing them directly yourself.

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The Apostles often misunderstood it, and for the same reason that anyone misunderstands it.



## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

There are two glaring examples of upside-down thinking in the New Testament, whose whole gospel is ONLY the message of love. These are not like the several slips into impatience which I made. I had learned the Atonement prayer, which I also came to teach, too well to engage in upside-down thinking myself. If the Apostles had not felt guilty they never could have quoted me as saying, "I come not to bring peace but a sword." This is clearly the exact opposite of everything I taught.

Nor could they have described my reactions to Judas as they did if they had really understood me. They would have realized I COULD not have said, "Betrayest thou the Son of Man with a kiss?" unless I BELIEVED in betrayal. The whole message of the crucifixion was simply that I did NOT. The "punishment" which I am said to have called forth upon Judas was a similar reversal.

I am very grateful to the Apostles for their teaching and fully aware of the extent of their devotion to me.

Nevertheless, as you read their teachings, remember that I told them myself that there was much they would understand later because they were NOT wholly ready to follow me at the time. I emphasize this only because I do not want you to allow ANY fear to enter into the thought system toward which I am guiding you.

ANY concept of "punishment" involves the projection of blame, and RE-INFORCES the idea that blame is justified. The behavior that results is a LESSON IN BLAME, just as all behavior teaches the beliefs which motivate it. The crucifixion was a complex of behaviors arising out of clearly opposed thought systems. As such, it was the perfect symbol of conflict between the ego and the Son of God. The conflict is just as real now, and its lessons, too, have equal reality WHEN THEY ARE LEARNED. I do not need gratitude any more than I needed protection, but YOU need to develop your weakened ability to BE grateful, or you cannot appreciate God. HE does not need your appreciation, but YOU do. You cannot love what you do not appreciate, and FEAR MAKES APPRECIATION IMPOSSIBLE. Whenever you are afraid of what you are you do NOT appreciate it, and will therefore reject it. As a result, you will TEACH REJECTION. The power of the Sons of God is operating all the time because they were created as creators. Their influence on EACH OTHER is without limit, and MUST be used for their joint salvation. Each one must learn to teach that all forms of rejection are utterly meaningless. The separation IS the notion of rejection. As long as you TEACH this, you still believe it. This is NOT as God thinks, and you must think as He thinks if you are to know Him again.

These are some of the examples of upside-down thinking in the New Testament, although its gospel is really only the message of love. If the Apostles had not felt guilty, they never could have quoted me as saying, "I come not to bring peace but a sword." This is clearly the opposite of everything I taught. Nor could they have described my reactions to Judas as they did, if they had really understood me. I could not have said, "Betrayest thou the Son of Man with a kiss?" unless I believed in betrayal. The whole message of the crucifixion was simply that I did not. The "punishment" I was said to have called forth upon Judas was a similar mistake.

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As you read the teachings of the Apostles, remember that I told them myself that there was much they would understand later, because they were not wholly ready to follow me at the time. I do not want you to allow any fear to enter into the thought system toward which I am guiding you.

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 it. The crucifixion was the result of clearly opposed thought systems; the perfect symbol of the "conflict" between the ego and the Son of God. This conflict seems just as real now, and its lessons must be learned now as well as then.

I do not need gratitude, but you need to develop your weakened ability to be grateful, or you cannot appreciate God. He does not need your appreciation, but you do. You cannot love what you do not appreciate, for fear makes appreciation impossible. When you are afraid of what you are you do not appreciate it, and will therefore reject it. As a result, you will teach rejection.

The power of the Sons of God is present all the time, because they were created as creators. Their influence on each other is without limit, and must be used for their joint salvation. Each one must learn to teach that all forms of rejection are meaningless. The separation is the notion of rejection. As long as you teach this you will believe it. This is not as God thinks, and you must think as He thinks if you are to know Him again.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

## The Uses of Projection

In the ego's use of projection, to which we are obviously referring, what you project you disown, and therefore **DO NOT BELIEVE IS YOURS**. You are **EXCLUDING** yourself by the very statement you are making that you are **DIFFERENT** from the one on whom you project. Since you have also judged **AGAINST** what you project, you continue to attack it because you have already attacked it **BY** projecting it.

It is **SOLELY** a device of the ego to make you feel **DIFFERENT** from your brothers, and separated from them. The ego justifies this on the wholly spurious grounds that it makes you seem "better" than they are, thus obscuring your equality with them still further.

We have learned, however, that there is another use of projection. Every ability of the ego has a better counterpart because its abilities are directed by the mind, which has a better Voice. The Holy Spirit as well as the ego utilizes projection, but since their goals are opposed, so is the result.

The ego uses projection **ONLY** to distort your perception both of yourself **AND** your brothers.

The perfect equality of the Holy Spirit's perception is the counterpart of the perfect equality of God's knowing. The ego's perception **HAS** no counterpart in God, but the Holy Spirit remains the bridge between perception and knowledge. By enabling you to use perception in a way that **PARALLELS** knowledge, you will ultimately meet it and **KNOW** it. The ego would prefer to believe that this meeting is impossible, yet it is **YOUR** perception which the Holy Spirit guides. You might remember that the human eye perceives parallel lines **AS IF** they meet in the distance, which is the same as in the future, if time and space are one dimension. Your perception **WILL** end where it began. **EVERYTHING** meets in God because everything was created **BY** Him and **IN** Him.

You can no more pray for yourselves alone than you can find joy for yourself alone. Prayer is the re-statement of **INCLUSION**, directed by the Holy Spirit under the laws of God.

You perceive **FROM** your mind and extend your perceptions outward. Although perception of any kind is unnecessary, **YOU** made it, and the Holy Spirit can therefore use it well. He can **INSPIRE** perception and lead it toward God by making it **PARALLEL** to His way of thinking, and thus guarantee their ultimate meeting. 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 IT NOW**.

This is the way in which you **MUST** perceive God's creations, bringing all of your perceptions into the one parallel line which the Holy Spirit sees.

## The Alternative to Projection

What you project you disown, and therefore do not believe is yours. You are excluding yourself by the very judgment that you are different from the one on whom you project. Since you have also judged against what you project, you continue to attack it because you continue to keep it separated.

It is solely a device of the ego to make you feel different from your brothers and separated from them. The ego justifies this on the grounds that it makes you seem "better" than they are, thus obscuring your equality with them still further.

We have learned, however, that there is an alternative to projection. Every ability of the ego has a better use, because its abilities are directed by the mind, which has a better Voice. The Holy Spirit extends and the ego projects. As their goals are opposed, so is the result.

The ego uses projection only to destroy your perception of both yourself and your brothers.

The perfect equality of the Holy Spirit's perception is the reflection of the perfect equality of God's knowing. The ego's perception has no counterpart in God, but the Holy Spirit remains the bridge between perception and knowledge. By enabling you to use perception in a way that reflects knowledge, you will ultimately remember it. The ego would prefer to believe that this memory is impossible, yet it is your perception the Holy Spirit guides. [Omission] Your perception will end where it began. Everything meets in God, because everything was created by Him and in Him.

- MOVED TO CHAPTER 9 -

You perceive from your mind and project your perceptions outward. Although perception of any kind is unreal, you made it and the Holy Spirit can therefore use it well. He can inspire perception and lead it toward God. 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 it now.

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.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

The difference between the ego's use of projection and projection as the Holy Spirit uses it is very simple. The ego projects to EXCLUDE, and therefore to deceive. The Holy Spirit projects by RECOGNIZING HIMSELF in every mind, and thus perceives them as ONE.

We have used many words as synonymous which are not ordinarily regarded as the same. We began with having and being, and more recently have used others. Hearing and being are examples, to which we can also add teaching and being, learning and being, and, above all, PROJECTING and being.

This is because, as we have said before, every idea begins in the mind of the thinker and extends outward. Therefore, what extends FROM the mind IS STILL IN IT, and from what it extends it knows ITSELF. That is its natural talent. The word "knows" is correct here, even though the ego does NOT know, and is not concerned with being at all

The Holy Spirit still holds knowledge safe through His impartial perception.

From this, which YOU have made, you have taught yourselves to believe that you ARE NOT what you ARE.

As you teach so will you learn." If that is true, and it is true indeed, you must never forget that what you teach is teaching YOU. What you project you BELIEVE.

The only way to HAVE peace is to TEACH peace. By learning it through projection, it becomes a part of what you KNOW because you cannot teach what you have dissociated.

Only thus can you win back the knowledge that you threw away. An idea which you SHARE you must HAVE. It awakens in you through the conviction of teaching. Remember that if teaching is being and learning is being, teaching is learning. EVERYTHING you teach you are learning. Teach only love, and learn that love is yours, and YOU are love.

The ego does not regard itself as PART of you. Herein lies its primary perceptual error, the foundation of its whole thought system.

Perceiving something alien to itself in your mind, the ego turns to the body, NOT the mind, as its ally because the body is NOT part of you.

The ego projects to exclude, and therefore to deceive. The Holy Spirit extends by recognizing Himself in every mind, and thus perceives them as one.

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As we have already emphasized, every idea begins in the mind of the thinker. Therefore what extends from the mind is still in it, and from what it extends it knows itself. The word "knows" is correct here, because the Holy Spirit still holds knowledge safe in your mind through His impartial perception.

You have taught yourself to believe that you are not what you are.

"As you teach so will you learn." If that is true, and it is true indeed, do not forget that what you teach is teaching you. And what you project or extend you believe.

The only way to have peace is to teach peace. By teaching peace you must learn it yourself, because you cannot teach what you still dissociate. Only thus can you win back the knowledge that you threw away. An idea that you share you must have. It awakens in your mind through the conviction of teaching it. [Omission] Everything you teach you are learning. Teach only love, and learn that love is yours and you are love.

The ego does not regard itself as part of you. Herein lies its primary error, the foundation of its whole thought system.

Perceiving something alien to itself in your mind, the ego turns to the body as its ally, because the body is not part of you.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

The ego and the body conspire AGAINST your minds, and because the ego realizes that its "enemy" CAN end them both merely by knowing they are NOT part of him, they join in the attack 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 its own learning device, and that the learning device is more real than IT is. No-one in his right mind could POSSIBLY believe this, and no-one in his right mind DOES believe it.

There will be nothing left of your dream when you hear Him because you WILL be awake.

You must remember, however, that when you put yourselves in an impossible situation, you believed that the impossible WAS possible.

Abilities must be DEVELOPED, or you cannot use them. This is not true of anything that God created, but it is the kindest solution possible to what YOU have made.

You therefore retain the central place in your perceived enslavement, a fact which ITSELF demonstrates that you are NOT enslaved.

You are in an impossible situation only because you thought it was possible to be in one.

This the kind of "reasoning" which the ego engages in, but God, Who KNOWS that His creations are perfect, does NOT insult them. This would be as impossible as the ego's notion that IT has insulted HIM.

If He confronted the self you made with the truth He created for you, what could you be but afraid? You would doubt your sanity, which is the one thing in which you can FIND the sanity He gave you.

#### To Have, Give All to All

Like any good teacher, the Holy Spirit does know more than you do NOW, but He teaches only to make you EQUAL with Him. This is because you had already taught wrongly, having believed what was not true. YOU DID NOT BELIEVE IN YOUR OWN PERFECTION. Could God teach you that you had made a split mind, when He knows your mind only as whole?

A wise teacher teaches through approach, NOT avoidance. He does NOT emphasize what you must avoid to escape from harm so much as what you need to learn to have joy. This is true even of the world's teachers

If we share the same mind, you can overcome death BECAUSE I DID. Death is an attempt to resolve conflict by not willing at all.

The ego uses the body to conspire against your mind, and because the ego realizes that its "enemy" can end them both merely by recognizing they are not part of you, they join in the attack 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 it.

There will be nothing left of your dream when you hear Him, because you will awaken.

Remember, however, that when you put yourself in an impossible situation you believe that the impossible is possible.

Abilities must be developed before you can use them. This is not true of anything that God created, but it is the kindest solution possible for what you made.

You therefore retain the central place in your imagined enslavement, which in itself demonstrates that you are not enslaved.

You are in an impossible situation only because you think it is possible to be in one.

This is the kind of "reasoning" in which the ego engages. God, Who knows that His creations are perfect, does not affront them. This would be as impossible as the ego's notion that it has affronted Him.

If He confronted the self you made with the truth He created for you, what could you be but afraid? You would doubt your right mind, which is the only place where you can find the sanity He gave you.

#### The Lessons of the Holy Spirit

Like any good teacher, the Holy Spirit knows more than you do now, but He teaches only to make you equal with Him. You had already taught yourself wrongly, having believed what was not true. You did not believe in your own perfection. Would God teach you that you had made a split mind, when He knows your mind only as whole?

A wise teacher teaches through approach, not avoidance. He does not emphasize what you must avoid to escape from harm, but what you need to learn to have joy. [Omission]

If we share the same mind, you can overcome death because I did. Death is an attempt to resolve conflict by not deciding at all.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

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If the mind can heal the body but the body cannot heal the mind, then the mind must be **STRONGER**. Every miracle demonstrates this.

The Holy Spirit, Who leads to God, translates communication into being, just as He ultimately translates perception into knowledge. The ego uses the body for attack, for pleasure, and for pride.

All the separated ones

At this point, the equality of "having" and "being" is not yet perceived. Until it IS, "having" appears to be the **OPPOSITE** of "being."

The ego's judgment, then, is predetermined by what it IS, though no more so than is any other product of thought. 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. For a time, then, he **IS** receiving conflicting messages, **AND ACCEPTING BOTH**. This is the classic "double bind" in communication.

As you take this step and **HOLD THIS DIRECTION**, you will be pushing toward the center of your thought system, where the **FUNDAMENTAL** change will occur. You are only beginning this step now, but you have started on this way by realizing that **ONLY ONE WAY IS POSSIBLE**. You do not yet realize this consistently and so your progress is intermittent, but the second step is easier than the first because it **FOLLOWS**. The very fact that you have accepted **THAT** is a demonstration of your growing awareness that the Holy Spirit **WILL** lead you on.

For your own salvation you must be critical, since your salvation **IS** critical to the whole Sonship. We said before that the Holy Spirit is evaluative, and **MUST** be. Yet His evaluation does not extend **BEYOND** you, or you would share it. In **YOUR** mind, and your mind **ONLY**, He sorts out the true from the false, and teaches you to judge every thought that you allow to enter your mind in the light of what God **PUT** there. Whatever is **IN ACCORD** with this light He retains, to strengthen the Kingdom in **YOU**.

The Holy Spirit does not teach your mind to be critical of other minds because He does not want you to teach errors **AND LEARN THEM YOURSELVES**.

The undoing is necessary only in **YOUR** mind, so that you cannot project falsely.

To Have All, Give All to All

If the mind can heal the body, but the body cannot heal the mind, then the mind must be stronger than the body. Every miracle demonstrates this.

The Holy Spirit, Who leads to God, translates communication into being, just as He ultimately translates perception into knowledge. You do not lose what you communicate. The ego uses the body for attack, for pleasure and for pride.

All who believe in separation

At this point, the equality of having and being is not yet perceived. Until it is, having appears to be the opposite of giving

The ego's judgment, here as always, is predetermined by what it is. [Omission] 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. For a time, then, he is receiving conflicting messages and accepting both. [Omission]

As you take this step and hold this direction, you will be pushing toward the center of your thought system, where the fundamental change will occur. At the second step progress is intermittent, but the second step is easier than the first because it follows. Realizing that it must follow is a demonstration of a growing awareness that the Holy Spirit will lead you on.

We said before that the Holy Spirit is evaluative, and must be. He sorts out the true from the false in your mind, and teaches you to judge every thought you allow to enter it in the light of what God put there. Whatever is in accord with this light He retains, to strengthen the Kingdom in you.

The Holy Spirit does not teach you to judge others, because He does not want you to teach error and learn it yourself

The undoing is necessary only in your mind, so that you will not project, instead of extend.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

Choosing through the Holy Spirit will lead you TO the Kingdom. You create by what you ARE, but this is what you must learn. The way to learn it is inherent in the third step, which brings together the lessons implied in the others, and goes beyond them towards real integration.

Transfer, which IS extension, is a measure of learning because it is its MEASURABLE RESULT. This, however, does not mean that what it transfers TO is measurable. On the contrary, unless it transfers to the whole Sonship, which is immeasurable because it was created BY the Immeasurable, the learning itself MUST be incomplete.

To teach the whole Sonship WITHOUT EXCEPTION demonstrates that you PERCEIVE its wholeness, and have learned that it IS one. Now you must be vigilant to HOLD its oneness in your minds because, if you let doubt enter, you will LOSE awareness of its wholeness AND WILL BE UNABLE TO TEACH IT.

Truth is WITHOUT illusions, and therefore WITHIN the Kingdom. Everything OUTSIDE the Kingdom IS illusion, but you must learn to accept truth because you threw it away. You therefore saw yourself AS IF you were without it. By making another kingdom which you VALUED, you did not keep ONLY the Kingdom of God in your minds, and thus placed part of your mind OUTSIDE it. What you have made has thus divided your will, and given you a sick mind which MUST be healed. Your vigilance AGAINST this sickness IS the way to heal it. Once your mind is healed, it radiates health and thereby TEACHES healing. This establishes you as a teacher who teaches like me. Vigilance was required of me as much as of you, but remember that those who will to teach the same thing must be in agreement about what they believe.

Your vigilance is the sign that you WANT Him to guide you. Vigilance DOES require effort, but The third step, then, is a statement of what you WANT to believe, and entails a willingness TO RELINQUISH EVERYTHING ELSE. I told you that you were just beginning the second step, but I also told you that the third one FOLLOWS it. The Holy Spirit WILL enable you to go on, if you follow Him. Your vigilance is the sign that you want Him to guide you. Vigilance DOES require effort, but only to teach you that effort ITSELF is unnecessary.

Choosing through the Holy Spirit will lead you to the Kingdom. You create by your true being, but what you are you must learn to remember. The way to remember it is inherent in the third step, which brings together the lessons implied in the others, and goes beyond them towards real integration.

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To teach the whole Sonship without exception demonstrates that you perceive its wholeness, and have learned that it is one. Now you must be vigilant to hold its oneness in your mind because, if you let doubt enter, you will lose awareness of its wholeness and will be unable to teach it.

Truth is without illusions and therefore within the Kingdom. Everything outside the Kingdom is illusion. [Omission] When you threw truth away you saw yourself as if you were without it. By making another kingdom that you valued, you did not keep only the Kingdom of God in your mind, and thus placed part of your mind outside it. What you made has imprisoned your will, and given you a sick mind that must be healed. Your vigilance against this sickness is the way to heal it. Once your mind is healed it radiates health, and thereby teaches healing. This establishes you as a teacher who teaches like me. 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.

The third step, then, is a statement of what you want to believe, and entails a willingness to relinquish everything else. The Holy Spirit will enable you to take this step, if you follow Him. Your vigilance is the sign that you want Him to guide you. Vigilance does require effort, but only until you learn that effort itself is unnecessary.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

**THE SECOND EDITION**

The Consistency Of The Kingdom

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We have already said

and you would not be co-creators with God.

By accepting this power as yours, you have learned to be what you are.

Bargaining Versus Healing

The ego demands reciprocal rights, because it is competitive rather than loving. It is always willing to make a "deal," but it cannot understand that to be LIKE another means that NO deals are possible. To gain you must give, not bargain. To bargain is to limit giving, and this is not God's Will.

He CAN, therefore, tell you something about this last step, although this one you must know yourself, since BY it you know what you are. This IS your being

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The Laws of Mind

To heal, then, is to correct perception in your brother AND yourself by sharing the Holy Spirit with him. This placed you BOTH within the Kingdom, and restores its wholeness in your minds. This parallels creation because it UNIFIES BY INCREASING and INTEGRATES BY EXTENDING. What you project you believe.

This is because the laws have adapted to the circumstances of this world, in which diametrically opposed outcomes ARE believed in. The laws of mind govern thoughts, and you DO respond to two conflicting voices.

The Gifts Of The Kingdom

The Last Step

I have already told you

and you would not be co-creator with God.

By accepting this power as yours you have learned to remember what you are.

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The ego, on the other hand, always demands reciprocal rights, because it is competitive rather than loving. It is always willing to strike a bargain, but it cannot understand that to be like another means that no bargains are possible. To gain you must give, not bargain. To bargain is to limit giving, and this is not God's Will.

He can therefore tell you something about this last step.

The Law of the Kingdom

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To heal, then, is to correct perception in your brother and yourself by sharing the Holy Spirit with him. This places you both within the Kingdom, and restores its wholeness in your mind. This reflects creation, because it unifies by increasing and integrates by extending. What you project or extend is real for you.

This 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.

## CHAPTER 7

### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

You have heard many arguments on behalf of “the freedoms,” which would indeed have been freedom if man had not chosen to FIGHT for them. That is why they perceive “the freedoms” as many, instead of as one. Yet the argument that underlies the defense of freedom is perfectly valid. Because it is true it should not be FOUGHT for, but it SHOULD be sided WITH.

Those who are against freedom believe that its outcome will HURT them, which CANNOT be true. But those who are FOR freedom, even if they are misguided in how to defend it, are siding with the one thing in this world which IS true. Whenever anyone can listen fairly to both sides of ANY issue, he will make the right decision. This is because he HAS the answer. Conflict can SEEM to be interpersonal, but it MUST be intrapersonal first.

The term “intrapersonal” is an ego term, because “personal” implies “of ONE person,” and NOT of others.” Interpersonal” has similar error, in that it refers to something that exists among different or SEPARATE people. When we spoke before of the extremely PERSONAL nature of revelation, we followed this statement immediately with a description of the inevitable outcomes of the revelation in terms of SHARING. A person conceives of himself as separate largely because he perceives OF himself as bounded by a body. ONLY if he perceives himself as a MIND can this be overcome. Then he is free to use terms like “intramental” and “intermental” WITHOUT seeing them as different or conflicting because minds CAN be in perfect accord.

### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

This is its TEACHING form, since outside the Kingdom teaching is mandatory because LEARNING is essential. This form of the law clearly implies that you will learn what YOU are from what you have projected onto others, and therefore believe THEY are. IN the Kingdom there is no teaching OR learning because there is no BELIEF. There is only CERTAINTY. God and His Sons, in the surety of being, KNOW that what you project you ARE.

but when you DISinherited yourselves, you BECAME learners.

