

Title: A COURSE IN MIRACLES FOR DUMMIES

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PREFACE

What I did and why?

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

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

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

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

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

INTRODUCTION

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

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

2 Nothing real can be threatened.

3 Nothing unreal exists.

4 Herein lies the peace of God.

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

Chapter 1.

THE MEANING OF MIRACLES

I. Principles of Miracles

Note # 2: This section, entitled “Principles of Miracles,” forms the basis for the text. This being the case, we have not attempted to add detailed explanations after each paragraph

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

T-1.I.8. Miracles are healing because they supply a lack; **Miracles** are performed by those who temporarily have more for those who temporarily have less.

T-1.I.9. Miracles are a kind of exchange. 2 Like all expressions of love, which are always miraculous in the true sense, the exchange reverses the physical laws. 3 **Miracles** bring more love both to the giver *<and>* the receiver.

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

Note # 3: Miracles are a change in perception within the mind of the individual involved. As such, there may be no observable change in the physical realm.

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

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

T-1.I.12. Miracles are thoughts. 2 Thoughts can represent the lower or bodily level of experience, or **thoughts can represent** the higher or spiritual level of experience. 3 One (**ego or body level**) makes the physical, and the other (**spiritual level**) creates the spiritual.
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T-1.I.13. Miracles are both beginnings and endings, and so **miracles** alter the temporal order. 2 **Miracles** are always affirmations of rebirth, which seem to go back but really go forward. 3 **Miracles** undo the past in the present, and thus release the future.

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

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

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

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

T-1.I.16. Miracles are teaching devices for demonstrating it is as blessed to give as to receive. 2 **Miracles** simultaneously increase the strength of the giver and supply strength to the receiver.

T-1.I.17. Miracles transcend the body. 2 **Miracles** are sudden shifts into invisibility, away from the bodily level. 3 That is why **miracles** heal.

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

T-1.I.18. A miracle is a service. 2 **A miracle** is the maximal service you can render to another. 3 **A miracle** is a way of loving your neighbor as yourself. 4 **In a miracle**, you recognize your own and your neighbor's worth simultaneously.

T-1.I.19. Miracles make minds one in God. 2 **Miracles** depend on cooperation because the Sonship is the sum of all that God created. 3 Miracles therefore reflect the laws of eternity, not **the laws** of time.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note # 10: The miracle corrects errors in our perception. The miracle transforms an experience that we perceived through fearful eyes and realigns our understanding of that same experience with true perception. This transformation takes place at the level of the mind, which is where the error originally occurred.

T-1.I.24. Miracles enable you to heal the sick and raise the dead because you made sickness and death yourself, and **you** can therefore abolish both **sickness and death**. 2 You are a miracle, capable of creating in the likeness of your Creator. 3 Everything else **that is made by you not in the likeness of your Creator** is your own nightmare, and does not exist. 4 Only the creations of light are real.

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

T-1.I.25. Miracles are part of an interlocking chain of forgiveness which, when completed, is the Atonement. 2 Atonement works all the time and in all the dimensions of time. p4

T-1.I.26. Miracles represent freedom from fear. 2 "Atoning" means "undoing." 3 The undoing of fear is an essential part of the Atonement value of miracles.

T-1.I.27. A miracle is a universal blessing from God through me, **who you historically have known by the name of Jesus, which represents the Christ consciousness**, to all my brothers. 2 **This universal blessing, which is the miracle**, is the privilege of the forgiven to forgive.

T-1.I.28. Miracles are a way of earning release from fear. 2 Revelation induces a state in which fear has already been abolished. 3 Miracles are thus a means and revelation is an end.

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

T-1.I.29. Miracles praise God through you. 2 **Miracles** praise **God** by honoring **God's** creations, **thus** affirming **the** perfection of **God's** creations. 3 **Miracles** heal because **miracles** deny body-identification and affirm spirit-identification.

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

T-1.I.30. By recognizing spirit, miracles adjust the levels of perception and show **the levels of perception** in proper alignment. 2 This places spirit at the center, where **spirit** can communicate directly.

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

T-1.I.31. Miracles should inspire gratitude, not awe. 2 You should thank God for what you really are, **which is your spiritual essence as a child of God.** 3 The children of God are holy and the miracle honors their holiness. Your holiness as a child of God can be hidden **or forgotten by you**, but **your holiness can never be** lost.

