

Chapter 19.

THE ATTAINMENT OF PEACE

I. Healing and Faith

T-19.I.1. We said before that when a situation has been dedicated wholly to truth, peace is inevitable. 2 **Peace's** attainment is the criterion by which the wholeness of the dedication can be safely assumed. 3 Yet we also said that peace without faith will never be attained, for what is dedicated to truth as its only goal is brought to truth <by> faith. 4 This faith encompasses everyone involved, for only thus the situation is perceived as meaningful and as a whole. 5 And everyone must be involved in **your faith**, or else your faith is limited and your dedication incomplete.

Note # 1: Our inner peace is the criterion to determine if our actions and beliefs are in alignment with the thought system of the Holy Spirit. If our actions, beliefs and experiences are not currently bringing inner peace to our mind, we may wish to reexamine them and choose again.

Faith is our belief that we are unlimited spirit. We cannot see ourselves as an unlimited Oneness of Everything and still maintain that our brother is a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies. When we limit our brother to being the body, we accept the fact that we too must be identifying ourselves as the body. By giving, we receive and thoughts never leave their source.

T-19.I.2. Every situation, properly perceived, becomes an opportunity to heal the Son of God. 2 And **your brother** is healed <because> you offered faith to him, giving **your brother** to the Holy Spirit and releasing **your brother** from every demand your ego would make of him. 3 Thus do you see **your brother** free, and in this vision does the Holy Spirit share. 4 And since **the Holy Spirit** shares this **vision of freedom for your brother the Holy Spirit** has given **this vision to your brother**, and so **the Holy Spirit** heals through you. 5 It is this joining **with the Holy Spirit and your brother** in a united purpose that makes this purpose **of healing the Son of God** real, because you make it whole **by sharing the situation with the Holy Spirit and your brother**. 6 And this <is> healing. 7 The body is healed because you came without **the limitations of the body**, and joined the Mind in which all healing rests.

Note # 2: The body is a neutral learning device that lacks the power to be sick or to heal itself. It is our mind's thoughts that control how our body will respond. Healing always takes place at the level of mind. What is manifested at the bodily level is the effect of the mind's thinking, not the cause. All true healing takes place at the source or cause of the problem, which is the mind, not at the symptom level of the body. Masking the effect will not cure the source of the problem. Healing of the mind's identification as a separated limited ego-body is the cause of the problem. This is where the healing is needed. A healing of the mind may or may not result in a tangible cure of the physical symptoms. ACIM states that to base our judgment on the success or failure of a healing on the physical results at the bodily level is an egoic attempt to make the illusion of the body appear real. The healer has now identified someone as a body instead of unlimited spirit. Seeing an illusion as real, the healer is now the sick one in need of a healing.

T-19.I.3. The body cannot heal, because **the body** cannot make itself sick. 2 **The body** <needs> no healing. 3 **The body's** health or sickness depends entirely on how the

mind perceives **the body**, and the purpose that the mind would use **the body** for. 4 It is obvious that a segment of the mind can see itself as separated from the Universal Purpose. 5 When **a segment of the mind sees itself as separated from the Universal Purpose**, the body becomes **that segment of the mind's weapon, to be used against this Universal Purpose**, to demonstrate the "fact" that separation has occurred. 6 The body thus becomes the instrument of illusion, acting accordingly. **The body witnesses falsely on behalf of illusion by** seeing what is not there, hearing what truth has never said and behaving insanely. **The body has been imprisoned <by> the insanity of that segment of the mind that sees itself as separated from the Universal Purpose. This segment of the mind is our little "s" self we call the ego.**

Note # 3: The body is a neutral communication device. The ego utilizes the body as a symbol of sin and guilt and attempts to prove that the separation is real. The Holy Spirit utilizes the body to be a tool for communication to teach that only love is real. Communication involves joining and union. The body is used by the Holy Spirit to demonstrate the unity of the whole through the use of forgiveness of your brother and yourselves. The Universal purpose is to only be and teach love. While incarnate with a body in this time-space dimension, our function is forgiveness, our purpose is love, and our destiny is the perfect Peace of God. This is what the Holy Spirit utilizes "the body" to communicate. This returning of God's Son to correct perception is the Universal purpose.

T-19.I.4. Do not overlook our earlier statement that faithlessness leads straight to illusions. 2 For faithlessness is the perception of a brother as a body, and the body cannot be used for purposes of union. 3 If, then, you see your brother as a body, you have established a condition in which uniting with **your brother** becomes impossible. 4 Your faithlessness to **your brother** has separated you from him, and kept you both apart from being healed. p398 5 Your faithlessness has thus opposed the Holy Spirit's purpose, and brought illusions, centered on the body, to stand between you **and the truth**. 6 And the body will seem to be sick, for you have made of **the body** an "enemy" of healing and the opposite of truth.

Note # 4: Bodies cannot be joined. Faithlessness is the belief in illusions which makes the separation seem real. Faithlessness perceives the God's Son as being a body. By seeing our brother or ourselves as the body, we have attempted to make the false true. Form attempts to limit the unlimited. Our belief in the separation has caused our lack of faith in the truth that we are unlimited spirit. True healing, which is joining, cannot take place at the illusionary level of the body. Faith that our brother and we are unlimited spirit is required for the split-minded to be healed by the Holy Spirit.

T-19.I.5. It cannot be difficult to realize that faith must be the opposite of faithlessness. 2 Yet the difference in how **faith and faithlessness** operate is less apparent, though **this operational difference** follows directly from the fundamental difference in what **faith and faithlessness** are. 3 Faithlessness would always limit and attack; faith would remove all limitations and make whole. 4 Faithlessness would destroy and separate; faith would unite and heal. 5 Faithlessness would interpose illusions between the Son of God and his Creator; faith would remove all obstacles that seem to rise between **the Son of God and his Creator**. 6 Faithlessness is wholly dedicated to illusions; faith wholly to truth. 7 Partial dedication is impossible. 8 Truth is the absence of illusion; illusion the

absence of truth. 9 Both **truth and illusion** cannot be together, nor perceived in the same place. 10 To dedicate yourself to both **truth and illusion** is to set up a goal forever impossible to attain, for part of **the goal, the illusion**, is sought through the body. **The body** is thought of as a means for seeking out reality through attack. 11 The other part of **the goal, the return to truth**, would heal, and therefore calls upon the mind and not the body.

Note # 5: Faithlessness is dedicated to making illusions true. Faith calls only for the truth. Faith is the belief that only truth is real. The belief in illusion is faithlessness. Like illusions and truth, faith and faithlessness cannot coexist. If we insist on keeping some illusions, we are faithless. Wherever there is faithlessness, faith cannot be. They are mutually exclusive. There is no order of difficulty in miracles since the correction is always the same. Restore faith where faithlessness once was. All miracles do is simply to bring a false illusion to the light of truth. The illusion, which has no reality in the Mind of God, will disappear. Nothing is the stuff of which all illusions are comprised. Illusions only appear to have reality in the split mind of the dreamer. The faithlessness on the dreamer's part is what makes the illusion appear to be real.

T-19.I.6. The inevitable compromise **between the partial dedication to both truth and illusions** is the belief that the body must be healed, and not the mind. 2 For this divided goal **that the body must be healed, and not the mind** has given both **truth and illusion** an equal reality, which could be possible only if the mind is limited to the body and divided into little parts of seeming wholeness, but without connection. 3 This compromise that the body, not the mind needs healing, will not harm the body, but it *<will>* keep the **ego's** delusional thought system in the mind. 4 Here **in the mind**, then, is healing needed. 5 And it is here **in the mind** that healing *<is.>* 6 For God gave healing not apart from sickness, nor established remedy **in the body** where sickness cannot be. 7 The place for both sickness and healing are together **in the mind**, and when **sickness and healing** are seen together, all attempts to keep both truth and illusion in the mind, where both must be, are recognized as dedication to illusion; and given up when brought to truth, and seen as totally unreconcilable with truth, in any respect or in any way.

Note # 6: We cannot maintain both the belief that we are a being of unlimited spirit and that we also need to heal an illusionary body and then claim to only desire truth. These notions are contradictory. The body has no power to feel, heal or be sick. The power comes only from the mind. The body responds only to the orders that it receives from its controller, which is the mind. It is faithlessness, the mind's belief that the separation is real, that is the source of all sin, guilt and pain. Only by making the mind whole again will the split-mind be healed. Only when the mind is healed will the mind choose to change the commands that the mind sends to its communication device, called the body. The new orders will be based on truth, which is the thought system of the Holy Spirit. The healed mind will reject the ego's thought system that is based on the illusion that we are the body. How can someone heal a body that only exists as a projection of the mind? All healing occurs at the level of the mind since only mind is real.

T-19.I.7. Truth and illusion have no connection. 2 This will remain forever true, however much you seek to connect **truth and illusion**. 3 But illusions are always connected **to illusions**, as is truth **always connected to truth**. 4 Each is united, a complete

thought system, but totally disconnected to each other's **thought system**. 5 And to perceive this is to recognize where separation is, and where **separation** must be healed. p399 6 The result of an idea is never separate from its source. 7 The idea of separation produced the body and remains connected to **the body**, making **the body** sick because of the mind's identification with **the body**. 8 You think you are protecting the body by hiding this connection **that your mind's allegiance to the egoic thought system is the source of the body's sickness**, for this concealment seems to keep your **mind's** identification as **the body** safe from the "attack" of truth.

Note # 7: The Holy Spirit's thought system is the thought system for truth. The ego's is the thought system for illusion. To the ego, the body is the egoic symbol for the reality of the separation, sin, guilt, fear, sickness and death. With the mind's identification as "the body", we abdicated our mind's power to act as the decision-maker and to be able to choose again. Believing the mind is the body; the mind slips into victim consciousness and believes it is powerless to affect a cure. The mind fails to recognize that its own belief in the reality of the separation is the cause of the body's sickness. To the ego, sickness verifies that we are a limited ego-body. Believing itself to be a body, any cure must be aimed at the body for the mind is just another body part. Being powerless, healing is based on some outside source, which ACIM refers to as magic.

Magic states that since you are not whole, something outside yourself is needed to make you well or whole again. Magic works inside the belief system of the ego and thus, maintains the illusion that you are the body. Magic states that the "sick" person is indeed limited and is the body. The "healer" than claims that he is or has something of a greater power and, therefore, can cure the "sick" person's body. The use of magic confirms that God's Son is not perfect, whole and complete. ACIM states that in true healing, the healing takes place only within the mind of the "sick" person. The healer simple helps the sick person acknowledge and rediscover the truth that they are as God created them, unlimited spirit. Thus, illusion is brought to truth. In magic, another illusion is placed over the first illusion that unlimited spirit could be sick. Magic maintains the belief in specialness and separation.

T-19.I.8. If you but understood how much this strange concealment has hurt your mind, and how confused your own identification as **your Big "S" Self** has become because of **your identification that you are the body!** 2 You do not see how great the devastation wrought by your faithlessness, for faithlessness is an attack that seems to be justified by **the attack's** results. 3 For by withholding faith you see what is unworthy of **faith, which is the body**, and **you** cannot look beyond the barrier of **bodily illusions** to what is joined with you, **which is the truth that your reality is your Big "S" Self**.

Note # 8: All of our problems trace their origins back to our identification with illusion. The separation is our attempt the make something other than the truth real. The body is the ego's symbol for our belief that we could be something other than as God created us. The body is the witness to the ego's claims that we are not perfect, whole and complete. The body is the egoic attempt to limit our unlimited Big "S" Self.

T-19.I.9. To have faith is to heal. 2 **Faith** is the sign that you have accepted the Atonement for yourself, and would therefore share **the Atonement** 3 By faith, you offer the gift of freedom from the past, which you received. 4 You do not use anything your

brother has done before **from the past** to condemn him now. 5 You freely choose to overlook **your brother's** errors **from the past**, looking past all barriers between yourself and **your brother**, and seeing **yourself and your brother** as one. 6 And in that one you see your faith is fully justified. 7 There is no justification for faithlessness, but faith is always justified.

Note # 9: Faith is always justified since it is based on truth. Faithlessness can never be justified since it rests on the false or the nothingness of illusions. In healing, the past beliefs of limitation and separation are removed and replaced by the truth that God's Child is innocent, sinless and guiltless. There is a joining of mind with the union of the truth of the One Self.

T-19.I.10. Faith is the opposite of fear. **Faith is** as much a part of love as fear is of attack. 2 Faith is the acknowledgment of union. 3 **Faith** is the gracious acknowledgment of everyone as a Son of your most loving Father, loved by **God** like you, and therefore loved by you as yourself. 4 It is **God's** Love that joins you and your brother, and for **God's** Love you would keep no one separate from **your love**. 5 Each one appears just as he is perceived in the holy instant, united in your purpose to be released from guilt. 6 You see the Christ in **your brother**, and **your brother** is healed because you look on what makes faith forever justified in everyone.

Note # 10: Faith is always justified in your brother and yourself because God's Will is changeless. God's judgment is that His creation is an extension of God, Herself. Therefore God's Child was, is, and always will be sinless and guiltless. In the Mind of God, we remain eternally perfect, whole and complete.

T-19.I.11. Faith is the gift of God, through **the Holy Spirit**, Whom God has given you. 2 Faithlessness looks upon the Son of God, and judges him unworthy of forgiveness. 3 But through the eyes of faith, the Son of God is seen already forgiven, free of all the guilt he laid upon himself. 4 Faith sees him only <now> because **faith** looks not to the past to judge him, but would see in him only what **faith** would see in you. 5 **Faith** sees not through the body's eyes, nor looks to bodies for its justification. 6 **Faith** is the messenger of the new perception, sent forth to gather witnesses unto its coming, and to return their messages of **faith** to you. p400

Note # 11: Through the Holy Spirit's reinterpretation, our misperceptions are corrected. We need to ask for His guidance and our faith will be rewarded with the truth about what we are. The Holy Spirit utilizes the tool of forgiveness to return us to the truth about our brother and ourselves. Past judgments are suspended which put us in the time frame of the <now> where correction can occur. Only by releasing our past misperceptions and beliefs can we move into the <now> and reclaim our decision-making power to choose again. Being in the <now> we can choose the correct perception of the Holy Spirit.

T-19.I.12. Faith is as easily exchanged for knowledge as is the real world. 2 For faith arises from the Holy Spirit's perception, and is the sign you share **that same perception as the Holy Spirit's** with Him. 3 Faith is a gift you offer to the Son of God through **the Holy Spirit** and wholly acceptable to his Father as to **His Son**. 4 And **faith** therefore, **is** offered you. 5 Your holy relationship, with its new purpose, offers you faith to give unto your

brother. 6 Your faithlessness has driven you **and your brother** apart, and so you do not recognize salvation in **your brother**. 7 Yet faith unites you in the holiness you see, not through the body's eyes, but in the sight of **the Holy Spirit**, Who joined you, and in Whom you are united.

Note # 12: The holy relationship's purpose is the return to the truth of the One Self. Christ Vision is required if we are to raise the egoic special relationship to a holy one. The Holy Spirit guides us to this change in the relationship's purpose from exclusion to inclusion, forgiveness and love.

God the Father, the Holy Spirit and the Sonship all comprise the One Self. Thus, faith held in any part of the Oneness must be known and shared in all parts of the Oneness. We are all joined in the One Mind that we call God. When we stop denying our divine birthright, we return to the knowledge of the holographic Mind of the One Self.

T-19.I.13. Grace is not given to a body, but to a mind. 2 And the mind that receives **grace** looks instantly beyond the body, and sees the holy place where **the mind** was healed. 3 There is the altar where the grace was given, in which **grace** stands. 4 Do you, then, offer grace and blessing to your brother, for you stand at the same altar where grace was laid for both of you. 5 And be you healed by grace together, that you may heal through faith.

Note # 13: Only by giving do we receive. Proof of our ownership of grace or faith is our ability to share it with someone. You cannot give or share what you do not have. By giving our grace or faith to our brother, we prove that we have received it.

T-19.I.14. In the holy instant, you and your brother stand before the altar God has raised unto Himself and both of you. 2 Lay faithlessness aside, and come to **God's altar** together **with your brother**. 3 There will you see the miracle of your relationship as it was made again through faith. 4 And there it is that you will realize that there is nothing faith cannot forgive. 5 No error interferes with **faith's** calm sight, which brings the miracle of healing with equal ease to all of them. 6 For what the messengers of love are sent to do **the messengers of love** do, returning the glad tidings that **the miracle of healing** was done to you and your brother who stand together before the altar from which **the messengers of love** were sent forth.

Note # 14: The altar is what you place value in. The altar of the ego is illusion. God's altar is the altar to truth. God's truth is that there is nothing to forgive. The Sonship remains innocent as God created it, perfect, whole and complete. God extends His Oneness and of this One Self, we all share completely. It is this truth that God's grace shares with us. It is this truth of our Oneness with "All That Is" upon which our faith is based.