No-one questions the intimate connection of learning and memory. Learning is impossible WITHOUT memory since it cannot be consistent UNLESS it is remembered. That is why the Holy Spirit IS a lesson in remembering. We said before that He teaches remembering and forgetting, but the forgetting aspect is only TO MAKE THE REMEMBERING CONSISTENT. You forget in order to REMEMBER BETTER. You will NOT understand His translations while you listen to two ways of perceiving them.

What can the perfect consistency of the Kingdom mean to the confused?

### THE SECOND EDITION

This is its teaching form, because outside the Kingdom learning is essential. This form implies that you will learn what you are from what you have projected onto others, and therefore believe they are. In the Kingdom there is no teaching or learning, because there is no belief. There is only certainty. God and His Sons, in the surety of being, know that what you extend you are.

but when you disinherited yourself you became a learner of necessity.

No one questions the connection of learning and memory. Learning is impossible without memory since it must be consistent to be remembered. That is why the Holy Spirit's teaching is a lesson in remembering. I said before that He teaches remembering and forgetting, but the forgetting is only to make the remembering consistent. You forget in order to remember better. You will not understand His translations while you listen to two ways of interpreting them.

What can the perfect consistency of the Kingdom mean to those who are confused?



## CHAPTER 7

### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

#### The Unified Curriculum

To heal is to liberate totally. We once said there is no order of difficulty in miracles because they are ALL maximal expressions of love. This has no range at all. The non-maximal only APPEARS to have a range. This is because it SEEMS to be meaningful to measure it FROM the maximum, and identify its position by HOW MUCH it is NOT there. Actually, this does not mean anything. It is like negative numbers in that the concept can be used theoretically, but it has no application practically. It is true that if you put three apples on the table and then take them away, the three apples are not there. But it is NOT true that the table is now minus three apples. If there is NOTHING on the table, it does not matter what WAS there in terms of amount. The “nothing” is neither greater nor less because of what is absent.

That is why “all” and “nothing” are dichotomous, WITHOUT a range. This is perfectly clear in considering psychological tests of maximal performance. You cannot interpret the results AT ALL unless you assume either MAXIMAL motivation or NO motivation at all. Only in these two conditions can you validly compare responses, and you MUST assume the former because, if the latter were true, the subject would not do ANYTHING. Given VARIABLE motivation he WILL do something, but YOU cannot understand WHAT IT IS.

The results of such tests are evaluated relatively ASSUMING maximal motivation, but this is because we are dealing with ABILITIES, where degree of development is meaningful. This does NOT mean that what the ability is used FOR is necessarily either limited OR divided. Yet one thing is certain; abilities are POTENTIALS for learning, and you will apply them to what you WANT to learn. Learning is EFFORT, and effort means WILL. We have used the term “abilities” in the plural because abilities began with the ego, which perceived them as POTENTIALS FOR EXCELLING. This is how the ego STILL perceives them and uses them. The ego does not WANT to teach everyone all it has learned, because that would DEFEAT its purpose. Therefore, it does not REALLY learn at all.

The Holy Spirit teaches you to use what the ego has made to teach the OPPOSITE of what the ego has learned. The KIND of learning is as irrelevant as is the particular ability which was applied TO the learning. You could not have a better example of the Holy Spirit’s unified purpose than this course. The Holy Spirit has taken very diversified areas of YOUR learning, and has applied them to a UNIFIED curriculum. The fact that this was NOT the ego’s reason for learning is totally irrelevant.

YOU made the effort to learn, and the Holy Spirit has a unified goal for ALL effort. He ADAPTS the ego’s potentials for excelling to potentials for EQUALIZING. This makes them USELESS for the ego’s purpose, but VERY useful for His. If different abilities are applied long enough to one goal, the abilities THEMSELVES become unified. This is because they are channelized in one direction, or in one WAY. Ultimately, then, they all contribute to ONE RESULT, and by so doing, their similarity rather than their differences is emphasized. You can EXCEL in many DIFFERENT ways, but you can EQUALIZE in ONE WAY ONLY. Equality is NOT a variable state, by definition.

That it why you will be able to perform ALL aspects of your work with ease when you have learned THIS course. To the ego there appears to be no connection because the EGO is discontinuous.

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The Reality of the Kingdom

The Recognition of Truth

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## CHAPTER 7

### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

As has so often been said, healing is both an art and a science. It is an art because it depends on inspiration in the sense that we have already used the term. Inspiration is the opposite of dispiriting, and therefore means to make joyous. The dispirited are depressed because they believe that they are literally “without the Spirit,” which is an illusion. You do not PUT the Spirit in them by inspiring them because that would be magic, and therefore would not be real healing. You DO, however, recognize the Spirit that is ALREADY there, and thereby REAWAKEN it. This is why the healer is part of the resurrection and the LIFE. The Spirit is not asleep in the minds of the sick, but the part of the mind that can perceive it and be glad IS.

Healing is also a science because it obeys the laws of God, Whose laws are true. BECAUSE they are true they are perfectly dependable, and therefore universal in application. The REAL aim of science is neither prediction nor control, but ONLY understanding. This is because it does NOT establish the laws it seeks; CANNOT discover them through prediction; and has NO control over them at all. Science is nothing more than an approach to WHAT ALREADY IS. Like inspiration it can be misunderstood as magic, and WILL be whenever it is undertaken as SEPARATE from what already is, and perceived as a means for ESTABLISHING it. To believe this is possible is to believe YOU CAN DO IT. This can only be the voice of the ego.

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those who sleep ARE STUPEFIED, or better, UNAWARE. BECAUSE they are unaware, they do NOT know.

Healing as the Recognition of Truth

those who sleep are unaware. Because they are unaware, they do not know.

### THE FOLLOWING IS FOUND ONLY IN THE SECOND EDITION

The ego does not want to teach everyone all it has learned, because that would defeat its purpose. Therefore it does not really learn at all. The Holy Spirit teaches you to use what the ego has made, to teach the opposite of what the ego has “learned.” The kind of learning is as irrelevant as is the particular ability that was applied to the learning. All you need do is make the effort to learn, for the Holy Spirit has a unified goal for the effort. If different abilities are applied long enough to one goal, the abilities themselves become unified. This is because they are channelized in one direction, or in one way. Ultimately, then, they all contribute to one result, and by so doing, their similarity rather than their differences is emphasized.

#### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

ALL abilities, then should be given over to the Holy Spirit WHO KNOWS HOW TO USE THEM PROPERLY. He can use them ONLY for healing because He knows you ONLY as whole. BY healing you learn of wholeness, and by learning of wholeness you learn to remember God. You HAVE forgotten Him, but the Holy Spirit still knows that your forgetting must be translated into a way of REMEMBERING, and NOT perceived as a separate ability which opposes an opposite. That is the way in which the ego tries to use ALL abilities, since its goal is always to make you believe that YOU are in opposition.

Healing is the way to UNDO the belief in differences, being the ONLY way of perceiving the Sonship without this belief. This perception is therefore IN accord with the laws of God even in a state of mind which is OUT of accord with His. The strength of right perception is so great that it brings the mind INTO accord with His because it yields to His pull, which is in all of you.

#### THE SECOND EDITION

All abilities should therefore be given over to the Holy Spirit, Who understands how to use them properly. He uses them only for healing, because He knows you only as whole. By healing you learn of wholeness, and by learning of wholeness you learn to remember God. You have forgotten Him, but the Holy Spirit understands that your forgetting must be translated into a way of remembering.

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Healing is the way to undo the belief in differences, being the only way of perceiving the Sonship as one. This perception is therefore in accord with the laws of God, even in a state of mind that is out of accord with His. The strength of right perception is so great that it brings the mind into accord with His, because it serves His Voice, Which is in all of you.

## CHAPTER 7

### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

To OPPOSE the pull or the Will of God is not an ability but a real DELUSION. The ego believes that it HAS this ability, and can offer it to you as a gift. YOU DO NOT WANT IT. It is NOT a gift. It is NOTHING AT ALL. God has given you a gift which you both have and are. When you do not use it, you do not know you HAVE it. By NOT knowing this, you do not know what you are. Healing, then, is a way of APPROACHING knowledge by thinking IN ACCORDANCE with the laws of God, and recognizing their UNIVERSALITY. Without this recognition, you have made the laws themselves meaningless to you. Yet the LAWS are not meaningless since all meaning is contained BY them and IN them.

The body is nothing more than a framework for developing abilities. It is therefore a means for developing POTENTIALS, which is quite apart from what the potential is used FOR. THAT is a DECISION. The effects of the ego's decision in this matter are so apparent that they need no elaboration here,

To think you can oppose the Will of God is a real delusion. The ego believes that it can, and that it can offer you its own "will" as a gift. You do not want it. It is not a gift. It is nothing at all. God has given you a gift that you both have and are. When you do not use it, you forget that you have it. By not remembering it, you do not know what you are. Healing, then, is a way of approaching knowledge by thinking in accordance with the laws of God, and recognizing their universality. Without this recognition, you have made the laws meaningless to you. Yet the laws are not meaningless, since all meaning is contained by them and in them.

The body is nothing more than a framework for developing abilities, which is quite apart from what they are used for. That is a decision. The effects of the ego's decision in this matter are so apparent that they need no elaboration,

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

Healing is the Holy Spirit's form of communication, and the ONLY one He knows.

but it is quite evident that he does not understand God if he thinks he has something that others LACK. You might well ask, then, why some healing CAN result from this kind of thinking, and there is a reason for this:

However misguided the "magical healer" may be, he is ALSO trying to help. He is conflicted and unstable, but AT TIMES he is offering something to the Sonship, and the only thing the Sonship can ACCEPT is healing. When the so-called "healing" works, then, the impulse to help and to BE helped have coincided. This is coincidental, because the healer may NOT be experiencing himself as truly helpful at the time, but the belief that he IS, in the mind of another, helps HIM.

Learning is constant,

I do not want to share my BODY in communion because that is to share nothing.

Fear and love are equally reciprocal. They make or create depending on whether the ego or the Holy Spirit begets or inspires them,

That includes his perception of God,

The ingeniousness of the ego to preserve itself is enormous, but it stems from the power of the mind which the ego DENIES. This means that the ego ATTACKS what is PRESERVING it, and this MUST be a source of extreme anxiety. That is why the ego NEVER knows what it is doing.

Forced, therefore, to detach itself from you who ARE mind, it is willing to attach itself to ANYTHING else. But there IS nothing else

He wants you to realize that BECAUSE conflict is meaningless, it cannot BE understood.

If you will keep in mind what the Holy Spirit offers you, you cannot be vigilant for anything BUT God and His Kingdom. The only reason you find this difficult is because you think there IS something else.

If it is, there ARE conflicting components within it which have engendered a state of war, and vigilance therefore has become essential.

You cannot deny that when you believe something, you have MADE it true for YOU.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

Healing is the Holy Spirit's form of communication in this world, and the only one He accepts.

but it is quite evident that he does not understand God if he thinks he has something that others lack.

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True learning is constant,

I do not want to share my body in communion because this is to share nothing. Would I try to share an illusion with the most holy children of a most holy Father?

Fear and love make or create, depending on whether the ego or the Holy Spirit begets or inspires them,

That includes his concept of God,

The ingeniousness of the ego to preserve itself is enormous, but it stems from the very power of the mind the ego denies. This means that the ego attacks what is preserving it, which must result in extreme anxiety. That is why the ego never recognizes what it is doing.

Forced, therefore, to detach itself from you, it is willing to attach itself to anything else. But there is nothing else.

He wants you to realize that, because conflict is meaningless, it is not understandable.

If you will keep in mind what the Holy Spirit offers you, you cannot be vigilant for anything but God and His Kingdom. The only reason you may find this hard to accept is because you may still think there is something else.

If it is, there are conflicting components within it that have led to a state of war, and vigilance has therefore become essential.

When you believe something, you have made it true for you.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

If the mind CANNOT attack, the ego proceeds perfectly logically to the position that you cannot BE mind.

The ego wants no part of truth because the truth is that the EGO is not true.

if you WANT peace, you must give up the idea of conflict ENTIRELY and for ALL TIME.

All perceived problems in identification

They are problems of UNDERSTANDING, since they MEAN that you believe what you can understand IS up to you to decide.

That would justify it, and it cannot BE justified.

This is not God's Will, but YOURS. If your will is out of accord with God's, you are willing without meaning.

The Total Commitment

You cannot be TOTALLY committed SOMETIMES. Remember a very early lesson;— "Never underestimate the power of denial." It has no power in itself, but you can give it the power of YOUR mind, whose power is without limit of any kind.

REALITY CANNOT BE PARTLY APPRECIATED. That is why denying any part of it means you have lost awareness of ALL of it.

That is the negative side of the law, as it operates in this world. Yet denial is a defense, and so it is as capable of being used positively as it is of being used destructively.

but in the service of the Holy Spirit, the law requires you to recognize only PART of reality to appreciate ALL of it.

You will NEVER be able to exclude yourself from what you project.

Therefore, what you want to be determines every response you make.

You do not need God's blessing, since that you have forever, but you DO need YOURS. The picture you see of yourselves is deprived, unloving and very vulnerable. You CANNOT love this. Yet you can very easily escape from it, or better, leave it behind

Every attack is a call for His patience since ONLY His patience can translate attack into blessing.

Do not share their delusions of scarcity,

## THE SECOND EDITION

If the mind cannot attack, the ego proceeds perfectly logically to the belief that you must be a body.

It wants no part of truth, because the ego itself is not true.

if you want peace, you must give up the idea of conflict entirely and for all time. This requires vigilance only as long as you do not recognize what is true.

Perceived problems in identification

They are problems of understanding, since their presence implies a belief that what you are is up to you to decide.

That would justify its existence, which cannot be justified.

This is not God's choice but yours. If your mind could be out of accord with God's, you would be willing without meaning.

The Totality of the Kingdom

You cannot be totally committed sometimes. Denial has no power in itself, but you can give it the power of your mind, whose power is without limit.

Reality cannot be partly appreciated. That is why denying any part of it means you have lost the awareness of all of it. Yet denial is a defense, and so it is as capable of being used positively as well as negatively.

But in the service of the Holy Spirit, it can help you recognize part of reality, and thus appreciate all of it

You will never be able to exclude yourself from your thoughts.

What you want to be, then, must determine every response you make.

You do not need God's blessing because that you have forever, but you do need yours. The ego's picture of you is deprived, unloving and vulnerable. You cannot love this. Yet you can very easily escape from this image by leaving it behind.

Every attack is a call for His patience, since His patience can translate attack into blessing.

Do not share their illusions of scarcity,

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

One **MUST** be fearful, if he believes that his brother is attacking him to tear the Kingdom of Heaven from him. This is the ultimate basis for **ALL** of the ego's projection.

Projection **ALWAYS** sees your will in others. If you will to separate yourself from God, that **IS** what you will think others are doing **TO** you.

## The Defense Of Conflict

We once said that without projection there can be no anger, but it is also true that without projection there can be no love. Projection is a fundamental law of the mind, and therefore one which **ALWAYS** operates.

Every mind **MUST** project because that is how it lives, and every mind **IS** life.

It projects conflict **FROM** your mind to **OTHER** minds, in an attempt to persuade you that you have gotten **RID** of it. This has several fallacies which may not be so apparent. Strictly speaking, conflict cannot **BE** projected precisely **BECAUSE** it cannot be fully shared. Any attempt to keep **PART** of it and get rid of another part does not really mean **ANYTHING**. Remember that a conflicted teacher is a poor teacher **AND A POOR LEARNER**. His lessons are confused, and their transfer value is severely limited **BY** his confusion. A second fallacy is the idea the you can get **RID** of something you do not want by giving it away. **GIVING** it is how you **KEEP** it. The belief that by giving it **OUT** you have excluded it from **WITHIN** is a complete distortion of the power of extension.

They **DO** believe they have blotted their projections from their **OWN** minds, but they also believe their projections are trying to creep back **INTO** them. That is because the projections have **NOT** left their minds, and this, in turn, forces them to engage in compulsive activity in order **NOT** to recognize this.

The belief that it **CAN**, a fallacy which the ego **ALWAYS** makes,

The ego is therefore a confusion in identification which never had a consistent model, and never developed consistently. It is the distorted product of the misapplication of the laws of God, by distorted minds which are misusing their own power.

The utter meaninglessness of all perception that comes from the unbelievable must be apparent, but it is not **RECOGNIZED** as beyond belief because it was made **BY** belief.

Your wholeness has no limits because being is in infinity.

You must be fearful if you believe that your brother is attacking you to tear the Kingdom of Heaven from you. This is the ultimate basis for all the ego's projection.

Projection always sees your wishes in others. If you choose to separate yourself from God, that is what you will think others are doing to you.

## The Unbelievable Belief

We have said that without projection there can be no anger, but it is also true that without extension there can be no love. These reflect a fundamental law of the mind, and therefore one that always operates.

Every mind must project or extend, because that is how it lives, and every mind is life.

It projects conflict from your mind to other minds, in an attempt to persuade you that you have gotten rid of the problem. There are two major errors involved in this attempt. First, strictly speaking, conflict cannot be projected because it cannot be shared. Any attempt to keep part of it and get rid of another part does not really mean anything. Remember that a conflicted teacher is a poor teacher and a poor learner. His lessons are confused, and their transfer value is limited by his confusion. The second error is the idea that you can get rid of something you do not want by giving it away. Giving it is how you keep it. The belief that by seeing it outside you have excluded it from within is a complete distortion of the power of extension.

Believing they have blotted their projections from their own minds, they also believe their projections are trying to creep back in. Since the projections have not left their minds, they are forced to engage in constant activity in order not to recognize this.

The belief that it can, an error the ego always makes,

The ego is a confusion in identification. Never having had a consistent model, it never developed consistently. It is the product of the misapplication of the laws of God by distorted minds that are misusing their power.

The meaninglessness of perception based on the unbelievable is apparent, but it may not be recognized as being beyond belief, because it is made by belief.

Your wholeness has no limits because being is infinity.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Selfishness is of the ego, but self-fullness is of the Soul because that is how God created it. The Holy Spirit is the part of the mind that lies between the ego and the Soul, mediating between them ALWAYS in favor of the Soul. To the ego this is partiality, and it therefore responds as if it were the part that is being sided AGAINST. TO the Soul this is truth, because it know its fullness, and cannot conceive of any part from which it is excluded.

The Soul KNOWS that the consciousness of all its brothers is included in its own, as IT is included in God. The power of the whole Sonship AND of its Creator is therefore the Soul's own fullness,

The ego's whole thought system blocks extension, and thus blocks your only function. It therefore blocks your joy, and that is why you perceive yourselves as unfulfilled.

Insanity APPEARS to add to reality, but no-one would claim that what it adds is true. Insanity is therefore the NON-extension of truth, which blocks joy because it blocks creation, and thus blocks self-fulfillment. The unfulfilled MUST be depressed because their self-fullness is unknown to them.

You have NOT failed to add to the inheritance of the Sons of God, and thus have not failed to secure it for yourselves. If it was the Will of God to give it to you, He gave it forever. If it was His Will that you have it forever, He gave you the means for keeping it,

You have said that, when you write of the Kingdom and your creations which belong in it, you are describing WHAT YOU DO NOT KNOW. That is true in a sense, but no more true than your failure to acknowledge the whole result of the ego's premises.

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You HAVE carried the ego's reasoning to its logical conclusion, which is TOTAL CONFUSION ABOUT EVERYTHING. Yet you do not really BELIEVE this, or you could not possibly maintain it.

Your creations ARE the logical outcome of His premises. His thinking has established them FOR you. They are therefore there, EXACTLY where they belong. They belong in your mind as part of your identification with His, but your state of mind and your recognition of what is IN your mind depends, at any given moment, on what you believe ABOUT your mind

Whatever these beliefs may be, they are the premises which will determine what you accept INTO your mind. It is surely clear that you can both accept into your mind what is not really there, and deny what IS. Neither of these possibilities requires further elaboration here, but both are clearly indefensible, even if you elect to defend them.

## THE SECOND EDITION

Selfishness is of the ego, but Self-fullness is of spirit because that is how God created it. The Holy Spirit is in the part of the mind that lies between the ego and the spirit, mediating between them always in favor of the spirit. To the ego this is partiality, and it responds as if it were being sided against. To spirit this is truth, because it knows its fullness and cannot conceive of any part from which it is excluded.

Spirit knows that the awareness of all its brothers is included in its own, as it is included in God. The power of the whole Sonship and of its Creator is therefore spirit's own fullness,

The ego's whole thought system blocks extension, and thus blocks your only function. It therefore blocks your joy, so that you perceive yourself as unfulfilled.

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You have not failed to increase the inheritance of the Sons of God, and thus have not failed to secure it for yourself. Since it was the Will of God to give it to you, He gave it forever. Since it was His Will that you have it forever, He gave you the means for keeping it.

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## The Confusion of Pain and Joy

You may have carried the ego's reasoning to its logical conclusion, which is total confusion about everything.

Your creations are the logical outcome of His premises. His thinking has established them for you. They are exactly where they belong. They belong in your mind as part of your identification with His, but your state of mind and your recognition of what is in it depend on what you believe about your mind.

Whatever these beliefs may be, they are the premises that will determine what you accept into your mind. It is surely clear that you can both accept into your mind what is not there, and deny what is.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

The ability to see a logical outcome depends on the WILLINGNESS to see it, but its truth has nothing to do with your willingness at all.

The Holy Spirit will direct you only so as to avoid pain. The undoing of pain must obviously avoid pain.

**The Confusion of Strength and Weakness**

You no more recognize what is painful than you know what is joyful, and are, in fact, very apt to confuse the two. The Holy Spirit's main function is to teach you to tell them apart. However strange it may seem that this is necessary, it obviously IS. The reason is equally obvious. What is joyful to you is painful to the ego,

both very fearful and very desirable.

When you are confused about this VERY clear distinction in motivation, it can only be due to projection. Projection of this kind is a confusion in motivation,

he associates fear with guidance, and refuses to follow any guidance at all.

The whole separation lies in this fallacy. The only way out of the fallacy is to decide that you do not have to decide anything.

Everyone who learns this lesson has become the perfect teacher because he has learned it of the Holy Spirit, Who wants to teach him everything He knows.