NOTE # 15: We can forget who we are (God's children) but we will always be Sons of God. Our divine inheritance is never lost. We have just temporarily forgotten to claim it. Our divine inheritance as God's children is always available to us. God never takes our inheritance away since God only see us as God created us, always perfect, whole and complete.

T-1.I.32. I, **who represents the Christ consciousness**, inspire all miracles, which are really intercessions. 2 **Miracles** intercede for your holiness and make your perceptions holy. 3 By placing you beyond the physical laws, **miracles** raise you into the sphere of celestial order. 4 In this **celestial order of unlimited spirit** you *<are>* perfect.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note # 20: Miracles correct misperceptions and allow for our experience to align with what is the truth.

T-1.I.37. A miracle is a correction introduced into false thinking by me, **who represents the Christ consciousness.** 2 **The miracle** acts as a catalyst **by** breaking up erroneous perception and reorganizing the **erroneous perception** properly. 3 This places you under the Atonement principle, where **the erroneous** perception is healed. 4 Until this **placing of yourself under the Atonement principle** has occurred, knowledge of the Divine Order is impossible.

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

T-1.I.38. The Holy Spirit is the mechanism of miracles. 2 **The Holy Spirit** recognizes both God's creations and your illusions. p5 3 **The Holy Spirit** separates the true from the false by **the Holy Spirit’s** ability to perceive totally rather than selectively.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

T-1.I.42. A major contribution of miracles is their strength in releasing you from your false sense of isolation, deprivation and lack.

T-1.I.43. Miracles arise from a miraculous state of mind, or a state of miracle-readiness.

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

T-1.I.45. A miracle is never lost. **2 A miracle** may touch many people you have not even met, and produce undreamed of changes in situations of which you are not even aware.

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

T-1.I.46. The Holy Spirit is the highest communication medium. **2** Miracles do not involve this **highest** type of communication, because **miracles** are <temporary> communication devices. **3** When you return to your original form of communication with God by direct revelation, the need for miracles is over.

T-1.I.47. The miracle is a learning device that lessens the need for time. **2 The miracle** establishes an out-of-pattern time interval not under the usual laws of time. **3** In this sense **the miracle** is timeless.

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

T-1.I.48. The miracle is the only device at your immediate disposal for controlling time. 2 Only revelation transcends **time, since revelation has** nothing to do with time at all.

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

T-1.I.49. The miracle makes no distinction among degrees of misperception. 2 **The miracle** is a device for perception correction, effective quite apart from either the degree or the direction of the error. 3 This **lack of distinction among degrees of misperception is the miracles** true indiscriminateness.

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

T-1.I.50. The miracle compares what you have made with creation, accepting what is in accord with **creation** as true, and rejecting what is out of accord **with creation** as false.

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

God is only perfect love and thus, could know nothing that could be fearful, limited or lacking. When God created the Sonship, His creation was the perfect extension of God, Himself. An extension is part of, not separate from, its source. Love, which is both extension and inclusion, are not part of egoic thinking. Egoic making attempts to create an illusionary image that appears to confirm the erroneous belief that there is a separation between God and His Son. Making is the Sonship's attempt to take our mistaken perception about our imagined separation from the Oneness that we call God and make the separation appear real. Making appears to take place at the level of the physical body and is

observable by the physical eyes. When we utilize our egoic mind to make something that is not the extension of Love, we have miscreated. Miscreation cannot be real and only appears real within the mind of the deluded dreamer. Within the dream of separation from the Oneness, our egoic mind can believe that we have created something unlike the Oneness of the Mind of God. Since creation is the extension of the Oneness that is the Mind of God, there could be nothing outside this One Self. The Sonship's belief that he is separate from his source is a false fantasy. A fantasy cannot change the truth and thus, this dream is not real. Truth is real and truth cannot change. This egoic "making" of an illusionary dream world that is "something apart from God" can exist only in the make-believe world of our egoic mind. Because we have been given free will, we are able to imagine a dream about anything we like, but our dream cannot change the truth of "All That Is." In the dream world of the egoic body-mind, we can pretend that anything, including limitation, separation and lack are real. Yet, a mistaken belief in the false cannot change the changeless truth that we are an indivisible part of the One Self that is the Mind of God.