T-19.I.15. As faithlessness will keep your little kingdoms **of illusion** barren and separate, so will faith help the Holy Spirit prepare the ground for the most holy garden that **the Holy Spirit** would make of it. 2 For faith brings peace, and so **faith** calls on truth to enter and make lovely what has already been prepared for loveliness. 3 Truth follows faith and peace, completing the process of making lovely that they begin. 4 For faith is still a learning goal. **Faith** is no longer needed when the lesson has been learned. 5 Yet truth will stay forever.

Note # 15: Faith is learned in the world of perception. With the return of the Sonship to knowledge, faith will give way to truth. Truth is not learned for truth just is. Truth is known. Faith is based on belief. Because of our faith in truth, the Holy Spirit can transform our misperception into correct perception. This allows the Holy Spirit to “make holy” our special relationships. This transforms the terrifying dream of littleness into the happy dream. From the happy dream, correct perception can be replaced by truth. The return to knowledge is the return of the Sonship to His Father’s Will. The Father will take the last step in the Sonship’s journey back home to knowledge.

T-19.I.16. Let, then, your dedication be to the eternal, and learn how not to interfere with **the eternal** and make **the eternal** a slave to time. 2 For what you **egoically** think you do to the eternal you do to *<your egoic self.>* 3 Whom God created as His Son is slave to nothing, being lord of all, along with his Creator. 4 You can enslave a body, but an idea is free, incapable of being kept in prison or limited in any way except by the mind that thought it. p401 5 For **the idea** remains joined to its source, which is **the mind. The mind’s idea is the body’s** jailer or its liberator, according to which **idea, the mind,** chooses as its purpose for itself. **It is the mind’s thoughts that rule the body.**

Note # 16: God created the Sonship as changeless. This is the Will of God. Because God’s Will is eternal, we will always remain sinless. We are the perfect extension of God, Herself. For God knows Herself to be perfect. Since ideas never leave their source, God’s extension must be perfect. We, as Children of God, can choose to deny the truth of what we are. We can also deny our divine birthright. This denial of our birthright does not change our birthright, for our divine birthright is as changeless and eternal as the truth. Yet, within the mind of someone who chooses to deny the truth, this denial becomes his or her provisional reality. Our ideas of limitation cannot change the truth, but they can bind and limit what we believe we are capable of. Thus, our beliefs become the governing factor in determining what we are willing to allow into our field of awareness. If we claim to be mortal beings that can suffer and die, that is what we will accept as our provisional reality. This does not change our immortal nature, but it does change how we perceive ourselves to be. Due to our limiting belief, we now act as if we are limited bodies whose lot is to be born, suffer and then die. If we place our faith in the ego’s thought system, these beliefs of limitation become our jailer. When we place our faith in the Holy Spirit’s thought system these beliefs of freedom, forgiveness and love become our liberator. When we side with the ego, our purpose is to deny our divine birthright and replace it with the illusions of separation and specialness. When we have faith in the truth, we side with the Holy Spirit and reclaim our divine birthright. Whether we think we can, or we think we can’t, we’re right!

II. Sin versus Error

T-19.II.1. It is essential that error be not confused with sin, and it is this distinction **between sin and error** that makes salvation possible. 2 For error can be corrected, and the wrong made right. 3 But sin, were **sin** possible, would be irreversible. 4 The belief in sin is necessarily based on the firm conviction that minds, not bodies, can attack. 5 And thus the mind is guilty, and will forever so remain unless a mind not part of it can give **the first sinful, separate and guilty mind** absolution. 6 Sin calls for punishment as error for correction, and the belief that punishment *<is>* correction is clearly insane.

Note # 17: Only bodies can attack. Mind being a Oneness has nothing outside itself to attack. Mind is spirit and is invulnerable and, therefore, cannot attack or be attacked. Bodies, being separate forms, can attack something different than themselves. The ego's belief that the mind is the body makes it appear possible that the mind could attack. Within the ego's thought system, any alleged attack upon another would be a real sin and would require punishment. Thus, the mind has "sinned" when the body is used by the mind to attack something within the dream of separation. Yet, if attack occurred only within the mind of the dreamer, the attack would not be real. Since the alleged attack was not real, it was not part of the Mind of God. It only requires that the dreamer awaken from his illusion and the dream of attack will disappear. Thus, we merely need to correct the erroneous belief that the dream was real. Correction, not punishment is called for. Punishment is not warranted since nothing took place in the "real world". Since there was no harm, there can be no foul.

T-19.II.2. Sin is not an error, for sin entails an arrogance which the idea of error lacks. 2 To sin would be to violate reality, and to succeed. 3 Sin is the proclamation that attack is real and guilt is justified. 4 **Sin** assumes the Son of God is guilty, and has thus succeeded in losing his innocence and making **God's Child into something that God had not created**. 5 Thus is creation seen as not eternal, and the Will of God open to opposition and defeat. 6 Sin is the grand illusion underlying all the ego's grandiosity. 7 For by **the son's sin** God Himself is changed, and rendered incomplete.

Note # 18: Innocence is the lack of any evil intention. We were created innocent by God and remain eternally changeless. If a child is unaware of what is deemed to be appropriate behavior in the eyes' of his parent, he is innocent for his actions. If the child does do something inappropriate, the parent would merely explain the proper action that the child should take. The parent would not punish the child for the mistake, but rather teach the child what action is appropriate and tell the child to choose again. This is the role the Holy Spirit assumes in the Sonship's reawakening.

God, the Father is also innocent. The Father's innocence is His inability to know of anything that does not exist. God's innocence insures that what we perceive to be a sin is merely an error that requires correction, rather than punishment. God is unaware of our illusion of separation, sin guilt and fear. God, the Father only knows the truth and the reality of creation as perfect, whole and complete. Because we are an extension of our Creator, we share God's innocence.

T-19.II.3. The Son of God can be mistaken; he can deceive himself; he can even turn the power of his mind against himself. 2 But he *<cannot>* sin. 3 There is nothing **the Son of God** can do that would really change his reality in any way, nor make him really guilty. 4 **To make guilty** is what sin would do, for such is **sin's** purpose. 5 Yet for all the wild insanity inherent in the whole idea of sin, **sin** is impossible. 6 For the wages of sin *<is>* death, and how can the immortal die?

Note # 19: The belief in God's Son being sinful is the key tenant in the egoic belief system. If we could sin, it would mean that the ego had been successful in making God's creation something other than what God created His Child to be. Change would be possible and the idea of the changeless eternal would cease to exist. Sin would also mean that we

have a will different from God's Will. Through the use of sin, the child would be able to change the parent's internal composition. An effect cannot change its cause. For if this were so, truth would become a variable and change over time. The idea that sin is possible would create a totally different world from a sinless Oneness. The rules would be turned upside down. Truth would become false and the false, true. This would make a new world in which the ego would rule for the Laws of God would have been made obsolete and void. Sin's "reality" would create a "Brave New World".

ACIM states that sin is not possible since the truth is changeless. God's Will cannot be changed. Creation is an extension of the Mind of God. We remain innocent, sinless and guiltless as we were created. Yet, God's Child is free to choose to deny the truth and pretend that he is something that he is not. Our playing the game of "What AM I?" is not the authority problem. The authority problem is the error that occurred when God's Son identified himself as the dream. We forgot to laugh and this error made the separation appear real within the dreamer's mind. The idea that we are a body is a mistake, not a sin. A mistake requires only correction, not punishment. We are asked by the Holy Spirit to simply choose again.

T-19.II.4. A major tenet in the ego's insane religion is that sin is not error but truth, and it is innocence that would deceive. 2 Purity is seen as arrogance, and the acceptance of the self as sinful is perceived as holiness. 3 And it is this doctrine **that the innocent could sin** that replaces the reality of the Son of God as his Father created him, and willed that he be forever. 4 Is this humility? 5 Or is it, rather, an attempt to wrest creation away from truth, and keep **the Son of God** separate?

Note # 20: The ego wants to make sin possible since a sinful world would overturn the Oneness and make the separation a reality. The innocent cannot sin. If the ego can succeed in the illusion of the triumph of sin over the innocent, it can overturn the thought system for truth and the Laws of God. This is not possible. This belief in sin is also the invitation for sin's cousins called guilt and fear to make their ugly appearances into the ego's dream world of separation.

T-19.II.5. Any attempt to reinterpret sin as error is always indefensible to the ego. p402 2 The idea of sin is wholly sacrosanct (**holy and sacred**), to **the ego's** thought system, and quite unapproachable except with reverence and awe. 3 **Sin** is the most "holy" concept in the ego's system; lovely and powerful, wholly true, and necessarily protected with every defense at **the ego's** disposal. 4 For here **in the concept of sin** lies **the ego's** "best" defense, which all the others serve. 5 **The concept of sin** is **the ego's** armor, its protection, and the fundamental purpose of the special relationship in **the ego's** interpretation.

Note # 21: Without our belief that we have sinned, the ego's thought system would be powerless. Sin brings with it guilt. Guilt implies that we should be punished. Punishment means that we have something to fear. Thus, God, Himself, is transformed from a God of Love, to the ego's god of fear. Everything is turned upside-down. The ego tells us that God is judgmental, revengeful and petty. The God of Love has been killed by sin and is replaced by the ego's god of fear. By substituting the God of Love with the egoic god of fear, the ego can now claim to be our protector from god's punishment for our alleged sins. Our decision-maker has abdicated its power to the ego. The ego's thought system can now rule

over this world of perception, time and space. Sin, specialness and separation are the cornerstone of this egoic fear-based world.

T-19.II.6. It can indeed be said the ego made its world on sin. 2 Only in such a world could everything be upside down. 3 This **egoic world based on sin** is the strange illusion that makes the clouds of guilt seem heavy and impenetrable. 4 The solidness that this **egoic** world's foundation seems to have is found in this **belief in sin**. 5 For sin has changed creation from an idea of God to an ideal the ego wants; a world **the ego** rules, made up of bodies, mindless and capable of complete corruption and decay. 6 If this is a mistake, a **mistake** can be undone easily by truth. 7 Any mistake can be corrected, if truth be left to judge **the mistake**. 8 But if the mistake is given the status of truth, to what can **the mistake** be brought **to for correction**? 9 The "holiness" of sin is kept in place by just this strange device of **giving sin the status of truth, and, therefore, making it real**. 10 As truth **sin** is inviolate, and everything is brought to **<sin>** for judgment. 11 As a mistake, **<sin>** must be brought to truth. 12 It is impossible to have faith in sin, for sin is faithlessness. 13 Yet it is possible to have faith that a mistake can be corrected.

Note # 22: ACIM would agree with the ego that if someone did actually commit a sin, that sin should be punishable. ACIM, however, states that sin is impossible for a Oneness cannot sin against itself. There is nothing outside itself to attack and a Oneness of Everything is invulnerable to attack. The dream of separation and identifying ourselves with a body was not a sin, but rather a mistake. God's innocence protects His Son and makes sin impossible. We must simply choose again and correct the mistake. An illusion is not real. We only need to the wake up to the truth of who we are and the error will corrected itself.

T-19.II.7. There is no stone in all the ego's embattled citadel that is more heavily defended than the idea that sin is real; the natural expression of what the Son of God has made himself to be, and what he is. 2 To the ego, this **belief in the sinful son** is no mistake. 3 For this **belief in the sinful son** is **the ego's** reality. This **belief that we have sinned** is the **egoic** "truth" from which escape will always be impossible. 4 This is **the sinful son's** past, his present and his future. 5 For **the sinful son** has somehow managed to corrupt his Father, and change **his Father's** Mind completely. 6 Mourn, then, the death of God, Whom sin has killed! 7 And this **death of God** would be the ego's wish, which in its madness **the ego** believes it has accomplished.

Note # 23: If the ego can convince us that we have sinned against God, God would have to punish us. Guilt and fear would be justified. If we remained innocent, sinless and guiltless, we would have no reason to hide from our Creator. The belief in sin changes our concept of God from a God of Love to a god of fear. Once we have substituted the God of Love for the egoic god of fear, the ego tells us we need a place to hide. Sin now appears very real and we perceive ourselves as sinners. The world of perception was made by our egoicself to be our "Brave New World" to keep God's love out. In this imagined world, sin, guilt and fear have been made "real".

T-19.II.8. Would you not rather that all this **belief in a sinful son** be nothing more than a mistake, entirely correctable, and so easily escaped from that its whole correction is like walking through a mist into the sun? 2 For that is all **the correction** is. 3 Perhaps you

would be tempted to agree with the ego that it is far better to be sinful than mistaken. 4 Yet think you carefully before you allow yourself to make this choice. 5 Approach **the choice between sin and mistake** not lightly, for **the choice between a sinful son and a mistaken son** is the choice of hell or Heaven. p403

Note # 24: When we accept the fact that we are eternally innocent and sinless as God created us, our world of provisional reality becomes only a dream within the mind of the insane dreamer. The only correction required is to reawaken from the dream. The dream cannot change the reality of truth. This innocence of God's Child is the foundation for the thought system of the Holy Spirit. If we choose to believe sin is real and that we are sinners, we must accept the fact that with sin comes sin's kissing cousins of guilt and fear. We, the sinner, must be punished. This is the basis for the egoic thought system.

III. The Unreality of Sin

T-19.III.1. The attraction of guilt is found in sin, not error. 2 Sin will be repeated because of this attraction of **guilt, which is found in sin, not error**. 3 Fear can become so acute that the sin is denied the acting out. 4 But while the guilt remains attractive the mind will suffer, and not let go of the idea of sin. 5 For guilt still calls to **sin**, and the mind hears **guilt's call for sin** and yearns for **sin**, making **the mind** itself a willing captive to **sin's** sick appeal. 6 Sin is an idea of evil that cannot be corrected, and yet will be forever desirable. 7 **Sin** is an essential part of what the ego thinks you are, you will always want **sin**. 8 And only an avenger, **the ego**, with a mind unlike your own **Christ consciousness**, could stamp **sin** out through fear.

Note # 25: Sin is defined as an idea of evil that cannot be corrected and yet, will be forever desirable. ACIM states that sin is any belief that we could be less than as God created us. Sin is the belief in lack. This comprises the belief that we could be separate and limited. When everything is not known as being equal, perception's specialness was born. Specialness is the main attraction that draws us to the egoic thought system. Specialness is also referred to in ACIM as "littleness". When everything is an indivisible part of the One Self, to be special requires that you are less than the Oneness of Everything. Since creation is extension of the Oneness, God could not grant us our specialness for to do so would be to limit the unlimited. This is impossible. Littleness demands that you be less than perfect, whole and complete. Littleness is involved when we define something. For when we define, we judge and limit. Although the ego claims that the desire for specialness is a sin that must be punished with death, the Holy Spirit realizes the non-reality of fantasy. This mistake is only an error in thinking that requires correction. The Holy Spirit asks that we merely choose again and recognize that God's Creation must be sinless and guiltless like His Creator. Creation is extension of the One Self. Thus, equality, not specialness, is the Law of God

General Note: The theory behind how sin arose and its aftermath:

Sin is defined as an idea of evil that cannot be corrected and yet, will be forever desirable. Sin is some thought that has arisen in the universal mind that you have judged as unallowable. In this case, it is the thought that your ego wanted to perceive something to be unlike God. Rather than just allow the thought and place no value on its reality, our egoic little "s" self judged the thought and made it real. Value is placed on something when we perceive it as something other than the Oneness. Value defines and by defining, we create

specialness. What we value is given a special quality that makes it different from the Oneness. We perceive something as other than what we are. We have envisioned a “forbidden fruit” that was different from us. Perceiving something to be outside ourselves, we thought that the Oneness was vulnerable and could be attacked. We forgot that we were the Oneness of Everything. Believing that this thought of something unlike God was evil, the ego believed that this “evil idea” must be opposed.

Love has no opposite and does not oppose. Yet, now there was something for the ego to fear. The egoic mind had taken a random innocent thought and judged it to be something other than God. Rather than allow all thoughts, the ego chooses to define and judge the thought. It was our resistance to the thought that made the thought appear real to the perceiver. For we can only resist what we believe is real. If we had viewed the mad idea strictly as a fantasy, we would have realized that this thought had no power over us. We would have understood that our mind was the thought’s source and, as such, we were its cause. We could have denied the thought’s reality and it would have disappeared. This would have been the proper use of denial. Instead we judged the thought as evil. We forgot to laugh. The perceiver took this thought seriously and gave this mad idea power over the reality that there is only a One Self. Because we forgot to laugh, we had slipped into fear and made the separation appear real. We made an innocent thought into a sin. Knowledge was lost and perception born.