I call upon you again

Perceiving the Majesty of God as your brother is to accept your own inheritance. God gives only equally. If you recognize His gift in anyone else, you have acknowledged what He has given you. Nothing is so easy to perceive as truth. This is the perception which is immediate, clear and natural. You have trained yourselves not to see it, and this has been very difficult for you.

We said before

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**THE SECOND EDITION**

The ability to see a logical outcome depends on the willingness to see it, but its truth has nothing to do with your willingness.

The Holy Spirit will direct you only so as to avoid pain.

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You no more recognize what is painful than you know what is joyful, and are, in fact, very apt to confuse the two. The Holy Spirit's main function is to teach you to tell them apart. What is joyful to you is painful to the ego,

both fearful and desirable.

When you are confused about this distinction in motivation, it can only be due to projection. Projection is a confusion in motivation,

he associates fear with guidance, and refuses to follow any guidance at all. If the result of this decision is confusion, this is hardly surprising.

The whole separation lies in this error. The only way out of the error is to decide that you do not have to decide anything.

Everyone who learns this lesson has become the perfect teacher, because he has learned it of the Holy Spirit.

I call upon you

Recognizing the Majesty of God as your brother is to accept your own inheritance. God gives only equally. If you recognize His gift in anyone, you have acknowledged what He has given you. Nothing is so easy to recognize as truth. This is the recognition that is immediate, clear and natural. You have trained yourself not to recognize it, and this has been very difficult for you

I have already said

The Direction of the Curriculum



## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

You are hampered in your progress by your demands to know what you do NOT know. This is actually a way of holding on to deprivation. You cannot reasonably object to following instructions in a course FOR knowing on the grounds that you do NOT know. The need for the course is implicit in your objection.

It is merely the result of your misuse of His laws on behalf of a will that is not His.

If you did, you would hardly be willing to throw it away so readily, when the ego asks for your allegiance.

The ego's voice is a hallucination. You cannot expect it to say "I am not real." Hallucinations ARE inaccurate perceptions of reality. Yet you are not asked to dispel them alone.

## The Rationale For Choice

There is a rationale for choice. Only one Teacher knows what your reality is. If learning that is the purpose of the curriculum, you must learn it of Him. The ego does not know what it is trying to teach. It is trying to teach you what you are

Can you ask the part of your mind that taught you to believe they are the same to teach you the difference between them?

When we said, "All power and glory are yours because the Kingdom is His," this is what we meant:

If you want understanding and enlightenment you will learn it, because your will learn to it is your decision to listen to the Teacher Who knows of light, and can therefore teach it to you.

## The Light of the World

If you will to have it of me, you must give it. Rehabilitation does not come from anyone else. You can have guidance from without, but you must accept it from within. The guidance must be what you want, or it will be meaningless to you. That is why rehabilitation is a collaborative venture.

I can tell you what to do, but this will not help you unless you collaborate by believing that I know what to do. Only then will your mind choose to follow me. Without your will you cannot be rehabilitated. Motivation to be healed is the crucial factor in rehabilitation. Without this, you are deciding against healing, and your veto of my will for you makes healing impossible. If healing is our joint will, unless our wills are joined you cannot be healed. This is obvious when you consider what healing is for. Healing is the way in which the separation is overcome. Separation is overcome by union. It cannot be overcome by separating.

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It is merely the result of your misuse of His laws on behalf of an imaginary will that is not His.

If you did you would not be so ready to throw it away when the ego asks for your allegiance.

The ego's voice is an hallucination. You cannot expect it to say "I am not real." Yet you are not asked to dispel your hallucinations alone.

## The Difference between Imprisonment and Freedom

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 it of Him. The ego does not know what it is trying to teach

Can you ask the part of your mind that taught you to believe they are the same, to teach you how they are different?

When I said, "All power and glory are yours because the Kingdom is His," this is what I meant:

If you want understanding and enlightenment you will learn it, because your decision to learn it is the decision to listen to the Teacher Who knows of light, and can therefore teach it to you.

## The Gift of Freedom

If you want to have it of me, you must give it. Healing does not come from anyone else. You must accept guidance from within. The guidance must be what you want, or it will be meaningless to you. That is why healing is a collaborative venture.

I can tell you what to do, but you must collaborate by believing that I know what you should do. Only then will your mind choose to follow me. Without this choice you could not be healed because you would have decided against healing, and this rejection of my decision for you makes healing impossible. Healing reflects our joint will. This is obvious when you consider what healing is for. Healing is the way in which the separation is overcome. Separation is overcome by union. It cannot be overcome by separating.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

The will to unite must be unequivocal, or the will itself is divided or not whole. Your will is the means by which you determine your own condition because will is the mechanism of decision. It is the power by which you separate or join, and experience pain or joy accordingly. My will cannot overcome yours, because yours is as powerful as mine. If it were not so, the Sons of God would be unequal. All things are possible through our joint will, but my will alone cannot help you. Your will is as free as mine, and God Himself would not go against it. I cannot will what God does not will. I can offer you my will to make yours invincible by this sharing, but I cannot oppose yours without competing with it, and thereby violating God's Will for you.

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 will over another. God's Sons are equal in will, all being the Will of their Father. This is the only lesson I came to teach, knowing that it is true.

When your will is not mine, it is not our Father's.

What you seek to imprison you do not love.

The delusional believe that truth will assail them, and so they do not see it because they prefer the delusion. Judging truth as something they do not want, they perceive deception and block knowledge.

Help them by offering them your unified will on their behalf, as I am offering you mine on yours. Alone we can do nothing, but together, our wills fuse into something whose power is far beyond the power of its separate parts. By not being separate, the Will of God is established in ours and as ours. This Will is invincible because it is undivided. The undivided will of the Sonship is the perfect creator, being wholly in the likeness of God, Whose Will it is. You cannot be exempt from it, if you are to understand what it is and what you are. By separating your will from mine, you are exempting yourself from the Will of God which is yourself.

The recognition of God is the recognition of yourself. There is no separation of God and His creation. You will learn this as you learn that there is no separation of your will and mine. Let the Love of God shine upon you by your acceptance of me. My reality is yours and His. By joining your will with mine you are signifying your awareness that the Will of God is one.

The truth in both of us is beyond the ego. By willing that, you have gone beyond it toward truth. Our success in transcending the ego is guaranteed by God, and I can share this confidence for both of us and all of us.

## THE SECOND EDITION

The decision to unite must be unequivocal, or the mind itself is divided and not whole. Your mind is the means by which you determine your own condition, because mind is the mechanism of decision. It is the power by which you separate or join, and experience pain or joy accordingly. My decision cannot overcome yours, because yours is as powerful as mine. If it were not so the Sons of God would be unequal. All things are possible through our joint decision, but mine alone cannot help you. Your will is as free as mine, and God Himself would not go against it. I cannot will what God does not will. I can offer my strength to make yours invincible, but I cannot oppose your decision without competing with it and thereby violating God's Will for you.

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. God's Sons are equal in will, all being the Will of their Father. This is the only lesson I came to teach.

If your will were not mine it would not be our Father's.

Whom you seek to imprison you do not love.

The delusional believe that truth will assail them, and they do not recognize it because they prefer the delusion. Judging truth as something they do not want, they perceive their illusions which block knowledge. Help them by offering them your unified mind on their behalf, as I am offering you mine on behalf of yours. Alone we can do nothing, but together our minds fuse into something whose power is far beyond the power of its separate parts. By not being separate, the Mind of God is established in ours and as ours. This Mind is invincible because it is undivided.

The undivided will of the Sonship is the perfect creator, being wholly in the likeness of God, Whose Will it is. You cannot be exempt from it if you are to understand what it is and what you are. By the belief that your will is separate from mine, you are exempting yourself from the Will of God which is yourself.

The recognition of God is the recognition of yourself. There is no separation of God and His creation. You will realize this when you understand that there is no separation between your will and mine. Let the Love of God shine upon you by your acceptance of me. My reality is yours and His. By joining your mind with mine you are signifying your awareness that the Will of God is one.

The truth in both of us is beyond the ego. Our success in transcending the ego is guaranteed by God, and I share this confidence for both of us and all of us.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

The ego's way is not mine, but it is also not yours. The Holy Spirit has one direction for all minds, and the one He taught me is yours. Let us not lose sight of His direction through illusions, for only illusions of another direction can obscure the one for which God's Voice speaks in all of us. Never accord the ego the power to interfere with the journey because it has none, since the journey is the way to what is true. Leave all deception behind, and reach beyond all attempts of the ego to hold you back. I go before you because I am beyond the ego. Reach, therefore, for my hand because you want to transcend the ego. My will will never be wanting, and if you want to share it, you WILL. I give it willingly and gladly because I need you as much as you need me.

## The Power of Joint Decision

Your function is to add to God's treasure by creating yours. His Will to you is His Will for you. He would not withhold creation from you because His joy is in it. You cannot find joy except as God does. His joy lay in creating you, and He extends His Fatherhood to you so that you can extend yourself as He did. You do not understand this because you do not understand Him. No-one who does not know his function can understand it, and no-one can know his function unless he knows who he is. Creation is the Will of God. His Will created you to create. Your will was not created separate from His, and so it wills as He wills.

An "unwilling will" does not mean anything, being a contradiction in terms which actually leaves nothing.

## Communication and the Ego- Body Equation

Attack is ALWAYS physical. When attack in any form enters your mind, you are EQUATING yourself with a body.

Communication ENDS separation. Attack PROMOTES it. The body is beautiful or ugly, holy or savage, helpful or harmful, according to the use to which it is put.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, it is not. It becomes only a means by which the part of the mind you have separated from your Soul can reach beyond its distortions, and return to the Soul. The ego's temple thus becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit, where devotion to Him replaces devotion to the ego. In this sense the body does become a temple to God, because His Voice abides in it by directing the use to which it is put.

## THE SECOND EDITION

The ego's way is not mine, but it is also not yours. The Holy Spirit has one direction for all minds, and the one He taught me is yours. Let us not lose sight of His direction through illusions, for only illusions of another direction can obscure the one for which God's Voice speaks in all of us. Never accord the ego the power to interfere with the journey. It has none, because the journey is the way to what is true. Leave all illusions behind, and reach beyond all attempts of the ego to hold you back. I go before you because I am beyond the ego. Reach, therefore, for my hand because you want to transcend the ego. My strength will never be wanting, and if you choose to share it you will do so. I give it willingly and gladly, because I need you as much as you need me.

## The Treasure of God

Your function is to add to God's treasure by creating yours. His Will to you is His Will for you. He would not withhold creation from you because His joy is in it. You cannot find joy except as God does. His joy lay in creating you, and He extends His Fatherhood to you so that you can extend yourself as He did. You do not understand this because you do not understand Him. No one who does not accept his function can understand what it is, and no one can accept his function unless he knows what he is. Creation is the Will of God. His Will created you to create. Your will was not created separate from His, and so you must will as He wills.

An "unwilling will" does not mean anything, being a contradiction in terms that actually means nothing.

## The Body as a Means of Communication

Attack is always physical. When attack in any form enters your mind you are equating yourself with a body, since this is the ego's interpretation of the body.

Communication ends separation. Attack promotes it. The body is beautiful or ugly, peaceful or savage, helpful or harmful, according to the use to which it is put.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, it is not. It becomes a means by which the part of the mind you tried to separate from spirit can reach beyond its distortions and return to spirit. The ego's temple thus becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit, where devotion to Him replaces devotion to the ego. In this sense the body does become a temple to God; His Voice abides in it by directing the use to which it is put.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

This releases the mind from the temptation to see the body in many lights, and gives it over entirely to the One Light in which it can be really understood at all. To confuse a learning device with a curriculum goal is a fundamental confusion. Learning can hardly be arrested at its own aids with hope of understanding either the aids or the learning's real purpose. Learning must lead beyond the body to the re-establishment of the power of the mind in it. This can be accomplished only if the mind extends to other minds, and does not arrest itself in its extension.

The arrest of the mind's extension is the cause of all illness because only extension is the mind's function.

When yours is unified, it is His. Interfere with His purpose, and you need salvation. You have condemned yourself, but condemnation is not of God. Therefore, it is not true. No more are any of the results of your condemnation.

The body's condition lies solely in your interpretation of its function.

The reason why definitions in terms of function are inferior is that they may well be inaccurate. Functions are part of being since they arise from it, but the relationship is not reciprocal.

The whole does define the part, but the part does not define the whole. This is as true of knowledge as it is of perception. The reason to know in part is to know entirely is because of the fundamental difference between knowledge and perception. In perception the whole is built up of parts, which can separate and reassemble in different constellations. Knowledge never changes, so its constellation is permanent. The only areas in which part-whole relationships have any meaning are those in which change is possible. There is no difference between the whole and the part where change is impossible.

The body exists in a world which seems to contain two voices which are fighting for its possession. In this perceived constellation, the body is regarded as capable of shifting its control from one to the other, making the concept of both health and sickness possible. The ego makes a fundamental confusion between means and ends as it always does. Regarding the body as an end, the ego has no real use for it because it is not an end. You must have noticed an outstanding characteristic of every end that the ego has accepted as its own. When you have achieved it, it has not satisfied you. This is why the ego is forced to shift from one end to another without ceasing, so that you will continue to hope that it can yet offer you something.

## THE SECOND EDITION

This releases the mind from the temptation to see the body in many lights, and gives it over entirely to the One Light in which it can be really understood. To confuse a learning device with a curriculum goal is a fundamental confusion that blocks the understanding of both. Learning must lead beyond the body to the re-establishment of the power of the mind in it. This can be accomplished only if the mind extends to other minds, and does not arrest itself in its extension. This arrest is the cause of all illness, because only extension is the mind's function.

When yours is unified it is His. Believe you can interfere with His purpose, and you need salvation. You have condemned yourself, but condemnation is not of God. Therefore it is not true. No more are any of its seeming results.

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The whole does define the part, but the part does not define the whole. Yet to know in part is to know entirely because of the fundamental difference between knowledge and perception. In perception the whole is built up of parts that can separate and reassemble in different constellations. But knowledge never changes, so its constellation is permanent. The idea of part-whole relationships has meaning only at the level of perception, where change is possible. Otherwise, there is no difference between the part and whole.

The body exists in a world that seems to contain two voices fighting for its possession. In this perceived constellation the body is seen as capable of shifting its allegiance from one to the other, making the concepts of both health and sickness meaningful. The ego makes a fundamental confusion between means and end as it always does. Regarding the body as an end, the ego has no real use for it because it is not an end. You must have noticed an outstanding characteristic of every end that the ego has accepted as its own. When you have achieved it, it has not satisfied you. This is why the ego is forced to shift ceaselessly from one goal to another, so that you will continue to hope it can yet offer you something.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Equating YOU with the body, it teaches that YOU are to attack with because this is what it believes. The body, then, is not the source of its own health. The body's condition lies solely in your interpretation of its function.

The reason why definitions in terms of function are inferior is that they may well be inaccurate. Functions are part of being since they arise from it, but the relationship is not reciprocal. The whole does define the part, but the part does not define the whole. This is as true of knowledge as it is of perception. The reason to know in part is to know entirely is because of the fundamental difference between knowledge and perception. In perception the whole is built up of parts, which can separate and reassemble in different constellations. Knowledge never changes, so its constellation is permanent. The only areas in which part-whole relationships have any meaning are those in which change is possible. There is no difference between the whole and the part where change is impossible.

It is still true that the body has no function of itself because it is not an end. The ego, however, establishes it as an end because, as such, it will lose its true function.

The Holy Spirit, perfectly aware of the same data, does not bother to analyze them at all. If the data are meaningless there is no point in considering them. The function of truth is to collect data which are true.

You might well ask how the voice of something which does not exist can be so insistent. Have you seriously considered the distorting power of something you want, even if it is not true? You have had many instances of how what you want can distort what you see and hear. No-one can doubt the ego's skill in building up false cases. Nor can anyone doubt your willingness to listen until you will not tolerate anything except truth. When you lay the ego aside, it will be gone. The Holy Spirit's Voice is as loud as your willingness to listen. It cannot be louder without violating your will, which the Holy Spirit seeks to free, but never to command.

Wrong perception is distorted willing, which wants things to be as they are not. The reality of everything is totally harmless, because total harmlessness is the condition of its reality. It is also the condition of your awareness of its reality. You do not have to seek reality. It will seek you and find you, when you meet its conditions. Its conditions are part of what it is. And this part only is up to you. The rest is of Itself. You need do so little, because it is so powerful that your little part will bring the whole to you. Accept, then, your little part, and let the whole be yours.

## THE SECOND EDITION

Equating you with the body, it teaches that you are to attack with. The body, then, is not the source of its own health. The body's condition lies solely in your interpretation of its function. Functions are part of being since they arise from it, but the relationship is not reciprocal. The whole does define the part, but the part does not define the whole. Yet to know in part is to know entirely because of the fundamental difference between knowledge and perception. In perception the whole is built up of parts that can separate and reassemble in different constellations. But knowledge never changes, so its constellation is permanent. The idea of part-whole relationships has meaning only at the level of perception, where change is possible. Otherwise, there is no difference between the part and whole.

It is still true that the body has no function of itself, because it is not an end. The ego, however, establishes it as an end because, as such, its true function is obscured.

The Holy Spirit, perfectly aware of the same situation, does not bother to analyze it at all. If data are meaningless there is no point in analyzing them. The function of truth is to collect information that is true.

You might well ask how the voice of something that does not exist can be so insistent. Have you thought about the distorting power of something you want, even if it is not real? There are many instances of how what you want distorts perception. No one can doubt the ego's skill in building up false cases. Nor can anyone doubt your willingness to listen until you choose not to accept anything except truth. When you lay the ego aside, it will be gone. The Holy Spirit's Voice is as loud as your willingness to listen. It cannot be louder without violating your freedom of choice, which the Holy Spirit seeks to restore, never to undermine.

Wrong perception is the wish that things be as they are not. The reality of everything is totally harmless, because total harmlessness is the condition of its reality. It is also the condition of your awareness of its reality. You do not have to seek reality. It will seek you and find you when you meet its conditions. Its conditions are part of what it is. And this part only is up to you. The rest is of itself. You need do so little because your little part is so powerful that it will bring the whole to you. Accept, then, your little part, and let the whole be yours.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Wholeness heals because it is of the mind. All forms of sickness, even unto death, are physical expressions of the fear of awakening. They are attempts to reinforce unconsciousness out of fear of consciousness. This is a pathetic way of trying not to know by rendering the faculties for knowing ineffectual." Rest in peace" is a blessing for the living, not the dead, because rest comes from waking, not from sleeping. Sleep is withdrawing; waking is joining. Dreams are illusions of joining, taking on the ego's distortions about what joining means if you are sleeping under its guidance. Yet the Holy Spirit, too, has use for sleep, and can use dreams on behalf of waking, if you will let Him.

Healing is release from the fear of waking and the substitution of the will to wake. The will to wake is the will to love, since all healing involves replacing fear with love.

The ego, which always weakens the will, wants to separate the body from the mind.

You have surely begun to realize that this is a very practical course, which means exactly what it says. So does the Bible, if it is properly understood. There has been a marked tendency on the part of many of the Bible's followers, and also its translators, to be entirely literal about fear and its effects, but not about love and its results. Thus, "hellfire" means "burning," but raising the dead becomes allegorical. Actually, it is particularly the references to the outcomes of love which should be taken literally because the Bible is about love, being about God.

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 ours 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 they 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. I would not ask you to do the things you cannot do, and it is impossible that I could do things you cannot do.

All forms of dysfunction are merely signs that the mind has split, and does not accept a unified purpose.

Sections "The Acceptance of Reality" and "The Answer to Prayer" in *Jesus' Course in Miracles* are found at the beginning of CHAPTER 9 in The SECOND EDITION.

## THE SECOND EDITION

Wholeness heals because it is of the mind. All forms of sickness, even unto death, are physical expressions of the fear of awakening. They are attempts to reinforce sleeping out of fear of waking. This is a pathetic way of trying not to see by rendering the faculties for seeing ineffectual. "Rest in peace" is a blessing for the living, not the dead, because rest comes from waking, not from sleeping. Sleep is withdrawing; waking is joining. Dreams are illusions of joining, because they reflect the ego's distorted notions about what joining is. Yet the Holy Spirit, too, has use for sleep, and can use dreams on behalf of waking if you will let Him.

Healing is release from the fear of waking and the substitution of the decision to wake. The decision to wake is the reflection of the will to love, since all healing involves replacing fear with love.

The ego, which always wants to weaken the mind, tries to separate it from the body in an attempt to destroy it.

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 ours 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 they 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.

You have surely begun to realize that this is a very practical course, and one that means exactly what it says. I would not ask you to do things you cannot do, and it is impossible that I could do things you cannot do.

All forms of sickness are signs that the mind is split, and does not accept a unified purpose.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

If the purpose of this course is to help you learn what you are, and if you have already DECIDED that what you are is fearful, then it must follow that you will not learn this course. Yet you might remember that the reason for the course is that you do not know who you are.

If you do not know your reality, how would you know whether it is fearful or not?

All that this kind of association means is that you are arbitrarily endowing something quite beyond your...

You have imprisoned your will in your UNCONSCIOUS, where it remains available but cannot help you.

He is teaching you what you are.

The former accounts for the atheist and the latter for the martyr. Martyrdom takes many forms, the category including all doctrines which hold that God demands sacrifices of ANY kind. Either basic type of insane decision will induce panic because the atheist believes he is alone, and the martyr believes that God is crucifying him. Both really fear abandonment and retaliation, but the atheist is more reactive against abandonment, and the martyr against retaliation. The atheist maintains that God has left him, but he does not care. He will, however, become very fearful and hence very angry, if anyone suggests that God has NOT left him. The martyr, on the other hand, is more aware of guilt and believing that punishment is inevitable, attempts to teach himself to LIKE it. The truth is, very simply, that no one wants either abandonment or retaliation. Many people SEEK both, but it is still true that they do not WANT them.

You have forgotten, however, that your return is in proportion to your judgment of worth.

...would no longer be what you want, even if IT is. This accounts for why certain specific forms of healing are not achieved, even though the state of healing is. It frequently happens that an individual asks for physical healing...

The Bible emphasizes that all prayers are answered, and this must be true if no effort is wasted. The very fact that one has asked the Holy Spirit for anything will ensure a response. ... It is indeed true that no effort is wasted.

Atonement as a Lesson in Sharing

## THE SECOND EDITION

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. Yet the reason for the course is that you do not know what you are.