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

II. Revelation, Time and Miracles

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

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

T-1.II.2. Revelation is intensely personal and cannot be meaningfully translated. 2 That is why any attempt to describe **revelation** in words is impossible. 3 Revelation

induces only experience. 4 Miracles, on the other hand, induce action. 5 **Miracles** are more useful now because of their interpersonal nature. 6 In this phase of learning, working miracles is important because freedom from fear cannot be thrust upon you. 7 Revelation is literally unspeakable because **revelation** is an experience of unspeakable love.

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

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

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

T-1.II.4. "No man cometh unto the Father but by me" does not mean that I, **whom you call by the name of Jesus,** am in any way separate or different from you except in time, and time does not really exist. 2 The statement, "**No man cometh unto the Father but by me**", is more meaningful in terms of a vertical rather than a horizontal axis. p7 3 You stand below me and I stand below God. 4 In the process of "rising up," I am higher because without me the distance between God and man would be too great for you to encompass. 5 I bridge the distance as an elder brother to you on the one hand, and as a Son of God on the other. 6 My devotion to my brothers has placed me in charge of the Sonship, which I render complete because I share **in the Sonship.** 7 This may appear to contradict the statement "I and my Father are one," but there are two parts to the statement in recognition that the Father is greater.

Note # 34: Jesus states that the following two statements, "No man cometh unto the Father but by me" and "I and my Father are one," appear to be contradictory but are not. The first statement demonstrates that we need the help of our elder brother, Jesus, to clear our path back to the knowledge of God. The second statement indicates that creation is extension and thus, there can be no separation between God and His Creation. God is Cause and we

are His Effect. As such, we are intertwined and inseparable. The only difference between God and the Sonship is that the Father is the first Cause. We, being an extension, have the same power to co-create with God.

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

Note # 35: Revelation is a one-way street. The flow is always from God to His Creations.

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

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

III. Atonement and Miracles

T-1.III.1. I am in charge of the process of Atonement, which I undertook to begin. 2 When you offer a miracle to any of my brothers, you do it to <yourself> and me. 3 The reason you come before me is that I do not need miracles for my own Atonement, but I stand at the end in case you fail temporarily. 4 My part in the Atonement is the canceling out of all errors that you could not otherwise correct. p8 5 When you have been restored to the recognition of your original state **before the separation**, you naturally become part of the Atonement yourself. 6 As you share my unwillingness to accept error in yourself and

others, you must join the great crusade to correct **errors in yourself and others**; listen to my voice, learn to undo error and act to correct **error**. 7 The power to work miracles belongs to you. 8 I will provide the opportunities to do **miracles**, but you must be ready and willing to do **the miracles**. 9 Doing **the miracles** will bring conviction in the ability **you process to do miracles**, because conviction comes through accomplishment. 10 **In regards to performing miracles**, the ability is the potential, the achievement is its expression, and the Atonement, which is the natural profession of the children of God, is the purpose **of miracles**.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Note # 40: We need guidance from someone who has the both the road map and the ability to successfully read the map. Jesus or the Holy Spirit can provide this guidance. Our egoic mind lacks both the map and the ability to read it.

T-1.III.5. Error cannot really threaten truth, **for truth** can always withstand **error**. 2 Only the error, **not truth**, is actually vulnerable. 3 You are free to establish your kingdom where you see fit, but the right choice **for determining where you place your kingdom** is inevitable if you remember this: p9

4 Spirit is in a state of grace forever.

5 Your reality is only spirit.

6 Therefore you are in a state of grace forever.

7 Atonement undoes all errors in this respect **that you believe in the false** and thus uproots the source of fear. 8 Whenever you experience God's reassurances as threat, **this supposed threat** is always because you are defending misplaced or misdirected loyalty. 9 When you project **misplaced loyalty** to others you imprison them, but only to the extent to which you reinforce errors **the others** have already made. 10 This makes **the others** vulnerable to the distortions of other **ego bodies**, since their own perception of themselves is distorted. 11 The miracle worker can only bless them, and this undoes their distortions and frees them from prison.