Anytime the egoic mind places a positive or negative charge on a random thought, the mind has given the thought reality within the split-mind of the perceiver. The mind has chosen to define, value and judge rather than just be with the experience. The mind of the perceiver now appears to be split-off from the Big “S” Self’s mind which is joined with the One Self. We have identified a thought as unlike God and, therefore, something we need to resist. We resist this “sinful” thought by rejecting it and projecting it out of our mind in an attempt to get rid of it. This attempt to get rid of the thought and transfer it to something outside ourselves is projection. Yet, since thoughts never leave their source, our resisted thought never leaves our mind. The source remains in the mind of the perceiver. This desire to get rid of this “sinful” thought and the guilt associated with the thought, results in the further fragmentation of the perceiver by the addition of something else outside the perceiver’s mind that he can blame as the cause or originator of the thought. In his attempt to get rid of his own perceived guilt, the perceiver has invented a “brave new world”. The world of perception is born which is based on projection. Sin now appears real and the Sonship believes it has sinned. The split-minded believe that they are the product of this “original” sin and that sin is their essence.

To summarize, the ego is the split-minded part of our mind that believes something within a Oneness could separate and become something other than that Oneness. It claims that there could be something other than God and then forgot to laugh when the mad idea awareness was chosen to be experienced. This gave the mad idea a reality of its own. The ego thought that it needed a special plan to defend its purity against what it now judged as evil. Sin is the evil claim that we are not perfect and, therefore, vulnerable. The egoic thought system is that defense against this imagined sin. The belief that sin was possible (forgetting to laugh) led to guilt. The ego attempted to instill fear to prevent us from sinning, but by fearing sin we create the belief that we are sinners. For you only fear what you think is real and can harm you. We accepted the idea that we were vulnerable. We had quickly fallen down the slippery slope from knowledge to separation and the abyss of victim consciousness that followed.

T-19.III.2. The ego does not think it possible that love, not fear, is really called upon by sin, *<and always answers.>* 2 For the ego brings sin to fear, demanding punishment. 3 Yet punishment is but another form of guilt's protection, for what is deserving punishment must have been really done. 4 Punishment is always the great preserver of sin, treating **sin** with respect and honoring **sin's** enormity. 5 What must be punished, must be true. 6 And what is true must be eternal, and will be repeated endlessly. 7 For what you think is real you want, and will not let **what you want** go.

Note # 26: The Holy Spirit does not see "sin" as something that is evil and fearful but as a cry for love that is to be met with love. The Holy Spirit knows "sin" is merely a mistake that only requires correction. Sin has no reality outside the mind of the perceiver. The Holy Spirit merely asks the perceiver to choose again. Mistakes only require correction. The ego sees sin as an evil that must be punished. Sin is the forbidden fruit that although desired, must be resisted. Forbidden, sinful thoughts must be resisted or you will be punished. Anything that requires punishment is something that must be fearful to the beholder. It is this belief that sin is something that must be punished that gives sin the appearance of being true and real.

T-19.III.3. An error, on the other hand, is not attractive. 2 What you see clearly as a mistake you want corrected. 3 Sometimes a sin can be repeated over and over, with obviously distressing results, but without the loss of **the sin's** appeal. 4 And suddenly, you change **error's** status from a sin to a mistake. 5 Now you will not repeat **the error**; you will merely stop and let the **mistake** go, unless the guilt remains. 6 For **if the guilt remains** then you will but change the form of sin, granting that **sin** was an error, but keeping **sin** uncorrectable. 7 This is not really a change in your perception, for it is sin that calls for punishment, not error.

Note # 27: When we see something as a mistake we want to correct the error. A mistake has no internal attraction. We want to choose again. If we look upon something as sin, it has the attraction of the "forbidden fruit". We want the fruit but we don't want to be caught. We feel guilty when we are not caught and when caught, we demand that we be punished so that we can be purged from our guilt. Once punished, we repeat the sin since we still desire the "forbidden fruit." Sin is a vicious cycle.

T-19.III.4. The Holy Spirit cannot punish sin. 2 Mistakes **the Holy Spirit** recognizes, and **the Holy Spirit** would correct all **mistakes** as God entrusted **the Holy Spirit** to do. 3 But sin **the Holy Spirit** knows not, nor can **the Holy Spirit** recognize mistakes that cannot be corrected. 4 For a mistake that cannot be corrected is meaningless to **the Holy Spirit**. 5 Mistakes are *<for>* correction, and **mistakes** call for nothing else. 6 What calls for punishment must call for nothing. 7 Every mistake *<must>* be a call for love. 8 What, then, is sin? 9 What could **sin** be but a mistake you would keep hidden; a call for help that you would keep unheard and thus unanswered?

Note # 28: The Holy Spirit knows that sin is impossible for God's Son is a sinless extension of God. Seeing any error as only a mistake, the Holy Spirit merely asks us to correct the error by choosing again. When we refuse to ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance, He cannot correct the error. Because we perceive the error as sin, we get to keep it.

Because the ego has told us sin requires punishment, our mind will cause our body to suffer and die.

T-19.III.5. In time, the Holy Spirit clearly sees the Son of God can make mistakes. 2 On this you share **the Holy Spirit's** vision. 3 Yet you do not share **the Holy Spirit's** recognition of the difference between time and eternity. p404 4 And when correction is completed, time *<is>* eternity. 5 The Holy Spirit can teach you how to look on time differently and see beyond **time**, but not while you believe in sin. 6 In error, yes, for this can be corrected by the mind. 7 But sin is the belief that your perception is unchangeable, and that the mind must accept as true what **the mind** is told through **its belief in sin**. 8 If **the higher mind** does not obey **sin's belief that your perception is unchangeable**, the **higher mind** is judged insane **by the egoic mind**. 9 The only power that could change perception, **which is the higher mind's decision-maker**, is thus kept impotent. **The mind** is held to the body by the fear of changed perception. which **the mind's Teacher**, Who is one with **the higher mind**, would bring. **The mind's Teacher, the Holy Spirit would change the mind's misperception if asked to correct perception.**

Note # 29: Time is the measure of change. Time is needed only during the period that the perceiver believes the dream of separation to be real. Without time, which allows for change in perceptions, the dreamer would be stuck forever in the dream of separation, believing that sin is real and eternal. Sin is the belief that your perception is unchangeable. Until we give up this belief that sin is forever, we remain in victimconsciousness. We need to realize that the error is not sin but rather a mistake. The job of the Holy Spirit is to move our mind out of victim consciousness so that we can reclaim our decision-making ability. Once we recover the decision-maker within us, we can choose again. This time we will choose the thought system of the Holy Spirit, which is the Voice for Christ consciousness. Time allows for the split-minded to relearn the truth of what they are. We all have been given all the time we need to successfully complete this relearning process. Once completed, time's function will be no more and time will fade away into the eternal now.

T-19.III.6. When you are tempted to believe that sin is real, remember this: If sin is real, both God and you are not. 2 If creation is extension, the Creator must have extended Himself, and it is impossible that what is part of **God** is totally unlike the rest. 3 If sin is real, God must be at war with Himself. 4 **God** must be split, and torn between good and evil; partly sane and partially insane. 5 For **God** must have created what wills to destroy Him, and has the power to do so. 6 Is it not easier to believe that you have been mistaken than to believe in this?

Note # 30: Because creation is extension, the Mind of God is holographic. What is in any indivisible part is the whole and the whole must be in each part. There is just the One Self. If we were sinners, this would make God a sinner also. This could not be God's Will. Yet, this idea that we are sinners is what the ego's thought system is predicated upon.

T-19.III.7. While you believe that your reality or your brother's is bounded by a body, you will believe in sin. 2 While you believe that bodies can unite, you will find guilt attractive and believe that sin is precious. 3 For the belief that bodies limit mind leads to a perception of the world in which the proof of separation seems to be everywhere. 4 And **the belief that bodies limit mind leads to the egoic misperception that God and His**

creation seem to be split apart and overthrown. 5 For sin would prove what God created holy could not prevail against **sin**, nor remain **changelessly holy as** itself before the power of sin. 6 Sin is perceived as mightier than God, before which God Himself must bow, and offer His creation to its conqueror, **which is sin**. 7 Is this humility or madness?

Note # 31: The body is the symbol for egoic limitation. To define is to limit. When we define ourselves as a body, we accept the body's limitation. To attempt to limit the unlimited is impossible. This attempt is a mistake but has no affect on reality. This error is not a sin but it does need to be corrected in the mind of the perceiver. Healing, which is the acceptance of the truth, corrects the split-minded and returns the insane to the whole-mindedness of the One Self. The belief that a body that God did not make can limit mind that is the extension of God is the height of egoic arrogance. This is the idea that is at the core of the "authority problem." Our egoic little "s" self is attempting to usurp God's authority and challenge the Will of God.

T-19.III.8. If sin is real, **sin** must forever be beyond the hope of healing. 2 For there would be a power beyond God's, capable of making another will that could attack **God's Will** and overcome **God's Will**; and give **God's Son** a will apart from **God's Will**, and stronger. 3 And each part of God's fragmented creation would have a different will, opposed to **God's Will**, and in eternal opposition to **God** and to each other. 4 Your holy relationship has, as its purpose now, the goal of proving this **splitting of the One Will into many opposing wills** is impossible. 5 Heaven has smiled upon **your holy relationship**, and the belief in sin has been uprooted in **your holy relationship's** smile of love. 6 You see **sin** still, because you do not realize that **sin's** foundation has gone. 7 **Sin's** source has been removed, and so **sin** can be cherished but a little while before **sin** vanishes. p405 8 Only the habit of looking for **sin** still remains.

Note # 32: In our holy relationships, the Holy Spirit transforms the ego's special relationship from a tool of separation, into a tool for joining. By giving the special relationship over to the Holy Spirit, what was originally perceived as sin is given the revised status of a mistake. Mistakes only require correction. Forgiveness is the tool for this correction. By granting our brother forgiveness for his alleged sins, we give ourselves forgiveness. We have chosen to perceive differently and look beyond bodily form. The Holy Spirit utilizes time's miracles to heal the mind. This returns the split-mind to right-mindedness. This is the free acceptance that our will and our Father's Will are one.

T-19.III.9. And yet you look with Heaven's smile upon your lips, and Heaven's blessing on your sight. 2 You will not see sin long. 3 For in the new perception the mind corrects **sin** when **sin** seems to be seen, and **sin** becomes invisible. 4 Errors are quickly recognized and quickly given to correction, to be healed, not hidden. 5 You will be healed of sin and all **sin's** ravages the instant that you give **sin** no power over your brother. 6 And you will help **your brother** overcome mistakes by joyously releasing **your brother** from the belief in sin.

Note # 33: When we utilize the Holy Spirit's thought system, we empower our Christ consciousness. This transforms the ego's visions of sin into mistakes that only need to be corrected. We use the tool of forgiveness to grant our brother and ourselves freedom from sin, for we realize that we are joined as one with the Mind of God. By rejecting the ego's

notion that sin is forever and perception changeless, we have allowed the Holy Spirit to change egoic misperception into correct perception. This overturns the ego's verdict and God's Son is pronounced eternally sinless and guiltless.

T-19.III.10. In the holy instant, you will see the smile of Heaven shining on both you and your brother. 2 And you will shine upon **your brother**, in glad acknowledgment of the grace that has been given you. 3 For sin will not prevail against a union Heaven has smiled upon. 4 Your perception was healed in the holy instant Heaven gave you. 5 Forget what you have seen, and raise your eyes in faith to what you now can see. 6 The barriers to Heaven will disappear before your holy sight, for you who were sightless have been given vision, and you can see. 7 Look not for what has been removed, but for the glory that has been restored for you to see.

Note #34: In the holy instant, we suspend all past judgment. This allows us to be in the now, where correct perception is possible. With the Vision of Christ, we will look past the body to see the unlimited spirit that is our brother, and thus, see ourselves.

T-19.III.11. Look upon your Redeemer, **the Christ in your brother**, and behold what **your Redeemer** would show you in your brother, and let not sin arise again to blind your eyes. 2 For sin would keep you separate from **your brother**, but your Redeemer, **the Christ**, would have you look upon your brother as yourself. 3 Your **holy** relationship is now a temple of healing; a place where all the weary ones can come and rest. 4 Here is the rest that waits for all, after the journey. 5 And **the journey's end** is brought nearer to all by your **holy** relationship.

Note # 35: When we utilize the Vision of Christ, our special relationships are made into holy ones. We see both our brother and ourselves as innocent, sinless and guiltless. All past judgments have been removed so that we can be in the <now>. The <now> is different than what we generally perceive as present time. When in the <now>, we allow our true Christ nature to shine. Prior to the suspension of all judgments, our true nature was clouded by past misperceptions, which prevented us from living in the <now>. Our true nature is Christ consciousness. As long as we still have the body, our Christ consciousness will utilize the body as a communication device to teach only love. Being joined to all through the Universal Mind of God, the entire Sonship benefits from your return to Christ consciousness and being in the <now>.

IV. The Obstacles to Peace

T-19.IV.1. As peace extends from deep inside yourself to embrace all the Sonship and give **the Sonship** rest, **peace** will encounter many obstacles. 2 Some of **the obstacles to peace** you will try to impose. 3 Other **obstacles to peace** will seem to arise from elsewhere; from your brothers, and from various aspects of the world outside. 4 Yet peace will gently cover **the obstacles to peace**, extending past **the obstacles** completely unencumbered. 5 The extension of the Holy Spirit's purpose from your relationship to others, to bring **others** gently into **peace**, is the way in which **the Holy Spirit** will bring means and goal in line. 6 The peace of **the Holy Spirit** that lay, deep within you and your brother, will quietly extend to every aspect of your life, surrounding you and your brother with glowing happiness and the calm awareness of complete protection. p406 7 And you will carry **peace's** message of love and safety and freedom to everyone who draws nigh

unto your temple, where healing waits for him. 8 You will not wait to give him **peace's message of love and safety and freedom**, for you will call to him and he will answer you, recognizing in your call **to peace** the Call for God. 9 And you will draw **your brother** in and give him rest, as **peace's rest** was given you.

Note # 36: Since we are all connected, whenever we receive peace's message of love, safety and freedom, this benefits the entire Sonship. By giving this same peace, we actually confirm that we possess this peace. You can only give what you have. Since to give is to receive, by giving peace to others, peace is strengthened in us. Thoughts never leave their source. To teach peace, be peace.

T-19.IV.2. All this will you do. 2 Yet the peace that already lies deeply within must first expand, and flow across the obstacles you placed before **peace**. 3 This **expansion of peace past all obstacles** will you do, for nothing undertaken with the Holy Spirit remains unfinished. 4 You can indeed be sure of nothing you see outside you, but of this you *<can>* be sure: The Holy Spirit asks that you offer **the Holy Spirit** a resting place where you will rest in **the Holy Spirit**. 5 **The Holy Spirit** answered you, and entered your relationship. 6 Would you not now return **the Holy Spirit's** graciousness, and enter into a relationship with **the Holy Spirit**? 7 For it is **the Holy Spirit** Who offered your relationship the gift of holiness, without which it would have been forever impossible to appreciate your brother.

Note # 37: We need the assistance of the Holy Spirit to transform an egoic, special relationship into a holy relationship. Only the Holy Spirit is aware of the "Big Picture". He knows the truth about your egoic misperception and how every part of the fragmented Sonship is to be returned to the Oneness by following God's Plan for salvation. Being caught up in the dream of separation, the dreamer is unaware that he is incapable of judging anything correctly. Only the Holy Spirit knows God's Plan for the return of the Sonship to His Father. At the time of the mad idea of separation, the Father placed the answer for salvation within us. The Holy Spirit is the custodian of this Plan and He resides in our Christ consciousness. The Atonement is God's answer for the healing of the split-minded.

T-19.IV.3. The gratitude you owe to **Him, the Holy Spirit**, asks but that you receive for Him. 2 And when you look with gentle graciousness upon your brother, you are beholding **the Holy Spirit**. 3 For you are looking where **the Holy Spirit** *<is,>* and **your brother** is not apart from **the Holy Spirit**. 4 You cannot see the Holy Spirit, but you can see your brothers truly. 5 And the light in **your brother, his Big "S" Self**, will show you all that you need to see. 6 When the peace in you has been extended to encompass everyone, the Holy Spirit's function here **in the world of time and space** will be accomplished. 7 What need is there for seeing, then? 8 When God has taken the last step Himself, the Holy Spirit will gather all the thanks and gratitude that you have offered **the Holy Spirit**, and lay **these offering** gently before His Creator in the Name of God's most holy Son. 9 And the Father will accept them in His **Son's** Name. 10 What need is there of seeing, in the presence of **the Holy Spirit's** gratitude?

Note # 38: Without the Holy Spirit's assistance, we would not be able to escape from the victim consciousness from which we currently suffer. Helping us recover our decision-maker abilities is part of the job of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's function is to

reawaken the sleeping Sonship to their true magnificence as a Oneness with the Creator. We are grateful for the Holy Spirit's assistance and the Holy Spirit is grateful for our willingness to choose again. We demonstrate our gratitude to the Holy Spirit when we offer our brother the same forgiveness the Holy Spirit offers us.