If you do not know what your reality is, why would you be so sure that it is fearful?

All this could mean is that you are arbitrarily associating something beyond your...

You have imprisoned your will beyond your own awareness, where it remains, but cannot help you.

He is helping you to remember what you are.

The former accounts for the atheist and the latter for the martyr, who believes that God demands sacrifices. Either of these insane decisions 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.

You have forgotten, however, that to price is to value, so that your return is in proportion to your judgment of worth.

...would no longer be what you want. This is why certain forms of healing are not achieved, even when the state of healing is. An individual may ask for physical healing...

The Bible emphasizes that all prayer is answered, and this is indeed true. The very fact that the Holy Spirit has been asked for anything will ensure a response.

The Holy Spirit's Plan of Forgiveness

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

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If one has no idea of what is happening, how appropriately can you EXPECT him to react? You might still ask yourself, regardless of how you can ACCOUNT for the reactions, whether they place the ego in a very sound position as the guide for YOURS. It seems absurd to have to emphasize repeatedly that the ego's qualifications as a guide are singularly unfortunate, and that it is a remarkably poor choice as a teacher of salvation. Yet this question, ridiculous as it seems, is really the crucial issue in the whole separation fantasy.

It is noteworthy that this is a contradiction even in the ego's terms, and one which it usually DOES note, even in its confusion. If the way to counteract fear is to REDUCE the importance of the fearer, how can this build ego STRENGTH?

The Awareness of the Holy Spirit

Though it does not understand this, the ego believes that its "enemy" has struck, and attempts to offer gifts to induce you to return to its "protection". SELF-inflation of the ego is its alternative to the grandeur of God.

the faintest hint of your reality literally drives the ego from your mind because of complete lack of investment in it.

His own exalted answer to the question of your being...

Even in this world's therapy, when dissociated material is ACCEPTED it ceases to be fearful, for the laws of mind always hold.

If you understand that the misuse of defenses always constitutes an attack on truth...

- NOT FOUND -

Magic Versus Miracles

All magic is a form of reconciling the irreconcilable.

...judge unreality for what it is. This is the RIGHT use of selective perception.

...and the mind DOES become unreasonable without reason. This is merely a matter of definition.

If you have no idea what is happening, how appropriately can you expect to react? You might ask yourself, regardless of how you may account for the reaction, whether its unpredictability places the ego in a sound position as your guide. Let me repeat that the ego's qualifications as a guide are singularly unfortunate, and that it is a remarkably poor choice as a teacher of salvation.

If the way to counteract fear is to reduce the importance of the mind, how can this build ego strength?

The Acceptance of Your Brother

When this occurs, even though it does not understand it, the ego believes that its "enemy" has struck, and attempts to offer gifts to induce you to return to its "protection". Self-inflation is the only offering it can make. The grandiosity of the ego is its alternative to the grandeur of God.

...the faintest hint of your reality literally drives the ego from your mind, because you will give up all investment in it.

His Own exalted Answer to what you are...

When what you have dissociated is accepted, it ceases to be fearful.

If you understand that this is always an attack on truth...

All attack is self attack. It cannot be anything else. Arising from your own decision not to be what you are, it is an attack on your identification. Attack is thus the way in which your identification is lost, because when you attack, you must have forgotten what you are. And if your reality is God's, when you attack you are not remembering Him. This is not because He is gone, but because you are actively choosing not to remember Him.

The End of Sickness

All magic is an attempt at reconciling the irreconcilable.

- NOT FOUND -

- NOT FOUND -



**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

**THE SECOND EDITION**

...fundamentally irreconcilable natures CANNOT be reconciled by your vacillations.

The closer you come to the ego's thought system,

- NOT FOUND -

God's Son NEEDS healing. He needs it because he does not understand himself, and therefore knows not what he does. Having forgotten his will, he does not know what he wants.

...He will lighten it so much that you will gladly extend it. And by THIS extending, you will begin to remember creation.

...for the Sonship is your Soul. As God's creation it is yours, and belonging to you, it is His. Your Soul does not need salvation...

Glory is your inheritance, given your Soul by its Creator that you might EXTEND it. Yet if you hate part of your own Soul All your understanding is lost...

The peace of your Soul lies in its limitlessness.

Every altar to God is part of your Soul because the Light He created...

It is impossible for you to be unable to enter the place where God would have you be.

...but you have surely learned by now that FEAR is not real. We have accepted the fact already that its EFFECTS can be dispelled...

INCONSISTENCY must be true if truth has meaning.

Experience and Perception

Yet different experiences lead to different beliefs, and experience teaches.

The Problem and the Answer

Yet everything in what you have made that IS true IS like Him. Only this is the real world, and perceiving ONLY this will lead you to the real Heaven...

...fundamentally irreconcilable natures cannot be reconciled by vacillations between them.

The closer you come to the foundation of the ego's thought system,

The Gifts of Fatherhood

God's son needs healing. You need it because you do not understand yourself, and therefore know not what you do. Having forgotten your will, you do not know what you really want.

...He will lighten it so much that you will gladly let it be increased. And by this increase, you will begin to remember creation.

...for the Sonship is your Self. As God's creation It is yours, and belonging to you It is His. Your Self does not need salvation...

Glory is your inheritance, given you by your Creator that you might extend it.

Your peace lies in its limitlessness.

Every altar to God is part of you...

It is impossible that you cannot enter the place where God would have you be.

...and you are beginning to learn that fear is not real. You are also learning that its effects can be dispelled...

...inconsistency must be true.

Waking to Redemption

Yet experiences lead to different beliefs, and with them different perceptions. For perceptions are learned with belief, and experience does teach.

The Condition of Reality

Yet everything true is like Him. Perceiving only the real world will lead you to the real Heaven.

Section heading inserted:

The Problem and the Answer

## CHAPTER 10

### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

...for you to understand it and USE it. Yet it has been VERY specific, and you have NOT done what it specifically advocates.

### THE SECOND EDITION

...for you to understand and use. Yet perhaps you have not done what it specifically advocates.

## CHAPTER 11 GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

In **THE SECOND EDITION**, the chapters are re-organized and chapter 11 is Chapter 12

... Understand that you do not respond to stimuli, but to stimuli  
AS YOU INTERPRET THEM.

There is but one interpretation of all motivation that makes any sense.

Perhaps the danger of this to your own mind is not yet fully apparent to you, but this by no means signifies that it is not perfectly clear. If you maintain that an appeal for help is something else you will REACT to something else, and your response will be inappropriate to reality as IT is, but NOT to your perception of it. This is poor reality testing by definition.

You would not do this except for your UNWILLINGNESS to perceive reality, which you withhold from YOURSELF.

Thereby you teach yourself that fear does not exist IN YOU, for you have IN YOURSELF the means for removing it, and have demonstrated this by GIVING it.

The mask which YOU have drawn across the face of love has disappeared.

### The Mechanism Of Miracles

If YOU give no power to the fog to obscure the light it HAS none, for it has power only because the Son of God gave power to it

It is easy to help an uncertain child, for he recognizes that he does not know what his perceptions mean. Yet you believe that you DO know.

The goal of love is but your right, and it belongs to you DESPITE your preference.

Our mission is to escape CRUCIFIXION, not redemption.

You will not fail in your mission because I failed not in mine.

You cannot lay aside the obstacle to real vision without looking upon it...

You do NOT know how to use what He knows. Whatever is revealed to Him that is not of God is gone. Yet you must reveal it to YOURSELF in perfect willingness, for otherwise His knowledge remains useless to you.

I once asked if you were willing to sell all you have and give to the poor and follow me. This is what I meant: If you had no investment in anything in this world, you could teach the poor where their treasure IS.

## CHAPTER 12 THE HOLY SPIRIT'S CURRICULUM

Understand that you do not respond to anything directly, but to your interpretation of it.

There is but one interpretation of motivation that makes any sense.

Perhaps the danger of this to your own mind is not yet fully apparent. If you believe that an appeal for help is something else you will react to something else. Your response will therefore be inappropriate to reality as it is, but not to your perception of it.

You would not do this except for your unwillingness to accept reality as it is, and which you therefore withhold from yourself.

Thereby you teach yourself that fear does not exist in you. The means for removing it is in yourself, and you have demonstrated this by giving it.

The veil that you have drawn across the face of love has disappeared.

### The Way to Remember God

If you give no power to the fog to obscure the light, it has none. For it has power only if the Son of God gives power to it.

It is easy to help an uncertain child, for he recognizes that he does not understand what his perceptions mean. Yet you believe that you do understand yours.

The goal of love is but your right, and it belongs to you despite your dreams.

Our mission is to escape from crucifixion, not from redemption.

You will not fail in your mission because I did not fail in mine.

You cannot lay aside the obstacles to real vision without looking upon them...

You do not understand how to use what He knows. Whatever is given Him that is not of God is gone. Yet you must look at it yourself in perfect willingness, for otherwise His knowledge remains useless to you.

I once asked you to sell all you have and give to the poor and follow me. This is what I meant: If you have no investment in anything in this world, you can teach the poor where their treasure is.

## **CHAPTER 11 GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION**

It is only YOU, therefore, who have made the request outrageous, for nothing can BE asked of you, and every request of a brother is for YOU.

God gave you the real world in exchange for the one you made out of your split mind, and which IS the symbol of death. For if you could REALLY separate yourselves from the Mind of God you WOULD die, and the world you perceive IS a world of separation. You were willing to accept even death to deny your Father.

You still could not will against Him, and that is why you have no control over the world you made.

For it was made out of what you do NOT want, projected from your mind because you were afraid of it.

Yet to find the place, you must relinquish your investment in the world as YOU have projected it, allowing the Holy Spirit to project the real world to you from the altar of God.

For the ego pursues its goal with fanatic insistence, and its reality testing, though severely impaired, is completely consistent.

You do not know how to look within yourself, for you do not BELIEVE your home is there. Yet the Holy Spirit knows it FOR you, and He will guide you TO your home because that is His mission.

The Atonement was not the price of our wholeness, but it WAS the price of your AWARENESS of your wholeness.

Although you have attacked yourself, and very brutally, you will demonstrate that NOTHING HAPPENED.

You will never realize the utter uselessness of attack EXCEPT by recognizing that your attack on YOURSELF had no effects.

The Holy Spirit's love is your strength, for yours is divided and therefore not real. You could not trust your own love when you have ATTACKED it. You cannot learn of perfect love with a split mind because a split mind had MADE itself a poor learner.

A necessary minor, supplementing this major curriculum goal, is learning how NOT to overcome the split which made this goal believable. And you can NOT overcome it, for all YOUR learning is on its BEHALF. Yet your will speaks against your learning as your learning speaks against your will, and so you fight AGAINST learning and succeed, for that IS your will. But you do not realize, even yet, that there IS something you DO will to learn, and that you can learn it because it IS your will to do so. You who have tried to learn what you do NOT will should take heart, for although the curriculum you set yourself is depressing indeed....

## **CHAPTER 12 THE HOLY SPIRIT'S CURRICULUM**

It is only you, therefore, who have made the request outrageous, and every request of a brother is for you.

God gave you the real world in exchange for the one you made out of your split mind, and which is the symbol of death. For if you could really separate yourself from the Mind of God you would die.

The world you perceive is a world of separation. Perhaps you are willing to accept even death to deny your Father.

You still cannot will against Him, and that is why you have no control over the world you made.

For it is made out of what you do not want, projected from your mind because you are afraid of it.

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.

For the ego pursues its goal with fanatic insistence, and its judgment, though severely impaired, is completely consistent.

You do not remember how to look within for you do not believe your home is there. Yet the Holy Spirit remembers it for you, and He will guide you to your home because that is His mission.

The Atonement is not the price of your wholeness, but it is the price of your awareness of your wholeness.

Although you have attacked yourself, you will be demonstrating that nothing really happened.

You will never realize the utter uselessness of attack except by recognizing that your attack on yourself has no effects.

The Holy Spirit's Love is your strength, for yours is divided and therefore not real. You cannot trust your own love when you attack it. You cannot learn of perfect love with a split mind, because a split mind has made itself a poor learner.

A supplementary goal in this curriculum is learning how not to overcome the split that makes its primary aim believable. And you will not overcome the split in this curriculum, for all your learning will be on its behalf. Yet your mind speaks against your learning as your learning speaks against your mind, and so you fight against all learning and succeed, for that is what you want. But perhaps you do not realize, even yet, that there is something you want to learn, and that you can learn it because it is your choice to do so. You who have tried to learn what you do not want should take heart, for although the curriculum you set yourself is depressing indeed....

## **CHAPTER 11 GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION**

For it is YOUR will to learn aright, and nothing can oppose the will of God's Son.

The Holy Spirit is your strength because He perceives nothing BUT your Soul as you. He is perfectly aware that you do NOT know yourselves, and perfectly aware of how to teach you what you are.

You chose to forget your Father but you did not WILL to do so, and therefore you can decide otherwise.

Every Child of God is one in Christ, for his Being is in Christ as Christ's is in God.

Love transfers to love without any interference, for the situations are identical.

The Guide For Miracles

You cannot SEE your abilities....

Every law of time and space, of magnitude and mass, of prediction and control is transcended, for what the Holy Spirit enables you to do is clearly beyond ALL of them.

What you cannot see becomes real to you only through the witnesses who speak for it.

As long as you believe you have two functions, so long will you need correction.

Two ways of looking at the world are in your mind, and your perception will reflect the guidance you chose.

The mind always strives for integration, and if it is split and wants to KEEP the split, it will believe it has one goal by MAKING it one.

We said before that WHAT you project is up to you, but it is NOT up to you WHETHER to project, for projection is a law of mind. Perception IS projection, and you look in BEFORE you look out. As you look in you choose the guide for seeing, and THEN you look out and behold his witnesses. This is WHY you find what you seek. What you want in YOURSELF you will make manifest by projection, and you will accept it FROM the world because you put it there BY wanting it.

...for its reality is only what you GAVE it.

For we are there in the peace of the Father, who wills to project His peace through YOU.

And you will see me as you look within, and we will look upon the world as God created it together.

## **CHAPTER 12 THE HOLY SPIRIT'S CURRICULUM**

For you really want to learn aright, and nothing can oppose the decision of God's Son.

The Holy Spirit is your strength because He knows nothing but the spirit as you. He is perfectly aware that you do not know yourself, and perfectly aware of how to teach you to remember what you are.

You chose to forget your Father but you do not really want to do so, and therefore you can decide otherwise.

Every child of God is one in Christ, for his being is in Christ as Christ's is in God.

Love transfers to love without any interference, for the two are one.

Looking Within

You cannot see your strengths...

Every law of time and space, of magnitude and mass is transcended, for what the Holy Spirit enables you to do is clearly beyond all of them.

What you cannot see becomes real to you only through the witnesses that speak for It.

As long as you believe you have other functions, so long will you need correction.

Two ways of looking at the world are in your mind, and your perception will reflect the guidance you have chosen.

The mind always strives for integration, and if it is split and wants to keep the split, it will still believe it has one goal by making it seem to be one.

I said before that what you project or extend is up to you, but you must do one or the other, for that is a law of mind, and you must look in before you look out. As you look in, you choose the guide for seeing. And then you look out and behold his witnesses. This is why you find what you seek. What you want in yourself you will make manifest, and you will accept it from the world because you put it there by wanting it.

...for its reality is only what you give it.

For we are there in the peace of the Father, Who wills to extend His peace through you.

And you will see me as you look within, and we will look upon the real world together.

**CHAPTER 11**  
**GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION**

Reality And Redemption

God would reunite you with yourself, and did not abandon you in your seeming distress.

Yet the memory of God cannot shine in a mind which has MADE it invisible and wants to KEEP it so. For the memory of God can dawn only in a mind that wills to remember, and that has relinquished the insane desire to control reality.

Valuing nothing, you have sought nothing and FOUND nothing.

Guiltlessness And Invulnerability

And their bodies wither and gasp and are laid in the ground and seem to be no more.

The Holy Spirit wills ONLY this, for sharing the Father's Love for His Son, He wills to remove ALL guilt from his mind that he may remember his Father in peace.

The journey which the Son of God has set himself is foolish indeed...

**CHAPTER 12**  
**THE HOLY SPIRIT'S CURRICULUM**

VIII. The Attraction of Love for Love

God would reunite you with yourself, and did not abandon you in your distress.

Yet the memory of God cannot shine in a mind that has obliterated it and wants to keep it so. 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.

Valuing nothing, you have sought nothing.

Moved to CHAPTER 13:

The Guiltless World

And their bodies wither and gasp and are laid in the ground, and are no more.

The Holy Spirit wants only this, for sharing the Father's Love for His Son, He seeks to remove all guilt from his mind that he may remember his Father in peace.

The journey the Son of God has set himself is useless indeed...

THE FOLLOWING IS NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

The analysis of the ego's "real" motivation is the modern equivalent of the inquisition, for in both a brother's errors are "uncovered" and he is then attacked FOR HIS OWN GOOD. What can this be BUT projection? For HIS errors lay in the minds of his interpreters, for which they punished HIM.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

**THE SECOND EDITION**

The Problem Of Guilt

The ultimate purpose of projection as the ego uses it is ALWAYS to get rid of guilt.

You do not yet understand that all your fear of this course stems ultimately from this interpretation,

This course has explicitly stated that its goal for you is happiness and peace. Yet you are AFRAID of it. You have been told again and again that it will make you free, yet you react as if it is trying to imprison you. Most of the time you dismiss it, but you do NOT dismiss the EGO'S thought system. You have SEEN its results and you STILL lack faith in it. You MUST, then, believe that by NOT learning the course you are PROTECTING yourself. And you do not realize that it is only your guiltlessness which CAN protect you.

The Atonement has always been interpreted as the release from guilt, and this is correct if it is understood. Yet even when I have interpreted it FOR you you have rejected it and have NOT accepted it for yourself. You have recognized the futility of the ego and its offerings, but though you do not want the ego you do not look upon the alternative with gladness. You are AFRAID of redemption, and you believe it will kill you. Make no mistake about the depth of your fear. For you believe that, in the presence of truth, you will turn on yourself and destroy yourself.

Yet there is one more complication which you have interposed between yourself and the Atonement which you do not yet realize.

...and the whole world you think you control WOULD vanish.

For your INDIVIDUAL death is more valued than your living oneness, and what is GIVEN you is not so dear as what YOU made. You are more afraid of God than of the ego, and love cannot enter where it is not

The reason you must look upon your delusions and not keep them hidden is that they do NOT rest on their own foundation. In concealment they appear to do so, and thus they seem to be self-sustained. This is the fundamental illusion on which they rest.

Beneath all your grandiosity, which you hold so dear, is your real call for help.

You who prefer specialness to sanity could not obtain it in your right minds.

Healing And Time

The Guiltless Son Of God

The ultimate purpose of projection is always to get rid of guilt.

You do not yet understand that any fear you may experience in connection with this course stems ultimately from this interpretation,

This course has explicitly stated that its goal for you is happiness and peace. Yet you are afraid of it. You have been told again and again that it will set you free, yet you sometimes react as if it is trying to imprison you. You often dismiss it 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.

The Atonement has always been interpreted as the release from guilt, and this is correct if it is understood. Yet even when I interpret it for you, you may reject it and do not accept it for yourself. You have perhaps recognized the futility of the ego and its offerings, but though you do not want them, you may not yet look upon the alternative with gladness. In the extreme, you are afraid of redemption and you believe it will kill you. Make no mistake about the depth of this fear. For you believe that, in the presence of truth, you might turn on yourself and destroy yourself.

Yet there is one more obstacle you have interposed between yourself and the Atonement.

... and the whole world you thought you made would vanish.

Your individual death seems more valuable than your living oneness, for what is given you is not so dear as what you made. You are more afraid of God than of the ego, and love cannot enter where it is not welcome. But hatred can, for it enters of its own volition and cares not for yours.

You must look upon your illusions and not keep them hidden, because they do not rest on their own foundation. In concealment they appear to do so, and thus they seem to be self-sustained. This is the fundamental illusion on which the others rest.

Beneath all your grandiosity, which you hold so dear, is your real call for help.

You who prefer separation to sanity cannot obtain it in your right mind.

The Function of Time

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

Unless you learn that past pain is delusional, you are choosing a future of illusions and losing the endless opportunities which you could find for release in the present.

Again and again have men attacked each other because they saw in them a shadow figure in their OWN private world. And thus it is that you MUST attack yourself first, for what you attack is NOT in others.

Vision depends on light, and you cannot see in darkness. Yet in the darkness, in the private world of sleep, you SEE in dreams although your eyes are closed.

If you see it now in your delusions it has NOT gone from you, although it is not there.

It extends to all aspects of consciousness AT THE SAME TIME, and thus enables them to reach EACH OTHER. The present is before time was, and will be when time is no more. In it is everything that is eternal, and they are one.

Awakening unto Christ is following the laws of love of your free will...

The only effort you need make to give this world away in glad exchange for what you did not make is willingness to learn THE ONE YOU MADE IS FALSE.

All vision starts WITH THE PERCEIVER,

Yet while he still lays value on his own, he will DENY the vision of the other world,

Possession for its OWN sake is the ego's fundamental creed, a basic cornerstone in the churches that it builds unto itself.

Whenever you are tempted to undertake a foolish journey that would lead AWAY from light,

**THE SECOND EDITION**

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.

Again and again have you attacked your brother, because you saw in him a shadow figure in your private world. And thus it is you must attack yourself first, for what you attack is not in others.

Vision depends on light. You cannot see in darkness. Yet in darkness, in the private world of sleep, you see in dreams although your eyes are closed.

If you see it now in your illusions, it has not gone from you, although it is not there.

It extends to all aspects of the Sonship at the same time, and thus enables them to reach each other. The present is before time was, and will be when time is no more. In it are all things that are eternal, and they are one.

Awaking unto Christ is following the laws of love of your free will..

All that you need to give this world away in glad exchange for what you did not make is willingness to learn the one you made is false.

All seeing starts with the perceiver,

Yet while he still lays value on his own, he will deny the vision of the other,

Possession for its own sake is the ego's fundamental creed, a basic cornerstone in the churches it builds to itself.

Whenever you are tempted to undertake a useless journey that would lead away from light,



JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

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CHAPTER Title: From Perception To Knowledge

Header, still in CHAPTER 12:

VIII. From Perception to Knowledge

All therapy is release from the past. That is why the Holy Spirit is the only therapist.