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

T-1.III.6. You respond to what you perceive, and as you perceive so shall you behave. 2 The Golden Rule asks you to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. 3 This means that the perception of both **you and the others** must be accurate. 4 The Golden Rule is the rule for appropriate behavior. 5 You cannot behave appropriately unless you perceive correctly 6 Since you and your neighbor are equal members of one family, as you perceive both **you and your neighbor** so you will do to both **you and your neighbor**. 7 You should look out from the perception of your own holiness to the holiness of others.

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

T-1.III.7. Miracles arise from a mind that is ready for **miracles**. 2 By being united this mind **that is ready for miracles** goes out to everyone, even without the awareness of the

miracle worker himself. 3 The impersonal nature of miracles is because the Atonement itself is one, uniting all creations with their Creator. 4 As an expression of what you truly are **which is the Son of God**, the miracle places the mind in a state of grace. 5 The mind then naturally welcomes the Host within and the stranger without. 6 When you bring in the stranger, he becomes your brother.

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

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

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

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

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

IV. The Escape from Darkness

T-1.IV.1. The escape from darkness involves two stages: First, the recognition that darkness cannot hide. 2 This step, **the recognition that darkness cannot hide**, usually entails fear. 3 Second, the recognition that there is nothing you want to hide even if you

could. 4 This **second step that there is nothing you want to hide even if you could** brings escape from fear. 5 When you have become willing to hide nothing, you will not only be willing to enter into communion but will also understand peace and joy.

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

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

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

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

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

T-1.IV.4. The emptiness engendered by fear must be replaced by forgiveness. 2 That is what the Bible means by "There is no death," and why I could demonstrate that death does not exist **by my crucifixion and resurrection**. 3 I came to fulfill the law by reinterpreting **the law**. p11 4 The law itself, if properly understood, offers only protection. 5 It is those who have not yet changed their minds **and thus are still engendered by fear**, who brought the "hell-fire" concept **into their interpretation of the law**. 6 I assure you that I will witness for anyone who lets me, and to whatever extent he permits **me to witness**. 7 Your witnessing **by replacing your fear with forgiveness** demonstrates your

belief in the **reinterpretation of the law**, and thus strengthens the law **by replacing fear with forgiveness**. 8 Those who witness for me are expressing, through their miracles, that they have abandoned the belief in deprivation in favor of the abundance they, **who witness for me** have learned belongs to them.

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

V. Wholeness and Spirit

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

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

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

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

T-1.V.3. When the Atonement has been completed, all talents will be shared by all the Sons of God. 2 God is not partial. 3 All His children have His total Love, and all His

gifts are freely given to everyone alike. 4 "Except ye become as little children" means that unless you fully recognize your complete dependence on God, you cannot know the real power of the Son in his true relationship with the Father. 5 The specialness of God's Sons does not stem from exclusion but from inclusion. 6 All my brothers are special. 7 If **my brothers** believe they are deprived of anything, **my brother's** perception becomes distorted. 8 When this occurs **and my brother's perception becomes distorted**, the whole family of God, or the Sonship, is impaired in its relationships. p12

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

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

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

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

NOTE # 54: The mind can either serve spirit or the ego. If the mind believes that it is an ego body in competition with other ego bodies, its viewpoint or belief comes from separation and lack. If the mind attempts to "create" from this egoic viewpoint, the only thing that it can "make" is something that is fear based and lacks wholeness. Thus, making is based on exclusion and is not true creation. True creation can only extend what it really is. Creation is love based and inclusive. Since your true nature is spirit, made holy in God's image, your true ability to create is like God's ability, which comes from abundance. When God extends Himself, He gives all because He is all. Nothing is held back. If the mind believes that it is a spirit, the mind comes under the direction of its true nature and creates

as the Son of God. Spirit's source is based upon our true reality and is changeless. As spirit, our true authority and power comes from God. Your ego's source comes from a false belief of who you are. Because your mind accepts your misperception that you are a separate ego-body, your mind believes it comes from lack. The ego is a tyrant because it believes in lack and its own vulnerability. The ego's authority is not based on truth. Instead, it is based on your false belief that you are a limited body. The ego tells you that you are not God's beloved Child and that you are different from what God created. The Holy Spirit will guide you to the truth that you can only be as God created you, an extension of God, Himself. You are perfect, whole and complete. You must decide if you will follow the thought system of the ego or the Holy Spirit's. Your mind cannot serve both. The Holy Spirit, Jesus and Christ consciousness all symbolizes the voice for the truth of our spiritual nature as God's beloved Creation.