A. The First Obstacle: The Desire to Get Rid of It

T-19.IV.A.1. The first obstacle that peace must flow across is your desire to get rid of **peace**. 2 For **peace** cannot extend unless you keep **peace**. 3 You are the center from which **peace** radiates outward, to call the others in **to peace**. 4 You are **peace's** home; its tranquil dwelling place from which **peace** gently reaches out, but never leaving you. 5 If you would make **peace** homeless, how can **peace** abide within the Son of God? 6 If **peace** would spread across the whole creation, **peace** must begin with you, and from you reach to everyone who calls, and bring **everyone who calls** rest by joining you.p407

Note # 39: Peace must have a foothold within the dreamer's own mind if peace is to be extended to others within the dream. We can only give or extend what we actually possess. To have peace, we must give peace. Without the desire for inner peace, the dream of the separation cannot be exchanged for the happy dream that the Holy Spirit would offer us. Without our desire for inner peace, our special relationships cannot be transformed into holy ones. Our Christ-consciousness is the home of the Holy Spirit. Without our quieting the ego, we are incapable of hearing our Big "S" Self, which is the voice for love. If we ask for Her Help, the Holy Spirit will give it.

T-19.IV.A.2. Why would you want peace homeless? 2 What do you think that **peace** must dispossess to dwell with you? 3 What seems to be the cost you are so unwilling to pay? 4 The little barrier of sand still stands between you and your brother. 5 Would you reinforce **that barrier between you and your brother** now? 6 You are not asked to let this **barrier between brothers** go for yourself alone. 7 Christ asks **that you let this barrier between brothers go** for Himself, **your Christ consciousness or Big "S" Self**. 8 **Your Christ consciousness or Big "S" Self** would bring peace to everyone, and how can **your Christ consciousness** do this except through you? 9 Would you let a little bank of sand, a wall of dust, a tiny seeming barrier, stand between your brothers and salvation? 10 And yet, this little remnant of attack you cherish still against your brother *<is>* the first obstacle the peace in you encounters in **peace's** going forth. 11 This little wall of hatred would still oppose the Will of God, and keep **our mind** limited.

Note # 40: We cannot receive the Peace of God, if we refuse to grant that same peace to all our brothers. To withhold peace from one brother is to withhold peace from all. We all share the One Mind of God. You cannot be "totally" committed to the peace of God "sometimes". Peace is an all or nothing proposition. Truth cannot be true "sometimes". To believe that we can find inner peace while withholding it from one brother is to remain under the control of the egoic thought system. Only by granting forgiveness to all our brothers do we grant forgiveness to ourselves. We cannot be free from prison as long as we must guard any brother in the prison of our mind. We can only escape from this self-imposed guard duty, by releasing all the prisoners. Keep one door locked and the jailer must remain trapped within that same prison. Our desire to be special maintains our separation from any brother that keeps us from being whole. We cannot return to peace if we wish to withhold peace from any part of the Sonship. To withhold peace is to attack

peace. We must grant peace to all alike with no exceptions if we are to have peace. We cannot hate one brother and love the rest. To attack one brother is your desire to reject the peace of God. We must surrender our ego's claim that we are not the arbitrators of truth.

T-19.IV.A.3. The Holy Spirit's purpose rests in peace within you. 2 Yet you are still unwilling to let **peace** join you wholly. 3 You still oppose the Will of God, just by a little. 4 And that little is a limit you would place upon the whole. 5 God's Will is One, not many. 6 **God's Will** has no opposition, for there is **no will** beside **God's Will**. 7 What you would still contain behind your little barrier and keep separate from your brother seems mightier than the universe, for **the barrier of separation** would hold back the universe and its Creator. 8 This little wall would hide the purpose of Heaven, and keep it **separate** <from> Heaven.

Note # 41: There can be no barriers that separate a Oneness. To exclude anyone is to reject the idea that we are a shared Oneness. To argue for separation or specialness among the Sonship is to reject the peace of the One Self.

T-19.IV.A.4. Would you thrust salvation away from the giver of salvation? 2 For such have you become. 3 Peace could no more depart from you, **the giver of salvation**, than from God. 4 Fear not this little obstacle **to peace, which is your desire to attack another**. 5 **This desire to attack another** cannot contain the Will of God. 6 Peace will flow across **this desire to attack another** and join you without hindrance. 7 Salvation cannot be withheld from you. 8 **The granting of salvation to all** is your purpose. 9 You cannot choose apart from this **granting of salvation to all**. 10 You have no purpose apart from your brother, nor apart from the one you asked the Holy Spirit to share with you. 11 The little wall **of separation between you and your brother** will fall away so quietly beneath the wings of peace. 12 For peace will send its messengers from you to all the world, and barriers will fall away before their coming as easily as those that you interpose will be surmounted.

Note # 42: While on earth, our function is forgiveness. By granting forgiveness to all we see, the Sonship is seen as sinless. The removal of the belief in sin is the cornerstone to salvation, which is the Sonship return to peace, truth and knowledge. This removal of the belief that we are sinful also dispels guilt and fear from our minds. We reclaim the Sonship's innocence.

T-19.IV.A.5. To overcome the world is no more difficult than to surmount your little wall **of separation between your brothers**. 2 For in the miracle of your holy relationship, without this barrier **of separation between your brothers**, is every miracle contained. 3 There is no order of difficulty in miracles, for **miracles** are all the same. 4 Each **miracle** is a gentle winning over from the appeal of guilt to the appeal of love. 5 How can this **winning over from the appeal of guilt to the appeal of love** fail to be accomplished, wherever it is undertaken? p408 6 Guilt can raise no real barriers against **the appeal of love**. 7 And all that seems to stand between you and your brother must fall away because of the appeal **for love** you answered. 8 From you who answered, **the Holy Spirit** Who answered you would call. 9 **The Holy Spirit's** home is in your holy relationship. 10 Do not attempt to stand between **the Holy Spirit** and His holy purpose, for **His holy purpose** is

your purpose. 11 But let **the Holy Spirit** quietly extend the miracle of **the Holy Spirit** to everyone contained in **your holy relationship** as **the miracle** was given.

Note # 43: In the miracle, we change our perception from one of separation and fear to one of union and love. Forgiveness is the tool used by the Holy Spirit in the granting of the miracle. Since all miracles are based on this same concept of transforming separation into the union of joining, there is no order of difficulties in miracles. The illusion of guilt is exchanged for the appeal of love. All illusions are simply brought before the truth. Because of the connectiveness of mind, the miracle impacts the entire Sonship, not just the person that appears to have been directly impacted by this shift in their perception.

T-19.IV.A.6. There is a hush in Heaven, a happy expectancy, a little pause of gladness in acknowledgment of the journey's end. 2 For Heaven knows you well, as you know Heaven. 3 No illusions stand between you and your brother now. 4 Look not upon the little wall of shadows. 5 The sun has risen over **the wall of separation.** 6 How can a shadow keep you from the sun? 7 No more can you be kept by shadows from the light in which illusions end. 8 Every miracle is but the end of an illusion. 9 Such was the journey; such **the journey's** ending. 10 And in the goal of truth which you accepted must all illusions end.

Note # 44: By removing all the barriers to love that we have placed between our brother and ourselves, we return to the truth. The barriers of separation and specialness have been removed by the miracle. By seeing all as part of the same shared whole, the end of the illusion of separation is at hand. We accept the Atonement for ourselves and return to the knowledge of the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. We give up the egoic claim that our little "s" self is the arbitrator of truth.

T-19.IV.A.7. The little insane wish to get rid of **the Holy Spirit** Whom you invited in and push **the Holy Spirit** out <must> produce conflict. 2 As you look upon the world, this little **insane wish of separation**, uprooted and floating aimlessly, can land and settle briefly upon anything, for **the wish of separation** has no purpose now. 3 Before the Holy Spirit entered to abide with you **the wish of separation** seemed to have a mighty purpose; the fixed and unchangeable dedication to sin and **sin's** results. 4 Now **the wish of separation with its appeal to guilt** is aimless, wandering pointlessly, causing no more than tiny interruptions in love's appeal.

Note # 45: Once we have invited the Holy Spirit to guide our thought process, our purpose moves into alignment with the Holy Spirit's. Both share the same goal of the awakening of the Sonship to truth and the end of all illusion. Each time we ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the thought system of the ego is exposed as counter-productive to our desire for the obtainment of inner peace. Each miracle increases our desire for the peace that forgiveness offers. We become more and more a disciple of the Holy Spirit. The desire for "sin" is dropped, as we understand that "sin" is only a mistake that needs to be corrected. Sin is the erroneous belief in our "littleness" and our attempt to limit the One Self. Our "sins" require no punishment since they are not real and do not exist in the Mind of God. The egoic thought system that was built on the illusions of separation, limitation, sin, guilt, fear and the special relationship is abandoned. The appeals to the return of the truth that we are only love outweigh the appeal of guilt. The ego's thought system has lost its stranglehold on our minds.

T-19.IV.A.8. This feather of a wish, this tiny illusion, this microscopic remnant of the belief in sin, is all that remains of what once seemed to be the world. 2 **The insane wish for sin's separation** is no longer an unrelenting barrier to peace. 3 Its pointless wandering makes **the wish for separation's** results appear to be more erratic and unpredictable than before. 4 Yet what could be more unstable than a tightly organized delusional system? 5 **The delusional egoic thought system's** seeming stability is its pervasive weakness, which extends to everything. 6 The variability the little remnant **of the belief in sin** induces merely indicates **the delusional egoic thought system's** limited results.

Note # 46: The results we achieve by following the ego's thought system always disappoints. The ego's motto is "Seek, but do not find." The ego promises happiness yet, never grants it. The ego tells us, "We will be happy when"... When the when arrives and we are not happy, the ego substitutes a new goal for our happiness. We are always seeking happiness yet, never finding it. Being right, even if you are wrong, is the goal of the ego. Being a Oneness of everything, how can we be happy with being a limited ego-body in competition with other ego-bodies? The ego's thought system, which is based on illusion, is unstable. It rests on the shifting goals of the nothingness of fantasy.

T-19.IV.A.9. How mighty can a little feather, **your insane belief in sin**, be before the great wings of truth? 2 Can a **little feather** oppose an eagle's flight, or hinder the advance of summer? 3 Can it, **your insane belief in sin**, interfere with the effects of summer's sun upon a garden covered by the snow? 4 See but how easily this little wisp **of a feather** is lifted up and carried away, never to return, and part with **this feather** in gladness, not regret. 5 For **this feather, your insane belief in sin**, is nothing in itself, and stood for nothing when you had greater faith in **this feather's** protection. 6 Would you not rather greet the summer sun than fix your gaze upon a disappearing snowflake, and shiver in remembrance of the winter's cold? p409

Note # 47: The ego's thought system is based on illusion. Sin is but an illusion and the egoic attempt to make the false appear real. It has no power to change the truth of what we are. We remain God's Child, perfect, whole and complete. The Oneness of God is what we are!

i. The Attraction of Guilt

T-19.IV.A.10. The attraction of guilt produces fear of love, for love would never look on guilt at all. 2 It is the nature of love to look upon only the truth, for there **love** sees itself **in the truth**, with which **love** would unite in holy union and completion. 3 As love must look past fear, so must fear see love not. 4 For love contains the end of guilt, as surely as fear depends on **guilt**. 5 Love is attracted only to love. 6 Overlooking guilt completely, **love** sees no fear. 7 Being wholly without attack, **love** could not be afraid. 8 Fear is attracted to what love sees not, and each believes that what the other looks upon does not exist. 9 Fear looks on guilt with just the same devotion that love looks on itself. 10 And **fear or love** each has messengers which it sends forth, and which return to **fear or love** with messages written in the language in which their going forth was asked.

Note # 48: We will perceive whatever we place our thoughts upon. When we believe a situation will be frightening, our senses seek out witnesses in the environment for its

preconceived beliefs. Perceptions follow our beliefs. The thought system of the ego is fear based. The Holy Spirit is based on love.

T-19.IV.A.11. Love's messengers are gently sent, and return with messages of love and gentleness. 2 The messengers of fear are harshly ordered to seek out guilt, and cherish every scrap of evil and of sin **that the messengers of fear** can find, losing none of them on pain of death, and laying **this “evidence”** respectfully before their lord and master, **fear**. 3 Perception cannot obey two masters, each asking for messages of different things in different languages. 4 What fear would feed upon, love overlooks. 5 What fear demands, love cannot even see. 6 The fierce attraction that guilt holds for fear is wholly absent from love's gentle perception. 7 What love would look upon is meaningless to fear, and quite invisible.

Note # 49: What we value will determine which master we will follow. Although we speak of fear or love as the master, these are merely the surrogates for either the egoic or the Holy Spirit's thought system. We will either value illusion's specialness, which was born out of the belief in the separation being real, or we will value truth, which is the Love of God. There is no common ground. A decision for one is a decision to exclude the other. You can only follow one thought system at any given time. As decision-maker, we are constantly making a choice between which belief system we will follow.

T-19.IV.A.12. Relationships in this world are the result of how the world is seen. 2 And **how the world is seen** depends on which emotion, **love or fear**, was called on to send its messengers to look upon **the world**, and return with word of what **the messenger of either love or fear** saw. 3 Fear's messengers are trained through terror, and **fear's messenger's** tremble when their master calls on them to serve **fear**. 4 For fear is merciless even to its friends. 5 **Fear's** messengers steal guiltily away in hungry search of guilt, for **fear's messengers** are kept cold and starving and made very vicious by their master, who allows them to feast only upon what they return to **their master, fear**. 6 No little shred of guilt escapes **fear's messengers'** hungry eyes. 7 And in **fear's messengers'** savage search for sin they pounce on any living thing they see, and carry **any living thing they see** screaming to their master, to be devoured.

Note # 50: The messengers of fear, which are sin and guilt, are indiscriminate in their desire to find anything that they can project their predetermined beliefs upon. Truth is irrelevant. Anyone will do. If no one appears to be available, the messenger will blame you. Belief in sin and guilt leads to blame which is projected out into the universe. The messenger's of fear are well-schooled guilt throwers, throwing blame on everything in sight including you.

T-19.IV.A.13. Send not these savage messengers into the world, to feast upon **the world** and to prey upon reality. 2 For **fear's messengers** will bring you word of bones and skin and flesh. 3 **Fear's messengers** have been taught to seek for the corruptible, and to return with gorges filled with things decayed and rotted. p410 4 To **fear's messengers** such **corruptible** things are beautiful, because they seem to allay their savage pangs of hunger. 5 For **fear's messengers** are frantic with the pain of fear, and would avert the punishment of **their master, fear**, who sends them forth by offering **their master who is fear** what **fear's messengers** hold dear.

Note # 51: The world of form is the home of the temporary. The world of perception is changeable. It arose from the belief in sin, guilt and fear. The body is the ego's symbol for sin. The body bears witness for the ego that you are not eternal and that God's Son is impure and born to sin. Our minds have been trained to be excellent guilt throwers and better guilt catchers. We are always trying to blame others to explain why we are not guilty. If we believe that we are guilty, we try to explain why it was not our fault. The body serves as an excellent role model for victim consciousness. By identifying our mind as the body, the body appears to prove that the separation was real.

The corruptible is anything in the world of perception that believes in the reality of sin, guilt and fear. When we are not exclusively following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are vulnerable to fear based thinking. When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, we are embraced in the invulnerability of love.

T-19.IV.A.14. The Holy Spirit has given you love's messengers to send instead of those you trained through fear. 2 **Love's messengers** are as eager to return to you what they hold dear as are the others. 3 If you send **love's messengers of forgiveness and truth** forth, they will see only the blameless and the beautiful, the gentle and the kind. 4 **Love's messengers of forgiveness and truth** will be as careful to let no little act of charity, no tiny expression of forgiveness, no little breath of love escape their notice. 5 And **forgiveness and truth** will return with all the happy things they found, to share them lovingly with you. 6 Be not afraid of **love's messengers**. 7 **Love's messengers** offer you salvation. 8 Theirs are the messages of safety, for **love's messengers of forgiveness and truth** see the world as kind.

Note # 52: When we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we view all of our experiences as either an expression of love or a cry for love. Perceiving our universe as a friendly and supportive place, our mind tells our physical senses to seek out and find the witnesses of love. All events are neutral. When we decide how we will choose to perceive an event, a positive or negative image is given to that event.. Do we look through the sunglasses of love or fear? Whichever we choose, these glasses will dictate how we view our world.