All healing is release from the past. That is why the Holy Spirit is the only Healer.

Header: The Role of Healing

- NOT FOUND -

When you have seen your brothers as yourself you will be RELEASED to knowledge, having learned to free yourself of Him Who knows of freedom.

When you have seen your brothers as yourself you will be released to knowledge, having learned to free yourself through Him Who knows of freedom.

The miracle which God created is perfect, as are the miracles which YOU created in His Name. They need no healing, nor do you, when you know THEM.

The miracle that God created is perfect, as are the miracles that you established in His Name. They need no healing, nor do you, when you accept them.

The Shadow of Guilt

IX. The Cloud of Guilt

Fidelity unto this law lets no light in,

Fidelity to this law lets no light in,

Release and Restoration

X. Release from Guilt

You are therefore willing, with little opposition, to look upon all sorts of "sources" underneath awareness, provided that they are not the deeper source to which they bear no real relationship at all.

You are therefore willing to look upon all kinds of "sources," provided they are not the deeper source to which they bear no real relationship at all.

Praise be unto you who make the Father One with His Own Son. Alone we are all lowly, but together we shine with brightness so intense that none of us alone can even think on it.

Praise be to you who make the Father one with His Own Son. Alone we are all lowly, but together we shine with brightness so intense that none of us alone can even think of it.

United in this praise we stand before the gates of Heaven, where we will surely enter in our blamelessness.

United in this praise we stand before the gates of Heaven where we will surely enter in our sinlessness.

God would not have His Son embattled, and so His Son's imagined "enemy," which he made, is TOTALLY unreal. You

God would not have His Son embattled, and so His Son's imagined "enemy" is totally unreal

The Guarantee of Heaven

- NOT FOUND -

The Holy Spirit will teach you how to USE it, and by projecting it to learn that it is in you.

The Holy Spirit will teach you how to use it, and by extending it, to learn that it is in you.

It will not be possible to exempt yourself from what the Holy Spirit wills to teach you.

It will not be possible to exempt yourself from what the Holy Spirit wants to teach you.

Yet the Will of God must be accepted as YOUR will, to know it.

Yet to know it, the Will of God must be accepted as your will.

The Holy Spirit cannot fail to undo FOR you everything you have learned that teaches you what is not true must be reconciled with truth.

The Holy Spirit will undo for you everything you have learned that teaches that what is not true must be reconciled with truth.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

The Testimony of Miracles  
(Still CHAPTER 13)

- NOT FOUND -

That is why your miracles offer YOU the testimony that you are blessed.

How could you learn what has been done for you, but which you do not know, unless you do what you would HAVE to do if it HAD been done unto you? INDIRECT proof of truth is needed in a world made of denial and without direction. You will perceive the need for this if you will realize that to deny is the decision NOT to know. The logic of the world MUST therefore lead to nothing, for its GOAL is nothing.

Any direction which will lead you where the Holy Spirit leads you not goes nowhere.

Those who choose to BE deceived will merely attack direct approaches, which would seem but to encroach upon deception and strike at it.

You do not realize that the foundation on which this most peculiar learning goal depends means ABSOLUTELY NOTHING. It DOES make sense to you. Have faith in nothing, and you will FIND the "treasure" that you sought. Yet you will add another burden to your mind, ALREADY burdened or you would not have sought another.

The happy learner meets the conditions of learning here, as he also meets the conditions of knowledge in the Kingdom.

Accept this key to freedom from the hands of Christ Who gives it to you, that you may join Him in the holy task of bringing light to darkness.

Learning will be commensurate with motivation, and the interference in your motivation for learning is exactly the same as that which interferes with ALL your thinking. The happy learner cannot FEEL GUILTY about learning. This is so essential to learning that it should never be forgotten. The guiltless learner learns so easily because his thoughts are free. Yet this entails the recognition that guilt is INTERFERENCE, NOT salvation, and serves no useful function at all.

You are accustomed to using guiltlessness merely to offset the pain of guilt,

The ego is the choice for guilt; the Holy Spirit the decision for guiltlessness.

By GIVING power to nothing, he threw away the joyous opportunity to learn that nothing HAS no power.

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CHAPTER 14  
TEACHING FOR TRUTH  
Introduction

I. The Conditions of Learning

That is why miracles offer you the testimony that you are blessed.

How could you learn what has been done for you, unknown to you, unless you do what you would have to do if it had been done for you?

INDIRECT proof of truth is needed in a world made of denial and without direction. You will perceive the need for this if you realize that to deny is the decision not to know. The logic of the world must therefore lead to nothing, for its goal is nothing.

Any direction that would lead you where the Holy Spirit leads you not, goes nowhere.

Those who choose to be deceived will merely attack direct approaches, because they seem to encroach upon deception and strike at it.

You do not realize that the foundation on which this most peculiar learning goal depends means absolutely nothing. Yet it may still make sense to you. Have faith in nothing and you will find the "treasure" that you seek. Yet you will add another burden to your already burdened mind.

The happy learner meets the conditions of learning here, as he meets the conditions of knowledge in the Kingdom.

Accept this key to freedom from the hands of Christ Who gives it to you, that you may join Him in the holy task of bringing light.

The happy learner cannot feel guilty about learning. This is so essential to learning that it should never be forgotten. The guiltless learner learns easily because his thoughts are free. Yet this entails the recognition that guilt is interference, not salvation, and serves no useful function at all.

Perhaps you are accustomed to using guiltlessness merely to offset the pain of guilt,

The ego is the choice for guilt; the Holy Spirit the choice for guiltlessness.

By giving power to nothing, he throws away the joyous opportunity to learn that nothing has no power.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

Yet because they do not understand their will, the Holy Spirit quietly understands it FOR them, and GIVES them what they will without effort, strain, or the impossible burden of deciding what they want and need alone.

It will never happen that you will have to make decisions for yourself.

He is the strong protector of your innocence which sets you free.

WITHOUT His guidance you will think you know alone, and will decide AGAINST your peace as surely as you made the wrong decision in ever thinking that salvation lay in you alone.

He leaves you no-one OUTSIDE yourself, alone WITHOUT you.

The Way of Salvation

This need not be taught.

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Yet because they do not understand their will, the Holy Spirit quietly understands it for them, and gives them what they want without effort, strain, or the impossible burden of deciding what they want and need alone.

It will never happen that you must make decisions for yourself.

He is the strong protector of the innocence that sets you free.

Without His guidance you will think you know alone, and will decide against your peace as surely as you decided that salvation lay in you alone.

He leaves you no one outside you.

IV. Your Function in the Atonement

This cannot be taught.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

THE SECOND EDITION

BRINGING ILLUSIONS TO TRUTH

You who have thrown your selves away and valued God so little, hear me speak for Him and for yourselves.

The Atonement was established as the means of restoring guiltlessness to the mind which has denied it, and thus denied Heaven to Itself.

Guilt and Guiltlessness

Would you have ALL of it transformed into a radiant message of God's Love, to share with all the lonely ones who denied Him with you?

Each one of you has a special part to play in the Atonement, but the message given to each to share is always the same; GOD'S SON IS GUILTLESS.

Out of the Darkness

You have interpreted the separation as a means which you have made for breaking your communication with your Father. The Holy Spirit re-interprets it as a means of re-establishing what has not been broken but HAS been made obscure.

Perception without Deceit

Opposites must be brought together, and not kept apart.

You must have noticed that the emphasis has been on bringing what is undesirable TO the desirable; what you do NOT want to what you DO.

It has BEEN recognized that, if they were brought TOGETHER, their joint acceptance would become impossible.

The link with which the Father joins Himself to those He gives the power to create like Him can NEVER be dissolved.

The Recognition of Holiness

The bringing together of truth and illusion, of the ego to God, is the Holy Spirit's only function.

The making of time to TAKE THE PLACE of timelessness lay in the decision to be not as you were.

All bring their different problems to its healing light, but all their problems are met ONLY with healing there.

TEACHING FOR TRUTH

You who have tried to throw yourself away and valued God so little, hear me speak for Him and for yourself.

The Atonement was established as the means of restoring guiltlessness to minds that have denied it, and thus denied Heaven to themselves. Atonement teaches you the true condition of the Son of God.

Replaced, a paragraph later with:

V. The Circle of Atonement

Would you have all of it transformed into a radiant message of God's Love, to share with all the lonely ones who have denied Him?

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.

VI. The Light of Communication

You have regarded the separation as a means for breaking your communication with your Father. The Holy Spirit reinterprets it as a means of re-establishing what was not broken, but has been made obscure.

VII. Sharing Perception with the Holy Spirit

Opposites must be brought together, not kept apart.

Our emphasis has been on bringing what is undesirable to the desirable; what you do not want to what you do.

If they are brought together, their joint acceptance becomes impossible.

The link with which the Father joins Himself to those He gives the power to create can never be dissolved.

IX. The Reflection of Holiness

Bringing illusion to truth, or the ego to God, is the Holy Spirit's only function.

The making of time to take the place of timelessness lay in the decision to be not as you are.

All bring their different problems to its healing light, and all their problems find but healing there.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

## THE SHIFT TO MIRACLES

You have experienced lack of competition among your thoughts, which, even though they may conflict, can occur to you together and in great numbers. You are so used to this that it can cause you little surprise.

The only judgment involved at all is the Holy Spirit's ONE division into two categories; one of love, and the other the call for love. YOU cannot safely make this division, for you are much too confused either to recognize love, or to believe that everything else is nothing but a need for love.

You who believe you understand something of the dynamics of the mind, let me assure you that you know nothing of it at all. For of yourselves you COULD not know of it. The study of the ego is NOT the study of the mind. In fact, the ego enjoys the study of itself, and thoroughly approves the undertakings of students who would analyze it,

Everyone seeks for love as you do, and knows it not unless he joins with you in seeking it.

Let the Holy Spirit SHOW him to you, and teach you both his love and need for love.

But where there is NEED for love, YOU must give it because of what YOU are.

...for the light of darkness by which you try to see can ONLY obscure.

And each bright lesson, with which the Holy Spirit will replace the dark ones you do not accept and hide, teaches you that you will WITH the Father unto His Son.

He ALWAYS gives what He has made IN PLACE of you.

Only those who see they cannot know UNLESS the effects of understanding are with them can really learn at all. And for this, it must be peace they WANT, and nothing else.

## X. The Equality of Miracles

Perhaps you have been aware of lack of competition among your thoughts, which even though they may conflict, can occur together and in great numbers. You may indeed be so used to this that it causes you little surprise.

The only judgment involved is the Holy Spirit's one division into two categories; one of love, and the other the call for love. You cannot safely make this division, for you are much too confused either to recognize love, or to believe that everything else is nothing but a call for love.

If you believe you understand something of the "dynamics" of the ego, let me assure you that you understand nothing of it. For of yourself you could not understand it. 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" it,

Everyone seeks for love as you do, but knows it not unless he joins with you in seeking it.

Let the Holy Spirit show him to you, and teach you both his love and his call for love.

But where there is a call for love, you must give it because of what you are.

...for the darkness in which you try to see can only obscure.

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.

He always gives His gifts in place of yours.

Only those who recognize they cannot know unless the effects of understanding are with them, can really learn at all. For this it must be peace they want, and nothing else.

The Purpose Of Time

The Uses of Time

And out of its unwillingness for you to find peace even in the death it wants for you, it offers you immortality in hell.

For the ego must seem to KEEP fear from you to keep your allegiance.

Even when it attacks so savagely that it tries to take the life of someone who hears it temporarily as the ONLY voice, it speaks of hell even to him.

The only time the ego allows anyone to look upon with some amount of equanimity is the past.

The ego does not advertise its final threat, for it would have its worshippers still believe that it can offer the ESCAPE from it.

Change is an illusion, taught by those who could not see themselves as guiltless.

It takes far longer to teach you how to be willing to give Him this than for Him to use this tiny instant to offer you the whole of Heaven.

Time and Eternity

For the instant of peace is eternal BECAUSE it is wholly without fear.

In the holy instant you will unchain ALL your brothers, and refuse to support either THEIR weakness or your OWN.

A Son of God who has been released through the Holy Spirit in a brother, if the release is COMPLETE, is ALWAYS recognized. He cannot BE denied. As long as you remain uncertain, it can be only because you have not given complete release. And because of this, you have not given one single instant COMPLETELY to the Holy Spirit.

Littleness is the offering you gave YOURSELF. You offered this in place of magnitude, and you ACCEPTED it.

The lesson will seem hard at first, but you will learn to love it when you realize that it is true, and constitutes a tribute to your power.

Let this question be asked you by the Holy Spirit in you every time you make a decision.

The Holy Instant

The Two Uses of Time

And out of its unwillingness for you to find peace even in death, it offers you immortality in hell.

For the ego must seem to keep fear from you to hold your allegiance.

Even when it attacks so savagely that it tries to take the life of someone who thinks its is the only voice, it speaks of hell even to him.

The only time the ego allows anyone to look upon with equanimity is the past.

The ego does not advertise its final threat, for it would have its worshippers still believe that it can offer them escape.

Change is an illusion, taught by those who cannot see themselves as guiltless.

It takes far longer to teach you to be willing to give Him this than for Him to use this tiny instant to offer you the whole of Heaven.

II. The End of Doubt

For the instant of peace is eternal because it is without fear.

In this holy instant you will unchain all your brothers, and refuse to support either their weakness or your own.

A Son of God who has been released through the Holy Spirit in a brother is always recognized. He cannot be denied. If you remain uncertain, it is only because you have not given complete release. And because of this, you have not given a single instant completely to the Holy Spirit.

Littleness is the offering you give yourself. You offer this in place of magnitude, and you accept it.

The lesson may seem hard at first, but you will learn to love it when you realize that it is true and is but a tribute to your power.

Let this question be asked you by the Holy Spirit every time you make a decision.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

For littleness, and the belief that you can be content with littleness, are the decisions you have made about yourself. The power and the glory that lie in you from God are for all who, like you, perceive themselves as little, and have deceived themselves into believing that littleness can be blown up by them into a sense of magnitude that can content them.

You know not what love means because you have sought to purchase it with little gifts, thus valuing it too little to be able to understand its magnitude.

Before the greatness that lives in you, your poor appreciation of yourself and all the little offerings you have given slip into nothingness.

It is BECAUSE I learned for you that you can learn of me.

Decide with me, who have decided to abide with you.

This course is not beyond IMMEDIATE learning, unless you prefer to believe that what God wills takes time.

For you leave empty your place in His plan, which you must fulfill if you would join with me, by your decision to join in any plan BUT His.

And the extent to which you learn to be willing to accept me is the measure of the time in which the holy instant will be yours.

You believe that it is possible to harbor thoughts you would not share, and that salvation lies in keeping your thoughts to yourself ALONE.

It is given you the instant you would HAVE it. Yet it would not be Atonement if there were no NEED for Atonement.

You would make no attempt to judge, because it would be quite apparent to you that you do not know what anything MEANS.

The holy instant parallels His knowing by bringing ALL perception out of the past..

In time, you have been told to offer miracles as Christ directs,

For in the holy instant, you will recognize the only need the aspects of the Son of God share equally,

If you were not only an idea, and NOTHING ELSE,

Yet as long as you PREFER to be something else, or would attempt to be nothing else and something else TOGETHER, the language of communication, which you know perfectly, you will not remember.

## THE SECOND EDITION

For littleness, and the belief that you can be content with littleness, are decisions you make about yourself. 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.

You know not what love means because you have sought to purchase it with little gifts, thus valuing it too little to understand its magnitude.

Before the greatness that lives in you, your poor appreciation of yourself and all the little offerings you give slip into nothingness.

It is because I learned for you that you can learn of me.

Decide with me, who has decided to abide with you.

This course is not beyond immediate learning, unless you believe that what God wills takes time.

For you leave empty your place in His plan, which you must fill if you would join with me, by your decision to join in any plan but His.

And the extent to which you learn to accept me is the measure of the time in which the holy instant will be yours.

You believe you can harbor thoughts you would not share, and that salvation lies in keeping thoughts to yourself alone.

It is given you the instant you would have it. Atonement would not be if there were no need for it.

You would make no attempt to judge, because it would be quite apparent to you that you do not understand what anything means.

The holy instant reflects His knowing by bringing all perception out of the past..

In time, you have been told to offer miracles as I direct,

For in the holy instant you will recognize the only need the Sons of God share equally,

If you were not an idea, and nothing but an idea,

Yet as long as you prefer to be something else, or would attempt to be nothing else and something else together, you will not remember the language of communication, which you know perfectly.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

THE SECOND EDITION

The Holy Instant and Communication

You have nothing to lose by looking open-eyed at this, for ugliness such as this belongs not in your holy mind. The host of God CAN have no real investment here.

It counsels, therefore, that if you are host to IT, it will enable you to direct the anger that it holds outward, thus PROTECTING you.

For it would much prefer to attack directly, and avoid delaying what it REALLY wants.

For relationships, to the ego, mean only that BODIES are together. It is always physical closeness that the ego demands, and it does not object where the MIND goes or what IT thinks, for this seems unimportant.

And yet you DO believe it. For you think that your minds must be kept private or you will LOSE them, and if your BODIES are together your minds remain your own. The union of bodies thus becomes the way in which you would keep MINDS apart.

And despite the evident insanity of this lesson, you have LEARNED it.

The Holy Instant and Real Relationships

It is this shift in vision which is accomplished in the holy instant.

Limit your vision of a brother to his body,

The Time of Christ

Release ME as I will YOUR release.

What other gift can you offer me, when only this I will to offer YOU?

And by YOUR acceptance of it, you have OFFERED it to everyone.

For if there is sacrifice, as you are convinced, someone must pay and someone must get.

You seek to answer this question in your special relationships, in which you are both destroyer and destroyed in part, but with the idea of being able to be neither completely.

For if God would demand total sacrifice of you, you thought it safer to project Him outward and AWAY from you, and not be host to Him.

The End of Sacrifice

VII. The Needless Sacrifice

You have nothing to lose by looking open-eyed, for ugliness such as this belongs not in your holy mind. This host of God can have no real investment here.

It counsels, therefore, that if you are host to it, it will enable you to direct its anger outward, thus protecting you.

For it would prefer to attack directly, and avoid delaying what it really wants.

For relationships, to the ego, mean only that bodies are together. It is always this that the ego demands, and it does not object where the mind goes or what it thinks, for this seems unimportant.

And yet many do believe it. For they think their minds must be kept private or they will lose them, but if their bodies are together their minds remain their own. The union of bodies thus becomes the way in which they would keep minds apart.

And despite the evident insanity of this lesson, many have learned it.

VIII. The Only Real Relationship

It is this shift to vision that is accomplished in the holy instant.

Limit your sight of a brother to his body,

X. The Time of Rebirth

Release me as I choose your own release.

What other gift can you offer me, when only this I choose to offer you?

And by your acceptance of it, you offer it to everyone.

For if there is sacrifice, someone must pay and someone must get.

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.

For if God would demand total sacrifice of you, it seems safer to project Him outward and away from you, and not be host to Him.

XI. Christmas as the End of Sacrifice



**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

**THE SECOND EDITION**

What you excluded from yourself seems fearful, for you endowed it with fear and tried to cast it out, though it was part of you.

And who can try to resolve the perceived conflict of Heaven and hell in him by casting Heaven out...

The meaning of love lies in what you have cast OUTSIDE yourself, and it has no meaning at all apart from you. It is what you preferred to KEEP that has no meaning.

For unless the universe were joined in YOU it would be apart from God,

...for so will you offer me the love I offer you.

Say and understand this:

"I give you to the Holy Spirit as part of myself.  
I know that you will be released, unless I want to use you to imprison MYSELF.  
In the name of MY freedom I will your release,  
Because I recognize that we will be released TOGETHER."

What you exclude from yourself seems fearful, for you endow it with fear and try to cast it out, though it is part of you.

And who can try to resolve the "conflict" of Heaven and hell in him by casting Heaven out...

The meaning of love lies in what you have cast outside yourself, and it has no meaning apart from you. It is what you prefer to keep that has no meaning...

Unless the universe were joined in you it would be apart from God,

... for so you offer me the love I offer you.

Say, then, to your brother:

I give you to the Holy Spirit as part of myself.  
I know that you will be released, unless I want to use you to imprison myself.  
In the name of my freedom I choose your release,  
because I recognize that we will be released together.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

He does not join in pain, knowing that healing pain is not accomplished by delusional attempts to enter into it, and lighten it by sharing the delusion.

Yet of this 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 both of you will gain in strength, and not in weakness.

You will neither to hurt it nor to heal it in your own way. You do not know what healing is.

You will not know how to respond to what you do not understand. Be tempted not in this, and yield not to the ego's triumphant use of empathy for its glory.

THE MAGNITUDE OF HOLINESS

You still think holiness is difficult because you cannot see how it can be extended to include everyone.

A better and far more helpful way to think of miracles is this: You do not understand them, either in part or whole. Yet you have done them.

And are you really safer in maintaining the unreality of what has happened than you would be in joyously accepting it for what it is, and giving thanks for it?

Yet your relationship with Him is real, and has been demonstrated.

And when they find the fear of death is still upon them, the love relationship **LOSES** the illusion that it is what it is not. For then the barricades against it are broken, fear rushes in and hatred triumphs.

You have come very close to truth, and only this stands between you and the bridge that leads you into it.

Specialness And Guilt

And to the same extent you are **DENYING** truth, and so are making yourself unable to make the simple choice between truth and illusion; God and fantasy.

The core of the separation delusion lies simply in the **FANTASY** of destruction of love's meaning.

In the transition there is a period of confusion, in which a sense of actual disorientation seems to occur. But fear it not, for it means nothing more than that you have been willing to let go your hold on the distorted frame of reference which seemed to hold your world together.

THE SECOND EDITION

He does not join in pain, understanding that healing pain is not accomplished by delusional attempts to enter into it, and lighten it by sharing the delusion.

Yet of this 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.

You choose neither to hurt it nor to heal it in your own way.

You cannot know how to respond to what you do not understand. Be tempted not in this, and yield not to the ego's triumphant use of empathy for its glory.

II. The Power of Holiness

You may still think that holiness is impossible to understand, because you cannot see how it can be extended to include everyone.

A better and far more helpful way to think of miracles is this: You do not understand them, either in part or in whole. Yet they have been done through you.