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

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

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

VI. The Illusion of Needs

T-1.VI.1. You who want peace can find **peace** only by complete forgiveness. 2 No learning is acquired by anyone unless he wants to learn it and believes in some way that he needs **to learn** it. 3 While lack does not exist in the creation of God, **lack** is very apparent in what you have made. 4 **Lack** is, in fact, the essential difference between **God's creations and what you have made**. 5 Lack implies that you would be better off in a state somehow different from the one you are in. 6 Until the "separation," which is the meaning of the "fall," nothing was lacking. 7 There were no needs at all **because you were one and**

therefore were everything. 8 Needs arise only when you deprive yourself. 9 You act according to the particular order of needs you establish. p13 10 This, in turn, depends on your perception of what you are.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6 But:

*7 Only perfect love exists.
8 If there is fear,
fear produces a state that does not exist. p14*

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

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

VII. Distortions of Miracle Impulses

T-1.VII.1. Your distorted perceptions produce a dense cover over miracle impulses, making it hard for **miracle impulses** to reach your own awareness. 2 The confusion of miracle impulses with physical impulses is a major perceptual distortion. 3 Physical impulses are misdirected miracle impulses. 4 All real pleasure comes from doing God's Will. 5 This is because <not> doing **God's will** is a denial of **our true Self, which is your Big "S" Self**. 6 Denial of **our Big "S" Self** results in illusions, while correction of the error of denial of **our Big "S" Self** brings release from **illusion**. 7 Do not deceive yourself into believing that you can relate in peace to God or to your brothers with anything external.

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

T-1.VII.2. Child of God, you were created to create the good, the beautiful and the holy. 2 Do not forget this. 3 The Love of God, for a little while, must still be expressed through one body to another, because vision is still so dim. 4 You can use your body best to help you enlarge your perception so you can achieve real vision, of which the physical eye is incapable. 5 Learning to use **your body as a tool to help enlarge and correct your perception** is the body's only true usefulness.

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

T-1.VII.3. Fantasy is a distorted form of vision. 2 Fantasies of any kind are distortions, because **fantasies** always involve twisting perception into unreality. 3 Actions that stem from distortions are literally the reactions of those who know not what they do. 4 Fantasy is an attempt to control reality according to false needs. 5 **When you** twist reality in any way and you are perceiving destructively. 6 Fantasies are a means of making false associations and attempting to obtain pleasure from **these false associations**. 7 But although you can perceive false associations, you can never make **false associations** real except to yourself. 8 You believe in what you make. 9 If you offer miracles, you will be equally strong in your belief in **miracles**. 10 The strength of your conviction **in the miracle** will then sustain the belief of the miracle receiver. 11 Fantasies become totally unnecessary as the wholly satisfying nature of reality becomes apparent to both giver and receiver. 12 Reality is "lost" through usurpation, which produces tyranny. 13 As long as a single "slave" remains to walk the earth, your release is not complete. 14 Complete restoration of the Sonship is the only goal of the miracle-minded. p15

NOTE 62: Our true Self has forgotten that it is God's Child and believes itself to be an ego-body and thus, separate and limited. This mistaken belief allows our now "split" mind to come under the control of the ego. When we believe that we do not know what we are, our ego was manufactured in our imagination and moved into our deluded mind to fill this void. When we chose to forget who we were, we also lost knowledge of the truth. The ego

makes a world based of its belief in fear, limitation and separation. Fantasies are made up by the ego to give the illusion of separation the appearance of reality. The ego claims that it has the power to usurp or change, the Will of God. As long as any part of the Sonship is in denial of its Big “S” Self, the Sonship cannot be restored to knowledge.

T-1.VII.4. This is a course in mind training. 2 All learning involves attention and study at some level. 3 Some of the later parts of the course rest too heavily on these earlier sections not to require their careful study. 4 You will also need **the earlier section of the course** for preparation. 5 Without this **careful study of the early sections**, you may become much too fearful of what is to come to make constructive use of **the sections of the course that are to follow**. 6 However, as you study these earlier sections, you will begin to see some of the implications that will be amplified later on.

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

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

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