T-19.IV.A.15. If you send forth only the messengers the Holy Spirit gives you, wanting no messages but **the Holy Spirit's messengers**, you will see fear no more. 2 The world will be transformed before your sight, cleansed of all guilt and softly brushed with beauty. 3 The world contains no fear that you laid not upon **the world**. 4 And **no fear that** you cannot ask love's messengers to remove from **the world**, and see **the world** still. 5 The Holy Spirit has given you His messengers to send to your brother and return to you with what love sees. 6 **The Holy Spirit's messengers** have been given to replace the hungry dogs of fear you sent instead. 7 And **the Holy Spirit's messengers** go forth to signify the end of fear.

Note # 53: The Holy Spirit's messengers of love, which are forgiveness and truth, will reinterpret your misperception of our world from a fearful to a supportive place. These messengers of love will bear witness to the truth that the separation was only a bad dream. God's Child remains sinless and guiltless and has no reason to fear. We are not the body. We still remain eternally as God created us, perfect, whole and complete.

T-19.IV.A.16. Love, too, would set a feast before you, on a table covered with a spotless cloth, set in a quiet garden where no sound but singing and a softly joyous whispering is ever heard. 2 This is a feast that honors your holy relationship, and at which everyone is welcomed as an honored guest. 3 And in a holy instant grace is said by everyone together, as they join in gentleness before the table of communion. 4 And I will join you there **at this feast that honors your holy relationship** as long ago I promised and promise still. 5 For in your new **holy** relationship am I made welcome. 6 And where I am made welcome, there I am.

Note # 54: Jesus, like the Holy Spirit, patiently waits for our invitation. Jesus, like God Himself, is always found where truth and love abide. When we follow the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we abide in love. Our special relationships are transformed into holy ones that join the Sonship together. Jesus, Christ consciousness and the Holy Spirit, like us, are part of the shared Oneness that is the Mind of God. In the world of perception, we view our world dualistically. Because of this perceived duality, ACIM describes it as if the separation is real. In time, the separation appears to be real, yet in eternity time, like all illusions must also pass away. In reality, there is only the joined Oneness. This Oneness abides in and is Truth of that One Self.

T-19.IV.A.17. I am made welcome in the state of grace, which means you have at last forgiven me. 2 For I became the symbol of your sin, and so I had to die instead of you. 3 To the ego sin means death, and so **egoic** atonement is achieved through murder. 4 **Egoic** salvation is looked upon as a way by which the Son of God was killed instead of you. 5 Yet would I offer you my body, you whom I love, *<knowing>* **the body's** littleness? 6 Or would I teach that bodies cannot keep us apart? p411 7 **My body** was of no greater value than **your body**; no better means for communication of salvation, but not its Source. 8 No one can die for anyone, and death does not atone for sin. 9 But you can live to show **the body** is not real. 10 The body does appear to be the symbol of sin while you believe that **the body** can get you what you want. 11 While you believe that **the body** can give you pleasure, you will also believe that **the body** can bring you pain. 12 To think you could be satisfied and happy with so little **as the body** is to hurt yourself, and to limit the happiness that you would have calls upon pain to fill your meager store and make your life complete. 13 This is completion as the ego sees **life**. 14 For guilt creeps in where happiness has been removed, and substitutes **guilt** for **happiness**. 15 Communion is another kind of completion, which goes beyond guilt, because **communion** goes beyond the body.

Note # 55: Because of the ego's belief in the separation, sin, guilt and fear arose. The ego has distorted the true God of Love into an idol for fear. The ego sees the body as the symbol for sin. This requires that punishment and sacrifice must be administered before sin can be "forgiven". The ego's plan for salvation is to project all sin and guilt upon something else so that you, the sinner, will not have to be punished for your sins. In fundamentalist Christianity, Jesus becomes the scapegoat for everyone else's sin so that the sinners get a "free ride". This is typical egoic thinking. In Jesus, the ego finds is the ultimate victim for the projection of victim consciousness. We get to project our guilt on someone, who must now pay for our "crimes". Since the body is viewed as our essence, Jesus' body must be sacrificed through his death. This egoic version of salvation insures that we remain limited and incapable of any decision-making abilities that could allow us

to self-correct our error thinking. Something outside ourselves must do this for us. We always remain sinners under the ego's thought system because we always remain less than whole, perfect and complete.

Jesus was an embodiment of Christ consciousness. To both the Holy Spirit and Jesus, the body is a neutral communication device. The body is neither our spiritual essence nor a symbol of sin. The resurrection, not the crucifixion, was the message of Jesus' earthly death. The resurrection proved that we are not a body. Jesus states there are no victims and that no one can be hurt. Jesus was no different from us. Jesus says that we could look upon him as an older brother who is worthy of our respect. The only workable plan for our return to wholeness and knowledge is God's Plan. God's Plan is the Atonement. It removes sin, guilt and fear in exchange for the truth. In the Atonement, God proclaims that the Sonship is and always remains eternally sinless and guiltless as She created us. The only requirement is that we must accept the Atonement for ourselves. No one can do this for you. You must do it yourself. This completes your return to the One Self.

B. The Second Obstacle: The Belief the Body is Valuable for What It Offers

T-19.IV.B.1. We said that peace must first surmount the obstacle of your desire to get rid of **peace**. 2 Where the attraction of guilt holds sway, peace is not wanted. 3 The second obstacle that peace must flow across, and closely related to the first, **which is the desire to get rid of peace**, is the belief that the body is valuable for what **the body** offers. 4 For here **in the belief that the body is valuable for what the body offers** is the attraction of guilt made manifest in the body, and seen in **the body**.

Note # 56: Both the desire to get rid of peace and the belief that the body is valuable for what the body offers are closely related. The desire to get rid of peace comes from the wish for specialness born out of separation. Peace comes from the union of a Oneness of everything. The belief that the body can give us pleasure and comfort is the substitution that the ego offers as the replacement of the peace of union with the Oneness.

T-19.IV.B.2. This **belief that the body is valuable for what the body offers** is the value that you think peace would rob you of. 2 **The body** is what you believe that **peace** would dispossess, and leave you homeless. 3 And it is **the valuing of the body** for which you would deny a home to peace. 4 This **valuing of the body is a "sacrifice"** you feel to be too great to make, too much to ask of you. 5 Is **the abandonment of your valuing the body** a sacrifice, or a release? 6 What has the body really given you that justifies your strange belief that in **the body** lies salvation? 7 Do you not see that this **valuing the body** is the belief in death? 8 Here **in this valuing the body** is the focus of the perception of Atonement as murder. 9 Here **in this valuing the body** is the source of the idea that love is fear.

Note # 57: Again, it is our identification with our spiritual essence as being the body that is the source of the problem. The body, in and of itself, is a neutral communication device. The body has no value or power alone. The body is merely the instrument for the mind. It does what the mind tells it to do. When we believe that we are the body, we accept all the limitations that are associated with the body. We become "stuck" in space and time. We value the body form as the proof that we are special. We believe that without our body, our egoic self that we have come to identify and believe is our essence would be destroyed.

T-19.IV.B.3. The Holy Spirit's messengers of **forgiveness and truth** are sent far beyond the body, calling the mind to join in holy communion and be at peace. 2 Such is the message that I gave **the Holy Spirit's messengers** for you. 3 It is only the messengers of fear that see the body, for **the messengers of fear** look for what can suffer. 4 Is it a sacrifice to be removed from what can suffer? 5 The Holy Spirit does not demand you sacrifice the hope of the body's pleasure; **the body** <has> no hope of pleasure. 6 But neither can **the body** bring you fear of pain. 7 Pain is the only "sacrifice" the Holy Spirit asks, and this **"sacrifice" of pain, the Holy Spirit** <would> remove. p412

Note # 58: The messengers of love do not stop at the body-form but rather go beyond the veil of the body-form to find the witnesses for love. The underlying content of all experiences are understood to be either an expression of love or a cry for love. The Vision of Christ sees beyond the thin veil of form that blocks true vision and thus, sees our spiritual essence beyond the mask of the body-form. Its focus is on content, not form. The body cannot feel pain or pleasure, but the mind can believe that the body can. It is the belief that the body can give pleasure that is the attraction we want to maintain. Since the belief that the body is the source of pleasure is erroneous, to "sacrifice" is imagined power is to sacrifice nothing.

T-19.IV.B.4. Peace is extended from you only to the eternal, and **peace** reaches out from the eternal in you. 2 **Peace** flows across all else. 3 The second obstacle to **peace, which is belief that the body is valuable for what the body offers**, is no more solid than the first obstacle. **The first obstacle to peace was the desire to get rid of peace** 4 For **in truth**, you want neither to get rid of peace nor limit **peace**. 5 What are these obstacles that you would interpose between peace and **peace's** going forth but barriers you place between your will and **peace's** accomplishment? 6 You want communion, not the feast of fear. 7 You want salvation, not the pain of guilt. 8 And you want your Father, not a little mound of clay **that you perceive as your body**, to be your home. 9 In your holy relationship is your Father's Son. 10 **The Father's Son** has not lost communion with **the Father**, nor with himself. 11 When you agreed to join your brother, you acknowledged this **communion of Father and Son** is so. 12 This **acknowledgement of communion between Father and Son** has no cost, but **its acknowledgment is** release from cost.

Note # 59: Jesus states that our true nature yearns for us to return to the remembrance of God and the union of Creation's Oneness. Being a Oneness of everything, how could God's Child be happy with less? An illusion cannot satisfy our Big "S" Self.

T-19.IV.B.5. You have paid very dearly for your illusions, and nothing you have paid for brought you peace. 2 Are you not glad that Heaven cannot be sacrificed, and sacrifice cannot be asked of you? 3 There is no obstacle that you can place before our union, for in your holy relationship I am there already. 4 We will surmount all obstacles together, for we stand within the gates and not outside **the gates**. 5 How easily the gates are opened from within, to let peace through to bless the tired world! 6 Can it be difficult for us to walk past barriers together, when you have joined the limitless? 7 The end of guilt is in your hands to give. 8 Would you stop **the end of your guilt** now to look for guilt in your brother?

Note # 60: Love asks no sacrifice of you since love demands nothing. Love gives unconditionally. Although Love demands nothing from you, you are free to accept or deny

love's offerings. By rejecting the holiness of your brother, you reject your own holiness. For any limitation that you place on another, you also place upon yourself. To give is to receive for thoughts never leave their source. Free your brother and you release yourself. Our destiny, the peace of God, is a joint one. While in time and space our function is forgiveness, our purpose is love and our destiny, the peace of God.

T-19.IV.B.6. Let me be to you the symbol of the end of guilt, and look upon your brother as you would look on me, **your new symbol for the end of guilt.** 2 Forgive me all the sins you think the Son of God committed. 3 And in the light of your forgiveness **the split-minded** will remember who he is, and forget what never was, **which was the belief that God's Son was a "sinner"**. 4 I ask for your forgiveness, for if you are guilty, so must I be. 5 But if I surmounted guilt and overcame the world, you were with me. 6 Would you see in me the symbol of guilt or of the end of guilt, remembering that what I signify to you you see within yourself?

Note # 61: To the ego, Jesus is a symbol for guilt and sin. To the ego, Jesus, God's only Son, had to suffer and die for our sins. This is egoic proof that we are limited and separate ego-bodies that cannot be a part of the shared Mind of God. To the Holy Spirit, Jesus is a symbol for the end of guilt and the return of truth. Since our beliefs control how we perceive our provisional reality, our thoughts on how we choose to perceive Jesus will abide in our own minds. To give is to receive. Our thoughts are the stuff that makes up our world. If we accept that someone, like Jesus, broke the stranglehold of the ego's thought system and was, is and forever will be joined as the One Self, we all did and are that One Self.

T-19.IV.B.7. From your holy relationship truth proclaims the truth, and love looks on itself. 2 Salvation flows from deep within the home you offered to my Father and to me, **which is the Christ consciousness.** 3 And we are there together **in Christ consciousness,** in the quiet communion in which the Father and the Son are joined. 4 O come ye faithful to the holy union of the Father and the Son in you! 5 And keep you not apart from what is offered you in gratitude for giving peace its home in Heaven. 6 Send forth to all the world the joyous message of the end of guilt, and all the world will answer. 7 Think of your happiness as everyone offers you witness of the end of sin, and shows you that **sin's** power is gone forever. p413 8 Where can guilt be, when the belief in sin is gone? 9 And where is death, when **death's** great advocate, **sin,** is heard no more?

Note # 62: With the reinterpretation of the mad idea of separation as an error or mistake instead of a sin, guilt and fear are not longer possible. A mistake only requires correction. No punishment is demanded. The reawakening of the mind to the eternal truth of our shared Oneness is returned. There is only One Mind and One Will. We freely accept and know that creation is the extension of the Mind of God.

T-19.IV.B.8. Forgive me your illusions, and release me from punishment for what I have not done. 2 So will you learn the freedom that I taught by teaching freedom to your brother, and so releasing me. 3 I am within your holy relationship, yet you would imprison me behind the obstacles you raise to freedom, and bar my way to you. 4 Yet it is not possible to keep away One Who is there already **with you.** 5 And in **the One Who is already there,**

it *<is>* possible that our communion, where we are joined already, will be the focus of the new perception that will bring light to all the world, contained in you.

Note # 63: The Christ conscious mind is our home, our brother's home, the Holy Spirit's home, Jesus' home, and the home of the Father. It is the unified universal Mind of God. Our egoic mind can deny this truth, but the ego's illusions are powerless to change this reality. Truth is true always. The illusion of separation never had any reality other than in a fanciful dream of the egoic mind.

In this paragraph, Jesus asks that we forgive and release him from our illusions of what we thought he did to us. Of course, what we perceived Jesus did to us never happened. This demonstrates ACIM definition of forgiveness. Only within the mind of the dreamer can forgiveness be offered and obtained since only within our mind did the dream take place. All misperception and judgment is in the mind of the perceiver. We have mistaken a brother's cry for love as an attack. How can a brother make amends for a crime he did not commit? This would require sacrifice on a brother's part yet love never demands sacrifice of any kind.

i. The Attraction of Pain

T-19.IV.B.9. Your little part is but to give the Holy Spirit the whole idea of **your need for egoic sacrifice**. 2 And to accept the peace **the Holy Spirit** gives instead as a **replacement for your egoic need to sacrifice**, without the limits that would hold **peace's** extension back, and so would limit your awareness of **peace**. 3 For what **the Holy Spirit** gives must be extended if you would have **peace's** limitless power, and use **peace's limitless power and your awareness of peace** for the Son of God's release. 4 It is not this **awareness of peace** you would be rid of, and having **this awareness of peace** you cannot limit **the power of peace**. 5 If peace is homeless, so are you and so am I. 6 And **the Christ** Who is our home is homeless with us. 7 Is this your wish? 8 Would you forever be a wanderer in search of peace? 9 Would you invest your hope of peace and happiness in what must fail, **which is the egoic plan that sacrifice is required to obtain peace?**

Note # 64: The Holy Spirit's home and our home is the Christ consciousness. This is also the home of God, the Father. To believe that our home is the body is to place limits on our power. The ego's plan for salvation requires that we sacrifice our happiness for the goal of specialness and limitation. The ego says we must do something to earn God's love. It claims that God demands that we must sacrifice something so that we can earn God's forgiveness for our imagined sins. The Holy Spirit states that our happiness is being our Big "S" Self. Love requires no sacrifice, but egoic special relationships always do. The Holy Spirit asks that we give all of our relationship over to the Holy Spirit so that He can miraculously transform them into holy relationships that teach only forgiveness and love.

T-19.IV.B.10. Faith in the eternal is always justified, for the eternal is forever kind, infinite in its patience and wholly loving. 2 **The eternal** will accept you wholly, and give you peace. 3 Yet **the eternal** can unite only with what already is at peace in you, immortal as itself. 4 The body, **which is not eternal**, can bring you neither peace nor turmoil; neither joy nor pain. 5 **The body** is a means, and not an end. 6 **The body** has no purpose of itself, but only what **purpose** is given to **the body by the mind**. 7 The body will seem to be whatever is the means for reaching the goal that you assign to **the body**. 8 Only the mind can set a purpose **you assign to the body**, and only the mind can see the means for **the**

purpose's accomplishment, and justify **the body's** use. 9 Peace and guilt are both conditions of the mind, to be attained. 10 And these conditions of **peace or guilt** are the home of the emotion of **love or fear** that calls them forth, and therefore is compatible with them.

Note # 65: The ego and its thought system are based on the emotion of fear, which arises out of our self-imposed guilt. The Holy Spirit and its thought system are the voice for the emotion of love, whose condition is peace. The decision-maker must decide which voice it will follow. Each emotion has its own condition. Love's condition is peace. Fear's condition is guilt. They are mutually exclusive and cannot co-exist. While time exists, our decision-maker must choose what emotion it will value.