And are you really safer in maintaining the reality of illusions than you would be in joyously accepting truth for what it is, and giving thanks for it?

Yet your relationship with Him is real.

And when they find the fear of death is still upon them, the love relationship loses the illusion that it is what it is not. When the barricades against it are broken, fear rushes in and hatred triumphs.

You have come close to truth, and only this stands between you and the bridge that leads you into it.

The Choice for Completion

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.

The core of the separation illusion lies simply in the fantasy of destruction of love's meaning.

In the transition there is a period of confusion, in which a sense of actual disorientation may occur. But fear it not, for it means only that you have been willing to let go your hold on the distorted frame of reference that seemed to hold your world together.

## CHAPTER 16

### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

### THE SECOND EDITION

Find hope and comfort, rather than despair, in this: You could no longer find even the ILLUSION of love in any special relationship here.

And even when the hatred and the savagery break briefly through into awareness, the illusion of love is not profoundly shaken.

In the holy instant, it is accepted that the past is gone...

Praise be to your relationship with Him, and to no other. The truth lies here, and nowhere else.

Find hope and comfort, rather than despair, in this: You could not long find even the illusion of love in any special relationship here.

And even when the hatred and the savagery break briefly through, the illusion of love is not profoundly shaken.

In the holy instant it is understood that the past is gone...

Praise be to your relationship with Him and to no other. The truth lies there and nowhere else

#### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH IS NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

You think your lack of understanding is a loss to you, and so you are unwilling to believe that what has happened is true. But can you really believe that all that has happened, even though you do not understand it, has not happened? Yet this is your position. You would have perfect faith in the Holy Spirit, and in the effects of His teaching, if you were not afraid to acknowledge what He taught you. For this acknowledgement means that what has happened you do not understand, but that you are willing to accept it because it has happened.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

Nothing that you remember that made your heart seem to sing with joy has ever brought you even a little part of the happiness this sight will bring you.

Because you brought them, you will hear them. And you who kept them by your OWN selection do not understand how they came into your minds, and what their purpose is.

And why whatever reminds you of your past grievances, no matter how distorted the associations by which you arrive at the remembrance may be, attracts you, and seems to you to go by the name of love.

The Holy Spirit wills only to make His resolutions complete and perfect, and so He seeks and finds the source of problems where it is, and there undoes it.

In brief, the past is now your justification for entering into a continuing, unholy alliance with the ego against the present.

And what is thus let go is all the truth the past could ever offer to the present as witnesses for its reality, while what is kept but witnesses to the reality of dreams.

It is still up to you to choose to be willing to join with truth or illusion.

Only the Thoughts of God are true. And all that follows from Them comes from what They are, and is as true as is the holy Source from which They came.

**Perception and the Two Worlds**

Whatever fulfills this function not cannot be real.

Every special relationship which YOU have made is a substitute for God's Will, and glorifies yours instead of His because of the delusion that they are different.

Every special relationship which you have ever undertaken has, as its fundamental purpose, the aim of occupying your minds so completely that you will not hear the call of truth.

The ego is hyperalert to threat, and...

The truth itself needs no defense, but you do need defense against your own acceptance of the gift of death.

As each senseless stone which seems to shine in darkness from the frame is exposed to light, it becomes...

This is no figured representation of a thought system, but the Thought Itself.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

Nothing that you remember that made your heart sing with joy has ever brought you even a little part of the happiness this sight will bring you.

Because you bring them, you will hear them. And you who keep them by your own selection do not understand how they came into your mind, and what their purpose is.

And why whatever reminds you of your past grievances attracts you, and seems to go by the name of love, no matter how distorted the associations by which you arrive at the connection may be.

The Holy Spirit wants only to make His resolutions complete and perfect, and so He seeks and finds the source of problems where it is, and there undoes it.

The past becomes the justification for entering into a continuing, unholy alliance with the ego against the present.

And what is thus let go is all the truth the past could ever offer to the present as witnesses for its reality. What is kept but witnesses to the reality of dreams.

It is still up to you to choose to join with truth or with illusion.

Only the Thoughts of God are true. And all that follows from them comes from what they are, and is as true as is the holy Source from Which they came.

**The Two Pictures**

Whatever does not fulfill this function cannot be real.

Every special relationship you have made is a substitute for God's Will, and glorifies yours instead of His because of the illusion that they are different.

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.

The ego is always alert to threat, and...

The truth itself needs no defense, but you do need defense against your acceptance of the gift of death.

As each senseless stone that seems to shine from the frame in darkness is exposed to light, it becomes...

This is no figured representation of a thought system, but the Thought itself.

## CHAPTER 17

### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

### THE SECOND EDITION

You are now entering upon a campaign to blame each other for the discomfort of the situation in which you find yourselves. And by this lack of thanks and gratitude, you make yourselves unable to express the holy instant, and thus you lose sight of it.

#### Practical Forgiveness

There is no cause for faithlessness, but there is a Cause for faith. That Cause has entered any situation which shares Its purpose.

#### The Conditions of Forgiveness

#### The Need for Faith

Perhaps you are now entering upon a campaign to blame him for the discomfort of the situation in which you find yourself. And by this lack of thanks and gratitude you make yourself unable to express the holy instant, and thus lose sight of it.

#### Setting the Goal

There is no cause for faithlessness, but there is Cause for faith. That Cause has entered any situation that shares Its purpose.

#### The Conditions of Peace

#### The Call for Faith

### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH IS NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

The only such relationships which retain the fantasies that center on them are those which have been dreamed of, but have not been made at all. Where no reality has entered, there is nothing to intrude upon the dream of happiness. Yet consider what this means; the MORE reality that enters into the unholy relationship, the LESS SATISFYING it becomes. And the more the FANTASIES can encompass, the GREATER the satisfaction seems to be.

The Dream And The Reality

Substitution as a Defense

For a time, it seems as if the world were given you, to make it what you will.

That is what the Holy Spirit does in your special relationship. He does not destroy it, nor snatch it away from you. Your special relationship will remain, not as a...

For this dream comes from your will joined with the Will of God.

But you WILL advance because your goal IS the advance from fear to truth. You KNOW this.

When such great light has joined with you to give the little spark of your desire the...

Seek not to answer it, but merely RECEIVE the answer as it is given.

Forget not that it has been your decision to make everything that IS natural and easy for you impossible. What you believe to be impossible will BE, if God so wills it, but you will remain quite unaware of it.

The Holy Instant, Your Holy Relationship...

Dreams and the Body

The belief that you could give and GET something else, something OUTSIDE yourself, has cost you the awareness of Heaven, and the loss of your identity.

You hate your MINDS, for guilt has entered into them, and they would remain separate, which they cannot do.

Mind reaches to ITSELF. It does not go OUT.

This feeling of liberation far exceeds the dream of freedom sometimes experienced in special relationships.

The sudden expansion of the self which takes place with your desire for it is the irresistible appeal the holy instant holds.

You have made much progress and are really trying to make still more, but there is one thing you have never done; not for one instant have you utterly forgotten the body.

You are attempting to follow a very long road to the goal you have accepted.

The Passing Of The Dream

The Substitute Reality

For a time it seems as if the world were given you, to make it what you wish.

That is what the Holy Spirit does in the special relationship. He does not destroy it, nor snatch it away from you. But He does use it differently, as a help to make His purpose real to you. The special relationship will remain, not as a...

For this dream reflects your will joined with the Will of God.

But you will advance, because your goal is the advance from fear to truth.

When such great lights have joined with you to give the little spark of your desire the....

Seek not to answer, but merely to receive the answer as it is given.

Forget not that it has been your decision to make everything that is natural and easy for you impossible.

The Holy Instant, The Holy Relationship...

Beyond the Body

The belief that you could give and get something else, something outside yourself, has cost you the awareness of Heaven and of your Identity.

You hate your mind, for guilt has entered into it, and it would remain separate from your brother's, which it cannot do.

Mind reaches to itself. It is not made up of different parts, which reach each other. It does not go out.

This feeling of liberation far exceeds the dream of freedom sometimes hoped for in special relationships.

The sudden expansion of awareness that takes place with your desire for it is the irresistible appeal the holy instant holds

There is one thing that you have never done; you have not utterly forgotten the body.

You may be attempting to follow a very long road to the goal you have accepted.

## CHAPTER 18

### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

We do not need this time. Time has been saved for you because you are together.

#### The Purpose of the Body

Each tiny fragment seems to be self-contained, needing each other for some things, but by no means totally dependent on their one Creator for everything, and needing the whole to give them any meaning, for by themselves they DO mean nothing. Nor HAVE they any life apart and by themselves.

#### The Delusional Thought System

This is the little part of you you think you stole from Heaven.

Its vision IS distorted, and the messages it transmits to you who made it to LIMIT your awareness ARE little and limited, and so fragmented they are meaningless.

... and cleansed of every evil thought you had laid upon it.

#### The Passing of the Dream

### THE SECOND EDITION

You do not need this time. Time has been saved for you because you and your brother are together.

#### The Little Garden

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 it any meaning, for by itself it does mean nothing. Nor has it any life apart and by itself.

#### The Two Worlds

This is the little part you think you stole from Heaven.

Its bleak sight is distorted, and the messages it transmits to you who made it to limit your awareness are little and limited, and so fragmented they are meaningless.

... and cleansed of every evil thought you laid upon it.

- NOT FOUND -

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

THE SECOND EDITION

Beyond The Body

Yet we also said that peace without faith will NEVER be attained, for what is wholly dedicated to truth as its only goal is brought to truth BY faith.

Healing and the Mind

Each is united, a complete thought system, but totally disconnected to each other. Where there is no overlap, there separation must be complete. And to perceive this is to recognize where separation IS, and where it must be healed.

You freely choose to overlook his errors, looking past all barriers between your self and his, and seeing them as one.

You saw the Christ in him, and he was healed because you looked on what makes faith forever justified in everyone.

Your faithlessness had driven you apart, and so you did not recognize salvation in each other.

And God and His creations seem to be split apart and overthrown.

If sin were real, it would forever be beyond the hope of healing.

You will be healed of sin and all its ravages the instant that you give it no power over each other. And you will help each other overcome mistakes by joyously releasing one another from the belief in sin.

In the holy instant, you will see the smile of Heaven shining on BOTH of you. And you will shine upon each other,

Look upon your Redeemer, and behold what He would show you in each other, and let not sin arise again to blind your eyes. For sin would keep you separate, but your Redeemer would have you look upon each other as yourself. Your relationship is now a temple of healing; a place where all the weary ones can come and find rest.

Yet peace will gently cover them, extending past completely unhindered. The extension of the Holy Spirit's purpose from your relationship to others, to bring them gently in, will quietly extend to every aspect of your lives, surrounding both of you with glowing happiness and the calm awareness of complete protection.

... recognizing in your call the Call of God.

The Attainment Of Peace

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.

- NOT FOUND -

Each is united, a complete thought system, but totally disconnected to each other. And to perceive this is to recognize where separation is, and where it must be healed.

You freely choose to overlook his errors, looking past all barriers between yourself and him, and seeing them as one.

You see the Christ in him, and he is healed because you look on what makes faith forever justified in everyone.

Your faithlessness has driven you and him apart, and so you do not recognize salvation in him.

And God and His creation seem to be split apart and overthrown.

If sin is real, it must forever be beyond the hope of healing.

You will be healed of sin and all its ravages the instant that you give it no power over your brother. And you will help him overcome mistakes by joyously releasing him from the belief in sin.

In the holy instant, you will see the smile of Heaven shining on both you and your brother. And you will shine upon him,

Look upon your Redeemer, and behold what He would show you in your brother, and let not sin arise again to blind your eyes. For sin would keep you separate from him, but your Redeemer would have you look upon your brother as yourself. Your relationship is now a temple of healing; a place where all the weary ones can come and rest.

Yet peace will gently cover them, extending past completely unencumbered. The extension of the Holy Spirit's purpose from your relationship to others, to bring them gently in, is the way in which He will bring means and goal in line. The peace He 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.

... recognizing in your call the Call for God.



**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

When God has taken the last step Himself, the Holy Spirit will gather all your thanks and gratitude which you have offered Him, and lay them gently before His Creator in the name of His most holy Son.

This little wall of hatred would still oppose the Will of God, and keep It limited.

God's Will is One, not many. It has no opposition, for there is none beside It.

You CANNOT will apart from this.

And barriers will fall away before their coming as easily as those which you would interpose will be surmounted.

So will you learn the freedom that I taught by teaching freedom to each other, and so releasing me.

Pleasure and Pain

And to accept the peace He gave instead, without the limits which would hold its extension back, and so would limit YOUR awareness of it.

Is this your will?

And these conditions are the home of the emotion which called them forth, and therefore is compatible with them.

The end of sin, which nestles quietly in the safety of your relationship, protected by your union, ready to grow into a mighty force for God, is very near.

See how the belief in death would seem to "save" you. For if this is gone, what can you fear but LIFE?

Every obstacle that peace must flow across is surmounted in just the same way; the fear that raised it yields to the love beneath, and so the fear is gone.

But first, lift up your eyes and look upon each other in innocence born of complete forgiveness of each other's illusions, and through the eyes of faith, which sees them not.

No-one can look upon the fear of God unverified unless he has accepted the Atonement, and learned illusions are not real.

Brothers, you NEED forgiveness of each other,

Beside each of you is one who offers you the chalice of Atonement, for the Holy Spirit is in him.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

When God has taken the last step Himself, the Holy Spirit will gather all the thanks and gratitude that you have offered Him, and lay them gently before His Creator in the name of His most holy Son.

This little wall of hatred would still oppose the Will of God, and keep it limited.

God's Will is one, not many. It has no opposition, for there is none beside it.

You cannot choose apart from this.

and barriers will fall away before their coming as easily as those that you interpose will be surmounted.

So will you learn the freedom that I taught by teaching freedom to your brother, and so releasing me.

The Attraction of Pain

And to accept the peace He gives instead, without the limits that would hold its extension back, and so would limit your awareness of it.

Is this your wish?

And these conditions are the home of the emotion that calls them forth, and therefore is compatible with them.

The end of sin, which nestles quietly in the safety of your relationship, protected by your union with your brother, and ready to grow into a mighty force for God is very near.

See how the belief in death would seem to "save" you. For if this were gone, what could you fear but life?

Every obstacle that peace must flow across is surmounted in just the same way; the fear that raised it yields to the love beyond, and so the fear is gone.

But first, lift up your eyes and look on your brother in innocence born of complete forgiveness of his illusions, and through the eyes of faith that sees them not.

No one can look upon the fear of God unterrified, unless he has accepted the Atonement and learned illusions are not real.

Brother, you need forgiveness of your brother,

Beside you is one who offers you the chalice of Atonement, for the Holy Spirit is in him.

## CHAPTER 19

### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

### THE SECOND EDITION

Give each other faith, for faith and hope and mercy are yours to give.

Give faith to your brother, for faith and hope and mercy are yours to give.

Behold the gift of freedom that I gave the Holy Spirit for BOTH of you.

Behold the gift of freedom that I gave the Holy Spirit for you.

Offer each other freedom and complete release from sin, here in the garden of seeming agony and death.

Offer your brother freedom and complete release from sin, here in the garden of seeming agony and death.

Heaven is the gift you owe each other,

Heaven is the gift you owe your brother,

Yet it is given you to see this purpose in your holy Friend, and recognize it is your own.

Yet it is given you to see this purpose in your holy Friend, and recognize it as your own.

#### THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE NOT FOUND IN THE SECOND EDITION

Time is like a downward spiral which seems to travel down from a long, unbroken line along another plane, but which in no way breaks the line, or interferes with its smooth continuousness. Along the spiral, it seems as if the line must have been broken. Yet at the line, its wholeness is apparent. Everything seen from the spiral is misperceived, but as you approach the line, you realize that it was not affected by the drop into another plane at all. Yet from the plane, the line seems discontinuous. And this is but an error in perception, which can be easily corrected in the MIND, although the body's eyes will see no change. The eyes see many things the mind corrects, and you respond, not to the eyes' illusions, but to the mind's CORRECTIONS.

You see the line as broken, and as you shift to different aspects of the spiral, the line looks different. Yet in your mind is One Who knows it is unbroken, and forever changeless.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

## The Promise Of The Resurrection

If you see glimpses of the face of Christ behind the veil, looking between the snow white petals of the lilies you have received and given as your gift, you will behold each other's face and RECOGNIZE it.

Here is your Saviour and your Friend, released from crucifixion through your vision, and free to lead you now where HE would be. He will not leave you, nor forsake the Saviour from his pain. And gladly will you walk the way of innocence together, singing as you behold the open door of Heaven, and recognize the home that calls to you. Give joyously to one another the freedom and the strength to lead you there. And come before each other's holy altar where the strength and freedom wait, to offer and receive the bright awareness that leads you home. The lamp is lit in both of you for one another. And by the hands that gave it to each other shall both of you be led past fear to love.

## Thorns and Lilies

The holy do not interfere with truth. They are not afraid of it, for it is within the truth they recognized their holiness, and rejoiced at what they saw. They looked on it directly, without attempting to adjust themselves to it, or it to them. And so they saw that it was IN them, not deciding first where they would HAVE it be. Their looking merely asked a question, and it was what they SAW that answered them. YOU make the world and THEN adjust to it, and it to you. Nor is there any difference between yourself and it in your perception, which made them BOTH.

Ask not this transient stranger, "What am I?" He is the only thing in all the universe that does not know. Yet it is he you asked, and it is to his answer that you would adjust.

Does one ask judgment of what is totally BEREFT of judgment? . . . and adjusted it according to its insane answer. How happy did it make you? Did you meet with joy, to bless the Son of God

Such is my will for both of you, and for each of you to one another, and for himself. Here 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 are we one, looking with perfect gentleness upon each other, and on ourselves. Here all thoughts of any separation between us becomes impossible. You who were prisoners in separation are now made free in Paradise. And here would I unite with you, my friends, my brothers and my Self. Your gift unto each other has given me the certainty our union will be soon.

## The Vision Of Holiness

Easter is not the celebration of the cost of sin, but of its end. If you see glimpses of the face of Christ behind the veil, 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 it.

Here is your savior and your friend, released from crucifixion through your vision, and free to lead you now where he would be. He will not leave you, nor forsake the savior in his pain. 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 calls to you. Give joyously to your brother the freedom and the strength to lead you there. And come before his holy altar where the strength and freedom wait, to offer and receive the bright awareness that leads you home. The lamp is lit in you for your brother. And by the hands that gave it to him shall you be led past fear to love.

## The Gift of Lilies

The holy do not interfere with truth. They are not afraid of it, for it is within the truth they recognize their holiness and rejoice at what they see. They look on it directly, without attempting to adjust themselves to it, or it to them. And so they see that it was in them, not deciding first where they would have it be. Their looking merely asks a question, and it is what they see that answers them. You make the world and then adjust to it, and it to you. Nor is there any difference between yourself and it in your perception, which made them both.

Ask not this transient stranger, "What am I?" He is the only thing in all the universe that does not know. Yet it is he you ask, and it is to his answer that you would adjust.

Does one ask judgment of what is totally bereft of judgment? . . . and adjusted it according to its insane answer. How happy did it make you? Did you meet your brother with joy, to bless the Son of God

Such is my will for you and your brother, and for each of you to one another, and for himself. Here 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 are we one, looking with perfect gentleness upon each other, and on ourselves. Here all thoughts of any separation between us become impossible. You who were a prisoner in separation are now made free in Paradise. And here would I unite with you, my friend, my brother and my Self. Your gift unto your brother has given me the certainty our union will be soon.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

**THE SECOND EDITION**

Nothing can hurt you unless you give it the power to do so. For you give power as the laws of this world interpret giving; as you give you LOSE.

Nothing can hurt you unless you give it the power to do so. Yet you give power as the laws of this world interpret giving; as you give you lose.

Your Saviour gives you only love, but what you would receive of him is up to you. It lies in him to overlook all your mistakes, and therein lies his OWN salvation. And so it is with yours. It is the re-awakening of the laws of God in minds that have established other laws, and given them power to enforce what created not.

Your savior gives you only love, but what you would receive of him is up to you. It lies in him to overlook all your mistakes, and therein lies his own salvation. And so it is with yours. Salvation is a lesson in giving, as the Holy Spirit interprets it. It is the re-awakening of the laws of God in minds that have established other laws, and given them power to enforce what created not.

Idols accept, but never make return. They can be loved, but cannot love. They do not understand what they are offered, and any relationship in which they enter has lost its meaning. They live in secrecy, hating the sunlight and happy in the body's darkness, where they can hide and keep their secrets hidden along with them. And they have NO relationships, for no-one else is welcome there. They smile on no-one, and those who smile on them they do not see.

Idols accept, but never make return. They can be loved, but cannot love. They do not understand what they are offered, and any relationship in which they enter has lost its meaning. The love of them has made love meaningless. They live in secrecy, hating the sunlight and happy in the body's darkness, where they can hide and keep their secrets hidden along with them. And they have NO relationships, for no-one else is welcome there. They smile on no-one, and those who smile on them they do not see.

The period of discomfort that follows the sudden change in a relationship from sin to holiness should now be almost over.

The period of discomfort that follows the sudden change in a relationship from sin to holiness may now be almost over.

To obtain the goal, the Holy Spirit indeed asked little. He asks no more to give the means as well.

To obtain the goal, the Holy Spirit indeed asks little. He asks no more to give the means as well.

The body is the means by which the ego tries to make the unholy relationship seem real. The unholy instant is the time of bodies. But the purpose here is sin. It cannot be attained but in illusion, and so the illusion of a brother as a body is quite in keeping with the purpose of unholiness. Because of this consistency, the means remain unquestioned while the end is cherished. Vision adapts to wish, for sight is always secondary to desire. And if you see the body, you have chosen judgment and not vision. For vision, like relationships, has no order. You either see or not.

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The body cannot be looked upon except through judgment. . . . Such was your purpose, and while this purpose seems to have any meaning, the means for its attainment will be evaluated as worth the seeing, and so you will not see.

The body cannot be looked upon except through judgment. . . . Such was your purpose, and while this purpose seems to have a meaning, the means for its attainment will be evaluated as worth the seeing, and so you will not see.

The end for everything He looks upon is always sure. For it will meet His purpose, seen in unadjusted form, and suited perfectly to meet it. Destructiveness becomes benign, and sin is turned to blessing under His gently gaze. What can the body's eyes perceive, with power to correct?