T-19.IV.B.11. But think you which **emotion and condition** is compatible with you. 2 Here is your choice, and **the decision as to which emotion you will follow** <is> free. 3 But all that lies in **the emotion of either love or fear** will come with **the decision**, and what you think you are can never be apart from **the decision as to which emotion you will follow**. 4 The body is the great seeming betrayer of faith. p414 5 In **the body** lies disillusionment and the seeds of faithlessness, but only if you ask of **the body** what **the body** cannot give **which is love**. 6 Can your mistake be reasonable grounds for depression and disillusionment, and for retaliative attack on what you think has failed you, **which is the body**? 7 Use not your **error of identifying yourself as the body** as the justification for your faithlessness. 8 You have not sinned, but you have been mistaken in what is faithful. 9 And the correction of your mistake **of identifying yourself as the fearful body** will give you grounds for faith.

Note # 66: It is our decision to identify ourselves as the body, instead of unlimited mind, that is the source of our problem. This decision for separation was a mistake, not a sin. Mistakes only require correction. Since we believe that we are the body, we look upon the body for the obtainment of all our perceived needs. Since all our physicals senses tell us that the body is limited and vulnerable, this engenders great fear within our mind. Our mind tells the body that our needs will not be met. If our bodily needs are not met, the body, which is perceived to be our home, will die and so will we. The belief that we are a body engenders fear while the belief that we are unlimited spirit leads to peace. The body cannot love because it is incapable of emotion. The body is only the order-taker for the mind. Because we have free will, it is our mind that will act as decision-maker and choose which emotion we will value. If the mind perceives itself as a body, it must choose fear. We need to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit if we are to choose for love and its condition, which is peace.

T-19.IV.B.12. It is impossible to seek for pleasure through the body and not find pain. 2 It is essential that this relationship **of seeking pleasure through the body yet finding pain** be understood, for **this relationship of seeking pleasure through the body yet finding pain** is one the ego sees as proof of sin. 3 **This relationship of seeking pleasure through the body yet finding pain** is not really punitive at all. 4 **Pain** is but the inevitable result of equating yourself with the body, which is the invitation to pain. 5 For **the body** invites fear to enter and **fear** become your purpose. 6 The attraction of guilt <must> enter with **fear**, and whatever fear directs the body to do is therefore painful. 7 **The body** will share the pain of all illusions, and the illusion of pleasure will be the same as pain.

Note # 67: Believing that we are a limited ego-body, we identify our essence as the body. The body arose from our belief in the separation due to our sin against God. Through our egoic special relationships, we seek pleasure but these relationships always require sacrifice, which always results in pain. Pain is the natural result of the perceived limitation that is the body. The separation led to fear, and fear maintains the separation. Pain and the inevitable death of the body support the ego's belief that the separation is real.

T-19.IV.B.13. Is not this inevitable **that the body will share the pain of all illusions, and the illusion of pleasure will be the same as pain?** 2 Under fear's orders the body will pursue guilt, serving its **egoic** master, whose attraction to guilt maintains the whole illusion of **the body's** existence. 3 This **relationship of seeking pleasure through the body, which inevitably results in pain**, then, is the attraction of pain. 4 Ruled by this perception, **which seeks pleasure through the body**, the body becomes the servant of pain, seeking **pain** dutifully and obeying the idea that pain is pleasure. 5 It is this idea **that pain is pleasure** that underlies all of the ego's heavy investment in the body. 6 And it is this insane relationship **that pain is pleasure** that **the ego** keeps hidden, and yet feeds upon. 7 To you **the ego** teaches that the body's pleasure is happiness. 8 Yet to itself **the ego** whispers, "**That the body's pleasure is death.**"

Note # 68: The ego's thought system is tied directly to the belief that you are a body. To be a body, we gave up the union of the Oneness that was everything. To reward you for this decision to deny our One Self, the ego tells us that we can find pleasure or happiness within the confines of the body. In the special relationship, the ego tells us that we can make ourselves whole or less incomplete by obtaining something from outside ourselves. The special relationship usually requires some sort of bartering in which we must sacrifice something to obtain something in return. Conditional relationships engender all kinds of fears but always confirm that we lack something and, therefore, are not whole. Unless the Holy Spirit can transform the ego's special relationships into holy ones, these relationships will ultimately result in pain. Even finding your "soul mate" will result in pain when one partner dies. Believing that we are the body, we seek pleasure in the body, but these relationships ultimately end in pain. Our pursuit of pleasure becomes our pursuit of pain. The motto of the ego remains "Seek and do not find." Illusions are the ego's pursuit of happiness through specialness. This pursuit of these illusions comes at the cost of our Oneness and the denial of God's Love.

T-19.IV.B.14. Why should the body be anything to you? 2 Certainly what **the body** is made of is not precious. 3 And just as certainly **the body** has no feeling. 4 **The body** transmits to you the feelings that you want. 5 Like any communication medium the body receives and sends the messages that **the body** is given **from the mind**. 6 **The body** has no feeling for **the messages it transmits**. 7 All of the feeling with which **these messages** are invested is given by the **minds of the** sender and the receiver. 8 The ego and the Holy Spirit both recognize **that all feeling in the message comes from only the minds of the sender or receiver**. And both **the ego and the Holy Spirit** also recognize that here the sender and receiver **of the messages** are the same. 9 The Holy Spirit tells you this, **that the sender and receiver of the messages are the same**, with joy. 10 The ego hides **the fact that the sender and receiver of the messages are the same** for **the ego** would keep you unaware of **this fact that the sender and receiver of the messages are the same**. 11 Who

would send messages of hatred and attack if he but understood he sends them to himself?
12 Who would accuse, make guilty and condemn himself?

Note # 69: The body is merely a communication device. Through this device, our mind is constantly sending out thoughts of either love or fear. Our mind has no other frequency since love and fear are opposites with no compromise in between. Any emotion other than love and fear are just “fine tuning” into these “wave bands”. The thought system that we follow will dictate which frequency of thought pattern we transmit from the body. The body, which is merely a neutral communication device, does not care on which frequency it transmits. The body will transmit on whatever emotional frequency that the mind tells it to. The body has no power to edit or change what the mind orders it to transmit. The Holy Spirit knows that you remain a Oneness. Since there is nothing outside the Oneness, whatever we send, we will receive. The ego, claiming that we are not part of the Oneness, tells us that the sender is different from the receiver. If we knew that all our thought patterns are projections that reflect back on us, we would be very careful about what we choose to send out. Our thoughts become the projected “things” that we perceive.

T-19.IV.B.15. The ego's messages are always sent **or projected** away from you, in the belief that for your message of attack and guilt will someone other than yourself suffer. p415 2 And even if you suffer, yet someone else will suffer more. 3 The great deceiver, **the ego**, recognizes that this is not so **and that thoughts do not leave their source**. But as the "enemy" of peace, **the ego** urges you to send out all your messages of hate and free yourself **from your hate by projecting it upon another**. 4 And to convince you this is possible, **the ego** bids the body search for pain in attack upon another, calling **the pain in attack upon another** pleasure and offering **the pain in attack upon another** to you as freedom *<from>* attack.

Note # 70: The ego's main tool for our supposed happiness is projection. Projection is the mind's attempt to get rid of something we do not want. We project the undesired thought out of our mind in an attempt to transfer it onto another. We then believe that this undesired thought is outside our mind and not part of our own egoic thinking. We make the other party the scapegoat of our guilty. To blame another feels better than having to blame ourselves. Unfortunately, since thoughts never leave their source, projection merely conceals the true cause and effect relationship. Rather than understanding that our own mind's thoughts are the cause, it appears that the source of the undesirable event is outside our mind. We now get to claim that we are innocent victims of the outside world. We can blame someone else for our problems and attack them for the “wrong” that we have suffered at their hands. This is why ACIM's definition of forgiveness is always to forgive your brother for what you imagined your brother did to you. Both guilt and forgiveness are always an inside job. Ideas never leave their source. All healing takes place in our mind, not the communication device we call the body.

T-19.IV.B.16. Hear not **the ego's** madness **that you can escape your own thoughts by projecting them outside your mind**, and believe not the impossible is true. 2 Forget not that the ego has dedicated the body to the goal of sin, and places in **the body** all **the ego's** faith that this **goal of sin** can be accomplished. 3 **The ego's** sad disciples, **who are those under the egoic thought system**, chant the body's praise continually, in solemn celebration of the ego's rule. 4 Not one but must believe that yielding to the attraction of guilt is the

escape from pain. 5 Not one **of the ego's disciples** but must regard the body as himself, without which he would die, and yet within which is his death equally inevitable.

Note # 71: To follow the logic of the egoic thought system only leads to belief in pain and, ultimately, death. Belief in the separation is the belief and desire for sin, guilt and fear. The wages of the ego's belief in sin is death. Believe that you are the body and you deny your divine birthright. The ego tells you that you are the body, yet its thought system is powerless to protect your new home from the ego's attacks. In secrecy, the ego plots for your destruction.

T-19.IV.B.17. It is not given to the ego's disciples to realize that they have dedicated themselves to death. 2 Freedom is offered **the ego's disciples** but **those who follow the egoic thought system** have not accepted **the Holy Spirit's offer of freedom**, and what is offered must also be received, to be truly given. 3 For the Holy Spirit, too, is a communication medium, receiving from the Father and offering **the Father's** messages unto the Son. 4 Like the ego, the Holy Spirit is both the sender and the receiver. 5 For what is sent through **the Holy Spirit** returns to **the Holy Spirit**, seeking itself along the way, and finding what it seeks. 6 So does the ego find the death *<it>* seeks, returning **death** to you.

Note # 72: The Holy Spirit sends out the Father's message of the Atonement. But to receive the message, we must also be willing to send this same message. When we refuse to send the message of the guiltlessness of our brother, we refuse to accept the Atonement for ourselves. By projecting the messages of sin, guilt, fear and hate to our brother, we get to keep these same limitations within our split-mind. The Holy Spirit cannot force us to accept the Atonement. It must be freely accepted by each one of us.

C. The Third Obstacle: The Attraction of Death

T-19.IV.C.1. To you and your brother, in whose special relationship the Holy Spirit entered, **the egoic special relationship has now been made holy and** is given to release and be released from the **egoic** dedication to death. 2 For **death** was offered you **in the egoic special relationship**, and you accepted **death**. 3 Yet you must learn still more about this strange devotion **to death**, for **your devotion and attraction to death** contains the third obstacle that peace must flow across. 4 No one can die unless he chooses death. 5 What seems to be the fear of death is really **death's** attraction. 6 Guilt, too, is feared and fearful. 7 Yet **guilt** could have no hold at all except on those who are attracted to **guilt** and seek **guilt** out. 8 And so it is with death. 9 Made by the ego, **death's** dark shadow falls across all living things, because the ego is the "enemy" of life.

Note # 73: All events are merely neutral learning devices. There is no perceived experience that cannot be transformed from a thought of fear to one of love. Every perception comes out of these two emotions. What you believe yourself to be will determine which thought system you will follow. Are you unlimited spirit, united in the Mind of God? Or, do you perceive yourself to be a limited ego-body, identified as the body? We are currently followers of the egoic thought system. ACIM's goal is to convert us into followers of the Holy Spirit, which is the Christ hidden deep within our sleeping minds. Following the ego is a decision to be "right" rather than to be happy. Death is the final defense that "proves" the ego is right when it claims that we are separate from God. The body's death is the ego's

ultimate proof that we are not the eternal One Self. Death “proves” that your will and God’s Will cannot be the same.

T-19.IV.C.2. And yet a shadow cannot kill. 2 What is a shadow to the living? 3 **The living** but walk past and **the shadow** is gone. 4 But what of those whose dedication is not to live. **These are those who follow the thought system of the ego and, therefore, identify themselves as the body separate from the One Self;** the black-draped "sinners," the ego's mournful chorus, plodding so heavily away from life, dragging their chains and marching in the slow procession that honors their grim master, **the ego, who is** lord of death? p416 5 Touch any one of them **who believe they are the body** with the gentle hands of forgiveness, and watch the chains fall away, along with **your chains**. 6 See him, **who believed he was the body**, throw aside the black robe he was wearing to his funeral, and hear him laugh at death. 7 The sentence sin would lay upon him, **who believed he was the body**, can be escape through your forgiveness. 8 This, **your ability to forgive the illusion of sin and thus, offering salvation to your brother**, is no arrogance. 9 **Your ability to forgive the illusion of sin and thus, offering salvation to your brother** is the Will of God. 10 What is impossible to you who chose **God’s Will as your will**? 11 What is death to you **who have united in God’s Will**? 12 Your dedication is not to death, nor to its master, **the egoic thought system of separation**. 13 When you accepted the Holy Spirit's purpose in place of the ego's **purpose**, you renounced death, exchanging **death** for life. 14 We know that an idea leaves not its source. 15 And death is the result of the thought we call the ego, as surely as life is the result of the Thought of God.

Note # 74: Death is the logical outcome of the choice for separation. Separation is the belief that there is something other than the Will of God. It is the idea that we could be something other than as God created us. Separation is the doubting that creation is extension and that somehow we could be something other than perfect, whole and complete. It is the request to be special: To be something other than the Oneness. Before the moment that the Sonship thought this desire and identified himself as separate from his Source, the Creator placed within us the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the communication medium, receiving from the Father and offering the Father’s messages unto the Son. The Holy Spirit’s purpose is to reawaken our sleeping mind’s Christ consciousness that is hidden within our split-mind. The remembrance of God is merely a choice away. The decision-maker must freely choose to be a conduit for the Voice of God. God created the Sonship as a thought of God to be a conduit for love. While in the world of perception and time, love is the creative process in which time is utilized to awaken sleeping minds to their spiritual magnificence of the One Self. This is the function of the Holy Spirit. When we accept the guidance of the thought system of the Holy Spirit, we become the conduit for the Holy Spirit’s achievement of the Sonship’s return to the shared Oneness of the Mind of God. By our acceptance, our brother is also granted his salvation.

i. The Incorruptible Body

T-19.IV.C.3. From the ego came sin and guilt and death, in opposition to life and innocence, and to the Will of God Himself. 2 Where can such opposition **to the Will of God** lie but in the sick minds of the insane, dedicated to **egoic** madness and set against the peace of Heaven? 3 One thing is sure; God, Who created neither sin nor death, will not that you be bound by **neither sin nor death**. 4 **God** knows of neither sin nor **sin’s** results,

which is death. 5 The shrouded figures in the funeral procession march not in honor of their Creator, Whose Will it is they live. 6 They, **who have identified themselves as the body and follow the thought system of the ego,** are not following **God's Will**; they are opposing **God's Will**.

Note # 75: God's Will is unchangeable. Nothing can change God's Will, which declares that creation is the extension of God, Herself. The ego can deny the truth, but this does not change the truth. Truth, which is God's Will, just is. Although the ego can desire the specialness of separation, this wish, if possible, could only bring with it the illusion of death. For God is life. To be separate from God or Life would be to be dead. As long as we choose to value specialness, we will also believe and value death. The illusion of separation, its specialness from the One Self and death are inseparable.

T-19.IV.C.4. And what is the black-draped body they **who identified themselves with the thought system of the ego** would bury? 2 A body which they **who identified themselves with the ego have** dedicated to death **is** a symbol of corruption, a sacrifice to sin, offered to sin to feed upon and keep itself alive; a thing condemned, damned by its **egoic** maker and lamented by every mourner who looks upon **the body** as himself. 3 You who believe you have condemned the Son of God to this **belief that you are the body** <are> arrogant. 4 But you who would release him **from the mistake that he is the body** are but honoring the Will of his Creator. 5 The arrogance of sin, the pride of guilt, the sepulchre of separation, all are part of your unrecognized dedication to death. 6 The glitter of guilt you laid upon the body would kill **the body**. 7 For what the ego loves, **which is the body, the ego** kills for **the body's** obedience **to the ego**. 8 But what obeys **the ego** not, **the ego** cannot kill.

Note # 76: Although we might speak of the body as a follower of the ego, the body is really just an order taker for the mind. Ultimately, it is the mind's decision-maker that must decide which thought system he will follow. If we choose for specialness and separation, we have sided with the ego and will believe that we are the body. But since we are the decision-maker, we can choose again. We also tend to speak as if the ego had an independent existence outside ourselves. The ego is that part of the mind that wanted to be special. The ego is that part of the mind that wanted to experience what it would be like to be something that it was not; to be something other than God, the One Self. The Sonship, like the Creator, being only love, could not be anything but love. The egoic mind could and does pretend that fear, love's opposite, can exist. In Heaven, only love is real. In the ego's world of perception, conflict is possible and both love and fear appear to be viable choices.