The end for everything He looks upon is always sure. For it will meet His purpose, seen in unadjusted form, and suited perfectly to meet it. Destructiveness becomes benign, and sin is turned to blessing under His gentle gaze. What can the body's eyes perceive, with power to correct?

Again there is no order, but a seeming hierarchy of values.

Again there is no order, only a seeming hierarchy of values.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

**THE SECOND EDITION**

The Inner Picture

Projection makes perception. Therefore, seek not to change the world, but will to change your mind about the world. Perception is a RESULT, not a cause.

And you WILL see the witness to the choice you made, and learn from this to RECOGNIZE which one you chose.

The Imagined World

How foolish it is to attempt to judge what could be seen instead.

Nothing will ever be as dear to you as is this ancient hymn the Son of God sings to his Father still.

I AM responsible for what I see.  
I chose the feelings I experience, and I decided on the goal I would achieve.  
And everything that seems to happen to me I asked for, and received as I had asked.”

It is impossible that the happenings that come to him were not his choice. . . .

This is the little gift you offer to the Holy Spirit, and even this He gave to you to give yourself. For by this gift is given you the power to release your Saviour, that he may give salvation unto you.

All that the ego is, is an idea that it is possible that things should happen to the Son of God without his will; and thus without the Will of his Creator, Whose Will cannot be separate from his own.

This other will, which seems to tell you what must happen, you gave reality.

Long ago, we spoke of your desire to create your own Creator, and be father and not son to Him.

Reason And Perception

Projection makes perception. Therefore, seek not to change the world, but choose to change your mind about the world. Perception is a result and not a cause.

And you will see the witness to the choice you made, and learn from this to recognize which one you chose. The world you see but shows you how much joy you have allowed yourself to see in you, and to accept as yours. And, if this is its meaning, then the power to give it joy must lie within you.

The Forgotten Song

How foolish is it to attempt to judge what could be seen instead.

Nothing will ever be as dear to you as is this ancient hymn of love the Son of God sings to his Father still. |

I am responsible for what I see.  
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Earlier, we spoke of your desire to create your own creator, and be father and not son to him.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Yet the truth is you were both created by a loving Father, Who created you together and as one. See what "proves" otherwise, and you deny your whole reality. But grant that everything which seems to stand between you, keeping you from each other and separate from your Father, you made in secret, and the instant of release has come to you. All its effects are gone, because its source has been uncovered. It is its seeming independence of its source that kept you prisoner. This is the same delusion that you are independent of the Source by which you were created, and have never left.

And that is why the Holy Spirit must change its purpose to make it useful to HIM and harmless unto YOU.

Those who would free their brothers from the body can HAVE no fear. They have renounced the means for sin by choosing to let all limitations be removed. Desiring to look upon their brothers in holiness, the power of belief and faith goes far beyond the body, supporting vision, not obstructing it.

Those who believe in sin must think the Holy Spirit asks for sacrifice, for this is how they think their purpose is accomplished. Brothers, the Holy Spirit knows that sacrifice brings nothing.

And now the ego is afraid. Yet what it hears in terror, the other part hears as the sweetest music; the song it longed to hear since first the ego came into your minds.

Look gently on each other, and remember the ego's weakness is revealed in both your sight. What it would keep apart has met and joined, and looks upon the ego unafraid. Little children, innocent of sin, follow in gladness the way to certainty.

## Reason And Perception

And if you place your faith in them, you will perceive another Self in you. This other Self sees miracles as natural. They are as simple and natural to It as breathing to the body. They are the obvious response to calls for help, the only one It makes. Miracles seem unnatural to the ego because it does not understand how separate minds can influence each other. Nor COULD they do so. But minds cannot BE separate. This other Self is perfectly aware of this. And thus It recognizes that miracles do not affect another's mind, only Its Own. There IS no other.

You do not realize the whole extent to which the idea of separation has interfered with reason. Reason lies in the other Self you have cut off from your awareness. And nothing you have allowed to stay in it is capable of reason.

## THE SECOND EDITION

Yet the truth is you and your brother were both created by a loving Father, Who created you together and as one. See what "proves" otherwise, and you deny your whole reality. But grant that everything that seems to stand between you and your brother, keeping you from each other and separate from your Father, you made in secret, and the instant of release has come to you. All its effects are gone, because its source has been uncovered. It is its seeming independence of its source that kept you prisoner. This is the same mistake as thinking you are independent of the Source by which you were created, and have never left.

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## The Function of Reason

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You do not realize the whole extent to which the idea of separation has interfered with reason. Reason lies in the other self you have cut off from your awareness. And nothing you have allowed to stay in your awareness is capable of reason.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

Yet such is clearly not the ego's "reasoning". Its alien nature to the ego is proof you will not find the answer there.

You have come very close to this. Faith and belief have shifted, and you have asked the question which the ego will never ask.

**Reason And Correction**

Reason cannot see sin but can see errors, and leads to their correction. It does not value them, but their correction. Reason will also tell you when you think you sin, you call for help.

Madness is an attack on reason that drives it out of mind, and takes its place. Reason does not attack, but takes the place of madness quietly, replacing madness if it be the will of the insane to listen to it. But the insane know not their will. For they believe they see the body, and let their madness tell them it is real.

If you choose sin instead of healing, you would condemn the Son of God to what can never be corrected. You tell him, by your choice, that he is damned; separate from you and from his Father forever, and without a hope of safe return.

**Perception And Wishes**

You have already answered the first three questions,

Forget not that the choice of truth or sin, power or helplessness, is the choice of whether to attack or heal.

The power of the Son of God's desire remains the proof that he is wrong who sees himself as helpless. Desire what you will, and you will look on it and think it real.

Are thoughts, then, dangerous? To bodies, YES! The thoughts that seem to kill are those which teach the thinker that he CAN be killed. And so he dies BECAUSE of what he learned.

The constancy of happiness has no exceptions; no change of any kind. It is unshakable as is the Love of God for His creation. Sure in its vision as its Creator is in what He knows, it looks on everything and sees it is the same. It sees not the ephemeral, for it desires that everything be like itself, and sees it so.

Reason will tell you that you CANNOT ask for happiness inconstantly. . . God has already given him all that he REALLY wants.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

Yet such is clearly not the ego's reasoning. Your reason's alien nature to the ego is proof you will not find the answer there.

You have come very close to this. Faith and belief have shifted, and you have asked the question the ego will never ask.

**Reason versus Madness**

Reason cannot see sin but can see errors, and leads to their correction. It does not value them, but their correction. Reason will also tell you that when you think you sin, you call for help.

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**The Last Unanswered Question**

You may have already answered the first three questions,

Forget not that the choice of sin or truth, helplessness or power, is the choice of whether to attack or heal.

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Reason will tell you that you cannot ask for happiness inconstantly. . . God has already given all that he really wants.

## CHAPTER 21

### JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

You who complete God's Will and are His happiness, whose will is powerful as His, a power that is not lost in your illusions, think carefully why it should be you have not yet decided how you would answer the final question. Your answer to the others has made it possible to help you be but partially insane.

### THE SECOND EDITION

You who complete God's Will and are His happiness, whose will is powerful as His, a power that is not lost in your illusions, think carefully why you have not yet decided how you would answer the final question. Your answer to the others has made it possible to help you be already partly sane.



## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

Take pity on yourselves, so long enslaved. Rejoice whom God hath joined have come together, and need no longer look on sin apart. No two can look on sin together, for they could never see it in the same place and time. Sin is a strictly individual perception, seen in the other, yet believed by each to be within himself. And each one seems to make a different error, and one the other cannot understand. Brothers, it IS the same, made by the same, and forgiven for its maker in the same way.

The holiness of your relationship forgives you both, undoing the effects of what you both believed and saw. And with their going is the NEED for sin gone with them.

Think what a holy relationship can teach! Here is belief in differences undone. Here is the faith in differences shifted to sameness. And reason now can lead you to the logical conclusion of your union. It must extend, as you extended when you joined. It must reach out beyond itself, as you reached out beyond the body to LET yourselves be joined. And now the sameness which you saw extends, and finally removes all sense of differences, so that the sameness that lies beneath them all becomes apparent. Here is the golden circle where you recognize the Son of God. For what is born into a holy relationship can NEVER end.

And yet this strange idea which it DOES accurately describe, you THINK is you. Reason would tell you that the world you see through eyes which are not yours MUST make no sense to you. To whom would vision such as this send back its messages? Surely not you, whose sight is wholly independent of the eyes which look upon the world. If this is not your vision, what can it show to you? The brain cannot interpret what YOUR vision sees. This you would understand. The brain interprets to the body, of which it is a part. But what it says YOU cannot understand. Yet you have listened to it. And long and hard you tried to understand its messages. You did not realize it is impossible to understand what fails entirely to reach you.

You have received no messages at all you understand. For you have listened to what can never communicate at all. Think, then, what happened. Denying what you are, and firm in faith that you are something else, this "something else" which you have made to be yourself BECAME your sight. Yet it must be the "something else" which sees, and as NOT you, EXPLAINS its sight to you. YOUR vision would, of course, render this quite unnecessary.

## THE SECOND EDITION

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Think what a holy relationship can teach! Here is belief in differences undone. Here is the faith in differences shifted to sameness. And here is sight of differences transformed to vision. Reason now can lead you and your brother to the logical conclusion of your union. It must extend, as you extended when you and he joined. It must reach out beyond itself, as you reached out beyond the body, to let you and your brother be joined. And now the sameness that you saw extends and finally removes all sense of differences, so that the sameness that lies beneath them all becomes apparent. Here is the golden circle where you recognize the Son of God. For what is born into a holy relationship can never end.

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## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

So in each holy relationship is the ability to communicate instead of separate reborn. Yet a holy relationship, so recently reborn itself from an unholy relationship and yet more ancient than the old illusion that it has replaced, IS like a baby now in its rebirth. Yet in this infant is your vision returned to you, and he will speak the language both of you can understand. He is not nurtured by the "something else" you thought was you. He was not given there, nor was received by anything except yourself. For no two people can unite except through Christ, Whose vision sees them one.

Here is the first direct perception that you have made. You made it through awareness older than perception, and yet reborn in just an instant. For what is time to what was always so? Think what that instant brought; the recognition that the "something else" you thought was you is an illusion. And truth came instantly to show you where your Self must be. It is DENIAL of illusions that calls on truth

Every illusion carries pain and suffering in the dark folds of the heavy garments with which it hides its nothingness. Yet in these dark and heavy garments are those who seek illusions covered, and hidden from the joy of truth.

And if this vision is the ONLY means by which escape from guilt can be attained, then the belief in sin must be eternal. Yet reason looks on this another way, for reason sees the SOURCE of an idea as what will make it true or false.

Forsake not now each other.

Beyond the bodies that you interposed between you, and shining in the golden light which reaches it from the bright, endless circle that extends forever, is your holy relationship

## Reason and the Holy Relationship

The introduction of reason into the ego's thought system is the beginning of its undoing. For reason and the ego are contradictory. Nor is it possible for them to co-exist in your awareness. And reason's goal is to make plain, and therefore obvious. You can SEE reason. This is not a play on words, for here is the beginning of a vision that has meaning. Vision is sense, quite literally. If it is not the body's sight, it MUST be understood. For it is PLAIN, and what is obvious is not ambiguous. It CAN be understood. And here do reason and the ego separate, to go their different ways.

## THE SECOND EDITION

So in each holy relationship is the ability to communicate instead of separate reborn. Yet a holy relationship, so recently reborn itself from an unholy relationship, and yet more ancient than the old illusion it has replaced, is like a baby now in its rebirth. Still in this infant is your vision returned to you, and he will speak the language you can understand. He is not nurtured by the "something else" you thought was you. He was not given there, nor was received by anything except yourself. For no two brothers can unite except through Christ, Whose vision sees them one.

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Forsake not now your brother.

Beyond the body that you interposed between you and your brother, and shining in the golden light that reaches it from the bright, endless circle that extends forever, is your holy relationship

## Reason and the Forms of Error

The introduction of reason into the ego's thought system is the beginning of its undoing, for reason and the ego are contradictory. Nor is it possible for them to coexist in your awareness. For reason's goal is to make plain, and therefore obvious. You can see reason. This is not a play on words, for here is the beginning of a vision that has meaning. Vision is sense, quite literally. If it is not the body's sight, it must be understood. For it is plain, and what is obvious is not ambiguous. It can be understood. And here do reason and the ego separate, to go their separate ways.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

And so you stand, here in this holy place, before the veil of sin that hangs between you and the face of Christ. LET it be lifted! Raise it together, for it is but a veil that stands between you. Either alone will see it as a solid block, nor realize how thin the drapery that separates you now. Yet it is almost over in your awareness, and peace has reached you even here, before the veil. Think what will happen after! The love of Christ will light your faces, and shine from them into a darkened world that NEEDS the light. And from this holy place He will return with you, not leaving it nor you. You will become His messengers, returning Him unto Himself.

Every mistake you make the other will gently have corrected for you, for in his sight your loveliness is his salvation, which he would protect from harm. And each will be the other's strong protector from everything that seems to rise between you. So shall you walk the world with me, whose message has not yet been given to everyone. For you are here to let it be RECEIVED. God's offer still is open, yet it waits acceptance. From you who have accepted it is it received. Into your joined hands is it safely given, for you who share it have become its willing guardians and protectors.

To all who share the Love of God the grace is given to be the givers of what they have received.

How easy is it to offer this miracle to everyone! No-one who has received it for himself could find it difficult. For by receiving it, he learned it was not given him alone. Such is the function of a holy relationship; to receive together, and give as you received. Standing before the veil, it still seems difficult. But hold out your joined hands and touch this heavy-seeming block, and you will learn how easily your fingers slip through its nothingness. It is no solid wall. And only an illusion stands between you and the holy Self you share.

Can the illusion of immovability be long defened from what is quietly past through and gone beyond?

Freedom and the Holy Spirit

You WILL be sanctified by one another, using your bodies only to serve the sinless. And it WILL be impossible for you to hate what serves what you would heal.

God would let nothing interfere with those whose wills are His, and serve it willingly. And COULD remembrance of what they are be long delayed?

## THE SECOND EDITION

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. Let it be lifted! Raise it together with your brother, for it is but a veil that stands between you. Either you or your brother alone will see it as a solid block, nor realize how thin the drapery that separates you now. Yet it is almost over in your awareness, and peace has reached you even here, before the veil. Think what will happen after. The love of Christ will light your face, and shine from it into a darkened world that needs the light. And from this holy place He will return with you, not leaving it nor you. You will become His messenger, returning Him unto Himself.

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The Light of the Holy Relationship

You will be sanctified by your brother, using your body only to serve the sinless. And it will be impossible for you to hate what serves whom you would heal.

God would let nothing interfere with those whose wills are His, and they will recognize their wills are His, because they serve His Will. And serve it willingly. And could remembrance of what they are be long delayed?

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

Seek not to change it, nor to substitute another goal. Accept this one and serve it willingly, for what the Holy Spirit does with the gifts you give each other, to whom He offers them, and where and when, is up to Him.

for here lies buried the heavy anchor that seems to keep the fear of God in place, unmovable and solid as a rock.

Only the DIFFERENT can attack. So you conclude BECAUSE you can attack you MUST be different. Yet does the Holy Spirit explain this differently. BECAUSE you are not different, you CANNOT attack. Either position is a logical conclusion, if only the different can attack. Either could be maintained, but never both. The only question to be answered to decide which must be true is whether you ARE different. From the position of what you understand, you seem to be, and therefore can attack. Of the alternatives, this seems more natural and more in line with your experience. And therefore it is necessary that you have other experiences, more in line with truth, to teach you what IS natural and true.

The light that joins you shines throughout the universe, and because it joins you, so it makes you one with your Creator. And in Him is all creation joined. Would you regret you cannot fear alone, when your relationship can also teach the power of love is there, which makes all fear impossible? Do not attempt to keep a little of the ego with this gift. For it was given you to be USED, and not obscured. What teaches you you cannot separate DENIES the ego. Let truth decide if you be different or the same, and teach you which IS true.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

Seek not to change it, nor to substitute another goal. This one was given you, and only this. Accept this one and serve it willingly, for what the Holy Spirit does with gifts you give your brother, to whom He offers them, and where and when, is up to Him.

for here lies buried the heavy anchor that seems to keep the fear of God in place, immovable and solid as a rock.

Only the different can attack. So you conclude because you can attack, you and your brother must be different. Yet does the Holy Spirit explain this differently. Because you and your brother are not different, you cannot attack. Either position is a logical conclusion. Either could be maintained, but never both. The only question to be answered in order to decide which must be true is whether you and your brother are different. From the position of what you understand you seem to be, and therefore can attack. Of the alternatives, this seems more natural and more in line with your experience. And therefore it is necessary that you have other experiences, more in line with truth, to teach you what is natural and true.

The light that joins you and your brother shines throughout the universe, and because it joins you and him, so it makes you and him one with your Creator. And in Him is all creation joined. Would you regret you cannot fear alone, when your relationship can also teach the power of love is there, which makes all fear impossible? Do not attempt to keep a little of the ego with this gift. For it was given you to be used, and not obscured. What teaches you that you cannot separate denies the ego. Let truth decide if you and your brother be different or the same, and teach you which is true.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

Belief in enemies is therefore the belief in weakness, and what is weak is NOT the Will of God. Being opposed to It, it is Its "enemy." And God is feared as an OPPOSING will.

Yet they appear to constitute an obstacle to reason and to truth.

For this establishes degrees of truth among illusions, making it appear that some of them are harder to overcome than others.

These ARE the principles which make the ground beneath your feet seem solid. And it IS here you look for meaning.

There IS not life outside of Heaven.

You have not lingered there in cowering hope, because the guns are still an instant, and the fear that haunts the place of death is not apparent, that it will not return.

The Fear of Life

The fear of God is fear of LIFE, and not of death.

There is a stab of pain, a twinge of guilt, and above all, a loss of peace. This you know well. When it occurs, leave not your place on high, but quickly choose a miracle INSTEAD of murder.

The body HAS no purpose, and must be solitary.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

Belief in enemies is therefore the belief in weakness, and what is weak is not the Will of God. Being opposed to it, it is God's "enemy." And God is feared as an opposing will.

Yet they appear to be an obstacle to reason and to truth.

For this establishes degrees of truth among illusions, making it seem that some of them are harder to overcome than others.

These are the laws on which your "sanity" appears to rest. These are the principles which make the ground beneath your feet seem solid. And it is here you look for meaning.

There is no life outside of Heaven.

You have not lingered there in cowering hope that it will not return because the guns are stilled an instant, and the fear that haunts the place of death is not apparent.

Above the Battleground

Do not remain in conflict, for there is no war without attack. The fear of God is fear of life, and not of death

There is a stab of pain, a twinge of guilt, and above all, a loss of peace. This you know well. When they occur leave not your place on high, but quickly choose a miracle instead of murder.

The body has no purpose of itself, and must be solitary.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## SPECIALNESS AND SEPARATION

Your brother is your friend BECAUSE his Father created him like you. There IS no difference. You have been given to each other that love might be extended, not cut off from one another. What you KEEP is lost to you. God gave you both Himself, and to remember this is now the only purpose that you share. And so it is the only one you HAVE.

Could you attack each other if you chose to see no specialness of any kind between you? Look fairly at whatever makes you give each other only partial welcome, or would let you think that you are better off apart. Is it not always your belief your specialness is LIMITED by your relationship? And is not this the "enemy" that makes you both illusions to each other?

The fear of God, and of each other, comes from each unrecognized belief in specialness. For each demands the other bow to it AGAINST his will. And God Himself must honor it, or suffer vengeance. Every twinge of malice, or stab of hate, or wish to separate arises here. For here the purpose which you share becomes obscured from both of you. You would oppose this course because it teaches you you are ALIKE. You have no purpose that is not the same, and none your Father does not share with you. For your relationship has been made clean of special goals. And would you now DEFEAT the goal of holiness that Heaven gave it? What perspective can the special have that does not change with every seeming blow, each slight, or fancied judgment on itself?

It is not God Who has condemned His Son. But only you, to save his specialness and kill his Self.

Truth is not frail. Illusions leave it perfectly unmoved.

Specialness and Salvation

Long ago we said

The Resolution of the Dream

a journey that has never been begun, and needs no end

Who loves each part of Him with equal love.

His wish is law unto him, and he obeys.

How can you fail to know it is in his holiness?

A perfect being, all-encompassing and all-encompassed, nothing to add and nothing taken from; not born of size nor weight nor time, nor held to limits or uncertainties of any kind.

## THE SECOND EDITION

## THE GOAL OF SPECIALNESS

Your brother is your friend because his Father created him like you. There is no difference. You have been given to your brother that love might be extended, not cut off from him. What you keep is lost to you. God gave you and your brother Himself, and to remember this is now the only purpose that you share. And so it is the only one you have. Could you attack your brother if you chose to see no specialness of any kind between you and him? Look fairly at whatever makes you give your brother only partial welcome, or would let you think that you are better off apart. Is it not always your belief your specialness is limited by your relationship? And is not this the "enemy" that makes you and your brother illusions to each other?

The fear of God and of your brother comes from each unrecognized belief in specialness. For you demand your brother bow to it against his will. And God Himself must honor it or suffer vengeance. Every twinge of malice, or stab of hate or wish to separate arises here. For here the purpose that you and your brother share becomes obscured from both of you. You would oppose this course because it teaches you you and your brother are alike. You have no purpose that is not the same, and none your Father does not share with you. For your relationship has been made clean of special goals. And would you now defeat the goal of holiness that Heaven gave it? What perspective can the special have that does not change with every seeming blow, each slight, or fancied judgment on itself?

It is not God Who has condemned His Son, but you, to save his specialness and kill his Self.

Truth is not frail. Illusions leave it perfectly unmoved and undisturbed.

Specialness versus Sinlessness

Earlier I said

The Christ in You

a journey that has never begun, and needs no end.

Who loves each part of Him with equal love and care.

His wish is law to him, and he obeys.

How can you fail to know it in his holiness?

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.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

## THE REMEDY

No-one who carries Christ in him can fail to recognize Him everywhere. EXCEPT in bodies. And as long as they believe they are in bodies, where they think they are He cannot be. And so they carry Him unknowingly, and do not make Him manifest. And thus they do not recognize Him where He is.