T-19.IV.C.5. You have another dedication that would keep the body incorruptible and perfect as long as **the body** is useful for your holy purpose, **which is the following of the Holy Spirit's thought system to return the Sonship to the truth of the One Self.** p417 2 The body no more dies than **the body** can feel. 3 **The body** does nothing. 4 Of itself **the body** is neither corruptible nor incorruptible. 5 **The body** <is> nothing. 6 **The body** is the result of a tiny, mad **egoic** idea of corruption that can be corrected. 7 For God has answered this insane idea with His Own, **which is the Holy Spirit and the Atonement**; an Answer which left Him, **the Christ** not, and therefore brings the Creator to the awareness of every mind which heard **God's Answer** and accepted **God's Answer**.

Note # 77: God's answer for the mad idea of the separation is the Atonement principle. The Atonement principle states that God's creation remains as God created him. That the separation had no reality within the Mind of God and, therefore, God's Son remains innocent, sinless and guiltless. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for God that carries this message. The home of the Holy Spirit is our Christ consciousness. It is this Christ conscious part of the mind that never forgets what we are. The body is a neutral communication device that can serve either the voice for love or fear. The decision-maker must decide where he will place his allegiance. The choice is between truth and illusion, oneness or separation.

T-19.IV.C.6. You who are dedicated to the incorruptible, **which is the truth of the One Self**, have been given through your acceptance **of the Holy Spirit's thought system**, the power to release from corruption. 2 What better way to teach the first and fundamental principle in a course on miracles than by showing you the one **principle in ACIM** that seems to be the hardest can be accomplished first? 3 The body can but serve your purpose. 4 As you look on **the body**, so will **the body** seem to be. 5 Death, were **death** true, would be the final and complete disruption of communication, which is the ego's goal.

Note # 78: In Chapter One of ACIM, the first principle was stated, as "There is no order of difficulty in miracles One is not "harder" or "bigger" than another. They are all the same. All expressions of love are maximal." The Holy Spirit utilizes the body to be a communication device through which It can teach only forgiveness and love to the sleeping Child of God. The fundamental principle of ACIM is: "Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists." Miracles have no order of difficulty since the correction is always the same. Bring truth to illusion and the false will disappear.

T-19.IV.C.7. Those who fear death, **those who see themselves as the ego-body**, see not how often and how loudly they call to **death**, and bid **death** come to save them from communication. 2 For death is seen as safety, the great dark savior from the light of truth, the answer to the Answer **of the Atonement**, the silencer of the Voice that speaks for God, **the Holy Spirit**. 3 Yet the retreat to death is not the end of conflict. 4 Only God's Answer **of the Atonement** is its end **of the conflict of separation**. 5 The obstacle of your seeming love for death that peace must flow across seems to be very great. 6 For in **your seeming love for death** lie hidden all the ego's secrets, all **the ego's** strange devices for deception, all **the ego's** sick ideas and weird imaginings. 7 Here **in the death of the body** is the final end of union, the triumph of the ego's making over creation, the victory of lifelessness on Life Itself.

Note # 79: If our ego fears that the Voice for God is about to be heard, our decision-maker may choose to "pull the plug" and die rather than accept the fact that the ego was wrong and did not know what we were. We fear losing our egoic specialness by joining and accepting the Oneness. To side for separation is to vote to follow the guidance of the ego. To the ego, the ultimate proof that the separation is real is its belief in death. If you are the body, you must die. This proves that the ego has triumphed over the Will of God. Through the death of the body, which the ego claims is you; the ego has changed the changeless Son of God. We are no longer an eternal, shared Oneness of the Mind of God. Instead, we have an existence and a will that is different from God's.

T-19.IV.C.8. Under the dusty edge of its distorted world, the ego would lay the Son of God, slain by **the ego's** orders, proof in his decay that God Himself is powerless before the ego's might, unable to protect the life that **God** created against the ego's savage wish to kill. 2 My brother, child of our Father, this is an **egoic** <dream> of death. 3 There is no funeral, no dark altars, no grim commandments nor twisted rituals of condemnation to which the body leads you. 4 Ask not release of < **this egoic dream of death.**> 5 But free < **this egoic dream of death.**> from the merciless and unrelenting orders you laid upon **the body**, and forgive **the body** what you ordered **the body** to do. 6 In **the ego's** exaltation you commanded **the body** to die, for only death could conquer life. 7 And what but insanity could look upon the defeat of God, and think **the defeat of God** real?

Note # 80: Being unlimited spirit, we are eternal. It is only through our belief that we are the body, can we appear to die. We need to free ourselves from the entire thought system of the ego if this egoic dream of death is to disappear. The Holy Spirit's thought system will lead us from this illusionary dream of separation back to the truth. ACIM tell us not to pray for death's release since that would make the illusion of death appear real. Instead, it suggests freeing ourselves from the dream of death by bring the false before the light of truth. This will return our mind to sanity.

T-19.IV.C.9. The fear of death will go as **death's** appeal is yielded to love's real attraction. 2 The end of sin, which nestles quietly in the safety of your **holy** relationship, protected by your union with your brother, and ready to grow into a mighty force for God is very near. p418 3 The infancy of salvation is carefully guarded by love, preserved from every thought that would attack **the infancy of salvation**, and quietly made ready to fulfill the mighty task for which it was given you. 4 Your newborn purpose is nursed by angels, cherished by the Holy Spirit and protected by God Himself. 5 **The infancy of salvation** needs not your **egoic** protection; **salvation** is <yours.> 6 For **salvation** is deathless, and within **salvation's end of sin** lies the end of death.

Note # 81: When we ask the Holy Spirit to reinterpret our misperception, our Christ conscious center begins to awaken. Each time we choose for the Holy Spirit, we weaken fear's grip on our mind and start to reopen our sleeping mind to the power of love and forgiveness. By adopting the thought system of truth and love, we become an instrument for salvation. By accepting the Atonement for ourselves, we grant forgiveness from sin and guilt to our brother and ourselves. We hear the Voice for God. We allow the body to be used by the Holy Spirit to communicate and teach only love. Our special relationships are transformed into holy ones. With the transformation of sin into a mistake that only requires correction, God's Son accepts the truth that he remains sinless and guiltless. His divine birthright is reclaimed.

T-19.IV.C.10. What danger can assail the wholly innocent? 2 What can attack the guiltless? 3 What fear can enter and disturb the peace of sinlessness? 4 What has been given you, **your Christ consciousness**, even in its infancy, is in full communication with God and you. 5 In its tiny hands **the Christ** holds, in perfect safety, every miracle you will perform, held out to you. 6 The miracle of life is ageless, born in time but nourished in eternity. 7 Behold this infant, **the Christ**, to whom you gave a resting place by your forgiveness of your brother, and see in it the Will of God. 8 Here is the babe of Bethlehem

reborn. 9 And everyone who gives **the Christ** shelter will follow **the Christ**, not to the cross, but to the resurrection and the life.

Note # 82: The Christ consciousness was created as the extension of God and always remains in union with the Mind of God. God is life. When we reawaken from the egoic thought system to the truth, we reclaim our divine birthright and exchange the dream of nothingness for the reality of Heaven. Nothing the ego does can disturb the Christ within us.

T-19.IV.C.11. When anything seems to you to be a source of fear, when any situation strikes you with terror and makes your body tremble and the cold sweat of fear comes over **your body**, remember it is always for *<one>* reason; the ego has perceived **your body** as a symbol of fear, a sign of sin and death. 2 Remember, then, that neither sign nor symbol should be confused with source, for **both sign and symbol** must stand for something other than themselves. 3 **The meaning of a sign or a symbol** cannot lie in them, but must be sought in what **the sign or symbol** represent. 4 And **the sign or symbol** may thus mean everything or nothing, according to the truth or falsity of the idea which they reflect. 5 Confronted with such seeming uncertainty of meaning, judge **the sign or symbol** not. 6 Remember the holy Presence of the One given to you to be the Source of judgment, **which is the Holy Spirit**. 7 Give **the sign or symbol** to **the Holy Spirit** to judge for you, and say:

*8 **Holy Spirit** take this **sign or symbol** from me and look upon it, judging **the sign or symbol** for me.*

*9 Let me not see it as a sign of sin and death, nor use **the sign or symbol** for destruction.*

*10 Teach me how not to make of **the sign or symbol** an obstacle to peace, but let You, **the Holy Spirit** use **the sign or symbol** for me, to facilitate **peace's** coming. p419*

Note # 83: The world of perception is a world of form. Although thought forms can take various shapes all of which appear to be unique and different from one another, the content is limited to two “frequencies”. The content will either be truth or illusion, love or fear. It cannot be both. The ego tells us that the form is what matters. The ego, which is a judging machine, decides how to respond based on its interpretation to the form, not the content. Content is of little concern to the ego. The form is only a sign or symbol for the underlying thought, which is the content. The content or thought will be coming from the emotion of either love or fear. The Holy Spirit is concerned with content, not form. When the ego focuses on the form, it will see attack. The Holy Spirit’s focus, however, will be on the content and It will see only a cry for love. Because we have forgotten knowledge and have chosen to perceive based on egoic past misperceptions, we are unable to judge correctly. ACIM tells us to reject the egoic thought system, to judge nothing. ACIM, instead, suggests that we request the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will look past the form to the content, and teach only forgiveness and love. This will lead to truth, which is the Peace of God.

D. The Fourth Obstacle: The Fear of God

T-19.IV.D.1. What would you see without the fear of death? 2 What would you feel and think if death held no attraction for you? 3 Very simply, you would remember your Father. 4 The Creator of life, the Source of everything that lives, the Father of the universe and of the universe of universes, and of everything that lies even beyond **the universes** would you

remember. 5 And as this memory **of the Father** rises in your mind, peace must still surmount a final obstacle **to peace, which is the fear of God**, after which is salvation completed, and the Son of God entirely restored to sanity. 6 For here **with the Sonship's return to sanity** your world <does> end.

Note # 84: With the removal of all the obstacles to peace, we will return to the remembrance of God. This remembrance of God is simply the return to whole mindedness. This is the end of egoic desires to be something other than the extension of God.

T-19.IV.D.2. The fourth obstacle **to peace, the fear of God**, to be surmounted hangs like a heavy veil before the face of Christ. 2 Yet as **Christ's** face rises beyond **the final obstacle to peace**, shining with joy because **Christ** is in His Father's Love, peace will lightly brush the veil aside and run to meet **Christ**, and to join with **Christ** at last. 3 For this dark veil **of the fear of God**, which seems to make the face of Christ Himself like to a leper's, and the bright Rays of His Father's Love that light **Christ's** face with glory appear as streams of blood, fades in the blazing light beyond it when the fear of death is gone.

Note # 85: The fear of death is tied to our fear of God. Death is the ego's ultimate proof that we are separate from God. Fear of death is needed to support the ego's god of fear, which seeks revenge for our sins. To the ego, sin calls for punishment. At our body's death comes our little "s" self's punishment in hell or our extermination. If the fear of death is lifted, the egoic god of fear will also fade away. With the lifting of all the obstacles to peace and love, the Sonship would return to the remembrance of Its true nature, which is a Oneness with God.

T-19.IV.D.3. This **fear of God** is the darkest veil, upheld by the belief in death and protected by **death's** attraction. 2 The dedication to death and to **death's** sovereignty is but the solemn vow, the promise made in secret to the ego never to lift this veil **of our dedication to death**, not to approach it, nor even to suspect that **our dedication to death** is there. 3 This is the secret bargain made with the ego to keep what lies beyond the **dedication to death's** veil forever blotted out and unremembered. 4 Here is your promise never to allow union to call you out of separation; **our fear of God** is the great amnesia in which the memory of God seems quite forgotten; the cleavage of your Self, **the Christ**, from you;— <the fear of God,> the final step in your dissociation.

Note # 86: With the acceptance of the ego's belief in death, we also accept that we are the body. The death of the body insures that we can never rejoin the Oneness of the Creator. With our bodily death and the ego's damnation of whatever remains to hell, we are permanently separated from the Creator. The ego's triumph over the God of Love is complete. The ego does not want us to look beyond death to our fear of God for if we did examine it, we would find nothing to fear from the true God of Love.

T-19.IV.D.4. See how the belief in death would seem to "save" you. 2 For if this **belief in death** were gone, what could you fear but life? 3 It is the attraction of death that makes life seem to be ugly, cruel and tyrannical. 4 You are no more afraid of death than of the ego. 5 **Death and the ego** are your chosen friends. 6 For in your secret alliance with **death and the ego** you have agreed never to let the fear of God be lifted, so you could look upon the face of Christ and join **Christ** in His Father.

Note # 87: As long as we fear God, we will refuse to seek the Voice for God, the Holy Spirit. We cling to the body only to relinquish it in death if and when God gets too close.

T-19.IV.D.5. Every obstacle that peace must flow across is surmounted in just the same way; the fear that raised **the obstacle to peace** yields to the love beyond, and so the fear is gone. 2 And so it is with this **final obstacle to peace**. 3 The desire to get rid of peace and drive the Holy Spirit from you fades in the presence of the quiet recognition that you love **Christ and the Holy Spirit that abides in the Christ**. p420 4 The exaltation of the body is given up in favor of the spirit, which you love as you could never love the body. 5 And the appeal of death is lost forever as love's attraction stirs and calls to you. 6 From beyond each of the obstacles to love, Love Itself, **which is God**, has called. 7 And each **obstacle** has been surmounted by the power of the attraction of **God's Love that** lies beyond. 8 Your wanting fear seemed to be holding **the obstacle to peace** in place. 9 Yet when you heard the Voice of Love beyond **the obstacle to peace**, you answered and **the obstacle to peace** disappeared.

Note # 88: Ultimately, it is the remembrance of God that allows us to overcome our belief in the egoic thought system. When the "mad idea" of the separation first occurred, the Christ conscious part of our mind never forgot what we were. The Christ Consciousness is the home of the Holy Spirit and the Father. It is the Holy Spirit's function to return the small egoic element of the now split-mind to right-mindedness. Throughout this journey back to the Oneness, the Love of God calls for the removal of all barriers that the ego has placed to block the remembrance of God. These barriers to love are the ego's thought system. The Holy Spirit reactivates the Vision of Christ through the guidance of Its thought system. With the return of Christ Vision, we look past the form of the body and once again see our unlimited spirit, which is the Oneness.

T-19.IV.D.6. And now you stand in terror before what you swore never to look upon, **the face of Christ**. 2 Your eyes look down, remembering your promise to your "friends", **who are death, sin, guilt, fear and the ego** 3 The "loveliness" of sin, the delicate appeal of guilt, the "holy" waxen image of death, and the fear of vengeance of the ego you swore in blood not to desert, all rise and bid you not to raise your eyes. 4 For you realize that if you look on **the face of Christ** and let the veil of **the fear of God** be lifted, < **death, sin, guilt, fear and the ego** > will be gone forever. 5 All of your **egoic** "friends," your **egoic** "protectors" and your **egoic** "home" will vanish. 6 Nothing that you remember now will you remember.

Note # 89: There is no middle ground for compromise. Either you vote for the thought system of the ego or the Holy Spirit's. ACIM aims to remove all obstacles to love that the ego has placed to hide the truth. If we remove these veils of illusion, we will recover our decision-making abilities. With the return to Christ Vision, the decision-maker will choose again. This time, we will cast your vote for the thought system of the Holy Spirit. This is the vote for the remembrance of God. The world of the ego will fade away into the nothingness from which it arose.

T-19.IV.D.7. It seems to you the world will utterly abandon you if you but raise your eyes to see **the face of Christ**. 2 Yet all that will occur is you will leave the **egoic world of**

misperception forever. 3 This is the re-establishment of <your> will. 4 Look upon **the re-establishment of <your> will**, open-eyed, and you will nevermore believe that you are at the mercy of things beyond you, forces you cannot control, and thoughts that come to you against your will. 5 It <is> your will to look **upon the re-establishment of <your> will**. 6 No mad desire, no trivial impulse to forget again, no stab of fear nor the cold sweat of seeming death can stand against your will. 7 For what attracts you from beyond the veil is also deep within you, unseparated from <your> will and completely one **with your will**. **The re-establishment of <your> will is the return to the One Will, which is the Will of God.**

Note # 90: A major goal of ACIM is to reestablish the decision-making part of our mind. By following the egoic thought system, we have fallen into victim consciousness. Until we can recover our decision-maker, we will not choose again. The removal of the obstacles to the truth, which is the egoic thought system, is needed for the return to knowledge. By controlling our fears, we can ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This guidance, when followed, will reawaken the sleeping Christ. Once reawakened, we will realize that our will and God's Will are One. We will freely choose to join the Mind of God. We will accept the truth and forget all illusion. We will be "Christed".

i. The Lifting of the Veil

T-19.IV.D.8. Forget not that you came this far together, you and your brother. 2 And it was surely not the ego that led you here **this far**. 3 No obstacle to peace can be surmounted through **the ego's** help. 4 **The ego** does not open up **the ego's** secrets, and bid you look on **the ego's secrets** and go beyond **the ego's secrets**. 5 **The ego** would not have you see **the ego's** weakness, and learn **the ego has** no power to keep you from the truth. 6 The Guide, **the Holy Spirit**, Who brought you here remains with you, and when you raise your eyes you will be ready to look on terror with no fear at all. 7 But first, lift up your eyes and look on your brother in innocence born of complete forgiveness of **your brother's** illusions, and through the eyes of faith, **which is the Vision of Christ**, that sees not **your brother's illusions**. p421

Note # 91: The ego's goal is to keep us in victim consciousness. The ego has no desire for us to question the logic, effectiveness or results that are obtained when we follow the egoic thought system. By its fruits, you shall know it and the thought system of the ego only produces pain and suffering. The ego that knows nothing, can teach us nothing. Only by following a new plan that is based on the truth of our unlimited spiritual nature can we escape the pain that the ego offers. The egoic thought system is based on the belief in limitation and competition. To win, someone must lose. To the ego, life is a zero-sum game. Yet, the Law of God states that what we give, we receive. We must first see our brother as something other than a sinful body if we are to rediscover the innocence of God's Children. God's Child is sinless and guiltless. We need to look with the vision of Christ, past our brother's body-form, and see only the spiritual essence of his Big "S" Self. As long as we perceive the body as our brother, we will continue to value egoic specialness and death.

T-19.IV.D.9. No one can look upon the fear of God unterrified, unless he has accepted the Atonement and learned illusions are not real. 2 No one can stand before this obstacle of **the fear of God** alone, for he could not have reached this far **on the journey back to the**

return to knowledge unless his brother walked beside him. 3 And no one would dare to look upon his own fear of God without complete forgiveness of his brother in his heart. 4 Stand you here a while and tremble not. 5 You will be ready. 6 Let us join together in a holy instant, here in this place where the purpose, given in a holy instant, **which is the return to truth**, has led you. 7 And let us join in faith that **the Holy Spirit**, Who brought us here together will offer you the innocence you need, and that you will accept **the truth of your innocence and guiltlessness** for my love and **the Holy Spirit's love**.

Note # 92: Until we can offer our brother forgiveness for all the wrongs that we thought he did to us, we do not understand how we use projection to hide the truth about who is the true source of our personal world of perception. Forgiveness exchanges our victim consciousness thinking to responsibility thinking. We accept the truth about the power of our mind. We reclaim our decision-maker. It is the decision-maker, which allowed the ego to make up a world of falseness that appears so real that we have chosen to abandon the truth about ourselves. We wanted to be the arbitrators of truth. We misperceived what we knew to be the truth in order to make a false world that conforms to our egoic dreams of specialness. The egoic thought system has converted a God of Love, into an egoic god of fear. As long as we look upon our brother through the egoic eyes of sin, guilt and fear, we will be afraid to look upon God. This fear of God arose not out of reality of truth but rather out of how we choose to misperceive our brother. In our dream of separation, we perceive everyone, including ourselves to be a sinner. When we seek revenge upon our brother, we expect that the god of fear will also demand revenge upon us since we see ourselves as also "sinful". When we forgive, we join in union with our brother. In this joining, we are never alone. When we see our brother as sinless and guiltless, we also realize that there is no reason to fear the true God of Love.

T-19.IV.D.10. Nor is it possible to look on this too soon. 2 This **holy instant** is the place to which everyone must come when he is ready. 3 Once he has found his brother he *<is>* ready. 4 Yet merely to reach the place is not enough. 5 A journey without a purpose is still meaningless, and even when **the journey** is over a **journey without a purpose** seems to make no sense. 6 How can you know that **the journey** is over unless you realize **the journey's** purpose is accomplished? 7 Here, with the journey's end before you, you *<see>* **the journey's** purpose. 8 And it is here you choose whether to look upon **the journey's purpose** or wander on, only to return and make the choice again.

Note # 93: Unless we know the destinations, we cannot know when we have arrived. The journey's purpose is the end of the illusion of separation and thus, the return to the truth of what we are, a Oneness. Unless we adopt the Holy Spirit's purpose for this journey, which was to rediscover the truth, we may fail to realize that we have arrived. As long as we insist on the specialness of separation, we will be drawn back into egoic thinking and asked at a later date to choose again. The journey will not end until we freely accept that our will and our Creator's Will are One. Then we realize that there is but One Self and we are "That One". We will realize that the prodigal son has returned and our great adventure of pretending that we could not know ourselves is over. Our mission to rediscover what we are has been accomplished.

T-19.IV.D.11. To look upon the fear of God does need some preparation. 2 Only the sane can look on stark insanity and raving madness with pity and compassion, but not with fear.

3 For only if **the sane** share in **the insane illusion** does **the illusion** seem fearful, and you do share in **the insane illusion** until you look upon your brother with perfect faith and love and tenderness. 4 Before complete forgiveness you still stand unforgiving. 5 You are afraid of God *<because>* you fear your brother. 6 Those you do not forgive you fear. 7 And no one reaches love with fear beside him.

Note # 94: When we see our brother as sinful, we have made the illusion appear real in our own minds. This is our acknowledgment that we believe that we can make the false, true and the truth, false. This is the definition of insanity. If we choose to keep one brother trapped in this insanity, we also imprison ourselves. We still believe there is something that we must fear. Fear and love cannot co-exist. They are mutually exclusive. We cannot serve two masters. We must choose between the ego and the Holy Spirit's thought system. There is no other choice.

T-19.IV.D.12. This brother who stands beside you still seems to be a stranger. 2 You do not know **your brother**, and your interpretation of **your brother as a stranger** is very fearful. 3 And you attack **your brother** still, to keep what seems to be yourself unharmed. 4 Yet in **your brother's** hands is your salvation. 5 You see **your brother's** madness, which you hate because you share **your brother's** madness. 6 And all the pity and forgiveness that would heal **you and your brother's** madness gives way to fear. 7 Brother, you need forgiveness of your brother, for you will share in madness or in Heaven together. 8 And you and **your brother** will raise your eyes in faith together, or not at all.

Note # 95: As long as we see our brother as a limited ego-body, we will perceive ourselves that same way. We must have faith that our brother is unlimited spirit. By looking past the form, we can see the Christ in all. The Holy Spirit, if allowed, will never fail to verify that your faith in the Christ was not misplaced.

T-19.IV.D.13. Beside you is one who offers you the chalice of Atonement, for the Holy Spirit is in **your brother**. 2 Would you hold **your brother's** sins against him, or accept **your brother's** gift of the **chalice of Atonement** to you? 3 Is this giver of salvation your friend or enemy? p422 4 Choose which **your brother** is, remembering that you will receive of **your brother as friend or enemy** according to your choice. 5 **Your brother** has in him the power to forgive your sin, as you **have the power** for **the forgiveness of your brother's** sins. 6 Neither can give **the forgiveness of sin** to himself alone. 7 And yet your savior stands beside each one. 8 Let **your brother** be what he is, **your savior**, and seek not to make of love an enemy.

Note # 96: How we perceive our brother is how we perceive ourselves. Thoughts do not leave their source. If we project sin, guilt and fear upon our brother, we get to keep sin, guilt and fear. Grant or project forgiveness upon your brother and you get to keep forgiveness. Project the happy dream upon your brother and you get the happy dream. What we perceive becomes our reality. Thoughts are and become our experiences for perception follows our purpose.

T-19.IV.D.14. Behold your Friend, the Christ Who stands beside you. 2 How holy and how beautiful **your brother, the Christ** is! 3 You thought **your brother, the Christ** sinned because you cast the veil of sin upon Him to hide **your brother, the Christ's**

loveliness. 4 Yet still **your brother, the Christ** holds forgiveness out to you, to share **your brother, the Christ's** Holiness. 5 This "enemy," this "stranger" still offers you salvation as His Friend. 6 The "enemies" of Christ, the worshippers of sin, know not Whom they attack.

Note # 97: The enemies of Christ are those who are under the temporary influence of the egoic thought system. It is the voice of the ego that blocks our ability to hear the Voice for Christ, which is the Holy Spirit.

T-19.IV.D.15. This is your brother, **the Christ**, crucified by sin and waiting for release from pain. 2 Would you not offer **your brother** forgiveness, when only **your brother** can offer **forgiveness** to you? 3 For **your brother's** redemption **your brother** will give you **your redemption**, as surely as God created every living thing and loves it. 4 And **your brother** will give **redemption** truly, for **redemption** will be both offered and received. 5 There is no grace of Heaven that you cannot offer to your brother, and receive from your most holy Friend. 6 Let **your brother** withhold **redemption** not, for by receiving **redemption** you offer **redemption** to him. 7 And **your brother** will receive of you what you received of **your brother**. 8 Redemption has been given you to give your brother, and thus receive **redemption**. 9 Whom you forgive is free, and what you give you share. 10 Forgive the sins your brother thinks he has committed, and all the guilt you think you see in **your brother**.

Note # 98: ACIM tell us to forgive both the sins that we believe our brother committed plus the sin your brother believes he committed. It is for both our own misperception and our brother's misperceptions about himself that we offer and grant forgiveness. If we only forgave our own misperceptions, we would be acquiescing to our brother's belief that sin is possible, thus making sin real. The Atonement states that sin is impossible. God's Son is sinless and guiltless. There are no exceptions. To allow a brother to wallow in his personal self-guilt is to deny him his innocence, which is his redemption. This denial of our brother's redemption, in turn, denies our own. Sin cannot be impossible for us yet possible for our brother. We all share the same Mind of God. The Vision of Christ looks past all notions of sin since all notions are equally false. Just as there are no degrees to truth, there are no degrees of the false. The truth is true and the false is false. There is no partial truth or partial lies.

T-19.IV.D.16. Here is the holy place of resurrection, to which we come again; to which we will return until redemption is accomplished and received. 2 Think who your brother is, before you would condemn **your brother**. 3 And offer thanks to God that **your brother** is holy, and has been given the gift of holiness for you. 4 Join **your brother** in gladness, and remove all trace of guilt from **your brother's** disturbed and tortured mind. 5 Help **your brother** to lift the heavy burden of sin you laid upon **your brother** and he accepted as his own **sin and guilt**, and toss **sin and guilt** lightly and with happy laughter away from **your brother**. 6 Press **sin and guilt** not like thorns against **your brother's** brow, nor nail him to **sin and guilt**, unredeemed and hopeless.

Note # 99: The holy place of redemption is the altar for truth. By only valuing truth, not the false, are we redeemed. Truth is changeless and universal. If we are sinless, so must our brother be. For if any part of a Oneness is impure, so must the Oneness be impure. This is

not the Will of the True God of Love. We are perfect, whole and complete. This is our divine inheritance, which cannot be lost, although we can forget where we place it. The world of perceptions' sinfulness was born when we forgot to laugh. That same world will disappear when we learn to laugh at the very notion that sin was ever thought possible.

T-19.IV.D.17. Give faith to your brother, for faith and hope and mercy are yours to give. 2 Into the hands that give, the **gifts of faith and hope and mercy** are given. 3 Look on your brother, and see in **your brother** the gift of God you would receive. 4 It is almost Easter, the time of resurrection. 5 Let us give redemption to each other and share in **the redemption** that we may rise as one in resurrection, not separate in death. 6 Behold the gift of freedom that I gave the Holy Spirit for you. 7 And be you and your brother free together, as you offer to the Holy Spirit this same gift **of redemption**. p423 8 And giving **the gift of redemption**, receive it of **the Holy Spirit** in return for what you gave. 9 **The Holy Spirit** leadeth you and me together, that we might meet here in this holy place, and make the same decision.

Note # 100: When we accept the Atonement for ourselves, the entire Sonship benefits. We are a shared Oneness of the Mind of God. As such, we are an integral facet of the indivisible holographic One Self that is the Mind of God.

T-19.IV.D.18. Free your brother here **in your world of perception**, as I freed you. 2 Give **your brother** the selfsame gift, nor look upon **your brother** with condemnation of any kind. 3 See **your brother** as guiltless as I look on you, and overlook the sins **your brother** thinks he sees within himself. 4 Offer your brother freedom and complete release from sin, here in the garden of seeming agony and death. 5 So will we prepare together the way unto the resurrection of God's Son, and let **your brother** rise again to glad remembrance of his Father, Who knows no sin, no death, but only life eternal.

Note # 101: Again we are interconnected. The Law of God states, "That to give, is to receive." In the holographic Oneness of "All That Is", each part contains the whole and the whole is in each part. We need to release our brother from our past egoic misperceptions and judgments and reclaim the vision of Christ for the entire Sonship. By doing so, we, the jailer of the Sonship, unlock our prison doors of limitation and all are free to remember God. We, the Christ, can all go home.

T-19.IV.D.19. Together we will disappear into the Presence beyond the veil **of the fear of God**, not to be lost but found; not to be seen but known. 2 And knowing, nothing in the plan God has established for salvation will be left undone. 3 This **knowing that nothing in the plan God has established for salvation will be left undone** is the journey's purpose, without which is the journey meaningless. **There is only the Will of God.** 4 Here is the peace of God, given to you eternally by **God**. 5 Here is the rest and quiet that you seek, the reason for the journey from its beginning. 6 Heaven is the gift you owe your brother, the debt of gratitude you offer to the Son of God in thanks for what **your brother** is, and what his Father created **your brother** to be.

Note # 102: The end of the journey is when the Sonship freely accepts the truth and rejects the false. There is only the Will of God. The prodigal Son has reclaimed his inheritance, which is the peace of God. God's Will is that all creation share equally in the extension of

God. Creation is extension. Creation is “to make happy”, “To make happy” is God’s shared Will for His Son.

T-19.IV.D.20. Think carefully how you would look upon **your brother**, the giver of this gift, for as you look on **your brother** so will the gift itself appear to be. 2 As **your brother** is seen as either the giver of guilt or of salvation, so will **your brother’s** offering be seen and so received **as either guilt or salvation**. 3 The crucified give pain because **the crucified** are in pain. 4 But the redeemed give joy because **the redeemed** have been healed of pain. 5 Everyone gives as he receives, but he must choose what it will *<be>* that he receives, **either guilt or salvation**. 6 And he will recognize his choice **for either guilt or salvation** by what he gives, and what is given him. 7 Nor is it given anything in hell or Heaven to interfere with his decision.

Note # 103: Our own perception determines what we believe that we will receive and thus, give to a brother. If we follow the thought system of the ego, we will see sin, guilt and fear and will attack or believe that we have been attacked. If we have rejected the ego’s demand for specialness, littleness and separation, we will follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. With our brother, we will perceive all experiences as only love or a brother’s cry for love. We have been given the power as the decision-maker to decide what our perception will be. Due to free will, there is no power that can force us to accept one belief system over another. Although we cannot be forced into the acceptance of the truth, our denial of the truth does not change the truth. The truth remains eternally changeless. The Holy Spirit will wait patiently for our correct response. He only asks us to constantly choose again and again until we finally get it right. How long will it take before we decide to be happy rather than egoically “right”?

T-19.IV.D.21. You came this far because **the journey** was your choice. 2 And no one undertakes to do what he believes is meaningless. 3 What you had faith in still is faithful, and watches over you in faith so gentle yet so strong that **what you have faith in** would lift you far beyond the veil **of the fear of God** and place the Son of God safely within the sure protection of his Father. 4 Here **in the remembrance of God** is the only purpose that gives this world **of perception** and the long journey through this world **of perception**, whatever meaning lies in **both the journey and this world of perception**. 5 Beyond this **purpose, the journey and the world of perception** are meaningless. 6 You and your brother stand together, still without conviction **that the journey and the world of perception** have a purpose. 7 Yet it is given you to see this purpose in your holy Friend, **the Holy Spirit**, and recognize **the purpose that the Holy Spirit utilizes the journey and this world of perception for** as your own **purpose, which is the remembrance of God**. p424

Note # 104: The Holy Spirit has reinterpreted what the ego utilizes the world and this journey for. The ego purpose of this world of perception is to keep you apart from the Creator and thus, keep you apart from Truth. The world of perception was made to be a place where God’s Love could not go. It is a place where God’s Son can play and pretend that he is something other than God’s Creation; that he is separate and special. The journey’s egoic purpose is to prevent our rediscovery of our decision-making ability. If our Big “S” Self recovered control of our decision-maker, we would have the opportunity to make a different choice. We could choose again. Thus, to the ego, the journey’s purpose is to keep our mind in victim consciousness.

The Holy Spirit utilizes this world of perception to reawaken the sleeping mind to its true magnificence. The goal of the journey is to reawaken our sleeping minds to the truth; to realize that, "Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God." Ultimately, the leap of faith that allows us to take this journey is the knowledge that God is only Love. The Christ keeps this knowledge within us and the Holy Spirit communicates this knowledge to us. We only need to quiet our egoic mind and ask for guidance. Love is extension and God is our Source. God's Effect must co-create with Its Cause. Thus, we are God's completion and are completed by God, for we are a Oneness.