## THE APPOINTED TASK

You are the same as God Himself is One, and not divided in His Will. And you must have one purpose, since He gave the same to both of you. His Will is brought together as you join in will, that you be made complete by offering completion to your brother. See not in him the sinfulness he sees, but give him honor that you may esteem yourself and him. To each of you is given the power of salvation, that escape from darkness into light be yours to share; that you may see as one what never has been separate, nor apart from all God's Love as given equally.

## The Fundamental Law of Perception

This is in strict accord with vision's fundamental law: You see what you believe is there, and you believe it there because you WANT it there.

The lamps of Heaven are not for it to choose to see them where it will. If it elects to see them elsewhere from their home, as if they lit a place where they could never be, and YOU agree, then must the Maker of the world correct your error, lest you remain in darkness, where the lamps are not. Everyone here has entered darkness, yet no-one has entered it alone. For he has come with Heaven's Help within him, ready to lead him OUT of darkness into light at any time.

## THE JOINING OF MINDS

You makers of a world that is not so, take rest and comfort in another world where peace abides.

Who would attack whatever he perceives as wholly innocent? And who, BECAUSE he wishes to attack, can fail to think it must be guilty to deserve the wish and leave him innocent? And who would see the Son of God as innocent, and wish him dead? Christ stands before you both, each time you look on one another. He has not gone because your eyes are closed. But what is there to see by searching for your Saviour, seeing Him through sightless eyes?

## THE JUSTICE OF GOD

No one who carries Christ in him can fail to recognize Him everywhere. Except in bodies. And as long as he believes he is in a body, where he thinks he is He cannot be. And so he carries Him unknowingly, and does not make Him manifest. And thus he does not recognize Him where He is.

## The Link to Truth

You and your brother are the same as God Himself is One, and not divided in His Will. And you must have one purpose, since He gave the same to both of you. His Will is brought together as you join in will, that you be made complete by offering completion to your brother. See not in him the sinfulness he sees, but give him honor that you may esteem yourself and him. To you and your brother is given the power of salvation, that escape from darkness into light be yours to share; that you may see as one what never has been separate, nor apart from all God's Love as given equally.

## Perception and Choice

This is in accord with perception's fundamental law: You see what you believe is there, and you believe it there because you want it there.

The lamps of Heaven are not for mind to choose to see them where it will. If it elects to see them elsewhere from their home, as if they lit a place where they could never be, then must the Maker of the world correct your error, lest you remain in darkness where the lamps are not. Everyone here has entered darkness, yet no one has entered it alone. Nor need he stay more than an instant. For he has come with Heaven's Help within him, ready to lead him out of darkness into light at any time.

## The Light You Bring

You maker of a world that is not so, take rest and comfort in another world where peace abides.

Who would attack whatever he perceives as wholly innocent? And who, because he wishes to attack, can fail to think he must be guilty to maintain the wish, while wanting innocence? For who could see the Son of God as innocent and wish him dead? Christ stands before you, each time you look upon your brother. He has not gone because your eyes are closed. But what is there to see by searching for your Savior, seeing Him through sightless eyes?

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

And this is seen and understood as each one takes his part in its undoing, as he did in making it. He has the means for either, as he always did.

This is the function given each of you for one another. Take it gently, then, from one another's hand, and let salvation be perfectly fulfilled in both of you. Do this ONE thing, that everything be given you.

Commuting the Sentence

And if the Holy Spirit can commute each sentence that you laid upon yourself into a blessing, then it cannot be a sin. Sin is the one thing in all the world that CANNOT change.

The Principle of Salvation

No further than what you see He offers you, and what you recognize you could not give yourself.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

And nothing that you think you see in it is really there at all. This is seen and understood as each one takes his part in its undoing, as he did in making it. He has the means for either, as he always did.

This is the function given you for your brother. Take it gently, then, from your brother's hand, and let salvation be perfectly fulfilled in you. Do this one thing, that everything be given you.

The Rock of Salvation

Yet if the Holy Spirit can commute each sentence that you laid upon yourself into a blessing, then it cannot be a sin. Sin is the only thing in all the world that cannot change.

Justice Returned to Love

No more than what you see He offers you, and what you recognize you could not give yourself.



**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

**THE SECOND EDITION**

The "Sacrifice" of Oneness

- NOT FOUND -

The Forms of Error

Many Forms; One Correction

ALL illusions are but one. And in the recognition this is so, lies the ability to give up all attempts to choose between them, and to MAKE them different. There IS no conflict here. No sacrifice is possible in the relinquishment of an illusion RECOGNIZED as such

All illusions are but one. And in the recognition this is so lies the ability to give up all attempts to choose between them, and to make them different. How simple is the choice between two things so clearly unlike. There is no conflict here. No sacrifice is possible in the relinquishment of an illusion recognized as such.

And so is all time passed, and everything exactly as it was before the way to nothingness was made.

And so is all time past, and everything exactly as it was before the way to nothingness was made.

You keep an ancient memory before your eyes. And he who lives in memories alone is unaware of where he is. Is this a HINDRANCE to the place whereon he stands? Is any echo from the past that he may hear a fact in what is there to hear where he is now? And how much can his own delusions about time and place affect a change in where he really is?

You keep an ancient memory before your eyes. And he who lives in memories alone is unaware of where he is. Forgiveness is the great release from time. It is the key to learning that the past is over. Madness speaks no more. There is no other teacher and no other way. For what has been undone no longer is. 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? How real a hindrance can this dream be to where he really is? For this is fact, and does not change whatever dreams he has. Yet can he still imagine he is elsewhere, and in another time. In the extreme, he can delude himself that this is true, and pass from mere imagining into belief and into madness, quite convinced that where he would prefer to be, he is.

Is this a hindrance to the place whereon he stands? Is any echo from the past that he may hear a fact in what is there to hear where he is now? And how much can his own illusions about time and place effect a change in where he really is?

Such is the justice your Ever-Loving Father has ensured must come to you.

Such is the justice your All-Loving Father has ensured must come to you.

Would God allow His Son to lose his way along a road long since a memory of time gone by? A dreadful instant in a distant past, now perfectly corrected, is of no concern nor value.

Would God allow His Son to lose his way along a road long since a memory of time gone by? This course will teach you only what is now. A dreadful instant in a distant past, now perfectly corrected, is of no concern nor value.

Each day, and every minute in each day, and every instant that each minute holds, you but relive the single instant when the time of terror was replaced by love. And so you die each day to live again, until you cross the gap between past and present, which is not a gap at all. 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, which cannot BE relived. And all of time is but the mad belief that what is over is still here and now.

Each day, and every minute in each day, and every instant that each minute holds, you but relive the single instant when the time of terror took the place of love. 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. 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. And all of time is but the mad belief that what is over is still here and now.

Review of Principles

The Laws of Healing

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

The Son of God perceives what he would see because perception IS a wish fulfilled.

God's answer is eternal, though it operates in time, where it is needed.

If loss in any form is possible, then is God's Son made incomplete and not himself. He has foresworn his Father AND himself, and made them both his enemies in hate.

The one remaining problem that you have is that you see an interval between the time when you forgive, and will receive the benefits of trust. This but reflects the little you would keep between yourselves, that you might be a little separate. For time and space are one illusion, which takes different forms. If it has been projected beyond your minds, you think of it as time. The nearer it is brought to where it is, the more you think of it in terms of space.

If you would keep a little space between you still, you want a little time in which forgiveness is withheld a little while. This makes the interval between the time in which forgiveness is withheld and given seem dangerous, with terror justified.

Yet space between you is apparent NOW, and cannot be perceived in future time.

**The Remaining Task**

The world grows dim and threatening, and not a trace of all the happy sparkle that salvation brought can you perceive, to lighten up your way.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

The Son of God perceived what he would see because perception is a wish fulfilled.

God's answer is eternal, though it works in time, where it is needed.

If loss in any form is possible, then is God's Son made incomplete and not himself. Nor will he know himself, nor recognize his will. He has forsworn his Father and himself, and made Them both his enemies in hate.

The one remaining problem that you have is that you see an interval between the time when you forgive, and will receive the benefits of trusting in your brother. This but reflects the little you would keep between you and your brother, that you and he might be a little separate. For time and space are one illusion, which takes different forms. If it has been projected beyond your mind you think of it as time. The nearer it is brought to where it is, the more you think of it in terms of space.

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. And this but makes the interval between the time in which forgiveness is withheld from you and given seem dangerous, with terror justified.

Yet space between you and your brother is apparent only in the present, now, and cannot be perceived in future time.

**The End of Injustice**

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.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

THE SECOND EDITION

THE BODY AND THE DREAM

THE HEALING OF THE DREAM

- NOT FOUND -

The Picture of Crucifixion

Now in the hands made gently by His touch, the Holy Spirit lays a picture of a different you.

Now in the hands made gentle by His touch, the Holy Spirit lays a picture of a different you.

It stands apart from all experience of fear or love.

It stands apart from all experience of love or fear.

THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE FOUND **ONLY** IN THE SECOND EDITION

Correction is not your function. It belongs to One Who knows of fairness, not of guilt. If you assume correction's role, you lose the function of forgiveness. No one can forgive until he learns correction is but to forgive, and never to accuse. Alone, you cannot see they are the same, and therefore is correction not of you. Identity and function are the same, and by your function do you know yourself. And thus, if you confuse your function with the function of Another, you must be confused about yourself and who you are. What is the separation but a wish to take God's function from Him and deny that it is His? Yet if it is not His it is not yours, for you must lose what you would take away.

In a split mind, identity must seem to be divided. Nor can anyone perceive a function unified which has conflicting purposes and different ends. Correction, to a mind so split, must be a way to punish sins you think are yours in someone else. And thus does he become your victim, not your brother, different from you in that he is more guilty, thus in need of your correction, as the one more innocent than he. This splits his function off from yours, and gives you both a different role. And so you cannot be perceived as one, and with a single function that would mean a shared identity with but one end.

Correction you would do must separate, because that is the function given it by you. When you perceive correction is the same as pardon, then you also know the Holy Spirit's Mind and yours are one. And so your own Identity is found. Yet must He work with what is given Him, and you allow Him only half your mind. And thus He represents the other half, and seems to have a different purpose from the one you cherish, and you think is yours. Thus does your function seem divided, with a half in opposition to a half. And these two halves appear to represent a split within a self perceived as two.

What is condemned can never be returned to its accuser, who hated it, and hates it still.

What is condemned can never be returned to its accuser, who had hated it, and hates it still as symbol of his fear.

And this He does by giving both of you a function that is one, not different.

And this He does by giving you and him a function that is one, not different.

His inability to see His goal divided and distinct for each of you preserves your Self from being made aware of any function other than Its Own. And thus is healing given both of you.

His inability to see His goal divided and distinct for you and him, preserves yourself from the awareness of a function not your own. And thus is healing given you and him.

It is here that all your problems should be brought and LEFT. Here they belong, for here their answer is.

It is here that all your problems should be brought and left. Here they belong, for here their answer is. And where its answer is, a problem must be simple and be easily resolved.

The Purpose of Pain

The Witnesses to Sin

The One Who brings the miracle perceived them all as one, and called by name of fear.

The One Who brings the miracle perceives them all as one, and called by name of fear.

The Illusion of Suffering

The Dreamer of the Dream

This is how ALL illusions come about.

This is how all illusions came about.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

What could you choose between BUT life or death, waking or sleeping, peace or war, your dreams or your reality?

Yet if the choice is really given you, then you must see the causes of the things you choose between exactly AS they are and

unless a gentler dream preceded his awaking, and allowed his calmer mind to welcome, not to fear, the Voice That calls with love to waken him

THE SYMBOL OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

And thus is God left free to take the final step Himself.

The world can only ask a double question, with many answers, none of which will do.

so are the answers to the questions of the world contained within the questions.

Health is the witness unto health. As long as it is unattested, it remains without conviction. Only when demonstrated has it been proved, and MUST compel belief.

and He will do the rest. And thus the power of your learning will be proved to you by all the many different witnesses it finds.

THE SECOND EDITION

What could you choose between but life or death, waking or sleeping, peace or war, your dreams or your reality? There is a risk of thinking death is peace, because the world equates the body with the Self Which God created. Yet a thing can never be its opposite. And death is opposite to peace, because it is the opposite of life. And life is peace. Awaken and forget all thoughts of death, and you will find you have the peace of God. Yet if the choice is really given you, then you must see the causes of the things you choose between exactly as they are and

unless a gentler dream preceded his awaking, and allowed his calmer mind to welcome, not to fear, the Voice that calls with love to waken him; a gentler dream, in which his suffering was healed and where his brother was his friend

BEYOND ALL SYMBOLS

And thus is God left free to take the final step Himself. For this you need no pictures and no learning aids.

The world can only ask a double question. One with many answers can have no answers. None of them will do.

so are the answers to the questions of the world contained within the questions that are asked.

Health is the witness unto health. As long as it is unattested, it remains without conviction. Only when it has been demonstrated is it proved, and must provide a witness that compels belief.

and He will do the rest. And it is thus the power of your learning will be proved to you by all the many different witnesses it finds.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

And if it seems to serve to cherish ancient hate, and offers you the pictures of injustices and hurts which you were saving, this is what you asked its message be, and this is what it is.

He to Whom time is given offers thanks for every quiet instant given Him. For in that instant is His memory allowed to offer all its treasures to the Son of God, for whom they have been kept.

Now does he understand what he has made is causeless, making no effects at all.

Be not afraid, but let your world be lit by miracles. And where the gap was seen to stand between you, join your brother there. And sickness will be seen WITHOUT a cause.

What is a sense of sickness but a sense of limitation? Of a splitting OFF and separating FROM? A gap perceived between yourselves and what is seen as health? The good is seen outside; the evil, in. And thus is sickness separating off the self from good, and keeping evil in.

You who believe there IS a little gap between you, do not understand that it is here that you are kept as prisoners in a world perceived to be existing here.

You send it forth to seek for separation and to be a separate thing.

The Beautiful Relationship

For healing will be one or not at all, its oneness being where the healing lies.

**THE SECOND EDITION**

And if it seems to serve to cherish ancient hate, and gives you pictures of injustices and hurts that you were saving, this is what you asked its message be and that it is.

He to Whom time is given offers thanks for every quiet instant given Him. For in that instant is God's memory allowed to offer all its treasures to the Son of God, for whom they have been kept.

Now does he understand what he has made is causeless, having no effects at all.

Be not afraid, my child, but let your world be gently lit by miracles. And where the little gap was seen to stand between you and your brother, join him there. And so sickness will now be seen without a cause.

What is a sense of sickness but a sense of limitation? Of a splitting off and separating from? A gap that is perceived between you and your brother, and what is now seen as health? And so the good is seen to be outside; the evil, in. And thus is sickness separating off the self from good, and keeping evil in.

You who believe there is a little gap between you and your brother, do not see that it is here you are as prisoners in a world perceived to be existing here.

You send it forth to seek for separation and be separate.

The Ark of Safety

For healing will be one or not at all, its oneness being where the healing is.

**JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES**

**THE SECOND EDITION**

But not without a gap between you, lest he turn again into an enemy. A cautious friendship, limited in scope and carefully restricted in amount, became the treaty you had made with him. You shared a qualified entente, in which a clause of separation was a point on which you both agreed to keep intact.

But not without a gap perceived between you and him, lest he turn again into an enemy. Let him come close to you, and you jumped back; as you approached, did he but instantly withdraw. A cautious friendship, and limited in scope and carefully restricted in amount, became the treaty that you had made with him. 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.

The Closing of the Gap

The gap between you is not one of space between two separate bodies. This but seems to be dividing off your separate minds. It is the symbol of a promise made to meet when you prefer, and separate until you both elect to meet again. And then your bodies seem to get in touch, and signify a meeting-place to join. But always is it possible to go your separate ways. Conditional upon the "right" to separate will you agree to meet from time to time, and keep apart in intervals of separation, which protect you from the "sacrifice" of love. The body SAVES you, for it gets away from total sacrifice, and gives you time in which to build again your separate selves, which you believe diminish as you meet.

The gap between you and your brother is not one of space between two separate bodies. And this but seems to be dividing off your separate minds. It is the symbol of a promise made to meet when you prefer, and separate till you and he elect to meet again. And then your bodies seem to get in touch, and thereby signify a meeting place to join. But always is it possible for you and him to go your separate ways. Conditional upon the "right" to separate will you and he agree to meet from time to time, and keep apart in intervals of separation, which do protect you from the "sacrifice" of love. The body saves you, for it 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.

Such is the promise of the loving God; His Son have life and every living thing be part of him, and nothing else have life.

Such is the promise of the living God; His Son have life and every living thing be part of him, and nothing else have life.

They hold no sword, for they have left their hold on every vain illusion of the world. And being empty, they received, instead, a brother's hand in which completion lay.

They hold no sword, for they have left their hold on every vain illusion of the world. And being empty they receive, instead, a brother's hand in which completion lies.

Forgiveness and Peace

All things that come and go, the tides, the seasons, and the lives of man; all things that change with time, and bloom and fade, will not return. Where time has set an end is not where the eternal is. God's Son can never change by what man made of him.

Forgiveness and the End of Time

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. Where time has set an end is not where the eternal is. God's Son can never change by what men made of him.

The Lingering Illusion

Save time, my brothers; learn what time is FOR. And speed the end of idols in a world made sad and sick by seeing idols there. Your holy minds are altars unto God,

Seek Not Outside Yourself

Save time, my brother; learn what time is for. And speed the end of idols in a world made sad and sick by seeing idols there. Your holy mind is altar unto God,

Christ and Anti-Christ

Yet is the real world unaffected by the world he thinks is real. Nor have its laws been changed because he did not understand

The Anti-Christ

Yet is the real world unaffected by the world he thinks is real. Nor have its laws been changed because he does not understand.

JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

THE SECOND EDITION

"Today I will make no decision by myself."

Today I will make no decisions by myself.

"If I make no decision by myself,  
This is the kind of day that will be GIVEN me."

If I make no decisions by myself, this is the  
day that will be given me.

Now you need a quick restorative before you ask.

Now you need a quick restorative before you ask again.

The day you want you offer to the world, for it will be what you  
have asked for, and will reinforce the rules of your advisor in the  
world.

The day you want you offer to the world, for it will be what you  
have asked for, and will reinforce the rule of your advisor in the  
world.

Remember He Who has created you,

Remember Him Who has created you,

So high in Heaven it is set that those outside of Heaven know not  
it is there.

So high in Heaven is it set that those outside of Heaven know  
not it is there.

But those who seek for idols cannot know this star is there.

But those who seek for idols cannot know the star is there.

They are but toys, my children. Do not grieve for them.

They are but toys, my child, so do not grieve for them.

Fear is not its goal, and the ESCAPE from guilt becomes its aim.

Fear is not its goal, for the escape from guilt becomes its aim.

Look forward, then, and walk in confidence, with happy hearts that  
beat in hope and do not pound in fear.

Look forward, then; in confidence walk with a happy heart that  
beats in hope and does not pound in fear.

Nor will you know him, if you think he does not merit the escape  
from guilt in ALL its forms and ALL its consequence.

Nor will you know him, if you think he does not merit the  
escape from guilt in all its consequences and its forms.

## JESUS' COURSE IN MIRACLES

## THE SECOND EDITION

## THE SIMPLICITY OF SALVATION

## The Illusion of an Enemy

He asks and you receive, for you have come with but one purpose; that you both may learn you love each other with a brother's love. And as a brother, must his Father be the same as yours, as he is like yourself.

The mind that thinks it is a sin has but one purpose; that the body be the source of sin, and keep it in the prison-house it chose and guards, and hold itself at bay, a sleeping prisoner to the snarling dogs of hate and evil, sickness and attack;

How utterly opposed to truth is this, when what the lesson's purpose is to teach that what your brother loses YOU have lost, and what he gains is what is given YOU.

You can be neither blamed for what you are, nor can you change the things it makes you do. And you are each the symbol of your sins to one another, silently, and yet with ceaseless urgency, condemning still your brother for the hated thing you are.

Does HE react for YOU? And did he know exactly what would happen? Could he see your future and ordain, before it came, what you should do in every circumstance?

Salvation is undoing of all this. And constancy arises in the sight of those whose eyes salvation has released from looking at the cost of keeping guilt, because they chose to let it go instead.

No longer did you choose that you should be the sign of evil and of guilt in him. And as you gave your trust to what is good in him, you gave it to the good in you.

The holy ones whom God has given each of you to save are everyone you meet or look upon, not knowing who they are;

For vision CAN but represent a wish, because it has no power to create.

He would not leave one source of pain unhealed, nor any image left to veil the truth. He would not leave you comfortless, alone in dreams of hell, but would release your minds from everything that hides His face from you.

The Saviours of the world, who see like Him, are merely those who chose His strength instead of their own weakness, seen apart from Him.

## THE FINAL VISION

## The Simplicity of Salvation

## Walking with Christ

He asks and you receive, for you have come with but one purpose; that you learn you love your brother with a brother's love. And as a brother, must his Father be the same as yours, as he is like yourself in truth.

The mind that thinks it is a sin has but one purpose; that the body be the source of sin, to keep it in the prison house it chose and guards and holds itself at bay, a sleeping prisoner to the snarling dogs of hate and evil,

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 he gains is what is given you.

You can be neither blamed for what you are, nor can you change the things it makes you do. Your brother then is symbol of your sins to you who are but silently, and yet with ceaseless urgency, condemning still your brother for the hated thing you are.

Does he react for you? And does he know exactly what would happen? Can he see your future and ordain, before it comes, what you should do in every circumstance?

Salvation is undoing of all this. For constancy arises in the sight of those whose eyes salvation has released from looking at the cost of keeping guilt, because they chose to let it go instead.

No longer do you choose that you should be the sign of evil and of guilt in him. And as you give your trust to what is good in him, you give it to the good in you.

The holy ones whom God has given you to save are but everyone you meet or look upon, not knowing who they are;

For seeing can but represent a wish, because it has no power to create.

He would not leave one source of pain unhealed, nor any image left to veil the truth. He would remove all misery from you whom God created altar unto joy. He would not leave you comfortless, alone in dreams of hell, but would release your mind from everything that hides His face from you.

The saviors of the world, who see like Him, are merely those who choose His strength instead of their own weakness, seen apart from Him.